

The External Evaluation Report of a Doctoral Study Domain

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I. Introduction

This external evaluation report is drafted in the framework of the Doctoral Schools at University of Oradea, periodic evaluation for the maintenance of accreditation of the doctoral field of Economics. The evaluation visit for this program was during 15-20 November, 2021 and the Experts Committee was comprised by Coordinator Prof. Cosmin Octavian Dobrin from Academia de Studii Economice din București, International expert Prof. univ. dr. Eglantina Hysa from Epoka University, Albania, and PhD student IUREȘ Mugur Victor Constantin from University of Craiova.

The University of Oradea (UO) is defined as a higher education institution located on the western border of Romania, having a decisive role in the socio-economic and cultural development of the geographical area where it operates. In May 1990, by Decision of the Government of Romania (Annex 1.1.), The Technical University was established, then named (March 1991) the University of Oradea (Annex 1.1). Based on the self- evaluation and external evaluation reports, the UO obtained annually, successively, the authorization and accreditation of 172 study programs (106-bachelor's and 66-master's).

The organization and functioning of the UO are in accordance with national regulations and the European principles of Bologna system. The detailing of the organization and functioning, the design and evaluation of processes and activities are done through all its own regulations, structured on 6 hierarchical levels (Annex1.3): UO guidance documents, Regulations, Procedures, US Regulations, Board Regulations.

The Charter of the University of Oradea (Annex 1.5) is the fundamental regulation in which the academic principles that mark the entire functioning of the university are specified. The regulation for the organization and conduct of elections and competitions for the structures and management functions at university level is detailed in (Annex 2) to the UO Charter. In accordance with national regulations and its own Charter, the UO is administratively structured by faculties, departments, research centers, administrative services. The University of Oradea and the entities in its structure are organized on the basis of its own organizational chart (Annex 1.6), elaborated in accordance with the principle of management by the representative structure (SUO, CA), of the sequential evaluation and of the executive coordination.

The organization and functioning regulation (Annex 1.7.) establishes the structural and functional characteristics of the administrative entities from the composition of the UO, the competencies of the



executive functions at all levels, the functioning program, ways of managing the financial and material patrimony, legal and administrative responsibility.

The internal managerial control of the UO is performed both by the executive management (Rectorate - Board of Directors) and by the deliberative management (Senate), in accordance with the principles and rules enshrined in dedicated regulations (Annex1.8.). Dedicated regulations have been developed to establish the organization and functioning of undergraduate, master's, doctoral, and residency studies (Annexl. 9.). UO has inscribed in the University Charter the governing principles, the legislative and executive deliberative structures.

The University of Oradea is a higher education institution accredited to organize doctoral studies in 18 doctoral fields, organized in 7 doctoral schools (Doctoral School of Humanities and Arts - Doctoral School of Geography - Doctoral School of History - Doctoral School of Sociology - Doctoral School of Biomedical Sciences - Doctoral School of Economic Sciences - Doctoral School of Engineering Sciences), both in the form of full-time education and in the part-time form.

The doctoral university study programs operate in accordance with the national legislation and meet the quality criteria imposed by the national regulations. Details regarding the organization of doctoral university studies can be viewed by accessing the page <https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/oro/>, and the related statistical situations are presented in this Annual Report of the director of the C.S.U.D., for the year 2020.

The activity within the IOSUD University of Oradea is coordinated by the Council of Doctoral Studies (C.S.U.D.), which is led by a Director. Doctoral schools are structures similar to the departments being set up within the faculties, that manage the doctoral fields. The structure that coordinates the activity of the Doctoral Schools is the Doctoral School Council (CSD), led by a director. The secretarial activity is carried out within the Secretariat of Doctoral University Studies (SSUD) composed of a chief secretary and secretary.

The **Doctoral School Of Economic Sciences** operates under this name starting with October 1, 2015 organizing schooling for the doctoral studies in the fundamental field of Social Sciences, branch of science Economic Sciences, Economics (Annex 11.1 -OMENCS no. 5382 / 29.09.2016). This field has been established since 2002. Through affiliation, other doctoral supervisors were added to the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences (Annex11.2- Evidence of affiliation-Senate Decision). Within the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences, the following doctoral supervisors have been active over time:

- Prof. dr. Gheorghe Olah (between 2002 and 2013),
- Prof. dr. habil. Alina Badulescu (since 2007),
- Prof. dr. Petru Prunea (2008-2012),
- Prof. dr. Mihai Berinde (since 2010),
- Prof. dr.habil. Daniel Badulescu (since 2015)
- Prof. dr.habil. Fiorina Stefanescu (since 2015)
- Prof. dr. habil. Olimpia Ban (since 2017)



- Prof. dr.habil. Diana Sabau-Popa (since 2017)
- Prof. dr.habil. Marcel Bolos (since 2017)
- Prof. dr.habil. Sorin Borlea (since 2017)
- Prof. dr. habil Olimpia Neagu (since 2021).

The following doctoral supervisors are affiliated to the doctoral field of Economics:

- Prof. dr. habil. Alina Badulescu,
- Prof. dr.habil. Daniel Badulescu,
- Prof. dr.habil. Florica Stefanescu,
- Prof. dr. Mihai Berinde.

Currently, the Senate of the University of Oradea has approved the affiliation to the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences, the doctoral field of Economics:

- Prof.dr.habil Olimpia Neagu. (see here: <https://www.uoradea.ro/display23989> but also Anexa II.2)

In 2019, two more doctoral fields were established within the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences (Annex 11.3 - Order 3100 / 28.01.2019 establishing the fields of Business Administration and Finance). Currently (academic year 2020-2021), at the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences, Doctorate in Economics, a number of 40 doctoral students are enrolled. Also, starting with 2015 and until now, a number of 9 doctoral students have publicly defended their doctoral thesis, and 9 have obtained the scientific title of doctor, being confirmed by CNATDCU.

The **Curriculum of the Doctoral Field Economics** is prepared according to the provisions of the national legislation and internal regulations of the University of Oradea, expressly the Operational Procedure regarding the elaboration and approval of the curricula (Annex II B. I Curricula for the academic year 2020-2021).

The structure of the Curriculum includes the following chapters:

- Professional and transversal skills;
- The program based on advanced university studies consisting of compulsory disciplines (Methodology of scientific research in the fundamental field, Ethics and academic integrity in the fundamental field), ending with the presentation of the scientific research project;
- The scientific research program consisting of 3 scientific progress reports, also mentioning the scientific activities;
- Evaluation and presentation of the doctoral thesis before the Advisory committee;
- Public defence of the doctoral thesis before the Commission of Speciality.

Within the doctoral field of Economics, the following academics carry out activities of doctoral supervisors having obtained the habilitation certificate and being tenured teaching staff, respectively associates at the University of Oradea:

Table 1. Information on the doctoral supervisors affiliated to the doctoral field of Economics.

| Name and surname | O.M. by which the quality of doctoral supervisor was conferred | Tenured / associate / affiliated |
|--|--|----------------------------------|
| Prof.dr.habil.Alina Badulescu | 1805/20.08.2007 Annex 11.A.25 | Tenured/affiliated |
| Prof.dr.habil.Daniel Badulescu | 47 18 /11.08.2015 Annex II.A.25 | Tenured /affiliated |
| Prof.dr.habil.Florica Stefanescu | 4718/11.08.2015 Annex II.A.25 | Tenured / affiliated |
| Prof.dr. Mihai Berinde | 3782/11.05.2010 Annex II.A.25 | Associate/ affiliated |
| Prof.dr.habil.Olimpia Neagu (affiliated 2021) | 5822/16.10.2020 Annex II.A.25 | Associate/ affiliated |

At the level of the Faculty of Economic Sciences there is an internally accredited research center, called the **Research Center for Competitiveness and Sustainable Development- CCCDD**, in which both academics and doctoral students are members - Director, Prof. dr. Daniel Badulescu. Its activity report for the period 2014-2018 is available here: <http://cccdd.steconomieuoradea.ro/portofoliu/rezultate-obtinate/>.

The Research Center for Competitiveness and Sustainable Development was established in 2007 (according to HS 92 / 03.12.2007) and is periodically evaluated and re-accredited internally. The Research Center for Competitiveness and Sustainable Development is internally certified by the Attestation Certificate no. 1969 / 06.02.2019. Its members are doctoral coordinators, academics members of the doctoral advisory committees as well as doctoral students. Also, additional information can be found by accessing the following link: <https://www.uoradea.ro/Centre%20de%20cercetare>.

For the doctoral supervisors and the guidance activity within the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences, the Faculty of Economic Sciences, the Department of Economics and Business manages the doctoral field of Economics and the field of Business Administration, ensuring rooms with appropriate endowments to which are added laboratories registered on ERRIS (Annex II.A. 21-Educational spaces, ERRIS laboratories).

