



STUDIJŲ KOKYBĖS VERTINIMO CENTRAS

Kauno kolegijos

***FINANSŲ* STUDIJŲ PROGRAMOS (653N34002)**

**VERTINIMO IŠVADOS**

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**EVALUATION REPORT  
OF *FINANCE* (653N34002) STUDY PROGRAMME  
at Kaunas College**

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Išvados parengtos anglų kalba  
Report language - English

## DUOMENYS APIE ĮVERTINTĄ PROGRAMĄ

Studijų programos pavadinimas	<i>Finansai</i>
Valstybiniai kodai	653N34002
Studijų sritis	Socialiniai mokslai
Studijų kryptis	Finansai
Studijų programos rūšis	Koleginės studijos
Studijų pakopa	Pirmoji
Studijų forma (trukmė metais)	Nuolatinė (3)
Studijų programos apimtis kreditais	180
Suteikiamas laipsnis ir (ar) profesinė kvalifikacija	Finansininkas, vadybos ir verslo administravimo profesinis bakalauras, finansų profesinis bakalauras
Studijų programos įregistravimo data	2002-08-30 LR švietimo ir mokslo ministro įsakymu Nr. 1515

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## INFORMATION ON EVALUATED STUDY PROGRAMME

Title of the study programme	<i>Finance</i>
State code	653N34002
Study area	Social Sciences
Study field	Finance
Kind of the study programme	College Studies
Study Cycle	First
Study mode (length in years)	Full-time (3)
Volume of the study programme in credits	180
Degree and (or) professional qualifications awarded	Financier, Professional Bachelor of Management and Business Administration, Professional Bachelor in Finance
Date of registration of the study programme	30-08-2002 Min.ord.No.1515

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## I. INTRODUCTION

Kaunas College (hereinafter referred to as the College) was established in 2000 after joining Kaunas Technical School of Economics and Kaunas Technical School of Technology. As these schools were reorganized in 2001, 9 academic divisions were established in the College – 7 faculties and 2 departments.

There are the following faculties in the College – Faculty of Economics and Law, J. Vienozinskis Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Landscape, Faculty of Technologies, Faculty of Health Care, Faculty of Business Management, Kedainiai J. Radvila Faculty – and branches in Taurage and Druskininkai.

The professional bachelor degree in Finance is offered by the Faculty of Economics and Law. The Accounting and Finance department is responsible for the quality of Finance study programme. The programme was developed following consultations with potential employers in the region served by the College.

This programme evaluation is conducted by an international team assembled by the Centre for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (SKVC) and is conducted following an internal evaluation by the College which resulted in the production of a self-evaluation report (SER). The international expert group undertook its evaluation based on the information in the SER and a visit to the College. Following the visit, the group met to consider the findings and this report reflects their views.

## II. PROGRAMME ANALYSIS

### *1. Programme aims and learning outcomes*

The overall aim of the programme is to provide graduates with analytical and organizational skills to analyze economic and statistical indicators of company's economic and financial activity, to assess the financial condition of the company, to take part in management of financial processes and to make reasonable financial decisions within the limits of competence. There are 12 programme learning outcomes specified to achieve this aim.

All of the programme learning outcomes are realistic and achievable and indicate the necessary competencies.

The programme is described and both aims and intended learning outcomes are available on the homepage of the College in Lithuanian <http://www.kaunokolegija.lt/stojantiesiems/studiju-programos/socialiniu-mokslu-studiju-sritis/finansai/> and in English [http://kaunokolegija.lt/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/EN\\_FN-stud.-programos-aprasas\\_PDF.pdf](http://kaunokolegija.lt/wp-content/uploads/2012/09/EN_FN-stud.-programos-aprasas_PDF.pdf).

The programme aims and intended learning outcomes are based on the national criteria for such programmes and take into account the needs of labour market as well as national needs. Social partners participated in the development of the programme and the aims and intended learning outcomes are linked to the needs/competences of professionals in the financier area. The social partners with whom the expert group met confirmed the need for the programme and their satisfaction with how it satisfies their needs and the needs of the region.

The aims and intended learning outcomes of the programme are generally appropriate to the qualification of the professional bachelor degree in Finance.

The name of the programme, the learning outcomes, the content and qualification are compatible with each other, however the expert team identified that the College has another very similar programme – Accounting. Comparing the curricula of these two programmes it was found that the majority of subjects taught in these programmes are the same. During the meeting with teaching staff it was identified that the main difference between the programmes is that different practical trainings are held. The expert team suggests that the College should clarify the differences between Finance and Accounting programmes, their content and learning outcomes.

