FROM DREAMS TO ACCOMPLISHMENTS
Samara National Research University (Samara University) is one of the leading institutions of higher education in Russia. In 2015, it amalgamated collectives from the aerospace (SSAU) and classical (SamSU) universities, becoming the rightful heir to their illustrious achievements and traditions.
Since 2009, Samara University has been listed among Russia’s 29 national research universities.

As of 2013, it has been included in the program for improving the competitiveness of Russian universities among the world’s top science-and-education centers (Project 5-100).
The science-and-education activity of Samara University encompasses aerospace technologies, engine building, and modern methods of information processing, as well as the fundamental technical and natural sciences and the humanities.

Today, the academic structure of Samara University consists of:

- **8** institutes
- **15** faculties
- **102** departments

Total student body — 16 000. Also studying at Samara University are 525 graduate students and 1 000 students doing course-work in continuing professional education.

The study process is led by 1 373 instructors (including 164 professors and 523 associate professors, 250 doctors of science and 785 masters of science).

Students can choose from 298 academic programs, including 131 bachelor’s degree programs, 18 specialist’s degree programs and 149 master’s degree programs.

The scientific research structure of Samara University consists of:

- **11** scientific research institutes
- **45** scientific research laboratories and groups
- **43** scientific research centers and research-and-development centers
- **7** collective use centers
Samara University is one of the most dynamically-developing Russian institutions of higher education. In recent years, the university has been systematically improving its indicators in the Russian and international rankings.

**QS University Rankings: Emerging Europe and Central Asia (QS EECA)**

- **2015**
  - 2015 — joins the top-150 ranking of the best universities in Emerging Europe and Central Asia.
- **2016**
  - 2016 — climbs more than 30 positions to join the top-110 best universities.

**QS Top Universities BRICS**

- **2014**
  - 2014 — makes its debut on the list of the best BRICS institutions of higher education, joining the group of universities in positions 151–200.
- **2015**
  - University’s position remains unchanged.
- **2016**
  - University’s position remains unchanged.

**THE World University Rankings**

- **2015**
  - University’s position remains unchanged.
- **2016**
  - University’s position remains unchanged.

**RAEX Russian Universities Ranking**

- **2015**
  - 2015 — joins the top-150 ranking of the best universities in Emerging Europe and Central Asia.
- **2016**
  - 2016 — Samara University is included for the first time ever in the ranking of the world’s best universities, as surveyed by the British journal Times Higher Education. The university joins the group of universities in positions 801–980.
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In the post-war years, Samara emerged as the cradle of space exploration: it is here the legendary Vostok rocket was manufactured, which was used for launching of the world’s first-ever manned spaceflight. Since 1957, KuAI has been training specialists for the development of space-rocket equipment. The Institute’s scientists, specialists and graduates have taken part in the design and production development of the country’s first domestically-produced R-7 family of rockets, the Vostok, Molniya and Soyuz carrier rockets, a rocket-and-space complex for manned flights to the Moon and the Energiya-Buran system, developed programs for the MIR orbital complex, and participated in many other projects, including international endeavors.

For many years, Samara University has been inextricably linked to the overall industrial and economic development of the region, which is one of the leading domestic and global centers of aerospace technologies.
In the late 1950s, KuAI initiated the creation of industry-specific R&D laboratories, which lent powerful impetus to the advancement of university-based scientific pursuits. The institute’s work involved the recruitment of prominent scientists and industrial workers. Among them — the principal designer of aviation and rocket engines Nikolai Kuznetsov, as well as a leading Soviet and Russian designer of space-rocket equipment, the chief engineer of the legendary R-7 rocket, Dmitri Kozlov.

In 1992, KuAI was reorganized into the Samara State Aerospace University (SSAU).

In 1969 saw the opening of Samara (then Kuibyshev) State University (SamSU). It was to provide training for scientific manpower in the natural and social sciences, as well as the humanities. The formation of academic schools at SamSU unfolded with support from the Moscow, St. Petersburg and Saratov State Universities.

In 2016, SSAU and SamSU amalgamated into the Samara National Research University named after Academician S.P. Korolev (Samara University).

Today, Samara is the burgeoning home to all manner of cutting-edge space equipment. And not just for Russia, but also for Western European countries and the USA. This equipment includes rocket propulsion systems, Earth-orbiting satellites and, of course, the most reliable family of booster rockets in the history of space exploration — the Soyuz. In the second decade of the twenty-first century, the Soyuz has emerged as the only way to send relief crews to the International Space Station.
Today’s Samara is a welcoming and bustling megapolis, one of Russia’s leading scientific, industrial, educational and cultural centers.

