

REGULATION

on the organization and process of doctoral studies in Banat's University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine "King Michael I of Romania" from Timisoara

CHAPTER I. General dispositions

The regulation on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies in Banat's University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine "King Michael I of Romania" from Timisoara is designed and elaborated in accordance with the National Education Law no. 1/2011, with subsequent amendments and modifications, Law no. 288/2004 on the organization of university studies, with subsequent modifications and completions, as well as in accordance with G.D. no. 681 / 29.06.2011 regarding the approval of the Code of Doctoral Studies, MECTS Order no. 3850 / 02.05.2012 regarding the approval of the Methodology for external evaluation for temporary authorization, accreditation and for the periodical evaluation of doctoral schools, by field, and Order of the Ministry of Education no. 4982 / 05.09.2013 regarding the doctoral conduct activity.

CHAPTER II. Institution Organizing Doctoral Studies (I.O.D.S.) - Banat's University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine "King Michael I of Romania" from Timisoara

Art. 1

- (1) This regulation is the framework governing the organization and implementation of PhD programs in Banat's University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine "King Michael I of Romania" from Timisoara.
- (2) Doctoral studies programs are organized and carried out within I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. **only within its doctoral schools.**
- (3) The doctoral studies within I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. Timisoara is the third cycle of university studies and is based on advanced scientific research with the goal of developing knowledge through original scientific research.

Art. 2

- (1) Banat's University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine "King Michael I of Romania" from Timisoara is a Doctoral Organizing Institution headed by the Council for Doctoral Studies, hereinafter referred to as CDS, accredited and which includes the doctoral schools: **Plant and Animal Resources Engineering**, and **Veterinary Medicine.**
- (2) I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. may only organize a doctorate in the fields in which it has received approval for that quality.

Art. 3

- (1) I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. is headed by the Board for Doctoral Studies, hereinafter referred to as BDS.
- (2) BDS of I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. is made up of 7 members, of which 5 doctoral supervisors, holders of labor contract for an indefinite period in I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T., and 2 representatives of the doctoral students.
- (3) BDS of I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. is elected by universal, direct, secret and equal vote of the doctoral supervisors from I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T.. The doctoral students select, according to the same voting system, their representatives in the council - 25% of the members of the council. The BDS Director is a BDS member.
- (4) The mandate of BDS members is 4 years.
- (5) The main tasks of the BDS are:
 - a) establishing strategy for I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T.;
 - b) the elaboration of the institutional regulation for the organization and application of doctoral degree programs at I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. level;
 - c) approving decisions on the establishment and abolition of doctoral schools in I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T.;
 - d) selecting doctoral supervisors who are part of a newly established doctoral school;
 - e) partnership coordination, if I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. is constituted of a partnership, according to the partnership agreement;
 - f) formulate own proposals and endorse the proposals of doctoral schools of agreements and partnerships / consortiums for the development of doctoral studies programs and cotutelle doctorates;
 - g) initiates, submits and follows the documentation necessary to obtain national and European funds for doctoral and research studies programs;
 - h) mediates and resolves the conflicts brought to its knowledge between doctoral student and doctoral school and doctoral supervisor, or between the doctoral supervisor and the doctoral school;
 - i) sets the agenda for meetings;
 - j) BDS will annually present to the BUASVMT Senate a I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. activity report;
 - k) any other attributions arising from the legislation in force, the University Chart, as well as from the internal regulations of the institution.
- (6) BDS meets as often as necessary at the request of the BDS Director or at least of one-third of its membership.

Art. 4

- (1) BDS is headed by a director.
- (2) The BDS director function is assimilated to the vice-rector function.

- (3) The BDS Director is entitled after a public contest organized by B.U.A.S.V.M.T. based on a methodology approved by the Senate.

CHAPTER III. Doctoral Schools

Art. 5

- (1) Doctoral schools are organized and function in I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. with at least three doctoral supervisors.
- (2) I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. has two doctoral schools: the Doctoral School of Veterinary Medicine and the Doctoral School of Plant and Animal Resources Engineering, established at the proposal of the Faculty Council and approved by the BUASVMT Senate by decision no. 3210 on 15.05.2012.
- (3) The doctoral schools are proposed by the faculties within I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T., the proposals being analyzed and approved by the Board of Directors and approved by the BDS and the B.U.A.S.V.M.T. Senate.
- (4) I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. offers the institutional, administrative and logistic support to the subordinated doctoral schools and can provide financial support to doctoral students for internships in the country or abroad, with the agreement of the doctoral supervisor.
- (5) The mobility of doctoral students can be facilitated by doctoral schools, by:
 - a) the conclusion of institutional **agreements or partnerships** approved by the **Doctoral School Council**;
 - b) doctoral researches in **cotutelle**;
 - c) **exchanges** of doctoral students and teaching and research staff with nationally and internationally recognized universities;
 - d) **participation** in national and international **consortia**, aiming to include **doctoral research topics** in national or international scientific projects.

Art. 6

- (1) The doctoral school is headed by a doctoral school director and by the council of the doctoral school. The doctoral school director is assimilated to the department director, and is appointed by the BDS out of the doctoral supervisors of that doctoral school.
- (2) The Doctoral School Council is elected by universal, direct, secret, and equal vote of the doctoral supervisors and doctoral students of that school, and is headed by the Doctoral School Director, who, according to the law, is a member of this Council. The Doctoral School Council is assimilated to the department's council.
- (3) The members of the Doctoral School Council are university didactic staff or researchers who have the right to conduct doctorate in the country or abroad.
- (4) The mandate of the Doctoral Council is 5 years.