In the SER it is mentioned that the Finance programme is more focused on social responsibility in business. During the meetings with the College's staff the expert team has not got a clear understanding about the influence of the social responsibility concept in the programme.

*Summary:*

*The aims and intended learning outcomes are well defined, are publicly available and are generally appropriate to the academic and professional requirements and the needs of the market. However the learning outcomes should be revisited to emphasise more the financial oriented outcomes and to clarify the role of social responsibility in the programme.*

## **2. Curriculum design**

There are national requirements for programmes in the financial study area of the social sciences in terms of the total credits, study field credits, general subject credits, optional subjects, thesis, practical studies and training. The structure of the curriculum and the component subjects are clearly presented in the SER and show that the programme generally satisfies the legal requirements.

For full-time studies, the subjects are spread evenly over the duration of the programme with some seasonal amendments: in autumn semester Full-time students' workload is 24 credits per semester, in spring semester – 36 credits per semester. This solution is acceptable for both - the teachers and students as it reflects the relative lengths of the semesters. For part-time studies the subjects over the duration of the programme are not spread evenly. Part-time students' workload: 1<sup>st</sup> semester – 20 credits, 2<sup>nd</sup> semester – 28 credits, 3<sup>rd</sup> semester – 24 credits, 4<sup>th</sup> semester – 18 credits, 5<sup>th</sup> semester – 16 credits, 6<sup>th</sup> semester – 29 credits, 7<sup>th</sup> semester – 9 credits, 8<sup>th</sup> semester – 36 credits.

The expert group has found that Full-time students have 8 courses (practical training included) in the third semester. According to the legal requirements for first level study programmes the number of course units per semester has to be no more than 7. The expert group suggests that the College checks and corrects this nonconformity.

The expert group has found some evidence of the possible repetitions of themes. There are some repetitive learning outcomes. For example, the repetitive learning outcome “will be able to make financial statements” is found in the different subjects' descriptions: “Basics of accountancy” and “Financial accountancy”. Also it was found that the same books are used in the different subjects (from 58 basic textbooks 29 of them are used in more than one subject). While some overlap is inevitable, the expert group suggests that this area should be examined by the College.

The combination of subjects and their content are appropriate for the achievement of the professional bachelor degree in finance. The subject descriptions, which were presented during the meetings (full information on this is not presented in the SER – short versions of translation) with the College staff, are extensive and clear and contain all the necessary information for both students and academic staff. The link between the programme learning outcomes and the subject learning outcomes is shown in each subject description. In addition, the teaching / study methods, the assessment approach and the assessment criteria are indicated for each subject learning outcome and are appropriate.

Subject content is well described and is adequate for the achievement of the intended learning outcomes. The content is appropriate for a professional bachelor degree in finance. The teaching and learning methods used are wide-ranging. The methods used include integrated tasks, problem-based teaching, case analysis, situation analysis, preparation of business plans as well as the traditional lectures, seminars and discussion groups, practical trainings.

The College emphasises that Finance study programme is different from others in the market by the focus on social responsibility and ethncal business. But the subject of Corporate social responsibility is optional. During the meetings with the College's staff it was emphasised that all other programme's subjects include some aspects of social responsibility. However during the analysis of the descriptions of study subjects (excluding the subject of Corporate social responsibility) the expert group has found a lack of evidence that social responsibility principles are implemented in all subjects (for example, there are no literature / textbooks about social responsibility proposed for use during the studies of the these subjects). The experts are of the view that emphasising Corporate social responsibility as one of the programme's main differentiators, the subject of Corporate social responsibility should be a mandatory for the programme and subject descriptions / content should be revised to reflect this.

The scope of the programme at 180 credits meets the legal requirements and is sufficient for the achievement of the learning outcomes of the programme.

The subject contents and the texts and other materials indicated suggest that the content of the programme is up-to-date and reflects the latest developments in the field of finance. The distribution of textbooks by publication year shows that the average publication year is 2006.

Each subject description includes approximately 5-7 mandatory textbooks. The expert group concludes that for bachelor study programme 5-7 mandatory textbooks are too much.

The material of course units is placed in electronic space (e-communication and team work system First Class, MOODLE) and is publicly available to students.

Final thesis is supervised by college's and university's teachers of study programme, as well as highly experienced practitioners – business representatives. The commission of final theses includes employers and scientists from other institutions of higher education.

