

I am running for the Academic Senate of AMU for the second time. Even though it may seem to be a distant part of academic self-government for FAMU, this is where the school's crucial regulations are approved and commented on. This is where decisions are made about the overall direction of the Academy, and this impacts all Faculties. During the past term of office, I tried to bring up and pursue proposals to encourage a self-confident, fair and responsible school environment. Among other things, I suggested to found the Environmental Panel, put through an increase in the pay for the Heads of Departments and programme guarantors. I opened the topic of need-based student scholarships and maybe contributed towards the school determining the rules for granting them more comprehensibly. I nominated and actively supported Ingeborg Radok Žádná during the past Rector election, and I believe that here election is beneficial for the development and cooperation of all Faculties.

I run for the AMU Senate with hopes that the Senate will become a venue for discussion and exchanging opinions between all Faculties. Unfortunately, my experience to date has shown that the discussion is rather restricted. Proposed documents are usually not reviewed and are approved as presented. I want to contribute to the Senate decisions being the result of debate and consensus, that they include the idea and spirit of the shared school and not merely technical implementation of legal standards. I believe that pro-active inclusion is an important topic for the future period. The school should embody broader diversity of cultural, social and gender attitudes. Of course, this cannot be directed, but it is possible to try to make sure the school's external image is such, for example through targeted promotional tools or with a system of scholarships for marginalised groups. I consider it important for the Senate to revisit environmental agenda and to consult its advisory panel on its decisions. Also, it is important to address new situations of students related to the pandemic, especially for international students. This requires more than just 'temporary measures' – extensive structural changes are needed to provide a stable background for studying. My plan is also to open the issue of an equal representation of the Faculties in the Internal Evaluation Commission, which is the school's supreme authority but FAMU only has one representative in it. What I consider most important is the cooperation between all members of AS elected for FAMU, because this is the only way to put through essential agendas, which is an area where our Faculty is usually overpowered because of not being unified on them. This applies for example to the representation on the Internal Evaluation Commission and to the repeated attempts at cutting FAMU's budget. This is why I intend to vie for the position of a Vice-Chair of the Senate.

Our school currently faces many problems, and I consider those cited in the campaign pursued by the Heads of Departments with the attached letter to be by far the least important ones. I consider the letter an irresponsible attempt at disrupting the academic community and creating an impression that there are sides involved in a dispute and that the school is in danger. Instead seeking things that divide us, it will be necessary to start working together and focusing on a collective solution of complex future issues.

Martin Blažíček  
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Martin Blažíček (born in 1976) is a teacher, a dramaturge and a visual artist. Having studied the Faculty of Humanities of Charles University, he took a Master's programme at the Department of Editing and a doctoral programme at FAMU. He lectures in FAMU's Centre for Audiovisual Studies. He works with various media, film, performance, audiovisual tools,

sound design, original software, live video and 3d space. Since 2019 he has been collaborating with the D'epog art group. He was one of the curators of the media lab in Roxy/Nod and Školská 28 Gallery. In his research work, he examines contemporary art, video art, computer games, and underground and independent cinema of the 1980s. He is working on the Videoarchive project in the National Film Archive, focusing on the long-term preservation of and reflecting on Czech video art. He publishes articles on music, visual arts, computer games and cinema in *Illuminace*, *Kino Ikon*, *A2*, *Cinepur* and *Art + Antique* as well as online at A2larm and Artalk.