- (5) Doctoral students, members of the Doctoral School Council, who complete their doctoral studies during their mandate, lose their membership of the council at the date of the public doctoral dissertation.
- (6) In order to fill the vacant positions within the Doctoral School Council, partial elections are organized, and the new member's mandate ends when the mandate of the doctoral council expires.

Art. 7

The doctoral school council has as its main attributions the following:

- a) elaborates the regulations of the doctoral school in accordance with the regulations for organizing and conducting doctoral studies in I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T.;
- b) decides to grant or revoke the membership of a doctoral school to doctoral supervisors and establishes the minimum standards of scientific performance in order to objectively apply these procedures;
- c) decide the change of the doctoral supervisor;
- d) approves the matriculation or, as the case may be, the expulsion of doctoral students at the proposal of the doctoral supervisors from the doctoral school;
- e) endorses the job positions of didactic and research staff affiliated to the doctoral school;
- f) ensures the internal evaluation of doctoral degree programs and assists the external evaluator in the assessment process for the accreditation / re-accreditation or provisional authorization of the doctoral school;
- g) implements procedures for highlighting the results of doctoral research in order to evaluate doctoral dissertations and their endorsement for public support;
- h) ensures the correct and complete information of the public and, in particular, of the candidates for doctoral degree programs on the admission, the content of the study programs and the criteria for evaluation of the research results, as well as the results of the doctoral degree programs.

Art. 8

- (1) The **doctoral school director** assures the operative leadership of the school and represents the doctoral school in the relationship with BDS.
- (2) The duties of the doctoral school director are mainly the following:
 - a) leads the meetings of the doctoral school council;
 - b) coordinates the elaboration of doctoral school regulations, analyzes the final form of the project and presents it to the doctoral supervisors for endorsement, and to BDS and the Senate of the University for approval;
 - c) conducts the activities of organization, conduction and administration of the doctoral degree programs within his / her sphere of competence, in accordance with I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. regulations for organization and conduction of doctoral studies;

- d) proposes to the council the content of the doctoral program and approves this on the basis of council's decision;
- e) identifies the optimal procedures for highlighting the results of the doctoral research in order to evaluate the doctoral thesis and to endorse it for public presentation and conducts the implementation of the research results, based on the approval of the council;
- f) conducts the internal evaluation activities of doctoral study programs, on the basis of the organizational measures established by the council;
- g) presents to the council the measures taken to correctly and fully inform the public, and in particular the candidates for doctoral degree programs on admission, the content of the study programs and the criteria for the evaluation of the research results, as well as the results of the doctoral study programs.

Art. 9

- (1) In B.U.A.S.V.M.T.'s structure, the doctoral school has a rank equal to that of a department and can organize research centers or laboratories, which act as units of income and expenses within the higher education institution, according to the provisions of art. 131, art. 133 par. (4) and art. 134 of the National Education Law no. 1/2011, with subsequent amendments and completions.
- (2) The job positions are set up at doctoral level and include all professors, researchers and doctoral students activating at the doctoral school at that time. The job positions of the doctoral school may also include vacancies so that doctoral students who teach more hours than those specified in the doctoral study contract will get hourly payment.
- (3) The doctoral schools can hire auxiliary teaching staff, research staff and non-teaching staff, under the law.
- (4) The doctoral schools together with the doctoral supervisors have the obligation to inform the doctoral student about the scientific, professional and university ethics and to check the compliance, including:
 - a) observance of deontological provisions during the realization of doctoral research;
 - b) observance of deontological provisions in the elaboration of the doctoral thesis.
- (5) I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. takes measures to prevent and sanction deviations from the norms of scientific, professional and university ethics, according to the code of ethics and professional deontology of the institution, as well as the legislation in force.

CHAPTER IV. The contract for doctoral studies

Art. 10

- (1) The rights and obligations of the doctoral students, doctoral supervisors, as well as I.O.D.S., through doctoral schools, are established through the contract for doctoral studies.

- (2) The model of the framework contract for doctoral studies is elaborated by doctoral school, endorsed by the councils of doctoral schools, and approved by BDS.
- (3) The doctoral contract is concluded with each doctoral student and is signed by the doctoral student, the doctoral supervisor, the doctoral school director and the representative of the institution that legally represents I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T..
- (4) The carrying out of didactic activities by the doctoral student should not adversely affect the time available for the doctoral program, as the doctorate is primarily a professional research experience.

Art. 11

The contract for doctoral studies will include the following information:

- a) identification data of the doctoral student and of the doctoral supervisor;
- b) data about I.O.D.S. and doctoral school;
- c) the research theme chosen;
- d) the monthly scholarship amount, as appropriate;
- e) the study taxes, as appropriate;
- f) the language in which the doctoral thesis is drafted and supported - the Romanian language, the language of a national minority or an international language;
- g) the term of completion of the doctoral thesis;
- h) the conditions for the prolongation of the term of completion of the doctoral thesis;
- i) the amount of teaching activities that the doctoral student undertakes to carry out and the period in which they take place.

Art. 12

- (1) The conflicts doctoral student - doctoral school are mediated by BDS - BUASVMT.