### *Summary*

*The curriculum is well-designed and meets the requirements for professional bachelor degree studies in finance. The subject contents are consistent with this level of studies in finance and reflect the latest developments in the field.*

*The expert team suggests that the programme be looked at with a view to minimising overlap of learning outcomes and content among the subjects; ensuring that study programme fulfils all legal requirements (number of courses per semester, subjects spread during the semester); ensuring that the study programme content corresponds with the College's emphasised differentiation (focus on social responsibility).*

### **3. Staff**

During the evaluation period, the programme was delivered by 42 teachers. General and study-field subject teachers have qualifications to master degree or higher qualification. The qualifications of teachers meet the legal requirements for the implementation of the professional bachelor degree in finance. For example, there is a legal requirement that 50% of the teachers have not less than 3 years relevant experience. This requirement is exceeded with 100% of the teachers having greater than 3 years experience. The average experience of pedagogic activity is 17,4 years, while experience of practical work for College's teachers of the study programme is 18,5 years. In relation to requirement to have 10% of the study field subjects delivered by teachers with doctoral degrees, 19% is delivered by such teachers.

The key criteria, when forming academic staff, are College's teachers' professional qualification and experience of practical activity. Employment contracts of one or five years are concluded with College's teachers. In order to fill the vacancies, a competition is announced. The qualifications of the teachers are presented clearly in the SER. Professional training is managed by specialists of finance field. More than 25% of all lectures are invited from business companies, who have practical skills and could share them with students. The College has its professional development system: qualification development of higher education teachers is planned and analyzed systematically, achievements of the teachers are assessed by the way of certification each five years. All teachers must improve qualifications 1-2 times a year. The College provides teachers with financial incentives for very good performance results in pedagogic and applied scientific activity.

The ratio of teachers and students is adequate (1:19) to ensure learning outcomes. One academic supervisor of final thesis has 5 students on average.

During the period of 2007-2012, 73 per cent of College's teachers took part in 5 national and 3 international projects. During this period the teachers also produced 138 Scientific publications, 78 Reports in conferences, 17 Applied research and 62 Methodical publications.

Turnover of academic staff during the period of 2007-2012 was not significant – 10,4 per cent, therefore, it had no negative consequences on the study programme. The academic staff is stable and this creates preconditions for quality implementation of study programme.

The age profile of the teaching staff is reasonable with 43.2% in the 31- 45 years category and 40.6% in the 46 – 60 years category.

Academic staff members are provided with opportunities for their professional development. They are facilitated to develop their qualifications, to attend conferences and to participate in projects and internships. The teachers are the most active in conferences, seminars and courses, which take place in Lithuania. The team expressed concern at the relatively low level of development of the teachers' qualification abroad and participating in international exchange programmes.

## Summary

*It was evident to the expert team that teaching staff were dedicated and supportive of the students. The qualifications and number of teaching staff are sufficient for the delivery of the programme and the achievement of its learning outcomes. The teachers are productive in scientific, methodical and project activity. Provisions are made for the professional development of staff. The team expressed concern at the relatively low level of development of the teacher's qualifications abroad and participating in international exchange programmes.*

### **4. Facilities and learning resources**

The College has a selection of small, medium and large rooms available for the implementation of the programme. The expert group had the opportunity to examine the facilities and learning resources in the College. Specialised rooms for practical training and rooms suitable for self-study are provided. Computer laboratories are also available. All rooms comply with occupational safety and hygiene requirements. The premises are adequate in terms of quality for the delivery of the programme, but the expert group expressed concern about the quantity of rooms (Intensity of usage of auditoriums 98%) for the best quality studies. During the meeting with the College's administrative staff it was clarified that a new building is being built at this moment at Pramonės street for this purpose. After the finish of the building of the new premises there will be the possibility to improve the situation.

There are 21 Auditoriums for teaching, 3 Auditoriums for consultations, 4 Classrooms of personal computers, Area of Centre of Self-Studies Working, 2 Premises of Business Practical Training Firm (BPTF). 90,5 % of rooms are equipped with a multimedia projection system.

