

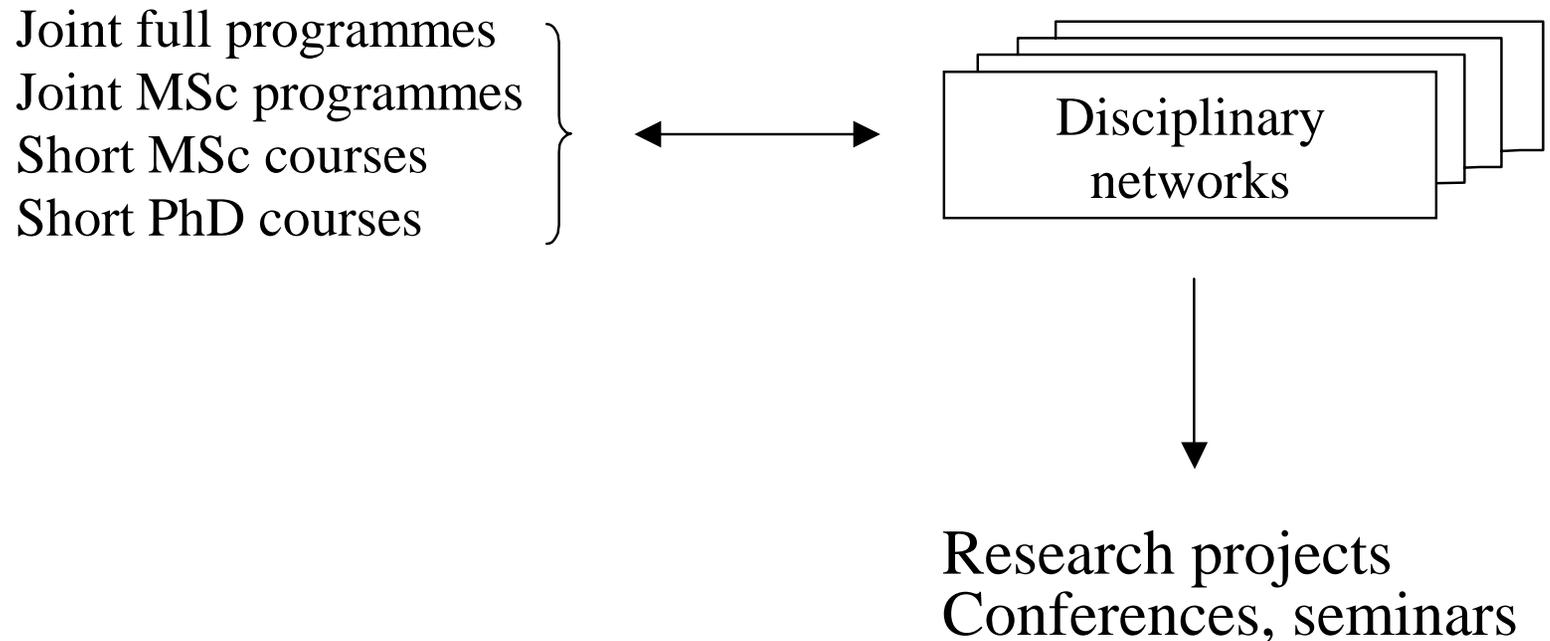
Network Evaluation

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Building NOVA-BOVA activities

(as was seen in 2002)



Presented at the first meeting of
NOVA-BOVA Coordination Committee
LZUU, Kaunas, February 8, 2002

N-B networks recorded in 2003:

- 1. AgroBiotech*
- 2. Agroecology*
- 3. Baltic Biosystems*
- 4. Biodiversity*
- 5. Bioinformatics*
- 6. Economics*
- 7. Forestry*
- 8. Game mngt.*
- 9. Landscape*
- 10. ProFood*
- 11. Rural development*
- 12. Vet. Science*
- 13. Food hygiene & safety*

Network status, October 2004

Developing/running joint MSc programmes:

- Euroforester, active; ongoing MSc, EU Socrates & Nordplus grants
- BioLandMan, active; EU Socrates grant
- Agrecology, active; intro courses, Nordplus grant
- Economics & Agribusiness, ongoing MSc; bilateral NLH-LLU
- Bioinformatics, lacking willingness for partnership with other u-ties?
- Game Management, inactive

PhD schools, courses:

- Agrobiotechnology, active, NorFA network grant
- Vet Science, active, courses ongoing but lacking partnership?
- Food Hygiene and Safety, semiactive, lacking leadership?

MSc courses:

- Baltic Biosystems and Norbe, active, but lacking critical mass?

NOVA-BOVA support to networks

- CC, secretariats and BOVA coordinators:
 - engaging people, arranging meetings
 - exchanging information, e.g. on potential grants
 - providing seed money, for meetings, applications, etc.
- WG MSc:
 - engaging people, arranging meetings
 - creating institutional structure for MSc programmes: definitions, agreements, etc.

How to build a successful network?

An ideal:

Status quo in N-B networks:

- Define clear objectives → mostly ok, sometimes unclear
- Build strong partnership → LACK of COMMON IDENTITY!
- Anchor at homes universities → LITTLE or NO ANCHORING!
- Make activity plan → universally absent
- Ensure good communication → few meetings, rare e-mailing
- Rise funds → two major grants on the Baltic side
- Implement activities → generally not too impressive

Summing up network development

Main achievements

- formation of joint MSc programmes in BOVA
- first successes in rising external funds

Main problems

- lack effective system of personal motivation
- weak anchoring of networks at universities
- uneven partnerships & lack of common identity