CHAPTER V. The doctoral supervisor and the Guidance commission

Art. 13

- (1) May be doctoral supervisors those who have obtained the right to conduct doctorate before the entry into force of the National Education Law no. 1/2011, as well as the persons acquiring this right according to the provisions of art. 166 of the National Education Law no. 1/2011, with subsequent amendments and completions.
- (2) The right to conduct doctoral studies can be done within I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. only in the field for which this quality was conferred.
- (3) In order to carry out the activity provided in paragraph 2, the didactic and research staff who have the quality of doctoral supervisors must have a work contract with I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T.

- (4) A doctoral supervisor may conduct his/her doctoral work at I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T., where he/she was awarded the title of doctoral supervisor.
- (5) If the doctoral supervisor wishes to carry out his doctorate activity within another I.O.D.S. that organizes a doctorate in the respective field, this can be done with the approval of the two university senates. The application is addressed to the rector of the university and must be endorsed by the BDS director. The agreement of the two institutions (I.O.D.S.) is expressed by the application submitted by the doctoral supervisor, by the BDS director's endorsement and with the approval of the rector of the university.
- (6) The approval for conducting doctoral studies in another I.O.D.S. rather in the one that conferred the status of doctoral supervisor requires the clarification of the doctoral students status between the two institutions involved (I.O.D.S.) and the conclusion of an individual employment contract with the I.O.D.S. where he/she will carry out the activity.

Art. 14

The doctoral supervisors are evaluated once in 5 years, the results of the evaluation being public, through evaluation procedures established by the Order of the Minister of Education and Scientific Research, at the proposal of CNATDCU and mainly targeting the issues related to:

- a) the quality of the scientific results of the group led by the doctoral supervisor;
- b) impact and relevance of the scientific activity of this group at international and national level, in the case of the Romanian-specific domains.

Art. 15

- (1) Doctoral studies can also be organized in cotutelle, such as:
 - a) the concomitant coordination of a doctoral supervisor from Romania and a doctoral supervisor from another country;
 - b) the concomitant coordination of two doctoral supervisors from different institutions from Romania, based on a written agreement between the institutions involved;
 - c) when the doctoral supervisors are from the same I.O.D.S., but they activate in different fields of study / specializations;
 - d) one of the doctoral supervisors reached the retirement age, according to the provisions of art. 162 par. (1) of the National Education Law no. 1/2011, with subsequent amendments and completions.
- (2) In the case of cotutelle doctoral studies, the **main doctoral supervisor** is established from the doctoral school and the doctoral student is **fully accounted at the main doctoral supervisor**, including the his teaching and research activity.
- (3) A doctoral supervisor may simultaneously conduct a **maximum of 8 doctoral students** at various stages of doctoral studies.

Art. 16

- (1) At the motivated request of the doctoral student, the doctoral school council may decide to change the doctoral supervisor, if it has been found that the legal or contractual obligations assumed by him or for other reasons related to the conducting report between the doctoral supervisor and the doctoral student are not fulfilled.
- (2) The doctoral council **will designate another doctoral supervisor** in the case provided in par. (1), as well as in case of unavailability of the doctoral supervisor.
- (3) When appointing a new doctoral supervisor, the doctoral school council will take into consideration the need for the doctoral student to complete the doctoral program.

Art. 17

- (1) For doctoral studies, the doctoral student from the doctoral school will be supported by a guidance commission, consisted of three other members, who may be part of the research team of the doctoral supervisor, other persons affiliated to the doctoral school or of other important didactic and research staff, not affiliated to the doctoral school.
- (2) The structure of the guidance commission will be established by the doctoral supervisor in consultation with the doctoral student.

Art. 18

The activity of the doctoral supervisors, of the members of the guidance commissions and of the members of the doctoral commissions is normalized and paid according to the provisions of the law in force.

Art. 19

- (1) The rights and obligations of the doctoral supervisor derive from the National Education Law no. 1/2011, with the subsequent amendments and completions, from the regulations of the doctoral school, as well as from his employment contract.
- (2) **The doctoral supervisor has the following rights:**
 - a) to guide and evaluate the doctoral student's activity within the doctoral program, according to the professional and university autonomy, following the requirements of the doctoral degree program and respecting the professional interests of the doctoral student;
 - b) to propose the doctoral commission and the guidance commission of the doctoral student;
 - c) to refuse to conduct a doctoral student in the conditions in which he / she is unwilling to be in a conflict of interest;
 - d) to request the doctoral school to interrupt the supervision relationship with a doctoral student;
 - e) to select the candidate for a vacancy doctoral position under his / her guidance and to propose the enrollment of the doctoral student;

- f) to request the doctoral school to organize an admission contest for each vacant position for doctoral student under his guidance;
- g) to decide the elements of study in the advanced study program based on the advanced academic studies to which the doctoral student must participate, in compliance with the legislation in force;
- h) to be remunerated for the doctoral students' conduct activity, in accordance with the legislation in force;
- i) the right to participate in competitions for doctoral grants;
- j) the right for an impartial internal and external evaluation in accordance with the methodology specific to the evaluation process;
- k) the right to know the methodology against which he is evaluated, both in internal evaluation and in external evaluation.