There are 15-19 working places in PC classrooms. The school has 4 computer classes with 66 computers for the use by students. Hardware is renewed at each 3-5 years. The number of PCs is sufficient and shows a high level of computerization of study process. The software and applications installed includes: *Microsoft Windows, Microsoft Office 2007, Microsoft Office 2010*; Accounting programs "*Stekas*", "*Būtent*", "*Konto*", "*Pragma*", "*Finvalda*", "*Rivilė – Gama*"; Personnel accounting program "*Būtent personalas*"; Document management program "*Avilys*"; Statistical data processing package *SPSS 17*; Audit work documents database *ADD\_DB*; Legal base of documents *LITLEX*.

The internal intranet system (MOODLE) gives students access to the materials provided by the lecturers as well as access externally to the internet. Appropriate software licenses are in place for all software.

Practice and practical training takes almost 44 % of the whole study volume of full-time studies of study programme, while in case of part-time studies this number is equal to 33 % of all study programme. The practice itself is mostly done on third year and makes almost 20 % of study programme. The College helps students to find practice placements.

Methodological resources, which are necessary for studies, are collected in the Centre of Self-Studies. The stock of Centre of Self-Studies are renewed by books and periodicals in Lithuanian and English. The scientific publications of economics, finance and management, published in Lithuania, are available. Publications in foreign language make 20% of the stock. The conditions to use electronic catalogues and the following databases are provided in Centre of Self-Studies: Emerald Management, EBSCO PUBLISHING, Oxford Reference Online: Premium Collection, Taylor & Francis Online Library, INFOLEX, LITLEX, free databases: "Euroverslo Naujienos",



Educator's Reference Desk, ERIC Digests, RePEc, Ingenta, NDLTD, Scirus, Oxford Scholarship Online and e-journals: All Academic, Find Articles, Highwire Press, Magazine Article Search Engine, Directory, and Free, Data Feeds, interactive information publication "TRANSPORTER". The expert team reviewed the library facilities of the College and came to the conclusion that the infrastructure is very good and there are sufficient textbooks in Lithuanian and English.

#### *Summary.*

*The College has facilities in very good condition. The equipment and learning resources are renewed periodically and adequate for the provision of the programme. There are very close relations with business representatives (stakeholders) and suitable arrangements are made for practice placements.*

*The computer equipment is generally up-to-date and software with appropriate licences is in place. The expert group expressed concern about the quantity of rooms, but the new premises are being built at this moment at Pramonės street and it gives the opportunity to improve the situation.*

### **5. Study process and student assessment**

Student admission to the programme is operated under the national joint admission system. It can be stated that admission requirements are clear and equal for all potential students. A competition score for the Finance study programme consists of assessment of school-leaving examinations (mathematics, Lithuanian, history or foreign language); annual assessment of subject (history or foreign language). The College has state-funded and non-state-funded student places. The College has a good overview of the results and the history of the intake (Table 15 in the SER, p. 18). The decreasing number of students is explained as being due to the birth rates: 2-3 years drop is estimated to be up to 20%. However, the College during last five years managed to keep quite constant number of full time state funded studies, although the average competition scores vary quite significantly among different years.

Studies in the faculty are organized by semesters. Annual study schedules for semesters are formed. These documents are published on websites of the College, Intranet of faculty and information boards. The average load per student is 28 contact hours per week. If necessary, students can perform practice at time that is suitable for them, change the form of studies, study according to individual study plans, study individual subjects in foreign language (the students of faculty can hear the lectures of 17 subjects in English), select optional subjects from the general list proposed by the College (173 subjects) and other higher education institutions. Various study methods are provided for the achievement of study results. Lectures are delivered in classrooms, adapted for 60-70 students. Seminars, practical work are organized for groups of 30 students, consultations – individual and, team. The tasks of individual work – projects, analysis of problems, case analysis, etc. – are implemented by students in small groups of 3-5 students. The study process described is sufficient for the achievement of the programme learning outcomes.

The College facilitates and encourages students to participate in research, artistic and applied research activities. The subject "Research methodology" is lectured for students. There is a Student Research Society (SRS). About 40 students take an active part in SRS activity. Joint groups of students and lecturers are formed for planned research. During the period of 2007-2012 the students also participated in applied science activities: 423 students, carried out applied research, 346 students, attended the conferences, 119 students, prepared articles/reports.

Students of the programme have good opportunities for international mobility. Mobility of students takes place, according to bilateral agreements of Erasmus Programme and IP projects. The presented figures show that the number of outgoing students has increased by 75 per cent in recent years. There is a balance between outgoing and incoming students. In order to stimulate the mobility of students, information seminars about study possibilities abroad are organized, individual consultations are provided for students, the best practice of returned students is spread, information leaflets are sent to foreign higher education institutions.

