

BOVA UN IN FACTS AND FIGURES, 2013

BOVA UN activities in 2013 were offered according the Action Plan 2013 approved by BOVA RB on February 3, 2012 in order to achieve stated objectives in BOVA UN Strategy 2012 – 2014. BOVA activities and operation is financially supported by all member institutions paying the member fee to BOVA joint pool, additional internal input of each member institutions and external support from different projects (this year mainly NORDPLUS”).

1. BOVA Intensive master courses (BIMC)

By BOVA CC and BOVA RB was approved 6 BIMC. *There are 6 BIMC have been successfully performed during year 2013.* All courses were organized and performed using the traditional BOVA course model, division of courses: 2 at EMU, 2 at ASU, 2 at LLU.

The total number of courses, involved teachers and participated students in general is raised comparing with last year but there is difference observable in disposition of students participating in the courses. Some of courses had only students from 2 BOVA member institutions. See figures in the table below:

Table 1

BIMC in 2013

Title	Venue	Number of students	Number of teachers
Agrifood Supply Chains in the Baltic Sea region N+	EMU, Tartu	24, incl. LLU 7 ASU 5 EMU 4 UMB 1 SLU 1 HU-AF 3 AU-DJF 2 LSMU-VA 1	9, incl. FI 1 KU 1 LLU 1 ASU 3 EE 3
Animal Welfare Assessment	EMU, Tartu	17, incl. LLU 7 EMU 1 HU 5 LSMU-VA 4	8, incl. EMU 5 LLU 2 WVU (USA) 1
Genetic components of forest biodiversity: Threats and solutions N+	ASU, Kaunas	15, incl. 3 EMU 11 ASU 1 LLU	4, incl. 3 ASU 1 LLU
Land Administration in Baltic	ASU, Kaunas	21, incl. 7 LLU 6 EMU	9, incl. 2 EMU 2 LLU 1 RIGA TECH

Countries N+		4 ASU 3 KAZNAU	4 ASU
Food texture and Microstructure N+	LLU, Jelgava	22, incl. LLU – 4 EMU – 3 ASU – 5 LSMU-VA – 5 HU –V - 5	9, incl. LLU – 5 LSMU-VA – 2 KU – 1 Fulda University of Applied Sciences - 1
Small Animal Oncology N+	LLU, Jelgava	31, incl. EMU – 5 LLU – 18 HU-V – 1 LSMU-VA - 7	5, incl. LLU – 4 HU-V - 1
	Total:	146	79

5 of these courses have been supported by NORDPLUS Intensive Course grant Marked in the table 1 by N+) in the frames of the projects of NOVA-BOVA Nordplus network and 1 had BOVA support.

3. Joint Master Study programs

3.1. International Master Study programs at BOVA member institutions

Each BOVA member institution has started to provide a range of study programs on English language (in case of ASU as well on Russian) for foreign students.

Information about these study programs available as well on BOVA webpage: <http://www.bova-university.org/for-students/other.html>

No information about cooperation between BOVA member institutions academic staff in offering these programs.

3.3. BOVA Working Group on Joint Master Education (WF JME)

In 2012 by the decision of BOVA RB was established the new BOVA Working group on Joint Master Education (WF JME) with the aim to initiate work towards JMP between BOVA members institutions. WG started activities in May 2012 and there no any group meeting at the year 2013. WG leader offer to close activity.

4. BOVA cooperation on Doctoral Education

4.1. BOVA Intensive Doctoral Courses (BIDC)

BIDC were started to organize in 2008, number of offered courses were low during all years but this year BOVA didn't received any application meaning that BOVA didn't offer any course on doctoral level.

Instead of it by BOVA RB decision all BOVA member institutions which offered International Doctoral study courses were asked to shear information about these courses and distribute it among BOVA PhD students.

4.2. BOVA Working Group for development of Doctoral education (WG DDE).

In 2012 by the decision of BOVA RB was established the new BOVA Working group for Development of Doctoral Education (WG DDE) with the primary objective to investigate the perspective ways of more intensive cooperation between BOVA member institutions and outside in the field of Doctoral education and propose concrete actions for BOVA. WG started activities in

May 2012 and have not any activities on year 2012. Leader of the group is appointed Eda Tursk from EMU. The year 2013 was silent too.

5. BOVA cooperation with NOVA on PhD level

5.1. Participation of BOVA PhD students at NOVA PhD courses.

NOVA offered 12 NOVA PhD courses in 2013. Starting from 2009 BOVA students are free of participation fee but sending institution is responsible for travel, accommodation and board expenses.

