

Part-time Executive Programme

**MBA-Agribusiness**

Self-Evaluation Report 2017

<http://www.iem.tsu.ru> /

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1. Programme Rationale

International part-time executive MBA programme in Agribusiness has been realised at the National Research Tomsk State University (hereinafter TSU) since 2014.

On the 12th June 2014, TSU rector Eduard Galazhinskiy and Wageningen University Rector Magnificus, Prof. Dr. Ir. Martin J. Kropff, signed an agreement about development of the first AGRIMBA generation, including developing the MBA modules. TSU is the first University in Siberia to participate in this programme. TSU was chosen as a university with good traditions of economic education and as a center of innovation in the region.

In October 2015, the first cohort of students began training within the programme, and as for May 2017 most of them have completed their studies and prepared a thesis for the defense to be held early in June 2017. (See Annex 4.2)

**2. MBA programme in the University structure and strategy**

Founded in 1878, Tomsk State University (TSU) is the oldest University in the Asian part of Russia. In 2010 it was granted a status of the National Research University and in 2013 it became one of the 15 Universities whose programme of international competitiveness aimed at becoming one of the world’s 100 top universities won the support of the Russian Government. In 2015 and in 2017 TSU was evaluated by an international panel as one of the five best higher education institutions within this excellence initiative. In QS World University Rankings 2016 TSU reached the 377th position and was declared breakthrough of the year having climbed up over 100 positions at once.

TSU includes 21 institutes and faculties, 3 research institutes, a Scientific Library, 10 museums and a Siberian Botanical Garden. The total number of students in 2016/2017 was 14 000 studying in 135 subject areas, the number of international students was 1 900, the number of full professors was over 500, the number of associate professors – over 1 000. For details please see the TSU website: <http://en.tsu.ru>

TSU offers a multilevel educational system covering the pre-university training, specialist training, undergraduate studies, Master’s course, graduate course, Doctor of Science level programme, professional retraining and further education, second higher education.

Initially, the MBA programme in Agribusiness was developed by the Department of Agricultural Biology in cooperation with the TSU Institute of Distance Learning responsible for design, realization and certification of the entire TSU retraining and further education programmes. A decision was made, this executive MBA as an exception will be managed and administrated by the Institute of Biology, while the Insitute of Distance Learning will support the programme with the established quality assurance system and legal framework.

Since the most part of the course was *de facto* delivered by the teaching staff of the Faculty of Economics, and the Programme had a strong business administration orientation, on 16th September 2016 the programme was transferred to the newly founded Institute of Economics and Management, and the Academic Council designed as an advisory and a decision-making body of the programme was created (See Annex 4.3.-4.4.), while the programme director, Prof. Dr. Andrey Babenko had reserved his position and was appointed by Rector to the director of this Academic Council.

TSU strategic concept for 2013 – 2020 sees one of its missions in representing Russia in the global academic space and integrating its academic potential with that of the leading Russian and foreign centres of higher education and science. Developing fundamental and applied research is one of TSU’s strategic priorities, with social and humanitarian knowledge and technologies singled out as one the five axes of University’s development. International studies and study programmes are explicitly mentioned as one of the priority areas for TSU’s internationalization. In this spirit, the international MBA on agribusiness was called to promote the internationalization and to provide the Siberian farmers, managers and officials with the state-of-the-art theoretical knowledge and practical skills.

3. National accreditation issues

According to the Russian Federal Law Nr. 273-FZ “On Education in the Russian Federation” from the 29.12.2012, the international part-time executive MBA programme in Agribusiness is not subject to any state accreditation procedures because of its further education and professional retraining character. Nevertheless, the Russian Ministry of Education and Science has issued a number of regulations and guidelines for programme design and diploma issues in the sphere of further education, because the new qualifications given to course participants entitle them to perform a new type of professional activity, and the employers must be sure a certain number of quality requirements is met.

The following guidelines were used when designing this MBA programme:

* “Guidelines for Organization and Administration of the Further Education Programmes” (2013);
* “Guidelines for the Basic and Further Education Programme Design based on the Professional Standards” (2015);
* “Guidelines for the Final Examination Organization in Further Education Programmes” (2015);
* “Guidelines for Design, Issue and Registration of Degrees in the Sphere of Further Education” (2015).

Regarding the contents, competencies to be acquired by the participants as well as quality assurance procedures, the MBA programme is guided by the Russian Federal State Standard for Master’s Programmes in Management (subject area 38.04.02) issued on 30.03.2015.

At the TSU level the MBA programme meets the requirements of a number of regulations applicable for further education and retraining programmes, notably:

* Regulations on TSU Further Education and Professional Retraining Programmes (2015);
* Regulations on Final Examination for TSU Further Education and Professional Retraining Programmes (2015);
* Admission Rules for TSU Further Education and Professional Retraining Programmes (2016);
* TSU Regulations on Design, Issue and Registration of Further Education Degrees and Certificates (2015);
* TSU Regulations on Paid Educational Services Delivery (2013).

