**THE UP AND PÉCS**

The leadership of the University of Pécs and the City of Pécs with County Rights agreed on goals and strategy on 10 June in the Senate Hall of the University of Pécs. As it was said by both sides, in today's uncertain times (coronavirus, Russian-Ukrainian war, financial crisis, rising energy prices, etc.) there is a greater need than ever for joint thinking and cooperation.

Attila Miseta dr., Rector of the UP, presented the strategy of the UP, including the rankings and the upcoming Centenary Year. "It is also a governmental expectation that universities should be more active in shaping their environment - this requires a change of approach", the Rector noted. He also pointed out that the university tries to adapt its educational portfolio to the needs of the students, and therefore the many types of courses and degree programs are constantly being selected, taking into account the needs of adult education. As for the number of foreign students, the UP is trying to increase the number of foreign students, while as for the number of Hungarian students quality is more important for the institution, partly because of the demographic situation and partly because of funding.

In addition to the two existing national laboratories, two consortia will be launched soon.

He particularly stressed the importance of the Science and Innovation Park, which will determine the largest volume of developments.

He also drew attention to two important and exemplary programs of the University: the Green University program and EDUC.

Diána Weller presented the work of six joint working groups of the UP and Pécs. The Investment Promotion Task Force has achieved a strong synergy, which is appreciated by potential investors. A specific training course focusing on the needs of service centers has also been launched, notably at the Faculty of Business and Economics. There have also been joint events focusing on innovation. This working group is also working on a scholarship program to be launched by the university and the city together with companies of the city - a program for about 100 students.

The Health Task Force will build on the collaboration between the city's health care system and the clinic. This has included several events aimed at prevention (Health Day, a draft of Pécs Bálna, other preventive publications, etc.) The working group aims to publish an information system on the renewed pécs. hu, which will quickly provide health and medical information to the local population.

Through the City Marketing Working Group, the UP has made a major contribution to defining the profiles of tourists coming to the city. There are also joint events in this area, several programs (from a NotADrop! of cooking oil collection program to an online cycling map) and the creation of a round table in Cirfandli, among others. A Tüke card is also being developed and will have specific benefits for students.

Diána Weller also mentioned that Pécs has been selected as one of the 100 climate-neutral cities in Europe, which opens up new opportunities.

The International and Visibility Working Group is preparing a special anniversary celebration of five decades of Pécs-Eszék relations, with a joint program of events.

A more distant goal is to win the title of EU Youth Capital for the year 2026.

And the work of the Tender Projects Working Group will bring together major, mutually relevant tenders.

The development ideas and the reports on the working groups were followed by an informal exchange of views. The main topics discussed were climate change and greening, and the outline of a joint, well-developed, and complex energy program on energy prices.