Students of the programme have continuous academic and social supports provided. Information about studies is presented on Internet, Intranet and notice board. The documents regulating the studies as well as methodological material of subjects are placed in the First Class system. The following assistance is provided to first-year students: tutors are appointed – a lecturer and a student, students' guides are given, and introduction to studies is read. The possibility to ask, propose, express an opinion and notes by writing to [nuomone@fc.kauko.lt](mailto:nuomone@fc.kauko.lt) is given. The State Studies Foundation grants social and study scholarships, provides financial support for disabled students. Financial support is given for students, going to conferences in foreign institutions. This was confirmed by the students and alumni who met with the expert group.

Students are presented with information on how they are going to be assessed. All subject descriptions are made available to students and contain information on the assessment methods and criteria for each subject. The assessment of student practice is undertaken by the practice mentor in the placement organisation and by the College practice tutor. The graduation paper is assessed by the qualifying committee. Information is provided by the College on the grades for students' final works and the distribution of these grades seems reasonable.

71% of those admitted graduate the studies. The average per cent value of graduating full-time studies is 86%. The average per cent value of graduating the part-time studies is 56%. The dropout of students in the study programme is relatively low (5,8 per cent). The number of financiers, registered on Lithuanian Labour Exchange, was characterized by a decrease (from 22,6 to 14,3 per cent) in 2011, when comparing with 2010. Graduates who met with the expert team confirmed their satisfaction with the programme and the jobs which they obtained as a result. Students were also satisfied with the programme and were confident of obtaining relevant employment when they complete the programme.

### *Summary*

*Student admission to the programme is well-founded and is according to the national higher education admission system. The organisation of the study process is very good and appropriate for the achievement of the learning outcomes. The studies are well organised and student dropout is low especially in full-time studies. Assessment of students is clear and the relevant information is shared with students. Students have very good opportunities to engage in applied research and it appears that student participation rates in this area are high.*

*Students also have good opportunities for international mobility and mobility levels are high.*

*The College provides an adequate level of academic and social supports for students. Programme graduates obtain employment according to their area of specialisation. Graduates who met with the expert team confirmed their great satisfaction with the programme and the jobs which they obtained as a result. Students were also very satisfied with the programme and were confident of obtaining relevant employment when they complete the programme.*

## **6. Programme management**

Responsibilities for decisions and monitoring of the implementation of the programme are clearly allocated: The programme is implemented by the Accounting and Finance Department. It is also responsible for the quality of Finance programme. The Head of Department is responsible for activity results of department and their publicity. The Head of Department plans the actions and methods for study quality improvement, development of qualification of College's teachers, international exchange and research development, is responsible for quality of studies and course units (modernity, innovativeness, compliance with needs of labour market). There is collaboration with Quality and Management Committee of Academic Board, social stakeholders, employers, university scientists and students.

Study Programme Committee is formed for the preparation of study programme, its quality assurance, and its maintenance and implementation. It includes the Dean of faculty, the Head of Department, the Vice Dean, a business representative, a university scientist and a student. The internal study quality assurance system (SQAS) was developed and has been constantly improved, according to national and international standards, in the faculty. The SQAS of the faculty is focused on quality and management of study programmes and course units, and the field of activities of staff and material resources. Individual parts of international quality management standards SA8000 and ISO9001 are implemented in the College.

The Department responsible for the programme monitors it on a regular basis. Assessment results are used for identifying and solving problems and in the improvement of the study process. At the end of the semester, students' surveys about study quality are carried out. Students' satisfaction with studies is analyzed. The results of surveys are discussed during meetings of the Deanery. The results of students' achievements, reasons for "wastage", and provision of course units with quality methodological resources are systematically analyzed during the meetings of Deanery. The results of students' survey led to application of more active innovative studies and methods of evaluation of learning outcomes, preparation of integrated projects, solution of practical training problems, and more flexible working schedule of library. The Department also gathers feedback data from graduates, teachers, and external stakeholders. Solutions, regarding study environment improvement, computerization development in working places, are the result of College's teachers' opinion. Following the results of employers' survey, financier's competencies have been defined more clearly, what is more, content of course units, focused on practical training, is updated.

