

EURODOC 2005 QUESTIONNAIRE – ESTONIA

PART ONE

1. In terms of the organization of studies, the Ministry of Education and Research (MoER) is preparing a new initiative, the launch of doctoral schools in broad research fields, which function as a consortium to concentrate resources between different higher education and research institutions, linking also foreign institutions and industry. The aim is to increase the efficiency of PhD training and lower the age of PhD graduates¹.

There are also changes in the financial situation of PhD candidates. The PhD monthly allowance was raised from 3000 EEK (192 €) to 6000 EEK (383 €) starting from 01.01.2005 and the grounds for eligibility were altered. According to the amendment to the law, PhD candidates are eligible to apply for the allowance if they (1) are Estonian citizens or hold permanent or temporary residence permit, (2) study at public or private university at state-commissioned student place, (3) haven't exceeded the nominal length of studies². One of the main changes in the eligibility criteria is that it's not connected with working (earlier those who didn't work or worked in the field of education and research were eligible). If earlier both the students studying at a student place formed on the basis of state-commissioned education or at a student place formed outside the state budget were eligible to apply for allowance, at the moment students studying at state subsidized place are (still about 90% of PhD candidates).

2. The Estonian Academy of Young Scientists (EAYS) is strongly interested in the defence of the rights and interests of PhD students and young researchers. EAYS is applying to the Ministry of Education and Research for the permanent representation group of young scientists. The improvement reached this year will definitely change the situation of PhD Students and young researchers the better. EAYS will observe the mentioned situation in the future.

3. The hottest topics in Higher Education and Research in Estonia could be the next: the question about monthly allowance and the question about status of PhD student (employee or student).

4. The idea of establishing the Estonian Academy of Young Scientists was born in the last year. Our organization started its activities from the very beginning of year 2005. The plans of EAYS in the nearest future are to create the working network of young scientists in Estonia, to find useful partners for collaboration inside country and in Europe, to organize the General Assembly of EAYS and meeting about mobility of young researchers. EAYS is actively participating in the work of the other non-profitable and governmental youth organizations. The priorities of EAYS include the inland co-operation with: the Estonian Academy of Sciences, the Estonian Ministry of Education and Research, UNESCO office in Estonia, the Scientific Union of High Schools` Students, the Science Promoting Centre, the universities, research centres etc.

EAYS is a member of the WAYS and its' Baltic-Nordic Regional Unit (BNRU) founded by Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian representatives.

EAYS is highly interested in symbiotic collaboration with different organizations worldwide, which aims are similar to EAYS's own.

As a newborn organization EAYS is applying for its' accreditation in Europe and in the world.

¹ Bologna process: Towards the European higher education area. National reports 2004-2005. Estonia. (2005). Retrieved from http://www.bologna-bergen2005.no/EN/national_impl/00_Nat-rep-05/National_Reports-Estonia_050118.doc (20.02.2005)

² Õppetootuste ja õppelaenu seadus [Study Allowances and Study Loans Act]. RT I 2003, 38, 387; muudetud RT I 2003, 78, 526, RT I 2004, 41, 275, RT I 2004, 84, 567, RT I 2004, 89, 615. Retrieved from www.riigiteataja.ee (16.02.2005)

5. The Estonian Academy of Young Scientists has the following aims defining the area of our activities:

- * uniting the youth whose interests and career prospects lie in the field of scientific research;
- * representation and defence of the Estonian young scientists' (undergraduate students, Master students and Ph.D. students) interests inland, in Europe and worldwide;
- * popularization of science-based attitude;
- * development of fact-based analytical thinking;
- * linkage between the worldwide and domestic young scientists' research groups;
- * providing the ultimate source of necessary information for the young scientists;
- * elevation of the young scientists' magnitude (solemnity) inland and outland;
- * enhancing Estonian young scientists' attitude towards related subjects;
- * intensifying the collaboration between various scientific and political governmental and non-governmental non-profitable organizations.

An official position of EAYS can be established by the decision of the Council of EAYS.

6. EAYS did not make yet any PhD survey. Probably it could be in EAYS' plans for the next academic years.

7. EAYS suggests trying to increase the collaboration between various scientific and political governmental and non-governmental non-profitable organizations.