(3) The doctoral supervisor has the following duties:

- a) to ensure the scientific, professional and deontological guidance of each doctoral student;
- b) to propose the research themes;
- c) to take all necessary measures to ensure the doctoral student the conditions, knowledge and information that will maximize the chances of completing the doctoral program;
- d) to ensure the conditions and to stimulate the progress of doctoral students in their research;
- e) to carry out the objective and rigorous monitoring and evaluation of each doctoral student;
- f) to support the mobility of doctoral students;
- g) avoid conflicts of interest in conducting doctoral students;
- h) to comply with the rules of ethical and professional conduct;
- i) to meet quality standards;
- j) to inform the doctoral student about the scientific, professional and university ethics and to verify its observance;
- k) to analyze the doctoral student's reports / papers and to allow their presentation only if he considers that they have a consistent scientific content focused on the issue of the doctoral thesis;
- l) to apply and observe the provisions of the doctoral studies contract;
- m) to propose to the doctoral school the expulsion of the doctoral student in case he / she does not respect the obligations related to the doctoral program and the obligations arising from this contract;
- n) any other obligations arising from applicable law, university chart, and internal regulations of I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T.

Art. 20

- (1) In addition to doctoral supervisors, other researchers or didactic staff involved in research and / or teaching activities within the doctoral school may be affiliated to the doctoral school, within the I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. component institutions or other institutions or units for research and development, from the country or from abroad.
- (2) To become members or affiliates of the doctoral school, the doctoral supervisors must meet the following conditions:
 - a) to request in writing to the rector to be a member of the doctoral school;
 - b) to have the right to conduct doctoral studies in the field for which this quality has been conferred, according to the legislation and regulations of the CNATDCU in force;
 - c) his/her membership or affiliation to another doctoral school has not been withdrawn;
 - d) to present at least 2 references from didactic staff or researchers who know closely his/her scientific and didactic activity in the country or abroad. These references should contain assessments of morality, ethics and professional ethics, as well as the degree of recognition of scientific and publicistic activity.
- (3) The fulfillment of the conditions specified in paragraph (2) will result from the content of the documents submitted by the candidate.

Art. 21

The withdrawal of membership of a doctoral school, of a doctoral supervisor, shall be made in at least one of the following conditions:

- a) violates the provisions of the Code of Ethics and Professional Deontology;
- b) registered a poor coordinating activity of the doctoral students conducted, by their lack of performance in research;
- c) when, following the mediation of a major physical or intellectual conflict (discrimination, obtaining material or other proven benefits by means of taxation) between the doctoral supervisor and a doctoral student coordinated, it results that the fault belongs to the doctoral supervisor.

Art. 22

The decision to accept new doctoral supervisor members and to withdraw the membership of the doctoral school belongs to the doctoral school council.

CHAPTER VI. Selection, admission and employment in the doctoral program

Art. 23

- (1) The admission to doctoral studies is carried out in accordance with the Regulation on the organization and process of admission to doctoral studies in I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T.

- (2) The applications are made for the number of positions approved by the Ministry of Education and Research equitably distributed to doctoral schools by BDS, depending on the proposals made by the doctoral schools within the I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T.
- (3) The admission to doctoral studies is organized and takes place **annually** usually before the beginning of the academic year.

CHAPTER VII. The doctoral student

Art. 24

- (1) After signing the contract for doctoral studies, the admitted candidate will be a **doctoral student** throughout the doctoral program. Persons who have the appropriate financial resources, either from their own sources or from scholarships granted by natural or legal persons, may be admitted, upon their request, as doctoral student under **paying regime**.
- (2) The doctoral students will be assigned as research assistant or university assistant for a definite period of time.
- (3) I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T., by way of exception from the provisions of paragraph 2, does not have the obligation to include doctoral students in the form of education with reduced frequency as research assistants or university assistants, for a definite period.
- (4) The job positions of the doctoral school may also include vacancies so that doctoral students who teach more hours than those specified in the contract for doctoral studies are paid by hourly payment.

Art. 25

- (1) During the doctoral program, the doctoral student at I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. has the following **rights**:
 - a) to benefit from the support, guidance and coordination of the doctoral supervisor and of the guidance commission;
 - b) to participate in the seminars or workshops of the research staff at the doctoral school when discussing issues relevant to doctoral studies;
 - c) to be represented in the decision-making bodies of the doctoral school, according to the legislation in force;
 - d) to benefit from the logistics, documentation centers, libraries and equipment of the doctoral school and I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. for the elaboration of research projects and doctoral thesis;
 - e) to participate to courses and seminars organized by other doctoral schools;
 - f) to work together with I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. research teams or within research-development units that have concluded institutional agreements or partnerships with I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T.;
 - g) to benefit from national or international mobilities;

