




SUMMARY REPORT OF THE EXTERNAL EVALUATION

of the cluster of educational
programmes in "Economics",

delivered by
Volga State University of Technology



2013

While preparing this presentation we used information from the Self-Evaluation Report and the Report on External Review Panel of the educational programmes "Economics" (080100.62, 080100.68) offered at Federal State Budget Educational Institution of Higher Professional Education "Volga State University of Technology"

The presentation document for the use by the National Accreditation Board.

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GENERAL INFORMATION ON EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION

Full name of the educational institution: *Federal State Budget Educational Institution of Higher Professional Education "Volga State University of Technology"*

Founders *Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation*

Year of foundation *1932 – the Volga Institute of Forestry Engineering
1968 – M. Gorky Mari Polytechnic Institute
1995 – Mari State Technical University
2012 – the Volga State University of Technology*

Current accreditation status:

Type	<i>Educational Institution of Higher Professional Education</i>
Location	<i>Mari El Republic, Yoshkar-Ola, 3 Lenin square</i>
Rector	<i>Doctor of Agricultural Sciences, professor Romanov Evgeny Mikhailovich</i>
License	<i>Series 90L01 No.0000377 registration No. 0342 of September 19,2012 permanent</i>
State Accreditation	<i>Certificate of State accreditation No. 0339, series 90A01 № 0000342 of December 29, 2012</i>
Number of students	<i>11923</i>

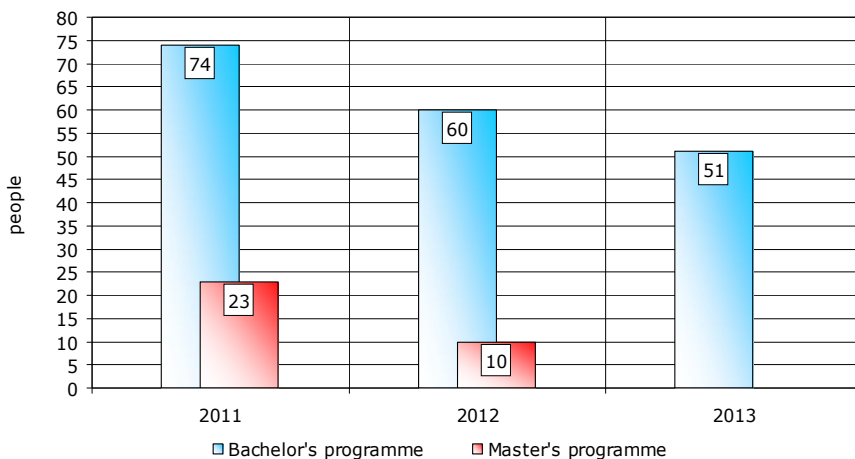
INFORMATION ON THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES UNDERGOING ACCREDITATION

Educational programmes	<i>"Economics" (080100.62, 080100.68)</i>
Level of training / Standard period of training	<i>Bachelor programme / 4 years Master's programme / 2 years</i>
Structural subdivision (head)	<i>Faculty of Economics (doctor of Economics., professor Chernyakevich Lidia Mikhailovna)</i>
Major departments (heads of major departments)	<i>Department of Economics and Finance (Doctor of Economic Sceinces, prof. Toropova Evgenia Vasilievna) Department of Accounting, Analysis and Audit (Doctor of Economic Sceinces, prof. Mironova Olga Alekseevna) Department of Taxes and Taxation (PhD in economics. Ass.prof. Korotkova Alevtina Vasilievna) Department of Information Systems in Economics (Candidate of Economic Sceinces, Ass.prof. Urazaeva Tatiana Alfredovna) Department of Economics and Production Management (Doctor of Economic Sceinces, prof. Akhmadeeva Marzia Mukhamedovna)</i>
Date of the site visit	<i>May 13 – 14, 2013</i>
Person responsible for public accreditation of the study programme	<i>Doctor of Economic Sceinces, dean of the Faculty of Economics Chernyakevich Lidia Mikhailovna</i>

SAMPLING RESULTS OF THE PROJECT "THE BEST EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES OF INNOVATIVE RUSSIA"