The number of participating BOVA PhD students in NOVA PhD courses this year is reducing however the precise number will be known by the end of the year.

Table 2

BOVA PhD students in NOVA PhD courses per institution (2004-2013)

Year	EMU	ASU	LLU	LSMU-VA	Total BOVA
2004	14	11	7	1	33
2005	18	16	13	6	53
2006	28	14	10	7	59
2007	11	6	10	5	32
2008	20	10	13	1	44
2009	16	2	2	-	20
2010	15	5	7	3	30
2011	14	2	5	-	21
2012	7	-	2	-	9
2013	4	-	-	-	4
Total:	147	66	69	23	305

5.2. Involvement of BOVA professors in NOVA teaching teams

This process is highly depends on NOVA PhD course leaders and their interest to invite BOVA professors in the team. This process could be difficult to influence.

Information about involvement of BOVA lecturers in offering NOVA PhD courses presented in the Table 3.

Table 3

BOVA lecturers in NOVA PhD courses (2009-2012)

Year	EMU	ASU	LLU	LSMU-VA	Total BOVA
2009	-	-	1	-	1
2010	-	-	-	-	0
2011	3	-	-	-	3
2012	2	-	2	1	5
2013	4	-	2	-	4
Total:	9	0	5	1	13

6. Cooperation with NOVA - NOVA/BOVA Nordplus network projects

NOVA/BOVA Nordplus network was established in 2008 when for the first time was submitted joint application to Nordplus HE program. Since this year NOVA/BOVA Nordplus network every year submitting and implementing Nordplus projects. Network is well recognized by Nordplus and almost all funds applied this network is receiving. By enlarging the Nordplus network with Baltic partners, students and teachers now have possibility to be mobile between Nordic- Baltic, Baltic-Nordic, Baltic-Baltic and Nordic -Nordic countries.

6.1.1. Mobility of students and teachers for NOVA/BOVA Network

Normal mobility: 35 NOVA students and 13 BOVA students

Express mobility: 42 NOVA students and 24 BOVA students

Teachers' mobility: 11NOVA teachers and 6 BOVA teachers

Budget used for Mobility: NOVA: 80.845 € and BOVA 17565 €

From the joint Mobility Grant received from Nordplus 50 000 EUR BOVA had available 23 000 EUR for mobility of teachers and students between NOVA and BOVA member institutions.

For Nordplus we will pay back 27450 euros as we did not spend the 50 000 euros received for the intensive courses. All 7 courses (NOVA and BOVA) were organized but they were less expensive than budgeted.

Table 4

Number of students and teachers used Nordplus mobility grant in 2012/2013 at BOVA member institutions

Institutions	Students		teachers	EUR, total
	Normal mobility to BOVA/to NOVA	Express mobility BOVA/to NOVA	mobility BOVA/to NOVA	
LLU	-/4	17/-	4/1	9965
EMU	-/9	-/2	-	5960
ASU	-	5/-	2/-	1640
LSMU-VA	-/-	-	-	-
Total:	-/13	22/2	6/1	17565

Numbers will come from NOVA-BOVA network report to CIMO

6.1.2. Network meetings

NOVA/BOVA meeting at ASU, Lithuania: October 1-2, 2013

Network partners had workshop/exhibition where was presented study possibilities and exchange possibilities in NOVA and BOVA institutions. The event was addressed for ASU students, teachers, and network coordinators and study advisors.

Other meetings (3) were organised in video-meeting mode.

6.2. Project activities for study year 2013/2014 have been started

Project approval is received from Nordplus on June 12, 2013.

Total grant from Nordplus received is 100 00 EUR, including for mobilities 50 000 EUR and for Intensive courses 50 000 EUR.

Mobility grant on 50 000 EUR is divided between BOVA and NOVA partners according the number of full time students:

NOVA's share = 55 % = 28 600 euros

BOVA's share = 45 % = 23 400 euros

Grant for Intensive courses will be divided according to the course budgets (in application).

NOVA guarantee:

NOVA guarantee for 2013 without the network meeting in Lithuania was be 30 200 euros. We had 60 000 euros reserved so we used only half of the sum.

NOVA guarantee for 2014 will be 50 000 euros + 5 000 euros for network meeting. The final sum will be decided by the new board in February.

Table 5

Number of full time students in BOVA and NOVA member institutions 2013 and Nordplus grant proportion

Institution, (full name/ abbreviation)	Last year statistic data on September 1st 2011	Statistic data on June 1st, 2012	June 1st, 2013 (or figure from 2012)	Amount of grant (EU)
Latvia University of Agriculture - LLU	4176	3522	4917	9100
Estonian University of Life Sciences - EMU	3519	4321	4091	7500
Aleksandras Stulginskis University - ASU	3302	3040	2530	4700
Lithuania University of Health Sciences, Veterinary Academy – LSMU-VA	1077	1099	1099	2100
Total BOVA:	12 074	11 982	12637	23400

7. E-learning Development

BOVA WG of e- learning specialists established in 2008.

