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**Presentation of the “Dual Learning” Approach
in Higher Education Programmes**



Dual Learning – Combining Practice-Orientated and Theoretical Learning in Higher Education (1)

- The distinction between "**professionally oriented**" higher education and "**academically oriented**" higher education is clearer in systems with a binary divide between institution types.
- In Romania we have no short-cycle Higher Education, and no HEIs exclusively oriented in one or another way. However, even if the tradition of academically oriented courses is still maintained, the recent trend is to the professionally oriented courses in those specializations which are suitable. E.g. **engineering courses, nurses courses**, which are often strongly professionally oriented, but taught in universities.
- Due to the change of status of master and doctoral studies from postgraduate into university studies, according to the Bologna process, the new regulations introduced: a) **Postgraduate training programmes** and **continuing professional development** - for graduates who have at least university degree or equivalent diploma, and can be organized by accredited Higher Education institutions; b) **Postgraduate professional training programmes** for graduates holding at least diploma of short-cycle higher education.

Dual Learning – Combining Practice-Orientated and Theoretical Learning in Higher Education (2)

- During the last years, some **professional master courses** were organized, based on the demand of the industrial partners. Technical universities are supporting the initiative of companies in the area to develop professional education.
- There are also some **master programmes in specific fields** that have been developed in close cooperation with large scale employers.

Renault Group Romania decided to extend support for the development of the university system in Romania through its involvement in a new master program. In the 2012-2013 academic year, Renault Technologie Roumanie engineering center (RTR) is a partner of the University „Politehnica” of Bucharest to conduct the master programme "Noise and Vibration Control". The new master comes from the need for specialists in the field of acoustics, but also good cooperation in recent years with the University „Politehnica” of Bucharest.

- There are more other examples in Sibiu, Brasov, Cluj-Napoca, Pitesti – concerning German companies looking forward to training students using their rules and accordingly to the practical needs of companies.

Dual Learning – Combining Practice-Orientated and Theoretical Learning in Higher Education (3)

- According to the regulations in force, employers can be involved in Higher Education (HE) planning and management, such as:
 - curriculum development in HE, teaching,
 - participation in sectorial/national/regional bodies that influence decision-making in HEIs,
 - and participation in governing bodies of HEIs.
- Industrial partners may directly contributing to the educational process through:
 - conducting laboratories with specific equipment,
 - participating to the design of specialized courses curricula,
 - sharing experience in lecture course modules,
 - supporting research projects and students' graduation projects,
 - internships for young academic staff, in order to adapt the lecture courses towards the real practical applications,
 - and many other creative contributions.

Dual Learning – Combining Practice-Orientated and Theoretical Learning in Higher Education (4)

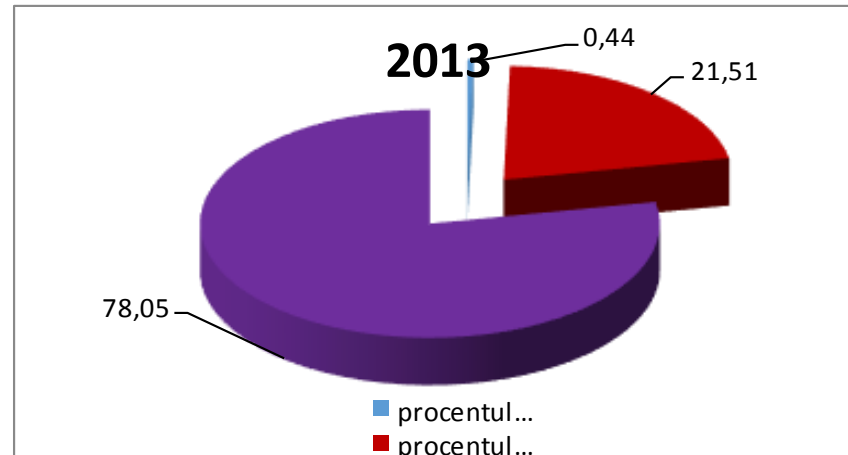
- All practical training of students is performed through company placement.
- Summer internships are compulsory once during the bachelor studies and many students benefit of placements for 6 months in foreign companies within the Erasmus + Program.
- Also, many of the students are preparing their graduation theses in companies, on company-required subjects.
- The entrepreneurial education is promoted mainly through non-formal ways, such as trainings provided by NGOs or companies, as well as competitions developed by students' organizations.
- Some private study grants are awarded by companies through open competition amongst students.

