

**RNDr. MgA. Alice Růžičková**

<https://www.famu.cz/cs/vse-o-fakulte/lide-na-famu/6555-alice-ruzickova/>

<https://sp.amu.cz/cs/ucitel106072.html>

<https://www.ceskatelevize.cz/lide/alice-ruzickova/>

## **Election programme for AS AMU:**

### **1. Objective: Streamline student agenda**

Thanks to long-term experience with student agenda (Vice-Dean of FAMU for Student Affairs for 8 years, Chair of FAMU' Internal Evaluation Committee for 1 year, Head of the Department of Documentary Film for 3 years, a teacher for 22 years and a student of the DDF for 6 years), I am offering my knowledge and experience for discussions on topics that an educational institution must keep in mind first and foremost.

### **2. Objective: Interconnect AS AMU with the FAMU Dean's Collegium**

Since I as the Head of a Department am also a member of the Dean's Collegium, I can communicate the matters discussed by AS AMU directly within the school, in effect making the path for substantial information shorter.

### **3. Objective: Improve communication atmosphere at FAMU and FAMU's image within AMU**

The complicated epidemic situation, which prevents the usual open exchange of opinions in this school, has been ongoing for almost a year now. We have lost the possibility of presence instruction, many personal contacts and so much needed dialogue, which is essential for us to retain a shared critical and creative thought field. People around us are tired, bitter and full concerns regarding their health, existence and the meaning of their future life. This 'black cocktail' spawns the unwillingness to listen to different opinions, the ego is starting to take over and solutions of power are promoted. I would like to stop all this. I want to invite you to help me in doing so.

Covid-trouble is evidently going to stay with us – at least for a year and maybe longer. Even so – or maybe exactly for this reason – we should find such a way of existence where the school's operation and our own involvement in it make sense to us. Let us speak together, listen to each other, seek passable solutions and respect each other. Let us not fear – let us rejoice. Do not let the joy of living and creating be taken away from us. Let us not be tortured and be careful to not torture others. Let us learn to work together – it is possible even with different opinions. In the long-term perspective, collaboration is always better for everyone than wars and short-lived victories.

I am particularly concerned about the apparent efforts towards stirring a conflict within our educational institution and creating an external appearance that there are irreconcilable counter-parties at FAMU that "fight for the future of the school". Nothing like that is happening – to date, all meetings of the Dean's Collegium have been held in a communicative way and have addressed standard agenda despite difficult conditions due to the current pandemic situation.

I do not sign petitions and group letters primarily because I find it genuinely inappropriate to open any 'second fronts' through adding simplifying positions, in effect nurturing the dichotomy of viewing FAMU which escalated so much during the previous leadership. It was a huge mistake, and we should work more on presenting our different views and needs to each other, understanding each other and finding suitable solutions along with the leaders. Continued trench warfare will result in a loss for everyone – students, teachers and FAMU as film school with a premium brand.

I want to personally contribute towards us continuing cultured debates with our colleagues, schoolmates and employees across AMU and being open to different opinions. We are different, we perceive differently and we all have different needs, but we form a single dynamic entity that changes in time – AMU. Let us notice that our school is always so much more interesting when we are able to not just tolerate our diversity, but when we can also listen to each other, inspire each other and turn this into spiritual wealth, creativity and art – as the case was in the 1960s. We should all pursue an open and helpful atmosphere in school, build a supportive community and maintain mutual trust – this is the only way we can survive all crises, catastrophes and peripeties as well as experience a sense of purpose, presence and fulfilment. When Pope John Paul II. came to Prague in 1990, he told us all: Don't be scared! Let's not be scared of differences and let it inside ourselves – it will make us richer.

Moral integrity is at least equally important as organisational talent, professional skills and even education and intellect. Unfortunately, the arrogance of power often keeps the weaker and timid among us downtrodden in our school. This atmosphere in school should finally change if we want to keep it a quality and stimulating environment for education. We should speak together and not just shout at each other on Facebook or send lengthy e-mails and group declarations: we should genuinely speak together, admit that the other side may also be true, and then act to ensure that the action benefits as many of the stakeholders as possible. This is the foundation for good coexistence.

I am interested in cooperation, not in fighting.