IOSUD / Doctoral School provides doctoral students with access to the resources needed to conduct doctoral studies. At the UO level, the ANELIS Plus program is contracted and implemented through this program the entire academic community has free access to the following databases: Web of Science, Scopus, ProQuest, SpringerLink Journals, ScienceDirect Freedom Collection.



II. Methods used

This external evaluation report is drafted based on the evaluation visit for this doctoral program in Economics was during 15-20 November, 2021. All the Experts Committee members had the opportunity to join the meetings online and the group Coordinator Prof. Cosmin Octavian Dobrin, could join the institution by consulting during a site-visit at the premises of at Oradea University.

Specifically, the methods and tools used in the external evaluation process, before and during the evaluation visit, include the following activities:

- The analysis of the internal evaluation report of the doctoral study domain under review and its respective annexes;
- The analysis of documents made available by the IOSUD, in physical format, during the evaluation visit;
- The analysis of documents, data and information available on the IOSUD/Doctoral School(s) website, in electronic format;
- Visiting the buildings included in the institution's property, spaces and capacities (by Coordinator of the External Evaluation Experts);
- Meeting/discussions with doctoral students in the doctoral study domain under review;
- Meeting/Discussions with the graduates of the doctoral study domain under review;
- Meeting/Discussions with employers of the graduates in the doctoral study domain under review;
- Meeting/Discussions with the school officials of the Doctoral School(s) in which the doctoral study domain under review is operating;
- Meeting/Discussions with the doctoral advisors in the doctoral study domain under review;
- Meeting/discussions with the representatives of the various structures of the IOSUD/Doctoral School(s) in which the doctoral study domain under review is operating:
 - The Council of the Doctoral School, the Board of Directors, the Quality Assessment and Assurance Commission, the Quality Assurance Department, the Ethics Commission (including with the student representatives of these structures).

In support of additional evidence, the PhD student IUREȘ Mugur Victor Constantin from University of Craiova, had prepared a survey for PhD student. Additionally, the Experts Committee members asked to the university some additional documents that helped to clarify and ensured a correct evaluation of each criteria.



III. Analysis of ARACIS's performance indicators

This external evaluation report is drafted in the framework of the Doctoral School of Economics at Oradea University, periodic evaluation for the maintenance of accreditation of the doctoral field of Economics. The doctoral programme in the field of Economics at Oradea University is an accredited programme. Each evaluation criteria stipulated by ARACIS have been analysed from the self-evaluation group preparing the Self-Evaluation Report, and in this external report the External Experts Committee will evaluate the respective criteria. The three main Domains to be evaluated are A. Institutional Capacity; B. Education Effectiveness; and, C. Quality Management.

Domain A. INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

In this Domain, the External Experts Committee will investigate (1) The administrative, managerial institutional structures and the financial resources; (2) Research infrastructure; (3) Quality and human resources. Each of these criterions is based on some specific standards to be fulfilled by the institution.

Criterion A.1. The administrative, managerial institutional structures and the financial resources

This criterion is to analyse the existing of the administrative and managerial structures in the institutional level that are in support of the doctoral studies in the field of Economics. Additionally, this criterion considers the financial resources available to maintain the above mentioned programme.

Standard A.1.1. The institution organizing doctoral studies (IOSUD) has implemented the effective functioning mechanisms provided for in the specific legislation on the organization of doctoral studies.

Performance Indicator A.1.1.1. The existence of specific regulations and their application at the level of the IOSUO body and the doctoral school, respectively, considering the past five years as period of reference.

At the level of IOSUD-University of Oradea, there are specific regulations for the organization and development of doctoral studies. These are developed in accordance with the provisions of national legislation and are applied at both the level of IOSUD and of the doctoral schools. All the regulations are published on the website of the University of Oradea and are available for consultation by accessing the button Doctoral Studies - Regulations - National Regulations - Internal Regulations (<https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/documente/reglementari>).



The internal regulations that underlie the organization and development of activities within the doctoral studies are:

- Regulation on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies and postdoctoral programs at IOSUD_UO, in force at the time of the internal evaluation, adopted by the Decision of the University Senate number 14 of 28.01.2021, being available for consultation on the website of IOSUD (<https://www.uoradea.ro/display22980>), respectively in Annex 11.A.I .; The regulation of organization and development of doctoral university studies at the level of the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences was adopted by CSUD Decision and is available for consultation on the Doctoralschool website of EconomicSciences respectively in Annex 11.A. I. I .;
- The methodology for organizing the elections and appointing the members of the Council and the director of the Doctoral School from I.O.S.U.D. - University of Oradea, in force at the date of the internal evaluation, was adopted by the Decision of the University Senate number 11 of 26.10.2020 Annex 13, being available for consultation on the IOSUD website (<https://www.uoradea.ro/display12788>) (Annex II.A.2 and Annex II. A. 3). The documents proving the conduct of the elections of the Doctoral Schools Councils and the elections/appointment of the Directors of the Doctoral Schools are found in Annex II.A.3- Evidence of elections at SD level Annex II. A.3.4;
- The methodology for organizing and conducting the competition for admission to doctoral studies at the level of IOSUD_UO, in force at the time of the internal evaluation, was adopted by the Decision of the University Senate number 16 of 25.03.2021, being available for consultation on the website of IOSUD (<https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/admitere/metodologie-admitere-doctorat-iosud-uo>), respectively in Annex II.A.4.;

The admission methodologies of the Doctoral Schools have been adopted by CSUD Decision and are available for consultation on the IOSUD website (<https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/admitere/metodologie-admitere-doctorat-iosud-uo>), respectively in Annex II.A.4.1.

The methodology regarding the admission and schooling of Romanians from everywhere for doctoral studies starting with the academic year 2021 - 2022, in force at the date of the internal evaluation, was adopted by the Decision of the University Senate number 16 of 25.03.2021, being available for consultation on IOSUD website (<https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/documente/reglementari/reglementari-interne>), respectively in Annex II.A.5 .;

The methodology regarding the admission and schooling of foreign citizens starting with the academic year 2021-2022 in force at the date of the internal evaluation, was adopted by the Decision of the



University Senate number 16 of 25.03.2021, being available for consultation on the IOSUD website (<https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/documente/reglementari/reglementari-interne>), respectively in Annex II.A.6 .;

- The operational procedure regarding the recognition of the doctoral degree in sciences or in a professional field, obtained abroad, in force at the date of the internal evaluation, was adopted by the Decision of the University Senate number 19 of 27.03.2017, being available for consultation on the IOSUD website (<https://www.uoradea.ro/display/2986>), respectively in Annex II.A.7 .;

The operational procedure regarding the automatic recognition by the University of Oradea of the quality of doctoral supervisor obtained in university educational institutions accredited from abroad, in force at the date of the internal evaluation, was adopted by the Decision of the University Senate number 19 of 27.03.2017, being available for consultation on the IOSUD website (<https://www.uoradea.ro/display/2989>), respectively in Annex II.A.8 .;

- Regarding the organization of the meetings at the level of the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences, they take place as many times as necessary, but at least three times a year. The supporting documents are presented in Annex II.A.9.1.
- The Doctoral Studies Contract is Annex 1 to ROFSUD (<https://www.uoradea.ro/display/7406>), for exemplification a model is presented in Annex II.A.10.
- Internal procedures for analysis and approval of proposals on the topic of doctoral study programs - in Annex II.A.1.1. Regulation on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies and postdoctoral programs at the Doctoral School of Economics.

Also at the IOSUD level, the University of Oradea has the following internal regulations:

- a. Framework regulation for granting scholarships and other forms of material support for students of the University of Oradea (<https://www.uoradea.ro/display/22413>)- Annex II.A.11;
- b. Methodology regarding the exemption from the payment of the fee for the presentation of the habilitation thesis, respectively for the refund of the expenses with the defense of the habilitation thesis (<https://www.uoradea.ro/display/6904>)- Annex II.A.12 .;
- c. Regulation regarding the occupation of university assistant positions for a determined period (<https://www.uoradea.ro/display/22532>)-Annex II.A.13;
- d. Regulation on the organization and conduct of the process of obtaining the certificate of qualification at the IOSUD University of Oradea (<https://www.uoradea.ro/display/5846>)- Annex II.A.14;

- e. Methodology regarding the granting of doctoral scholarships at IOSUD - University of Oradea (<https://www.uoradea.ro/display/3987>) - Annex II.A.16.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator A.1.1.2. *The doctoral school' Regulation includes mandatory criteria, procedures and standards binding on the aspects specified in Article 17, paragraph (5) of the Government Decision No. 681/2011 on the approval of the Code of Doctoral Studies with subsequent amendments and additions.*

The Regulations of Doctoral School Economics include mandatory criteria, procedures and standards for issues specified in Article 17, Paragraph 5 of the Government Decision no. 681/2011, including subsequent amendments and additions.