Dual Learning – Combining Practice-Orientated and Theoretical Learning in Higher Education (5)

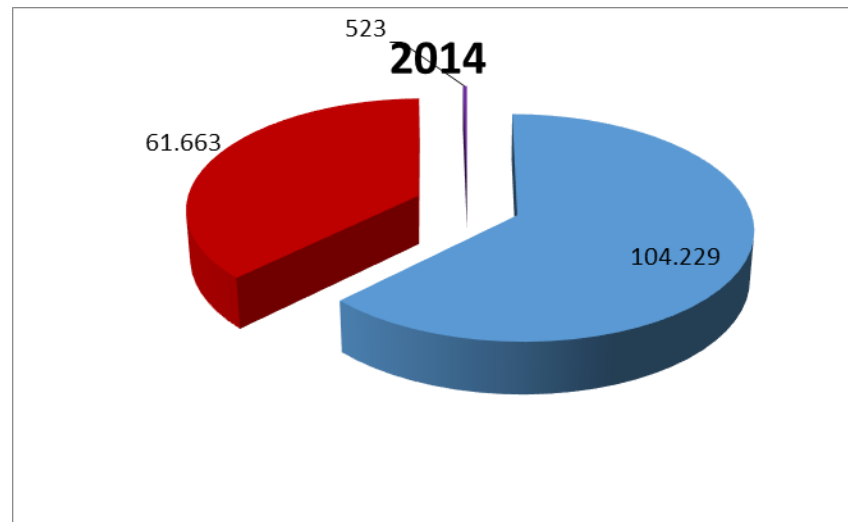
- Recently it was regulated **the non-university tertiary education** which is organized for the graduates of pre-university education, with or without a baccalaureate degree, and can be organized by accredited higher education institutions within structures called **colleges**.
- The length of such study programme is 1 to 3 years, depending on the complexity of the qualification and the number of credits acquired.
- The non-university tertiary education is conducted based on professional training standards approved by the Ministry of Education for respective qualifications.

Baccalaureat Examination Situation

➤ BAC 2013



➤ BAC 2014



An increasing number of graduates tendency for 2013 is also maintained for 2014.

Baccalaureat Graduates Situation

	Year:										
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
June-July session	84.5 9%	84.68 %	80.47 %	82.08 %	78.30 %	81.47 %	69.30 %	45.72 %	44.41 %	55.65 %	59.22 %
August-September session	71.6 4%	64.78 %	54.96 %	67.85 %	58.94 %	72.65 %	34.93 %	20.42 %	25.49 %	21.51 %	60.65 %

Source: <http://bacalaureat.edu.ro/>

Law no. 258 of 19 July 2007 on the practice of pupils and students (updated until 15 January 2015)

- Issued by the Romanian Parliament
- <http://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliiDocument/83810>

Baccalaureat Examination Situation

- The following figures show a comparative situation of the results on routes of training for graduates of 2014 compared to graduates of previous scholar years:

	Present Candidates		Successful Candidates		Failed Candidates		Expelled Candidates	
Current Promotion	131.571	79,1%	93.433	71,0%	37.840	28,8%	298	0,2%
Rural	37.663	28,6%	22.342	59,3%	15.222	40,4%	99	0,3%
Technological	18.574	49,3%	7.900	42,5%	10.602	57,1%	72	0,4%
Theoretical	16.630	44,2%	12.569	75,6%	4.035	24,3%	26	0,2%
Vocational	2.459	6,5%	1.873	76,2%	585	23,8%	1	0,0%
Urban	93.908	71,4%	71.091	75,7%	22.618	24,1%	199	0,2%
Technological	29.800	31,7%	15.489	52,0%	14.198	47,6%	113	0,4%
Theoretical	55.316	58,9%	48.712	88,1%	6.538	11,8%	66	0,1%
Vocational	8.792	9,4%	6.890	78,4%	1.882	21,4%	20	0,2%
Previous Promotion	34.844	20,9%	10.796	31,0%	23.823	68,4%	225	0,6%
Rural	11.531	33,1%	3.383	29,3%	8.082	70,1%	66	0,6%
Technological	8.181	70,9%	2.244	27,4%	5.891	72,0%	46	0,6%
Theoretical	2.933	25,4%	966	32,9%	1.950	66,5%	17	0,6%
Vocational	417	3,6%	173	41,5%	241	57,8%	3	0,7%
Urban	23.313	66,9%	7.413	31,8%	15.741	67,5%	159	0,7%
Technological	15.890	68,2%	4.623	29,1%	11.150	70,2%	117	0,7%
Theoretical	6.064	26,0%	2.209	36,4%	3.823	63,0%	32	0,5%
Vocational	1.359	5,8%	581	42,8%	768	56,5%	10	0,7%
Total	166.415		104.229	62,63%	61.663	37,05%	523	0,31%

Law of National Education no. 1 of January 5, 2011 (updated until January 23, 2015)

➤ Article 25, paragraph (4)

Dual education is a form of organizing vocational education, organized on the basis of a labor contract and combines professional training which is held by an economic operator, with training organized within an education institution. The responsibility of organizing and functioning is shared between the economic operator and the school.

(Romanian Government Emergency Ordinance no. 94 of December 29, 2014, published in the Official Journal no. 968 of December 30, 2014)

➤ http://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocument/125150#id_artA225_titl

Law of National Education no. 1 of January 5, 2011 (updated until January 23, 2015)

➤ Article 296, paragraph (2)

Employment of specialists with scientific and professional value recognized in the area of competence, in the country or abroad, as invited associated professors, is endorsed by the council of the department and approved by the Board of administration.