- h) to receive institutional support to participate in scientific conferences or congresses, workshops, summer and winter schools and national and international seminars in the field of specialization in which he / she has chosen the doctoral thesis;
 - i) to use protective equipment during the execution of the practical work that takes place in a toxic or dangerous environment, according to the labor protection norms;
 - j) to participate in the scientific communication sessions organized by the doctoral school and / or by I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T.;
 - k) to be informed about the curriculum of doctoral studies at the doctoral school;
 - l) to request, for valid reason, the interruption of doctoral activities or the extension of the duration of the doctoral program, according to the legislation in force;
 - m) to carry out the doctoral study in the cotutelle, based on an agreement concluded and signed by the parties involved, according to the law;
 - n) may carry out didactic activities, within the limits of the law, within 4-6 conventional teaching hours per week; the didactic activities exceeding 6 conventional teaching hours per week will be remunerated in accordance with the legislation in force, in which case the provided contributions will be paid by law;
 - o) request the doctoral school to change the doctoral supervisor if he / she fails to comply with his / her legal or contractual obligations or for other reasons concerning the guidance report between the doctoral supervisor and the doctoral student;
 - p) to request the doctoral school to change the title of the doctoral thesis, in accordance with the legislation in force;
 - q) to apply for a new admission for doctoral studies, **only on tax positions**, for the doctoral students who have been expelled from doctoral studies financed from the budget;
 - r) to receive the title and the doctoral degree in the doctoral field in which he / she was enrolled as a doctoral student, under the terms of the law;
- 2) During the course of the doctoral program, the doctoral student within I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. has the following obligations:
- a) to comply with the regulations of the legislation in force and those specific to I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. in carrying out university and extra-curricular activities;
 - b) to comply with the rules of discipline and university ethics, in accordance with I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T.'s own regulations;
 - c) to use carefully the material goods in the educational spaces, laboratories, dormitories, canteens, libraries, etc. and keep them in good condition. The value of the damages resulting from the degradation or destruction of these goods will be recovered from the one that produced them, according to the legal procedures in force;
 - d) to respect and carry out all the classes / activities stipulated in the curriculum of the doctoral school, as well as those related to the individual plan;

- e) to respect the timetable established with the doctoral supervisor and to fulfill his / her obligations to present the papers and the results of the research;
- f) to submit activity reports to the doctoral supervisor and the guidance commission whenever required;
- g) to be permanently connected with the doctoral supervisor in order to ensure continuity of training and a normal flow of information;
- h) to respect institutional discipline;
- i) to meet quality standards;
- j) to permanently update contact details in the doctoral candidate's file;
- k) to respect the secret of service on the scientific research carried out;
- l) to remake or complete the doctoral thesis within the time limits set by the doctoral commission;
- m) to write the abstract of the doctoral thesis in Romanian, if the thesis was written in an international language;
- n) to sign, where appropriate, in accordance with the legislation in force and with the decisions of the University Senate, the additional documents to the contract for doctoral studies;
- o) to pay the doctoral taxes and the tax for doctoral thesis presentation at the terms set in the contract for doctoral studies;
- p) other obligations deriving from the legislation in force, the university chart, as well as from the internal regulations of I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T..

CHAPTER VIII. Structure and duration of doctoral studies

Art. 26

- (1) I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. doctoral degree programs are **scientific doctoral** by type, which aim to produce original scientific knowledge, internationally relevant, based on scientific methods.
- (2) Within the doctoral school, the doctoral program includes:
 - a) a study program based on advanced university studies;
 - b) an individual scientific research program.

Art. 27

- (1) In the field of plant and animal resources engineering, the duration of the doctoral program is 3 (three) years, and in the field of veterinary medicine, according to art. 174 par. (3) of the National Education Law no. 1/2011, the duration of the doctoral program is 4 (four) years.
- (2) In special situations, the doctoral student may request, once, the extension of the duration of the doctoral program by 1-2 years, with the approval of the University Senate, at the proposal of the doctoral supervisor and within the limits of the available funds.

- (3) The situations for which the doctoral studies may be prolonged are:
 - a) the identification during studies of some research directions related to the theme of the thesis, which were not intuited at the time of elaboration of the study program and which require special deepening;
 - b) other justified cases requiring prolongation, accepted by the doctoral supervisor;
 - c) situations caused by force majeure.
- (4) The interruption of doctoral studies is done at the doctoral student's request with the consent of the doctoral supervisor, the doctoral school endorsement and is approved by the director of the BDS. Cumulated interruption periods of doctoral studies may not exceed 2 years.
- (5) Doctoral studies can be interrupted on solid reasons, not imputable to the doctoral student, as follows:
 - a) medical leave (motivated by serious accidents with body injuries certified by specialist doctors, contacting serious / chronic diseases requiring long-term treatment);
 - b) maternity leave (in case of pregnancy, childbed, postnatal leave);
 - c) force majeure situations.
- (6) The extension provided in paragraph (2), respectively the interruption and the extension stipulated in par. (4), shall be established by additional documents to the contract for doctoral studies.

Art. 28

A student with scholarship expelled from the doctoral studies loses the right to do the doctorate as a scholar in the doctoral school, but can enroll in a new doctoral admission contest on the fee-paying positions.

Art. 29

After the presentation of the doctoral thesis, I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. issues a certificate attesting the period during which the doctoral student has attended doctoral studies.

Art. 30

- (1) The form of doctoral studies at I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. is **full-time**, according to art. 140 par. (4) of the National Education Law no. 1/2011.
- (2) By way of exception to the provisions of paragraph 1, doctoral studies programs can be organized also in the form of education with reduced frequency.
- (3) The doctoral student must allocate significant time to the doctoral program, which requires his / her effective presence within one or more I.O.D.S. constituent institutions, except for the mobility periods, according to art. 21 par. 2 of G.D. no. 681/2011.
- (4) The actual required presence of the doctoral student may differ from one doctoral student to another, being decided by the doctoral supervisor according to the specifics of the

doctoral program and in compliance with the provisions of the regulation, the frequency obligations being a criterion for assessing the quality of the doctoral school, including for funding.