8. The main legislative changes regarding the Bologna process (transfer to the two-cycle system - the bachelor-master degree, issuing the Diploma Supplement, adopting the accreditation system, ratifying the Lisbon Convention, using a cumulative calculation of credit points) were implemented before the Berlin Ministerial conference. After 2003 the main activities affecting the doctoral studies have been: (1) adopting the Quality Assurance Agreement by public universities in 2003 (joined by 2 private universities in 2004). According to the agreement, the universities will harmonize quality requirements for curricula, academic posts and academic degrees, apply the requirements by the start of the academic year 2004/05, and assess every year the performance of the agreement (it is done by the Estonian Rectors' Conference). (2) Launching the governmental initiative called *Kristjan Jaak* in 2003 to support the mobility of students and young academic personnel.³

9. The Estonian Academy of Young Scientists has not yet an official position on this question.

10. In February 2005 the Government adopted its preliminary position for the development and implementation of the Lisbon strategy (the official action plan should be adopted in March). From the 10 main objectives of the Lisbon strategy proposed by the Commission, the Government emphasizes the development of the internal market, supporting research and development, developing human capital, making labour markets more attractive and increasing entrepreneurship.⁴ Since Estonia is one of the member states that will be most affected by the ageing of the population, the aim is to bring to the labour market more non-active persons, including students and elderly people, also to develop the system of life-long learning and the forms of flexible employment.

11. The PhD candidates have the status of students. The disadvantage is the lack of social guarantees that apply to employees (i.e. social guarantees occurred on the bases of earned wage –

³³ Bologna process: Towards the European higher education area. National reports 2004-2005. Estonia. (2005). Retrieved from http://www.bologna-bergen2005.no/EN/national_impl/00_Nat-rep-05/National_Reports-Estonia_050118.doc (20.02.2005)

⁴ Valitsus kiitis heaks Eesti seisukohad Lissaboni strateegia rakendamiseks [Government approved Estonian position for the implementation of Lisbon strategy] (10.02.2005). Retrieved from <http://www.ettk.ee/et/uudised/2005/02/item20925> (20.02.1005)

II pillar of pension insurance, maternity benefit, parental benefit over the minimum level). The advantages are that the same guarantees apply to PhD candidates than to other students. Among the rights related to studies are: study allowance, study loan, academic vacation. The study loan is during the current academic year (2004/2005) 17 500 EEK (1118 €). In case the student graduated, the study loan should be paid during a period which equals 2 nominal lengths of studies (8 years for PhD candidates), in case the student was exmatriculated, the study loan should be paid back during 1,5 nominal length of studies (6 years). The main social guarantees are: health insurance, childcare allowance, parental benefit, and subsistence benefit.

12. The Estonian Academy of Young Scientists has not yet an official position on this question.

13. There is no specific supervision and training charter for early stage researchers. The different aspects of the Eurodoc supervision and training charter can be found in the Quality Assurance Agreement (concluded between 6 public and 2 private universities), Universities Act, Higher Education Standard and the documents for regulating the organization of studies adopted by the universities.

14. Doctoral studies end with the defence of the thesis. 1-2 internationally recognized scientists are appointed as reviewers of the thesis. Defence of the doctoral thesis takes place before the doctoral council, consisting of least 5-6 members, in the form of public academic discussion. The main phases of the defence procedure are: presentation by the PhD candidate (*lectio praecursoria*), academic discussion between the candidate and the reviewers, continuation of the discussion with the members of the council and others who are present, passing the decision by the doctoral council. The council makes its decision about awarding the doctoral degree during its closed meeting by vote. The council bases its decision on whether the content of the thesis is in accordance with the scientific requirements, taking into account also the formal side of the thesis and the ability of the candidate to defend the main arguments of the thesis during the academic discussion.^{5,6} The defences vary in length, lasting an average for 2-3 hours. The thesis is an official publication.