In 2018, Samara will be one of the host cities for the FIFA World Cup. A brand-new stadium is being built expressly for this purpose. Its design reflects the cosmic ambitions of the city and its inhabitants. In the environs surrounding the stadium, the new campus of Samara University will be built – the modern technopolis Gagarin Center. It will boast all of the conditions required for the development of science-intensive technologies and various academic research schools.
Kurumoch International Airport is one of the largest in the country. Its annual passenger traffic stands at roughly 2.2 million people. Flights are operated by 44 Russian and foreign airlines.

Samara Railway Station is the tallest railway-station complex in Europe. Its height, including spire, soars to a total of 101 meters.

The city’s surviving architectural heritage represents one of the most rich and vibrant ensembles in all of modern Russia. The dominant architectural styles are the Art Nouveau and Eclecticism of the late 19th – early 20th centuries, as well as the Post-Modernism of the 20th century.

Samara regularly hosts Russian and international festivals, sports competitions and other events. In early July, the outskirts of the regional capital — Mastryukovskie Lakes — are the annual gathering spot for the fans of guitar poetry. The song festival bears the name of Valeriy Grushin — a Samara University student who died in 1967 saving a group of drowning children.

The Samara shoreline is by many accounts the best on the Volga. The city features 10 parks and gardens, over 20 parkettes and avenues, and a total of 17 squares, including one of the largest in Europe — Kuibyshev Square.

Samara boasts roughly three dozen different museums: from the legendary Stalin’s Bunker and Samara Space Museum to smaller private thematic collections.

Samara’s theater life is vibrant and full. The city has several dramatic repertory theaters, an opera theater and a ballet theater. It is a regular stop on tours by leading Russian and foreign theaters.

Samara boasts a high number of original landmarks, from small sculptural forms to larger monuments and memorials, as well as several monuments to technical achievement.

Samara is a multidenominational city of many faiths. It is home to Russian Orthodox, Catholic and Anglican churches, the Armenian Apostolic Church, mosques, a synagogue and other religious institutions and centers.
Student participation in research projects

Study at Samara University proceeds according to the principle “education through research.”

Every year, more than 3,000 students take part in the scientific-research, experimental-design and technological-engineering projects unfolding at Samara University.

Solid foundation for a successful career

Since its founding, Samara National Research University has trained over 65,000 employees for the Russian aerospace industry. Today, specialists with degrees from Samara University are working at virtually all of the leading aviation and space-rocket centers in Russia and around the world.

Our graduates are among the executive leadership at Irkut Corporation, Sukhoi Company, Progress State Research and Production Space Center, NPO Energomash, Gazprom Corporation, Sberbank Group, and others.

Demand for our graduates on the global market

According to the portal linkedin.com, graduates of Samara University are pursuing successful careers not only in Russia, but abroad as well: in the USA, Canada, Great Britain, Germany, Israel, Australia, the Netherlands, the Czech Republic, Belgium and other countries of the far abroad.

These are the foreign offices and divisions of such companies as Airbus, Rolls-Royce PLC, Bombardier Aerospace, Google, Microsoft, Intel, Schlumberger, Biosense Webster, EPAM System, Honeywell, Alcatel-Lucent, Morgan Stanley, HSBC, and others.
The grounds of the university campus are home to a functioning production-and-testing complex for the assembly and testing of small spacecraft (SSC) for remote sensing and observation, created by Progress State Research and Production Space Center.

The campus already boasts a fully-operational center for the development and testing of nano-satellite systems. It encompasses laboratories that make it possible to solve the vast array of tasks involved in the development and testing of nano-satellite systems according to the CubeSat 1U-3U standard and their subsystems.

Thanks to our close integration with the leading industrial and research centers, our students and graduates can bring their ideas and advanced concepts to life — design a spacecraft, assemble it, launch it into space, and then control it in orbit. They create hardware for research satellites and take part in space experiments.

Existing group of orbital satellites

In cooperation with its strategic partner — Progress State Research and Production Space Center — Samara University is one of the select few research-and-education centers in the world to boast its own orbital family of small spacecraft intended for R&D purposes.

Functioning in orbit today are two "Aist" first-generation satellites and the "Aist-2" SSC for remote Earth observation. All of these spacecraft were created by specialists at Progress State Research and Production Space Center and scientists at Samara University with the active participation of students.