CHAPTER IX. Evaluation of doctoral schools and doctoral supervisors

Art. 31

- (1) Each doctoral school is evaluated individually for each field in order to be accredited. The evaluation of the doctoral school is based on the performance of the doctoral school and the institutional capacity of I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T.. The evaluation of doctoral schools is done by ARACIS or by another quality assurance agency, either from the country or abroad, based on the CNCS reports on the quality of the research and the CNATDCU reports on the quality of human resources. The criteria system and the evaluation methodology are established by order of the minister of education and scientific research, based on the joint proposals of ARACIS, CNCS and CNATDCU. Each doctoral school is evaluated periodically, every 5 years.
- (2) Based on the results of the doctoral school evaluation, ARACIS or the agency provided in paragraph (1) proposes to the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research the grant or, as the case may be, the withdrawal of the accreditation for the organization of doctoral studies. The accreditation for the organization of doctoral studies is attested by Order of the Minister of Education and Scientific Research.
- (3) The doctoral school which, after a period of 5 years since the last accreditation, did not pass the external evaluation process provided in paragraph (1) and has not been re-accredited, loses accreditation.

Art. 32

- (1) The doctoral schools within I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. may be liquidated by BDS decision, and I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. is obliged to inform the Ministry of Education and Research about the process and outcome of the liquidation.
- (2) The liquidation of a doctoral school is only possible after all doctoral students within the respective school have completed their doctoral program or been expelled for reasons unrelated to the liquidation.

Art. 33

- (1) Doctoral schools may carry out periodic internal evaluations and, following evaluations, the doctoral school council may decide to extend or terminate the employment contract of a doctoral supervisor who no longer meets the minimum quality criteria set by the MESR through the CNATDCU for doctoral supervisors.
- (2) The re-accreditation of the doctoral school can be obtained after at least 5 years from the loss of this qualification, only after the resumption of the accreditation process, according

to art. 158 of the National Education Law no. 1/2011, with subsequent completions and amendments.

- (3) The recovery of the title of doctoral supervisor can be obtained after at least 5 years from the loss of this qualification, at the I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. proposal, based on an internal evaluation report, whose assessments are validated by an external evaluation carried out by CNATDCU.

Art. 34

- (1) In the case of non-observance of the quality standards or professional ethics in organizing and carrying out doctoral studies, the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research, according to the provisions of art. 170 of the National Education Law no. 1/2011, may take the following measures, alternatively or simultaneously:
 - a) withdrawal of the quality of doctoral supervisor;
 - b) withdrawal of the doctoral title;
 - c) the withdrawal of the doctoral school's accreditation, which implied the withdrawal of the right of the doctoral school to organize an admission contest for the selection of new doctoral students.
- (2) The National Council for Ethics of Scientific Research, Technological Development and Innovation can be informed about the non-observance of the quality standards or professional ethics, including the existence of plagiarism, according to the provisions of art. 323 of the National Education Law no. 1/2011.

CHAPTER X. Financing of doctoral studies

Art. 35

- (1) The financing of doctoral studies is done according to the provisions of art. 160 of the National Education Law no. 1/2011, with the subsequent completions and amendments, as follows:
 - a) with financing from the state budget;
 - b) in paying regime;
 - c) from other legally constituted sources. Doctoral studies can also be funded by private legal persons or research-development institutes, based on a contract.
- (2) By Government decision initiated by the Ministry of Education and Research, a number of multiannual places, corresponding to the number of multiannual grants, for a duration of at least 3 years, are allocated annually for doctoral studies. The methodology for calculating the financing of universities will consider both the costs for the advanced study program and for the research program. These costs are adjusted with the appropriate coefficients per disciplinary and professional areas of doctoral studies.
- (3) The **doctoral grant** includes:
 - a) the amount of the individual scholarship;

- b) the costs for the advanced study program and for the research program.
- (4) The doctoral grants are awarded **on the basis of national competition** and are organized in the coordination of CNCS, as follows:
 - a) scientific projects between doctoral schools;
 - b) national competition for scientific projects between doctoral supervisors, members of a doctoral school.
- (5) In order to participate in the national competition of doctoral grants between the doctoral supervisors, the members of the doctoral school can submit project proposals that will contain the information:
 - a) curriculum vitae and list of scientific papers of the doctoral supervisor;
 - b) information on the number, status and research topics of the doctoral students coordinated by the doctoral supervisor at the date of project submission;
 - c) the number of doctoral grants required;
 - d) the doctoral theme for each individual doctoral grant requested or for a set of doctoral grants requested in the form of a description of the scientific project in which the doctoral student or doctoral students will be involved; the scientific project may be part of a research project that the doctoral supervisor is running on.

Art. 36

- (1) Under the prolongation of the doctoral program, the doctoral supervisor or doctoral school may propose the extension of the doctoral grant. The methodology for conducting doctoral grant projects competitions provides tools for prolonging the doctoral grant through national competition.
- (2) In the process of evaluating applications for doctoral grants, CNCS uses criteria consistent with good international practices and recurses to independent experts, recognized worldwide in the specific area of the project proposal.
- (3) Experts from abroad, from other EU Member States or from the Member States of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development can also be used to evaluate projects. The proportion of foreign experts is set by CNCS.

Art. 37

- (1) IOSUD-BUASVMT or the doctoral supervisor may not use the doctoral grant funds except for the activities related to the doctoral program for the positions of doctoral students for whom the funds have been allocated.
- (2) It is forbidden to use funds or parts thereof, allocated through doctoral grants, to a doctoral student position, to support the activities of a doctoral student from another position.

