



Prerequisites for joint international Ph.D. courses

Do universities need joint international Ph.D. courses?

Strategies of member universities,
BOVA University strategy

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LZUU - University Action Plan



- ... implement joint general study programmes in all study levels, some from them together with BOVA and NOVA universities (*University Action Strategy*)
- Study integration into international education space ("*University Action Strategy*" *Implementation Plan for the year 2006-2010*):
 - **joint general study programmes in all study levels, some from them together with BOVA and NOVA universities:**
 - ... harmonise selected ... study subjects of doctoral studies with BOVA, NOVA and other partner university study programmes, where partnership is developing in the most active way.
 - ... support preparation and realisation ... **high quality** master and **doctoral courses**.
 - ... **participate in the international thematic study networks:**
 - ... extend University's integration into international thematic networks according all study trends (under possibility – study programmes)

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- **Intensify participation in international programs developing human resources**
- **Strengths at present:** Research and educational personnel with high qualification, ... developed international relations for implementation of defined strategic objectives
- One of strategic objectives:
 - **Educate specialists and PhD students with highest qualifications in veterinary and animal husbandry**
supported by quantitative descriptions:
 - **educate around 30 (40 in new draft version for 2007-2009) doctoral students, publish at least 0,12/person articles (0,8/person in the new draft version) in ISI journals ... establish new study programs...**

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- **Internationally open University**
- **7.2.3. Competitive young generation, successful doctoral school**
 - aims **including doctoral studies in the international network** and the organisation of European studies in collaboration with doctoral schools of other European Universities.
- **Problem area**
 - small 'critical mass' of research groups in several fields has resulted in the high workload of the academic staff,
 - low publishing rate in some fields,
 - limited international cooperation activities and shortage of foreign students
 - ...
- **Internationalization emphasised in many statements**

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- Cooperation in the frame of NOVA and BOVA defined as one of LLU international priorities.
- On level of BOVA negotiation are under way about development of joint study programs and modules of study courses.
- Ambition to have a PhD study program for international students by the end of 2010.

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- LLU allocates resources for organizing courses, seminars and projects in the frames of NOVA -BOVA cooperation:
 - 4 in 2007;
 - 6 in 2008;
 - 6 in 2009,
 - 10 in 2010
- LVL 10.000 / year are allocated to assure BOVA planning, operational and administrative work.

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BOVA University Strategy



- Approved in January 2006
- Covers 3 year period (2006-2008)
- Based on achievements in 10 years cooperation
- Targeted to network development

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Vision and mission



- strengthen higher education – consolidation of experience (“1+1>3” ?)
- Advanced high quality studies in English for advanced Baltic and visiting students
 Doctoral students = “advanced students”?

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Doctoral studies in the BOVA strategy



- one of three priority areas, supported by :
 - **Initiation of joint courses of high quality in common areas for Doctoral students (e.g. Scientific Writing, Biometry, Research Methodology, etc.)**
 - **cooperation among young researches (potential teachers), e.g. conferences;**
 - **cooperation in the NOVA-BOVA network in the field of doctoral courses and attraction of courses to be organised in Baltic countries giving wider access of Baltic teachers and students to these courses.**

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Conclusions



- Development plans are different, but priority for internationalisation of Ph.D. studies present in all member universities;
- In general, objectives defined in the BOVA strategy fits the needs of universities in the field of Ph.D. studies;
- In areas with few students, joint Ph.D. courses can raise quality of education by comparing with external competences
- Cooperation in Ph.D. courses can provide long-term benefit to research level at member universities raising competence of current Ph.D. students.

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