During the 2012 the main task for this group was to assist and help teaching staff to place distance part of the BOVA courses in the each respective home institution on virtual environment – Moodle and evaluate performance of distance part of BOVA courses.

Moodle platform was used and tested for organisation of largest part of BOVA courses:

WG has no meetings year 2013.

8. BOVA Student Council

By the end of 2010, on December 28 by the decision of BOVA Rectors' Board was established the BOVA Student Council.

BOVA Student Council has meeting on 12-13 April in Kaunas at Aleksandras Stulginskis University (ASU). This time topic of discussion was focused on BOVA SC structure, BOVA SC statutes, presentations and promotional materials for BOVA. At this meeting BOVA students voting: for new president and vice president's positions. The new president is Viktorija Balčiūtė from ASU.

Report from BOVA SC and plans for 2014 will be presented during BOVA CC meeting.

9. Other projects from years 2012 to 2013

9.1. ERASMUS IP

In recent years at each BOVA member institution the activity to apply for ERASMUS IP grant has been intensified and brings positive results, especially at LLU. ERASMUS IP Project on **Veterinary Public Health and emerging zoonotic diseases** was submitted to the Latvia National Agency by the effort of BOVA Academic Network and got grant on 24 292 EUR. ERASMUS IP project coordinator is Gatis Kasparinskis (LLU), project assistants: Nicole Werner Keiss (LLU-VMF) and Margarita Terentjeva (LLU-VMF). This project has rights to submit application for renewal 2 times more. The course take time at August 25 – September 7, 2013. This IP course is a good example of academic networking. BOVA secretariat and coordinators initiated the idea of Erasmus IP using existing academic networks. From LLU, EMU and LSMU-VA teachers were invited to „brainstorm” on the multidiscipline topic which might be offered for students under LLP for 2 weeks course and distance studies. Slowly step by step project coordinators invited partner universities (out of existing contacts), forming the project from:

Department of Food Safety and Quality, Lithuanian University of Health Sciences www.lsmuni.lt

Department of Food Hygiene, Estonian University of Life Sciences www.emu.ee

Department of Food Hygiene and Environmental Health, University of Helsinki www.helsinki.fi/university

Department of Biometry, Epidemiology and Information Processing, University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover www.tiho.hannover.de

Institute of Food Hygiene, Free University of Berlin www.fu-berlin.de Department of Veterinary

Disease Biology, University of Copenhagen www.ku.dk

Department of Veterinary Pathology, Justus Liebig University of Giessen www.uni-giessen.de

Department of Microbiology and Biotechnology, Latvia University www.lu.lv

Number of students: 17 from partner universities. Level of students: 1,2,3. Number of teachers: 15

Project application: granted to organise this IP in LSMU-VA. Organizer = LLU.

10. Meetings

10.1. BOVA CC meetings:

BOVA CC meeting, December 3, 2013 LLU.

Main items: Evaluation of new BOVA courses for 2014 and 2015, reports from WG and BOVA SC and other items.

10.2. BOVA RB meetings.

- BOVA RB meeting in Tartu , EMU on 18-19 April, 2013.

Main outcomes: BOVA RB agreed offer to have cooperation agreement with BOVA associated member Sankt Petersburg Agrarian University. Offer to start discussion about join master study program on Sustainable water management and apply for Baltic Region seed money funds.

- BOVA RB meeting in Kaunas, ASU on December 13, 2013

Main items: report on 2013, approval of action plan 2014, BOVA budget 2014, new web page presentation.

10.3. BOVA coordinators meetings

BOVA coordinators have met at 22 of May at Jelgava, LLU. Main outcomes of meeting were: NOVA-BOVA coordinators meeting at Kaunas ideas, Nord Plus fineness questions, new courses application. BOVA coordinators are the main persons who binding other in BOVA involved persons with BOVA secretariat. BOVA coordinators had short meetings in connection with other events where all coordinators took part. All other conversation is taking place via e-mails.

11. Visibility of BOVA

BOVA webpage <http://www.bova-university.org> is continuously updated by BOVA Secretary with latest information, but the web page did not work properly and it will be renewed and moved to ASU server. New web page will be available from 2014 01 01 at the same name.

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Approved by BOVA CC 2013 12 03 at Jelgava