

Stage Two



UNIVERSITY OF VETERINARY MEDICINE AND PHARMACY IN KOŠICE



SELF EVALUATION REPORT

2015

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ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THE DOCUMENT

ACRU: Association of Carpathian Region Universities
AIS: Academic Information System
ARL: Advanced Rapid Library
ASFEU: Agency of the MESRS for Structural Funds of the European Union
BA: Biological Agent
BLS: Basic Life Support
BT: Bachelor Thesis
CAF: Common Assessment Framework
CC: Current Contents
CEEPUS: Central European Exchange Program for University Studies
CEGA: Cultural and Educational Grant Agency (KEGA)
CT: Computed Tomography
CVS: Chamber of Veterinary Surgeons of the Slovak Republic
DVFA: District Veterinary and Food Administration
DT: Diploma Thesis
DVM: Doctor of Veterinary Medicine
EAEVE: European Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education
EBVS: European Board of Veterinary Specialisation
ECB: Editorial Centre and Bookshop
ECBHM: European College of Bovine Health Management
ECOVE: European Committee on Veterinary Education
ECTS: European Credit Transfer System
EFQM: European Foundation for Quality Management
EFSA: European Food Safety Authority
ENQA: European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education
EU: European Union
EUA: European University Association
FBA: Faculty of Biosciences and Aquaculture
FBA UiN in Bodø: Faculty of Biosciences and Aquaculture, University of Nordland in Bodø
FELASA: Federation of European Laboratory Animal Science Associations
GLP: Good Laboratory Practice
GVM: General Veterinary Medicine
HEE: Higher Education Establishment
HSE: Health, Safety and Environmental Legislation
IKT: Information and Communication Technologies
IPEVS: Institute of Postgraduate Education of Veterinary Surgeons in Košice
JBPAS: Joint Bachelor Programme in Animal Science
LAN: Local Area Network
MARD: Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic
MESRS: Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic
MRI: Magnetic Resonance Imaging
NISPEZ: National Information System for Access to Electronic Information Resources
NOKUT: Norwegian Agency for Quality Assurance in Education
NUGLA: Student Union at Faculty of Biosciences and Aquaculture
OHS: Occupational Health and Safety
PPWE: Personal Protective Working Equipment
QSC: Qualification Structure Coefficient
SAAIC: Slovak Academic Association for International Cooperation
SAIA: Slovak Academic Information Agency
SAS: Slovak Academy of Sciences of the Slovak Republic
SB: Scientific Board
SCP: Slovak Chamber of Pharmacists
SD: Student Dormitory

SGA: Slovak Grant Agency (VEGA)
SNAS: Slovak National Accreditation Service
SPHW: Safety and Protection of Health at Work
SRDA: Slovak Research and Development Agency (APVV)
SSA: Student Scientific Activities
SVFA: State Veterinary and Food Administration of the Slovak Republic
SVFI: State Veterinary and Food Institutes
TRE: Third Re-examination
UF: University Farm in Zemplínska Teplica
UL: University Library
UBiN: University Library of University of Nordland
UiN: University of Nordland
UVMP in Košice: University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Košice
VetNEST: Veterinary Network of Students Staff Transfer
VUA: Visegrad University Association
WAVES: Wild Animals Vigilance Euromediterranean Society
WSAVA: World Small Animal Veterinary Association
WVA: World Veterinary Association

INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to the Act No. 131/2002 of Law Code on Higher Education and on Changes and Supplements to Some Acts (the Higher Education Act), quality assurance is the responsibility of a higher education establishment (HEE). The HEE must draw up, introduce, and implement a functional internal quality assurance system, which is further elaborated in the internal quality systems of the individual HEE parts and adapted to their conditions. The main purpose of the internal quality system is to accentuate the importance of quality assurance in the activities of the HEE and the faculty. The internal quality assurance system is set out in an internal regulation of the HEE and includes the HEE's policy on quality assurance of the higher education it provides (hereinafter referred to as "quality assurance") and the related procedures.

The University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Košice (UVMP in Košice) was established by the Act of the Slovak National Council No. 1/1950 of the Civil Code as the Veterinary College in Košice. The name was changed to the University of Veterinary Medicine in Košice by the Act of the Slovak National Council No. 137/1992 of the Code on Amendment of the Name of the Veterinary College in Košice. The change to its present name - the University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Košice was introduced by the Act of the Slovak National Council No. 569/2009 of the Code on Amendment of the Name of the University of Veterinary Medicine in Košice. UVMP in Košice is the only institution of its kind providing higher veterinary education in the Slovak Republic. It is also one of two institutions in Slovakia that offer pharmacy education of university type. The main mission of UVMP in Košice is to provide higher undergraduate and postgraduate veterinary and pharmacy education on the basis of creative scientific research in the field of veterinary science and pharmacy.

Based on the Higher Education Act, UVMP in Košice drew up Internal Regulation No. 57 – 'Internal System of Quality Assurance at the University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Košice' (<http://www.UVLF v Košiciach.sk/sites/default/files/dokumenty/vnutorne-predpisy-a-smernice/vp-c-57-vnutorny-system-kvality-na-UVLF v Košiciach-v-kosiciach.pdf>).

Quality management at the university level is the responsibility of the following academic self-governing bodies and committees:

- the Rector of UVMP in Košice,
- the Scientific Board of UVMP in Košice,
- the Committee for Quality Assurance of UVMP in Košice,
- the Pedagogical Committee, and
- the Committee for Scientific and Research Activities.

The internal quality assurance system at UVMP in Košice includes:

- the policy on quality assurance of the higher education at UVMP in Košice (quality assurance), and
- its quality assurance procedures.

The quality assurance of UVMP Košice includes:

- basic tools to achieve the main objective of the internal quality assurance system,
- description of the relationship between higher education and the research, development and other creative activities at UVMP in Košice,
- the organisation of the internal quality assurance system,
- distribution of responsibility for quality assurance among the individual parts of UVMP in Košice,
- description of the student involvement in the internal quality assurance system, and
- methods for introducing, using, monitoring and reviewing the quality assurance principles established by UVMP in Košice.

The internal quality assurance system at UVMP Košice is designed to ensure the university's main mission, which is defined in its Long-Term Strategic Plan. The quality assurance tools are the specific methods for assessment of UVMP education, science and research. Quality assurance is

achieved by creating links between science & research and education and an efficient transfer of new knowledge in the teaching process.

The internal quality assurance system is based on clearly defined linkages and transmission of information between the individual system components. This is assessed at regular intervals.

The distribution of responsibilities and powers among the individual components of the internal quality assurance system is clearly defined.

There are procedures for involving the university students in the quality assurance of the higher education provided by the university. Each student is entitled to anonymously assess the quality of subjects and teachers, and propose possible changes leading to the quality improvement.

UVMP in Košice established the procedures for implementing, applying, monitoring and reviewing the quality assurance principles.

The quality assurance procedures are applied in the following areas:

- development, approval, monitoring and regular assessment of the study programmes,
- criteria and rules for student assessment,
- quality assurance of teaching (the teachers),
- provision of material, technical, and information resources for promoting education that meet the needs of the study programmes,
- collecting, analyzing and using the information crucial to the efficient management of the study programmes, and
- regular dissemination of up-to-date, objective, quantitative and qualitative information about the study programmes and the graduates.

The study programmes are regularly assessed at the Scientific Board meetings and in the Pedagogical Committee, where measures are also taken to improve their quality.

UVMP in Košice has established transparent and publicly available criteria and rules for student assessment. They are embedded in the Study Guidelines of UVMP in Košice and based on the Higher Education Act and the relevant implementing regulations. In accordance with its Study Guidelines, UVMP in Košice established and has been implementing efficient, clearly formulated and consistent policies on the selection, processes, powers, and responsibilities of the examination and assessment committees. The Study Guidelines also define the rules and conditions for proceeding to higher levels of study and the award of academic degrees. The success of the university study, students' results and their involvement in research, development and other creative activities, their participation in mobility programmes and other activities of the university are regularly assessed, mainly as part of the UVMP annual reports.

There are rules and requirements established by the university concerning the quality of its teachers, upgrading their qualification level, and the assessment of the competence level of all new teachers. Compliance with these rules and the outcomes of the teachers' professional advancement are regularly assessed at the Scientific Board meetings. The results from the feedback the students provide on teaching are also included in the teacher assessment. UVMP in Košice creates suitable conditions for professional growth of its academic staff and the development of their teaching competencies.

The regular assessment of material, technical and information resources provided by the university to promote teaching and learning within its study programmes is included in the UVMP annual reports. An integral part of the teaching process is the cooperation with external organisations to promote education by providing physical and human resources to meet the needs of the study programmes.

UVMP in Košice has developed and uses the systems for collecting, analyzing and using the information necessary for efficient management and implementation of its study programmes. There is also an information system available for collecting data about the quality, achievements and profiles of the students, as well as their performance, results and employability.

UVMP in Košice regularly disseminates up-to-date information on its study programmes and the education outcomes, and it releases quantitative and qualitative information about its graduates.

The Accreditation Commission (the Commission) was established by the Government of the Slovak Republic as its advisory body. The Commission monitors, reviews, and independently evaluates the quality of education, research, development, artistic and other creative activities of HEEs and contributes to its improvement. It comprehensively reviews the conditions under which these

activities take place at the HEEs and makes recommendations for improving the HEEs' performance. The Commission may inform the public of its findings.

The Commission provides its opinion on:

- the competence of a HEE to conduct a study programme for which the HEE is authorised to confer on its graduates an academic degree,
- the competence of a non-university institution to participate in running of a postgraduate (PhD) study programme,
- the competence of the HEE to perform habilitation proceedings and the procedure for appointing professors,
- proposals for establishment, merger, fusion, separation, cancellation, change of name or seat of a public HEE, state HEE and their faculties,
- proposals for granting state approval for a legal entity to operate as a private HEE,
- proposals for any change in the system of fields of study,
- fulfilment of the criteria established by the HEEs for obtaining a title of Associate Professor and Professor based on a proposal of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic (MESRS), and
- any other proposals related to higher education that are submitted by the minister.

The Commission also performs comprehensive accreditation of the HEE's activities. Within this comprehensive accreditation the Commission also evaluates the level of research, development, artistic and other creative activities of the HEE.

The National Quality Award of the Slovak Republic is the most prestigious award for quality management systems that an organization can receive. It is based on the assessment against the quality management models that are used in the European Quality Award. This competition is announced and coordinated by the Slovak Office of Standards, Metrology and Testing. The National Quality Award can be won within the entrepreneurial and the public sectors. While the assessment in the entrepreneurial sector is based exclusively on the European Foundation for Quality Management (EFQM) model, the public organisations may also use the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) model, i.e. the model used for quality assessment of the organisations in public administration. The CAF model is a voluntary system based on nine criteria, five of which are the so-called "enabler" criteria (i.e. the managerial practices) and four are the "result" criteria (i.e. what the organisation achieves).

UVMP in Košice successfully took part in the National Quality Award in 2012 and 2014. By application of the CAF model on a voluntary basis the university spares no effort to adopt the principles of self-assessment and benchmarking, and improve the entire quality management system, particularly as regards human resources, support for team work and staff initiative, better communication with partners, understanding the clients' needs, and improving its competitiveness in attracting applicants for study and obtaining research grants.

Quality assurance procedures at University of Norland in Bodø

University of Norland in Bodø (UiN) is an ECTS accredited institution and was ordained as a university in January 2011. It offers a dynamic, modern learning environment for research-based education (at undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral levels) and research at academic level. All activities aim to contribute to the establishment of a sustainable bio-economy at a regional and national level.

UiN has developed its quality system, with emphasis on the participation of all staff members and students. The quality and relevance of all study programmes are continuously evaluated by internal evaluation schemes as well as conducting market studies.

UiN is an independent institution under public-sector administration and is supervised by the Ministry of Education and Research (KD) as determined by the Norwegian Parliament under the Universities' and University Colleges Act (2005). The University Board is the highest management organ for UiN, while the Rector is the managing director. The following academic self-governing bodies and committees also play an important role in the quality management system of the University:

- Pro-rectors
- University Director
- Assistant University Director
- Committee for Quality Assurance of Study
- Learning Environment Committee
- International Committee

Additionally, the Director of the Finance Division, the University Library Director and the IT Director have also important tasks, associated with ensuring organisational quality (buildings, infrastructure, library services and IT infrastructure).

At the Faculty level, the Education Board of the Faculty of Biosciences and Aquaculture of UiN in Bodø (FBA) is an advisory body to the Dean and it has the main responsibility for the management of all the Bachelor and Master's programmes. All changes in the existing curricula require an approval by the Education Board of FBA. The course coordinators are responsible for the planning and implementation of the learning processes of the particular courses. They are also responsible for the organisation of the mid-semester course evaluations and to adequately inform the students about the final evaluations. The students play an important role in the quality assurance system, as they are involved in the mid-term and final course evaluations. In addition, dialogue meetings with the programme coordinators take place during each semester. The Head of the Faculty is responsible for following-up individual teachers if the students have a complaint and to convey both praise and criticism that emerge from student evaluations. The *Act relating to Universities and University Colleges* regulates all the examination procedures given at UiN.

All study programmes meet the requirements set by Norwegian Agency for Quality Assurance in Education (NOKUT), which is the authority for educational activity in all Norwegian universities. NOKUT has already evaluated and approved the UiN's internal quality assurance systems.

The quality assurance system at UiN is designed using the following methods and systems:

- Quality Handbook – which describes critical organizational processes.
- Evaluation, investigation and analysis – related to four focus areas: intake quality, organizational quality, programme quality and results.
- Internal audits – which investigate practice at the institution in accordance with descriptions in the Quality Handbook.
- Feedback – which gives the institution's users the opportunity to report discrepancies and provide positive feedback relating to the institution's activities, as well as the opportunity to follow up discrepancy reports.
- Quality reports – which give the University Board a presentation of the quality work at the institution, quality development within education, as well as ensure further positive development.

Other external bodies/procedures that monitor and/or affect the quality system at UiN are:

- Studiebarometeret: a national student survey conducted by NOKUT and commissioned by the Ministry of Education. It provides simple and user information about perceived quality on the study programmes offered by Norwegian higher education institutions.
- DBH: Database for statistics in higher education. It was initiated by the Norwegian Ministry of Education and it functions as an important steering and decision-making tool by providing quantitative parameters for use by both the Ministry, as well as the educational institutions.
- NARA: Norwegian Animal Research Authority.

All procedures at UiN related to the recruitment of academic staff follow the regulations described in the Act relating to Universities and University Colleges § 6-3. Teaching excellence is an important factor that is considered in the development and promotion of all staff members. Each year it is rewarded by the student unions. Additionally, upon request from any academic or technical staff, FBA can fund relevant scientific meetings, or training courses that can increase the knowledge and experience of the staff.

Chapter 1. POLICY STATEMENT (AP 1)

Please address the following points:

- the relationship between teaching and research so that research education and research quality can be distinguished
- Faculty's strategy for quality and standards
- organisation of the quality assurance system
- responsibilities of organisational units and individuals for the assurance of quality
- involvement of students in quality assurance
- ways in which the policy is implemented, monitored and revised

1.1 FACTUAL INFORMATION

FACTUAL INFORMATION – UVMP IN KOŠICE

Relationship between teaching and research

Results of UVMP in Košice research are transformed to education process and the requirements on the research topics are related to pressing issues in individual fields of veterinary medicine. Students are also involved in research projects through work on their diploma thesis (DT). This gives a guarantee of direct relationship between research and education, including qualitative parameters, particularly in the form of publication outputs. The defended bachelor and diploma theses in the study programme *Animal Science* are listed in Annex 1.1. The diploma theses defended under the study programme *General Veterinary Medicine* in academic years 2012/2013 and 2013/2014 are in Annex 1.2. The involvement of the university units in work on the bachelor and diploma theses is detailed in Annex 1.3.

Strategy of UVMP in Košice for quality and standards

UVMP in Košice respects the need for observation and application of quality standards in its environment. The situation is complicated by the fact that quality standards for evaluation on the national level and the standards used on international level are not fully compatible. They are even contradictory from some aspects, which raises problems as the university must comply with the national criteria on the one hand and is willing to comply with international criteria on the other hand.

Despite the complications mentioned above, when establishing unified procedures for quality evaluation UVMP in Košice fully respects principles set by the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA). In accordance with the above mentioned, UVMP in Košice respects the seven basic principles of internal quality assurance in higher education and has introduced and adheres to the following principles and procedures of quality assurance: approval, monitoring and periodic review of study programmes and academic titles; assessment of students; quality assurance of teaching staff; learning resources and student support; information systems; public information.

UVMP in Košice has at its disposal policy and related procedures to assure quality and standard of its study programmes and awarding academic titles. UVMP in Košice made a commitment to develop culture which recognizes importance of quality and quality assurance in its operation. In order to reach this goal UVMP in Košice developed a strategy for permanent quality increase. This strategy, policy and procedures have a formal status, are available to public and include participation of students and other interested parties.

UVMP in Košice possesses formal mechanisms for approval, periodic review and control of its study programmes and awarding academic titles.

Students are evaluated on the basis of published criteria, regulations and procedures which are applied consistently and correspond to national legislation and the Bologna Process.

UVMP in Košice has introduced procedures which give assurance that the teaching staff is qualified and competent. They are available on request to persons who carry external evaluation and respective frames are included in published reports.

UVMP in Košice assures that sources available for support of student's education are satisfactory and suitable for each study programme, with considerable emphasis placed on university's own education publications.

UVMP in Košice has means for collection, analysis and use of information relevant to effective management of its study programmes and other activities which are implemented mainly through the Academic Information System.

UVMP in Košice periodically publishes up-to-date, impartial and objective information, both quantitative and qualitative, about offered study programmes and awarded academic titles.

UVMP in Košice decided to implement the CAF model for quality assurance. The model CAF is a tool for self-evaluation intended for public administration developed on the basis of an analysis carried out by the European Foundation for Quality Management, Academy Speyer in Germany and the European Institute for Public Administration in Maastricht. The main aim was to support orientation of public administration bodies on improvement of quality, effectiveness and performance using quality assurance tools, to focus on fulfilling their tasks for the benefit of their clients/citizens, and to ensure opportunity for further development of their staff. The main purpose of the CAF model is to provide a simple, easily used concept of evaluation of public administration bodies in European countries. The CAF model has been implemented at UVMP in Košice since 2011, and during this period UVMP in Košice successfully participated in the competition National Quality Award of the Slovak Republic (Annex 1.4).

Organisation of quality assurance system

The system of quality assurance at UVMP in Košice arises from its organisation structure. The highest level of responsibility belongs to the university management which implements, monitors and controls the quality assurance system. For this purpose it collaborates with the Scientific Board and the Academic Senate of the university and its individual organisation units, and has established a unit for co-ordination of individual activities involved in the control and quality assurance at the university.

Responsibility of organisation units and individuals for quality assurance

All organisation units and individuals are responsible for quality assurance of their activities. Individual problems related to quality of education and research activities and overall work culture at the university are periodically evaluated in annual reports of UVMP in Košice which include evaluation of individual parameters of quality. Periodical evaluation of quality and related issues is carried out at work meetings of individual organisational units of the university. Conclusions of such meetings and the relevant recommendations are dealt with by the university management which on the basis of stimuli from workplaces and individuals takes single or system measures contributing to increased quality of individual processes. The responsibility for quality assurance at the level of individual units belongs to their heads. Persons responsible for the quality of education process are individual guarantors of study subjects who collaborate in this respect with teachers teaching these subjects. Likewise, persons responsible for the quality of research are the heads of project (grants) teams together with the members of the respective teams.

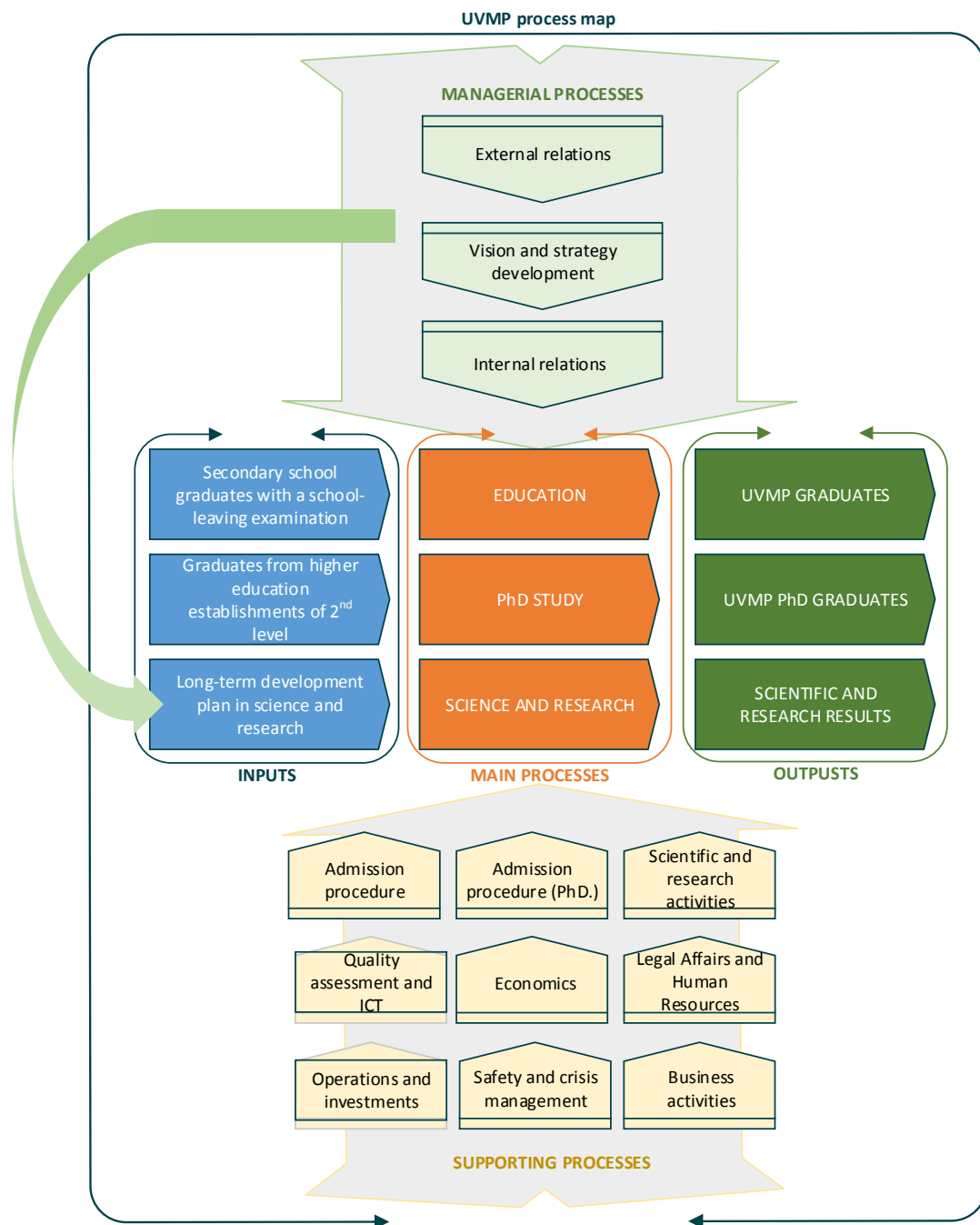
Participation of students in quality assurance

Students of UVMP in Košice closely participate in quality assurance, particularly the quality of provided education. In accordance with the Higher Education Act the students can evaluate anonymously and periodically individual aspects related to teaching study subjects. They also have the right to evaluate anonymously the quality of individual teachers. Results of evaluation by students are assessed and in case of some problems necessary steps are taken to eliminate them and increase the quality of subjects and teachers (Annex 1.5).

Ways of implementation, monitoring and revising quality assurance policy

The policy of implementation, monitoring and potential revising of quality assurance is based on long-term practical experience of university management and closely related to relevant legislative regulations which determine and regulate these processes. The quality of education and research activities and the associated processes is monitored periodically and thoroughly. Potential insufficiencies are defined and the way and deadline for their elimination is determined. The top body of UVMP in Košice responsible for the processes of quality assurance mentioned above is the Scientific Board of the university. An important role is played also by special commissions of UVMP in Košice which submit their evaluations and suggestions through respective vice-rectors of the university.

Scheme 1.1 Policy statement at UVMP in Košice (AP 1)



FACTUAL INFORMATION – FBA UiN IN BODØ

Relation between teaching and research

According to the National legislation, the main activities of UiN are to conduct research and deliver education. According to the university's strategic plan for 2012-2016, '*University of Nordland will ensure regional distribution of research-based knowledge and competence within the national and international body of knowledge*' (<http://www.uin.no/en/about-uin/Documents/UiN%20Strategic%20Plan%202012-2016.pdf>). Thus, active researchers are involved in the teaching of all courses, teach the latest and refer to their own research where appropriate. One of the main learning outcomes of the Joint Bachelor Programme in Animal Science (JBPAS) is to make graduate students competent to retrieve and assess scientific information from any sources and to convey this knowledge to other scientists (<http://www.uin.no/en/studies/animal-science-bachelor1#&acd=h-262bcd6-4a17-4b3d-be86-91f9b0f4f740&acd=h-186604bb-918f-43c5-b04b-9e4cc9f1625f>). Thus, even from the first semester, they attend a course in academic writing and use of scientific databases organized by the university library. Later, in many courses, like 'Zoophysiology' and 'Microbiology', the students need to write scientific reports based on the findings obtained in the laboratory exercises. In these reports, they discuss their findings using scientific references from the literature. At the end of the programme, the students deliver a thesis (5 ECTS), which in most cases is a critical review of a specific topic of their choice.

UiN's and FBA's strategy for quality and standards

UiN has developed its quality system, which emphasizes the participation of all staff members and students. The study portfolio aims to develop attractive study programmes and to ensure an increase in qualified applicants. The strategic plan of FBA also reflects the university's principles. The plan for the period 2011-2016 was approved by the Faculty Board on November 21st, 2011 and it can be found online at <http://www.uin.no/no/om-uin/fakulteter-og-sentre/fakultet-for-biovitenskap-og-akvakultur/Sider/Strategiplan.aspx>. The quality and relevance of all study programmes are continuously evaluated by implementing an internal evaluation scheme as well as conducting market studies. All research activities aim to contribute to the establishment of a blue/green bioscience axis in Norway.

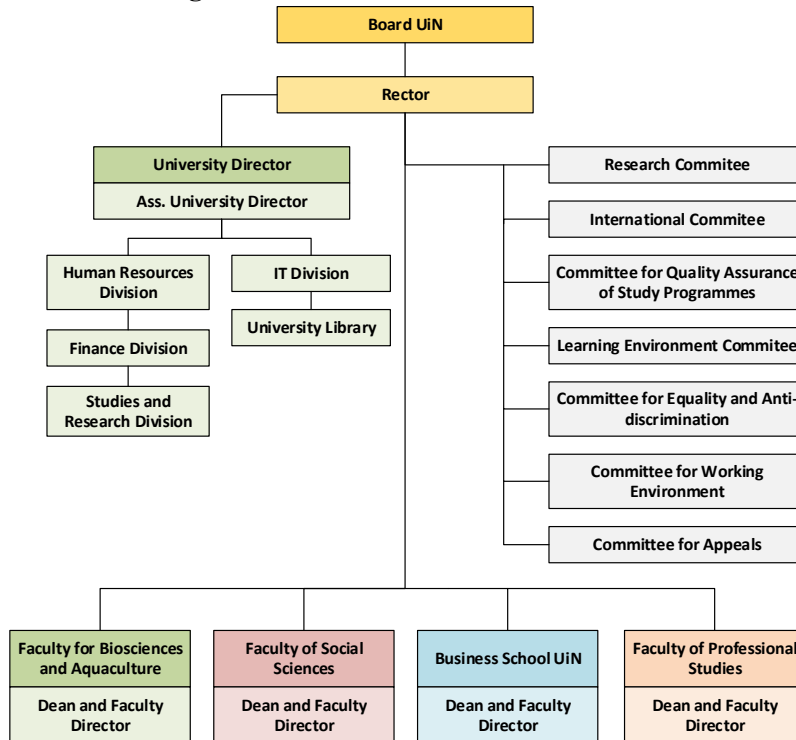
Organization of the Quality assurance system

A key tool in the quality assurance system at UiN is the Quality Handbook (Kvalitetshåndbok). Quality Handbook is a digital collection of descriptions of how critical processes are implemented. The purpose is to ensure consistent and complete implementation of these processes. The Quality Handbook is available on-line on the University's webpage: (<http://www.uin.no/no/om-uin/universitetet/kvalitetssystem/kvalitetshandboka/Sider/default.aspx>).

