



EUA European University Association
EUA Institutional Evaluation Report

MYKOLAS ROMERIS UNIVERSITY

EUA REPORT

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Romeris University in 2006

Summary

Mykolas Romeris University is one of 21 higher education institutions in Lithuania. In the two years since its establishment on 28 October, 2004 on the decree of the Parliament of the Republic of Lithuania, Mykolas Romeris University has become a prestigious study and research centre of social science.

One of the most important events in 2006 was institutional evaluation carried out by the European University Association (EUA). Experts of the EUA, international institution leaders, emphasized that if it follows their recommendations, Mykolas Romeris University will undoubtedly achieve its goal to become an important European university for social science.

In 2006, two highly reputable scientists were honoured by the community of the University. The Senate decided to bestow the title of Doctor Honoris Causa of Mykolas Romeris University upon Prof. Dr. Georg Winckler, the President of the European University Association and Prof. Dr. Goolam Mohamedbhai, the President of the International Association of Universities. In commemoration of Iceland's support to the restoration of Lithuania's independence, Professor Mykolas Romeris Award was conferred on Prof. Kristín Ingólfssdóttir, Rector of the University of Iceland.

Currently, there are 16.500 students enrolled in 59 study programmes. Bachelor degree study programmes include law, public administration, social work, psychology, and economics. Master degree study programmes are in law, public administration, economics, social work, educology science, sociology and psychology.

In 2006, new study programmes were introduced: Bachelor degree in Financial Economics, Psychology, Master degree programmes in Protection of Children's Rights, Educology of Law, Welfare Sociology, Financial Law, Intellectual Property Law, Business Psychology, Master degree specializations in Land Management Policy, Strategic Management of Public Sector.

According to the data of the Association of Lithuanian Higher Education Institutions which organizes student admission to the universities, Mykolas Romeris University ranked fourth among the most popular universities based on the programme choice taken by applicants. Public Administration, Law and Management studies attracted the interest of prospective students the most, as did Financial Economy and Psychology.

Life Long Learning Centre organizes professional qualification improvement courses at the University and tailors these to the needs of the target institutions. There are more than 150 courses in law, management, economics, foreign languages, information technologies and other fields.

Distance Study Centre provides credit accumulation, professional training and competence development courses. Currently, there are 11 credit accumulation and 3 professional training courses available.

Growing numbers of academic mobility indicate the University's strong standing in the international study area. In 2006, the number of outgoing students increased by 20 %, whereas the number of incoming students increased by 63 %. Thus the balance between outgoing and incoming students was reached. Increasing financial support from the European Commission and the national budget for the mobility under Socrates Erasmus programme amounted to 1 344 939 litas. In addition to the numerous international memberships, the University joined a number of international organizations: the Global University Network for Innovation (GUNI), the European Association of Schools of Social Work (EASSW), the University Network of European Capitals of Culture (UNECC), and Baltic University Programme (BUP). Mykolas Romeris University takes part in the Asia-Link programme. Two curriculum development projects to be coordinated by Mykolas Romeris University received financial support from the European Commission: Joint Master Degree Program in Comparative Social Policy and Welfare at the Faculty of Social Policy, Criminalistics and Forensic Investigation at the Faculty of Law.

The overall research capacity of the University concentrated on the general research direction: The State of Lithuania and Social Security in the Context of the European Union. The 187 doctoral students of Mykolas Romeris University represent a new generation of scientists who successfully contribute to research activities. In 2006, 32 students were admitted to doctoral studies: 24 to the field of Law, 8 to the field of Management and Administration.

The University's scientific body successfully answers to present-day challenges and integrates into the Lithuanian and European Research Area by actively participating in various research programmes. Mykolas Romeris University ranks second among Lithuanian universities in the international research in the field of social science and first in executing research requests from private institutions.

Research results are published in monographs, as well as in Lithuanian and foreign reviewed scientific journals. In 2006, internationally renowned database EBSCO included the University's scientific reviewed journals, which marks the international recognition of the scientific publications and contributes to the general internationalization process.

The Publishing Centre of the University has produced a substantial number of publications, text books, monographs, scientific journals, compilations, and manuals. Last year 3 of its publications were presented at the international Book Fair in Frankfurt.

The University employs 1087 persons, 730 of these are academic staff and researchers and 357 are administrative staff. This pool of human resource successfully helps to achieve the University's main mission which is high quality organization of studies and further development of research. Due to the University's support to young academicians, the average age of teachers and researchers is less than 39. The average age of professors is 54 and that of teaching staff lies between 36 and 30. Such a demographic distribution is rare nowadays.

The basis for a successful study and research process is the modern library of the University, the resources of which are available to the entire University community. Annually, 16.500 readers use the services of the library. All the 38 library employees hold a university-level degree. In 2006, the number of publications stored in the library was 171.000, the stock increased by 8491 publications, of which 1692 are University publications, 1586 were donated. The library subscribes to 206 journals.

In 2006, the local area network was developed. More than 100 new hosts were installed in the lecture halls, departments, administrative premises and student residence area. In the central building of the University the wireless broadband computer network was extended and this now covers about 75 % of the University area. In future wireless broadband computer network will be installed in other University premises and the Student House. The whole computer network is maintained by ITC specialists of the University.