All the above-named documents can be called up on the website of the TSU Institute for Distance Learning. See: <https://ido.tsu.ru/normdocs/dpo/>

The specific regulations regarding the curriculum, schedule of studies, study and examination regulations, module descriptions etc. for the MBA programme are specified in the following documents:

* Study Regulations for the TSU Part-Time Executive MBA in Agribusiness (2015);
* Guidelines for MBA-Thesis Preparation and Defence within the Part-Time Executive Programme “MBA-AGRIBUSINESS” (2017). (See Annex 2)

The above-named specific regulations are publicly available through the official website of the MBA Programme. See: <http://iem.tsu.ru/content/mezhdunarodnaya-obrazovatelnaya-programma-v-oblasti-agrobiznesa-agrimba>

4. Management of the MBA programme

The MBA programme is managed by the MBA Management Team which consists of the Programme Director and the Programme Manager reporting to the Academic Council.

The Programme Director is responsible for the administration of the MBA course in Tomsk State University and operates with the support of the International Committee, its development, implementation and effective delivery and for the maintenance of academic standards. Не will appoint all external examiners and be particularly attentive to the comments of these examiners. The International Committee will review the content of courses and assess their relevance to future managers operating in an international environment. The Programme Director reports annually to the International Committee.

The Programme Director is a contact person for agricultural companies in Russia, is in charge of the recruitment of the participants for the MBA course and [promotion campaign](http://www.multitran.ru/c/m.exe?t=622868_1_2) of the MBA Programme.

Since the start of the MBA programme, it is directed by **Prof. Dr. Andrey Babenko**, acting head of the Department of Agricultural Biology and the vice-director of the TSU Quality Management Centre.

The Programme Manager is the external coordinator for the Programme MBA, provides the information exchange between all the Project partners, and is responsible for the preparation and organization of the visits of the Professors from Wageningen University during the international week. The Programme Manager is in charge of the development of the Handbook, the presentation materials and the folder of the MBA course as well as website administration.

Since the MBA programme was transferred to the Institute of Economics and Management in September 2016, it is managed by **Dr. Natalia Redchikova**, Associate Professor at the Department of Strategic Management and Marketing.

Each module is coordinated by the Module Coordinator. The Module Coordinators work out the Module content, select the [study materials](http://www.multitran.ru/c/m.exe?t=4247912_1_2) and upload them to the MOODLE – Electronic University System, and stand by the Professors from Wageningen University during the international week.

In May 2017 the programme office moved from the TSU main building to the Further Education Programme office in the brand-new building of the Institute of Economics and Management.

The main decision-making body of the part-time executive MBA programme “MBA-Agribusiness” is the **Academic Council** formed out of both the TSU staff and managers representing the biggest companies and state authorities in the sphere of agriculture operating in Tomsk region.

The Academic Council meets at least twice a year or out of necessity on the request of the Programme Director and makes strategic decisions by simple majority of votes on the following issues:

* Appointment of the programme management and hearing the self-evaluation report;
* Quality Assurance;
* Admission and enrollment to the programme;
* Adoption / updating of the curriculum and schedule of studies;
* Qualification check and approval of the candidates admitted to teaching;
* Approval of MBA thesis topics suggestions;
* Admission to the MBA thesis oral defence;
* Administration of complaints.

The Academic Council of the part-time executive programme “MBA-AGRIBUSINESS” consists of the following individuals:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **President:** |  |  |
| *Prof. Dr. Andrey Babenko* |  | * Acting Head of the Department of Agricultural Biology / TSU |
| **Vice-President:** |  |  |
| *Dr. Natalia Redchikova* |  | * Associate Professor at the Department of Strategic Management and Marketing / TSU |
| **Members:** |  |  |
| *Prof. Dr. Evgenia Nekhoda* |  | * Head of the Department of Strategic Management and Marketing / TSU |
|  |  |  |
| *Alexey Grebennikov* |  | * Chief Economist / public corporation “Tomsk mills” |
| *Dmitry Luzin* |  | * Chief Agronomist / Federal state budget-financed agency “Russian Agricultural Centre” / Tomsk branch |
|  |  |  |

5. Financial Issues

The international part-time executive MBA programme in Agribusiness is a tuition fee financed programme.

The amount of the tuition is determined by the TSU statue on Tuition Fees for Paid Educational Services and is valid for the whole period of study. Tuition fee is subject to annual update, but once a contract agreement for educational services with TSU is made (See Annex 4.1.), the amount of arranged contribution rates can’t be changed.

The tuition fee for the MBA programme was 100.000 Rubles (approx. 1577 €) per academic year in 2015 and never changed since then.

The main categories of the programme budget expenditure are the fees paid to the teaching staff, translation costs, and travel costs for external professors.

By the programme management calculations, this MBA programme is self-financing by the above-named tuition fee under condition, there are at least 10 course participants in each cohort.