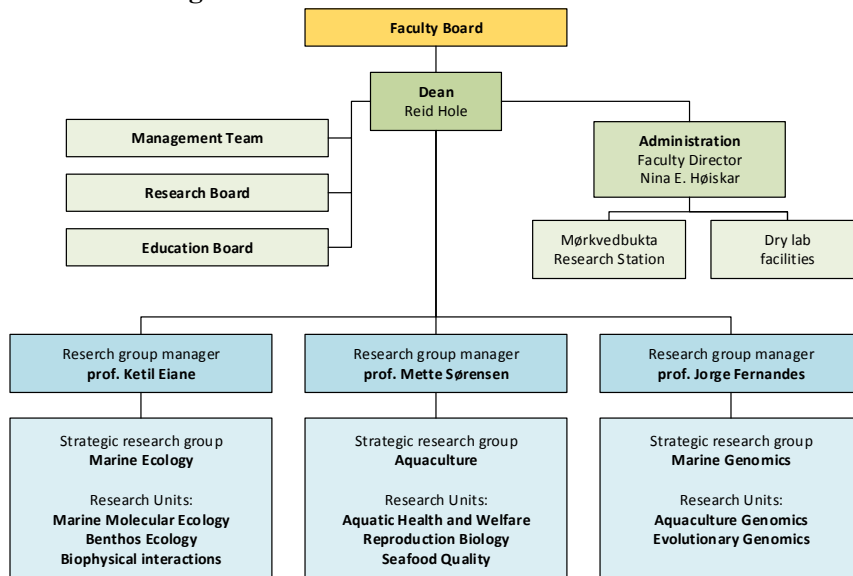
Responsibilities of organizational units and individuals for the assurance of quality

UiN is an independent institution under public-sector administration and is supervised by the Ministry of Education and Research under the Universities' and University Colleges Act (2005). The University Board is the highest management organ for UiN. The Rector is the University's managing director, with responsibility for the institution's academic and administrative operations. All university committees are advisory to the Rector bodies. The Faculty Board of FBA is the highest administrative body of the faculty and is responsible for setting overarching goals, priorities and strategies for FBA. The Dean is responsible for the daily management of the faculty and reports to the Faculty Board and the Rector.

Scheme 1.2 Organization of UiN



Scheme 1.3 Organization of FBA



Involvement of students in quality assurance

To ensure a good quality study at UiN the academic and administrative staff depend on continuous feedback from students - feedback concerning the content of the studies, the way teaching is carried on as well as the social and physical framework around the study programmes. The students participate in different evaluation surveys and are represented in all central and faculty committees. In relation to the evaluation of the educational programmes, the students participate in: the mid-term course evaluation (a collective evaluation made by the students participating in a course), the final course evaluation (anonymous individual evaluations), dialogue meetings (between the programme coordinators and all the students of each year) and the 'Studiebarometeret' (a national student survey conducted by NOKUT commissioned by the Ministry of Education).

Ways in which the policy is implemented, monitored and revised

The quality assurance system for the educational activities at UiN was established in 2004. The system was formally approved by NOKUT's board in 2005. The quality assurance system was again evaluated by NOKUT in autumn 2011 with subsequent approval in June 2012. Quality assurance systems at the educational institutions are evaluated at least every 6 years and UiN expects another visit by NOKUT in 2017/2018.

Every year, in the autumn semester, all course coordinators suggest changes in their courses and these are discussed and approved in the Faculty Educational Board meetings. At the end of each academic year, the programme coordinators prepare reports on their courses and these are submitted to the Faculty's Education Board. These are included in the faculty quality report, which is treated by the Committee for Quality Assurance of Study Programmes. The report is available to the public. The Committee for Quality Assurance of Study Programmes is an executive committee for the University Board, which advises upon and implements strategies associated with studies and education at UiN.

1.2 COMMENTS

COMMENTS - UVMP IN KOŠICE

Over the last ten years, the policy principles of UVMP in Košice have mainly been affected by the legislative framework for quality assessment, which is covered by the Higher Education Act. A quality assessment method is another determinant. The CAF model has been adopted by UVMP in Košice as the instrument for its quality assessment. Owing to the CAF implementation, the university successfully participated in the National Quality Award of the Slovak Republic in 2012 and 2014. The university introduced and has been implementing an internal regulation on the "Internal System of Quality Assurance at UVMP in Košice". The regulation defines quality assurance in terms of its purpose, internal management, the content of its internal system, implementation and procedures.

COMMENTS - FBA UiN IN BODØ

The quality assurance system implemented at UiN follows the national guidelines followed by all Norwegian universities and colleges. It ensures the active participation of students in the development and running of all study programmes, and moreover that the learning outcomes meet the society's demands and needs.

1.3 SUGGESTIONS

SUGGESTIONS - UVMP IN KOŠICE

In the following period, UVMP in Košice will aim to further improve its quality assessment methods. New criteria will be developed to assess all aspects of the UVMP research and education activities, with feedback being their invaluable part. The feedback obtained from assessing strengths and weaknesses will encourage quality improvement of the above-mentioned activities and enhancement of the management mechanisms.

SUGGESTIONS - FBA UiN IN BODØ

Although the students have the opportunity to be involved in the development and assessment of all study programmes on many levels, the participation is not always satisfactory. To some extent, the students fail to make transition from the 'high school' mentality to the 'university' mentality. Thus, the efforts to increase their motivation through constructive discussions should be maintained and even intensified, right from their first days as university students.

Chapter 2. ASSESSMENT OF STUDENTS (AP 2), POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION (AP 3) AND STUDENT WELFARE (AP 4)

2.1 UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

a) How are students assessed when applying to study veterinary medicine and to what extent is the system open for foreign students? How and by whom are the assessment procedures developed and by what means is the result validated?

The main mission of UVMP in Košice is to provide higher undergraduate and postgraduate veterinary education on the basis of creative scientific research in the field of veterinary science and pharmacy.

UVMP in Košice is a one faculty university providing higher education in the Slovak and English languages in the following study programmes:

1. Joint Bachelor Programme in Animal Science (JBPAS) – in English
2. General Veterinary Medicine (GVM) - in Slovak and English, and
3. postgraduate (PhD) study programmes in Slovak and English

Admission to study and the organisation of the admission procedure are in accordance with the Higher Education Act, Internal Regulation No. 2 – “Study Guidelines” and Internal Regulation No. 39 - “Admission Procedure and Procedure on Reviewing Decisions on Non-Admission to Study”, and they comply with Directive 2005/36/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the recognition of professional qualifications (previously Council Directive 78/1026/EEC and 78/1027/EEC) concerning the so-called ‘regulated professions’.

The basic condition for admission to bachelor study or combined first and second level of higher education studies is completion of full secondary education or full specialised secondary education.

Admission to a study programme of the second level of higher education at UVMP in Košice is conditional upon completion of a study programme of the first level of higher education, or upon obtaining higher education of the second level; the rule being that the sum of the credits earned for the previous higher education studies and the credits needed to complete the study programme of the second level that the student applies to must be at least 360 credits.

The basic condition for admission to postgraduate studies is completion of the second level (higher education) study programme or combined first and second level higher education programme.

An Admission Board is appointed by the Rector to judge the applicants’ suitability for study at UVMP in Košice. Student admission to the university is based on objective qualitative criteria and the order of applicants is based on the number of points scored during the admission procedure.

The entrance examination takes the form of a test in the core subjects (biology, chemistry). The applications must be submitted in writing or in electronic form no later than on 15th March of the calendar year.

Admission of an applicant to the studies at UVMP in Košice is conditional upon the applicant’s fulfilling the respective admission conditions that include passing the entrance examination.

A system eliminating subjective factors affecting the evaluation of applicants is used during the preparation and evaluation of the entrance examinations (tests). The tests are generated on the entrance examination day and evaluated anonymously under a code number. The examination results are made public every day on UVMP website (<http://www.uvlf.sk>).

Other selection criteria that are taken into account during the admission process include: successful participation in secondary school science olympiads (1st – 3rd place in the core subjects *biology* and *chemistry*), work for organisations whose activities are related to the chosen study programme, and other prerequisites that must be enclosed in writing along with the application form.

Admission to study at UVMP in Košice is conditional upon passing of entrance examinations in the core subjects (biology, chemistry). The applicants for the study in the respective study programmes are listed in descending order, according to the points scored. The minimum passing score depends on the number of students to be admitted to studies.

Given the challenging entrance examinations, their objective evaluation and the selection of students according to the points scored (in descending order), the admission process is very competitive and objective.

280 students on average have applied for the GVM study in the Slovak language over the last two years, of whom 160 were registered into the first year of study.

The entrance examinations for studies in the English language are the responsibility of the Foreign Study Office. The selection process is similar to the one used for admission to the studies in the Slovak language. The basic condition for admission of foreign students to studies is completion of full secondary education, which must be documented by an apostilled certificate of completed secondary education (a school-leaving certificate). The entrance examination consists of a written test in biology and chemistry complemented by an interview to assess the applicants' ability to communicate in English.

All necessary information concerning the conditions for admission, the admission procedure and the entrance examination dates can be found on the university website.

The Rector appoints an Admission Board as his/her advisory body to judge the applicants' suitability for study at UVMP in Košice. Decision on admission or non-admission of the applicant is made by the Rector, following recommendations of the Admission Board, which evaluates the results of the admission process. A scrutinising committee is appointed and withdrawn ad hoc by the Rector for the academic year in which the admission procedure takes place to check the results of the entrance examinations.

Results of admission procedure are announced on UVMP website through the AIS link on the day of the Admission Board session, within 5 working days after the completion of admission procedure at UVMP in Košice. The results are sent by registered letter to every applicant within 30 days of verification of satisfying the conditions for admission to the studies.

The documents required for obtaining visas or student loans in the foreign applicants' countries are sent to them along with confirmation of admission to UVMP in Košice.

In September, the first year students of all study programmes complete an induction course and a field practice according to the respective study plans to become acquainted with the issues relevant to their studies at the university facilities.

The university's ambition is to attract and recruit self-motivated, quality students. Therefore, the University Management has been paying much attention to promotion and public relations activities in order to achieve maximum public awareness of the opportunities for study at the university. For that reason, the university is regularly represented at education fairs (Akadémia education fair in Bratislava, Pro Educo education and career fair in Košice), and the information about the university is published in guides to university study in Slovakia ("Kam na vysokú školu", "Pred štartom na vysokú školu"), and in national and regional daily press supplements dedicated to university study. The information about the study programmes offered by the university is regularly published both in Slovak and English on the university website and the Slovak Universities Portal. It can also be accessed via several internet portals, used by more than 80% of the Slovak internet users, which mediate advertising targeted at a specific group of applicants and provide immediate feedback and online access to the statistics. Big screen advertising in the largest shopping centres in Košice is also used for this purpose. In addition to that, a university open day is organised for foreign applicants, on which the future students and their parents learn about the university organisation structure, the system of study, the university premises, and visit the different university departments and the dormitories.

Scheme 2.1 Admission process for undergraduate study at UVMP in Košice (AP 2)

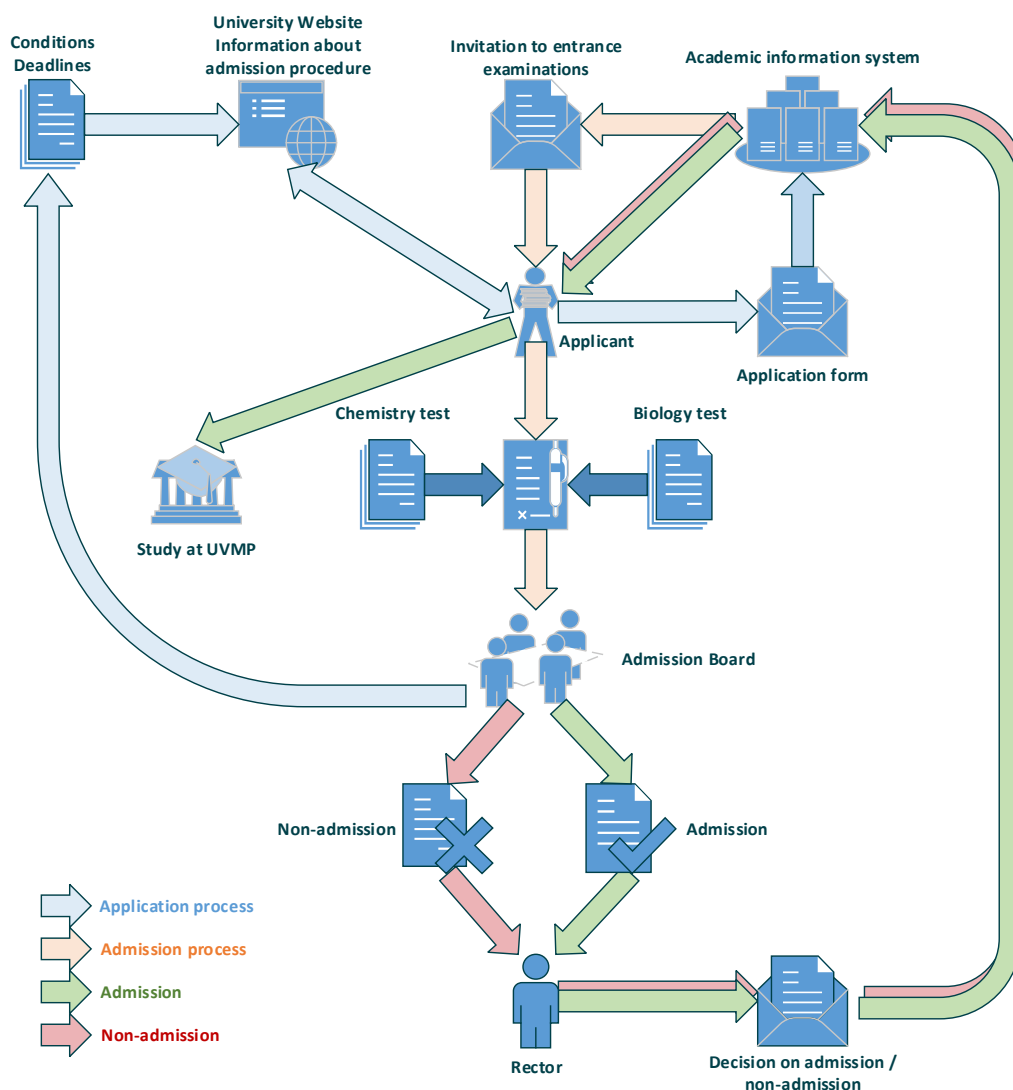


Table 1.: Assessment of admission of students

	Year ¹⁾ n	Year n-1
	2014	2013
Number of applicants	334	297
Number of students admitted on the basis of entrance examinations ²⁾	199	187
Number of students admitted by other entry mode ²⁾ (transfer)	22 ^a	13 ^a
% of foreign students admitted on the basis of entrance examinations	44.7	60.7
Evaluation of selection criteria ³⁾ : good		
acceptable		
improvement is needed		

¹⁾ year n: year before assessment ²⁾ different selection criteria can be used for admission of different groups of students depending on the country and the higher education establishment ³⁾ please specify if different criteria were used

a – transfer from the University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences in Brno (1/2), students who completed the study programme in Animal Science (21/11)

b) Assessment procedures of the performance of enrolled undergraduates. (see also Annex III, Contents SER 1, chapter 5)

Student performance must be assessed regularly. Please describe the underlying systems(s), its adequacy, system validation and results of the past two years (Year n, Year n-1). Please provide records of the process and include examples of formative and summative assessment (Flow chart from learning objectives to examination results, including the way students are informed).

What are the means to cope with problems in the student assessment system?

In respect of examinations; do students have to pass them within a certain time; how many retakes are allowed and to what extent have students to pass examinations before they can start other courses?

How is student assessment communicated to the students and what, if applicable, is the student involvement e.g. is there participation in a joint committee?

The head of department or clinic is responsible for development of a programme of education activities for the subjects headed by the teachers from the respective department or clinic. The programmes of education activities for each subject contain particularly the following:

- content and timetable for education activities according to the syllabus, with the names of the teachers involved,
- requirements for passing the examinations including the questions (or areas of questions) and conditions for granting the credits for a respective subject, which must be made available to students in the first week of study,
- conditions for attendance and accrediting practical lessons,
- plan of consultations and ways of compensation for practical exercises missed during the semester and examination period, agreed upon by the students,
- determination of conditions for the partial examination that is not mandatory.

The Vice-Rector for Education and Study Affairs in collaboration with the commission for field and specialised practice and short-term training shall prepare a schedule of practice and training, conditions for their accrediting and compensation possibilities.

At the beginning of a semester, students are informed about the study aims, teaching and learning process and its schedule, and the criteria and requirements that must be met to successfully complete the subject. They are also informed that their performance will be regularly and continuously tested and assessed throughout the learning process in order to verify whether the expected study results, day one skills and other study goals have been achieved. The students also receive advance information about the forms, frequency, methods and consequences of the assessment, whose results are later reflected in the final subject evaluation using grades A, B, C, D, E, FX, which are based on a 6-point grading scale in accordance with Decree No. 614/2002 Coll. on Credit System of Study. The evaluation results are entered into the student's study book and the Academic Information System (AIS).

Organisation of university study at UVMP in Košice is based on a credit system which enables, by means of credits, to evaluate the student's workload related to completion of subjects in accordance with regulations set by the study programme. The student is awarded credits after successful completion of a subject. Credits awarded for completion of subjects are summarised. One of the conditions for continuation with the study is earning the required sum of credits determined by the study plan for the respective study programme. Subjects included in the student's study plan are divided as follows:

- a) subjects not linked-up to other subjects – enrolment in such subjects is not conditional on previous completion of other subject(s)
- b) subjects linked-up to other subjects (prerequisite subjects) - enrolment in such subjects is conditional on previous completion of other subject(s)

The standard student workload throughout the academic year is assessed as equal to 60 credits, (30 credits per one semester). If by the end of the academic year the student does not earn at least 51% of the credits requested for the given academic year by the relevant study plans, he/she will be excluded from studies.

The credit system of study allows certain flexibility of study and provides opportunity for student mobility and harmonization of the curriculum with other veterinary universities within the

European Higher Education Area. The students must earn requested number of credits from enrolled subjects while studying at other universities.

Assessment of the student's study performance takes various forms. Both the teachers and the students must follow the rules established in the current Study Guidelines.

Formative assessment – continuous assessment

Continuous student assessment involves testing of students' theoretical readiness by means of a written test or an oral examination before the start of a practical lesson. In the case of the basic and pre-clinical subjects, the students write protocols from the practical lessons, which are graded and the grades are later taken into account during final evaluation. As regards morphological disciplines, the students hand in *post-mortem* protocols according to the different organ systems on a weekly basis, whose positive evaluation is a prerequisite for the award of a course credit. The students write a seminar paper as part of theoretical subjects. In the case of clinical disciplines, the students prepare diagnostic and therapeutic protocols of patients, which they present and defend within their groups. Clinical skill acquisition is recorded in clinical practice record books and continuously evaluated by the teachers. Before the beginning of a teaching period, subject guarantors are obliged to announce the form of continuous assessment along with the conditions for the award of a course credit or, if appropriate, registering for an examination.

Summative assessment – examinations

Educational activities are followed by the assessment of the students' knowledge. It is carried out within most subjects included in UVMP study programmes by means of examinations. All examinations are open to public and have these forms: written, oral, combined oral and written, oral and practical, written and practical.

Examinations are held on dates scheduled by the guarantor of the respective subject before the end of the teaching period in the respective semester. The total number of examinations including repeat examinations is determined according to the following scheme: total number of students that have enrolled in the subject/maximum number of students that can register for the exam (for example 8, 10, 12, 15 students, etc.) multiplied by coefficient 1.5. Examinations should be uniformly distributed throughout the examination period with a minimum of five exam terms for the whole examination period.

In the case of subjects for which the study plan requires a course credit, the student has to earn the credit to be able to take an exam.

The conditions for accrediting a course credit are determined by the guarantor of the respective subject and announced in writing in the first week of the teaching period. The granted credit is registered in the student's study book.

Granted and not granted credits are entered by teacher in AIS and the printed and signed record of credits is sent to the Study Office. The student can take an exam only after earning the credit.

The student is obliged to register for an examination in an electronic form in AIS. He/she can cancel the registration not later than five days before the examination date without losing the exam term. The examination is held in one day. Oral examination should not last more than 30 minutes.

Examination in a subject is evaluated by awarding a grade. The grade reflects the quality of acquired knowledge or skills in accordance with the subject aim, stated in the subject information letter. Grades are awarded according to a six-point grading scale (Annex 2.1).

The guarantor of the subject is required to inform the students about examination results on the day the examination is held in the case of oral examination, and within 24 hours or on the following working day in the case of written examination, and to enter the result immediately into AIS. The grade is entered into the student's study book by the guarantor of the subject. An "FX = fail" grade is not entered into the study book.

Should a student fail an examination taken at the regular term, he/she may take two re-examinations in the subject. For this purpose the student may use any of the examination terms. The student has the right to take an exceptional third re-examination (TRE) in 2 subjects within two academic years. For this purpose, an examination commission is appointed by the Vice-Rector for Education and Study Affairs, which is usually made up of 3 teachers of related subjects and chaired by the guarantor of the examined subject.

Students proceed to the following year of study provided that they have earned all course credits, passed all examinations and obtained the number of credits requested for the respective year of study before the end of the academic year (i.e. not later than on 31st August of the respective year).

Assessment results in the different subjects in the JBPAS, including a comparison of the results between the academic years 2012/2013 and 2013/2014 are shown in Annex 2.2. Assessment results in the different subjects in the GVM study programme, including a comparison of the results between the academic years 2012/2013 and 2013/2014 are shown in Annex 2.3.

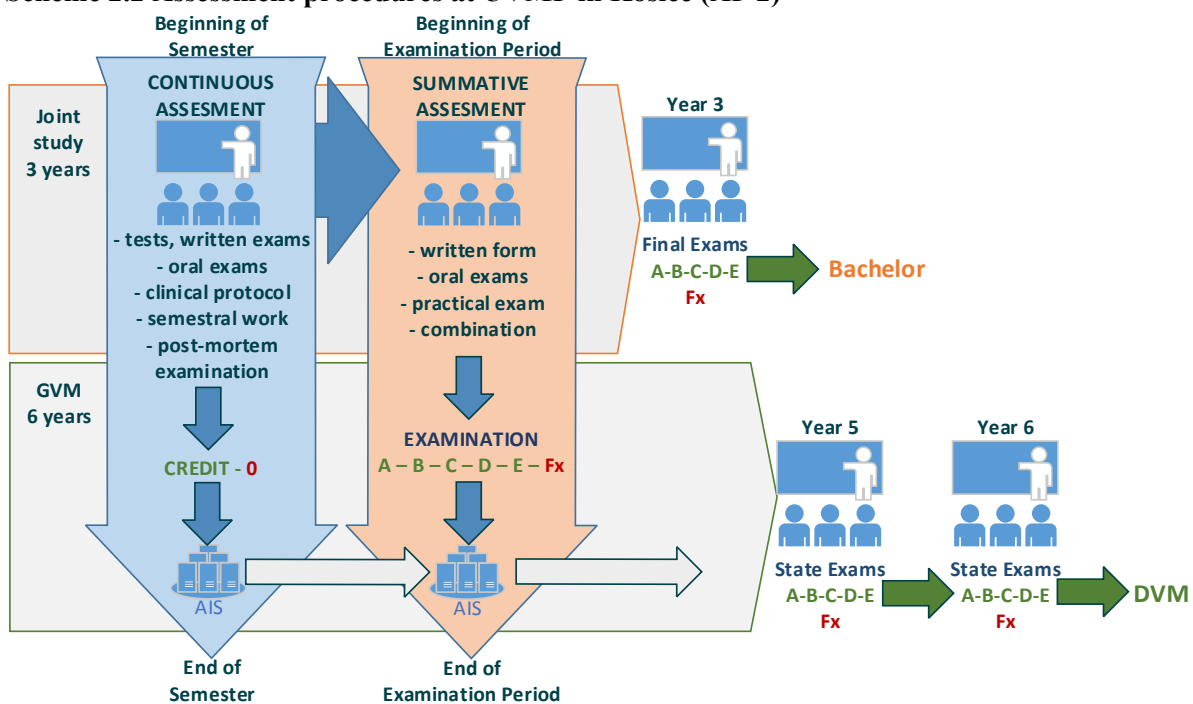
Final examinations

Successful completion of a study programme is, inter alia, conditional upon passing the state examination(s). The state examination is an oral examination. Subjects completed by obligatory state examination are listed in approved study plans of individual study programmes. The Chairman and members of the Examination Commission are appointed by the Rector, following the approval by UVMP Scientific Board. The state examination of one student cannot last more than one hour. The results of the state examination are decided upon by the present members of the Examination Commission by secret ballot. The resulting grade is the mean of the ballot and is entered in the State Examination protocol by the Commission Chairman. The course and results of the state examinations are entered into AIS and subsequently the protocol is printed and signed by the Chairman and all members of the Commission. The overall evaluation of the state examinations is in the competence of the Vice-Rector for Education and Study Affairs and the resulting grade is either “passed” or “failed”.

A student who failed to pass the state examination or failed to appear for the state examination without excuse may repeat it on the basis of a written application but not sooner than 1 month from the date when he/she should have taken the examination. The date of the repeat examination is set by the Rector. Should the student fail at the first repetition of the state examination, the Rector can allow him/her the second repetition on the basis of written application but not sooner than three months after the first repetition. Additional repetitions are not allowed and the student is excluded from the studies.

As stipulated in Section 52, subs. 5 of the Higher Education Act, UVMP graduates in the bachelor degree programmes are awarded the academic degree of “Bachelor”, (abbr. “Bc.”). Pursuant to Section 53, subs. 6 of the Higher Education Act, UVMP graduates in the doctor degree programmes are awarded the academic degree of “Doctor of Veterinary Medicine”, (abbr. “DVM”/ “MVDr.” in Slovak).

Scheme 2.2 Assessment procedures at UVMP in Košice (AP 2)



2.2 POSTGRADUATE STUDENT EDUCATION; ACADEMIC TRACK

Postgraduate education may be performed at different levels, e.g. master or PhD -programme. Please specify the specific admission procedures for national and foreign students separately for each programme and how these procedures are developed and advanced.

Describe the financial basis securing these programmes, the involvement of Faculty, the type of training provided, the course work required and the procedures for assessment of the underlying scientific programme(s) (see also Annex III b, chapter 7).

How are post graduate students assessed, how is assessment communicated to the students and what are the results of the past 2 years?

Please give data in table 2.

Education at the levels of Master and Master of Science is not covered by the Higher Education Act. Therefore, the postgraduate education in Slovakia is provided by means of PhD programmes. UVMP in Košice runs postgraduate study programmes for students at the 3rd level of higher education, i.e. PhD students in both the internal full-time and external forms of study. There are 17 accredited PhD study programmes. The accredited study programmes of the third level of higher education studies provided by the university within the approved “List of the fields of study” are listed in Annex 2.4.

In Slovakia, the postgraduate doctoral study (higher education study of the 3rd level) is governed by the Higher Education Act, amended and supplemented by Act no. 455/2012, and by UVMP Internal Regulation No. 2 – Study Guidelines of 2013 (http://www.uvlf.sk/sites/default/files/dokumenty/vnutorne-predpisy-a-smernice/vp-c-02-studijny-poriadok-uvlf-v-kosiciach_0.pdf).

A board of specialists has been established at the university for each study programme, comprising at least 8 members. The board organises and evaluates the doctoral study at the university. The board members are appointed by the Rector from the higher teachers (professors and associate professors) and other acknowledged non-university experts from field practice after the approval of the Scientific Board of UVMP in Košice.

PhD study including the admission procedure is regulated by the Internal Regulation No. 2 – Study Guidelines of UVMP in Košice. Before the onset of admission procedure to PhD study, UVMP in Košice announces topics of dissertation thesis for which the candidates can apply within the admission procedure. A tutor is assigned for each topic. Both Slovak and foreign candidates apply for PhD study by submitting an application for the announced topics of dissertation thesis. The topics are announced by the Vice-Rector for Research Activities and Foreign Contacts upon the proposal of the departments, clinics and institutes, with prior approval from the heads of the study fields and the University Management. The information posted with each announced topic includes: the name of the study programme, the tutor’s name, the form of study, the conditions of admission to study, the form and the content framework of the admission procedure, the deadline for applications and the date of entrance examinations. The topics for dissertation theses for the full-time and external forms of study along with the abovementioned information are published on the university website according to a schedule, usually at least 8 weeks prior to the admission procedure. Each applicant for PhD study, without distinction between Slovak and foreign students, must apply for one of the announced topics. Should the candidate select a topic announced by external education institution, the examination (Section 54, subs. 7 of the Higher Education Act) takes place in front of an admission board consisting of representatives of UVMP in Košice and members appointed by the director of the respective external education institution. Upon agreement of the external education institution, the entrance examination can take place on the premises of this institution with participation of representatives of UVMP in Košice.

Students are admitted to PhD studies on the basis of an interview, which takes place before an admission board. The Admission Board is appointed by the Rector and comprises a chairman and at least two members.