15. Until 2002 there were two kinds of doctorates: research doctorates and professional doctorates. In the curriculum of research doctorate at least 70% consisted of research. In the curriculum of professional doctorate at least 50 % was either research, developmental or creative activity.⁷ At the moment the universities award the following degree: *filosoofiadoktor* – doctor of philosophy, PhD, with the indication of the field of study or specialization.⁸

16. The quality assurance system consists of accreditation of institutions and curricula. The accreditation is divided into self-analysis of universities (faculties or departments), a foreign expert appraisal, and the decision of an autonomous body called the *Kõrghariduse Hindamise Nõukogu* (Higher Education Quality Assessment Council – HEQAC). There are three categories: (1) Accredited: indicates that the higher education institution or the study program meets the set of requirements. It is in force for 7 years. (2) Conditionally accredited: indicates that the institution or the study program under review has major shortcomings. It is in force for 3 years and at the end of this period re-accreditation is necessary. (3) Not accredited: indicates that the

⁵ TÜ teaduskraadide põhimäärus [Charter of research degrees of UT]. Kinnitatud TÜ nõukogus 29.01.1999, otsus nr 1, muudetud TÜ nõukogus 28.11.2003, määrus nr 18. Retrieved from http://www.ut.ee/livelink_files/1197030.pdf (19.02.2005)

⁶ TPÜ doktoriõpingute ja doktorikraadi kaitsmise eeskiri [Regulations of doctoral studies and defense of degree of TPU]. Kinnitatud TPÜ nõukogus 16.06.2003, määrus nr 5. Retrieved from <http://www.tpu.ee/files/arts/331/03-0662466d49ad3dc1c9759e15eea0a5cbcc.pdf> (19.02.2005)

⁷ Doktorikraad [Doctoral degree]. Retrieved from <http://www.socrates.ee/et/enicnarc/korgharidus/qualifications/doktor.html> (19.02.2005)

⁸ Õppeasutuste antavate akadeemiliste kraadide nimetuste loetelu [List of titles of academic degrees awarded by educational institutions]. RTI 2004, 63, 445. Retrieved from www.riigiteataja.ee (16.02.2005)

institution or the study program has serious shortcomings. In case of a negative accreditation decision the institution or the study program will stop admission and instruction and should ensure the transfer of students to another program or higher education institution.

17. There are several opportunities for mobility: (1) cooperation agreements signed between Estonia and foreign countries that include the exchange of students and researchers (cooperation agreements with Latvia, Lithuania, Flanders (Belgium), Israel, Poland, Denmark, the Czech Republic, Hungary); (2) grant schemes for studies and research offered by foreign governments (e.g. the US Fulbright Program, grant schemes mediated by the British Council, DAAD support for study and field practice in Germany, support for research or doctoral studies in Taiwan); (3) EU cooperation programs (Socrates/ Erasmus, 6th Framework Program) and grant schemes of other organizations (Nordic Council of Ministers, Open Society Institute); (4) national initiatives like the scholarship program Kristjan Jaak for promoting the graduate students' study and research related assignments abroad. Forming student places on the bases of state-commissioned education for supporting doctoral studies at foreign universities; (5) cooperation agreements between Estonian and foreign universities.

18. As to exchange programs, there are at the universities offices of international relations, also web pages at the MoER and at the universities, and electronic lists disseminating information about grant schemes, scientific events, and sources of financial support. From time to time also seminars are held regarding specific opportunities of international mobility. Rather than lack of information, the problem might also be that there are a variety of sources offering partly different and partly overlapping information.

19. The possibilities for enhancing mobility of national researchers to go abroad are: (1) cooperation agreements with foreign countries; (2) study and grant schemes offered by foreign governments (e.g. the Fulbright Scholar Program, which offers research grants for Estonians with doctoral degree to conduct research at universities or special libraries/collections in the US, and the Fulbright Student program which offers grants for Estonians who intend to enter graduate degree programs at US universities), (3) EU cooperation programs (Socrates/ Erasmus, 6th Framework Program) and grant schemes supported by other organizations (Nordic Council of Ministers, Open Society Institute, etc); (4) national initiatives like the scholarship program Kristjan Jaak for promoting graduate students' studies and related assignments abroad by supporting studies, conference participation, visits to libraries or laboratories, consultations, etc . There is also a possibility since 2004/2005 to apply for student places formed on the bases of state-commissioned education, where the actual studies take place abroad. The aim is to support doctoral studies at foreign universities during the nominal length of studies (4 years). After defending the degree, the person who has received support, is expected to apply for a position (in case of no valid job agreement during the time of defence) and work for at least 3 years at Estonian higher education institution; (5) cooperation agreements between Estonian and foreign universities.

