THE MISSION
OF THE FACULTY OF SCIENCE

The Faculty of Science of the University of Fribourg promotes higher education and high quality basic research in a broad range of areas relating to science. The values underlying this policy are excellence, humanism, intellectual rigour and high ethical standards. The Faculty thus contributes to the general mission of the University of Fribourg. The philosophy of education at the Faculty is focussed on the student(s) and repose on four fundamental principles: the development of independent thinking, the integration of knowledge into practice, efficient communication, and team work. The educational activities not only lead to professional qualifications but also prepare individuals to follow an independent research career. Teaching and research are closely coupled by the Faculty’s “teaching through research” approach. The weight given to research activities attracts scientists of international standing to the Faculty. Its members offer their services to the community, actively interact with other faculties and collaborate with the industry and other universities, both nationally and internationally. The common denominator for teaching and research is the striving for excellence.

The Faculty fosters rational, critical and innovative scientific thinking and rears experts in various scientific disciplines. The teaching and the care for the students are also aimed at unfolding their personalities. Bachelor, Master and PhD programmes are the instruments to this end. Scientific careers are furthered.

At the Faculty, students, from all cultural and social backgrounds, are exposed to three languages, namely French, German and English. Their final certificates mention the multilingual nature of the training that they have received. The acquired language skills help the scientific communication and the students to integrate successfully into the job market.

We aim to place our students into national and international elites that will be in a position to serve their countries in many different ways. The Faculty forms part of a national and international network of similar institutions. Its continuing independence guarantees that the diversity of teaching and research in this country is maintained, which is essential to meet new and unexpected challenges of the future.

At regular intervals, plans based on a long-term vision are elaborated.

June 2010