The Regulations of Doctoral School Economics include provisions regarding:

- the acceptance of new doctoral supervising members, as well as the way in which the statute of a doctoral supervisor can be withdrawn from a member of the doctoral school, are regulated in the Regulation on granting and revoking the membership of Doctoral Schools, approved by Decision Senate 33 of 26.03.2018 Annex 16 (<https://www.uoradea.ro/display/6171>); Annex II. A.1.1 Regulation on the organisation and development of doctoral studies and postdoctoral programs at the level of the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences-Art.5(5).
- the mechanisms by which decisions are taken on the appropriateness, structure and content of the training program based on advanced university studies are provided in paragraph 3.2.3 (art. 31 and art. 32, respectively) of the Regulation on the organization and conduct of university studies, doctorate and postdoctoral programs (<https://www.uoradea.ro/display/22980>); Annex II. A.1.1 Regulation on the organisation and development of doctoral studies and postdoctoral programs at the level of the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences-Art.20(3) : " The participation of a certain doctoral student in the training program based on advanced university studies and the choice of study elements within this program to be followed by the doctoral student are established exclusively and independently by his doctoral supervisor. The restriction of this option of the doctoral supervisor is forbidden." and Art.10.
- the procedures for changing the doctoral supervisor of a certain doctoral student and the procedures for mediating conflicts are regulated in ai1. 34 pa ra. 2, art. 38 and respectively art. 27 of the Regulation on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies

and postdoctoral programs (<https://www.uoradea.ro/display22980>); Annex II. A.1.1 Regulation regarding the organisation and development of doctoral studies and postdoctoral programs at the level of the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences - Art.7 (1) (2) (3) (4).

- the circumstances under which the doctoral program can be interrupted are regulated in paragraph 3.1.1. Duration of the cycle of doctoral university studies, art. 24 of the Regulation on the organization and development of doctoral studies and postdoctoral programs (<https://www.uoradea.ro/display22980>); Annex II. A.1.1 Regulation regarding the organisation and development of doctoral studies and postdoctoral programs at the level of the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences - Art. 16 (1) and (2).
- the ways to prevent fraud in scientific research, including plagiarism, are regulated in the Code of Ethics and University Ethics of the University of Oradea (<https://www.uoradea.ro/display23004> - Annex II.A.17.) and the sanctions in case of non-compliance with the quality or professional ethics standards are provided in art. 77 of the Regulation on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies and postdoctoral programs (<https://www.uoradea.ro/display22980>); Annex II. A.1.1 Regulation regarding the organization and development of doctoral university studies and postdoctoral programs at the level of the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences- Art.28 (3).
- ensuring access to research resources is regulated in art. 68 of the Regulation on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies and postdoctoral programs and respectively art. 6.1 Obligations of IOSUD UO from the Contract for Doctoral Studies - Annex 1 to the Regulation on the organization and conduct of doctoral studies and postdoctoral programs (<https://www.uoradea.ro/display22980>); Annex II. A.1.1 Regulation regarding the organization and development of doctoral university studies and postdoctoral programs at the level of the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences- Art.18.
- the attendance obligations of the doctoral students, according to a methodology elaborated by the Ministry of National Education, are established at the level of each Doctoral School. Annex II. A.1.1 Regulation regarding the organization and development of doctoral university studies and postdoctoral programs at the level of the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences- Art.13

The existence and the application of all these regulations was also discussed and confirmed from the meeting with the staff and representatives of this program.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.



Standard A.1.2. The IOSUD has the logistical resources necessary to carry out the doctoral studies' mission.

This standard ensures the existence of a good system which maintains all the necessary data and details of the doctoral student academic background.

Performance Indicator A.1.2.1. The existence and effectiveness of an appropriate IT system to keep track of doctoral students and their academic background.

The IOSUD UO IT System, UNIWEB Platform, is found to be adequate and effective to keep the full track of doctoral students and their academic progress. This system enables collection, processing and analysing of data and information relevant to quality institutional assessment and assurance. At the level of the University and IOSUD UO, the Uniweb platform1 (<https://uniweb.uoradea.ro/>) is also implemented (the interface for students is available at <https://studinfo.uoradea.ro/>), which provides the module management computerization of students, including doctoral students. Most of the processes in IOSUD UO are computerized: student admission, allocation in on-site campus accommodation, scientific research management, student records, academic records, grade transcripts, scholarships, and intra-community mobility.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator A.1.2.2. The existence and use of an appropriate software program and evidence of its use to verify the percentage of similarity in all doctoral theses.

The institution has ensured the usage of a sophisticated software to check the percentage of similarity of doctoral theses. Sistemantiplagiat.ro <https://www.sistemantiplagti.aro/>, (Annex II.A.19.) offers detailed similarity report that consists of different coefficients that have been decided as threshold from the scientific bodies of the program. These programs have to be applied for all the doctoral theses and the students work in accordance with the supervisor. The theses are checked before their presentation with the advisory committee. Based on the recommendations of the advisory committee regarding changes to the thesis and at the request of the supervisor, the thesis can be re-verified before the public presentation. According to the provisions of the Operational Procedure regarding the evaluation of doctoral students (<https://www.uoradea.ro/display/17187>), art.8.2.3.18., each doctoral thesis to be defended publicly will be accompanied by both the Antiplagiarism Report generated by the Sistemantiplagiat software.ro as well as the Resolution of the doctoral supervisor on the similarity report (Annex 13 of the OP), the opinion of the doctoral school on the anti-plagiarism verification (Annex 12 of



the OP) and the Declaration of authenticity of the doctoral thesis (Annex 18 of the OP), assumed by the doctoral student and the scientific coordinator.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Standard A.1.3. The IOSUD makes sure that financial resources are used optimally, and the revenues obtained from doctoral studies are supplemented through additional funding besides governmental funding.

This standard ensures the availability of financial resources and other internal and external opportunities arising for the doctoral students. This is important to enhance capacities of research and to extend the outcome in a larger target group.

Performance Indicator A.1.3.1. *Existence of at least one research or institutional / human resources development grant under implementation at the time of submission of the internal evaluation file, per doctoral study domain under evaluation, or existence of at least 2 research or institutional development / human resources grant for the doctoral study domain, obtained by doctoral thesis advisors operating in the evaluated domain within the past 5 years. The grants address relevant themes for the respective domain and, as a rule, are engaging doctoral students.*

Within the evaluated doctoral field, a determining factor for the good development of research and/or professional development activities of doctoral students is the ability of doctoral supervisors to attract additional financial resources, one of the variants being the financial resources obtained through grants.

During the period of evaluation, 2016-2020, this program is involved in 1 research grant, 1 institutional development grant and 9 human resources grants (reference to the self-evaluation report, table 2.9).

The PhD students of this program have been actively involved in these projects, for instance:

- In the project PN III - RU-MCI, Mobility Projects for Researchers: PN-III-PI- I.I -MC-2018-2391, The 32nd IBIMA Conference: 15-16 November 2018, Seville, Spain, Alina Badulescu, Contract no.. : 272 I 12.10.2018, the doctoral student Diana Sava was involved and the result consisted in the paper: Sava Diana, Badulescu Alina. 2018, Creative and cultural sector: Focus on Romania. 32nd IBIMA Conference: 15-16 November 2018, Seville, Spain <https://ibima.org/accepted-paper/creative-and-cultural-sector-focus-on-romania/>.



- In the project PN III - RU-MCI, Mobility projects for researchers, Contract number 75 / 12.08.2019, beneficiary Badulescu were involved doctoral students Daniel Dianu Dragos, Gavrilut Darie and Herte Diana and the resulting work was: Business Formation, Discontinuity, and Economic Growth in Romania. Conference: The 34th International Business Information Management Association Conference (IBIMA), 2019.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled

Performance Indicator *A.1.3.2. *The percentage of doctoral students active at the time of the evaluation, who for at least six months receive additional funding sources besides government funding, through scholarships awarded by individual persons or by legal entities, or who are financially supported through research or institutional / human resources development grants is not less than 20%.*

At the level of IOSUD_UO, doctoral scholarships from own income are assigned annually, to a number of PhD students, higher than 10% of the total.

Within the field of doctoral studies in Economics, there are a total of 40 doctoral students at the time of drawing up the Internal Evaluation Report. The number of doctoral students who have benefited from other sources of funding, starting with 2016, for a period of at least six months, is 9 students, respectively 22.5% of the total. This is also verified from the information provided in the self-evaluation report, table 2.10.

