

Tropical Agrobiological and Bioresource Management (TABM) Doctoral Degree Board Meeting Report 15. 11. 2024

The TABM Doctoral Degree Board meeting took place on 15th November 2024 at 2:00 p.m. in room 313 FTA building. The following members of the Board were present.

Present members:	prof. RNDr. Pavla Hejcmanová, Ph.D.
	prof. Ing. Jan Banout, Ph.D.
	RNDr. Jiří Černý, Ph.D.
	doc. Ing. Jaroslav Havlík, Ph.D. (online)
	doc. Francisco Ceacero Herrador, Ph.D.
	doc. Ing. Pavel Klouček, Ph.D.
	Ing. Jiban Kumar, Ph.D.
	prof. Ing. Bohdan Lojka, Ph.D.
	doc. Ing. Zbyněk Polesný, Ph.D.
	doc. Ing. Hynek Roubík, Ph.D.
	Ing. Iva Viehmannová, Ph.D.
Apologies:	doc. Tersia Kokošková, Ph.D.
	doc. RNDr. David Honys, Ph.D.
	Ing. Martin Kulma, Ph.D.
	prof. Lukáš Kratochvíl, Ph.D.
	prof. Mgr. Ing. Markéta Sedmíková, Ph.D.
	prof. RNDr. Irena Valterová, CSc.
	Ing. Olga Leuner, Ph.D.
Secretary:	Ing. Vendula Ludvíková, Ph.D.
Minute taker:	Ing. Barbora Motýlová

Agenda:

1. Opening (prof. RNDr. Pavla Hejcmanová, Ph.D.)
2. Information from the last Doctoral Degree Board meeting
3. Reports from attestations of PhD students from September 2024 (heads of individual departments)
4. Approval of Individual Study Plans of new PhD students
5. Approval of SDE examiners
6. Approval of new topics for Doctoral dissertation thesis
7. Approval of new supervisor
8. Miscellaneous

1. Opening

The Chairperson prof. RNDr. Pavla Hejcmanová, Ph.D., opened the TABM Doctoral Degree Board meeting by greeting all members. She also introduced and welcomed new members: Ing. Iva Viehmannová, Ph.D., Ing. Jiban Kumar, Ph.D., doc. Hynek Roubík, Ph.D. and doc. Ing. Zbyněk Polesný, Ph.D.

2. Information from the last Doctoral Degree Board meeting

Prof. RNDr. Pavla Hejcmanová, Ph.D., summarized the previous meeting, which included discussions on attestation reports, research proposals, and a per-rollam voting on seven research proposals that had not been approved earlier.

3. Reports from attestations of PhD students (Heads of departments)

Department of Crop Sciences and Agroforestry (prof. Ing. Bohdan Lojka, Ph.D.):

Attestations took place on 27th September 2024 and concerned 11 students. 19 students are interrupted. 2 students are continuing, 7 students continue with admonition and two students were suggested to interrupt.

Common issues included delays in completing ISPs, conference contributions, and submitting scientific articles.

Department of Animal Science and Food Processing (prof. RNDr. Pavla Hejcmanová, Ph.D.):

The attestations took place on 19th September and concerned 12 interrupted, and 17 active students. Some faced issues with incomplete ISPs or submitting papers.

Department of Sustainable Technologies (prof. Ing. Jan Banout, Ph.D.):

Attestations concerned 1 student – Tereza Beránková which is currently interrupted



Department of Economics and Development (Ing. Vladimír Verner, Ph.D.):

Irene Franceline Mbouwe – is interrupted

Discussion:

The discussion highlighted the need for stronger supervision and emphasized the importance of fulfilling ISPs. It was suggested to focus attestations on evaluating progress rather than just task completion and mentioned the possibility of closer examination of students' actual work, possibly through interviews. It was mentioned the need for more selective admissions.

4. Approval of Individual Study Plans of new PhD students

Grégerová Tereza – supervisor: Mgr. Barbora Černá Bolfíková, Ph.D., co-supervisor: Schneiderová (will be probably her future supervisor)

- **approved**

Ky Panhavoan – supervisor: RNDr. Jiří Černý, Ph.D., 4 exam courses – will be changed,

- will be **approved** (after removing 1 course from state exam courses)

Mulko Miroslav – supervisor: Mgr. Barbora Černá Bolfíková, Ph.D.