The admitted PhD students are registered in the first year of study at the beginning of the academic year following the admission. The number of student places in the full-time form of study is determined annually depending on the financial resources available, since the university grants PhD

scholarships from its own funds allocated to the salaries of its staff. Annually, there are 20 – 25 students admitted on average.

The full-time students are awarded scholarships during their PhD studies. In 2014, the scholarship amounts were as follows:

- a) For the period prior to passing the dissertation examination: € 511,
- b) For the period after passing the dissertation examination: € 596.

The students in the external form of study are not awarded scholarships. They receive a salary from their employers, the amount of which corresponds to the established rates of pay at the organizations at which they work. The external students are charged an annual fee of € 365.

In the 2014/2015 academic year, the following numbers of students were admitted to the PhD studies at UVMP in Košice:

- a) 25 students in the full-time form of PhD study (9 men and 16 women), of whom 22 were UVMP graduates,
- b) 7 students in the external form of PhD study (3 men and 4 women), of whom 6 were UVMP graduates.

The standard length of PhD study in the full-time form is four years. The PhD study in its external form lasts five years.

The PhD graduates obtain higher education of 3rd level and after successfully defending their dissertation theses they are awarded a degree “philosophiae doctor” (abbreviated as PhD) by the respective board of specialists.

PhD study involves participation in a scientific research project. The aim of PhD study is to make a provably novel contribution to the current state of scientific knowledge as a result of scientific research and the student’s independent creative activities in a field of science. The PhD students at UVMP in Košice participate in projects supported by the Scientific Grant Agency (SGA), the Slovak Research and Development Agency (SRDA), in applied research projects as well as projects supported by the EU (Structural Funds, etc.).

Each PhD student pursues his/her studies within a scientific research project and a specific topic on the basis of an individual study plan set up by his/her tutor. The individual study plan of a PhD student comprises:

- a) a study part,
- b) a scientific part and
- c) in the full-time form of study - teaching or other professional activities.

PhD students are awarded credits within the different components as shown in Annexes 2.5 and 2.6.

Study component of a PhD student’s individual study plan:

The study component of a PhD student’s individual study plan comprises mainly lectures, seminars and individual reviewing and studying of professional literature related to the topic of the student’s dissertation thesis. PhD students must complete the obligatory, obligatory elective and optional subjects within the defined fields of study in the first three semesters of study (or 6 semesters in the external form of study). The subjects are listed in the Catalogue of Subjects for the 3rd level of higher education studies. PhD students earn a prescribed number of credits for completion of the subjects. The study component is concluded with a dissertation examination, which must be taken within 18 months from the enrolment on PhD study in its full-time form and 36 months in its external form.

A dissertation examination consists of:

- a) defence of a dissertation thesis project, which is included in the written part of a dissertation examination, and
- b) theoretical examination.

The written part of a dissertation examination is composed of an overview of the current state of knowledge in a given topic, the PhD student’s own theoretical contribution, an analysis of a

methodological approach used to address the topic and the project of the dissertation thesis. The written part of a dissertation examination is reviewed by the opponent.

The dissertation examination consists of at least three subjects, of which two are obligatory and one is obligatory elective. It is taken in front of a commission comprising at least four members, of whom one is a non-university teacher. The dissertation examination is evaluated by a resulting grade, which is either “*passed*” or “*failed*”. The results are announced by the chairman of the commission immediately after the examination.

The scientific part of the PhD student’s individual study plan:

The scientific part of the PhD student’s individual study plan consists of either his/her individual or team scientific work, which addresses the dissertation topic. The PhD student’s scientific plan includes, inter alia, his/her active participation in scientific seminars and conferences, other professional events within the scientific fields related to the topic of the dissertation thesis as well as his/her publication activity. The scientific part is concluded with a dissertation thesis defence.

Teaching or other professional activities of the PhD student:

Full-time PhD study involves teaching or other teaching-related professional activities, not exceeding four hours a week on average throughout the academic year, in which the teaching takes place.

Dissertation thesis

After completing his/her dissertation thesis, the PhD student applies for a defence of the thesis by submitting it to the Rector. The defence must take place before elapsing of a four-year study period in the full-time form of study or a five-year period of study in the external form of study. A condition of authorship of 2 articles published in the CC database, with the PhD student being the primary author in one of them must be fulfilled by each PhD student before submitting the dissertation thesis.

The dissertation thesis is reviewed by three opponents.

The dissertation thesis defence consists of a presentation of the results followed by a scientific discussion about the thesis contribution. The discussion involves the PhD student, the opponents, the members of the commission for defence of dissertation thesis and other defence participants. The conclusions and suggestions made in the thesis are scrutinised during the defence to ensure they are justifiable and reliable.

Based on the results of a secret ballot of the board of specialists for defence of thesis, the academic degree “*philosophiae doctor*” (abbr. “*PhD*”) is either awarded or not awarded to the PhD student. A successful PhD graduate receives higher education of the third level.

A comparison of PhD student results of the past two years is shown in Table 2. The figures indicate improvement in the mean number of both papers and the impact factor.

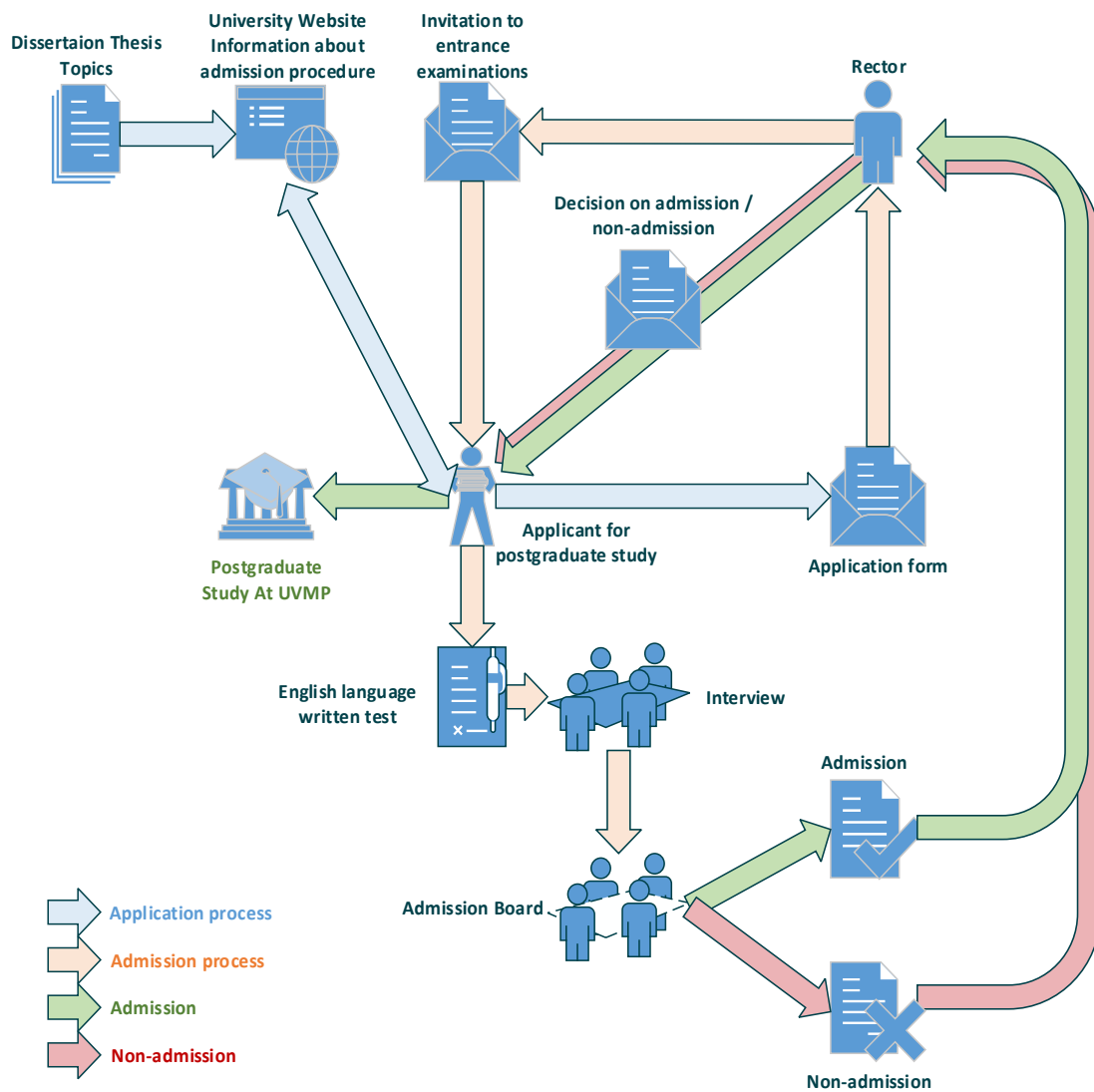
Table 2: Figures for post-graduate academic education

Year	Type of programme	Number of students enrolled	Number of students passed	Mean number paper per student	Mean number impact factor obtained per student
n ¹⁾	PhD.	27	25	26.3*/3.2**	1.092
N	Master ²⁾	not applicable	-	-	-
N	Other ³⁾	not applicable	-	-	-
n-1	PhD.	31	28	20.5*/3.5**	0.915
n-1	Master ²⁾	not applicable	-	-	-
n-1	Other ³⁾	not applicable	-	-	-

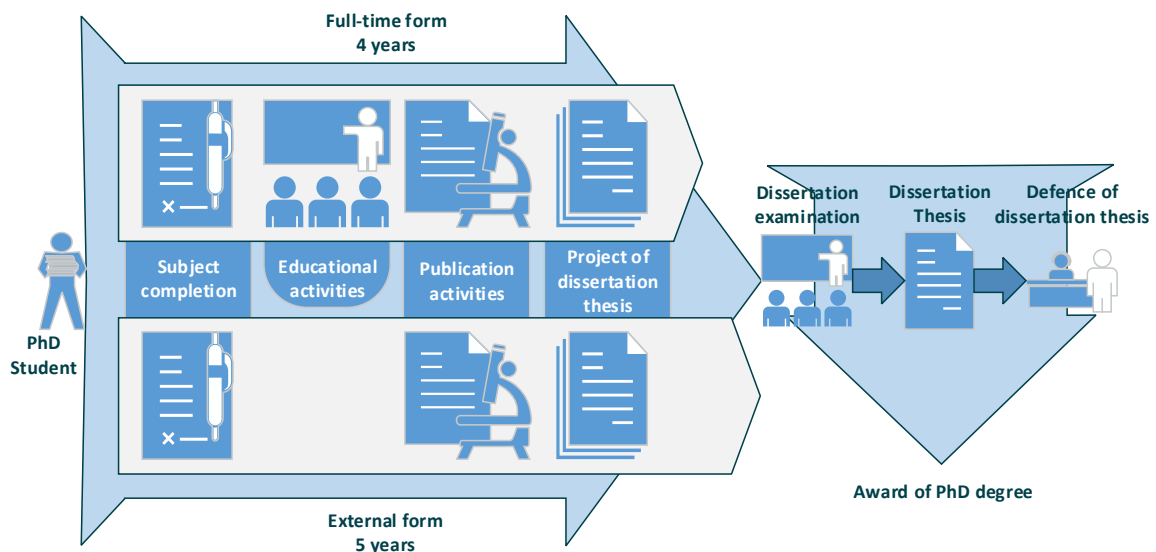
Legend: *= all publication outputs

**= outputs in CC database journals and journals with impact factor

Scheme 2.3 Admission process for post-graduate study at UVMP in Košice (AP 3)



Scheme 2.4 Organization of post-graduate education at UVMP in Košice (AP 3)



2.3 POST-GRADUATE STUDENT EDUCATION; PROFESSIONAL TRACK

Not applicable

2.4 STUDENT WELFARE

2.4.1 Safety at work training

In order to ensure healthy and safe working environment for its students, UVMP in Košice strictly adheres to all relevant regulations laid down by the applicable legislation. On commencing their work/studies, all university staff and students must receive training in occupational health and safety (OHS). The OHS training of the staff is periodically repeated every two years, while the students receive the training each year during introductory classes within the individual subjects or practical clinical lessons.

The OHS training conforms to the current legislation – Government Order No. 83/2013 on Protection from risks related to exposure to biological agents at work, and Continuing Education Programme accredited by MESRS SR no. POA: 3247/2011/69/1 concerning working with chemical agents, chemical substances and products.

Biological agents (BA) are the basic risk factor. The university staff and students come into contact with BAs at the UVMP institutes, clinics and specialised units deliberately, while working with BAs in research projects, or are potentially exposed to BAs during diagnostic, therapeutic activities, and care of animals, or while handling biological materials and hazardous waste from veterinary research, diagnostics, treatment and preventive care. Based on the analysis of the working conditions, organisation of work, and the staff qualification level, UVMP in Košice, advised by the occupational health service, prepared an opinion on the risks, and procedures for working with biological agents. In compliance with these documents, UVMP in Košice takes appropriate technical, organisational and other measures to eliminate or minimize the exposure of its staff and students to BAs to the lowest possible and achievable level.

In accordance with the Internal Regulation of UVMP in Košice no. 52 on Education and Training in Health and Safety at Work, the first year students receive scheduled introductory training (<http://www.uvlf.sk/sites/default/files/dokumenty/vnutorne-predpisy-a-smernice/vp-c-52-smernica-naurcenie-podmienok-organizacie-vychovy-a-vzdelavania-zamestnancov-uvlf-v-oblasti-bozp.pdf>). The training must cover all hazards and threats including other risk agents (chemical, ionising radiation).

The students are also instructed by the teachers during introductory practical lessons (in each subject), depending on the operational and safety conditions as well as the complexity of work carried out at the relevant workplace. The training must cover all hazards and threats, which might occur at the respective workplace.

Practical First Aid Days are also regularly organised for the UVMP students and employees as part of the training. The main course activities include practical training in basic life support (BLS) – i.e. airway clearance methods, mouth-to-mouth breathing, chest compressions (heart massage), methods to stop bleeding, recovery position, cardiopulmonary resuscitation with computer-based assessment.

The training is repeated for staff once in two years or additional training is provided when necessary (if work procedures change). There are also training courses required by law aimed at acquisition of a professional competence (use of pressure vessels – sterilisers, work with toxic chemicals, very toxic chemicals and chemical preparations, etc.), and special training courses (before performing particularly dangerous tasks, or on returning to work after a sick leave caused by an accident at work).

UVMP in Košice has the Internal Regulation No. 44 on Occupational Health and Safety Procedures for Work with Animals in Animal Housing Areas and with Agricultural Machinery at UVM in Košice (<http://www.uvlf.sk/sites/default/files/dokumenty/vnutorne-predpisy-a-smernice/vp-c-44-podmienky-bezpecnosti-a-ochrany-zdravia-pri-praci-so-zvieratami-v-priestoroch-ich-ustajnenia.pdf>). The staff working with animals, the university students and the individuals who are permitted access to the animal housing areas at the university must be made acquainted with this regulation by the heads of the respective UVMP units.

Health and safety of the university staff and students is also promoted by providing and using personal protective equipment to eliminate or minimize their exposure to the risk agents to the lowest possible and achievable level. The rules concerning the provision of personal protective equipment (clothing, gloves, masks, protective eyewear, facial shields, medical shoe wear, disposable coveralls, etc.), its storage, cleaning and replacement, health and safety labelling at workplaces, emergency plans, and safe collection, storage and disposal of waste are laid down in Regulation no. 35 of UVMP in Košice (<http://www.uvlf.sk/sites/default/files/dokumenty/vnutorne-predpisy-a-smernice/vp-c-35-smernica-o-poskytovani-oopp-na-uvl-v-kosiciach.pdf>). The students and staff have at their disposal facilities for personal hygiene. The laboratories, clinical examination rooms and autopsy rooms are provided with first aid kits (eyeshowers, skin disinfectants, etc.).

The training is conducted by a health and safety technician at UVMP in Košice. The training for foreign students is provided in English.

Health care services for the staff (and PhD students) also include regular preventive medical examinations of all kinds (pre-employment, periodical, special, before termination of employment). Accident insurance for all students is provided by commercial insurance companies each year.

2.4.1.1 Degree of protective measures

An internal control system is used to monitor compliance with safe work procedures for laboratory activities and methodologies performed at the clinics and laboratories. There are manuals available with details of work procedures or technological procedures directly at the different clinical departments and in the laboratories.

Technical and technological measures:

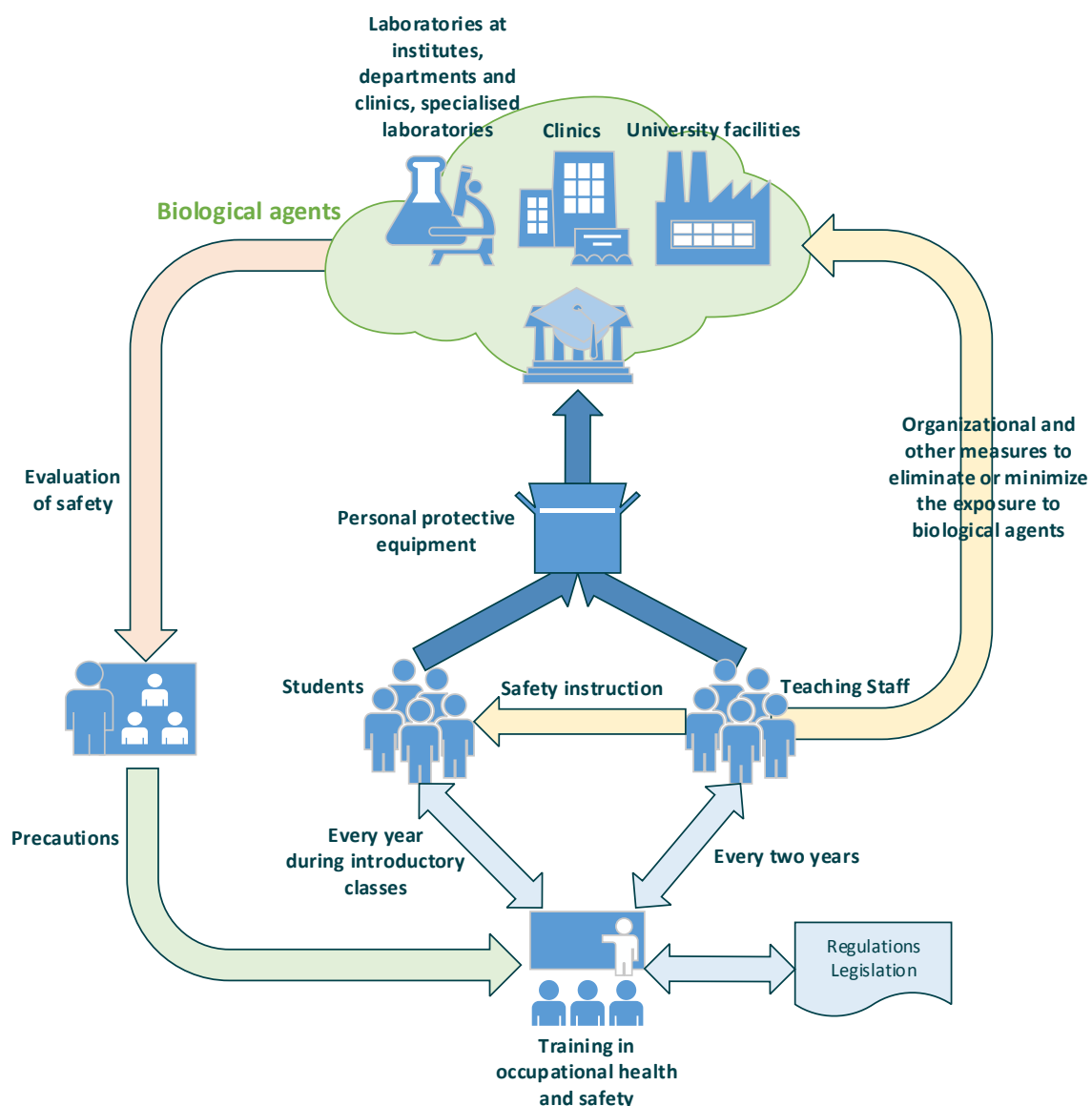
- a workplace where a biological agent (BA) is handled is separated by a physical barrier from other rooms in the building,
- the workplace is regularly cleaned and maintained,
- the clinical workplaces and laboratories are equipped with extractor hoods, microbiological incubators or laminar boxes to prevent release of BAs,
- the premises are labelled with hazard warning safety signs,
- there are written emergency procedures available,
- the emergency procedures are displayed directly at the workplace and are visible and accessible to the staff,
- cloakrooms are equipped with a hygiene sluice,
- access to the workplaces is restricted to authorised personnel,
- there are disinfection procedures related to the presence of specific BAs,
- work surfaces, walls and floors are waterproof and easy to clean,
- work surfaces are resistant to acids, alkalis, solvents and disinfectants.

The preventive protective measures at UVMP in Košice comply with the level of protective measures concerning the BAs to which the staff and the students are potentially exposed, in accordance with Annex no. 5 of the Order no. 83/2013 Coll. of the Government of SR.

2.4.1.2 Related legislation

- Act no. 355/2007 Coll. of the National Council of the Slovak Republic on the Protection, Support and Development of Public Health and on the Amendment of Certain Acts
- Act no. 124/2006 Coll. of the National Council of the Slovak Republic on Occupational Safety and Health Protection and on the Amendment of Certain Acts
- Order no. 83/2013 Coll. of the Government of the Slovak Republic on Protection of Employees from the Risks Associated with Exposure to Biological Agents at Work
- Decree no. 448/2007 Coll. of the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic on the Details of the Factors of Work and Working Environment in Relation to the Categorization of Work in Terms of Health Risks and the Particulars of the Proposal for Occupational Categories
- Decree no. 585/2008 Coll. of the Ministry of Health of the Slovak Republic on the Details on Prevention and Control of Communicable Diseases as amended

Scheme 2.5 Scheme of safety of work training at the UVMP in Košice (AP 4)



UVMP in Košice has some additional internal regulations, e.g. the “Sanitation & Disinfection Plan”, the “Requirements for Management of Animal By-Products not intended for Human Consumption”, or the “Requirements Concerning Welfare Aspects of Animal Housing”. These and other similar regulations are available only to the university staff through an intranet (<http://intranet.uvlf.sk>) within the LAN network of UVMP in Košice.

UVMP in Košice offers social, psychological and legal advice to its students and specialised tailor-made advice to the students with specific needs. The social and legal advice is focused on providing information concerning the existing rules, regulations, restrictions, etc. and the available forms of assistance (see Annex 5.7 to Self Evaluation Report 1).

2.4.2 Student accommodation and catering services

Student accommodation is available in the Student Dormitory (SD) comprising two buildings with rooms with one or two single beds. Due to an increase in the numbers of the university students, accommodation cannot be provided for all of them. The order of applicants for accommodation is based on new criteria taking into account, inter alia, their study results and the social situation. The new criteria for scores allocation to determine the eligibility for accommodation in the SD were

approved on a proposal from the Student Chamber of the Academic Senate of UVMP in Košice. Following these criteria, the order of applicants was established and accommodation was allocated.

The facility also includes lounges, kitchenettes, laundry rooms, a gym, and a utility room for bicycles as well as the space for the student clubs - the Aqua Terra Club, the Flora Club, the Cynological Club, and the Association of Pharmacy Students in Košice. There is also an office of the members of the Academic Senate, the editorial office of the ARDO magazine and the student community of St. Francis of Assisi.

Internet access is available for students on the SD premises (study rooms, rooms, and clubs). Representatives of students regularly meet with the Vice-Rector for Education and Study Affairs and the Director of the SD to solve any problems concerning the student accommodation and catering.

Catering services are provided in the student canteens located at the SD and the university, which cater for the university staff as well.

2.4.3 Student interest clubs

There are several student interest clubs active at UVMP in Košice, particularly the Cynological Club, the Aqua Terra Club, the Hunting Cynology Club, the Breeders' Club, the Cynological Club Darco and the Flora Club, the Small Mammal and Exotic Bird Breeders' Club, Falconry and Raptor Rehabilitation Club and the Mineralogy Club.

A new Bee Breeders' Club was established at the students' request. The GVM students founded the *IVSA Slovakia* club, which has become a member of the International Veterinary Students' Association. The clubs are supported from the UVMP funds.

The Cynological Club brings together students involved in training of dogs for professional use. They actively participate in competitions and prepare their dogs for performance examinations. A lot of them also dedicate their time to breeding and successfully represent UVMP in Košice at exhibitions. The Cynological Club is also used in education, mainly in teaching Cynology.

The students active in the Aqua-Terra Club (A-T Club) are engaged in breeding exotic fish, reptiles and amphibians. The club can be found on the ground floor of the SD of UVMP in Košice. Being a member of the A-T Club is a unique opportunity to learn much about breeding, fixation and the diseases of exotic animals. Certain subjects such as Zoology, Diseases of Fish and Bees, Breeding and Diseases of Reptiles and Terrarium Animals are taught at the club as part of the teaching process.

The Hunting Cynology Club brings together students who dedicate their time to training dogs of hunting breeds. The training is conducted at the dog training centre of UVMP in Košice (located in "Za ha'ou"). The club members collaborate with the Special Facility for Breeding and Diseases of Wild-Living Animals, Fish and Bees in Rozhanovce and participate in practical training within the subjects Cynology and Hunting.

The Flora Club members devote themselves to cultivating medicinal, decorative and exotic plants. The club is used by the university students to study medicinal plants and their use within the subject "Pharmacology".

The Breeders' Club brings together the students and staff from UVMP in Košice who are interested in rearing, breeding and exhibiting of rabbits, pigeons, poultry, waterfowl and small rodents with a certificate of origin. Its mission is to create and build positive attitude of the university students and staff to the husbandry, understanding the different breeds and to represent UVMP in Košice both at home and abroad.

The animals from the Breeders' Club have been used in teaching Zootechnics at the Institute of Animal Breeding, the Clinic of Birds, Exotic and Free Living Animals, the Institute of Physiology, the Institute of Pharmacology and the Institute of Anatomy.

The Cynological Club DARCO is a special interest club at UVMP in Košice bringing together owners of various dog breeds and crossbreeds whose focus is on training in agility, dog dancing, obedience and canistherapy. The Club is made use of in teaching Cynology, Rescue Cynology and Man-animal relationship and its use in canistherapy and hippotherapy. In addition to these activities, the students are also dedicated to dog socialisation and finding people interested in adopting a dog from the dog shelter in Košice (UVP in Košice).

The Small Mammal and Exotic Bird Breeders' Club at UVMP in Košice brings together the breeders and owners of small mammals and exotic birds from among the UVMP students and staff. Its

mission is to satisfy the interests and cater for the needs of its members pertaining to the breeding, reproduction and therapy of small mammals and exotic birds.

The club members participate in activities for children (International Children's Day, St. Nicholas Day, etc.) and cooperate with a private shelter for small mammals "Drobec" to help animals in need.

The members of the Falconry and Raptor Rehabilitation Club at UVMP in Košice are breeders and trainers of raptors from among the students and staff of UVMP in Košice. The main mission of the Club is to create conditions and provide care for handicapped and rehabilitated raptors that come to the clinic within the network of breeding and rehabilitation stations in Slovakia. The students are involved in the care as part of their university studies and clinical training within the subjects Diseases of Wild Animals and Falconry and Rehabilitation of Free-Living Animals.

The Mineralogy Club at UVMP in Košice brings together the university students who are interested in mineralogy, palaeontology, and geology, spend time outdoors collecting minerals and fossils in the field, and clean, archive and exhibit the minerals in the university collection of UVMP in Košice. The club is made use of in teaching evolution as a part of Zoology.

The primary mission of the Bee Breeders' Club is to create conditions to cater for the interests and needs of its members in the area of breeding of bees and other beneficial insects, and processing of bee products, and to participate in teaching Diseases of Fish and Bees.

IVSA (International Veterinary Students Association) is an international student organisation whose aim is to network with veterinary university students abroad. It enables the UVMP students to gain hands-on experience during practice abroad and organises exchange stays in liaison with foreign veterinary universities.

2.4.4 Student magazine

A student magazine ARDO is published by the university students with the support from UVMP in Košice. The magazine contains up-to-date information from student life, interesting articles and interviews with teachers. It is published twice in a semester and is very popular among both the students and the teachers. The students' effort to present themselves in the academic community is highly appreciated. The magazine also contributes to the development of cooperation among students in different study programmes as they jointly prepare topics to be published in the magazine.