Thus, this program succeeded to fulfill its criterion.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled

Performance Indicator *A.1.3.3. *At least 10% of the total amount of doctoral grants obtained by the university through institutional contracts and of tuition fees collected from the doctoral students enrolled in the paid tuition system is used to reimburse professional training expenses of doctoral students (attending conferences, summer schools, training, programs abroad, publication of specialty papers or other specific forms of dissemination etc.).*

At the level of IOSUD-UO there are specific regulations regarding the use of funds dedicated to doctoral studies, from own resources or from other sources of financing for expenses regarding the salary of the



doctoral supervisor, of the members of the advisory committee, expenses for the additional training program and for the research activity of the PhD students.

The Doctoral Schools draw up their income and expenditure budget in the structure presented in the procedure. For each doctoral field of SD, the conventional hourly income is calculated using the Uniweb application, starting from the assigned SD income from the budget and the income from tuition fees and other related SD fees, after deducting the administration expense, related to the total number of conventional hours of each field in the doctoral school.

Doctoral school expenses refer to: 1. Expenses of a material nature for the research program; 2. Expenses with travels planned according to the needs of the doctoral school field in compliance with the legal provisions in force and within the budget allocated to the doctoral school field; and 3. Salary expenses. The Self-Evaluation report shows a detailed information on the revenues for the doctoral field evaluated for the last five years (Table 2.11).

At the level of 2018, it was approved to use the revenues of the doctoral school to settle the participation of doctoral students in international conferences. Thus, at the level of 2018, the total amounts settled with the professional training expenses of the doctoral students amount to 3960 lei, i.e. 1.74% of the total income for 2018.

During the evaluated period, on the doctoral field of Economics, the total amounts settled with the doctoral students' professional training expenses come to 3960 lei. The professional expenses of doctoral students also included the amounts spent by the university for the hourly payment of the guidance commissions, as well as the expenses made by the university for the development of entrepreneurial skills of doctoral students, dissemination the results of the research and mobility carried out by them, as set out in Annex II.A.20.a. The percentage of doctoral students' training expenses out of the total budget revenues and fees is over 10%.

Thus, this criterion it is considered as a fulfilled one.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled

Criterion A.2. Research infrastructure



Standard A.2.1. The IOSUD has a modern research infrastructure to support the conduct of doctoral studies' specific activities.

Performance Indicator A.2.1.1.*The venues and the material equipment available to the doctoral school enable the research activities in the evaluated domain to be carried out, in line with the assumed mission and objectives (computers, specific software, equipment, laboratory equipment, library, access to international databases etc.). The research infrastructure and the provision of research services are presented to the public through a specific platform. The research infrastructure described above, which was purchased and developed within the past 5 years will be presented distinctly.*

The spaces and material endowment assigned to the doctoral field of Economics allow the realization of the research activities, in the evaluated field, in accordance with the assumed mission and objectives. The room dedicated to doctoral students is room FOOS- Research laboratory - resource center for the doctoral school (Table 2.13).

At the level of the Faculty of Economic Sciences there is an internally accredited research center, called the Research Center for Competitiveness and Sustainable Development - CCCDD, in which both teachers and doctoral students are members. The Research Center for Competitiveness and Sustainable Development was established in 2007, and is periodically evaluated and re-accredited internally. The Research Center for Competitiveness and Sustainable Development is internally certified by the Attestation Certificate no. 1969 I 06.02.2019.

According to the information provided in Table 2.13, there are 6 existing research laboratories at the level of the doctoral field of Economics posted on the platform ERRIS 11.A.2I . The existing research laboratories is as following:

- CCCDD - Research lab - resources center for the doctoral school
- CCCDD - Quantitative and modelling economics lab
- CCCDD - Tourism lab
- CCCDD - Applied economics lab
- CCCDD - E-work lab
- CCCDD - European economic relations lab

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion A.3. Quality of Human Resources



This criterion is devoted to the doctoral thesis advisors and the teaching staff for the doctoral school. It mainly deals with their expertise in the field of the study subjects they teach, their expertise on the thesis topics, and their capacities to support this programme.

Standard A.3.1. At the level of each domain there are sufficient qualified staff to ensure the conduct of doctoral study program.

According to this standard, the institution has to ensure sufficient qualified staff supporting the program in teaching and research activities. Their specialization has to be in line with the domain of the programme.

Performance Indicator A.3.1.1. Minimum three doctoral thesis advisors within that doctoral domain, and at least 50% of them (but no less than three) meet the minimum standards of the National Council for Attestation of University Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates (CNATDCU) in force at the time when the evaluation is carried out, which standards are required and mandatory for obtaining the enabling certification.

According to the last data provided, there were 28 PhD supervisors in the field of Economics, out of whom 16 PhD supervisors are affiliated to the Doctoral School Economics I and 12 to the Doctoral School Economics II. 12 PhD supervisors were affiliated to the Doctoral Schools (8 PhD supervisors - the Doctoral School Economics I and 4 PhD supervisors - the Doctoral School Economics II). Among the PhD supervisors currently affiliated to the Doctoral Schools Economics I and Economics II, the field of ECONOMICS, a number of 22 PhD supervisors (12 PhD supervisors the Doctoral School Economics I and 10 PhD supervisors - the Doctoral School Economics II), respectively 78,55% (75% - the Doctoral School Economics I and 83.33% - the Doctoral School Economics II) meet the minimum standards CNATDCU, necessary and mandatory for the habilitation certificate of in force at the time of evaluation. This indicator is evaluated as a fulfilled one.

During academic year 2020/2021, according to the Payroll (Annex II.A.24.), the activity at doctoral university studies is supported by teachers who meet the legal conditions, have a minimum teaching degree and are specialists in the field of doctoral guidance (in the case of members of the advisory committees), and have the quality of doctoral supervisor obtained by Ministerial Order (in the case of doctoral supervisors).

Out of 4 PhD supervisors in the field of Economics as of 31.12.2020, 3 are tenured academics within University of Oradea (reference in self-evaluation report, Table 2.14), respectively 75% of the total. At present, there are 3 UO tenured academics out of the total 5, i.e. 60%. The criterion is met.



Among the PhD supervisors currently affiliated to the Doctoral School in the field of ECONOMICS, out of 5 PhD supervisors, 4 meet the minimum standards CNATDCU, necessary and mandatory for the habilitation certificate of in force at the time of evaluation. All the information is provided in the Annex II. A. 23. This indicator is evaluated as a fulfilled one.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator *A.3.1.2. At least 50% of all doctoral advisors have a full-time employment contract for an indefinite period with the IOSUD.

As it results from Table 2.14 Information on the situation of doctoral supervisors within the doctoral field of Economics presented in the previous indicator, a number of 3 doctoral supervisors are tenured out of a total number of 4 doctoral supervisors which means a percentage of 75%. The indicator is met. If we take into account the situation at the present date, 3 out of 5 supervisors are tenured, i.e. 60%. Annex II.A.26 contains the proof certificates signed by the IOSUD director for tenured doctoral supervisors.

Accordingly, this indicator as well maintains the required percentage of 50%.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator A.3.1.3. The study subjects in the education program based on advanced higher education studies pertaining to the doctoral domain are taught by teaching staff or researchers who are doctoral thesis advisors / certified doctoral thesis advisors, professors / CS I or lecturer / CS II, with proved expertise in the field of the study subjects they teach, or other specialists in the field who meet the standards established by the institution in relation with the aforementioned teaching and research functions, as provided by the law.

The supervisors of PhD students are experts in the field, and they show a good track of their academic performance. This is verified from their CVs provided as attachments in the self-evaluation report. The subjects of the Economics programme are taught by PhD professors with proven expertise in the field of



the subjects taught. This is verified from their CVs provided as attachments in the self-evaluation report as well. (Table 2.16 and Annex II. A.34)

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator *A.3.1.4. *The percentage of doctoral thesis advisors who concomitantly coordinate more than 8 doctoral students, but no more than 12, who are themselves studying in doctoral program does not exceed 20%.*

The share of PhD supervisors within the doctoral field of ECONOMICS who simultaneously coordinate more than 8 PhD students, but not more than 12, during their doctoral studies (3 years to which add the extensions granted according to Art. 39 Paragraph (3) of the Code approved by Government Decision No. 681/2011 as subsequently amended and supplemented), not exceeds 20% for the domain of Economics.

Specifically, at the reference moment 1st of October 2021, there are 5 supervisors: Prof Alina Badulescu, Prof Daniel Badulescu, Prof Florica Stefanescu, Prof Mihai Berinde and Prof. Olimpia Neagu. Prof Neagu was confirmed by decision of the Senate, see here: <https://www.uoradea.ro/display23989> but also Anexa II.2 to the Internal Report, and she has 2 PhD students under supervision, see the attached List of doctoral students Economics, 01.10.2021 (Annex. EE.2.). There is only 1 supervisor out of the 5 having 11 students under guidance (representing 20%). Thus, this indicator is also considered fulfilled.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Standard A.3.2. *The Doctoral advisors within the domain are carrying out a scientific activity visible at international level.*

Besides the proper academic profile of the doctoral students' supervisors, they have to ensure an international integrity with networking and scientific research output.