CHAPTER XI. Competences provided by doctoral studies programs

Art. 38

Doctoral studies programs should provide professional competences (content, cognitive and research) in specialized fields, as well as transversal competences.

Art. 39

- (1) The following are qualified as **professional competences** in the fields of Plant and Animal Resources Engineering and Veterinary Medicine:
 - a) advanced knowledge in the field;
 - b) ability to identify, formulate and solve research problems;
 - c) knowledge of advanced research methods and techniques;
 - d) knowledge on research project management;
 - e) knowledge of new processes and solutions in research;
 - f) skills for documentation, elaboration and capitalization of scientific papers;
 - g) linguistic abilities at academic level in international languages necessary for documenting and developing scientific papers;
 - h) understanding and ability to apply the principles and values of scientific research ethics in the field.
- (2) The following are considered as **transversal competences**:
 - a) communication skills, written and oral, in the field;
 - b) advanced linguistic skills in international languages;
 - c) the use of information and communication technology;
 - d) interpersonal and teamwork skills;
 - e) knowledge of human, material and financial resources management;
 - f) leadership skills;
 - g) knowledge of career management, as well as knowledge of techniques of job search and job creation for others;
 - h) knowledge on risk, crisis and failure management;
 - i) knowledge of the application of law in the field of intellectual property rights;
 - j) capacities of economic, technological and social entrepreneurship.

CHAPTER XII. The program based on advanced university studies and the scientific research program

Art. 40

- (1) I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T., through the doctoral schools, offers doctoral students a program based on advanced university studies consisting of activities in official study units, through: courses, seminars, laboratories and others likewise.
- (2) The I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. doctoral schools are committed to ensuring free and unhindered access to the advanced study program for all I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. doctoral students.

Art. 41

- (1) Passing the advanced study program can lead to a number of transferable credits set at doctoral school level.
- (2) The advanced study program based on advanced university studies should not adversely affect the available time of the doctoral student for the individual program for scientific research or artistic creation, and should be relevant to the research topic of the doctoral thesis.
- (3) The credits obtained in a research master program or previous doctoral studies and / or scientific research stages, carried out in the country or abroad, in universities or in prestigious research-development units, may be recognized under the terms of the law, as equivalent to those in the study program based on advanced university studies. The equivalence is proposed by the doctoral supervisor and approved by the **doctoral school council**.
- (4) The participation of a doctoral student in the study program based on advanced university studies and the selection of the study elements within this program that must be attended by the doctoral student are established exclusively and independently by his / her doctoral supervisor.
- (5) The doctoral student may independently choose for advanced courses provided by his or her doctoral school or other doctoral schools within I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T.

Art. 42

- (1) The possible evaluations of courses, seminars or laboratories in the advanced study program have an informative role, are not mandatory for doctoral students, and can not condition the funding of doctoral students or their course within the curriculum. The evaluation for granting the doctoral degree **is based on the doctoral thesis** and its public presentation.
- (2) I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. doctoral schools facilitate and guarantee the curricular flexibility of doctoral study programs.

Art. 43

- (1) In order to provide the necessary knowledge base for doctoral studies, it is possible to organize research master programs, exclusively full-time, mainly oriented towards the formation of scientific research competences.
- (2) The learning achieved within the research master can be equated with a study program based on advanced university studies.
- (3) The study program based on advanced university studies can also be achieved through the participation of doctoral students in the research masters organized by the doctoral school, if they have not completed these courses, without obliging the doctoral students to participate to the final exams within this cycle.

Art. 44

- (1) The scientific research program involves the participation of the doctoral student in one or more scientific projects set by the doctoral supervisor.
- (2) Responsibility for the structure, content, development and organization of the doctoral student's scientific research program belongs to the doctoral supervisor.
- (3) The doctoral supervisor is directly responsible for the doctoral student's scientific progress, being required to take all the necessary measures to provide him / her with the conditions, knowledge and information that maximize the chances of completing the doctoral program.
- (4) Ensuring the necessary resources for carrying out the research projects in which the doctoral student is involved is also a specific obligation of I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. and of the doctoral supervisor.

Art. 45

In order to ensure a coherent scientific development, the doctoral student will present, at least once every 12 months, based on the individual research plan, the progress of his / her scientific research program through papers submitted to the guidance commission and the doctoral supervisor, who have the role of guiding, correcting and sustaining the scientific progress of the doctoral student.

CHAPTER XIII. Doctoral thesis and the completion of doctoral studies

Art. 46

- (1) The diploma awarded after the promotion and completion of the doctoral study program is called diploma of doctor.
- (2) Upon completion of the university doctoral studies, I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. awards the diploma and title of Doctor of Science, corresponding to the acronym Dr.
- (3) I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T., through the doctoral schools, can establish and impose the doctoral thesis format type, including the elements of form and background, as well as all the other graphic formatting elements, the doctoral student having the obligation to use this format.
- (4) The content of the doctoral thesis is determined by the doctoral student in consultation with the doctoral supervisor and will respect the framework structure and the limitations imposed by the regulations of the doctoral school.
- (5) The title of the doctoral thesis may be changed at student's free choice, until it is completed for public presentation, with the approval of the doctoral supervisor.
- (6) The doctoral thesis is an original work, it is obligatory to mention the source for any material taken over.
- (7) The doctoral student is the author of the doctoral thesis and assumes the correctness of the data and information presented in the thesis, as well as all the opinions and demonstrations expressed in the thesis.