2.4.5 Cultural and sporting student activities

UVMP in Košice creates and supports sporting and cultural activities of its students by providing funds and space for the activities of TJ Slávia UVMP Sports Club and its university sports clubs. These sports clubs organise sporting events in equestrian sports, vaulting, volleyball, basketball, football, and floorball. Some of the most important sporting events include: rafting for students – "Opening the Hornád" (March), the Cassovia Health Cup football tournament (March), Košice University Floorball League (April), the Spring Run around dormitories (April), the UVMP Ironman – strength competition (April), the Easter tournaments in basketball, floorball, volleyball, minifootball and table tennis (April), Zadielská Valley – hiking for students and staff (April), rafting and hiking for students – Pieniny – Dunajec Tri koruny (May), a beach volleyball tournament for students and staff – Erika Beach (June), rafting for students – Closing the Hornád (October), the Ružín Dam Sailing (November), hiking for students (2x) – autumn Sivec climb (November), the Autumn Run around dormitories for students (November), St. Nicholas tournaments in basketball, floorball, volleyball, minifootball and table tennis for students and staff, and assistance in organising a volleyball tournament "UVMP Rector's Cup".

The University Management creates suitable conditions for social, cultural and sporting events for students by providing direct financial and material support. These events include a matriculation ball for students commencing their studies, a ball for students in the 4th year of study in the GVM study programme, a banquet for students in the 6th year of the GVM study, the 31st Veterinary Days, the Health Day, and the University Dance Centre. The UVMP "Student Blood Drop" campaign has also become a traditional event.

2.5 COMMENTS

Despite an overall decline in numbers of university students in the recent years, interest in studying veterinary medicine is still considerable. As a result, the number of applicants for veterinary studies exceeds the number of student places available (Table 2.1.). The general downward trend in student numbers is related to an onset of population decline. Lower numbers of applicants result in limited possibilities for student selection and may lead to higher student drop-outs, especially in the first years of study.

UVMP in Košice fulfils the conditions of PhD study set out in the Higher Education Act since it has 17 accredited study programmes in comparison to 9 study programmes which had been accredited until the 2003/2004 academic year. It has also established and introduced a credit system of study in accordance with the Higher Education Act as amended by Act No. 455/2012.

Considering the outcomes of the analyses obtained from the evaluations of PhD students at all university levels it can be concluded that the quality of the submitted dissertation theses has improved also due to the PhD students' publication activity or their active presentation of scientific and research results. The improved quality of PhD study at the university is related to the introduction of the credit system and the work of the new boards of specialists, which have been working since the 2005/2006 academic year. The opportunity to present own research results at the Seminar of PhD students is also a significant motivation to PhD students.

2.6 SUGGESTIONS

UVMP in Košice has been actively promoting studies in veterinary medicine (at education and student fairs – “Akadémia”, “Pro-Educo”, on UVMP website, the internet, Slovak Universities Portal, in the nationwide-published guides to university study in Slovakia “Kam na vysokú školu”, “Pred štartom na vysokú školu”, and in national and regional daily press supplements dedicated to university study). However, in view of the demographic trends, the promotion activities will need to be intensified and target the secondary students with better school results.

Also, a correlation between the student knowledge base at entrance examinations (number of points scored in entrance tests) and their study success in the first years of study (drop-out rate) need to be evaluated.

In order to increase the level of organisation of the PhD students' scientific and research activities, it is necessary to introduce institutional grants for projects that could be applied for by a PhD student, who would then implement a project as the principal investigator, with the support of his/her tutor and the respective university unit. A publication in a scientific journal would be an output of such scientific and research activity.

To ensure the PhD graduates' employability, needs of practice will have to be taken into account when deciding on the topics of dissertation theses in the different fields of study, with the emphasis on new trends in the veterinary medicine.

Chapter 3. ASSESSMENT OF TEACHING STAFF (AP 5)

Assessment of teaching staff involves

- **evaluation by students**
- **evaluation by teaching success**
- **evaluation by scientific merit.**

a) Evaluation by students relates to teaching engagement, the didactic qualities, provision of support/learning material and the raising of student interest in respect to life long learning.

The Faculty should provide its policy on the evaluation of the teaching staff by students and indicate when and how students are asked to record their impressions and how they are involved in preparing the questionnaires.

In addition to evaluation by students the Faculty should lay out its policy to assess teaching success and scientific merits and how the whole system of assessing teaching staff is managed and further developed.

Is there an award policy or are other consequences taken and what are the measures taken/offered to improve individual teaching qualifications.

If assessment of individual teaching staff results in a single grade, please provide a graph showing the distribution.

3.1 FACTUAL INFORMATION

FACTUAL INFORMATION – UVMP IN KOŠICE

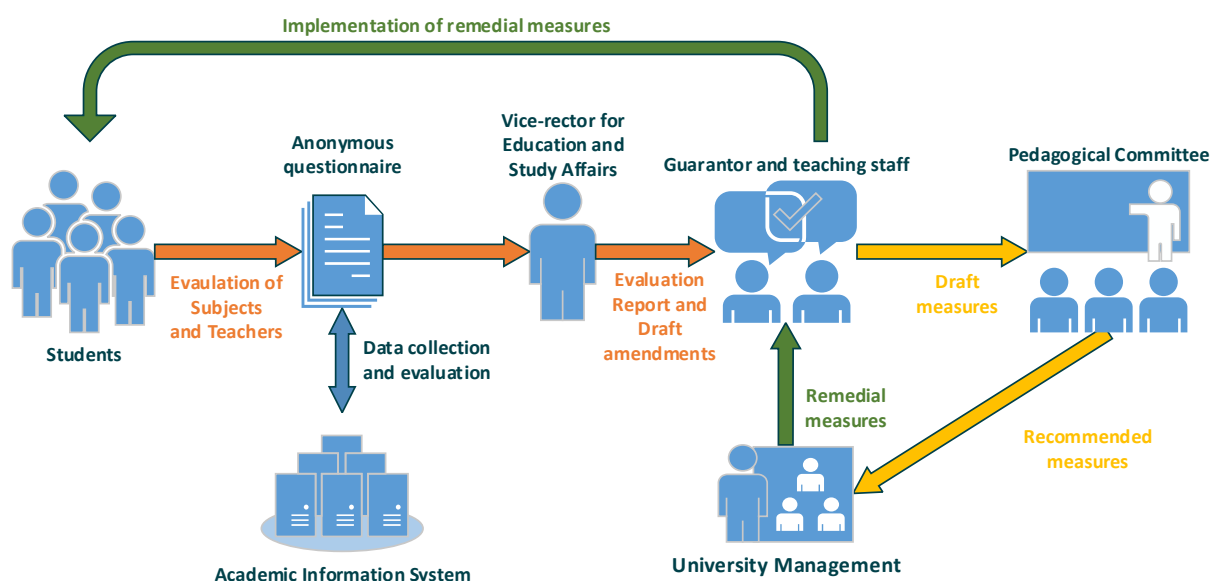
On the basis of paragraph 87a of the Higher Education Act, the higher education institution is responsible for the quality of higher education provided by this institution. The higher education institution has to develop, introduce and use a functional internal system of quality assurance adjusted in detail to conditions of individual units of the institution regarding internal systems of quality assurance of these units. The main aim of the internal system of quality assurance is to develop and stress importance of quality and its assurance in all activities of the higher education institution. On the basis of the Higher Education Act UVMP in Košice has developed an internal regulation (No. 57) “Internal system of quality assurance in the University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Košice” (<http://www.uvlf.sk/sites/default/files/dokumenty/vnutorne-predpisy-a-smernice/vp-c-57-vnutorny-system-kvality-na-uvlf-v-kosiciach.pdf>). Procedures related to quality assurance have been developed and applied also in the following areas:

- Designing, approval, monitoring and periodic evaluation of study programmes,
- Assurance of quality of the teaching staff.

Evaluation by students and evaluation by teaching success

In agreement with the Higher Education Act, the students are entitled to express their opinion on the quality of teaching and teachers. This evaluation by students is implemented at UVMP in Košice in the form of an anonymous questionnaire provided through AIS, which allows students to evaluate the professional and didactic qualities of teachers and the teaching process within respective study subjects. Participation of the students in the quality assessment of the subjects in the GVM study programme in the academic years 2012/2013 and 2013/2014 can be found in Annex 3.1.

Scheme 3.1 Assessment of teaching staff and study subjects (AP 5)



This application functions within the academic information system and guarantees anonymity of students who use the questionnaire. It is up to the students whether they take advantage of this opportunity. The head of each study subject and individual teachers are obliged before termination of each semester to remind the students of their right to evaluate teachers and study subjects.

The student fills in the questionnaire minimally once per academic year, optimally after passing exam from the respective subject. The evaluation of the teaching process includes the following areas: schedule and curriculum of the subject, organisation of lessons, quality and availability of the material for study, quality of technical equipment and practical training and objectivity of evaluation criteria. Students present their personal observations and views by answering questions: “What did you like best about the study subject?”, “What would you like to change about the evaluated subject?” They can also present additional comments and suggestions. Total evaluation of the teacher involves comprehensibility of his/her presentation, response to student’s questions, professional approach to students, willingness to provide consultations, stimulation of interest of students in the subject, his/her organisation abilities, practical skills and practical experience, self-assurance and persuasiveness. Students can also present their personal observations and views regarding teacher’s performance. The evaluation is carried out using a five point scale ranging from high above average (1) to high below average (5).

In order to increase the quality of teaching, individual departments or teachers can extend this evaluation by developing anonymous questionnaires concentrating on specific aspects of individual units and their teachers.

Results of anonymous evaluation of study subjects and teachers are summarised by the Vice-Rector for Education and Study Affairs and the Vice-Rector for Foreign Studies. Analysis of results of this evaluation for each subject is carried out by the head of the respective subject as a part of the sessions of departments, institutes, clinics, the Pedagogical Committee UVMP in Košice and in the Pedagogical Committee of AS. The Vice-Rector for Education and Study Affairs regularly organizes meetings with the university students at which he/she informs the students about the measures taken. Additionally, the results are included in the annual report in the part evaluating education activities of UVMP in Košice, and are subject to approval by the Scientific Board of UVMP in Košice.

Evaluation of teaching success and scientific merit

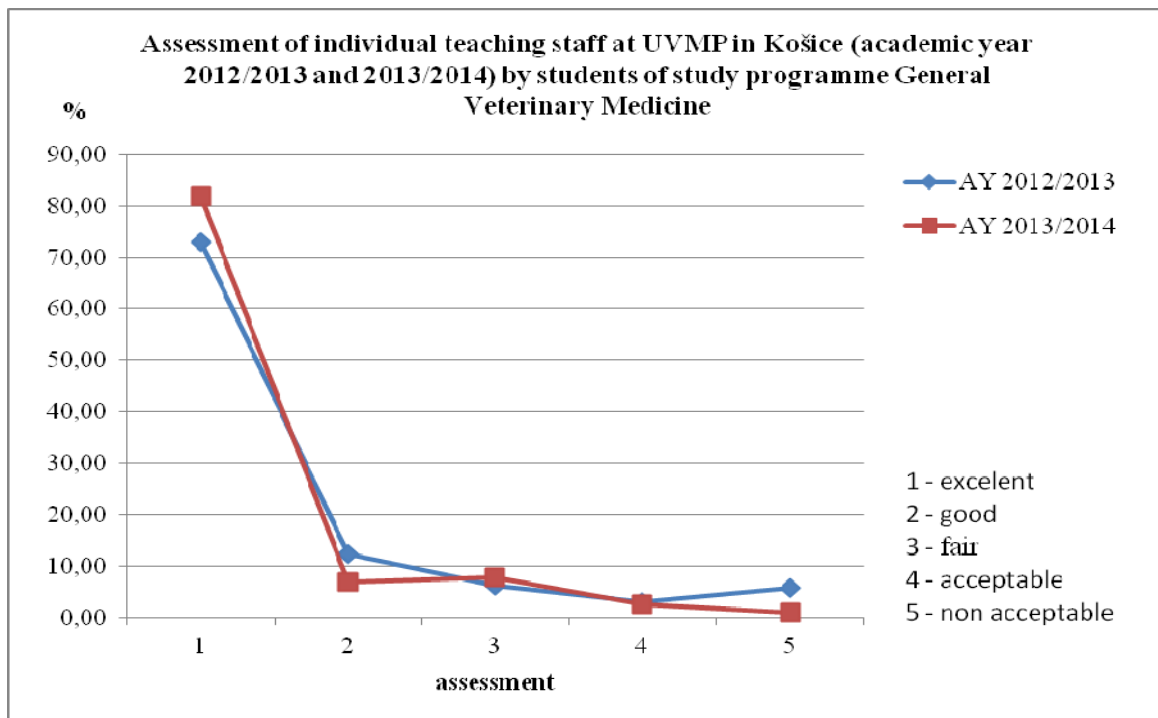
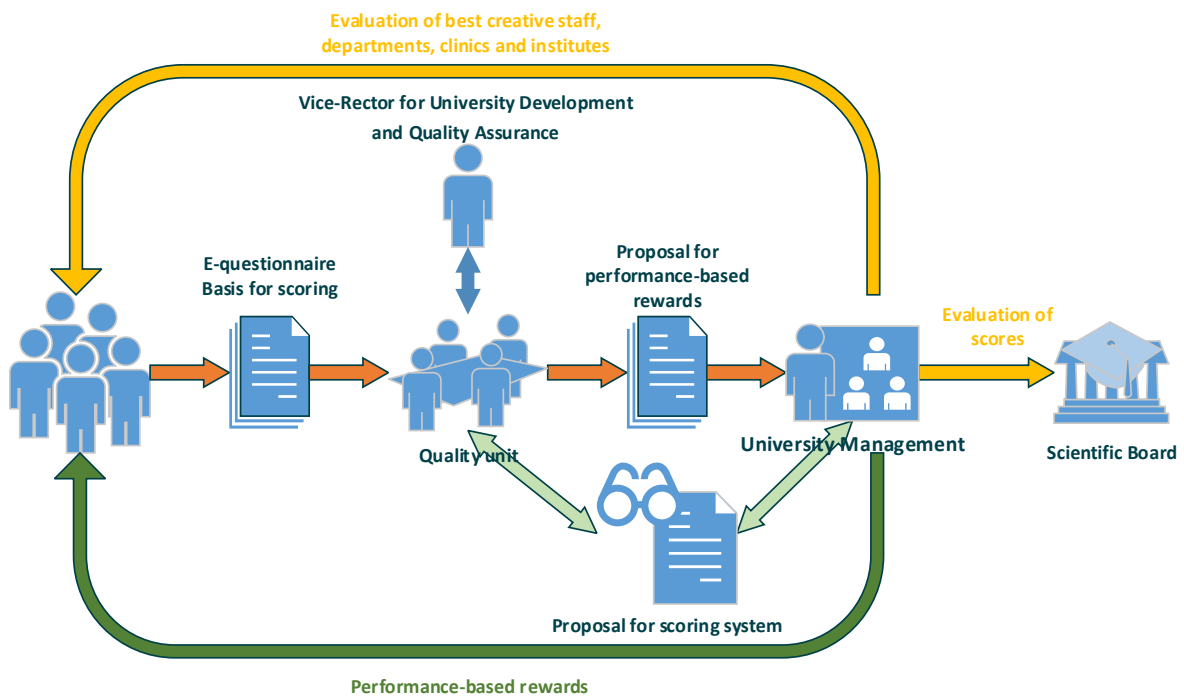
Teaching and research staff of the university are evaluated annually in the form of the so-called point-evaluation. The university uses criteria for evaluation of education and research activities developed and approved for this purpose, based particularly on the number of scientific publications and citations.

Evaluated are also other activities outside the scope of general duties (e.g. organisation of seminars and conferences, participation in research projects, membership in editorial boards of scientific journals and similar). The point-evaluation of the academic staff carried out at UVMP in Košice is an important tool of quality management at the university and has a long-term tradition. The teaching and research staff is obliged to fill in an electronic questionnaire at the beginning of each calendar year, providing data from the previous calendar year. In this electronic form the following areas are evaluated according to the assigned points:

1. Publications evaluated on the basis of number of author sheets (monographs and textbooks published by domestic and foreign publishing houses).
2. Scientific and specialised publications in domestic and foreign journals and conference proceedings.
3. Citations in domestic and foreign journals.
4. Grants, projects and scientific education of PhD students and undergraduate students within Students Scientific Activities (SSA).
5. Teaching activities (lectures, practical lessons, seminars, examination, defence of diploma and bachelor theses, study stays).
6. Other activities (e.g. book reviews).
7. Other activities (reviews, membership in committees at home and abroad, in commissions, boards and panels).

The Vice-rector for University Development and Quality Assurance evaluates results of point-evaluation in collaboration with the Vice-Rector for Education and Study Affairs, the Vice-Rector for Research Activities and Foreign Contacts and the staff of the office for quality of UVMP in Košice. Based on the point-evaluation results a performance ranking of the whole academic personnel (professors, associate professors, assistant professors, scientific research staff) and individual units (departments, clinics and self-contained workplaces) for the previous calendar year and the past three years is prepared. Results of point-evaluation are approved by the University Management, forwarded to the heads of individual units and published on the website of UVMP in Košice. Point-based performance evaluation is used as a motivation tool of the academic staff in the form of motivation component of the salaries. This point-evaluation is periodically re-evaluated and any suggestions for changes in the criteria are discussed at education and scientific research activities commissions, and are approved by the Scientific Board of UVMP in Košice. Results of point-evaluation in years 2012 – 2014 are in Annex 3.2. The authors of papers published in Current contents journals and WoS and SCOPUS database receive single financial rewards according to the quality of the journal. Upon decision of the University Management, the units with the highest ratings get a financial support for purchase of new equipment. Employees (in two categories - up to 35 years and above 35 years of age) with the best performance are financially, but also morally rewarded at the university teaching staff meeting on the occasion of a new academic year opening. A qualification structure coefficient is also evaluated at the university each year. It indicates the quality of the qualification obtained by the teachers and scientists/researchers (Annex 3.3).

Scheme 3.2 Assessment of teachers, departments, institutes and clinics (AP 5)

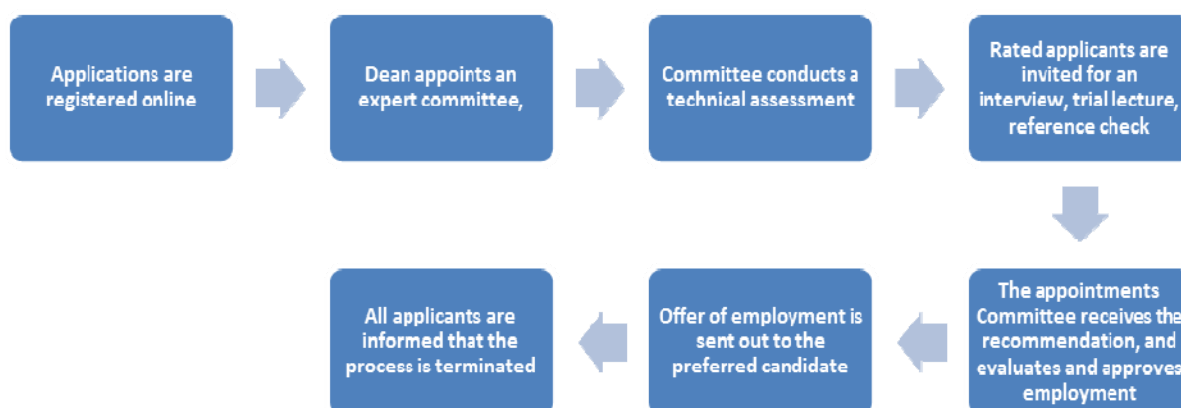


FACTUAL INFORMATION – FBA UiN BODØ

Teaching staff recruitment and appointment

The evaluation of candidates in teaching positions is regulated through the Act relating to universities and university colleges, § 6-3 (*Lov om universiteter og høyskoler*). All appointments to teaching and research at UiN is done based on expert evaluation according to Fig 3.1, followed an open advertisement of the positions.

Scheme 3.3 Staff recruitment at UiN



Incentives and development of teaching skills

Newly hired teachers are required to take 10 ECTS in university pedagogy within three years. Pedagogical skills and development of study programmes are important criteria that are considered during the local salary negotiations. Professors and Associate Professors conduct research as part of their job, and they are encouraged to present their work at national and international conferences and establish international networks. Whenever relevant, teaching staff who might fulfil the requirements for a full professor position or an associate professor position, are encouraged to apply for promotion.

Rewards for teaching excellence

Both the Student Union of at UiN and the student association of the FBA students, (Nugla), gives every year a reward for the best lecturer. The reward is a positive way to focus on excellent teaching. In 2014, one of the lecturers of the JBPAS won this prize.

The regulations for sabbatical leave have recently been discussed in the management team at FBA. The updated regulations are based on previous regulations from 2008. Employees in permanent scientific positions can apply for sabbatical leave every 6th year. The applicant has to have strong scientific reason for applying and the goal is to strengthen the competence of the faculty. Teaching, research and administrative tasks should be solved internally at FBA, to avoid additional costs.

Assessment of teaching staff

All courses are evaluated twice by the students, once at mid-semester and once at the end. The evaluations are sent to programme coordinators, who prepare annual reports based on these reports as well as their dialogue meetings with the students. The Dean is responsible for following-up individual teachers where the students have a complaint and to convey both praise and criticism that emerge from student evaluations. If the problem is not resolved through a conversation, other measures may be introduced including use of teaching aids, changes in teaching methods or in extreme cases assignment to non-teaching tasks. Mentoring, supervision from colleagues and pedagogic training may also be tried.

3.2 COMMENTS

COMMENTS – UVMP IN KOŠICE

The interest of students in the anonymous evaluation of study subjects and teachers is low although they are given the opportunity.

COMMENTS – FBA UiN IN BODØ

UiN follows the national laws and regulations in relation to the assessment of the teaching staff. Norway places particular emphasis on the welfare of all employees.

3.3 SUGGESTIONS

SUGGESTIONS - UVMP IN KOŠICE

Our suggestions for future are as follows:

- to encourage students to use the opportunity for anonymous evaluation of organisation of the teaching process and teachers, particularly guarantors of study subjects,
- to revise the system of point-evaluation of teaching and research staff with an emphasis on the activities required by national and international evaluation bodies,
- to increase financial motivation of teachers and researchers based on results of their performance.

SUGGESTIONS – FBA UiN IN BODØ

UiN is a relatively small and new university. Thus, in some courses of the joint programme, there is an increased work load due to the small number of academic staff members currently involved. An increase in the number of staff members is important, but this is related to the overall strategy of the university. The use of the newly hired veterinarians for the new Bachelor in Animal Care may offer a good solution.

Chapter 4. ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES (AP 6)

The technical term “Learning opportunities” encompasses a number of aspects, beginning with the provision of and advice on learning material to individual teachers, the provision of IT and library facilities at the Faculty level and the creation of the academic environment that provides adequate opportunities for self studies and interactions with the teaching staff beyond regularly scheduled lectures. Regular control and updating is necessary.

The report on this topic must include how such a system is managed at the Faculty level, how critical control point analysis is executed, who is responsible and to whom they have to report and to what extent are students involved.

4.1 FACTUAL INFORMATION

FACTUAL INFORMATION – UVMP IN KOŠICE

The principal objective of UVMP in fulfilling its mission is to provide higher education and carry out creative scientific research. The aim is to increase professional quality, develop the profession, produce successful graduates and introduce new methods and procedures into practice. The education process continuously copies the needs of practice, and for this purpose it is inevitable to incorporate these needs into the contents of study subjects. Similar importance is assigned to the feedback and evaluation of education activities. Each student has free access to information, learning materials and other education services provided by the University Library (UL).

Learning materials

UVMP in Košice pays high attention to availability of learning materials. Monographs, textbooks, learning texts and other materials for study are issued and printed by the Editorial Centre and Bookshop (ECB) in Slovak and English languages (Annex 4.1).

The ECB issues learning materials on the basis of a Plan of editorial and publishing activities which is approved by the University Management for each particular year. The plan takes into consideration the need for individual titles. The Vice-Rector for Education and Study Affairs acts as a chairman of the Editorial and Publishing Commission which includes teachers and a representative of students.

Apart from this, teachers give students other learning materials (power point presentations, handouts, lecture texts, schemes, pictures, instructions for practical work and the latest information for self-study. The head of bachelor thesis (BT) and diploma thesis (DT) provides basic literature needed for its preparation.

The students have at their disposal a wide range of publications, monographs, textbooks and learning materials which they can borrow from the library without charge or buy at the ECB.

Electronic learning materials

UVMP in Košice uses modern teaching technologies including e-learning. Within the EU projects “Modern education for the knowledge society” three e-learning courses were designed for students of the GVM study programme: Evidence programmes for veterinary surgeons; Statistics and basics of computer techniques; Basis of scientific work.

Evidence programmes for veterinary surgeons – the course is aimed at explanation of regulations concerning identification and registration of animals, legislation on reporting and evidence of occurrence of selected infectious diseases of animals, regulations concerning welfare of animals at transportation and use of evidence programmes intended for private veterinarians. All mentioned fields are supported by software with structure respecting relevant legal provisions in these fields.

Statistics and basics of computer techniques – this e-learning course focuses on basis of computing technique and statistics. The first part of the course contains information necessary for basic understanding of information science and computer techniques including concepts such as PC and operation systems. The second part focuses on statistics, its role, sorting of data and their presentation and on individual statistic procedures and methods.

Basis of scientific work – the aim of the course is to increase the knowledge of students in the area of basic principles of scientific work, recognition of value of information and information sources. This includes ability to find relevant information, process survey results, classify, distribute and use collected results. At the same time the course goal is to prepare university graduates for the professional practice, life-long learning and their contribution to the system “Evidence based veterinary medicine in the SR”.

As a follow-up of experience with the use of the above mentioned e-learning courses, teaching materials of similar technological structure will be prepared for all study subjects in which such materials are applicable.

Three-dimensional learning materials

Some departments, clinics and institutes of UVMP in Košice have their own collections of exhibits which are used for teaching, e.g. Department of anatomy, histology and physiology provide materials for self study in its facilities or lend them to students for taking them home. Department of pathological anatomy has an abundant collection of preparations and anomalies. Other collections can be found particularly in clinics.

Video films

Video films which are used in teaching process were either purchased or prepared by teachers. They are available at individual institutes or students can borrow them from the UL.

Library and IT services

Library-information activities are centralised in the main University Library (UL) and in 33 partial libraries at university departments, clinics, institutes and clinical sections. Libraries utilise the latest automatized library systems and available information-communication technologies. Lending services are available to all registered users (teachers, students, scientists and other readers) during library service hours. The users can log-in to the on-line library catalogue and their own reader account <http://ar14.library.sk/i2/i2.entry.cls?ictx=uvlk> and make distance adjustments (prolongation, printing of records). Overview of the use of the UL services in the past five years is provided in Annex 4.2.

In the UL students have access to electronic system and services as well. There is a total of 70 study places at student disposal of which 50 are equipped with PC (46 study places in the study room, 18 in computer classroom and 6 in the lending room).

Through UL, the readers can gain access to electronic information sources within the project National information system for access to electronic information resources (NISPEZ), and have access to the following databases: Web of Science, Current Contents Connect, Medline, Scopus, Science Direct, ProQuest, Knowel, SpringerLink, Wiley InterScience, Biosis, SciELO Citation Index and KCI-Korean Journal Database. EBSCO database is available on the basis of national licence and the CAB-abstract (*full text select*) database is at the disposal to very closely specialised group of users (Annex 4.3). Another purchased licensed database is European Pharmacopoeia Online, version 8.2, an important information source for the study of pharmacology, active ingredients and interaction of drugs.

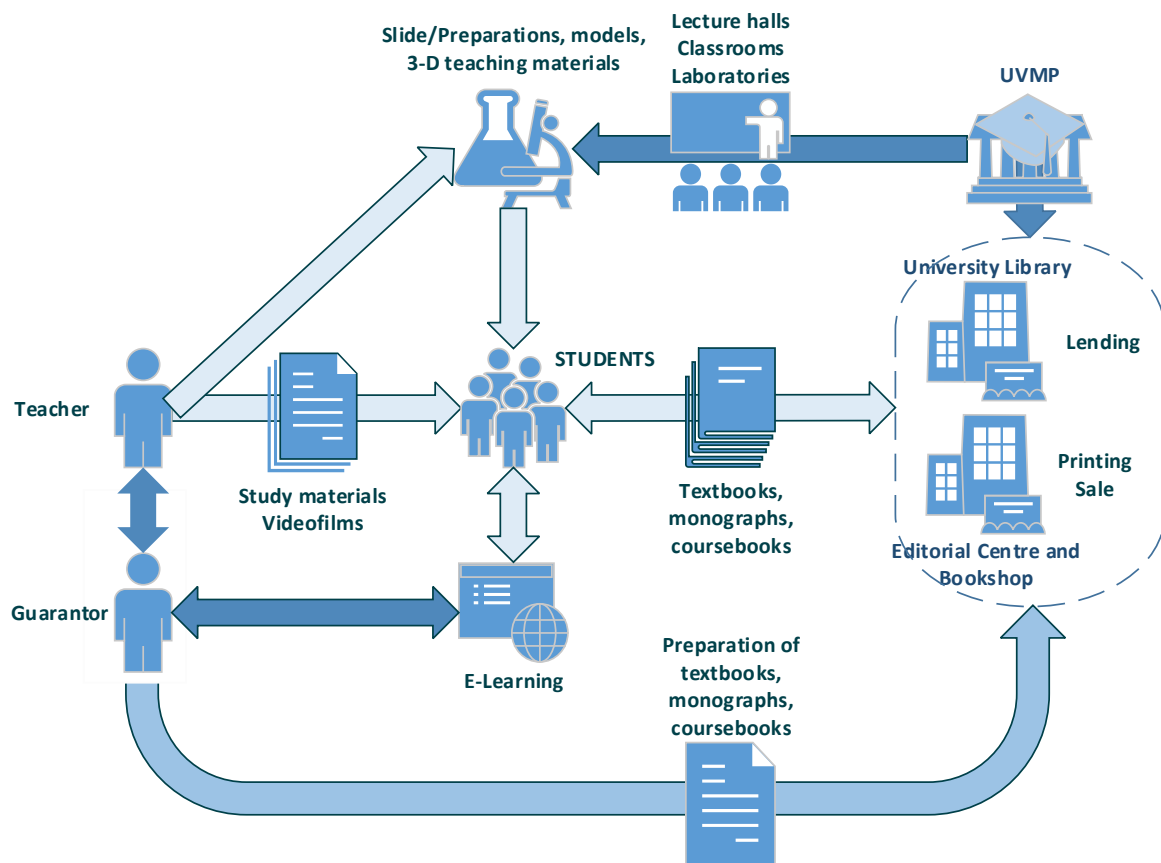
Increase in education quality and use of services is supported by organising seminars and workshops oriented on ICT, accessibility of webinars and video-conferences within available database collections and organising chats with authors of publications.