20. The means to enhance mobility of foreign researchers to come to Estonia are: (1) cooperation agreements with foreign countries that include the exchange of students and researchers; (2) study and grant schemes offered by different foreign governments (for example the Fulbright Senior Specialists Program that is designed to provide short-term academic opportunities (two to six weeks) for U.S. faculty and professionals), (3) exchange programs of EU (Erasmus, Erasmus Mundus) and grant schemes supported by other organizations that finance cooperation and networking (Nordic Council of Ministers); (4) cooperation agreements between Estonian and foreign universities.

21. There are at the moment no joint degree programs for European or international PhDs.

22. The Estonian Academy of Young Scientists is aware of the European Researchers' Charter and a Code of Conduct for the Recruitment. EAYS will formulate its opinion on these documents in the next academic year.

23. The mentioned European recommendations can be better promoted and implemented at the national and institutional level through the seminars and conferences for PhD students and young researchers. EAYS is in particular interested organizing and participating in those activities.

24. The Estonian Academy of Young Scientists has not yet an official position on this question. EAYS will formulate its opinion in the next academic year.

25. There are some initiatives in Estonia in reducing gender imbalances existing at the PhD level. This problem is not so acute in Estonia.

26. There are no notable differences in the gender distribution between comparable positions in academia and other sectors.

PART TWO: FIGURES

1. PhD degrees are offered by public and private universities.

TABLE 1. Universities offering PhD degrees in Estonia

	1999/ 2000	2000/ 2001	2001/ 2002	2002/ 2003	2003/ 2004
Public universities	6	6	6	6	6
University of Tartu	x	x	x	x	x
Tallinn Technical University	x	x	x	x	x
Estonian Academy of Arts	x	x	x	x	x
Estonian Academy of Music	x	x	x	x	x
Tallinn Pedagogical University	x	x	x	x	x
Estonian Agricultural University	x	x	x	x	x
Private universities	-	-	2	4	4
Estonian Business School	-	-	x	x	x'
Institute of Law	-	-	x	-	-
University Nord	-	-	-	x	x
Concordia International University in Estonia	-	-	-	x	-
Estonian Institute of Humanities	-	-	-	x	x
Audentes University	-	-	-	-	x
In total	6	6	8	10	10

Sources: 'Doktoriõpe. Retrieved from <http://www.ebs.ee/index.php?id=215> (20.02.2005). Haridus/ Education 1999/2000. (2000). Statistikaamet. Haridus/ Education 2000/2001. (2001). Statistikaamet. Haridus/ Education 2001/2002. (2002). Statistikaamet. Haridus/ Education 2002/2003. (2003). Statistikaamet. Haridus/ Education 2003/2004. (2004). Statistikaamet.

2. The total number of PhD candidates has grown from 1251 in 1999/2000 to 1660 in 2003/2004. During the current academic year (2004/2005) there are 1717 PhD candidates⁹.

TABLE 2. Total number of PhD candidates in Estonia

	1999/ 2000	2000/ 2001	2001/ 2002	2002/ 2003	2003/ 2004
Public universities					
University of Tartu	925	1030	1001	964	930
Tallinn Technical University	181	217	263	304	368
Estonian Academy of Arts	4	5	6	10	12
Estonian Academy of Music	3	8	12	18	24
Tallinn Pedagogical University	59	73	91	114	134
Estonian Agricultural University	79	114	126	151	161
Private universities					
Estonian Business School	-	-	7	8	7'
Institute of Law	-	-	2	-	-
University Nord	-	-	-	7	10
Concordia International University in Estonia	-	-	-	3	-
Estonian Institute of Humanities	-	-	-	8	8
Audentes University	-	-	-	-	6
In total	1251	1447	1508	1587	1660

Sources: 'Doktoriõpe. Retrieved from <http://www.ebs.ee/index.php?id=215> (20.02.2005). Haridus/ Education 1999/2000. (2000). Statistikaamet. Haridus/ Education 2000/2001. (2001). Statistikaamet. Haridus/ Education 2001/2002. (2002). Statistikaamet. Haridus/ Education 2002/2003. (2003). Statistikaamet. Haridus/ Education 2003/2004. (2004). Statistikaamet.