On-site engineering-and-production centers
In June 2016, the leading research-and-education teams at Samara University were used as the basis for the formation of new interdisciplinary divisions — strategic academic units (StrAU):

- “Aerospace Engineering and Technology” (StrAU-1).
- “Gas-Turbine Engine-Building” (StrAU-2).
- “Nanophotonics, Emerging Technologies for Remote Earth Observation and Smart Geo-Information Systems” (StrAU-3).

These divisions have enough potential and resources to become world-class research-and-education centers and yield the kind of breakthrough results that support the university’s international competitiveness.
Aside from its aerospace stream, Samara University also pursues scientific research and conducts the training of specialists in the field of cutting-edge biotechnologies, the creation of micro- and nano-devices for the next-generation of electronic and optoelectronic information systems, and the design of materials with pre-set properties.

Coursework at the university also entails the study of fundamental social processes, exposure to the theory and practice of the preservation of cultural and linguistic heritage, and training for teaching and research pursuits.
Advanced campus
Samara University campus is favorably situated in the geographical center of Samara city. Student quarter comprises over thirty training and laboratory buildings, as well as a complex of student hostels for 4200 people. University students and employees have over ten sport complexes and gyms available (including two swimming pools), as well as open playgrounds and other recreational, social and leisure infrastructure.

Scientific and educational infrastructure
Samara University has over one hundred of operational scientific and research centers, laboratories, as well as shared knowledge centers equipped with the state-of-the-art machinery. The University has two supercomputer centers and one Big Data processing laboratory.

Samara University library is one of the largest in the region in respect of the book stock: it has over 2.3 mln copies of different editions. Apart from the large book stock, the readers have free access to scientific works indexed by the largest international databases Web of Science and Scopus, as well as magazines of the Elsevier, OSA, EBSCO publishing houses, and different electronic library systems.

The access may be granted not only from the stationary PC, but from the portable devices as well via unified Wi-Fi network operating throughout the campus.
Museums and points of interest

Educational scientific and technical Aviation Engines History Centre named after N. Kuznetsov (AEHC) has one of the world’s largest collection of aviation and rocket engines. They represent the inventions of all the Russian and some of the foreign design bureaus.

Samara University Botanical Garden situated within the campus is a state-recognized natural sanctuary comprising over 3.5 thousand species of higher plants.

Since 1953, Samara University has had its own operational training aerodrome. Currently there are 25 different models of aircrafts and helicopters stationed there. The crown jewel of the training airport fleet is the Soviet supersonic passenger aircraft Tu-144. There are only 8 units of this aircraft model left in the world (of 17 ever built).
Students from 58 different countries study at Samara University.

The university cooperates with research-and-education structures in a wide array of countries around the world. Among them:

- the USA
- Great Britain
- Germany
- France
- Brazil
- India
- China
- Finland
- Spain
- Sweden
- Hungary
- Portugal
- Poland
- Latvia
- Kazakhstan
- Moldova
- Slovenia
- Croatia
- Malaysia
- and others

Partnership with leading universities

Main areas of the university’s cooperation with 48 of the world’s leading universities:

- academic mobility programs,
- inviting foreign researchers to teach at Samara University,
- double-degree programs,
- joint research.
Joint laboratories

Samara University has created joint laboratories with the following foreign universities:

- University of Stuttgart (Germany)
- Freiberg University of Mining and Technology (Germany)
- Technical University of Munich (Germany)
- University of Houston (USA)
- Purdue University (USA)
- Northwestern Polytechnical University (China)
- University of Ljubljana (Slovenia)
- Lappeenranta University of Technology (Finland)

Work at international organizations

Samara University participates in the work of a number of major international organizations. These include, among others, the International Astronautical Federation and the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS).
Samara University is pursuing a project involving creation of the SamSat-QB50 nano-satellite for the European QB50 research mission, which focuses on studying the space-time model of the Earth’s thermosphere. The QB50 project is being implemented under the auspices of the Von Karman Institute for Fluid Dynamics (Belgium) and encompasses 37 different universities from more than 20 world countries.

The Samara University satellite was the sole Russian participant in this mission and was included in a grouping consisting of 50 nano-satellites.

Since 2011, Samara University has been partnering with two French organizations — the Institute for Aeronautics and Space Exploration (ISAE) and the National Center for Space Research (CNES). At issue here, among other things, is the participation by the student design office at Samara University in the annual CNES contest and C'Space festival — one of whose main events is a competition involving the launch of experimental student rockets.

Participation in international student forums

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