Providing opportunities for studies

An important condition for successful study is to provide adequate opportunities for self-study and interactions with teachers beyond regularly scheduled lectures. Students can address suggestions for study and self study conditions improvement to the Vice-Rector for Education and Study Affairs, at the sessions of the Academic Senate or at regular meetings of students with the University

Management. These suggestions are afterwards discussed and reviewed at the meetings of the University Management and the Scientific Board. Persons responsible for development of plans of consultation activities are heads of the departments and clinics. In case of students' interest, teachers give an individual consultation in hours allocated for this purpose. In addition, students can present suggestions for study conditions improvement directly to teachers during the teaching process. Teachers present these suggestions at the department or institute staff meetings. Minutes of these meetings are sent to the Rector and are discussed at the University Management meetings. The head of the respective department/institute and students are informed about the results and action taken.

Scheme 4.1 Assessment of learning opportunities (AP 6)



FACTUAL INFORMATION – FBA UiN IN BODØ

Quality assurance system

UiN's quality assurance system contains a range of processes, which must be safeguarded in order to ensure and further develop educational quality at the university (<http://www.uin.no/en/about-uin/the-university/quality-assurance-system/Pages/default.aspx#&acd=13faa490-96c5-0860-0910-0defcff7b90b&acd=46f4d5b8-5437-61e9-9284-91518b780d68>). It is a distributed system, in which processes are handled by process owners, which are located in both central administration and within the faculties. At the faculties, the Dean has primary responsibility for the faculty's areas of responsibility within KSS, even though parts of the implementation may be delegated to the administrative channel.

The **Committee for Quality Assurance of Study at UiN** is an executive committee for the University Board, which advises upon and implements strategies associated with studies and education at UiN.

The **Learning Environment Committee at UiN** looks at everything from the design of the physical surroundings to the psychosocial domain. The committee reports on student and staff complaints relating to the learning environment, and may present opinions about the same. Half of the committee is comprised of students, including the leader of the Student Parliament, who also functions as the leader of the committee every other year.

The **Education Board at FBA** is primarily an advisory to the Dean body for FBA and has the responsibility for the quality assurance of all faculty's undergraduate and master programmes and it consists of the Vice-dean for education (chairman), the program coordinators for each of the bachelor's degree and master programs, as well as two students representing respectively.

The **course coordinators** also play an important role in the quality assurance system of UiN, as they are responsible for the planning and implementation of the learning processes of the particular courses. They are also responsible for the organization of the mid-semester course evaluations and for adequately informing the students about the final evaluations. The students also participate in the management of the course as they are expected to provide their feedback.

Regular **evaluations, surveys and analyses** - related to four defined quality areas (intake quality, frame quality, program quality and performance quality). Studies and Research department is responsible for a number of studies that provide valuable information and feedback on selected areas:

- Admission and Startup survey
- Student survey among new students
- User survey every 3 years
- Candidate Survey graduates
- Reputation Survey

UiN was awarded the ECTS label (European Credit Transfer System) by the European Commission 2012 – 2015. Only two Norwegian universities have got the ECTS Label. The label implies UiN must follow the strict ECTS guidelines to ensure quality across the institution's administrative processes and within the learning environment.

Library and IT facilities

The University Library (UBiN) is university's major provider of information resources and services to assist all UiN students in completing their studies in Norway. It is a highly modern structure, and consists of a total space of approximately 3000 m². It is built on the learning centre concept with multiple rooms for multipurpose usage in addition to the ordinary library services, such as independent study, seminars, or group work. There are also areas for relaxing and social interaction. The library is exceptionally well equipped for easy electronic access to library resources, with numerous modern computers available in all major areas and study rooms. All students can reserve one of the 19 group rooms through an online booking service. The UBiN have in total 669 work places for students, 600 of them at Bodø campus.

The Faculty of Bioscience and Aquaculture's book collection has been built up over a period of 30 years, and new additions are regularly procured in close cooperation with members of the scientific staff. In recent years there has been an emphasis on increasing and make the collection of books actual and to the point. More recently, there has been a strong emphasis on databases and electronic full text resources.

UiN has two computer rooms, A15 and 0042, which are located at the basement of the main building at UiN and have capacity for 20 and 32 respectively. These computers are mainly used for desk-based work and multiple choice tests.

Learning environment – Fronter

Teachers are free to choose their own teaching methods and there are specific descriptions of these methods as well as the assessments methods that can be used in the various courses at the university's webpage. Usually all lecture presentations and notes are posted on 'Fronter', which is the

University's digital classroom. It is also used by the students to submit assignments, take home-exams, interact with fellow students and teachers online and access information about the courses, all of which can be used in their self-study work. Students have the right to see previous examination papers and thus prepare in a more organized way for their exams.

4.2 COMMENTS

COMMENTS – UVMP IN KOŠICE

Students of UVMP in Košice have unlimited possibility to study specialised literature in all forms - printed, electronic, on-line and e-learning. Modern technical equipment in the University Library provides space for study, open access to study materials, particularly to electronic information resources and databases. The study rooms are equipped with sufficient number of PCs connected to the internet and the lending service hours during workdays but also over weekends, enable all users (particularly students) to access information sources for self study. The library staff is prepared to provide other required services (inter-library lending services, information search) and supplementary study materials. University Management in collaboration with departments, clinics, institutes and sections support all activities resulting in further improvement of study opportunities, checks the fulfilment of development plan goals set for this field and takes additional measures and actions.

COMMENTS – FBA UiN IN BODØ

The university offers all the necessary learning facilities that can support any study programmes. As the strategy of the university is to further develop the terrestrial animal sciences (e.g. the development of the new bachelor in Animal Care) new opportunities for the students of the joint programme will be developed.

4.3 SUGGESTIONS

SUGGESTIONS – UVMP IN KOŠICE

In order to improve opportunities for study and support high quality teaching, creative research and education it appears necessary to provide to students in the future a permanent distant access to catalogues and electronic information resources; to allow them to gain access to the library fund by means of an automatized system ARL (Advanced Rapid Library) and incorporate information education into all study programmes of UVMP in Košice; to extend the collection of e-books for individual study programmes. It appears desirable to modernise the facilities for study and self study, to arrange study boxes and organise lectures, seminars and workshops for users of study support.

Although, the students have many opportunities later on to familiarize themselves with many aspects of animal husbandry, a closer collaboration with local veterinary clinics and animal farms may motivate the students early on in their education. This is currently examined.

SUGGESTIONS – FBA UiN IN BODØ

Although, the students have many opportunities later on to familiarize themselves with many aspects of animal husbandry, a closer collaboration with local veterinary clinics and animal farms may motivate the students early on in their education. This is currently examined.

Chapter 5. ASSESSMENT OF TRAINING PROGRAMME AND THE AWARD OF THE TITLE OF VETERINARY SURGEON (AP 7)

Information is request on the following points

- development and publication of explicit intended learning outcomes, including a description of essential competences required at graduation (the so-called “day one skills”) as listed in Annex IV.
- procedures for formal curriculum and teaching programme approval and regular reviews
- application of the ECTS to your programme and evidence for its use
- procedures for monitoring delivery of the curriculum and the teaching programme
- assurance concerning the participation of students in quality assessment activities
- parameters assessed and procedures to monitor regular feedback from stakeholders and graduates
- provision of a structure that promotes life-long learning

It is accepted that statements given to the above points can-not be in a standardised form due to the (legal) differences between countries and also Faculties.

In order to avoid duplication it is possible to refer to previous or following chapters in case the respective information has already been provided.

5.1 FACTUAL INFORMATION

Competences required at graduation

General professional competences and attributes

The new graduate of veterinary medicine studies is able:

- to communicate effectively with clients, unqualified public, professional colleagues and relevant responsible authorities; effectively listen and compassionately respond using the language appropriate for the audience and context,
- to prepare clear case reports and keep patient’s records in a form appropriate for colleagues and comprehensible for public,
- to work effectively as a member of a multidisciplinary team,
- to be aware of ethical responsibilities of veterinary surgeon in relation to individual animal care and in relation to clients and public in general, due to potential influence on the environment and society as a whole,
- to be aware of economic and emotional climate in which the veterinary doctor acts and adequately respond to such pressures,
- to willingly use, as far as possible, his/her professional skills to support additional development of veterinary knowledge in order to improve veterinary practice, increase quality of animal care, animal welfare and veterinary public health (evidence based treatment),
- to have basic knowledge about organisation and management of veterinary practice including the following:
 - awareness of his/her own responsibility and responsibilities of the employer in relation to employment and health,
 - legislative provisions about work safety and his/her position in relation to lay staff and legal responsibilities,
 - the way of fees calculation and drawing of invoices and importance of complying with the system of storage of practical records and accounting, including electronic recordings and case records,
 - capability to use information technologies for effective communication, sharing, collecting, manipulation and analysis of information,
 - importance of complying with professional standards and policy in everyday practice.
- to understand the need and professional duty to participate in continuous education and training and to develop further his/her professional skills throughout his/her professional career,
- to act in a professional way in agreement with professional and legal responsibilities of veterinary surgeon and understand and apply ethical codes of relevant regulatory bodies,
- to cope with uncertainty and adjust to changes,
- to be aware of his/her personal limitations and demonstrate awareness, when and where it is

- necessary, to look for professional advice, help and support,
- to have basic knowledge about veterinary services.

Basic knowledge and understanding

The new graduate of veterinary medicine has acquired during his/her studies thorough knowledge and understanding of the following:

- sciences that form the basis of activities of veterinary surgeon,
- research methods and contribution of basic and applied research to all aspects of veterinary science,
- how to evaluate data,
- physique and functions of healthy animals and their rearing,
- etiology, pathogenesis, clinical symptoms, diagnosis and treatment of common diseases and disorders which occur in common domestic animal species in the EU,
- legislative regulations related to animal welfare (including transport) and reportable diseases,
- legislative requirements concerning responsible use of medicines, effective in EU member states,
- principles of prevention of diseases and promotion of health and welfare,
- issues concerning veterinary public health including zoonoses.

Practical competences

New graduate of veterinary medicine is capable of the following:

- conduct relevant anamnesis of individual animals or group of animals and its/their environment,
- manipulate with animal, ensure its safe and humane fastening and instruct other persons how to manage the relevant techniques,
- carry out complete clinical examination,
- treat animals of all common domestic animal species in case of emergency and give them the basic first aid,
- to evaluate correctly nutrition state of animals and give advice to clients regarding principles of rearing and feeding,
- to collect, store and transport samples, carry out standard laboratory tests and interpret results obtained by home institution or by other laboratories,
- to use safely and in agreement with the relevant provisions the X-ray, ultrasound and other technical equipment that can be used as a diagnostic aid,
- to follow correct procedures after diagnosing notifiable, mandatory reportable diseases and zoonoses,
- to carry out certification correctly,
- to follow relevant sources of data on licensed drugs: to prescribe and give medicines correctly and responsibly in accordance with relevant legislation and to ensure safe storage of drugs and wastes and their safe disposal,
- to apply correctly the principles of sterilisation of surgical instruments,
- to apply correctly principles of aseptic surgery,
- to safely sedate patient, induce general and local anaesthesia and assess and control pain,
- to give advice and administer suitable treatment,
- to recognize necessity of euthanasia and euthanize the patient in a humane way using a suitable method and sensitive approach to feelings of the owner and other persons, keeping in mind safety of all participants; to advise on how to dispose of the dead body,
- to carry out basic gross post mortem examination, record details, collect samples of tissues and store and transport them,
- to carry out ante and post mortem inspection of food producing animals and correctly identify conditions affecting quality and safety of products of animal origin,
- to evaluate and implement basic records of health and welfare of animals (and records of production, if relevant),
- to advice and propose preventive and prophylactic programmes suitable for respective animal species (management of herd health) and corresponding to accepted standards of health and welfare of animals and public health, seeking advice and help of professional colleagues wherever

- necessary,
- to minimise risks of contamination, cross infection and accumulation of pathogens in veterinary facilities and in practice.

Procedures for formal curriculum and teaching programme approval and regular reviews

Study plans are approved, monitored and periodically reviewed by relevant university bodies. New study plans are developed first of all with participation of all teachers involved in teaching of individual study subjects. Their proposals for innovation of information lists of study subjects and a follow-up of these subjects, extent of lectures and practical lessons are discussed by the Pedagogical Committee which, subsequently, gives recommendations to the University Management. After closing the discussion on proposals for changes in study subjects, the University Management develops a complex draft of the study plan which is submitted to the Scientific Board for discussion and approval. The study plans approved by the Scientific Board are submitted to the Accreditation Commission of SR, the advisory body of government of SR, to obtain its opinion. The education is then provided according to the new study programmes (approved by the Accreditation Commission), which are monitored again in the new cycle and are subject to potential changes in agreement with national or international legislation.

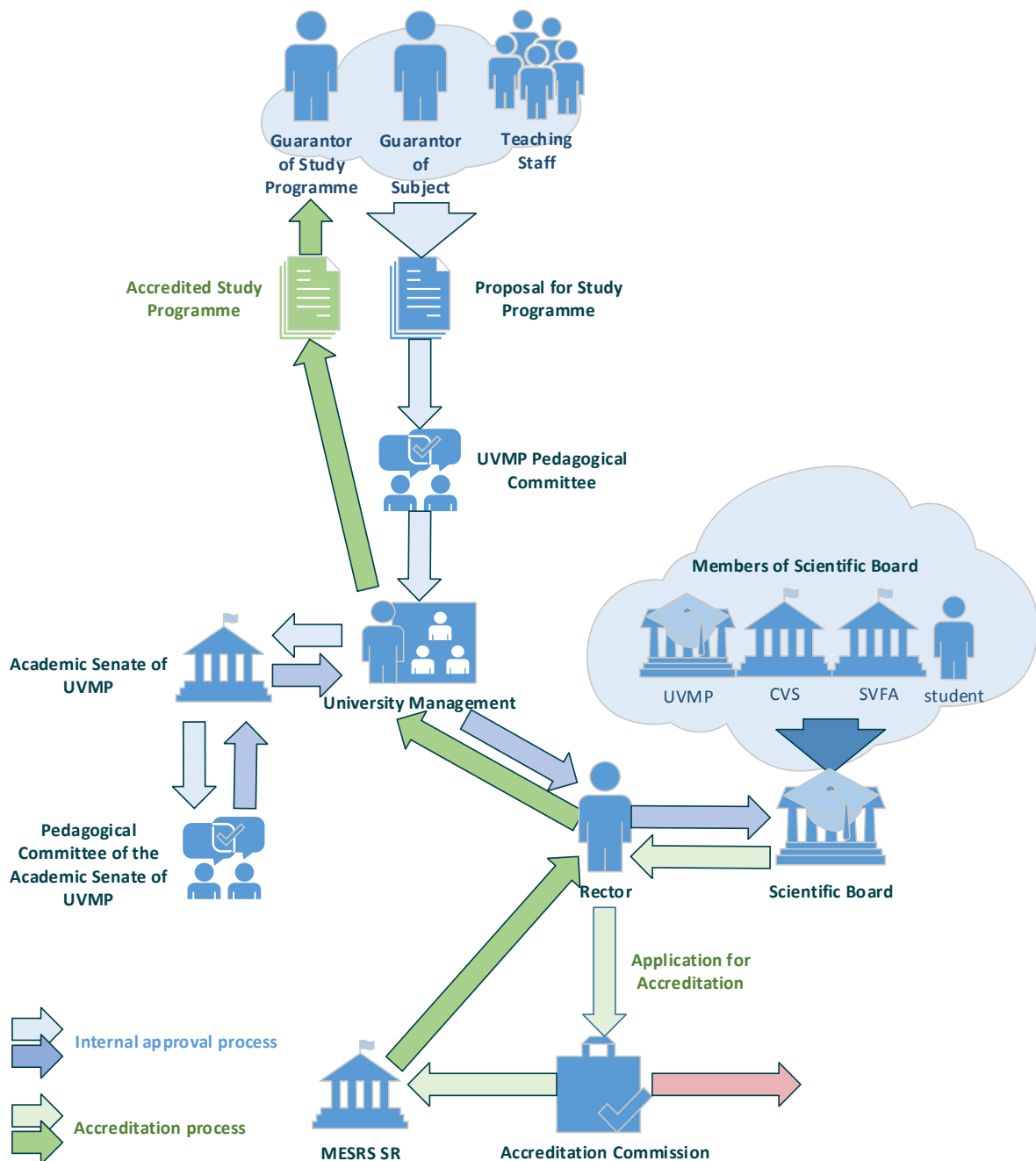
Application of the ECTS to teaching programme of the university and evidence for its use

All study programmes implemented by the university are in strict agreement with the ECTS rules set by national legislation as well as by international legislation in accordance with the Bologna Process. The standard number of credits per one academic year is 60, and for the entire study of veterinary medicine 360 credits, one credit corresponding to 25–30 hours of work dedicated to study purposes. All study subjects and their credit values are listed in Annexes 5.1 and 5.2.

Procedures for monitoring delivery of the curriculum and the teaching programme

In the Slovak Republic only accredited study programmes can be implemented. The state authority for accreditation of study programmes is the Accreditation Commission of SR. There is a policy that the accredited study programmes must be implemented in accordance with the approved materials which include among other, study plans. Despite the above mentioned, higher education institutions can monitor implementation of study programmes during an accreditation cycle and take measures to increase the quality of teaching. In addition to annual evaluation of quality of assurance of study programmes, after completion of one teaching cycle the university performs complex evaluation of individual study subjects particularly with regard to their follow-up, elimination of duplicity of the contents and optimisation of curriculum. After the discussions between study programme guarantors and study subject guarantors, the discussion continues on the level of Pedagogical Committee of the university and is followed by approval of the concept draft by the University Management. Finally, the materials are discussed and approved by the Academic Senate and the Scientific Board of UVMP. The scheme of procedures for monitoring delivery of the curriculum and the study programmes is presented in scheme 5.1.

Scheme 5.1 Procedures for monitoring delivery of the curriculum and the teaching programmes (AP 7)



Assurance concerning the participation of students in quality assessment activities

Participation of students in quality evaluation and the related activities is formally stipulated by the Higher Education Act and internal regulations of the university and is implemented in the practice mainly by direct participation of students in evaluation of teachers and study subjects. Results of the so-called student enquiries are used to increase the quality of the education process. The students who are members of the student’s section of the Academic Senate approve all materials of statement and conceptual character submitted to the Academic Senate and the representative of the student section is invited to participate in deliberations of the Scientific Board on the respective materials.

Parameters assessed and procedures to monitor regular feedback from stakeholders and graduates

The quality of graduates is periodically evaluated by top representatives of two major employers of the graduates of veterinary medicine studies – the Director General of the SVFA and the President of the CVS, who are external members of the Scientific Board of UVMP in Košice. These representatives of the above mentioned institutions present their informal comments to potential adjustments in syllabuses of study subjects or changes in study programmes during sessions of the Scientific Board. Quantitative data about university graduates are periodically obtained from the Office for Labour, Social Affairs and Family, which discloses information about employment successfulness of new graduates of higher education institutions. Informal evaluation of the qualitative level of UVMP is obtained also from the graduates themselves during various professional and social events.

Provision of a structure that promotes life-long learning

Life-long learning of graduates of veterinary medicine is implemented in various forms depending on the place of their professional performance. Approximately one sixth of graduates continues with their studies at the university to obtain the PhD title, and about half of those who successfully complete the postgraduate study join the staff of the university either as teachers or scientists, and are involved in informal life-long learning which allows them to increase their professional skills and attain respective qualification and career grades. The graduates employed by state administration bodies are involved in life-long learning mostly through the Institute of Postgraduate Education of Veterinary Surgeons in Košice (IPEVS) where they obtain attestations of Ist and IInd degree. In addition, they continue with informal education according to their professional profiles with the aim to upgrade their knowledge and skills to keep up with the recent developments in veterinary medicine. The graduates who work in private practice and are members of the CVS obtain the prescribed number of credits by participating in education events organised by the CVS in collaboration with UVMP in Košice. These events are diversified according to individual fields of veterinary medicine so all members of the CVS can be involved in learning according to their own professional specialisation.

5.2 COMMENTS

In agreement with specific conditions which prevail in the Slovak Republic, UVMP in Košice evaluates periodically the teaching process and performs internal audit of study programmes after completion of individual cycles in collaboration with guarantors of study subjects, taking into consideration suggestions and stimuli from teachers, students and professional and specialised organizations. In the academic year 2013/2014, the education within the GVM study programme was provided according to an adjusted teaching programme which allows the students to obtain relevant competences (day 1 skills) to be able to practice veterinary medicine immediately after graduation (*OIE recommendations on the Competencies of graduating veterinarians („Day 1 graduates“) to assure high-quality of National Veterinary Services*); *Revision EU Professional Qualifications Directive (PQD) – FVE*); it respects basic principles of the credit system of study; it is compatible with study programmes of other universities providing veterinary education with respect to mobility of students and mutual recognition of subjects; it observes species-based medical approach in teaching of clinical disciplines; it prevents duplicity of teaching contents and exams so the credits are earned only once for completed subjects (e.g. the subject can be evaluated only once – either by progression exam or state exam by the number of assigned credits). In addition, an effective system of clinical training has been developed for the GVM study programme in collaboration with the heads of clinics of UVMP in Košice. It is based on evidence of activities of students in a record book and its checking by the responsible teacher. This adjusted study programme provides for omnipotence of graduates of the veterinary university as far as their practising of veterinary medicine is concerned (clinical skills, veterinary – hygienic inspection, state inspection and protection of public health). It allows the students to obtain relevant competences to be able to practice veterinary medicine immediately after graduation (*OIE recommendations on the Competencies of graduating veterinarians („Day 1*

graduates”) to assure high-quality of National Veterinary Services). It complies with international requirements on education of veterinary surgeons as a regulated profession (*EU Directive 2005/36 EC; Revision EU Professional Qualifications Directive (PQD) – FVE*). It respects the basic principles of the credit system of study and assures uniform distribution of credits. It is compatible with study programmes of other universities providing veterinary education with respect to mobility of students and mutual recognition of subjects; it follows species-based medical approach in teaching of clinical disciplines. In addition to above mentioned it eliminated duplicity of teaching, decreased load on teachers and students and resulted in qualitative changes in teaching. However, the participation of students in evaluation of study subjects and teachers has to be considered as low.

5.3 SUGGESTIONS

In the field of development of study programmes and increasing effectiveness of curricula we intend to maintain intensive collaboration with guarantors of study programmes and study subjects, pursue internal harmonization of curricula with the aim to prevent duplicity in teaching and achieve effective interconnection of subjects and their mutual follow-up, taking into consideration requirements of practice, and update syllabuses of all subjects of studies. Another important future goal is to maintain professional successfulness of graduates of UVMP in Košice on the job market. In order to reach this goal we will continue to consider the requirements of practice and collaborate with professional organisations in development of curricula. We would also like to further optimize the credit system of study in order to simplify international mobility of students. In the period of next two years we plan to obtain two important labels which belong to the most prestigious status awards in the field of higher education in the European area – ECTS label and Diploma Supplement label. We also intend to continue with implementation of additional applications of the academic information system (development of schedules, formation of study groups, accommodation of students, electronic enrolment, etc.). We also plan to use more intensively modern communication and didactic aids, such as digital boards, video-recordings, e-learning and similar, oriented on students with the aim to increase the availability of the teaching material. We will try to find effective ways how to increase participation of students in evaluation of study subjects and teachers as one of the means of increasing quality of provided education.

Chapter 6. ASSESSMENT OF QUALITY ASSURANCE FOR CLINICS, LABORATORIES AND FARM (AP 8)

Provide information on the system(s) of quality assurance in the clinical area, laboratory diagnostic services and farm facilities. List any existing accreditation from external quality assurance bodies.

6.1 FACTUAL INFORMATION

FACTUAL INFORMATION – UVMP IN KOŠICE

There are five clinics at UVMP in Košice at the moment – Small Animal Clinic with two sections (Section of Surgery, Orthopaedics, Roentgenology and Reproduction and Section of Internal Diseases), Clinic of Horses, Clinic of Ruminants, Clinic of Swine and Clinic of Birds, Exotic and Free-living Animals. These clinics provide clinical training as well as clinical activity that includes primary contact with patients in terms of providing ambulatory consulting and therapeutic activities.

Heads of the clinics are responsible for their management. They are directly responsible for organization, management and control of activities of individual clinics in all activity spheres. Organization structure of clinical workplaces, competency and responsibility of heads of the clinics are governed by Internal Regulation No. 9 – Organization Manual of UVMP in Košice. Performance of clinical activity at the university is governed by the internal directive “Clinical Activity at UVMP in Košice”. Organization, realization and control of clinical activity of university clinical workplaces are performed by the Vice-Rector for Clinical Activity and Contact with Practice. The Vice-Rector is also the chairman of the Committee for Clinical Activity. Heads of the clinics and heads of their departments are members of this committee. The committee is an advisory body of the Rector. It deals with the specific problems of individual clinics relating to providing and organization of their clinical activities and the need for their quality improvement.

Each clinic provides services for patients following its own system and organization according to the individual animal species. In addition to gathering the students’ opinions on clinical training (see Annex 3.1), the university also makes client satisfaction enquiries about the services provided by the clinics in form of an anonymous questionnaire that is available for animal owners in the waiting rooms of outpatient departments. The owners are informed of this possibility of assessment by an authorized veterinary doctor on duty or an attending doctor at the outpatient department. The owners can place the completed questionnaires into a box in the waiting room. The results of the questionnaires are assessed at the meetings of the respective clinic by its head. Based on these results, measures are taken to increase the quality of clinical services.

At present, this system of assessment is implemented at the departments of the Small Animal Clinic and at the Clinic of Birds, Exotic and Free Living Animals, which have the highest number of treated patients at their outpatient departments. (Annex 6.1). The results of questionnaires on satisfaction with workplace services are in Annex 6.2.

Laboratory examinations are conducted at some departments and clinics of the university, and are not centralized in one central diagnostic laboratory. The list of laboratories and provided services is stated in Annex 6.3.

These laboratories conduct diagnostic examinations that are used in the teaching process, scientific and research activities and also by clinical workplaces and paying clients according to the price list of services approved by the University Management. The price lists are available at each workplace, that provides these services and are the components of centrally elaborated Price list of goods, work and services provided by UVMP in Košice. This price list is made public also on the university website (<http://www.uvlf.sk/sk/cennik-tovarov-prac-a-sluzieb-poskytovanych-uvlf-v-kosciach-sucinnostou-od-01012014>).

In addition to these laboratories, there are also specialised UVMP laboratories. The most significant specialised laboratories for the clinical practice within the university as well as in the sphere of inter-institutional, or international cooperation and expertise are the *National Reference Laboratory for Pesticides*, the *Clinical Laboratory of the Clinic of Ruminants*, the *Reference Workplace for Nutrition and Production Health of Animals* and the *centres of excellence*.

National Reference Laboratory for Pesticides is one of specific workplaces of UVMP in Košice. Its function and role is mainly the assessment of environmental risk of pesticide use in accordance with the relevant European legislation (Regulation (EC) no. 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market), and monitoring of the effect on human and animal health after exposure to pesticides.

Clinical Laboratory at the Clinic of Ruminants is the workplace professionally competent to perform objective and independent trials, examinations and analyses of biological material (blood, urine, milk, excrements and the like) as well as soil, plants, forage, food of animal and plant origin on selected organic and inorganic indicators.