3. During 1991-2002 the median age for entering the doctoral programs has varied in different universities from 28 to 39. The average age was 28. Among the students entering doctoral

⁹ Kõrgharidus - statistiline ülevaade üliõpilaste vastuvõtust, õppijatest ja lõpetajatest. Kõrghariduses toimunud muutused 1993/94-2004/05 õppeaastal [Higher education – statistical review of admission, students and graduates. Changes in the higher education 1993/94-2004/05] (01.11.2004 seisuga). Koostanud Haridus- ja Teadusministeerium 11.01.2005. Retrieved from <http://www.hm.ee/> (18.02.2005)

programs, there has always been a relatively young age group. Among those admitted 1991-2002 25% were 26-years-old or younger and 50% were 28-years-old and younger. On the whole 75% were 32-years-old and younger¹⁰.

In general the entry qualification into doctoral program is master's degree or qualification corresponding to it. The entry qualification at University of Tartu is master's degree, university education (university (specialist) diploma issued before 1995), education as a doctor, education as a dentist, education as a dispensing chemist or education acquired in teacher training (at least 200 credits/ 300 ECTS) or persons with foreign qualification corresponding to it¹¹. The entry qualification at Tallinn Technical University and at Tallinn Pedagogical University is master's degree or qualification corresponding to it^{12, 13}.

4. There has been a growth of the number of PhD candidates who have defended. It was steeper in 1998/1999 (135). Then the number of graduates decreased in 1999/2000 (117), but started to increase again since 2000/2001 (149), 2001/2002 (188), 2002/2003 (226). In 2003/2004 the number has somewhat decreased to 209¹⁴.

TABLE 3. PhD graduates in Estonia'

	1998/ 1999	1999/ 2000	2000/ 2001	2001/ 2002	2002/ 2003
Public universities					
University of Tartu	117	92	128	157	180
Tallinn Technical University	9	13	7	17	26
Estonian Academy of Arts	-	-	-	-	1
Estonian Academy of Music	-	-	-	-	-
Tallinn Pedagogical University	1	6	6	7	9
Estonian Agricultural University	8	6	7	6	10
Private universities					
Estonian Business School	-	-	1	1	-
Institute of Law	-	-	-	-	-
University Nord	-	-	-	-	-
Concordia International University in Estonia	-	-	-	-	-
Estonian Institute of Humanities	-	-	-	-	-
Audentes University	-	-	-	-	-
In total	135	117	149	188	226

Sources: Haridus/ Education 1999/2000. (2000). Statistikaamet. Haridus/ Education 2000/2001. (2001). Statistikaamet. Haridus/ Education 2001/2002. (2002). Statistikaamet. Haridus/ Education 2002/2003. (2003). Statistikaamet. Haridus/ Education 2003/2004. (2004). Statistikaamet.

¹⁰The figures include residents of medical studies (equivalent to PhD candidates).

The median age of PhD candidates in 1992-2002 at the time of completion of their doctorate varied from 33 to 44. The average age was 34. Among the graduates in 1992-2002 25% were 30-years-old and younger, 50% were 34-years-old and younger, and 75% were 40-years-old or younger.¹⁵

¹⁰ Phare projekti „Meetmete kogumi väljatöötamine doktoriõppe tugevdamiseks Eestis“ aruanne [Report of Phare project „Development of measures to strengthen doctoral studies in Estonia“]. (2004). V. Puura, T. Lehtsaar, & A. Kärner (Koost.). Tartu. Käsikiri.

¹¹ TÜ vastuvõtueeskiri [Regulations of admission of UT]. Võetud vastu TÜ nõukogus 26.11.2004, määrus nr 15.

¹² TTÜ üliõpilaste vastuvõtutingimused ja –kord [Regulations and requirements of admission of TTU]. Kinnitatud TTÜ nõukogus 13.11.2001, määrus nr 11, muudetud TTÜ nõukogus 21.12.2004, määrus nr 8.

¹³ TPÜ vastuvõtutingimused ja –kord [Regulations and requirements of admission of TPU]. Kehtestatud TPÜ nõukogus 20.12.2004, määrus nr 16.

¹⁴ Statistical Office of Estonia.

¹⁵ Phare projekti „Meetmete kogumi väljatöötamine doktoriõppe tugevdamiseks Eestis“ aruanne [Report of Phare project „Development of measures to strengthen doctoral studies in Estonia“]. (2004). V. Puura, T. Lehtsaar, & A. Kärner (Koost.). Tartu. Käsikiri.