Performance Indicator A.3.2.1. *At least 50% of the doctoral thesis advisors in the evaluated domain have at least 5 Web of Science- or ERIH-indexed publications in magazines of impact, or other achievements of relevant significance for that domain, including international-level contributions that indicate progress in scientific research - development - innovation for the evaluated domain. The aforementioned doctoral thesis advisors enjoy international awareness within the past five years, consisting of: membership on scientific boards of international publications and conferences; membership on boards of international professional associations; guests in conferences or expert groups working abroad, or membership on doctoral defense commissions at universities abroad or co-leading with universities abroad. For Arts and Sports and Physical Education Sciences, doctoral thesis advisors shall prove their international visibility within the past five years by their membership on the boards of professional associations, membership in organizing committees of arts events and international competitions, membership on juries or umpire teams in artistic events or international competitions.*

From the PhD supervisors in Economics, 75% of them have more than 5 papers indexed in Web of Science impact factor journals. In the meantime, all PhD supervisors have other relevant achievements - books or book chapters published in international publishing houses, Web of Science indexed papers, papers presented at international scientific conferences. Additionally, all these professors are having international recognition, such as inclusion in the editorial board members or reviewers in the indexed journals and conferences. All the detailed information is found in their CVs provided as attached in the self-evaluation report and in the official website of the university (Annex II.A.29.).

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator *A.3.2.2. *At least 50% of the doctoral thesis advisors in a specific doctoral study domain continue to be active in their scientific field, and acquire at least 25% of the score requested by the minimal CNATDCU standards in force at the time of the evaluation, which are required and mandatory for acquiring their enabling certificate, based on their scientific results within the past five years.*

As mentioned above, most of the PhD supervisors are being active. Regarding the minimal CNATDCU scores, the required minimum score is 4 points, 25% of which represents 1 point. In table 2.19 it can be seen that 4 out of 5 doctoral supervisors have the required score (25% of 4 points) and 3 of them exceed by far both the 1-point score and the 4-point score.

Thus, this program obtained at least 25% of the score required by the minimum CNATDCU standards in force at the date of evaluation, necessary and mandatory for the habilitation certificate, based on the



scientific results in the past five years. This is verified from the Annex II.A.28 and Table 2.19 provided on the self-evaluation report.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Domain B. EDUCATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

This domain is composed of three main pillars, (1) The number, quality and diversity of candidates enrolled for the admission contest; (2) The content of doctoral programs; and (3) The results of doctoral Studies and procedures for their evaluation. Each of these pillars is supported by standards and criteria to be fulfilled.

Criterion B.1. The number, quality and diversity of candidates enrolled for the admission contest

This criterion is related to the program capacities and attractiveness to enroll a considerable number of students, that present a good quality and demonstrate a good academic, research and professional performance.

Standard B.1.1. The institution organizing doctoral studies has the capacity to attract candidates from outside the higher education institution or a number of candidates exceeding the number of seats available.

Through this standard we look at the institutional/program capacities to attract students in order to increase the competitiveness and ensure a good quality by selecting the applicants.

Performance Indicator *B.1.1.1.*The ratio between the number of graduates of masters' programs of other higher education institutions, national or foreign, who have enrolled for the doctoral admission contest within the past five years and the number of seats funded by the state budget, put out through contest within the doctoral domain is at least 0.2 or the ratio between the number of candidates within the past five years and the number of seats funded by the state budget put out through contest within the doctoral studies domain is at least 1,2.*

Within IOSUD - UO in all doctoral fields the number of candidates is much higher than the number of doctoral grants allocated by the Ministry of Education.

The data presented in the Table 2.20. resulted from the analysis of the situation of the admission results in the last five years for the doctoral field evaluated.

The ratio between the number of master's degree graduates of other higher education institutions in the country or abroad who have registered for the admission competition for doctoral studies and the number of places financed from the state budget put up for competition at the admissions 2015- 2019 for the evaluated doctoral field is 1.8. Thus, we recommend the fulfillment of this indicator as well.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Standard B.1.2 Candidates admitted to doctoral studies demonstrate academic, research and professional performance.

This standard is related to the quality of the enrolled doctoral students and their capacities to follow up with the research thesis.

Performance Indicator *B.1.2.1. *Admission to doctoral study programs is based on selection criteria including: previous academic, research and professional performance, their interest for scientific or arts/sports research, publications in the domain and a proposal for a research subject. Interviewing the candidate is compulsory, as part of the admission procedure.*

In the field of academic doctoral studies Economics, doctoral studies are organized in the Doctoral School of the domain of Economics in accordance with IOSUD-UO internal rules regarding admission respectively the completion of doctoral studies. All is made clear and transparent on the website of the doctoral school.

The admission is transparent on merit-based, as resulting from the Admission methodology and Minute of the Admission, and also this resulted from the discussion with doctoral students. During the interview, there are verified the knowledge and abilities for research of the candidates, as well as previous scientific contributions, if any.

(AnnexII.4.1,<https://cloud.uoradea.ro/index.php/s/ByS5FFtye3jJKrn>,<https://cloud.uoradea.ro/index.php/s/CgqnRjgasjaDRBq>,<https://cloud.uoradea.ro/index.php/s/EMNw7G3RCGHyaiW>)

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator B.1.2.2. *The expelling rate, including renouncement / dropping out of doctoral students 3, respectively 4, years after admission does not exceed 30%.*



In order to determine the dropout rate of doctoral students 3/4 years after admission, the ratio between the number of doctoral students enrolled in year IV / V at 3/4 years from admission and the number of doctoral students enrolled in year I for admissions from years 2015-2018.

The dropout rate for 2018-2019 is 0.3, for 2019-2010 is 0.3, and for 2020-2021 is 0 (Table 2.23. in self-evaluation report). Thus, the average dropout rates for the three years considered is $6/25 = 0.24$ - 24% percentage not exceeding the value of 0.3 - 30% percentage. The criterion is met.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion B.2. The content of doctoral programs

This criterion is devoted to the academic program offered to the students, including scientific research training, in-depth research, scientific methodology applied that supports the doctoral thesis, etc.

Standard B.2.1. The training program based on advanced university studies is appropriate to improve doctoral students' research skills and to strengthen ethical behavior in science.

Performance Indicator B.2.1.1. *The training program based on advanced academic studies includes at least 3 disciplines relevant to the scientific research training of doctoral students; at least one of these disciplines is intended to study in-depth the research methodology and/or the statistical data processing.*

The advanced university training program includes disciplines of scientific research methodology and ethics and academic integrity, but also relevant disciplines for training in scientific research in the evaluated doctoral field.

Starting with the academic year 2018-2019, the Curriculum (Annex11.B.1) was revised and updated in accordance with OMEN 3131 / 30.01 .2018, respectively HS no.32 / 19.02.2018-Annex 13, introducing as a separate discipline *Ethics and academic integrity in the field of Engineering Sciences*.

The optional subjects in the curriculum are chosen either from the optional subjects in the curriculum, but can also be supplemented with subjects from the offer of research master's degrees.



The details of the activities (course, seminar, number of credits, etc.) are provided in the Discipline Sheets, specifying the objectives of the disciplines, the basic thematic content, the evaluation system of doctoral students and the minimum bibliography. The activities within the PUA are provided in a schedule made public at the beginning of the school year.

The curriculum includes at least two components dedicated to some of the transversal competencies, including aspects related to research ethics, scientometry, and academic writing. The files of the subjects provided in the curriculum are presented in Annex II.B.2.

The advanced university training program includes disciplines relevant to training in scientific research in the doctoral field of Economics, namely:

- Methods and techniques of documentation, research and data processing in economics,
- Ethics and integrity in economics,
- Scientific authority and research techniques and
- Statistical data processing (Annex II.B.2).

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator B.2.1.2. *At least one discipline is dedicated to Ethics and Intellectual Property in scientific research or there are well-defined topics on these subjects within a discipline taught in the doctoral program.*

The same courses mentioned above are dedicated to ethics in scientific research and intellectual property, specifically the course “Ethics and integrity in economics”. For reference see Annex 11.B. I. Curricula and Annex 11.B.2 Discipline Ethics and integrity in economic sciences. Thus, the curricula is in line with the requirements.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator B.2.1.3. *The IOSUD has mechanisms to ensure that the academic training program based on advanced university studies addresses „the learning outcomes”, specifying the knowledge, skills, responsibility and autonomy that doctoral students should acquire after completing each discipline or through the research activities.*

The institution has mechanisms in place to ensure that the training programme are based on advanced university studies, related to the field of Economics. This is evident from each syllabus provided as in the self-evaluation report which specifically refer to knowledge, skills, competences acquired by doctoral students after completing the training programme.