Reference Workplace for Nutrition and Production Health of Animals is involved in analytical and research activities in the area of dietetics and animal health.

It performs monitoring of quality and nutritional value of forage and feed ration, analysis of the level of ruminal digestibility of fibre and degradability of nitrogenous substances, analysis of influence of nutrition on ruminal and intermediate metabolism in dairy cows as well as assessment of nutrition in monogastric animals.

Within the Slovak Republic there is Slovak National Accreditation Service (SNAS), which issues certificates on good laboratory practice (Statement of GLP compliance). Due to the imbalance between the financial and administrative burden relating to laboratory accreditation and the possible financial profit for UVMP in Košice, there is only one laboratory accredited at present by SNAS (Annex 6.4).

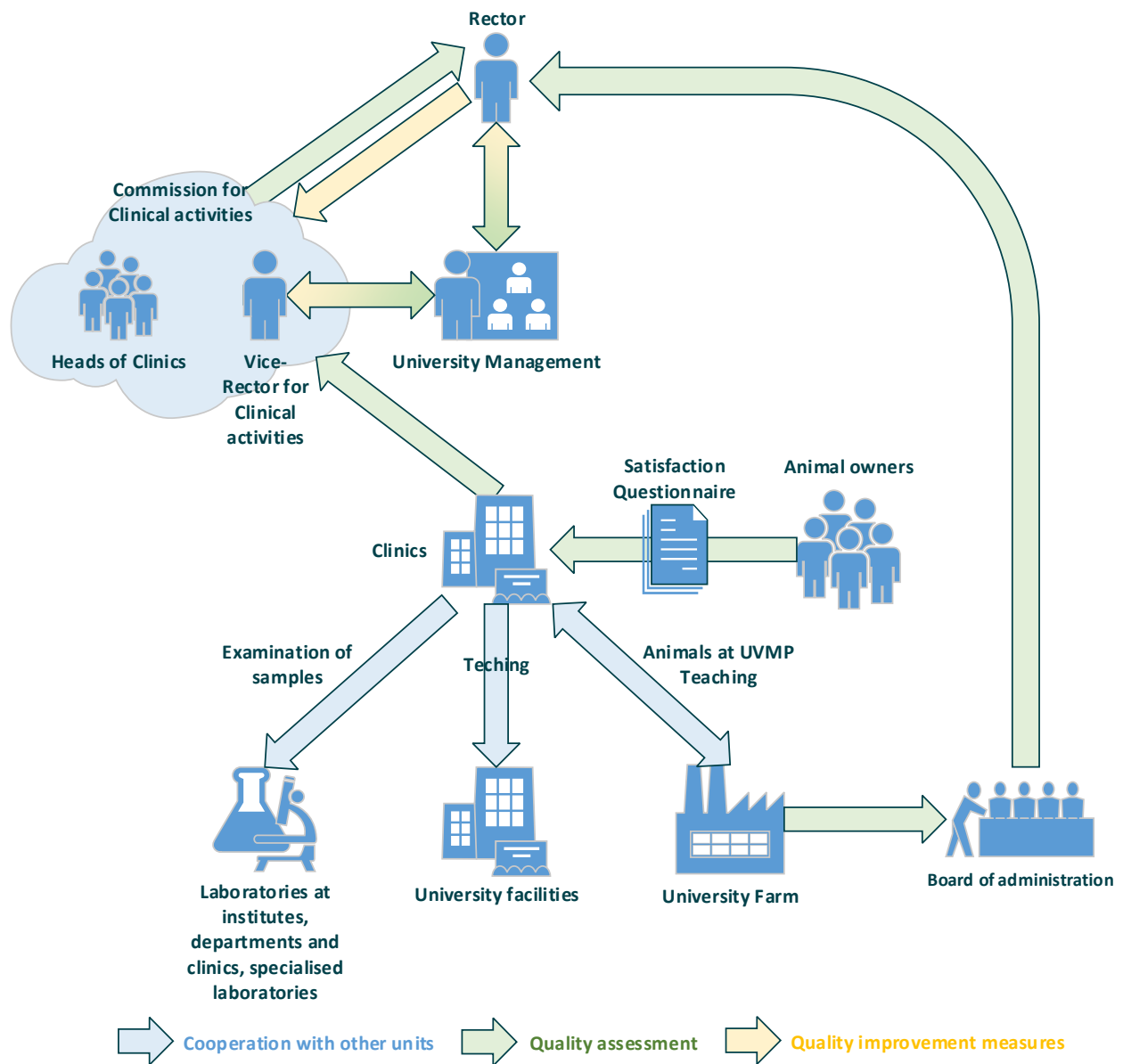
University laboratories that have no national accreditation apply the principles of good laboratory practice in their activities. They adhere to the established methodological procedures for individual types of analyses and apply the system of internal control of analytical procedures. Workplaces are adequately secured as regards working environment sanitation and follow all principles of safety at work with biological material. Regular maintenance of analytical equipment by qualified staff is provided on a contractual basis to ensure its correct and reliable operation. Calibrations of devices and methodology validations are conducted in compliance with individual analytical methods and procedures. Standards and verified methodology of analyses are used to ensure measurement accuracy and quality of analyses. Correct use of laboratory diagnostic procedures and methods is checked and evaluated by heads of individual workplaces or laboratories.

The University Farm in Zemplínska Teplica (UF) contributes considerably to high quality practical clinical training at UVMP in Košice. All main farm animal species of all age categories are reared on the farm. This provides space for practical training covering rearing and medical intervention during the whole year. Students can express their satisfaction with the level of practical training on the farm by anonymous questionnaires that can be filled in via AIS (Annex 1.5).

Internal Regulation No. 57 – ‘Internal System of Quality Assurance at the University of Veterinary Medicine and Pharmacy in Košice’ - is the basic document of the university for internal quality system including among others quality assessment in clinical sphere, diagnostic services and on the University Farm.

Assurance of staff and student safety and health protection at work (SPHW) at clinics, laboratories and on the University Farm is an integral part of quality assurance. UVMP management considers it one of the top priorities of management. The SPHW policy is the pivot element of the management system and it is the component of pedagogical, clinical, scientific and research activities of the university. As a result of identification of dangers and the related threats, working environment is improved and appropriate working conditions are created to reduce and minimize the risks to the staff's and students' health. Department of Safety and Crisis Management at UVMP in Košice applies the system of management of safety and health protection at work that is actively improved also by staff and students. Several internal directives based on relevant legislation have been elaborated in this area. These internal regulations include – Directive on SPHW – ref. No. 612/R/09; Operation regulations and risk assessment for work with biological factors; Operation regulations and risk assessment – chemical risk factor; Internal Regulation No. 35 – Directive on providing of personal protective working equipment (PPWE); Internal Regulation No. 44 on Occupational health and safety procedures for work with animals in animal housing areas and with agricultural machinery at UVM in Košice; Internal Regulation No. 52 – Directive on training of UVMP staff in SPHW and Internal directive No. 54 – Directive on procedures in the events of accidents and potentially dangerous situations.

Scheme 6.1 System of quality assurance in the clinical area, laboratory diagnostic services and farm facilities (AP 8)



FACTUAL INFORMATION – FBA UiN IN BODØ

Assessment of quality for laboratories

Norway has labour laws with regulations to ensure a safe physical and mental working environment in all laboratories. Regular inspections of all workplaces ensure that health, safety and environment (HSE) legislation is safeguarded. FBA has developed an internal HSE system ensuring that faculty meets all statutory requirements for safety. According to this system, all findings, accidents and almost accidents are recorded by FBA. Safety representatives have been established throughout the organization to safeguard all employees’ rights and have the right to stop dangerous work if necessary.

FBA has areas with GMO/GMM/GMD containment level 1 and 2 approved by the Health Directorate and approved procedures governing the use of these areas.

All employees who will work, or otherwise perform tasks in the laboratories or the research station, must have safety training and review the relevant procedures before starting to work. Everyone participating in fieldwork must also have a separate safety training. Access to laboratory spaces, Research

Station and research is not given until the relevant training is confirmed. A special training is required for all persons involved in animal experimentation, according to national and international legislation.

All Bachelor and Master students must undergo safety training before participating in any laboratory work.

Assessment of quality for animal facilities

The fish facilities at FBA are approved by the Norwegian Animal Research Authorities (Animal research Unit 017-Mørkvedbukta forskningsstasjon) from July 2014 – July 2018 for conducting research on marine fish species, salmon and decapods. All research activities are conducted in accordance to the guidelines set by the National Animal Research Authority (relevant legislation: a) Animal Welfare Act - Lov om dyrevelferd, b) the Norwegian Regulation on Animal Experimentation (Forsøksdyrforskriften).

In addition Mørkvedbukta Research Station holds licenses to keep a wide range of different marine and freshwater species in all life stages (Species-specific permits) given by the Nordland County. These licenses are kept in compliance with the Norwegian Regulations for Aquaculture (Akvakulturforskriften).

The staff at Mørkvedbukta Research Station are all trained according to FELASA C category guidelines. There are 12 people (permanent staff members).

The internal quality system (IK-akvakultur) describes routines for hygiene barriers and procedures for handling and moving fish. Every month an external fish health service is controlling all fish at the facility (Labora AS).

6.2 COMMENTS

COMMENTS – UVMP IN KOŠICE

In previous years UVMP in Košice underwent extensive and intensive activity aimed at the improvement of material, technical and spatial equipment for clinical workplaces and laboratory activity. Modernization of equipment to assure improvement of training process, clinical and laboratory activities were carried out. This has been accomplished within workplaces at the university campus as well as on the University Farm. At present these activities continue and they concern activities of all university clinics. Reconstruction and building of new premises significantly improved conditions also from point of view of capacities for ambulatory work, hospitalization and clinical work in general. Significant changes in recent years have also been introduced on the University Farm allowing displacement of considerable part of practical training on production of animal origin out of the university.

Clinical and laboratory work reached qualitatively higher level thanks to significant changes that have been previously introduced with regard to study plans, organizational changes, building of material and technical base and improvement of equipment at the university workplaces.

COMMENTS – FBA UIN IN BODØ

The University in general, and FBA in particular, strictly follow all the national and international guidelines and regulation in relation to safety in laboratories and animal facilities (mainly fish, in this case). Currently there are no plans to establish any facilities to maintain live animals other than fish.

6.3 SUGGESTIONS

SUGGESTIONS – UVMP IN KOŠICE

After completion of the building of the University veterinary hospital premises for the Small Animal Clinic and completion of stabling areas for the Clinic of Swine, internal arrangement and operation of these workplaces in new conditions will be worked out to assure modern and functional operation for all aspects of pedagogical, research and clinical activities. Within the Small Animal Clinic the P 40 building will form uniform complex with concentration of all specific specialisations with the possibility of creation of central reception for patients and central evidence of complex clinical activity for small animals. Even if there is a uniform method of registering of clinical activity (patients, economy of

drug management, medical material) applied centrally on some clinics (ProVet), after completion of the building for the Clinic of Ruminants and the Clinic of Swine it will be necessary to introduce this method of registering also there and finish completion of this system at all clinics.

The need to build top university workplaces with adequate diagnostic and laboratory equipment comparable with advanced veterinary institutions in Europe and acquiring sufficient financial resources for equipment of these newly built and reconstructed buildings and premises plays an important role. The university has already assured financial sources in amount of 2.8 mil. Euro in this respect. Specific priority of the university within clinical workplaces is the equipment of the clinics with lacking top diagnostic devices – CT and MRI. In spite of significant improvement of the clinics' equipment with modern diagnostic devices and by introduction of new laboratory methods it will be necessary to keep this trend with the help of other financial funds in addition to government subsidies. Resources collected from grants, projects and clinical and laboratory commercial activities can serve these purposes.

In future it will be necessary to increase the number of accredited laboratories. It would contribute to quality improvement of the laboratory services provided and it would create better conditions for offering these services to interested parties from external environment. It would also be an appropriate way of increasing university credibility in science and research field with higher acceptance for publishing activity.

SUGGESTIONS - FBA UiN IN BODØ

No further suggestions.

Chapter 7. ASSESSMENT OF CONTINUING EDUCATION (AP 9)

The Faculty should describe the system of quality assurance it possesses to monitor and promote the design, implementation and quality control of its own, or joint Continuing Professional Development (CPD) programmes in specific areas of practical veterinary medicine and whether there is a legal basis or other official requirement for continuing education.

This documentation should be accompanied by a list of courses offered in the preceding year (year n) and their assessment by the participants.

7.1 FACTUAL INFORMATION

Continuing education of veterinary surgeons and veterinary professionals performing veterinary activities, either in the state administration, or in the private practice, represents an important role in maintaining and enhancing a high level of expertise among veterinarians.

Continuing education is provided with the participation of several organizations performing their activities in various areas of professional veterinary activities. These organizations include the UVMP in Košice, IPEVS, being the organization of the MARD, and the CVS. These three institutions providing the continuing education organise education activities either independently, or in mutual cooperation and co-organization, while extensively using, among others, professional qualities and experience of scientists and teachers of UVMP in Košice. Moreover, continuing education is carried out with active participation of associations of veterinary surgeons (Slovak Small Animal Veterinary Association, Slovak Farm Animal Veterinary Association, Slovak Association of Avian Medicine, and the Slovak Hipiatric Association) within specialties related to their areas of activities and within different animal species. One of their important activities is to provide continuing education to their members in cooperation with the CVS, the UVMP in Košice, and the SVFA. Planning and organizing of education activities by the CVS and UVMP in Košice is coordinated and consulted, in terms of the offered topics as well as specific and actual requirements. At the end of each calendar year, a joint meeting of UVMP and the CVS representatives is held in order to prepare the joint schedule, referred to as *Calendarium of Education Events* for the upcoming year. It is a list of events which are subsequently published in timely manner for all stakeholders that can thus choose from the activities for the upcoming period. Another objective thereof is also to avoid possible collisions in dates and topics of various education events. This method of planning and coordination of education activities has proved to work well and it guarantees timely notification and sufficient attendance. The list of planned activities for private veterinary surgeons, after its preparation on the basis of data provided by individual institutions and scientific professional associations, is published on CVS (<http://www.kvlr.sk>), UVMP (<http://www.uvlf.sk>) and the SVFA (<http://www.svssr.sk>) websites, including the link directly to the website of the CVS. The plan of education for official veterinary surgeons, employees of organisations within the SVFA structure, submitted every year to the IPEVS, is based on the requirements and needs of specialised departments at the SVFA. The National Education Plan is approved by the SVFA management and published at <http://ww.ivvl.sk>.

Legal basis for continuing education

The legislative framework for the life-long education consists especially of the Act No. 39/2007 Coll. on Veterinary Care, stipulating that the SVFA specifies and ensures, using their own educating facility, the education of official veterinary surgeons and other employees of regional veterinary and food administration offices, inspects the training and regular retraining of employees performing veterinary inspection within their competencies, and elaborates the concept of specialized postgraduate education of official veterinary surgeons as well as other forms of postgraduate education of employees of veterinary administration authorities and official laboratories. The implementing rule to the above mentioned Act is the Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture of the SR No. 480/2007 specifying the details on postgraduate education of veterinary surgeons and further education of employees of veterinary administration authorities and official veterinary laboratories. Education, as specified in the above listed legislation, is organised and provided for by the IPEVS.

Another related act is the Act No. 442/2004 on Private Veterinary Surgeons and on the CVS, which specifies, within the rights and obligations of private veterinary surgeons, their right to participate in the Chamber's education activities and their obligation to undergo professional education within the

periods and in the manner prescribed by the CVS. In the field of higher education, the Higher Education Act stipulates the missions of universities, including also the provision of further education and continuing education. Other legislative regulations in this field include the Act of the National Council of the SR No. 400/2009 on Civil Service and on amending and supplementation of certain acts, as amended, and the Act of the National Council of the SR No. 568/2009 Coll. on Lifelong Education, as amended.

In the field of veterinary medicine, the life-long education is based on the applicable legislation, such as the Regulations (EC) no. 852/2004, 853/2004, 854/2004, 882/2004, and 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Act on Veterinary Care; Act on Food; Act on Production, Placing on the Market and Use of Feed; Act on Medicinal Products and Medical Devices, Council Regulation (EC) No 1/2005 on the Protection of Animals during Transport and Related Operations, the SR Government Regulation on Minimum Rules for Protection of Chickens Kept for Meat Production, regulations and resolutions of central administrative authorities, and the Regulation on Postgraduate Education of veterinary Surgeons, Council Regulation (EC) No. 1099/2009 on the Protection of Animals at the Time of Killing. In the field of market organization, the legislative framework is the Council Regulation (EC) No. 1234/2007, general and specific marketing standards (such as 1580/2007), specific quality standards and international quality standards.

Continuing Education Activities Organised by UVMP in Košice

In addition to the university teachers engagement in many joint education activities with the above mentioned organizations, every year the university is the main organizer of various conferences, lectures, seminars, courses, workshops and other events for the purpose of continuing education in the field of veterinary medicine. These activities in the field of continuing education of veterinary surgeons, veterinary professionals and other persons working in the agricultural sector are organised by the university as an additional form of further education, primarily upon the request by the SVFA, the CVS, or other companies and institutions falling within the competency of the MARD. They are mostly education events lasting for one or two days, organised at the university as well as out of the university, while using, among other facilities, also the dedicated facilities of the University Farm in Zemplínska Teplica. Some education activities are organised in regular intervals and have their traditions, and the fact that they are attended by interested persons confirms the topicality of the presented issues and the level of organizing thereof.

In previous years, education activities organised by the UVMP in Košice were focused on problems related to current health of farm animals, pet animals, horses and poultry, on the issues related to dermatology, haematology, food quality and safety, nutrition of animals, infectious and parasitic diseases, laboratory diagnostics, economic aspects of farm animals breeding, breeding and diseases of wild animals, and current issues regarding animal pathology. The main workplaces regularly participating on the above listed activities are: Department of Nutrition, Dietetics and Feed Production, Department of Hygiene and Food Industry Technology, Department of Epizootiology and Parasitology, Department of Pathological Anatomy and Pathological Physiology, Small Animal Clinic, Clinic of Horses, Clinic of Ruminants, and Clinic of Birds, Exotic and Free Living Animals. Activities within the continuing education are published at the university's website through links to conferences-seminars.

UVMP has accredited three education activities for further education – swine caretaker (accreditation number 2000/3673/2005/163/1), nutrition and production health of animals (accreditation number 2000/2007/387/1), and safe application of preparations for protection of plants or other preparations (accreditation number 2000/2008/402/1). These education activities are performed by university employees upon the demand by the agricultural and breeding practice. Graduates from these education activities receive the certificate after the final exam. The list of executed education activities at UVMP in Košice in years 2013 and 2014 is presented in Annex 7.1.

Continuing Education Activities Organised by the Chamber of Veterinary Surgeons of the SR

The CVS is the self-governing professional association of veterinary surgeons who perform private veterinary activities and services in the Slovak Republic. Socially the most important roles of the CVS include also the education of their members in order to contribute to maintain and enhance professional competency of the members and the expertise level of veterinary care. One of the main obligations of private veterinary surgeons, members of the CVS, is, pursuant to the Act No. 442/2004 on

Private Veterinary Surgeons and on the CVS, also to enhance their professional education within the periods and in the manner specified by the CVS. This obligation is laid down in the Articles of the CVS in the Education Order section. A private veterinary surgeon is obliged to obtain, within the period of three years, 300 points at education events specified by the CVS. This education has two forms, a passive form – participation in lectures, seminars, congresses, conferences, courses, workshops, etc., and an active form – in form of presentations of case reports, publishing scientific articles, translations, lecturing, traineeships, etc. Every year, the CVS prepares the list of education events for the following calendar year in form of the so-called *Calendarium*, which is available at the Chamber's website (<http://www.kvlrs.sk>). *Calendarium* is updated and supplemented throughout the year with newly introduced education programmes. Every year, university scientists and teachers with various specialties, working mainly at the university's clinics, attend several events, depending on animal species and selected topics of presentations. Topics of individual education activities are determined on the basis of requirements resulting from the current health situation in individual animal species on the national and supranational level, as well as from regular analyses performed by regional chambers of private veterinary surgeons among veterinary doctors after completion of individual education cycles. These requirements are summarised by the CVS and subsequently consulted at joint sessions within the planning of the *Calendarium* of Education Events every year. The topics included in the *Calendarium* of Education Events of the CVS in 2014 are listed in Annex 7.2.

On the level of the CVS, the assessments are carried out within regional organisations and subsequently at the sessions of the Chamber's presidium.

Continuing Education Activities Organised by the Institute of Postgraduate Education of Veterinary Surgeons

The IPEVS is the state allowance organization established by the MARD. Its primary public-service task is the development of human resources in the agricultural sector, with the emphasis on the life-long education of employees of organisations of the SVFA. The IPEVS has a national competency and is the only organization of this specialisation in Slovakia with the continuous tradition of postgraduate education since 1958. The IPEVS, being the sectoral educational organization, provides the comprehensive organization of life-long education of veterinary surgeons performing official veterinary activities, other employees of the veterinary administration authorities, and employees of official veterinary laboratories.

With regard to the aforesaid, the mission of the organization is based primarily on the following:

- national and European concepts, strategies, and legislative documents (the Slovak Government's Statement of Policy, Life-Long Education Strategy in the SR, European legislation regarding the continuing professional development of human resources and others),
- conceptual documents of the agricultural sector - mainly the Strategy for Education in the Agricultural Sector,
- the concept of life-long education of veterinary administration authorities.

From the point of view of the life-long education of veterinary surgeons performing official veterinary activities, probably the most important education is currently the annual mandatory education of all official veterinary surgeons (as specified in Article 5 of the Regulation (EC) No. 854/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Annex I, Chapter IV A) and annual mandatory education of all official veterinary assistants (as specified in Article 5 of the Regulation (EC) No. 854/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council, Annex I, Chapter IV B). Pursuant to the Act No. 39/2007 Coll. on Veterinary Care, as amended (hereinafter referred to as „Act on Veterinary Care“) and within its statute, the IPEVS organises the life-long education of veterinary surgeons performing official veterinary activities and other employees of veterinary administration authorities and official veterinary laboratories primarily by means of the National Education Program segmented according to specialised activities of the SVFA in the following areas:

- animal health and protection,
- foreign relations, import and export,
- hygiene of feeds, ecology and veterinary pharmacy,

- hygiene of products of animal origin,
- hygiene of materials and food of plant origin,
- market organization,
- laboratory diagnostics, fast warning system and certification.

In compliance with the Decree of the Ministry of Agriculture of the SR No. 480/2007, specifying the details on postgraduate education of veterinary surgeons and further education of employees of veterinary administration authorities and official veterinary laboratories, the IPEVS organises also the preparation for attestation for veterinary surgeons and graduates of other universities to achieve the attestation of grades 1 and 2 as well as attestation exams to achieve the attestation of grades 1 and 2. Within this form of life-long education, teachers of UVMP in Košice, particularly trainers, opponents, members of examining committees and lecturers actively participate in these courses.

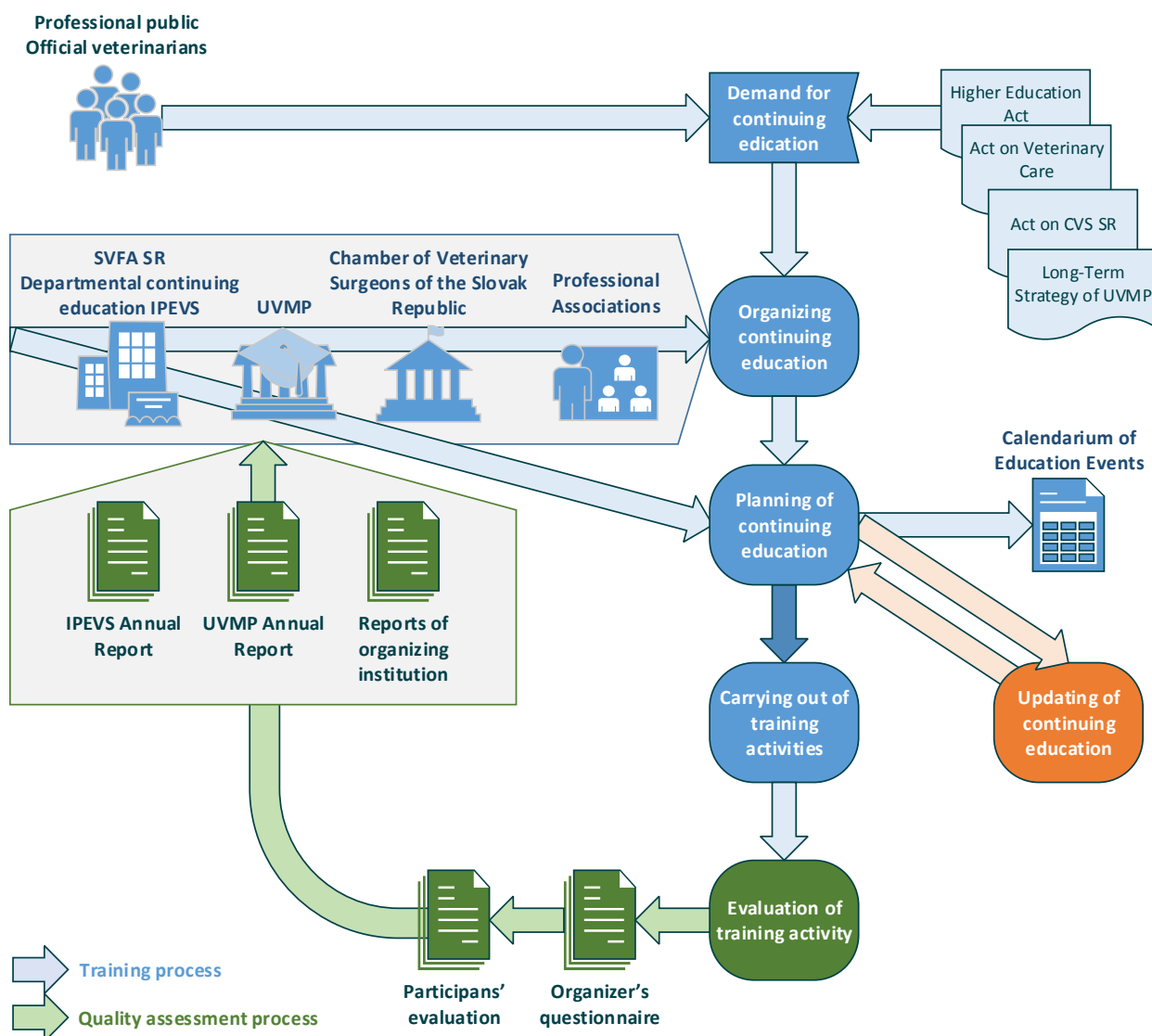
Life-long education of veterinary surgeons performing official veterinary activities and other employees of veterinary administration authorities and official veterinary laboratories is carried out, in a broader context, also by means of the following education activities:

- education of heads of service offices, (veterinary surgeon)
- education of employees of official veterinary laboratories – state veterinary and food institutes and the state veterinary institute,
- education in the field of sensory evaluation of food,
- education activities aimed at achievement of the professional competency,
- publishing activities – publisher of the Slovak Veterinary Journal and edition of the *Historia Medicinae Veterinariae*.

The IPEVS has seven accredited education programmes. The list of accredited programmes and activities in the field of continuing education is published on the Institute's website <http://www.ivvl.sk>. In order to fulfil their objectives, the Institute performs their activities also in coordination with sectoral education institutions, including UVMP in Košice. Topics of education activities organised by the IPEVS in 2014 are listed in Annex 7.3.

A written method of evaluation in form of a questionnaire is carried out in the IPEVS, examining the overall satisfaction with a lecturer as well as the presentation of the topic, using new knowledge in practice, etc. These analyses are annually evaluated also in annual reports of the IPEVS. Every year, all the education activities performed by the IPEVS are statistically processed into the Further Education Statement for the MARD.

Scheme 7.1 Continuing education in the Slovak Republic and at UVMP on Košice (AP 9)



7.2 COMMENTS

Continuing education development within the veterinary profession is connected to the accession of the SR to the EU and the ongoing process of creating the European Higher Education Area. Continuing education of veterinary surgeons, veterinary professionals and other persons working in the agricultural sector is carried out in the SR by the IPEVS, which is the sectoral education institution of the MARD governed by the SVFA. Continuing education for private veterinary surgeons is ensured mainly by their professional organization – the CVS and the UVMP in Košice and its employees participating in the continuing education process by active teaching or preparation of the contents of individual education forms. Agendas and topics of continuing education are planned in advance and coordinated at the joint meeting of individual stakeholders and presented on the website in the Calendarium of Education Events. These activities are updated according to the demand arising from the practice, national and European legislative standards, and new knowledge regarding the veterinary medicine in various areas of veterinary practice.