There was evidence that stakeholders such as students, staff and social partners are involved in evaluating and recommending improvements to the programme. For example, Social stakeholders influenced the changes of the study programme: the branches of the study programme were removed; new alternative and optional course units were introduced; teaching methods of case analysis and project preparation have been more actively applied in studies. Social stakeholders participate in career days' events, round work table discussions, work of Qualification Commission of final theses. Members of Alumni club actively participate in students' and teachers' practical conferences and round table discussions on issues of study quality development. However the expert team has found, that many of the graduates who participated in the meetings were not members of the Alumni club. The expert team recommends to intensify the involvement of graduates into Alumni club for keeping contacts closer.

The expert experienced during the visit that the measures for internal quality assurance are generally effective and efficient. The quality assurance system is described as seeking continuous improvement and involves all relevant stakeholders.

### *Summary*

*Responsibilities for the management of the programme are very clearly defined. Internal and external evaluations of the programme are conducted regularly and there is evidence these evaluations form the basis for the subsequent and productive programme revision/improvement. Stakeholders are very actively involved in the management process. The involvement of the College's graduates in programme renewal process is reasonable. The expert team is of the view that programme management is very good. However Alumni club activities should be intensified.*

### III. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The College should clarify the differences between Finance and Accounting programmes, their content and learning outcomes.
2. The College should clarify the influence of the social responsibility concept for the programme.
3. The College should review the study plan (the number of courses per semester) and to correct it according to the legal requirements.
4. The College should revisit the study plan to identify and reduce possible repetitions of the themes and learning outcomes.
5. The College should stimulate greater development of the teachers' qualifications abroad and their participation in international exchange programmes.
6. The College should intensify the involvement of the College's graduates in Alumni club activities.

#### IV. SUMMARY

*The aims and intended learning outcomes are well defined, are publicly available and are generally appropriate to the academic and professional requirements and the needs of the market. However the learning outcomes should be revisited to emphasise more financial oriented outcomes and to clarify the role of social responsibility in the programme.*

*The curriculum is well-designed and meets the requirements for professional bachelor degree studies in finance. The subject contents are consistent with this level of studies in finance and reflect the latest developments in the field.*

*The expert team suggests that the programme be looked at with a view to minimising overlap of learning outcomes and content among the subjects; ensuring that study programme fulfils all legal requirements (number of courses per semester, subjects spread during the semester); ensuring that the study programme content was reasonable to the College's emphasised differentials (focus on social responsibility).*

*It was evident to the expert team that teaching staff were dedicated and supportive of the students. The qualifications and number of teaching staff are sufficient for the delivery of the programme and the achievement of its learning outcomes. The teachers are productive in scientific, methodological and project activity. Provisions are made for the professional development of staff. The team expressed concern at the relatively low level of development of the teachers' qualifications abroad and participating in international exchange programmes.*

*The College has facilities in very good condition. The equipment and learning resources are renewed periodically and adequate for the provision of the programme. There are very close relations with business representatives (stakeholders) and suitable arrangements are made for practice placements.*

*The computer equipment is generally up-to-date and software with appropriate licences is in place. The expert group expressed concern about the quantity of rooms, but the new premises are being built at this moment at Pramonos street and it gives the opportunity to improve the situation.*

*Student admission to the programme is well-founded and is according to the national higher education admission system. The organisation of the study process is generally appropriate for the achievement of the learning outcomes. The studies are well organised and student dropout is low especially in full-time studies. Assessment of students is clear and the relevant information is shared with students. Students have very good opportunities to engage in applied research and it appears that student participation rates in this area are high.*

*Students also have good opportunities for international mobility and mobility levels are high.*

*The College provides an adequate level of academic and social supports for students. Programme graduates obtain employment according to their area of specialisation. Graduates who met with the expert team confirmed their great satisfaction with the programme and the jobs which they obtained as a result. Students were also very satisfied with the programme and were confident of obtaining relevant employment when they complete the programme.*

*Responsibilities for the management of the programme are very clearly defined. Internal and external evaluations of the programme are conducted regularly and there is evidence these evaluations form the basis for the subsequent and productive programme revision/improvement. Stakeholders are very actively involved in the management process. The involvement of the College's graduates in programme renewal process is reasonable. The expert team is of the view that programme management is very good. However, Alumni club activities should be intensified.*

## Strengths

- Social partner support and good relations between the College and the social partners
- Teachers
  - Support for students
  - Committed to their subjects
- Students seem to have a strong voice and the expert group heard of their input
- Efforts at internationalisation seem appropriate
  - Positive for teachers and students
- The programme seems to meet the needs of the region and the target group
- The environment for study seems good but more space is needed
- Employment of graduates is good

## Weaknesses

- Overlapping of subject content and subject texts seems to be an issue
- Too many required texts per subject
- Theses
  - Overall grades seemed reasonably distributed but the expert group was not convinced that the highest grades were deserved in some cases
  - Translations of theses summaries into English need improvement
- Course descriptors do not sufficiently describe the assessment process (English versions)
- Intended learning outcomes should be revisited to emphasise more the financial oriented outcomes and to clarify the role of social responsibility in the programme
- Alumni contacts should be intensified
- Need to continue to improve research and publication of staff

## V. GENERAL ASSESSMENT

The study programme *Finance* (state codes –653N34002) at Kaunas College is given **positive** evaluation.