The curriculum for the doctoral field of Economics has formulated the competencies that are to be ensured through the curriculum. They are divided into professional and transversal skills.

The professional competencies pursued are:

- Advanced knowledge in the field of Economics;
- Ability to identify, formulate and solve research problems, by mastering advanced research methods and techniques;
- Ability to implement the knowledge acquired regarding the management of research projects in the research activity carried out;
- Abilities of documentation, elaboration and capitalization of scientific works and researches;
- Abilities to publish scientific articles and to communicate scientific papers in the field of Economics;
- Linguistic skills at academic level in languages of international circulation necessary for the documentation and elaboration of scientific papers;
- Understanding and ability to apply the principles and values of scientific research ethics in the field of Economics.
- The transversal competencies pursued are:
 - Efficient application of communication techniques, written and oral, combined with interrelationship and work skills at the organizational or professional group level in the conditions of assuming different roles on various hierarchical levels;
 - Ability to use information and communication technology;
 - Knowledge of human, material and financial resources management, respectively knowledge on career management, as well as knowledge on risk, crisis and failure management;
 - Knowledge of the use of legislation in the field of intellectual property rights;
 - Economic, technological and social entrepreneurship skills.

Course syllabuses feature the structure of the courses/seminars and the competences doctoral candidates will acquire upon completion (Annex II.B.2.).

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.



Performance Indicator B.2.1.4. *All along the duration of the doctoral training, doctoral students in the domain receive counselling/guidance from functional guidance commissions, which is reflected in written guidance and feedback or regular meeting.*

The doctoral training is organized in a way that the students receive regular consulting and guidance through one-to-one meeting with the supervisors and also during the meetings with functional guiding boards. These boards are established together with the PhD supervisor at the moment of the student's enrollment. The involvement of the guiding board in advising PhD students is materialized in feedback, regular meetings, activities complementary to those offered by the PhD supervisor.

These regular meeting provide support in articles written jointly by PhD students with at least one of the guiding board members, clarifying on the subject of the doctoral thesis between PhD students and members of the guiding boards, feedback provided during scientific seminars, which may be attended by members of the guiding boards.

Each doctoral student is guided, in addition to the scientific leader (who has a schedule of activities and consultations made public at the doctoral school_Annex II.B.3), by a advisory committee consisting of 3 other teachers, having at least the title of doctoral lecturer, specialists in the field of doctorate and thesis topic. The advisory committees for doctoral students enrolled within the Doctoral School of Economics / doctoral field of Economics are presented in Annex II.B.4.

In addition, evidence of the existence of electronic correspondence focused on feedback from doctoral students by committee members or on requesting clarifying meetings from them can be found in AnnexII.B.5.

For the evaluated doctoral university field, a percentage of 55.5% of the doctoral students who defended their doctorate and who published together with the members of the guidance commissions and 6 doctoral students who completed their training period were selected for example. during the evaluation period.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator B.2.1.5. *For a doctoral study domain, the ratio between the number of doctoral students and the number of teaching staff/researchers providing doctoral guidance must not exceed 3:1.*



For the doctoral field of study Economics, the ratio between the number of doctoral students and the number of teaching/research staff providing mentoring is 2.35 for Economics. This information is based on the one provided in the Annex II.B.4 for year 2020-2021. Hence, this indicator is fully addressed.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion B.3. The results of doctoral studies and procedures for their evaluation.

This criterion analysis the procedures to measure the output of the research activities of the PhD students. This is at the same time quantitative and qualitative measure of the output of the scientific work for this domain.

Standard B.3.1. Doctoral students capitalize on the research through presentations at scientific conferences, scientific publications, technological transfer, patents, products and service orders.

Performance Indicator B.3.1.1. *For the evaluated domain, the evaluation commission will be provided with at least one paper or some other relevant contribution per doctoral student who has obtained a doctor's title within the past 5 years. From this list, the members of the evaluation commission shall randomly select 5 such papers / relevant contributions per doctoral study domain for review. At least 3 selected papers must contain significant original contributions in the respective domain.*

A minimum of one article or other relevant contribution for each PhD student who obtained their PhD degree in the period 2015-2020 is made available to the evaluation committee for the evaluated field. Table 2.25 in the self-evaluation report provides a clear picture of the quality of the papers and the topics, which contain significant original contributions in the respective domain.

In addition to WoS and SCOPUS, the articles can be published in other databases. Among the international databases acknowledged, there are: Repec, EBSCO, CEEOL, EconLit, DOAJ, ProQuest etc. The articles published by the doctoral graduates in the Economics field have been published in journals indexed in at least 3 international databases, journals with a good scientific level, which assure the review with the help of individual reviewers.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.



Performance Indicator *B.3.1.2. *The ratio between the number of presentations of doctoral students who completed their doctoral studies within the evaluated period (past 5 years), including posters, exhibitions made at prestigious international events (organized in the country or abroad) and the number of doctoral students who have completed their doctoral studies within the evaluated period (past 5 years) is at least 1.*

For the evaluated doctoral field, the Table 2.26 presents, for each doctoral student who completed his doctoral studies in the evaluated period, the situation of their participation in prestigious international events. The ratio between the number of presentations of doctoral students who completed their doctoral studies in the period evaluated (last 5 years), including posters, exhibitions, made at prestigious international events (held in the country or abroad) is 24 - and the number of doctoral students who completed their doctoral studies in the evaluated period (last five years) - 9 - is 2.66, so higher than 1.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Standard B.3.2. The Doctoral School engages a significant number of external scientific specialists in the commissions for public defense of doctoral theses in the analyzed domain.

Performance Indicator *B.3.2.1. *The number of doctoral theses allocated to one specialist coming from a higher education institution, other than the evaluated IOSUD should not exceed two (2) in a year for the theses coordinated by the same doctoral thesis advisor.*

During the period evaluated within the doctoral field of Economics, the number of doctoral theses allocated to a certain referent coming from a higher education institution, other than the evaluated IOSUD, is not more than two, for the theses coordinated by the same doctoral supervisor, in one year. The related evidence is found in Table 2.27 in the self-evaluation report.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator *B.3.2.2. *The ratio between the doctoral theses allocated to one scientific specialist coming from a higher education institution, other than the institution where the defense on the doctoral thesis is organized, and the number of doctoral theses presented in the same doctoral study domain in the doctoral school should not exceed 0.3, considering the past five years. Only those doctoral*



study domains in which minimum ten doctoral theses have been presented within the past five years should be analyzed.

This indicator is evaluated only in the case of a minimum of 10 theses defended in the 5 years evaluated. They have only 9. So, this indicator is not applicable.

Recommendations:

The indicator does not apply.

Domain C. QUALITY MANAGEMENT

The third domain of this report is devoted to quality management that is related with the institutional procedures and mechanisms to ensure a good quality of the program. This is composed by three main criterions, (1) Existence and periodic implementation of the internal quality assurance system; (2) Transparency of information and accessibility of learning resources; and (3) Internationalization aspect of the institution and programme.

Criterion C.1. Existence and periodic implementation of the internal quality assurance system

This criterion looks for procedures of timely and periodically implementations of the internal quality assurance and how these internal audits impact to the programme enhancement.

Standard C.1.1. There are an institutional framework and procedures in place and relevant internal quality assurance policies, applied for monitoring the internal quality assurance.

Performance Indicator C.1.1.1.*The Doctoral school in the respective university study domain shall demonstrate the continuous development of the evaluation process and its internal quality assurance following a procedure developed and applied at the level of the IOSUD, the following assessed criteria being mandatory:*

- (a) the scientific work of Doctoral advisors;*
- (b) the infrastructure and logistics necessary to carry out the research activity;*
- (c) the procedures and subsequent rules based on which doctoral studies are organized;*
- d) the scientific activity of doctoral students;*
- e) the training program based on advanced academic studies of doctoral students;*
- f) social and academic services (including for participation at different events, publishing papers etc.) and counselling made available to doctoral students.*



The internal evaluation and monitoring and monitoring of the activity of the doctoral schools is carried out in regular bases, each year. This includes the scientific activity of the PhD supervisors, the infrastructure and logistics necessary to comply with the research, the procedures and regulations regulating doctoral studies, the scientific activity of PhD students, as well as the training program based on advanced university studies of PhD students. The details of the process and the procedures to be followed are found in Self-Evaluation report pp. 114-117, which includes also the related links. Thus, this criterion is considered met.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator *C.1.1.2. *Mechanisms are implemented during the stage of the doctoral study program to enable feedback from doctoral students allowing to identify their needs, as well as their overall level of satisfaction with the doctoral study program in order to ensure continuous improvement of the academic and administrative processes. Following the analysis of the results, there is evidence that an action plan was drafted and implemented.*

Confirmed also from the respective meetings held with different stakeholders, the managing instances of Doctoral School in the domain of Economics are implementing mechanisms for collecting the PhD students' feedback (questionnaires to assess the degree of the PhD students' satisfaction, as in Annex SEAQ_PO_CSUD_0S_A.01 and AnnexII.C.8.

