

BOVA survey: Status of PhD education

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**A survey on Phd education in the BOVA
universities**

31 questions about:

statistics,

admission procedure,

organisation of studies,

available grants and scholarship at the universities

ideas and suggestions for joint courses



Statistics

Number of PhD students:

- LLU: 200
- EMU: 165
- LZUU: 83
- LVA: 57



Statistics

Number of admitted students in last two academic years:

	2004/2005	2005/2006
• LLU:	40	105
• EMU:	30	36
• LZUU:	20	19
• LVA:	16	13



Statistics

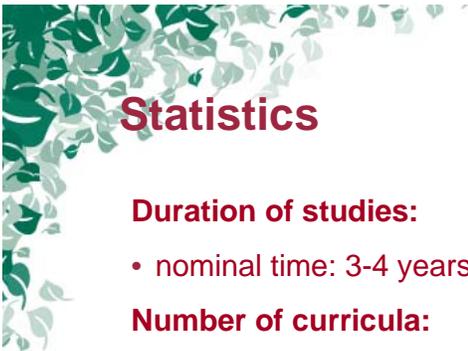
Number of graduating students in the last academic year (2005/2006):

LLU: 9

EMU: 6

LZUU: 19

LVA: 10



Statistics

Duration of studies:

- nominal time: 3-4 years

Number of curricula:

• LLU: 13

• EMU: 5

• LZUU: 3

• LVA: 2



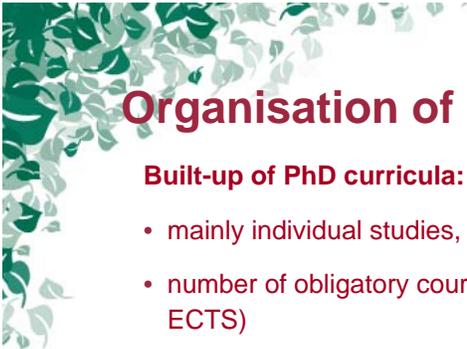
Organisation of studies

Time share of different study forms at the universities:

70-80% are individual studies

10-20% intensive courses

0-20% other courses, e.g. PhD courses lasting one semester



Organisation of studies

Built-up of PhD curricula:

- mainly individual studies,
- number of obligatory courses is quite different (7.5 - 63 ECTS)
- very few or no elective courses

Topics for discussion:

- Are studies outside the home university recognized?
- To what extent?
- How does credit transfer work?



Organisation of studies

Currently available intensive courses in English:

LLU: no

LZUU: no

LVA: no

EMU: one course:

Methodology of Research



Organisation of studies

Currently existing courses, that can be held in English:

LLU: 4 courses:

- Scientific Writing
- Applied Multivariate Techniques
- Quantative Methods of Economic Research
- Professional Language (English)



Organisation of studies

EMU: 3 courses

- Academic Writing and Presentation
- Mathematical Statistics and Modelling
- Pedagogy of Higher Education

LZUU: 2 courses

- Forest Ecology
- Experimental Design and Analysis in Agronomical Research

LVA: no courses



Funding of studies

PhD courses are mainly funded from:

- institutional budget
- state funding
- less from EU structural funds and other international sources

PhD students are mainly funded from:

- governmental scholarship
- full- time job
- grants from international sources (EU structural funds)





Funding of studies

Do PhD students/ departments/ supervisors' have special travel scholarships for attending courses abroad?

- LLU: scholarships of Agricultural Ministry, grants from EU structural funds; supervisors' project grants from Latvian Council of Sciences
- EMU: grants from EU structural funds, supervisors' support from their projects
- LZUU: institutional scholarship for PhD students
- LVA: no scholarships



Organisation of joint PhD courses

Topics for general courses:

- Research Methodology
- Scientific Writing
- Statistical Theory
- Multivariate Analyses
- Environmental Ethics, Research Ethics



Organisation of joint courses

Topics of area-specific courses:

- Veterinary Medicine
- Animal Reproduction
- Bioinformatics
- Food Technology
- Environmental Sciences
- Bioenergy



Organisation of joint courses

- Genetics
- Forest Ecology
- Renewable Energy
- Agronomy
- Engineering Sciences



Organisation of joint courses

Administrative suggestions:

- Academic staff is responsible for the compilation of lecturer teams, course programme and preparation of lectures;
- BOVA administration is responsible for course announcement and all other organizational matters.

Topics for further discussion:

Financing, motivation of teachers



**Thank you for
your attention!**