- (8) The doctoral supervisor is jointly responsible with the author of the thesis of compliance with the quality standards or professional ethics, including the originality of the content, according to the provisions of art. 170 of the National Education Law no. 1/2011.

Art. 47

- (1) Doctoral theses together with their annexes are public documents and are also written in digital format. The doctoral thesis and its annexes are published on a site administered by the Ministry of Education and Research, in compliance with the legislation in force in the field of copyright and the protection of intellectual property rights on the doctoral thesis.
- (2) The use of copyright and / or industrial property rights on the original product or creation made under the doctoral program is carried out in accordance with the provisions of the relevant legislation.

Art. 48

- (1) Doctoral studies are completed by presenting the doctoral thesis in public session in the front of a public presentation commission, hereinafter referred to as Doctoral commission.
- (2) Public presentation may only take place after the doctoral supervisor and the doctoral guidance commission have given their consent for this.
- (3) Following the identification of breaches of good conduct in research and development, including plagiarizing the results or publications of other authors, producing results or replacing the results with fictitious data, in the evaluation of the thesis by the doctoral supervisor or the guidance commission, the approval for public presentation will not be obtained.
- (4) The commission for public presentation of the doctoral thesis is proposed by the doctoral supervisor and approved by the doctoral school council and BDS and consists of at least 5 members:
 - the doctoral school director, the I.O.D.S. representative, as president of the commission for presentation,
 - the doctoral supervisor, and
 - at least 3 official referees, from the country or abroad, recognized specialists in the field in which the doctoral thesis was elaborated, of which at least 2 work outside I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T.
- (5) The members of the commission have the title of doctor and have at least the teaching position of university lecturer or scientific researcher degree II, or have the status of doctoral supervisor in the country or abroad.
- (6) The presentation of the doctoral thesis may take place only after its assessment by all members of the doctoral commission and in the presence of at least 4 of them, with the mandatory participation of the president of the commission and of the doctoral supervisor.

- (7) Public presentation includes minimum one session of questions from the members of the doctoral commission and public, according to art. 168 par. (3) of the National Education Law no. 1/2011.

Art. 49

- (1) Successive to the public presentation of the doctoral thesis and the reports of the official referees, the doctoral commission assesses and deliberates on the qualification to be awarded to the doctoral thesis.
- (2) The qualifications that can be awarded are: "Excellent", "Very Good", "Good", "Satisfactory" and "Unsatisfactory", as the case may be.
- (3) The doctoral diploma will include the qualification obtained by the doctoral student, respectively "Excellent", "Very Good", "Good", or "Satisfactory". Also, the doctoral diploma will include a Latin mention, as follows:
 - a) for the "Excellent" qualification, this will be "Summa cum laude";
 - b) for the "Very good" qualification, this will be "Magna cum laude";
 - c) for the "Good" qualification, this will be "Cum laude";
 - d) for the "Satisfactory" qualification, there will be no mention.

Art. 50

- (1) If the doctoral student has fulfilled all the requirements stipulated in the scientific research program and the assessments on the doctoral thesis allow it, the doctoral commission proposes to award the title of doctor.
- (2) In the case of awarding the "unsatisfactory" qualification, the doctoral commission has the obligation to specify the content items to be rewritten or completed in the doctoral thesis and will request a new date for the public presentation of the reworked thesis.
- (3) The second public presentation of the doctoral thesis takes place in front of the same commission as in the first case. If the second "Unsatisfactory" qualification is obtained at the second public presentation, the doctoral title is not awarded and the doctoral student is expelled.
- (4) If the CNATDCU invalidates the thesis, I.O.D.S.-B.U.A.S.V.M.T. receives from the MESR a written motivation for this.
- (5) The doctoral thesis may be retransmitted to CNATDCU within one year from the date of the first invalidation. If the doctoral thesis becomes invalid the second time, too, the title of doctor will not be awarded and the doctoral student will be expelled.

CHAPTER XIV. Transitional and final provisions

Art. 51

- (1) In cases where a doctoral supervisor guided at the same time more than 8 doctoral students who started their doctoral degree program prior to the entry into force of the

National Education Law no. 1/2011, these doctoral students can continue their studies with the same doctoral supervisor. The reaching of the maximum number of 8 doctoral students, according to art. 167 of Law no. 1/2011, for a doctoral supervisor, is gradual, successive to the completion of the doctoral study program of the doctoral students.

- (2) Doctoral students who started their doctoral studies before the National Education Law no. 1/2011 in a different type of education than the full-time one can continue their studies in this form of education until completion.
- (3) In the case of doctoral students whose doctoral theses were subject to the analysis within the department until 1 October 2011, the provisions of art. 28 and the following from Government Decision no. 567/2005 regarding the organization and carrying out of doctoral studies, with subsequent amendments, shall be applied.
- (4) In the case of doctoral students whose doctoral theses were not subject to analysis within the department until 1 October 2011, the provisions of the present Code and the legislation in force, including the provisions regarding the appointment of the guiding commission shall be applied, taking into account the procedural stage.
- (5) If the guiding commission has not been appointed until the doctoral thesis has been finalized, the public presentation can only take place based on the accord of the doctoral supervisor. .

Art. 52

This regulation was approved by the Senate of Banat's University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine "King Michael I of Romania" from Timisoara in its meeting on 24th April 2015.

RECTOR,

Prof. Paul Pirsan, PhD

BDS DIRECTOR,

Prof. Florian Borlea, PhD