Indicators	2013
Cluster of educational programmes Economics	
Number of the given programmes in the RF	4212
Number of higher educational institutions to offer the given programmes	1874
Number of programmes – winners of the project (% from total amount of these programmes offered in the RF)	219 (5%)
Republic of Mari El	
Number of the given programmes offered in the region	19
Number of programmes – winners of the project (% from total amount of these programmes offered in the region)	4 (21%)
Number of higher educational institutions and subsidiaries in the region	11
Total number of programmes offered in the region	158
Total number of programmes – winners of the project (% from total amount of these programmes offered in the region)	15 (9%)

REFERENCE DATA ON STUDENT ENROLLEMENT FOR PROGRAMME ECONOMICS



ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME

Achievements of the Faculty of Economics

The Faculty of Economics is taking the highest places in the annual ranking of the University (in 2012 – 1st place). The Faculty took III place in 2011, in 2012 - II place in the competition "The Best Faculty of the University for students' research work". In 2012 the Department of Accounting and Auditing took I place in the competition for "The Best Department of the University".

Achievements of students

Annually the students of the Faculty of Economics are awarded the Scholarship of the President and the Government of the Russian Federation. Within the framework of the international cooperation there are programmes for students exchange, training and internship in the USA, Germany, France, Great Britain. Since 2000 26 students and 9 faculty members have been on exchange programmes abroad.

Achievements of the faculty

There have been several prize winners of the Presidential Award "Support for the talented youth" among the faculty members: Volkova N.N., Guschina O.V. Kopylova I.S.

All members of the faculty are authors of books and teaching materials including those with the facsimile signature of Academic Associations.

Cooperation with social partners

Cooperation with social partners is given high priority. There is a number of agreements with strategic partners, long-term agreements with leading enterprises and organizations on cooperation in the field of training specialists.

EXTERNAL REVIEW PANEL



Zasko Vadim Nikolaevich (Russia)

Review Chair

Doctor of Economics, professor, Dean of the Faculty of Tax and Taxation, Financial University affiliated to the Government of the Russian Federation – Russian expert

A nominee of the Guild of Experts in the Sphere of Higher Professional Education (Russia)



Vlado Dimovski (Slovenia)

panel member, foreign expert

Doctor of Economics, professor at the Faculty of economics, University of Ljubljana (Slovenia), certified expert of the Slovenian Agency of Quality Assurance in the sphere of higher education (Ljubljana, Slovenia)

A nominee of the Foundation for International Business Administration Accreditation FIBAA (Germany)



Maik Huettinger (Lithuania)

panel member, foreign expert

PhD in Economics, certified expert of the Centre of Quality Assurance in the sphere of higher education (Vilnius, Lithuania)

A nominee of the Centre for Quality Assessment in Higher Education SKVC (Lithuania)



Lezhnina Margarita A. (Russia)

panel member, representative of professional community

deputy minister for economic development and trade of Mari El Republic

A nominee of the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of the Republic of Mari El (Russia)



Ryzhakova Olga E. (Russia)

panel member, representative of students

5-year student of Mari State University, of the specialty "Mathematic methods in economy"

A nominee of Mari State University (Russia)



Feng Hui (People's Republic of China)

observer

vice-President of Shanghai Education Evaluation Institute

A nominee of *Shanghai Education Evaluation Institute* (People's Republic of China)

COMPLIANCE OF THE EXTERNAL REVIEW OUTCOMES WITH THE NCPA'S STANDARDS

STANDARD 1. Policy (mission, vision) and procedures for quality assurance.

Compliance with the standard: **substantial compliance**

Good practice

The Management of the University has defined the programme, its objectives and development strategy, as well as objectives of the faculty and educational programmes. The development programme of the faculty is harmonized with the development programme of the University.

Methods for achieving and adjusting the goals of the study programme generally comply with the NCPA's standards and criteria.

The Faculty Management relies on recommendations of employers while setting the objectives and goals of the educational programme.

The university has elaborated and implemented the quality management system. The policy for the quality assurance is discussed with all stakeholders.

Students officially have a chance to evaluate their teachers.

There are separate elements of internal quality assurance at the Faculty of Economics.

Areas for improvement

The mission and development strategy for the accredited programmes are not defined clearly enough, nor are methods for achieving the set goals.

Lack of the comprehensive effective system of quality assurance.

Low level of corporate culture.