PhD students complete the Questionnaire on the level of satisfaction with the doctoral program in each academic year, in the first quarter of the year. In the next period, the data collected from these questionnaires will be processed, so that the CSD, based on the information from these questionnaires, will present the CSUD conclusions and, as appropriate, the package of measures proposed to improve the doctoral program as a whole and also to continuously improve the academic and administrative services provided.

According to Annex II C.9 – Report of the needs and satisfaction of PhD students, we confirm that the program is gathering information of students' feedback which serves for improvement of this study program. Thus, we consider it as fulfilled indicator.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion C.2. Transparency of information and accessibility of learning resources



This criterion involves the transparency of the information and accessibility of learning resources that the institution and the specific program has to follow.

Standard C.2.1. Information of interest to doctoral students, future candidates and public interest information is available for electronic format consultation.

Performance Indicator C.2.1.1. *The IOSUD publishes on the website of the organizing institution, in compliance with the general regulations on data protection, information such as:*

- (a) the Doctoral School regulation;*
- (b) the admission regulation;*
- (c) the doctoral studies contract;*
- (d) the study completion regulation including the procedure for the public presentation of the thesis;*
- (e) the content of training program based on advanced academic studies;*
- (f) the academic and scientific profile, thematic areas/research themes of the Doctoral advisors within the domain, as well as their institutional contact data;*
- (g) the list of doctoral students within the domain with necessary information (year of registration; advisor);*
- (h) information on the standards for developing the doctoral thesis;*
- (i) links to the doctoral theses' summaries to be publicly presented and the date, time, place where they will be presented; this information will be communicated at least twenty days before the presentation.*

There is a clear transparency of all methodologies and regulations regarding the admission organisation and process. All related information of public interest are available to those interested on <http://doctorat.ase.ro/>, complying with general provisions about data protection. In the self-evaluation report, table 6, page 24, includes all the available links or the (1) Regulations of the Doctoral School Economics I and the Doctoral School Economics II; (2) Methodology to organize and carry out admission to doctoral studies; (3) Contract for doctoral studies; (4) Methodology to assess and present the viva; (5) Curricula content; (6) Scientific profile and thematic areas/research themes of PhD supervisors, as well as institutional contact details; (7) List of PhD students and their key information (registration, PhD supervisor); (8) Information on the standards to elaborate the doctoral thesis; and (9) Links to the summaries of the PhD theses to be publicly defended, as well as date, time, place of the viva, at least 20 days prior to the event.

All the information regarding the completion of the doctoral program, starting with the admission to obtaining the doctoral degree, are provided to the doctoral students both through the IOSUD secretariat



department and by posting on the site, the related forms being found at (<https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/documente/formulare-utile>).

The Doctoral School, through IOSUD, publishes on the website of the organizing institution information about, in compliance with the general regulations on data protection:

- the regulations of the doctoral school (<https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/organizare/scoli-doctorale-conducatori-de-doctorat/scoala-doctorala-de-stiinte-economice>);
- the admission regulation (<https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/organizare/scoli-doctorale-conducatori-de-doctorat/scoala-doctorala-de-stiinte-economice>);
- the doctoral studies contract (<https://www.uoradea.ro/display/17406>);
- the regulation for the completion of studies including the procedure for the public defense of the thesis Procedure for the evaluation of doctoral students (<https://cloud.uoradea.ro/index.php/s/TrLZx6ZYKjejs05#pdfviewer>) Annex.II.C. 10;
- content of study programs Curriculum / subject sheet Annex.III.B.1;
- the academic and scientific profile, thematic areas / research topics of the doctoral supervisors in the school, as well as their institutional contact details centralizing situation Annex.11C. I.I.;
- list of doctoral students in the school with basic information (year of enrollment; coordinator) list Annex.11.C.12 .;
- information about the elaboration standards of the doctoral thesis OM / Annex to the SUD contract
- training program and results (<https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/domenii-de-doctorat/inginerie-industriala/114-standarde-de-elaboration-of-the-doctoral-thesis>);
- (h) links to abstracts of doctoral theses to be defended publicly, as well as the date, time, place where they will be defended, at least 20 days before the defense. Public support link (<https://doctorat.uoradea.ro/ro/sustineri-teze/sustineri-teze-doctorat>).

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Standard C.2.2. The IOSUD/The Doctoral School provides doctoral students with access to the resources needed for conducting doctoral studies.

Performance Indicator C.2.2.1. All doctoral students have free access to one platform providing academic databases relevant to the doctoral studies domain of their thesis.



IOSUD - UO has and has had for the entire assessed duration of access to the services offered through the ANELIS Plus program (Annex II.C.13 - ANELIS Plus Contracts), in order to offer doctoral students free access to a platform with relevant academic databases for the fields of organized doctoral studies. Thus, at the level of IOSUD - UO all doctoral students have access to this platform permanently, based on account and password, from anywhere, free of charge, based on their email account (prenume.numedoctoarnd@student.uoradea.ro).

Students can access the following databases: PROQUEST Central, ScienceDirect Freedom Collection, Scopus, Elsevier, de Gruyter ebooks, SpringerLink Journals, Springer, Web of Science - Core Collection, In Cites Journal Citation Reports, Derwent Innovations Index, Clarivate Analytics.

The online academic library is available on the site. The field of doctoral studies ECONOMICS is present all the databases mentioned above.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator C.2.2.2. *Each doctoral student shall have access, upon request, to an electronic system for verifying the degree of similarity with other existing scientific or artistic works.*

For the prevention and control of plagiarism-related fraud at the level of IOSUD - University of Oradea, all doctoral and habilitation theses are checked by an anti-plagiarism software, which is in the list of programs recognized by CNATDCU and used at the level of higher education institutions organizing university doctoral studies and of the Romanian Academy, in order to establish the degree of similarity for scientific papers, in accordance with MENCS Order no. 3485 / 24.03.2016. (Annex II.A.19 - Evidence of purchase of anti-plagiarism software), respectively, (Annex II.A.19. - Doctoral School approval-anti-plagiarism verification). Also, each doctoral student assumes the authenticity of the doctoral thesis, together with the scientific supervisor, completing the Statement on the authenticity of the doctoral thesis.

Each doctoral student has access, upon request and with the consent of the doctoral supervisor, to an electronic system to check the degree of similarity with other existing scientific or artistic creations. As also specified in criterion A.1.2.2., at the IOSUD level there is a person designated as the system administrator, who monitors the access to the platform, respectively the allocation of user accounts for each doctoral school. Based on an internal form, each doctoral school is assigned an account (username and password), which allows the verification of doctoral theses.

The theses are checked before the defense in the advisory committee. Based on the recommendations



of the advisory committee regarding changes to the thesis and at the request of the advisor, the thesis may be rechecked before the public defence.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator C.2.2.3. *All doctoral students have access to scientific research laboratories or other facilities depending on the specific domain/domains within the Doctoral School, according to internal order procedures.*

All doctoral students have access to the laboratories for undertaking research activities, other academic facilities, the research centres or the third-party research infrastructure, according to the specificity of the field(s) included in the doctoral school, and in keeping with the availability of the research infrastructure. Also, in case of request, doctoral students have access to the faculty laboratories (Annex II.A.21). The list of existing research laboratories at the level of the doctoral field of Economics posted on the ERRIS platform and accessible to doctoral students are those in Table 2.13.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Criterion C.3. Internationalization

This criterion analysis includes the strategies toward the internationalization, the available agreements for mobility, projects, networks and so on.

Standard C.3.1. There is a strategy in place and it is applied to enhance the internationalization of doctoral studies.

Performance Indicator *C.3.1.1. *IOSUD, for every evaluated domain, has concluded mobility agreements with universities abroad, with research institutes, with companies working in the field of study, aimed at the mobility of doctoral students and academic staff (e.g., ERASMUS agreements for the doctoral studies). At least 35% of the doctoral students have completed a training course abroad or other mobility forms such as attending international scientific conferences. IOSUD drafts and applies policies and measures aiming at increasing the number of doctoral students participating at mobility periods abroad, up to at least 20%, which is the target at the level of the European Higher Education Area.*



At the level of the doctoral field of Economics there are framework agreements, 24 Erasmus agreements for Economics for the mobility of doctoral students, as can be seen in Annex II.5 Erasmus mobility agreements for doctoral students.