Every year, continuing education topics regularly include all animal species in various areas of health-related issues and diagnostics specialisations and measured of the veterinary profession. Continuing education is mostly carried out in form of lectures, seminars, courses and workshops. An important form of continuing education is an active contribution by veterinary surgeons represented by articles published

in scientific journals, or their engagement in lecturing activities including the presentation of their own findings from different veterinary areas. They have possibility to publish their contributions in three veterinary journals – the Slovak Veterinary Journal, Infovet, and the CVS Newsletter, which are available to veterinary surgeons in printed and online form. These journals thus significantly contribute to the continuing education in the field of veterinary profession. Regular correspondents of these journals include also teachers and scientists of UVMP. Important education activities, in terms of number of participants, range of topics, as well as active participation and engagement by our university staff in these activities, include 3 important events, regularly organised each year, such as New Veterinaria, congress of the CVS, and pre-session seminar of the CVS. UVMP representatives actively participating in the continuing education are mainly employees of clinics and departments dealing with specific animal health aspects (e.g. infectious and parasitic diseases, specific diagnostic workplaces, etc.).

Quality of continuing education is guaranteed by the selection of specialists in the given science branches from the UVMP in Košice, external veterinary and non-veterinary institutions. Close cooperation and guarantee of the quality assurance is also based on agreements concluded with the SVFA and the CVS. Quality of performed education programmes is ensured also by participation of many foreign lecturers from veterinary universities, experts from practice, and specialized workplaces. Quality assessment with regard to the organised education activities and the analysis of satisfaction among participants with these education activities is carried out in individual participating institutions.

7.3 SUGGESTIONS

With regard to the fact that continuing education of veterinary surgeons, veterinary professionals and other persons working in the agricultural sector is organised by the IPEVS, the university should pay more attention to the continuing education, especially of private veterinary surgeons from the CVS, in the field of veterinary medicine and food hygiene, in which the university's role is irreplaceable due to its facilities and equipment. It will be necessary to increase the engagement level of young colleagues dealing with various areas of the above mentioned specialised diagnostic procedures in the postgraduate education.

The possibility of joint preparation of e-learning education programmes and the offer of this form of distance education will be the university's intention for further period for the purpose of more intensive use of new forms of education and provision of opportunities to more practical veterinary surgeons to engage in the continuing education. To ensure the opportunity to increase the quantity of activities and quality of organizing of continuing education in the university, it would be necessary to create a special team, or the department within the department of educational activities of the university, which would be focused on this line of activity.

It will be necessary to use, in higher extent, the feedback on the quality of continuing education based on the responses of participants. Data on education satisfaction using evaluation questionnaires should be collected after the completion of individual education events.

Chapter 8. RESEARCH ASSESSMENT (AP 10)

The institution should describe the system of quality assurance it possesses to develop and maintain and audit research programmes. Of particular interest is how research provides opportunities for student training, staff promotion, how research methods and results are conveyed into basic veterinary training and to what extent bibliometric methods are applied.

A list of publications of year n (prior to evaluation) and year n-1 should be added to the SER 2, supplemented with the respective bibliometric data. Following implementation and adoption of Stage two (2) evaluation, information on year n-2 will be required.

8.1 FACTUAL INFORMATION

In order to ensure maintaining and development of research programmes as well as performance of audits of these programmes, UVMP in Košice has implemented the quality assessment system. Within this system, the Scientific Board of UVMP in Košice (SB) approved the focus of scientific and research activities for a longer period of time within the Long-Term Strategic Plan of the university for years 2012 – 2017. Results of scientific and research activities are annually statistically evaluated by the Vice-Rector for Scientific and Research Activities and Foreign Contacts. These are subject to the SB discussions and on the basis of the SWOT analysis results the tasks are determined for the scientific and research field to be carried out in the upcoming period. In compliance with this policy, the management of UVMP in Košice approves projects that apply for the funds required for the execution thereof from the grant agencies. At present, they include the following agencies – the Slovak Research and Development Agency (SRDA), the Scientific Grant Agency VEGA (SGA), and the Cultural and Educational Grant Agency (CEGA).

Within the performed grant projects, university students play an irreplaceable role, as during their participation in performance of these projects they obtain experience with the scientific and research activities interconnected with the education process and also achieve results they subsequently present in their final theses (bachelor, diploma, and dissertation theses).

Specialisation of scientific and research activities

UVMP in Košice develops, preserves, and spreads the knowledge by means of scientific, research, and development activities. They were divided into four areas – 12 chemistry, chemical technology and biotechnologies; 13 life sciences; 18 medical, pharmaceutical, and non-medical sciences, and 20 veterinary sciences.

Scientific and research activities of UVMP in Košice comply with the Long-term Objective of the State Science and Technology Policy for the period until 2015. They are focused on the following areas:

- health and diseases of food-producing animals, in terms of application of genomics, proteomics, metabolomics (medicine in its triunity relation – diagnostics, therapy, and prevention),
- application of procedures of molecular biology to define predispositions for diseases and for production of safe food products,
- environment quality, in terms of ensuring animal and human health,
- individual differences in responses to medications and development of new medications within pharmacogenomics – pharmacogenetic and toxicological interactions, polymorphisms in metabolism of medications, experimental clinical pharmacogenetic models.

Finances received for the research from the grant agencies funds

As for the finances, the scientific and research activities of UVMP in Košice are organised as the grant research. UVMP in Košice performs research projects, for which it received finances from tenders of grant agencies APVV, SGA, and CEGA. The list of individual projects for years 2011 – 2014 and received funds for the execution thereof is presented in Annex 8.1. UVMP in Košice actively participates also in projects financed by the Agency of the MESRS for Structural Funds of the European Union (ASFEU) within the Operational Programme called Research and Development and the Operational

Programme called Education (Annex 8.2). The complete list of amounts received for research from grants for years 2012 – 2014 is presented in Table 8.1.

Scheme 8.1 Assessment of research at UVMP in Košice (AP 10)

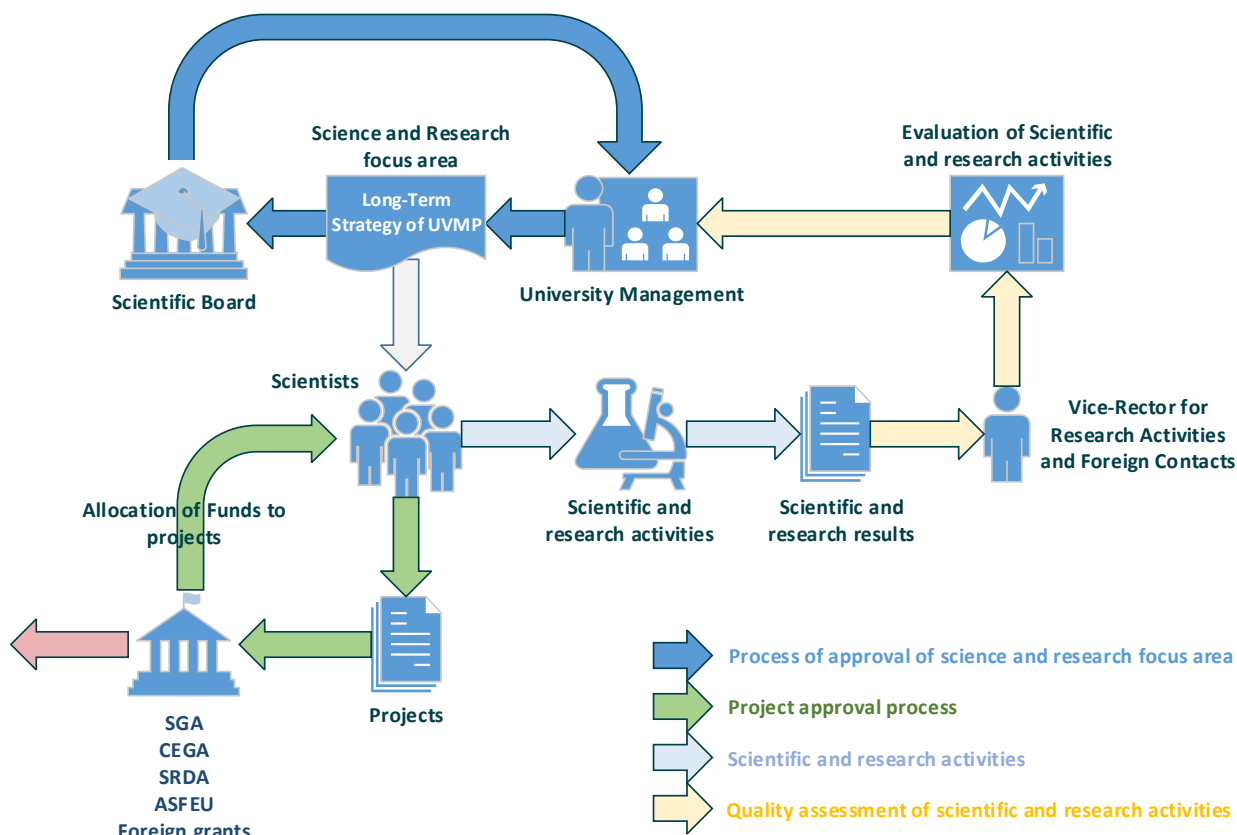


Table 8.1: Funds received for research in years 2012 – 2014 (in thousands of €)

Funds providers	2012		2013		2014		Total
	CuE	CaE	CuE	CaE	CuE	CaE	
SGA	205.4	0	167.5	0	126.1	0	499.0
CEGA	383.3	87.9	447.5	67.8	421.6	0	1408.2
SRDA	475.5	0	414.8	0	354.7	0	1245.0
Foreign grants	195.2	16.5	330.0		444.7		986.4
Total	1347.1	0	1359.8	67.8	1259.4	104.4	4138.6

CuE – current expenditure
CaE – capital expenditure

List of publications and evaluation of research success

Results of scientific and research activities are published in scientific and professional journals, in books and monographs, in scientific conference proceedings, and other publication outputs. The evaluation of the quantity of publications by categories of publication activities for years 2013 – 2014 and the comparison thereof are presented in Table 8.2.

Table 8.2: Evaluation of the quantity of publications by categories of publication activities in years 2013 – 2014 and the comparison thereof

Category of publication activities	2013	2014	Index 2014/2013
AAB – Scientific monographs published by national publishers	4	9	2.25
ABC – Chapters in scientific monographs published by foreign publishers	17	2	0.12
ACB – University textbooks published by national publishers	27	14	0.52
ADC – Scientific papers in foreign current journals	60	79	1.31
ADD – Scientific papers in national current journals	9	5	0.56
ADE – Scientific papers in other foreign journals	13	7	0.54
ADF – Scientific papers in other national journals	46	50	1.09
ADM – Scientific papers in foreign journals registered in the Web of Science or Scopus databases	8	13	1.63
ADN - Scientific papers in national journals registered in the Web of Science or Scopus databases	1	3	3.00
AEC – Scientific papers in foreign reviewed scientific year-books, monographs	2	2	1.00
AED - Scientific papers in national reviewed scientific year-books, monographs	16	16	1.00
AFA – Published requested articles at foreign scientific conferences	1	2	2.00
AFC - Published articles at foreign scientific conferences	80	34	0.43
AFD - Published articles at national scientific conferences	103	253	2.46
AFE – Abstracts from requested articles from foreign conferences	0	4	-
AFG – Abstracts of articles from foreign conferences	74	61	0.82
AFH – Abstracts of articles from national conferences	171	133	0.78
AFK – Posters from foreign conferences	0	4	-
AFL – Posters from national conferences	0	6	-
AGJ – Certificates of authorship, patents, discoveries	1	4	4.00
BAA – Scientific monographs published by foreign publishers	3	1	0.33
BAB - Scientific monographs published by national publishers	5	0	-
BBA – Chapters in scientific monographs published by foreign publishers	0	1	-
BCB – Textbooks for primary and secondary schools	1	0	-
BCI – University textbooks and education texts	27	24	0.89
BDE – Scientific papers in other foreign journals	9	11	1.22
BDF – Scientific papers in other national journals	97	104	1.07
BEE - Scientific papers in foreign non-reviewed year-books (conference and non-conference)	17	10	0.58
BEF - Scientific papers in national non-reviewed year-books (conference and non-conference)	56	16	0.28
BFA – Abstracts of scientific papers from foreign events (conf...)	29	26	0.89
BFB – Abstracts of scientific papers from national events (conf...)	15	10	0.66
DAI – Dissertation and habilitation theses	329	367	1.11
EAJ – Professional translations of publications	0	1	-
FAI – Editing and compilation papers of a book nature (bibliographies, encyclopaedias, catalogues, dictionaries, year-books ...)	7	9	1.28
GHG – Papers published on the Internet	4	0	-
GII – Various publications that cannot be included in any of the categories above	10	6	0.60
Total	1242	1287	1.04

Similarly, citations from these papers are evaluated (Table 8.3). Results of scientific and research activities achieved by individual employees, as well as summarily for the university, are evaluated by means of evaluation of publication activities and number of citations always for the previous calendar year.

Table 8.3: Evaluation of the citation category for years 2013 – 2014 and the comparison thereof

Citation category	2013	2014	Index
Citations in foreign publications, registered in citation indexes of the Web of Science and the SCOPUS database	1,026	977	0,95
Citations in national publications, registered in citation indexes of the Web of Science and the SCOPUS database	14	16	1,14
Citations in foreign publications not registered in citation indexes	94	97	1,04
Citations in national publications not registered in citation indexes	42	114	2,71
Total	1,176	1,204	1,02

On the basis of the achieved results that are presented in the Annual Report of UVMP in Košice, conclusions are drawn for the purpose of increasing the quality of the scientific and research activities performed at the university. Conclusions and determined tasks for the upcoming period are communicated to individual teachers, scientists and researchers, who subsequently fulfil them within their creative activities.

The list of selected publications for years 2013 – 2014 supplemented with the related citations is presented in v Annex 8.3.

Engagement of students in research activities

Students of UVMP in Košice in their pre-gradual study are engaged in scientific and research work at departments, institutes, and clinics, where they deal with specific tasks of scientific and research activities under the supervision of experienced scientists and teachers. They present the achieved results at the conference referred to as the Student Scientific and Professional Activities, and especially within the defence of their bachelor and diploma theses (Annexes 1.1 and 1.2).

An integral part of the scientific and research activities at UVMP in Košice is the participation of PhD students in the performance of particular grant scientific and research projects. The list and quantity of defended dissertation theses in individual study programmes is presented in Table 8. 4.

Table 8.4: Quantity of defended dissertation theses at UVMP in Košice for years 2010 – 2014

Study program	Defence year					Total
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
Biochemistry	0	0	0	1	0	1
Microbiology	4	1	0	3	1	9
Virology	0	1	0	0	1	2
Immunology	4	0	6	4	0	14
Food Hygiene	9	4	2	1	3	19
Veterinary Morphology and Physiology	10	6	4	4	7	31
Internal diseases of ruminants and swines	1	1	1	0	1	4
Internal diseases of horses, small animals, and poultry			1			1
Veterinary surgery, orthopaedics, and radiology	2	1	2	4	1	10
Veterinary obstetrics and gynaecology	2	1	2	1	0	6
Infectious diseases of animals	4	1	2	2	0	9
Parasitic diseases of animals	1	5	4	2	6	18
Forensic and public veterinary medicine	1	0	1	0	0	2

Nutrition of animals and dietetics	3	0	0	1	1	5
Animal breeding hygiene and the environment	1	2	1	4	1	9
Total	42	23	26	27	22	140

The list of defended dissertation theses for years 2010 – 2014 at UVMP in Košice by individual study programmes is presented in Annex 8.4.

8.2 COMMENTS

UVMP in Košice has defined fundamental segments of the scientific and research activities, such as the segment of non-infectious diseases of farm and pet animals, infectious and parasitic diseases of farm and pet animals, environment creation and protection, food hygiene and food safety and the institutional coverage. UVMP in Košice is incorporated in the university scientific park. Existence of centres of excellence established while using the finances from the Structural Funds for the construction and improvement of the research infrastructure from the Operational Programme called Research and Development facilitates the maintaining and development of scientific and research activities in individual research areas at the university. UVMP in Košice is relatively successful in winning grants from national grant agencies through creative employees of the university. Scientific events organised by UVMP in Košice are internationally accepted. Results of the research are regularly evaluated and presented. Priority of the scientific and research work at the university with the active contribution of individual project teams are clearly defined and the fulfilment thereof is evaluated at all levels of management. Excellent conditions are created for the student engagement in the scientific and research work interconnected with the education process. The field of scientific and research work is significantly contributed to by the cooperation with the institutes of the Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS).

8.3 SUGGESTIONS

In order to maintain or further develop the scientific and research activities at UVMP in Košice in the upcoming period, particularly the following measures will be required:

1. Engage in the performance of grant tasks within the EU research programmes in cooperation among workplaces and on the basis of bilateral agreements with scientific workplaces of the SAS.
2. Respond to the calls for project proposals under the Horizon 2020 programme.
3. Continue with the creation of conditions facilitating that UVMP in Košice is one of the main centres of research within the state programme of development of infrastructure for the research and development – life quality area – based on its own scientific capacities within the veterinary medicine, food hygiene and pharmacy.
4. Create, in compliance with the defined basic areas of the scientific and research activities, larger teams led by respected personalities, who would be carriers of top-class research and the capacity for foreign cooperation (partners for Horizon 2020). Within thereof, it is necessary to determine strategic objectives and evaluate the fulfilment thereof.
5. Create conditions for the engagement of research teams, especially centres of excellence, in the drawing of EU Structural Funds in the field of basic and applied research within the construction of university scientific parks.
6. Systematically search for the possibilities how to finance science, regularly publish the invitations, and update the information on the website, which will, together with other steps, create the conditions for higher grant success rate in national and international grant agencies.
7. Actively support and motivate young creative employees also by means of internal grant agency or the rector's price for remarkable contribution in the field of research.
8. Motivate the increase of publication activities by creative employees of the university by financial and moral appraisal.
9. Essentially improve the insufficient financing of science in the community-wide extent.
10. Support the enhancement of the equipments available in laboratories, clinical and pharmaceutical workplaces by procuring unique equipments.
11. Build an experimental animal quarters, or other pre-clinical and clinical experimental background for biomedical research.

Chapter 9. ASSESSMENT OF INTERNATIONALISATION OF EDUCATION AND RESEARCH (AP 11)

The institution should describe the system it possesses to promote and assess the development of international postgraduate education and of co-operating research projects with other countries, including developing countries (see also Chapter 2). Of particular importance is the description of the measures of encouragement applied to engage veterinary students and newly graduated in international mobility of training (e.g. EU programmes such as Erasmus, Socrates, Tempus, Marie).

9.1 FACTUAL INFORMATION

UVMP in Košice regards the internationalization of education and research to be the strategic area, maintaining and development of which are included in the Long-Term Strategic Plan of UVMP in Košice for years 2012 – 2017. The fact that UVMP in Košice is the only university in the SR providing the study in the field of veterinary medicine is the determinant of international cooperation. Activities in the field of education related to foreign countries are organized by the Vice-Rector for Foreign Studies and in the field of research by the Vice-Rector for Science, Research, and Foreign Contacts.

UVMP in Košice is regarded as internationalized since 1993, when the education of the GVM study programme began in the English language. Subsequently, in 1996, the university successfully engaged in the evaluation process and since 1997 it is enlisted in the EAEVE List of Visited and Approved Establishments.

At present, UVMP in Košice has accredited, in addition to the GVM study programme, also the JBPAS, which has been performed since 2010 in cooperation with UiN in Bodø (Norway). All 17 study programmes for doctoral study are also offered also for the study in English language.

UVMP in Košice management (rector, vice-rectors and the bursar) is regularly dealing with issues of international relationships and the development of internationalization in the field of education and research. Results achieved in this field are subjected to the quality assessment system at the meetings of the Scientific Board. Assessment of the given areas is also a part of the Annual Report on UVMP activities. Within the execution of education and research internationalization, great attention is paid to the fulfilment and improvement of conditions related to the international evaluation, with mobilities of students and academic staff, as well as maintaining and enhancing international cooperation with European universities and European veterinary organizations.

UVMP in Košice enables also research and scientific visits for post-doctoral candidates and scientific staff, which are performed using the European Union funds. The list of these activities for years 2010 – 2014 is presented in Table 9.1.

Table 9.1: List of research and scientific fellowships at UVMP in Košice in years 2010 – 2014

Project	Name	Topic	Country	Date
Bilateral project Slovakia- Russia – APVV SK-RU-0013	Anastasia Rozhdestvenskaya, MSc.	Sak188/189 two component system dependent transcriptional regulation in <i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	Russia	09/10/2010-09/12/2010
Bilateral project Slovakia- Russia – APVV SK-RU-0013	Alexander Dimitriev, DrSc.	Sak188/189 two component system dependent transcriptional regulation in <i>Streptococcus agalactiae</i>	Russia	02/02/2011-12/02/2011
Post-doctoral fellowship - SAIA	Miklós Gyuranecz, DVM, PhD.	Phenotypic and genotypic characterisation of atypical <i>Brucella ovis</i> and <i>Francisella</i> -like endosymbionts	Hungary	01/02/2012-30/11/2012
STSM-European Science Foundation	Mark Braceland, MSc.	Production of SAA protein in <i>Leishmania</i> expression system	Glasgow UK	06/09/2012-18/10/2012

FA1002				
SAIA doctoral exchange fellowship	Zsuzsa Kreizinger, MSc.	Interaction between Francisella and complement factor H	Hungary	02/06/2013-31/08/2013
Bilateral project – APVV SK-PT 0014-10	Professor Ana Varela Coelho, PhD.	Study of complement evasion strategies used by Borrelia and Francisella	Portugal	10/12/2012-22/12/2012
Bilateral project – APVV SK-PT 0014-10	Professor Andre Almeida, PhD.	Study of complement evasion strategies used by Borrelia and Francisella	Portugal	10/12/2012-22/12/2012
Post-doctoral fellowship - SAIA	Satheesh Natarajan, MSc. PhD.	Assessment of the role of Outer surface protein (OspA) of Borrelia in the immune reaction of CSF (cerebrospinal fluid) in rat model.	India	01/02/2012-31/01/2013
Spanish fellowship for doctoral exchange	Maria-Carmen Aguilar, MSc. PhD	Identifying interactions between host and pathogen at the molecular level	Spain	07/10/2013-22/12/2013 01/06/2014-31/09/2014
Bilateral project – APVV SK-PT 2013-0031	Valerie Pinarello	Production and identification of the receptor for outer membrane proteins OMPtt of E. ruminantium	Guadeloupe Carrabin islands of France	22/11/2014-04/12/2014

UVMP in Košice is engaged in mobility education programmes that enable students and academic staff to obtain new study, scientific, and professional experience from foreign workplaces and also enable foreign students and academic staff to engage in fellowships at UVMP in Košice. This facilitates exchange of experience and knowledge in the field of veterinary medicine as well as establishing new contacts and cooperation. For the above specified purposes, the ERASMUS programme is most intensively used. Within this programme, students attend a one-term or year-long stay, during which they must obtain the determined ECTS credits. The list of exchange fellowships within the ERASMUS programme for the period of 2010 - 2014 is presented in Table 9.2.

Table 9.2: List of exchange fellowships within the ERASMUS programme for years 2010 – 2014

Academic year	Academic staff		Students	
	Seconded	Admitted	Seconded	Admitted
2010-2011	4	5	27	23
2011-2012	3	7	22	22
2012-2013	8	4	19	30
2013-2014	5	8	31	23
Total	20	24	99	98

The CEEPUS programme of short-term research fellowships is rather little used. During the evaluated period, activities within this programme mostly included student exchange with the University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences in Brno, Veterinary Faculty in Sarajevo, and the Faculty of Veterinary Science in Wroclaw. These international exchange visits are carried out either individually or by means of the SAIA (Slovak Academic Information Agency), or under bilateral agreements. Students interested in a mobility education programme have to submit an application including a motivation essay and then pass an interview with a three-member committee which assigns score points to their activities and, depending on the total score of received points, the rating sequence is determined. Students with excellent results can choose a destination. After they return, they must submit a record of study and obtain

the prescribed ECTS credits. Similarly, academic staff elaborates a detailed study programme and after they return, they must submit a detailed report on their activities, including the documents certifying results of their stay and a certificate issued by the admitting institution on the fulfilment of the given programme. The list of exchange stays within the CEEPUS programme for the period of 2010 – 2014 is presented in Table 9.3.

Table 9.3: List of exchange stays within the CEEPUS for years 2010 – 2014

		Academic year				
		2014/2015	2013/2014	2012/2013	2011/2012	2010/2011
Seconded	Number of persons	1	1	1	7	2
	Number of months	1	1	1	7	2
Admitted	Number of persons	2	1	2	2	0
	Number of months	2	1	2	2	0

Within international projects, UVMP in Košice engages in organising international conferences. One of the conferences of the European importance was held within the COST Action FA 1002 programme in Košice on 25 – 26 April 2013, under the name *Farm Animal Proteomics 2013*. On the other hand, many academic employees actively participate in congresses, conferences, and workshops of global and European importance.

UVMP in Košice is a member of several international organisations, as a SR representative. UVMP in Košice has a significant and irreplaceable role in the field of veterinary education also from the international point of view, with regard to cooperation also with other veterinary universities abroad. Cooperation with other universities is carried out within the active membership of the university in the following global and national associations – the World Veterinary Association (WVA), EAEVE, Veterinary Network of European Student and Staff Transfer (VetNEST), the Wild Animals Vigilance Euromediterranean Society (WAVES), the Association of Carpathian Region Universities (ACRU) and the Slovak Academic Association for International Cooperation (SAAIC).

We regard as the most important cooperation to be the cooperation with veterinary schools within the EAEVE and the VetNEST, primarily with the University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences in Brno, the Faculty of Veterinary Science of the Szent István University in Budapest, the Veterinary Faculty in Ljubljana, the University of Veterinary Medicine in Wien, the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in Wrocław and the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in Zagreb.

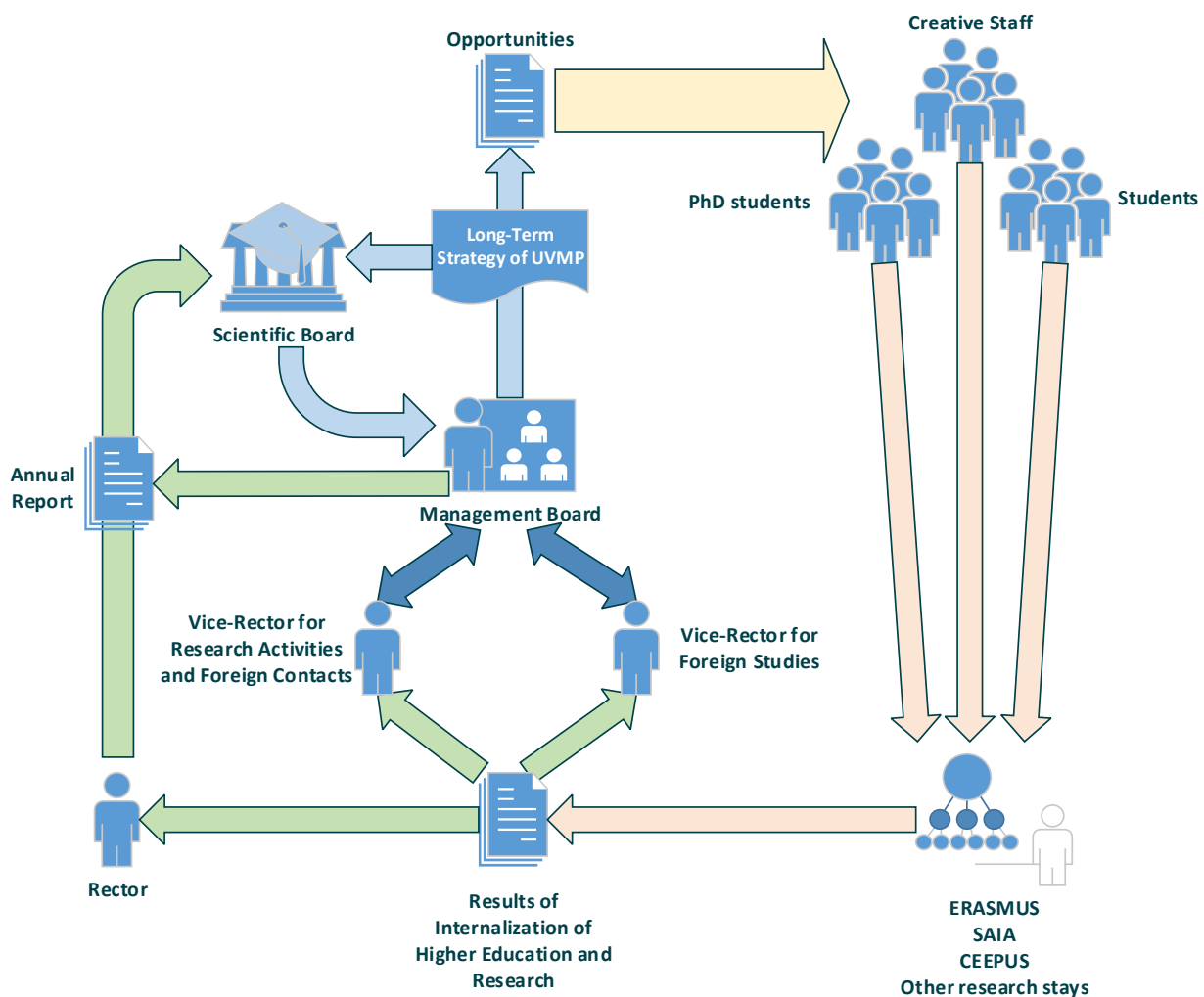
The VetNest is the international network of veterinary schools established in 1993. The VetNest members include the University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences in Brno (Czech Republic), University of Veterinary Medicine in Wien (Austria), the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in Wrocław (Poland), the Faculty of Veterinary Science in Budapest (Hungary), the Veterinary Faculty Ljubljana (Slovenia), the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in Zagreb (Croatia), and UVMP in Košice. Observers include the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in Skopje (Macedonia) and the Veterinary Faculty in Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina). The main mission of the VetNest is mutual communication between universities, exchange of experience in the field of education and scientific and research process, as well as support of mobilities within the CEEPUS programme. Representatives of schools annually meet and discuss the relevant agenda. Until 13 November 2014, the president of the VetNest was the former rector of UVMP in Košice, professor MVDr. Emil Pilipčinec, PhD., and the general secretary was the current rector of UVMP in Košice, professor MVDr. Jana Mojžišová, PhD.

