



WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY
SOCIAL SCIENCES



Association for European
Life Sciences Universities



AGRIMBA: A tool for life long learning for professionals and academics

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Introduction

- The Network supplies academic inputs for low cost MBA Programmes in the field of agribusiness and commerce
- At the moment available in: Warsaw, Prague, Debrecen, Kiev, Zagreb, Nitra, Belgrade, Kazan, Belgorod, Ulaan Baatar, Stavropol, and Tomsk
- Expansion is foreseen in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)
- Membership of the Network is open to everybody and free of charge
- In September 2016 Agrimba celebrated its 20th anniversary in Warsaw
- AGRIMBA is a standing committee of the ICA
- <http://www.ica-europe.info/>



Structure: ICA's Role

- The only open general network covering all of Europe
- Supports networking and professional updating through European conferences
- Acts as an umbrella for the Standing Committees
- Partnership with global HE associations through GCHERA

Structure

- The Network is guided by a General Board (GB) that meets once a year. Board members are required to have an active role in the MBA programmes
- Daily affairs are dealt with by the Executive Board (EB) that meets whenever necessary
- Present EB: Chair: Peter Bielik; members: Zsolt Csapo (Debrecen), Josip Juraciak (Zagreb), Tatiana Litvinenko (Belgorod), Anna Ivolga (Stavropol), Vlade Zanic (Belgrade),
- Secretary General: Wim Heijman (Wageningen)
- Editor in Chief 'Apstract': Johan van Ophem (Wageningen)



Structure: General Board Meetings

- 2002 Warsaw (Pl)
- 2003 Prague (CZ)
- 2004 Debrecen (HU)
- 2005 Aberdeen (UK)
- 2006 Fayetteville (USA)
- 2007 Freiburg (D)
- 2008 Dubrovnik (HR)
- 2009 Debrecen (Hun)
- 2010 Zagreb (Hr)
- 2011 Wageningen (NL)
- 2012 Bolzano (It)
- 2013 Budva (Monte Negro)
- 2014 Nitra (Slovakia)
- 2015 Porec (Croatia)
- 2016 Warsaw (Poland)

Structure

- Main tasks of General Board (GB): quality control on the basis of local reports, accreditation of new MBA programmes, appointment of members of the accreditation committee and EB, approving accreditation regulations etc
- Main task EB: preparing and carrying out the decisions made by the GB.



Format of the MBA-programmes

- The MBA program is part time and meant for post experience young managers in agribusiness and commerce
- It consists of 7 modules: Economics, Management, Marketing, Agribusiness, Policy and Law, Operational Analysis, Thesis.
- Partly custom made
- The program takes 2 years
- International study week



Study Materials

- The Network received an EU Leonardo Da Vinci grant to prepare the necessary study materials
- Study materials are available on the **AGRIMBA** web site and may be used by the participants on all locations agrimba.sggw.waw.pl/



Accreditation

- MBA programmes are accredited by the national accreditation authorities and by the Network
- In most cases, after finishing successfully students are awarded a national master diploma and an international diploma issued by AGRIMBA
- Agrimba has its own accreditation committee that acts on regulations established by the GB



Organisation of the MBA

- Each module is supervised by a module team consisting of one or two international and a number of national staff members
- International staff members are paid travel and subsistence and a local salary
- The fee for students is determined by the local management, but is kept low (in the range of €4000-5000 for the whole programme of 2 years)
- Normally the minimum number of students necessary to break even is 15
- Local MBA affairs are managed by the local MBA director, who is a member of the General Board



Journal

- The Network has its own journal: Apstract. See www.apstract.net





Congress

- And its own bi-annual Congress:
- 2009: Debrecen;
- 2011: Wageningen;
- 2013: Budva;
- 2015: Porec;
- 2017: Debrecen.