(Romanian Government Emergency Ordinance no. 117 of December 23, 2013, published in the Official Journal no. 843 of December 30, 2013)

➤ http://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocument/125150#id_artA3379_ttl

Law of National Education no. 1 of January 5, 2011 (updated until January 23, 2015)

➤ Article 352, paragraph (2)

To implement the provisions of paragraph (1), and to facilitate the correlation of the education system with the labor market, are set up and operate in all institutions of Higher Education, Centers of counseling and career guidance for high school final year students, students and graduates, in which will function units of analysis and provisional management of the labor market needs.

(Romanian Government Emergency Ordinance no. 49 of June 26, 2014, published in the Official Journal no. 486 of June 30, 2014)

➤ http://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliiDocument/125150#id_artA3741_ttl

Minister Order no. 4.542 of September 8, 2014 (I)

- Published in the Official Journal no. 663 of September 9, 2014
- <http://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocument/161156>
- **Adopting the Framework-Methodology regarding the organization and functioning of the tertiary non-university education in Colleges within accredited HE institutions, in the academic year 2014-2015**
- <http://legislatie.just.ro/Public/DetaliuDocumentAfis/161157>

Minister Order no. 4.542 of September 8, 2014 (II)

Chapter I - General Provisions

➤ Article 1

- (1) The present methodology governs the organization and functioning in the academic year 2014-2015 of the tertiary non-university education level that can be organized by accredited institutions of higher education in the framework of structures without legal personality, called colleges, established under the law for this purpose.
- (2) The College is headed by a director.

➤ Article 2

- (1) In accordance with the provisions of the Law of national education no. 1/2011, with subsequent amendments and additions, the level of tertiary non-university education is organized for high school graduates
- (2) Accredited Higher Education institutions which organize tertiary non-university education in colleges develop a methodology on its own concerning the organization and functioning of this education.

➤ Article 3

- (1) Accredited Higher Education institutions provide study programmes of tertiary non-university education level authorized under the law, in colleges.
- (2) Establishment of the tertiary non-university education level is carried out by decision of the Senate of the accredited Higher Education institution, on a proposal from the Board of Directors.
- (3) Head Office, human resources and material resources shall be approved in accordance with the legal provisions in force.

Minister Order no. 4.542 of September 8, 2014 (III)

Chapter II - Organization and functioning

➤ Article 4

- (1) Tertiary non-university education is organized at full-time form for professional qualifications/relevant occupation skills for the level 5, according to the National Framework of Qualifications (NCC), approved by Government decision No. 918/2013.
- (2) Professional qualifications/relevant occupations skill for the respective qualification level are in accordance with those listed in the National Register of Qualifications-the RNC, which is approved by decision of the Government. Pending RNC nomenclatures are used for professional qualifications that shall be ensured through pre-university training.
- (3) Tertiary non-university education is organized in colleges for a term of 1-3 years, depending on the complexity of the qualification and the number of credits earned, and shall be carried out on the basis of the standards of professional education (SPP) approved by the Ministry of Education for the respective qualifications.

➤ Article 5

- Tertiary non-university education may be held in colleges, in accordance with this framework methodology, only in the fields and qualifications that Higher Education institutions organize accredited/approved Bachelor study programmes (level 6 CNC).

Minister Order no. 4.542 of September 8, 2014 (IV)

Chapter II - Organization and functioning

➤ Article 6

- (1) For the academic year 2014-2015, the State accredited Higher Education institutions may proceed in accordance with the law to the organization of colleges in which the level of tertiary non-university education is financed entirely by the applicants.
- (2) The fees for admission to College are established at the proposal of the Board of Directors of the accredited Higher Education institution and are approved by decision of the Senate.
- (3) Admitted applicants conclude a training contract with the accredited HE institution.
- (4) The appropriate scholar fee shall be approved by the University Senate on a proposal from the Board of Directors, and is displayed with the training plan.

➤ Article 7

- Accredited Higher Education institutions will provide, in accordance with the law, the Ministry of Education with the list of qualifications that are proposed to be given in colleges in the academic year 2014-2015, together with the training plan, comprising the qualifications/professional occupations and the number of places for each domain, until 20 October 2014, in order to be approved by Order of the Minister of Education.

Minister Order no. 4.542 of September 8, 2014 (V)

Chapter III - Admission

➤ Article 8

- (1) Each accredited Higher Education institution which organizes tertiary non-university education programmes, through colleges, develops an admission methodology on its own, in accordance with the Order of the Minister of education No. 5.346/2011 on the approval of the general criteria for admission to post-secondary education.
- (2) Its own Methodology for admission shall be drawn up by the College, approved by the Board of Directors and approved by the Decision of the University Senate.

Chapter IV - Completion of studies. Evaluation and certification of the training results

➤ Article 9

- Training ending, respectively the assessment and certification of learning outcomes in the colleges of accredited Higher Education institutions in accordance with the provisions of the Order of the Minister of education concerning the approval of the methodology for organizing and conducting the exam for the certification of qualifications of post-secondary education graduates.

Chapter V – Final provisions

➤ Article 10

- Accredited Higher Education institutions shall take necessary legal measures for organizing colleges after the entry into force of this Framework-Methodology.

Thank you for your attention!





JOB

- What are the specific methods you apply to obtain a higher rate of employment in your country?
- What are the advantages of the dual education at Higher Education level in the case of your country?