STANDARD 2. Approval, monitoring and periodic review of study programmes

Compliance with the standard: **substantial compliance**

Good practice

The educational programmes are annually reviewed in accordance with the objectives and results of the educational programme: as a result, there are changes in the content of the syllabi, teaching materials, which help implement the relevant educational programme with regard to the development of science, technology, information technologies, economy, culture and social policy.

Periodic review of the curriculum and syllabi of the educational programme is done according to the university-approved procedure and involves students into planning and improving the curriculum.

The employers are in close contact with the programme management.

Areas for improvement

There are no clear criteria for curriculum review. The review is not periodic.

The mechanism for taking students' and employers' opinions into account does not work to a full extend.

Lack of monitoring of the programme's implementation, based on which the analysis for dynamics of changes and financial support is possible.

Insufficient number of elective courses.

STANDARD 3. Assessment of student learning outcomes (competencies)

Compliance with the standard: **substantial compliance**

Good practice

The procedure for assessment of students' learning outcomes/competencies is regulated by the documents, approved by the appropriate structural units.

Assessment of students learning outcomes/competencies is performed by members of the faculty with sufficient professional qualification and relies mainly on score-ranking system.

Control of the quality of students learning outcomes is carried out throughout the whole period of study and consists of the following activities: testing, individual assignments, tests, presentations, tests of sample groups, exams, and the final state attestation.

The quality of education is assessed on the results of educational and research activities of students.

The university administration encourages students to do research, as evidenced by a large number of publications of students' works along with teachers as co-authors.

Graduates of the educational programme are all well-employed.

Areas for improvement

Lack of clear and comprehensive criteria for assessment of students learning outcomes/competencies.

Lack of students' motivation for participation in research activities and exchange programmes.

Lack of sufficient command of English both among faculty members as well as among students, which is a hindrance to international mobility.

Insufficient choice of places for internship and practice.

STANDARD 4. Quality assurance of teaching staff

Compliance with the standard: **substantial compliance**

Good practice

As a result of the meetings with the members of teaching staff the ERP drew the conclusion that the teaching staff is qualified within the domain of the educational programmes.

Educational process is tightly connected with research.

Teachers regularly publish the results of scientific research in the high-ranking journals.

The age structure of the teaching staff is reasonable, enabling to guarantee the cadre turnover, to perform effective experience exchange and constant personnel renewal.

The university implements the rating system of the activity of the departments and the faculty, which ensures competitive environment and promotes vertical personnel mobility.

The university compiles annually the rating results for the teaching staff, which show the results on teaching, research and educational activity. These may result in the increase of the salary of the teaching staff (so called "additional incentives").

The teaching staff is actively involved in the work of various international, national and university conferences, seminars and exhibitions (fairs).

Areas for improvement

Lack of active participation of the teaching staff in international research and academic projects.

Insufficient system of motivation of the teaching staff to improve professional qualification and participate in international projects and research visits.

Insufficient competency of the teaching staff in modern information technologies.

INFORMATION ON THE LEADING TEACHERS OF THE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES

Akhmadeeva Marzia Mukhamedovna

Doctor of Economics, head of the Department of Economics and Production Management, professor. Award "Honored Scientist of the Republic of Mari El", award pin "Honored worker in Higher Education of the Russian Federation", Certificate of Merit of the Ministry of Education and Science of RF, State Assembly of RME.

Mironova Olga Alekseevna

Doctor of Economics, professor, head of the Department of Accounting, Analysis and Audit. Award "Honored Scientist of the Republic of Mari El". Chair of the Dissertation Commission for PhD and Doctoral Thesis Defense at VolgaTech (specialty 08.00.12 – Accounting, Statistics); member of the editorial board of the journal "Everything for an accountant", Publishing House "Finances and Credit", Moscow; member of the editorial board of the Proceedings of Faculty and PhD students of the Faculty of Economics of Volgatech; member of the Academic Association of Russian Universities on the specialty 08.01.09 "Accounting, Analysis and Audit", 08.01.05 "Finances and Credit", 08.01.07 "Taxes and Taxation" which operates at the Financial Academy under the Government of the Russian Federation.

Khanafeev Farid Faizrakhmanovich

Doctor of Economics, professor, State Councilor of the 2nd class. Awards of the Ministry of Taxes; State Assembly of RME; the Government of RME; Administration of the city of Yoshkar-Ola, RME. Was given a title "Honored Economist of RME". Was awarded the 2nd degree medal "Honoris Causa of RME".

