

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY ON A DECISION

of the Standing Committee on Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Informatics on the results from the evaluation procedure for programme accreditation of doctoral programme “Informatics” in professional field 4.6. Informatics and Computer Studies from area of higher education 4. Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Informatics at South -West University "Neofit Rilski" - Blagoevgrad

The procedure has been considered and opened by the Standing Committee on Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Informatics at a meeting dated 24.11.2014 at the request of the Rector of the South -West University. The expert panel, approved by the Accreditation Council as of 03.09.2015 and 01.10.2015, inspected the evaluated institution in the period from 07.10.2015 until 09.10.2015.

At a meeting held on 30.11.2015, the Standing Committee adopted the report of the expert panel and on its basis prepared a decision on the results from the completed programme accreditation. The decision reflected **observations about the consistency of the evidence with the criteria system for the implemented procedure. In assessing the criteria measures in the controlled areas of activity (academic activities, academic environment, scientific potential and research results, availability of material and information conditions for productive research and creative achievements in the doctoral programme and competitiveness of the doctoral programme) the Standing Committee applied the rating scale of ENQA. Verbal assessments on the criteria are prevailing "full compliance" and available "substantial compliance" and are in compliance and relevance with estimates under art. 79, para. 1 of the Higher Education Act.**

After summarizing the results from voting on the basis of the adopted by the Accreditation Council to NEAA "Voting rules of procedures for accreditation and evaluation of projects", the Standing Committee on Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Informatics took the following **DECISION** on **11.01.2016**:

1. Awards programme accreditation to doctoral programme “Informatics ” from professional field 4.6. Informatics and Computer Studies from area of higher education 4. Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Informatics at South -West University "Neofit Rilski" – Blagoevgrad on the basis of an overall assessment on the criteria: 9.24 (nine point twenty-four hundredths).

2. The validity of the accreditation is SIX years, according to Art. 79, para. 4 of the Law on Higher Education.

The Standing Committee on Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Informatics made the following recommendations:

1. To improve the university's information environment regarding PhD students at the South -West University (including professional field 4.6. Informatics and Computer Studies) by making PhD students' scientific research results available to the public. Deadline: February 2017.

2. To enhance the activity of lecturers and PhD students for publications about the achievements in the professional field 4.6. Informatics and Computer Studies in prestigious scientific magazines .Deadline: constant.

Chairperson of SCNSMI:

prof. d-r Maria Shishinyova