

Minutes of the meeting of the working group on the Biotechnology study program, held on 19.3.2021

Present: Kraic (DB FNS UCM), Ondrejovič (DB FNS UCM), Moravčíková (DB FNS UCM), Havrlentová (DB FNS UCM), Mihálik (DB FNS UCM), Ondrejovič Chmelová (DB FNS UCM), Kaňuková (student, DB FNS UCM), Legerská (student, DB FNS UCM), Pecková (graduate FNS UCM), Latka (graduate FNS UCM), Baráth (Envien Group), Bitterová (Agromart a.s.), Čebík (BIOTECH s.r.o.), Murín (CELPO spol. s.r.o.)

Excused:

Invited:

The agenda of the working group meeting was related to the harmonization of study plans in the Bachelor's, Master's and doctoral degree programs in Biotechnology. The discussion, led by Prof. Kraic, Head of the Department of Biotechnology, Faculty of Natural Sciences, UCM, focused mainly on the attachments that form a compulsory part of the study plan, i.e.

- Attachment 11: Subject information sheets
- Attachment 13: Educational objectives and outputs
- Attachment 15: Description of the study program
- Attachment 16: Internal assessment report

The first item, Attachment 11 - Subject information sheets, detailed changes to the information sheets based on anonymous questionnaires from both students and graduates of the study program of Biotechnology, as well as requests from company representatives. Despite some comments, a portion was not incorporated. It should be noted that any company focused on a selected area of biotechnology would appreciate very narrowly focused subjects as well as laboratory exercises oriented only to its requirements. However, a graduate of a biotechnology school should have a comprehensive view of the various and many applications of biotechnology. By mutual agreement, the information sheets of the selected laboratory exercises were modified. Subjects focusing on processes and equipment in biotechnology have also been included in the bachelor's degree program. At the suggestion of both students and graduates of the study program of Biotechnology, subjects extending knowledge in several areas of biotechnology, as well as a wider range of compulsory optional subjects provided by other departments and related to biotechnology, were added to the recommended study plan. Subjects dealing, for example, with the preparation of projects have been included in the study plan of doctoral studies, as doctoral students submit at least faculty projects during their studies.

Item 2, Attachment 13, Educational objectives and outputs, discussed the learning outcomes and qualifications from the qualifications developers handbook. In this section, selected guarantors of profile subjects were invited to give this section appropriate attention in the information sheets. The different achievable objectives of the profile subjects were discussed and the subject guarantors explained to the other participants how to fulfil them within their guaranteed subject. The creators of the different subjects are aware that the student must acquire skills and competences in addition to knowledge in the learning process. In the framework of

doctoral studies, the objectives and outputs of education have been adjusted according to the current requirements, especially for the scientific and research activities of doctoral students.

Under item 3, Attachment 15 - Description of the study program, the proposal for both the Bachelor's, Master's and doctoral degree programs was briefly presented. The comments were mainly related to the section on graduate employability, the modification of some statements as well as the section on the assessment of the employability of graduates of the study program, which will be incorporated in the descriptions. In this part, the representatives of companies presented their comments in the framework of the submitted study program, which will be incorporated into this program. Some chapters requested by employers (process optimization and design, innovation in the food sector, new product development) will be added to the information sheets of the selected fields of study. However, employers appreciated the high level of biotechnological specialization of the study programs.

In the last point, Attachment 16 - Internal assessment report was briefly presented, as well as the necessary components in the alignment of the study program, the selection of the five guarantors, also the opportunities that students have in free-time activities, mobility opportunities, as well as the annual possibility to evaluate the study program in anonymous questionnaires in order to improve the study program were presented.

In conclusion, prof. Kraic thanked the representatives of the company as well as the students and graduates of study program Biotechnology for their participation. The comments as well as suggestions will be further discussed or directly incorporated into the materials submitted to the Board from Internal Quality Review UCM.

Špačince, 19.03.2021

She wrote:

RNDr. Daniela Ondrejovič Chmelová, PhD.

The audit was carried out by:

Prof. RNDr. Ján Kraic, PhD.