*Study programme assessment in points by evaluation areas.*

No.	Evaluation Area	Evaluation Area in Points*
1.	Programme aims and learning outcomes	3
2.	Curriculum design	3
3.	Staff	3
4.	Facilities and learning resources	4
5.	Study process and student assessment	4
6.	Programme management	4
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>21</b>

\*1 (unsatisfactory) - there are essential shortcomings that must be eliminated;

2 (satisfactory) - meets the established minimum requirements, needs improvement;

3 (good) - the field develops systematically, has distinctive features;

4 (very good) - the field is exceptionally good.

Grupės vadovas:

Team leader:

Mr. Brian O'Connor

Grupės nariai:

Team members:

Prof. dr. Stephan Schöning

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Mr. Stasys Švagždys

Ms. Monika Kavaliauskė

**KAUNO KOLEGIJOS PIRMOSIOS PAKOPOS STUDIJŲ PROGRAMOS *FINANSAI*  
(VALSTYBINIS KODAS –653N34002) 2013-05-07 EKSPERTINIO VERTINIMO IŠVADŲ  
NR. SV4-132 IŠRAŠAS**

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## V. APIBENDRINAMASIS ĮVERTINIMAS

Kauno kolegijos studijų programa *Finansai* (valstybinis kodas –653N34002) vertinama **teigiamai**.

Eil. Nr.	Vertinimo sritis	Srities įvertinimas, balais*
1.	Programos tikslai ir numatomi studijų rezultatai	3
2.	Programos sandara	3
3.	Personalas	3
4.	Materialieji ištekliai	4
5.	Studijų eiga ir jos vertinimas	4
6.	Programos vadyba	4
	<b>Iš viso:</b>	<b>21</b>

\* 1 - Nepatenkinamai (yra esminių trūkumų, kuriuos būtina pašalinti)

2 - Patenkinamai (tenkina minimalius reikalavimus, reikia tobulinti)

3 - Gerai (sistemiškai plėtojama sritis, turi savitų bruožų)

4 - Labai gerai (sritis yra išskirtinė)

&lt;...&gt;

**IV. SANTRAUKA**

Programos tikslai ir numatomi studijų rezultatai yra tinkamai apibrėžti, aiškūs, viešai skelbiami ir pagrįsti profesiniais reikalavimais bei rinkos poreikiais. Tačiau numatomus studijų rezultatus reikėtų patikslinti labiau pabrėžiant į finansus orientuotus rezultatus ir paaiškinti socialinės atsakomybės vaidmenį šioje programoje.

Programos sandara gera, atitinkanti profesinio finansų bakalauro studijoms keliamus reikalavimus. Dalykų turinys atitinka šio lygmens finansų studijas ir atspindi naujausius šios srities pasiekimus.

Ekspertų grupė siūlo peržiūrėti programą ir sumažinti numatomų studijų rezultatų bei dalykų turinio pasikartojimą, užtikrinti, kad studijų programa atitiktų visus teisės aktų reikalavimus (dalykų skaičius per semestrą, dalykų išdėstymas semestro eigoje), kad studijų programos turinys derėtų su kolegijos akcentuojamu išskirtinumu (dėmesys socialinei atsakomybei).

Ekspertų grupė aiškiai matė, kad akademinis personalas atsidavęs studentams ir jiems padeda. Dėstytojų kvalifikacija yra tinkama ir jų skaičius pakankamas programai dėstyti bei numatomiems studijų rezultatams pasiekti. Dėstytojai aktyviai dalyvauja mokslinėje, metodinėje ir projektinėje veikloje. Numatytas profesinis personalo tobulinimas. Grupė išreiškė susirūpinimą dėl palyginti žemo dėstytojų kvalifikacijos tobulinimo užsienyje lygio ir negausaus dalyvavimo tarptautinėse mainų programose.