5. The nominal length of PhD programs is 3-4 years (120 credits/ 180 ECTS to 160 credits/ 240 ECTS). Since 2003/2004 there is a distinction between full-time and part-time studies, in case of full-time studies the student has to complete by the end on every academic year cumulatively at least 75% of studies (on average 30 credits per academic year), in case of part-time studies the student has to complete cumulatively less than 75% of studies (20 credits)¹⁶. This does not effect the nominal time, but is a bases for determining the status of the student according to his study load. The PhD studies can be undertaken also as an extern, without the formal status as the student. The majority of PhD students defend their thesis after 5-8 or more years of studies and research. The exmatriculation of students without the defence of the thesis occurs mostly also after 4-5 years of study.¹⁷

6. The effectiveness of doctoral studies, when comparing the number of PhD students who have defended 1991-2002 with the number of students who were admitted 1991-1999, is approximately 40%. The duration of studies among the PhD students, except for the externs, who have defended 1991-2002, is the nominal length of studies (4 years) for about one-third of the students and it is the nominal length of studies plus one year (5 years) for about half of the students¹⁸. In 2003-2004 the percentage of PhD students who have graduated within the nominal length of studies has increased, being around 42%¹⁹.

7. The percentage of PhD candidates who withdraw is approximately 60%²⁰. There are no interim qualifications for those who do not complete their doctorates as the academic degrees are Bachelor's level degree, Master's level degree or Doctoral level degree.

8. PhD candidates are registered at the universities and at the MoER.

9. The PhD candidates have the status of students. Students can study in a student place formed on the basis of state-commissioned education and in a student place formed outside it. "State-commissioned education" means the number of graduates in a field of study or per curriculum, determined by a contract between the MoER and a university, which the university is required to ensure by the end of the standard period of study and which the MoER is required to finance. During the current academic year (2004/2005) out of the total 1717 PhD students, 1538 (90%) study in a student place formed on the basis of state-commissioned education and 179 (10%) study in a student place formed without state financing²¹. There is a study fee for students who study at a student place formed outside the state-commissioned education. The rate of the study fee differs between universities, fields of study and curricula; there is no difference in tuition fees for EU and non-EU students except in the Faculty of Medicine at University of Tartu. The fee is established by the council of the university for each academic year. The average study fee

¹⁶ Ülikooliseadus [Universities Act]. RT I 1995, 12, 119, muudetud RT I 1996, 49, 953, RT I 1996, 51, 965, RT I 1997, 42, 678, RT I 1998, 57, 859, RT I 1999, 10, 150, RT I 1999, 102, 908, RT I 2000, 25, 140, RT I 2000, 78, 496, RT I 2001, 16, 71, RT I 2002, 21, 117, RT I 2002, 53, 336, RT I 2002, 56, 348, RT I 2002, 57, 357, RT I 2002, 61, 375, RT I 2002, 90, 521, RT I 2003, 20, 116, RT I 2003, 33, 206, RT I 2003, 58, 387, RT I 2004, 45, 316, RT I 2004, 56, 404. Retrieved from www.riigiteataja.ee (20.02.2005)

¹⁷ Phare projekti „Meetmete kogumi väljatöötamine doktoriõppe tugevdamiseks Eestis“ aruanne [Report of Phare project „Development of measures to strengthen doctoral studies in Estonia“]. (2004). V. Puura, T. Lehtsaar, & A. Kärner (Koost.). Tartu. Käsikiri.

¹⁸ Ibid.

¹⁹ Kõrgharidus - statistiline ülevaade üliõpilaste vastuvõtust, õppijatest ja lõpetajatest. Kõrghariduses toimunud muutused 1993/94-2004/05 õppeaastal [Higher education – statistical overview of admission, students and graduates. Changes in the higher education 1993/94-2004/05]. (01.11.2004 seisuga). Koostanud Haridus- ja Teadusministeerium 11.01.2005. Retrieved from <http://www.hm.ee/> (18.02.2005)

²⁰ Phare projekti „Meetmete kogumi väljatöötamine doktoriõppe tugevdamiseks Eestis“ aruanne [Report of Phare project „Development of measures to strengthen doctoral studies in Estonia“]. (2004). V. Puura, T. Lehtsaar, & A. Kärner (Koost.). Tartu. Käsikiri.

