

## **Official Policy for Support and Advancement of Faculty in the MSc in Automation Systems, School of Mechanical Engineering, NTUA**

All newly appointed faculty members possess, at the very least, the essential teaching capabilities. Compliance with this requirement is ensured through processes outlined by the legislation governing their announcement and subsequent recruitment/appointment. It is noteworthy that on July 21, 2022, the new legislation on education [Law 4957/2022 (Official Gazette A'141)] was enacted with the objective of continually enhancing the competency of the academic personnel and aligning it with emerging requirements. The Interdepartmental Postgraduate Program of Studies (I.P.P.S.) in Automation Systems (A.S.) has instituted criteria for the selection and assignment of instructional responsibilities to faculty members, which receive approval from the Postgraduate Studies Committee of the IPPS. These criteria, integral to the impartial and objective selection of teaching personnel, encompass an evaluation of their comprehensive teaching and research endeavors.

The academic achievements of faculty members in both teaching and research are published on the websites of the School of Mechanical Engineering (S.o.M.E.) and the Quality Assurance Unit (MO.DI.P.). A significant proportion of IPPS in AS professors have received training at globally recognized universities, possess experience in Research Centers within Greece and abroad, and have successfully conveyed their expertise to the IPPS. There is substantial engagement of program's faculty in Greek and international research initiatives, and the outcomes of these endeavors are disseminated in prestigious international journals. Many of these publications have garnered notable scientific attention, as evidenced by the considerable number of citations they have received.

The IPPS in Automation Systems, along with the SoME, actively promotes the academic pursuits of its faculty by introducing pioneering teaching methodologies and incorporating state-of-the-art technologies. The institution grants educational leaves to facilitate mobility, supports faculty retraining at renowned universities and Research Centers in Europe and the USA, and bolsters research activities through the development of infrastructure, procurement of modern instruments, and assistance in securing competitive international and Greek research programs. Simultaneously, it fosters collaboration with international professors, both at educational and research levels. Additionally, professors from affiliated schools within the IPPS exhibit heightened scholarly mobility by participating in international conferences with presentations that, in numerous instances, have received international acclaim.

The continual enhancement of the School's infrastructure, as well as that of the collaborating schools, through the construction of new facilities or the improvement of existing classrooms, has amplified the capacities of the academic faculty to introduce novel and innovative teaching methodologies. Concurrently, the ongoing fortification of laboratory facilities, facilitated by the acquisition of contemporary technological equipment, contributes not only to the development and application of new technological approaches supporting research and educational endeavors but also augments the potential for engagement in intricate and demanding Greek and international research initiatives. These actions, on the one hand, fortify the integration of teaching and research and, on the other hand, foster the scientific and professional advancement of the teaching staff.

The IPPS in Automation Systems advocates for the inclusion of Postdoctoral Researchers in the educational process, broadening horizons in the education of postgraduate students and creating opportunities for active student participation and interaction with instructors.

In accordance with the new law (Article 129), the establishment of a Center for Teaching and Learning Support is recommended in each university. This center's mission is "to provide services for the support, empowerment, and continual improvement of teaching and learning processes, in line with contemporary educational trends, and to utilize new technologies in teaching for the development of distance education." Within this framework, the Center for Teaching and Learning Support (CE.DI.MA.) at NTUA has been established, organizing activities with the aim of cultivating a learning community sensitive to innovation and the ongoing enhancement of teaching practices. These activities include seminars on Engineering Science, learning circles (e.g., integrating specialized assessment tools into teaching), and workshops (alternative forms of assessment in engineering courses). The IPPS aspires to make a significant contribution to the broader realms of research and education by elevating its evaluation methods and disseminating its policy in more contemporary educational formats.