Chernyakevich Lidia Mikhailovna

Doctor of Economics, professor, Dean of the Faculty of Economics. Award "Honored Scientist of the Republic of Mari El", award pin "Honored worker in Higher Education of the Russian Federation", certificate of Merit of the Ministry of Education and Science of RF, State Assembly of RME. Field of scientific interests: economic strategy for state management of forests, economy, organization and management of branches and enterprises. Author of more than 110 scientific works, 3 monographs.

STANDARD 5. Learning resources and student support

Compliance with the standard: **substantial compliance**

Good practice

The educational programmes are supported with sufficient number of rooms, laboratories, and equipment. The teaching staff actively uses multimedia classrooms, internet-recourses, and posts online tasks for students.

Most academic courses are supported with electronic teaching materials, including educational programmes, guidelines, tutorials, tests, laboratory course manuals.

Teaching materials, electronic textbooks and study guides are available in the local network of the university and the departments.

All students have an access to university electronic library system based on the platform IRBIS, "Lan".

The social infrastructure includes: comfortable brand-new hostel for international students and for those coming other cities, sport and health camp, sport and health facility with a swimming pool, stadium, and fitness-centre.

To maintain effectively the recourse basis of educational programmes there is a systematic monitoring, analysis and account of students' wishes and desires.

Areas for improvement

Hard conditions of students who live in the hostel: lack of a special room for individual work and lack of free access to the Internet.

The faculty lacks the system of electronic management of educational process.

STANDARD 6. Information system providing effective implementation of the study programme

Compliance with the standard: **substantial compliance**

Good practice

In accordance with the Quality Assurance System – RK-001-2009 “Guidelines for quality assurance of the Volga State University of Technology” the University collects, analyses and distributes necessary information to maintain and manage the educational programme and other types of activities.

Information systems which ensure quality and effective implementation of the educational programme are as follows: achievements of students and their academic performance, students’ level of satisfaction with the educational programme, graduates’ employability, access to learning resources and effectiveness of teaching, as well as basic indicators of the University’s activity.

All buildings and structural units are united with the local network, that ensures free access to information resources of the corporative network: to University web-server; electronic library resources, etc.

Most academic courses are supported with electronic teaching materials, including educational programmes, guidelines, tutorials, tests, laboratory course manuals.

Areas for improvement

No mechanism for the analysis of information about the programme.

The analysis of programme-competitors, University- competitors (on the federal level) is not sufficient.

Electronic library of the university is not popular among students.

STANDARD 7. Public information

Compliance with the standard: **substantial compliance**

Good practice

Public information is available through the University website, the media, guides for students, as well as through traditional so called "Open Days" of the university and the faculty.

Publication of objective data on quality and achievement of the educational programme of the cluster "Economics" is posted on the official website of the University, in the monthly University newspaper "Engineer", as well as in regional and Russian periodic editions.

Employment and the demand for graduates is monitored by a special structural unit for Alumni. The information on employment and the demand for graduates is posted on the internal resources of the University. The results of the analysis of graduate employment are discussed at the sessions of administration with further publication of the report.

There is annual career guidance for prospective students. Career guidance for prospective students is done according to the annual plan.

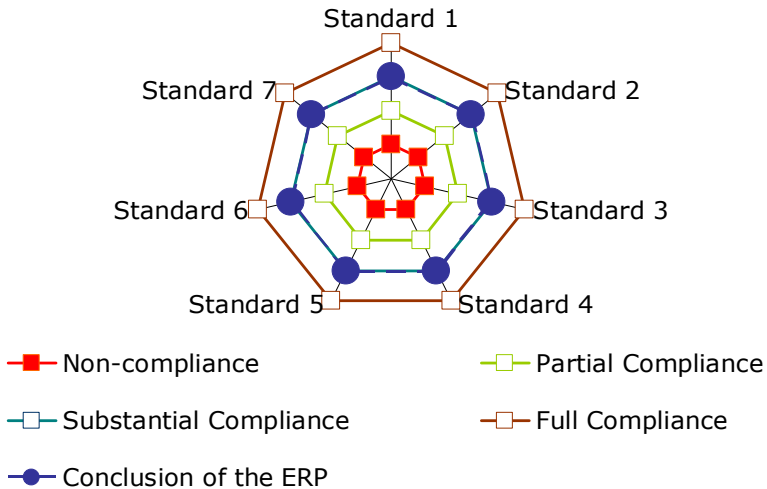
The faculty monitors graduates' employability and demand for graduates in the labour market. A separate unit of the University website includes information of the Career Centre and results of monitoring the labour market, the employability and graduates' demand.