²¹ Kõrgharidus - statistiline ülevaade üliõpilaste vastuvõtust, õppijatest ja lõpetajatest. Kõrghariduses toimunud muutused 1993/94-2004/05 õppeaastal [Higher education – statistical review of admission, students and graduates. Changes in the higher education 1993/94-2004/05]. (01.11.2004 seisuga). Koostanud Haridus- ja Teadusministeerium 11.01.2005. Retrieved from <http://www.hm.ee/> (18.02.2005)

in doctoral studies for example at University of Tartu for the current academic year (2004/2005) is about 23 000 EEK (1470 €)²². At Tallinn Pedagogical University the average fee for the current academic year is about 20 000 EEK (1278 €)²³.

10. The main source of funding of research activity for the PhD candidates has been the stipends paid from the grants of the Estonian Science Foundation in the sum of up to 3000 EEK (192 €) per month. The number of students receiving the stipends of the Estonian Science Foundation has varied between universities. For example at University of Tartu 467 PhD candidates received the stipend 2000-2003, which is 45% of the total number of PhD students. At Tallinn Pedagogical University 8 PhD candidates received the stipend in 2003, which is 9% of the total number of students. At Estonian Agricultural University 78 students received the stipend in 2003, which is 46% of the total number.²⁴ Due to the raise of the monthly allowance in 2005, the PhD candidates who receive the allowance are not eligible for the stipend. Up to 2005 there was also target funding from the MoER for the research activities of PhD students who studied at a student place formed on the basis of state-commissioned education in the sum of 10 000 EEK (639 €) per year.

11. The PhD monthly allowance is raised from 192 € to 383 €

12. The PhD candidates who are employed either in education and research institutions or in other organizations have workers' rights and duties. In 2004 a survey was carried out among PhD candidates who were admitted to public universities 2000-2002 (n=870) and of whom 345 returned the questionnaire. Only 10,7% of the respondents said they didn't work during their studies, the majority (77,1%) worked in education or research institutions, 4.9% in civil service and 7.3% held other jobs.²⁵ The social guarantees are: health insurance, pension insurance, unemployment insurance, maternity benefit, parental benefit. In 2005 the taxes that the employee is liable to pay are income tax (24%), unemployment insurance (0.5-2%), pension insurance (2% if the employee has joined the 2nd pillar). Other taxes are paid by the employer.

13. According to the 2004 survey 57.1% of the PhD candidates work in the universities and 2.9% in professional higher education institutions. Teaching is to certain extent also a part of most PhD programs.

14. Teaching is part of the duties of PhD candidates who work mostly as assistants or lecturers. The workload varies between universities, for example at Tallinn Pedagogical University it is on average for assistant 10 hours per week and for lecturer on average 10-14 hours per week (without preparation, conducting exams/ assessments, supervision). The teaching as part of the doctoral studies also varies between universities and curricula being about 10-38% of the studies²⁶.

15. Few young researchers (about 15%) are involved in collaboration between academia and industry during their PhD.

16. No data concerning this question.

²² Õppeteenustasud 2004/2005. õppeaastal [Study fees 2004/2005]. Kehtestatud TÜ nõukogus 28.11.2003, otsus nr 72, muudetud TÜ nõukogus 24.09.2004, otsus nr 44. Retrieved from <http://www.ut.ee/orb.aw/class=file/action=preview/id=19935/-oppeteenustasud+2004.htm> (17.02.2005)

²³ Vastuvõtuarvud ja REV õppekohtade maksumused 2004/05. õppeaastal [Admission numbers and fees for student places formed outside state budget 2004/2005]. Kehtestatud TPÜ nõukogus 01.03.2004, otsus nr 6. Retrieved from <http://www.tpu.ee/files/arts/59/04-03984e4180f813c09d044a4428d19faa7f.pdf> (17.02.2005)

²⁴ Phare projekti „Meetmete kogumi väljatöötamine doktorioõppe tugevdamiseks Eestis“ aruanne [Report of Phare project „Development of measures to strengthen doctoral studies in Estonia“]. (2004). V. Puura, T. Lehtsaar, & A. Kärner (Koost.). Tartu. Käsikiri.

²⁵ Ibid.

²⁶ Ibid.

17. About 85% of young PhD holders remain working in academia.
18. A few researchers are involved in the research based in private companies.
19. The average salary of young doctors in the academic sector is about 500–750 € and in private sector about 600–800 €
20. EAYS as a newborn organization has about 25 members. This number is continuously growing. There are member from three the PhD awarding institutions.