There is one PhD students having an Erasmus mobility stage in Debrecen. There are also 2 mobility stages performed through the EU funded project SmartDoct, at the University of Debrecen and University of Miskolc. Moreover, a number of 15 PhD students (out of the total 34) has participated to international conferences. See Table II.25, II.26. In Table 2.27 there are listed only the international conferences with ISI Proceedings.

During the site visit of the coordinator of the external evaluation team, it was examined the contributions of the PhD students, including conference papers. Given that out of the 34 PhD students, 9 of them are in their 1st year (starting at 1 October), and also due to pandemic situation and mobility restrictions, the participation is relatively good, but it can be better.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator C.3.1.2. *In the evaluated doctoral study domain, support is granted, including financial support, to the organization of doctoral studies in international co-tutelage or invitation of leading experts to deliver courses/lectures for doctoral students.*

There was an invited lecture on 12 March 2020, on the topic: How Economic Development Is Shaped by Geography and History? Given by Prof. Jay Nathan, Full Professor la Tobin College of Business, St. John's University, New York City. See here the poster: Afişul evenimentului http://steconomiceuradea.ro/wp/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/89488619_2764432356957919_8234202070282928128_o.jpg.

Another online lecture from prof Marco Valeri was scheduled (and eventually took place) on their international doctoral conference 26 November 2021, see <http://steconomiceuradea.ro/wp/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Invitation-Intl.-PhD.-students-Conf.-Oradea-2021.pdf>

Regarding joint supervision, you can see Annex II C.14: there are 3 joint supervision agreements (all of them of prof Daniel Badulescu), and Prof Daniel Badulescu is also co-supervising a doctoral student from AlFarabi University in Kazakhstan.

In 2015, at the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences, in the field of Economics, the doctoral thesis with title "The corporate governance. Theoretical analysis and empirical investigation concerning the foundations of banking origin", of the doctoral student Rangone Adalberto, was a case of co-supervised thesis. The supervisors were Assoc. Prof. Adriana Giurgiu- coord. And Prof. Massimo Sargiacomo- co-



supervisor.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

Performance Indicator C.3.1.3. *The internationalization of activities carried out during the doctoral studies is supported by IOSUD through concrete measures (e.g., by participating in educational fairs to attract international doctoral students; by including international experts in guidance committees or doctoral committees etc.).*

Currently, at the level of the doctoral field of Economics, there is co-supervised management of doctoral students, as can be seen in Annex II. C.14 Co-supervision agreements. As mentioned above, there is a case in 2015, at the Doctoral School of Economic Sciences, in the field of Economics, the doctoral thesis "The corporate governance. Theoretical analysis and empirical investigation concerning the foundations of banking origin", doctoral student Rangone Adalberto.

As explained above, this program does have some joint-supervisions (3 joint supervisions out of 34 students + 1 in outgoing supervision). There were 2 international doctoral students enrolled in the previous academic year, but they abandoned due to not fulfilling the scientific requirements, they told us in an online meeting about this.

Recommendations:

The indicator is fulfilled.

IV. SWOT Analysis

| <u>Strengths:</u> | <u>Weaknesses:</u> |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The number of enrolled PhD students, as well as the PhD supervisors in the field of Economics is satisfactory.- Academic staff in this programme has a wide visibility in the international sphere and their track of academic achievements are highly evaluated. | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Even though, the program has 24 agreements under Erasmus+, again the involvement of PhD students in mobilities is limited.- Another issue to be considered for improvement is the participation of PhD students in conference which needs to be improved. |

| | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is a transparency and clear information available on the websites as well as clear procedures for the ongoing process on this programme. - There are joint supervision for the thesis, which extend the visibility of the thesis output and increase the involvement of foreign professors in this program, supporting like this the internationalization and networking. - PhD students have the flexibility writing their thesis in English language, supporting the internationalization and ensuring a better promotion of the PhD students beyond Romania. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Based on the students' feedback, we suggest that the program would consider the development of some interdisciplinary topics for PhD thesis. This would be a good practice in a better support of the state-of-arts of the thesis. |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Opportunities:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Doctoral School is supported research center, which can reinforce further involvement in projects and assist the PhD students with external funding for their research and results dissemination. - Additionally, the program has all the infrastructure capacities to extend collaborations with other universities abroad Romania, that will help in inclusion of international co-tutelage, co-advisership, jury members, and common academic activities. - Due to the opportunity to prepare thesis in English language, this program can attract more international students and foreign qualified staff. | <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Threats:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are many challenges that staff and students may face while applying for different projects. - The challenges due to high competition among universities to attract more foreign and experienced staff to join this programme. |

V. Overview of judgments awarded and of the recommendations

| No. | Type of indicator (*, C) | Performance indicator | Judgment | Recommendations |
|-----|--------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | | A.1.1.1. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 2 | | A.1.1.2. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 3 | | A.1.2.1. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 4 | | A.1.2.2. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 5 | | A.1.3.1. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 6 | * | A.1.3.2. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 7 | * | A.1.3.3. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 8 | C | A.2.1.1. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 9 | C | A.3.1.1. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 10 | * | A.3.1.2. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 11 | | A.3.1.3. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 12 | * | A.3.1.4. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 13 | C | A.3.2.1. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 14 | * | A.3.2.2. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 15 | * | B.1.1.1 | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 16 | * | B.1.2.1 | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 17 | | B.1.2.2 | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 18 | | B.2.1.1. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 19 | | B.2.1.2. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 20 | | B.2.1.3. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 21 | | B.2.1.4. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 22 | C | B.2.1.5. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 23 | C | B.3.1.1. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 24 | * | B.3.1.2. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 25 | * | B.3.2.1. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 26 | * | B.3.2.2. | <i>The indicator does not apply.</i> | N/A |
| 27 | | C.1.1.1. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 28 | * | C.1.1.2. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 29 | C | C.2.1.1. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 30 | | C.2.2.1. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 31 | | C.2.2.2. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 32 | | C.2.2.3. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 33 | * | C.3.1.1. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 34 | | C.3.1.2. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |
| 35 | | C.3.1.3. | <i>The indicator is fulfilled.</i> | N/A |



VI. Conclusions and general recommendations

The total number of PhD students in this field of study is 40 PhD students enrolled and 5 PhD supervisors. This is a good number of students and supervisor to ensure a competing PhD programme in the region and beyond. Starting with 2015 and until now, a number of 9 doctoral students have publicly defended their doctoral thesis, and 9 have obtained the scientific title of doctor, being confirmed by CNATDCU. The institution together with the programme administration bodies are using the proper procedures to support the ongoing process of the doctorate field of study in Economics.

In the framework of the periodical accreditation, the institution provided us with a detailed Self-evaluation report which included respective information and attached documentation in support each criteria requested by the accreditation agency. Additionally, during this evaluation process, the Experts' Panel had the opportunity to have online meetings with stakeholders and different supportive bodies of the programme. The details of the meeting are attached as in Annex EE.1. Furthermore, the external experts asked for some additional document, timely provided by the programme representatives, which clarified some issues related to the management of the programme.

Out of 35 indicators to be fulfilled, only 1 indicator has been identified as that does not apply for the program, but all the rest are found to be fully met. Specifically:

- Standard B.3.2. "The Doctoral School engages a significant number of external scientific specialists in the commissions for public defense of doctoral theses in the analyzed domain", indicator *B.3.2.2. *The ratio between the doctoral theses allocated to one scientific specialist coming from a higher education institution, other than the institution where the defense on the doctoral thesis is organized, and the number of doctoral theses presented in the same doctoral study domain in the doctoral school should not exceed 0.3, considering the past five years. Only those doctoral study domains in which minimum ten doctoral theses have been presented within the past five years should be analyzed.* - This indicator is evaluated only in the case of a minimum of 10 theses defended in the 5 years evaluated. They have only 9. So this indicator is not applicable.



As **general recommendations**, we recommend the following:

1. The program has to ensure a better involvement of students in mobilities that might be related to projects such as Erasmus+, and also mobilities considering important to be conducted depending on the focus of the thesis.
2. Another issue to be considered for improvement is the participation of PhD students in conference which needs to be improved.
3. Based on the students' feedback, we suggest that the program would consider the development of some interdisciplinary topics for PhD thesis. This would be a good practice in a better support of the state-of-arts of the thesis.
4. The program should organized some trainings to its' staff and PhD students in order to increase the capacities and enhance their skills with regard to project application and grand attraction related to their research fields.

VII. Annexes

The following types of documents are attached:

- *The detailed schedule of the evaluation visit – **Annex EE.1.***
- *Doctoral Student list 2020-2021 – **Annex EE.2.***