Areas for improvement

Lack of social awareness about real demand for graduates of the educational programme in the local and Russian labour market.

Data about the educational programme are not sufficient. The society is not aware of the University achievements.

DISTRIBUTION DIGRAM OF THE EXTERNAL REVIEW OUTCOMES



- Standard 1. Policy (mission, vision) and procedures for quality assurance
- Standard 2. Approval, monitoring and periodic review of programs and qualifications
- Standard 3. Assessment of student learning outcomes / competencies
- Standard 4. Quality assurance and competencies of teaching staff
- Standard 5. Learning resources and student support
- Standard 6. Information system providing effective implementation of the study program
- Standard 7. Public information

CONCLUSION OF THE EXTERNAL REVIEW PANEL

Based on the self-evaluation report analysis, documents and data submitted, interviews with the representatives of the professional communities, students, post graduates, doctor-degree students, staff and administration of the educational institution the External Review Panel came to the conclusion that educational programme of the cluster "Economics" offered at Federal State Budget Educational Institution of Higher Professional Education "Volga State University of Technology" to a larger degree complies with standards and criteria of public accreditation of the National Centre for Public Accreditation.

The Panel would like to highlight the commitment of the university to meet the high quality standards in education, focus and motivation of the university management and the faculty members on the formation of high-quality modern university, the desire to be open to the society.

The Panel recommends the National Accreditation Board **to accredit the educational programmes "Economics" (080100.62, 080100.68) for the period of 6 years.**

SCHEDULE OF THE SITE VISIT OF THE EXTERNAL REVIEW PANEL

Time	Activity	Participants	Venue
12May, Sunday			
18.00	The first meeting of the Review Panel members and coordinators of the review of the educational programmes of the Volgatch		NCPA's office
13 May, Monday			
09.15	Arrival at Volgatch		
09.30 – 11.00	Excursion around the University	ERP, coordinators	1 st building, Physical training facility
10.30 – 12.00	Meeting of the ERP with the university administration	Rector, vice-rectors, dean of the faculty, ERP	Conference-hall
12.00 – 13.00	Lunch		
13.00 – 14.00	Meeting with Volgatch staff members responsible for accreditation and chairs of the educational programmes under review	ERP, chairs, people responsible for the review	3 rd building, room 306
14.00 – 14.15	Break	ERP	3rd building, room 114a
14.15 – 15.15	Excursion to the branch of the Department of Taxes and Taxation at the Department of the Federal Tax Service of the Russian Federation in Mari El	ERP, people responsible for the review	The branch of the Department of Taxes and Taxation at the Department of the Federal Tax Service of the Russian Federation in Mari El
15.15 – 16.15	Meeting with teaching staff	Teaching staff, ERP	3 rd building, room 306
16.50 – 16.30	Internal meeting of the ERP	ERP	3rd building, room 114a
16.30 – 17.30	Meeting with the representatives of the professional community	Representative of the professional community, ERP	3 rd building, room 306
17.30 – 18.30	Internal meeting of the ERP	ERP	3rd building, room 114a

14 May, Tuesday

09.15	Arrival at Volgatech		
09.30 – 10.30	Meeting with students	Students, ERP	3 rd building, room 306
10.30 – 11.00	Internal meeting of the ERP	ERP	3rd building, room 114a
11.00 – 12.00	Work with documentation	ERP	3rd building, room 114a
12.00 – 13.00	Lunch		
13.00 – 14.00	Meeting with alumni	Alumni, ERP	3 rd building, room 306
14.00 – 15.00	Internal meeting of the ERP: discussion of preliminary results of the site visit, preparation of the oral report of the panel	ERP	3rd building, room 114a
15.00 – 16.00	Closing meeting of the Review Panel with the Volgatech representatives	ERP, administration, chairs of the major departments, teaching staff, students	3 rd building, room 306