

## **Minutes of the meeting of the working group on the study programme Molecular Biology, held on 25.4.2022**

**Present:** Prof. RNDr. Juraj Krajčovič, CSc. (Person responsible for the 3rd degree of study programme Molecular Biology at the Department of Biology, Faculty of Natural Sciences, UCM), Prof. Ing. Štefan Janeček, DrSc., Ing. Miroslav Glasa, DrSc.; doc. Mgr. Ildikó Matušiková, PhD.; Assoc. Prof. RNDr. Ľubica Uváčková, PhD. (Secretary of the Department of Biology), Mgr. Michaela Blažíčková (Biomedical Centre of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava as a representative of potential employers), RNDr. Michal Konečný, PhD. (GHC GENETICS SK, Bratislava as a representative of potential employers), RNDr. Daniela Jamrichová, PhD. (Representative of graduates), Mgr. Andrea Patlevičová (representative of students).

**Absent:** Martina Praženková (TATRACHEMA, Trnava as a representative of potential employers)

The subject of the working group meeting was the harmonization of the PhD study programme (hereinafter referred to as the SP) Molecular Biology. The main topics of discussion were the Subject Information Sheets (Attachment 11), the Recommended Study Plan (Attachment 12), the Educational Objectives and Outputs (Attachment 13) and the Description of the Study Programme (Attachment 15).

These attachments are a mandatory part of the SP. In the debate we passed the proposed changes. We added the subject Selected Chapters in Plant Stress Physiology and Molecular Biology to the recommended study plan due to the specific focus of some PhD students. In addition, prof. Krajčovič presented the main changes concerning Creative Activity (formerly Research Activity), as nowadays the scientific community tries to evaluate the quality of publications using the so-called quartiles. The recommended study plan has been modified in line with this requirement. In the old recommended study plan, publications were evaluated according to the so-called impact factor. We also favored those PhD students who would have publications with first authorship. In the discussion, a comment was made by graduate students, mainly concerning the participation of doctoral students in international scientific conferences and the support of the department's management for this activity. Associate Professor Uváčková presented the possibilities of obtaining internal grants from the Faculty of Natural Sciences as well as from the University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius itself. In addition, this student activity is awarded credits for participation in a foreign conference as well as for obtaining an internal grant. We also discussed suggestions for change from potential employers. There was an effort on the part of the employers to highlight selected aspects of their activities, but Prof. Janeček explained that in order to gain a broader scientific overview, the pedagogical process should not be strictly focused on one particular area, but also on gaining a broader spectrum of knowledge from other related fields.

Prof. Krajčovič thanked for the constructive debate.

Špačince, 25.04.2022

Logged in: doc. RNDr. Ľubica Uváčková, PhD.

Check by: prof. RNDr. Juraj Krajčovič, CSc.

