



Leonids Ribickis,
Rector of RTU



Riga Technical University

Riga Technical University
1 Kalku Street, Riga, LV-1658
Latvia
Tel.: +371 67089300
Fax: +371 67089302
e-mail: rtu@rtu.lv
www.rtu.lv

Riga Technical University is the first technical university in the Baltic countries – its history dates back to 1862 when Riga Politechnical Institute was founded. Professor Wilhelm Ostwald, the founder of physical chemistry and Nobel Prize winner, Professor Paul Walden, who made significant research in organic chemistry and electro chemistry, and many other academics have made the name of Riga Politechnical Institute well-known all over Europe.

Today Riga Technical University is an accredited internationally recognised European university comprising 8 faculties and 35 institutes. It is the second largest university in Latvia by number of students and has the greatest number of state funded students. It provides internationally highly evaluated, accredited bachelor, master and doctoral study programmes in Engineering Sciences, Technologies, Architecture, Natural and Environmental Sciences and Engineering Economics.

Long lasting traditions, advanced teaching methods, new technologies and innovative approach provide the University with the opportunity to ensure research excellence and offer exciting full time or part time studies.

The scientific research is carried out at international, state level and local level programmes, ensuring development, technology transfer and innovation. Research activities are deeply integrated into the study process, which helps to develop new generation of scientists.

We have developed cooperation with more than 200 universities in Europe and worldwide. RTU collaborates with enterprises in major industries in Latvia and abroad as well as with state and local government institutions. Among our collaboration partners are Airbus, Daimler AG, IBM, Microsoft, Bosch, Siemens and many other enterprises.

RTU can boast of a researcher in material sciences having the highest citation index in Latvia; a researcher who has become well known among his European colleagues in the field of nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy due to the training with the most distinguished scientist and Nobel Prize Winner Kurt Wüthrich at the Scripps Research Institute in the USA; a researcher who developed amber threads which have been internationally patented, received high evaluation by the World Intellectual Property Organization and has been awarded a Gold Medal for Innovation and for Scientific Research. The school of Versace Fashion House has shown interest in the innovative product.

RTU researchers are the first Latvian scientists who receive training at the European Space Agency and in collaboration with German Space Agency Enterprises and with enterprises Eurocopter, Agusta and others are involved in testing endurance of constructions of space technology

Supported by European Structural Funds, RTU is taking active part in various research projects as well as in establishing of Competence Centres and National Research Centres. In collaboration with colleagues from Estonia, Great Britain, Italy and France we have developed robot-fish, which will be used for detecting and neutralizing charges on the sea-bed. The Latvian Academy of Sciences has acknowledged it as one of the most significant scientific achievements in Latvia. There is also research being conducted to design robots for agricultural and military application.

The future of Riga Technical University lies in internationalisation of research and in collaboration with business sector. International, vibrant and attractive research environment that is open to innovation and new technologies will ensure that RTU becomes the centre of excellence. The world is changing and we have to be prepared to take advantage of the challenges and opportunities offered. RTU is to become one of the leading universities in consolidating the research community in Latvia, Europe and the entire world.

Leonids Ribickis,
Rector of RTU,

Full Member of the Latvian Academy of Sciences,
Professor, Dr.habil.sc.ing.