The ACRU is an international association of higher education institutions of various specialisations from Slovakia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Serbia, and Ukraine. Sixteen universities from five countries of the Carpathian Region (excluding Ukraine) established this association in 1994 with the objective to support and develop the cooperation between member universities in this region and with the education institutions all over the world. At present, the ACRU has 24 members and also other universities have applied for the membership, especially from Ukraine. The association is registered in Slovakia as a non-profit organization and its registered office is identical to the address of UVMP in Košice. The main task of the ACRU is to enhance academic, scientific, and cultural cooperation between members of the association, which are often interconnected by, among others, common historical and cultural development in this region. The objective is also the coordination of various activities in the field of

international relationships between universities, in the field of transfer of information and knowledge, as well as exchange and support of contacts between member universities and third-party stakeholders especially in the field of mobilities. The ACRU is also focused on the promotion of social, education, and technological progress of the neighbouring countries. The ACRU membership is not limited only to the Carpathian Region; the association is also open for universities from other regions. The general secretary of this international organization is the rector of UVMP in Košice, Professor MVDr. Jana Mojžišová, PhD.

UVMP in Košice has concluded permanent bilateral agreements with 28 universities and science institutions abroad. UVMP in Košice has signed amendments to the agreements on cooperation with the Uzhgorod National University (Ukraine) and the Moscow State Academy of Veterinary Medicine and Biotechnology named after K.I. Scriabin (Russian Federation). It is the cooperation in the field of science and research, pedagogy, and exchange of experts between both universities. The list of agreements concluded by UVMP in Košice in the field of international cooperation is presented in Annex 9.1.

Scheme 9.1 Assessment of internationalisation of education and research (AP 11)



9.2 COMMENTS

UVMP in Košice has taken quality measures regarding the fundamental fields of the internationalization of education and research:

- by fulfilment and improvement of requirements related to the international evaluation,
- by scientific, material, and personnel arrangements to ensure the education of foreign study students,
- by a well-prepared system of student mobilities and academic staff mobilities
- by maintaining and extending of international cooperation with European universities and veterinary organisations – the university is the member of the EAEVE – the European

Association of Establishments for Veterinary Education, the VetNEST – the Veterinary Network of Students Staff Transfer, ACRU, whereas the current registered office of the ACRU is at UVMP,

- by participation in international scientific projects,
- by regular evaluation of international relationships on the level of university management (Rector, vice-rectors, rector's Collegium), on the levels of the university's Scientific Board, Administrative Board, and Academic Senate within the Quality Assessment System for veterinary education.

9.3 SUGGESTIONS

1. Continue with the support of active engagement in international organizations (EAEVE, FVE, VetNEST, WSAVA, ACRU, VUA, SAAIC).
2. Apply for the membership in the European University Association (EUA).
3. Increase the engagement in the participation in grants within the EU scientific programmes in cooperation with foreign universities, actively search for strategic partners.
4. Create conditions for engagement of employees in the process of the European Board of Veterinary Specialisation (EBVS).

Chapter 10. ASSESSMENT OF COOPERATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS AND SOCIETY (AP 12)

The institution should provide proof that it regularly publishes up to date, objective and accurate information, both quantitative and qualitative, about the study programme. This information should be readily accessible and should not be used simply as a marketing opportunity. The institution should describe to what extent it meets its own expectations. Published information might also include the views and employment destinations of past students and the profile of the current student population. Is there an alumnus association and how does the Faculty maintain communication with former students?

10.1 FACTUAL INFORMATION

FACTUAL INFORMATION – UVMP IN KOŠICE

Communication and sharing of the up-to-date information represents an integral part of the cooperation within the university (management and employees, employees with each other, teachers and students) as well as out of the university (university and authorities, university and professionally related organizations, university and community, university and its graduates, university and applicants for study).

UVMP in Košice uses all available methods of internal and external communication. In addition to various Internet and print media and organizing various events, the most accessible and the most important source of up-to-date information is particularly the university's website and newsletter called *Spravodajca UVLF v Košiciach*.

The website (<http://www.uvlf.sk>), including the Academic Information System (AIS), provides the information to employees and students, applicants for study, graduates, general public, and professionally related organizations (regarding upcoming conferences, expert events, and social events).

The website contains the latest information and announcements separately for employees and students, as well as all the important information on the history and presence of UVMP in Košice, its organizational structure, self-governing bodies, international programs, projects financed by Structural Funds, and other areas of the university life. The main page presents the interactive map of the campus, information on key telephone and e-mail contacts, staff in individual departments, institutes and clinics, surgeon's office hours in individual clinics and working hours of the university pharmacy. The main page also offers the access to the key documents published by the university (internal regulations, guidelines, advice); the law prescribes the obligation for the university to present habilitation and inauguration continuation and public procurement, purchase orders and invoices.

Significant space is devoted to the study as such. For applicants for study on all three study levels, the website presents study programmes and their curricula, all the information required for the admission procedure, admission criteria, forms, fees, information on preparation courses, for admitted applicants there is a determined schedule of studies and enrolment, and accommodation vacancies in dormitories.

During their studies, students of UVMP in Košice can use regularly updated information on the schedule of studies and enrolment, requirements regarding advancement to higher year of study, timetables of lessons, practicals and traineeships, information regarding study termination, requirements for qualifying for the social scholarship and accommodation, setting the student Wi-Fi network *UVLF-NET*, job offers for graduates, and they can also download all the necessary forms from the website.

The Facebook social network serves for the communication, initiation of friendships and sharing photographs and videos. Since 1 June 2015, UVMP in Košice has registered its official page on this social network and achieved more than 1,283 supporters (status as of 22 June 2015). Statistically, the published information is followed by more than 1,000 social network users. The objective of establishment of this means of communication is to provide updated information to university students, employees, graduates, and supporters about ongoing activities in all aspects of the university's mission.

In years 2012 – 2014, within several projects financed from Structural Funds, the university performed the renovation of information and communications technologies, which has brought, among others, a comprehensive reconstruction of the Pavilion 5; construction of the data centre; complete renovation of the optical network; installation of the Wi-Fi access for students in the university campus and in dormitories; transformation of the old server infrastructure into the modern, virtualization one; implementation of the new communication system Exchange; launch of the Cisco Telepresence

telecommunication system, identity management system, computers and data projectors equipments for auditoria, rooms for practicals, and library. Technological equipment thus achieves a high standard.

In addition to up-to-date information on the website, another information medium for the wide internal and external environment is the newsletter *Spravodajca UVLF in Košice*, a bimonthly published newsletter focused on the events at the university, which is distributed in the printed form to the university workplaces, to all universities in Slovakia, and to selected faculties in the Czech Republic, as well as to some institutes of the SAS, the SVFA offices and the CVS, members of the administrative board, and many former members of our academic community, and to those seniors who maintain active contacts with the university and have requested to receive the newsletter. Since 2008, the newsletter is also published in electronic form on the website of UVMP in Košice (<http://www.uvlf.sk/sk/spravodajca-uvlf-v-kosiciach>).

In 2010, publishing of the student magazine called Ardo was restored; it is an occasional magazine published with the support by UVMP in Košice, the CVS and the SPC (<http://www.uvlf.sk/sk/ardo-vytlacky>).

Moreover, UVMP in Košice has its representatives in the body of editors of the Slovak Veterinary Journal published by the SFA(<http://www.ivvl.sk/index.php?page=92>) and in the body of editors of the Newsletter of the CVS (<https://www.kvlsr.sk/oznamy-kvlsr:informacny-spravodajca:is-rok-2015>) containing regular columns devoted to the information from UVMP in Košice. And, vice versa, these organizations publish articles on their activities and planned events in the university's newsletter *Spravodajca UVLF v Košiciach*.

The website also contains the AIS (<https://ais2.uvlf.sk/ais/start.do>). On the main page, under the AIS icon, the information system for students as well as teachers is accessible. In the AIS, students register for exams and teachers record exam results. The AIS is accessible via a unique log-in name and password (Annex 10.1).

The AIS serves especially for registration of students and provides the information regarding their studies. Via the AIS, students choose their study subjects and compile their own study plans. Teachers and scientific employees enter also the topics of final thesis in the AIS, out of which students can choose and work on. Teachers offer dates of credits and exams only in the AIS and students register for them in the system. All the ratings related to a student's studies are registered and recorded in this system. In addition to the study records, the system provides students with the possibility to evaluate a teacher and a study subject every academic year and enables them to communicate with teachers or the study department.

In addition to the information from the website, at the beginning of each academic year every student receives a copy of the Organisation and Study Schedule Guidelines of the UVMP in Košice. Study schedule guidelines containing detailed information on the organizational structure, staff, study schedule, fees, study plans, and the Study Guidelines of UVMP in Košice – Internal Regulation no. 2. Students of first year receive the First-Year Handbook which makes their enrolment in the university easier.

In order to promote the university programmes and attract applicants for study, UVMP in Košice uses, together with marketing in the press (national and regional daily press, specialized annexes, guides – e.g. The Slovak Spectator), also the presentation on Slovak portals (Portal of Universities, Azet) and global portals (Study Portals - the global study choice platform to find and compare education). Internet portals significantly proved to be a good tool, as they are used by more than 80 % of the total number of internet users in the Slovak republic and they serve as a targeted form of promotion for particular applicants with instant feedback and online access to the statistics. Study programs are presented also via television programs in the regional television, on huge screens in the largest shopping centres in Košice, and on information screens in grammar schools.

In addition to media, a suitable form of presentation is represented by books about Košice which present also UVMP in Košice, colouring books for children in nursery and primary schools, as well as philatelic products (stamps, envelopes with prepaid stamps, occasional seal, Annex 10.2). Bulletins and other information and promotion materials (e.g. a painted map of Košice including the campus of UVMP in Košice) are regularly updated and accessible to general public.

UVMP in Košice organizes several regular events intended for specific applicants for study, at which the university study programs are presented. Every year, it participates in two large education fairs in Bratislava and in Košice, since 2015 also in Oslo, organizes Open Days for groups of Slovak and foreign students.

Internal communication is carried out via several channels. The fastest communication channel is the electronic mail that facilitates transmission of e-mails to selected groups of employees and students, or

to all of them simultaneously, as each employee and student has a unique e-mail address at the university server <http://uvlf.sk>. Vertical and horizontal communication is also performed via notice boards and bulletin-boards inside the buildings and in the campus, minutes from the meetings of departments and clinics that are sent to the Rector together with inquiries and requests addressed to the University Management, as well as personal letters. The university is obliged by law to publish annual reports on activities, annual reports on financial management, and annual reports on educational activities, which are sent to the MESRS; they must be published on the Internet and approved by the Academic Senate and the Administrative Board (<http://www.uvlf.sk/sk/dokumenty-uvlf/vyrocné-správy>). Once a year, at the beginning of each academic year, at the teachers meeting, all academic community members meet the University Management, where they are informed about the current tasks and objectives for a particular academic year, and within the unlimited discussion they can ask the management members about the issues they are interested in. The Rector makes use of a permanent advisory body – the Collegium, which is summoned by the Rector, as required, at least twice a term. The Rector's Collegium discusses important issues regarding the university activities and management, ensures communication of the information from the management to workplaces, and discusses and ensures fulfilment of key tasks of the university.

Several committees operate at UVMP in Košice; they serve as advisory bodies for the university management and are led by individual vice-rectors. Members of committees, including students, not only submit incentives for the solutions of various issues related to the university operation, but also ensure awareness among all employees and students about the issues covered by their competencies/spheres of interest.

Communication with public and media is primarily focused on increasing the awareness about the university, identification thereof as a unique institution for veterinary education in Slovakia, and enhancement of its credit and reputation. The outputs most frequently regard study programmes and student activities, objectives of the university and organized events, scientific articles regarding issues in which the general public is interested.

External communication and certain part of the internal communication is coordinated by the Public Relations Officer of UVMP in Košice, in cooperation with the management members, the study office for Slovak and foreign students, Editorial Centre, competent persons and workplaces, depending on the issues in question. If individual experts provide their statements to media, most frequently from clinic workplaces (e.g. on salvation of predators, capture of bears in the town, saving life by administration of snake antidote), they are obliged to inform the management. For the purpose of targeted media policy, in 2010 and in years 2011 – 2013, UVMP in Košice ordered elaboration of the targeted media policy by the a professional agency for media analysis (Annex 10.3).

Organization of certain events is carried out in cooperation with the Academic Senate and the trade union; students are significantly engaged as well, they participate in events on municipal as well as national levels (e.g. common event of blood donation called Let's Bleed Us White, Companions for Life).

UVMP in Košice organizes also activities addressed to wider community. Importance of the veterinary medicine in the past and at present is regularly presented to the general public during topical philatelic exhibitions in the Slovak Technical Museum in Košice. UVMP in Košice draws attention to itself by cooperation with the Town of Košice in organizing horse-riding competitions with international participants twice a year under UVMP in Košice heading, in which riders compete for the Rector's Cup and the Mayor's Cup, as well as a very favourite event in the town – the Hubert's Ride which is opened in the centre of the Old Town. The university enhances the awareness of itself also by participation in the national event called Night of Researchers, cooperation with the ZOO Košice (e.g. events organised in mutual cooperation, lectures, adoption of animals), with animal refuges, environment protecting associations (e.g. project LIFE Energy - <http://www.lifeenergia.sk/>).

UVMP in Košice realises its social liability, which is manifested in cooperation with municipal districts, e.g. when solving problems with dog breeding, by organising expert lectures for dog owners, or by construction of specialised facility for cynology purposes. UVMP in Košice provides its premises to be used for the community purposes, for their events or during communal and parliament elections. Obviously, public officials participate in the scientific and executive boards of UVMP in Košice.

The Act No. 122/2013 Coll. on Protection of Personal Data limits the university's capacity to obtain additional information from graduates, which could serve for the purpose of sharing the central register of graduates. In spite of that, UVMP in Košice tries to maintain contacts with its graduates and immediately during first months after the graduation the university inquires, in cooperation with the Central Office of Labour, Social Affairs and Family, which is the state administration authority, about the

placement of our graduates in practice, which is an important criterion of success of individual study programs. For the last years, UVMP in Košice maintains the register of placement of our graduates on the labour market, by a study program, and lately also by region.

The feedback on graduates is obtained by UVMP in Košice also from surveys carried out by other authorities under the MESRS. Even though there is no official website of graduates, these graduates and the university maintain very close relationships based on the feeling of fellowship established between teachers and students during the studies, as a small number of students guarantees a personal contact. UVMP in Košice keeps the tradition of golden graduation ceremony, at which graduates, 50 years after their first graduation, repeatedly undergo this ceremony, including the oath and acceptance of golden diploma (Annex 10.4). This event is held regularly in September in the auditorium of UVMP in Košice under the presence of management members, golden graduates and their family members. Moreover, individual groups of graduates organise their meetings at UVMP in Košice in ten-year intervals, when they are greeted by the rector of UVMP in Košice who presents the changes performed in the meantime at the university. The senior club is actively operating as well, with regular meetings at the IPEVS and in cooperation with the university they focus on the history of UVMP in Košice and the veterinary medicine in Slovakia. Many of our graduates and former employees are also invited to various scientific, social, and commemorating events (e.g. commemorative plaque exposal, launch of a book, expert seminars at anniversaries of prominent personalities of UVMP in Košice, May Ball, Christmas Cabbage Soup Event, etc.; <http://www.uvlf.sk/sk/galeria-obrazkov/krst-knihy-s-martona-v-znameni-modreho-kriza>). The university also grants memorial plaques (golden, silver, bronze) to those graduates who contributed to the development of veterinary medicine or at important anniversaries (Annex 10.5).

The university's strength is the cooperation with professionally closely related organizations, especially the CVS and the SVFA. UVMP in Košice concluded with the CVS the agreement on cooperation and the agreement on the provision of traineeship for students. The university has concluded an agreement with the DVFA Košice-Town on execution of state veterinary measures.

Cooperation with the CVS is carried out according to the plan drawn up every year, referred to as Calendarium, which includes also scientific events (assembly, congress, New Veterinaria and workshops), social and sports events (Ball of Veterinary Surgeons, family weekend for vets containing hiking in the Slovak Paradise, etc.).

The university cooperates with the SVFA in organising practical training experience for students and various conferences (Lazar's Nutrition Days, Hygiene Alimentorum, Infectious and Parasitic Diseases of Animals, XVII. Congress on Animal Hygiene 2015 organized by the International Society for Animal Hygiene, international symposium WAVES in 2005 and in 2015). The organisational part of the SVFA is also the IPEVS which provides the life-long education in all fields of veterinary care, hygiene of food and materials of animal and vegetable origin and food surveillance, veterinary legislation, state territory protection, common agricultural policy of the EU and laboratory diagnostics. UVMP in Košice, together with the IPEVS, participates in the performance of grades 1 and 2 attestations, trainings for hunters, and they jointly operate the Joint Centre of the IPEVS and UVMP in Košice for the sensory analysis of food.

UVMP in Košice is contractually engaged also in cooperation with the Cynology Rescue Brigade of Košice and in the field of education with the Corps of Prison and Court Guard, Bratislava.

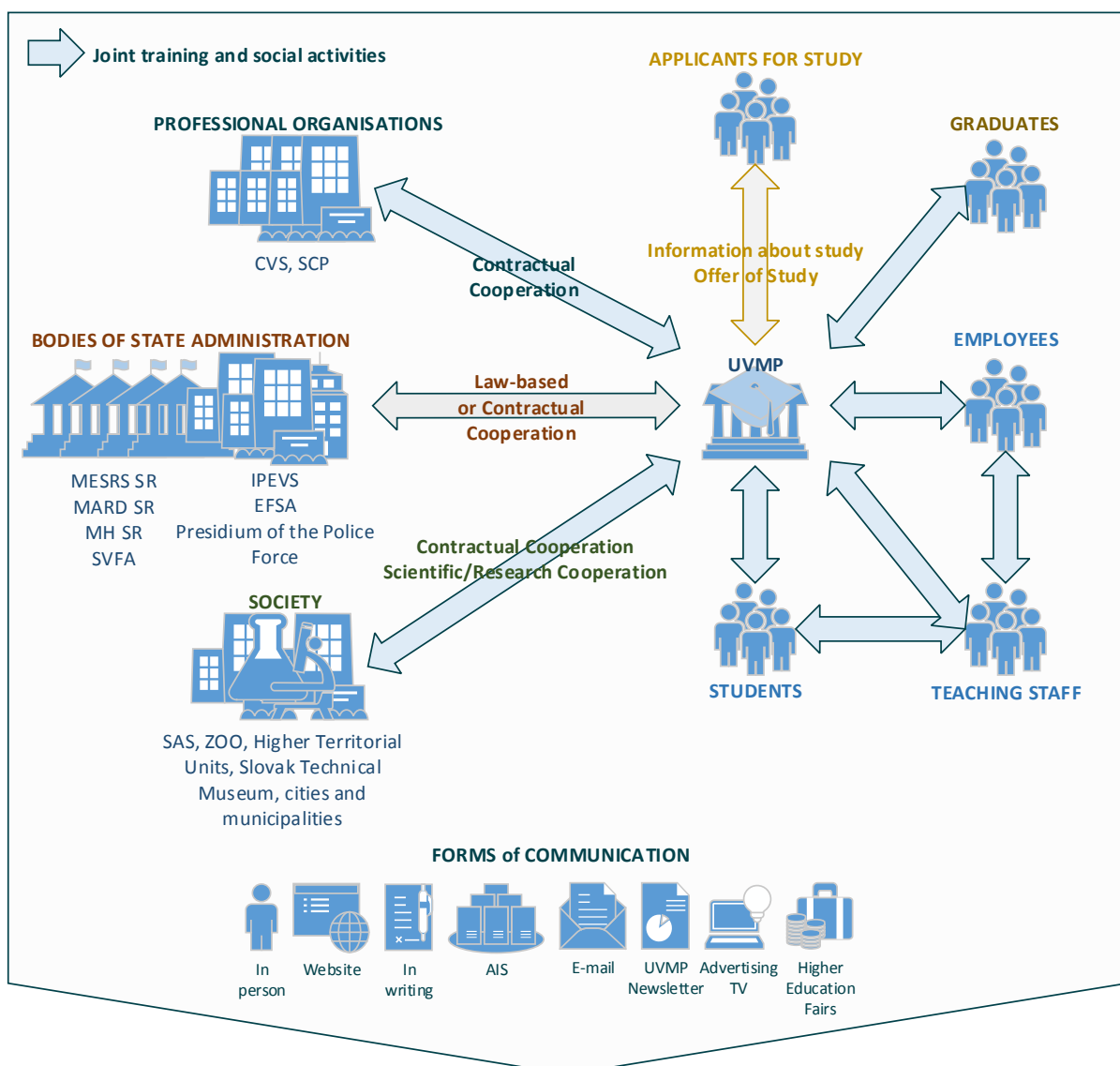
UVMP in Košice intensively cooperates with the SAS, particularly the Institute of Animal Physiology, the Institute of Parasitology, the Institute of Neuroimmunology, the Institute of Neurobiology, and the Institute of Material Research, with which UVMP in Košice performs several common scientific projects (Infektzoon – the Centre of Excellence for Animal Infections and Zoonoses, the Centre of Excellence for Parasitology, Creation and Development of the Diagnostic Procedure in the Therapy of Traumatized Spinal Cord, Competence Centre for Biomodulators and Nutritional Supplements - Probiotech, Advanced Implants with Inoculated Stem Cells for Regeneration and Reconstruction of Hard Tissues, Medical University Scientific Park in Košice - MediPark Košice together with the Pavol Jozef Šafárik University and the Technical University of Košice). Moreover, UVMP in Košice is the partner of the SAS in the provision of postgraduate education and they jointly organise conferences (e.g. the conference of doctoral candidates).

MARD – the National Contact Point of the SR for scientific and technical cooperation with the European Food Safety Authority - EFSA) cooperates with UVMP in Košice, which belongs, since 2010, to 16 Slovak organizations nominated pursuant to Article 36 of the Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council, which are the only organisations in the EU members states

authorised to draw the EFSA funds via grants. These organizations participate, on the national level, in scientific risk assessment.

In 2012 and 2014, UVMP in Košice was a successful participant in the competition called the National Quality Award of the SR which is granted in the public sector to organisations using the CAF model. By voluntary use of the CAF model methodology, UVMP in Košice pursues adoption of the principles of self-assessment and benchmarking, improvement of the entire quality management system especially in the field of work with human resources, support for the team work and employee initiative, better communication with partners and understanding the clients' needs, achievement of better competitiveness when attracting applicants for study and receiving scientific grants. Experience obtained from the use of the CAF model has defined the university's strengths and it facilitates determination of key areas where improvement is required. A step towards more accurate definition of requirements and rules of internal and external communication (objectives, groups, procedure plan) should be elaboration of the manual for internal and external communication. The first step towards determination of rules for the presentation and communication was publishing of the Internal Regulation no. 46 in 2010 containing the Corporate Design rules (<http://www.uvlf.sk/sites/default/files/dokumenty/vnutorne-predpisy-a-smernice/vp-c-46-logo-a-zasady-jeho-pouzivania.pdf>).

Scheme 10.1 Cooperation with stakeholders and society at UVMP in Košice (AP 13)



FACTUAL INFORMATION – FBA UiN BODØ

Information about courses at UiN is provided in accordance with ECTS guidelines in relation to content and organization, both in Norwegian and English. Routines for quality assurance are established for the design of study programmes and learning outcomes, evaluation, reporting and provision of information. The institution strives to enhance opportunities for mobile students and increase transparency within higher education. Students of UiN attain credits and degrees that are recognized throughout the European system of higher education.

The course catalogue is the main source of information about courses and programmes. It is available on the UiN website in Norwegian and English.

In 2014/2015 UiN started a web project on rebuilding the website to a new platform. This project was finished in May 2015. The descriptions for study programmes and courses are revised once a year. The information relevant to study programmes, rules and regulations, research areas and job opportunities are presented and regularly updated. In addition, all official documents and qualitative and quantitative reports such as the faculty board and the annual report of the faculty are publicly available on the UiN website. In relation to study programmes, the public official documents from the UiN Study Quality Board are available on request.

UiN must send data annually to the database for statistics in higher education (DBH) (<http://dbh.nsd.uib.no>). In NOKUT there is a portal where UiN's results can be compared with all other institutions in Norway (<http://dbh.nsd.uib.no/nokutportal>).

The Career Centre at UiN aims to assist future graduates to become successful job seekers. The centre organizes a job application seminar in cooperation with the International Student Union (ISU), coordinates the UiN careers fair, where companies and public sector organizations present themselves as potential future employers. The Career Centre also gives individual career guidance upon request.

10.2 COMMENTS

COMMENTS – UVMP IN KOŠICE

Communication and sharing of the up-to-date information represents an integral part of the cooperation within the university as well as out of the university. UVMP in Košice uses all available methods of internal and external communication. During their studies, students of UVMP in Košice can use regularly updated information on the schedule of studies and enrolment, requirements regarding advancement to higher year of study, timetables of lessons, practicals and traineeships, information regarding study termination, requirements for qualifying for the social scholarship and accommodation, setting the student Wi-Fi network *UVLF-NET*, job offers for graduates, and they can also download all the necessary forms from the website. In years 2012 – 2014, within several projects financed from Structural Funds, the university performed the renovation of information and communications technologies. On the main page, under the AIS icon, the information system for students as well as teachers is accessible. In the AIS, students register for exams and teachers record exam results. In order to promote the university programmes and attract applicants for study, UVMP in Košice uses, together with marketing in the media, also the presentation on Slovak portals and global portals. UVMP in Košice organizes several regular events intended for specific applicants for study, at which the university study programmes are presented. Communication with public and media is primarily focused on increasing the awareness about the university, identification thereof as a unique institution for veterinary education in Slovakia, and enhancement of its credit and reputation. UVMP in Košice realises its social liability, which is manifested in cooperation with municipal districts, e.g. when solving problems with dog breeding, by organising expert lectures for dog owners, or by construction of specialised facility for cynology purposes. The feedback on graduates is obtained by UVMP in Košice also from surveys carried out by other authorities under the MESRS. The university's strength is the cooperation with professionally closely related organizations, especially the CVS and the SVFA.

COMMENTS – FBA UiN in Bodø

An important part of the university's policy is to develop and maintain strong links with the society, regional and national. Thus, all study programs are constantly reviewed in relation to the actual needs of the society and the market.

10.3 SUGGESTIONS

SUGGESTIONS – UVMP IN KOŠICE

To maintain good relationship with the public, students, employers, and other external partners, it will be necessary to maintain all the positive activities that facilitated the achievement of the current position in this field.

For the purpose of further enhancement of quality in the field of Assessment of Cooperation with Stakeholders and Society, in near future UVMP in Košice will take primarily the following measures:

- pay more attention to the content of the English mutation of the website, so that it contains the information in the extent similar to the Slovak version,
- it is advisable to perform the opinion poll to obtain opinions and expectations of citizens regarding the place of UVMP in Košice in the social life of the town of Košice and the entire region,
- define the requirements and rules of internal and external communication (objectives, groups, procedure plan) and prepare the manual for this purpose.

SUGGESTIONS – FBA UiN in Bodø

Currently, the FBA has strong collaborations with the aquaculture industry in Norway. There is a need to strengthen the collaboration with the many stakeholders in the terrestrial animal farming industry, as well as the veterinary association in Norway. It is expected that through the development of the Animal Care program, this will be achieved.