- **approved**

Ozel Muhammed Sefik – supervisor: doc. Ing. Klára Urbanová, Ph.D., co-supervisor: doc. Tersia Kokošková, Ph.D. The course Czech for Foreigners was in the ISP – there are no credits for that and it is recommended to remove it. Title and abstract are too brief, not sufficient.

- **not approved**

Sochr Tadeáš - supervisor: prof. Dr. Ing. Eloy Fernández Cusimamani. Recommended revisions: correct faculty name and clarify the abstract.

- **not approved**

Ward Mattew – supervisor: doc. Francisco Ceacero Herrador, Ph.D. The abstract (especially methodology) could be specified more.

- **Approved**

Discussion:

The discussion highlighted several issues with student admissions and academic processes. Visa problems continue to delay enrolment for some students. Many students have inconsistent ISPs, with courses like "Management of Research" scheduled differently across semesters. There was also debate about whether students should have the same courses examined during both regular exams and state exams.

The clarity of topic descriptions was questioned, as some members found the annotations too brief while others deemed them sufficient. It was noted that students provide a more detailed description of their Research proposals during the following semester. Instructions,

how to fill this part in ISP correctly, will be prepared by the PhD and Research Office for the next year.

Additionally, information on courses and requirements was criticized for being outdated and hard to find. It was discussed whether clearer instructions should be made available on the website.

5. Approval of new SDE examiners

New examiners for state doctoral exams were introduced by chairwoman. They were proposed by Department of Animal Science and Food Processing.

Dr. Helet Lambrechts

- **approved, will be recommended to the scientific board to be approved**

RNDr. Jan Robovský, Ph.D. - approved

- **approved, will be recommended to the scientific board to be approved**

Doc. RNDr. Michal Vinkler, Ph.D.

- **approved, will be recommended to the scientific board to be approved**

Ing. Radka Šárová, PhD. - approved

- **approved, will be recommended to the scientific board to be approved**

6. Approval of new supervisors

Department of Animal Science and Food Processing proposed new external supervisor for doctoral thesis:

RNDr. Petr Kotlík, Ph.D.

- **approved**

7. Approval of new topics for Doctoral dissertation thesis

Three new topics for the doctoral dissertation thesis were proposed:

Topic: **Genomic Study of Evolutionary Adaptations to Climate Change** (RNDr. Petr Kotlík, Ph.D.)

It was recommended to appoint a co-supervisor from our faculty to ensure a better understanding of how things function within our faculty.

- **approved**

Topic: **Conservation of tropical cervids** (doc. Francisco Ceacero Herrador, Ph.D.)

- **approved**

Topic: **Evolution of secondary sexual traits: horns and antlers** (doc. Francisco Ceacero Herrador, Ph.D.)

- approved

8. Miscellaneous

Neha Gupta – request for change of courses of state examination (old courses: Plant breeding and seed technology; Plant physiology. New courses: Plant biotechnology; Pharmacognosy of medicinal plants. Course Tissue culture techniques remains)

- approved

Anastasia Matviienko – request for a change of supervisor from doc. Tersia Kokošková, Ph.D. to Ing. Radim Kotrba, Ph.D.

- approved

Anastasia Matviienko – approval of ISP

- approved

Anastasia Matviienko – Research Proposal– reviewer: RNDr. Jiří Černý, Ph.D., minor comments

- approved

Others:

Doc. Francisco Ceacero Herrador, Ph.D., expressed his disagreement with the previous per-rollam approval of changes to the state exams for one student (Tereza Beránková). He also inquired whether, in future per-rollam voting, it would be possible to include an option not only to cast a vote but also to add comments and facilitate discussion prior to the approval process. MS Teams platform (FTZ-T-OR_TABM) was recommended for possible discussion.

Conclusion

The chairwoman prof. Pavla Hejcmanová thanked to all the present members and closed the meeting of the Doctoral Degree Board.

In Prague, 15th November 2024

prof. RNDr. Pavla Hejcmanová, Ph.D.

Chairperson of DDB TABM