6. Local academic staff involved in the MBA programme

14 teachers:

* Chikov М.V. PhD., associate professor
* Petinenko I.А. PhD., professor
* Evarovich S.А. PhD, associate professor
* Babenko А.S. PhD, associate professor
* Nekhoda Е.V. PhD, professor
* Redchikova N.A., PhD, associate professor
* Tarasenko V.F. PhD, professor
* Symanovich O.V. PhD, associate professor
* Toluzakova S.J. PhD, associate professor
* Mikhailova S.I. PhD, associate professor
* Levin S.E. PhD, associate professor
* Melnikova V.G. PhD, associate professor
* Chuvakina V.S. PhD, associate professor
* Makarova I.A., senior lecturer

For qualification details of the teaching staff, please refer to the Annex 3.

7. International academic support to the MBA programme

1. Wim Heijman – Wageningen University, the Netherlands
2. Eleonora Marisova – Slovak Agricultural University in Nitra, Slovakia
3. Sanijn Ivanovich – Belgrad University, Serbia
4. Vlade Zaric – Belgrad University, Serbia
5. Jelena Vlaijc – Belfast University, UK
6. Ruud Huirne – Wageningen University, the Netherlands
7. Piet Beijman – Wageningen University, the Netherlands

For qualification details of the teaching staff, please refer to the Annex 3.

8. Teaching facilities / study materials

TSU is well equipped to provide this course. These resources include fully equipped computer classes, Research library and modern teaching facilities like seminar rooms, breakout classrooms for better group and project work in the brand new building of the Institute of Economics and Management.

TSU Research Library provides Master’s Students with an open access to its resources. Users are provided with online access to a wide range of remote and local databases of research and educational resources: 67 full-text databases including e-library and e-catalogue of Tomsk State University. Full-text databases provide access to 10,000 full-text journals (mostly international) with archives, 227,000 books, 2.9 million dissertations, reviews, and statistical, analytical and other materials. The databases of Scopus, Web of Science, e-Library, resources of Springer, journals published by Elsevier, Oxford University Press, East View, Polpred, JSTOR are widely used. High-speed Internet and WLAN is provided. Offline access to the teaching materials and scientific publications is provided in the reading room Nr. 3 (social sciences and economics) of the Research Library.

In May 2017, a new Reading Room for Economics and Management Science was opened in the building of the Institute of Economics and Management, so that students can have a direct access to the literature and textbooks they need without leaving the seminar house.

For the E-catalog and detailed terms of service please proceed to the library website: <http://www.lib.tsu.ru/en>

The entire course materials including teaching materials and PowerPoint presentations supporting the learning process are available unit by unit for registered users within the MOODLE – Electronic University System at: <https://moodle.tsu.ru/?lang=en>

9. Statistics on the programme

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Cohorts**  **Indicator** | **Cohort 1**  **(2015-2017)** | **Cohort 2**  **(2017-2019)**  (planned) |
| Number of applicants | 23 | 20 |
| Number of 1st year students | 0 |  |
| Percentage of foreign students | 0 |  |
| Student success rate | 87%[[1]](#footnote-1) |  |
| Average duration of study | 2 years |  |
| Average final grade | n/a[[2]](#footnote-2) |  |
| Female / male ratio | 43% female  57% male |  |

**Students’ background:**

administrative staff – 3 persons;

academician staff – 1 person;

agricultural managers – 7 persons;

farmers – 9 persons

**Full list:**

Alexeeva Lilia

Aninkin Konstantin

Anikina Tatiana

Bulkina Eugenia

Cherdantseva Irina

Chudinova Julia

Javrumyan Amajak

Javrumyan Sevak

Kolpakov Denis

Kotlyarov Egor

Kruglykhina Anastasia

Kurilenok Elena

Kulmanakov Pavel

Lizunov Dmitry

Malinivskaya Elena

Mamaev Denis

Nikitas Vitaly

Prokopyeva Svetlana

Proreshnev Dmitry

Sinitsyn Vsevolod

10. Certificate / Diploma

After completing the part-time executive MBA programme a Diploma of professional retraining is awarded. The diploma is officially recognized and is given together with a diploma supplement specifying the course contents, workload and qualification. The document template follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Tomsk**  **State**  **University**  *Diploma is a document*  *confirming professional retraining*  *Diploma gives the right*  *to do a new kind of professional activity*  Registration number\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | **DIPLOMA**  OF PROFESSIONAL RETRAINING  700800000000  Diploma is given to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  (full name)  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  It certifies that (s)he from\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  has completed the course of professional retraining in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  (the name of the institution (department))  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  in\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  (the name of the programme)  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Examination Board certifies the right (correspondence to the qualification) of  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  (full name)  to work in the sphere of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  (the name of the sphere)  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  *Rector (director) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*  Seal  City \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ year \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

Tomsk

State

University

Diploma supplement No

Full name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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(higher education, vocational education)

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completed the course of professional retraining in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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(the name of the institution (department))

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(the name of the programme)

had an internship in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(the name of the company, organisation, institution)

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defended the Thesis \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

(thesis topic)

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Information on the content and results gained:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| No | Name | Hours | Grade |
|  |  |  |  |

In total: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Rector (Director) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

*Secretary \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*

1. 3 students were expelled from studies due to their low class attendance and unsatisfactory test results. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The final grade will be given only after successful oral defence of the MBA Thesis taking place on the 5th - 13th June 2017. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)