Kolegijos patalpos geros būklės. Įranga ir materialieji išteklių periodiškai atnaujinami ir yra tinkami programai įgyvendinti. Palaikomi glaudūs ryšiai su verslo atstovais (socialiniais dalininkais), sudaryti tinkami susitarimai dėl laikino įdarbinimo praktikai atlikti.

Kompiuterinė įranga iš esmės šiuolaikiška, turimos licencijos programinei įrangai. Ekspertų grupė išreiškė susirūpinimą dėl turimų auditorijų skaičiaus, bet šiuo metu Pramonės gatvėje statomos naujos patalpos, ir tai suteiks galimybę pagerinti padėtį.

Studentų priėmimas į šią programą pagrįstas ir atitinka nacionalinę priėmimo į Lietuvos aukštąsias mokyklas tvarką. Studijų procesas organizuojamas taip, kad būtų pasiekti numatomi studijų rezultatai. Studijos organizuojamos gerai, studentų, ypač nuolatinių studijų, nubyrijimo lygis žemas. Studentų vertinimas aiškus, studentams pateikiama reikalinga informacija. Studentai turi labai gerų galimybių dalyvauti mokslo taikomojoje veikloje, studentų dalyvavimo šioje srityje lygis yra gana aukštas.

Studentai dar turi gerų galimybių dalyvauti tarptautinėje judumo programoje; judumo lygis aukštas. Kolegija užtikrina studentams pakankamą akademinę ir socialinę paramą lygį. Baigusieji studijas pagal šią programą įsidarbina pagal specialybę. Absolventai, su kuriais buvo susitikusi ekspertų grupė, patvirtino, kad juos tenkina ši programa ir darbai, kuriuos jie gauna baigę studijas. Be to, šia programa džiaugėsi ir studentai, kurie tiki, kad gaus tinkamą darbą, kai baigs studijas.

Atsakomybė už programos vadybą aiškiai apibrėžta. Reguliariai atliekamas vidaus ir išorinis programos vertinimas, yra įrodymų, kad šie vertinimai yra tolesnio sėkmingo programos tikrinimo ir (arba) tobulinimo pagrindas. Vadybos procese itin aktyviai dalyvauja socialiniai dalininkai. Racionalu tai, kad programos atnaujinimo procese dalyvauja kolegijos absolventai. Ekspertų grupė mano, kad programos vadyba yra labai gera. Tačiau Alumni klubo veikla turėtų būti sustiprinta.

#### Stiprybės

- Socialinių partnerių pagalba ir geri kolegijos bei socialinių partnerių santykiai
- Dėstytojai
  - Padeda studentams
  - Prisiima atsakomybę už jų dėstomus dalykus
- Panašu, kad studentų nuomonės paisoma; ekspertų grupė žino apie jų indėlių
- Panašu, kad pastangos internacionalizuoti programą yra tinkamos
  - *Pozityvu dėstytojų ir studentų atžvilgiu*
- Atrodo, kad programa atitinka regiono ir tikslinės grupės poreikius
- Panašu, kad studijų aplinka gera, tik reikėtų daugiau erdvės
- Absolventų užimtumas didelis

#### Silpnybės

- Dalykų turinys kartojasi, yra problemų dėl dalykinės literatūros
- Kiekvienam dalykui reikalaujama per daug literatūros
- Baigiamieji darbai
  - Atrodo, kad pažymiai rašomi pagrįstai, bet kai kuriais atvejais ekspertų grupė nepatikėjo, kad nusipelnyta aukščiausių įvertinimų
  - Reikia patobulinti darbų santraukų vertimus į anglų kalbą
- Studijų programos apraše nepakankamai apibūdinta vertinimo procedūra (angliška versija)

- Reikėtų peržiūrėti numatomus studijų rezultatus ir labiau pabrėžti su finansais susijusius rezultatus bei paaiškinti socialinės atsakomybės vaidmenį šioje programoje
- Turėtų būti stiprinami absolventų ryšiai
- Būtina skatinti personalo veiklą, susijusią su moksliniais tyrimais ir darbų skelbimu.

### III. REKOMENDACIJOS

1. Kolegija turėtų paaiškinti finansų ir apskaitos programų, jų turinio ir numatomų studijų rezultatų skirtumus.
2. Kolegija turėtų paaiškinti socialinės atsakomybės idėjos įtaką programai.
3. Kolegija turėtų peržiūrėti studijų planą (dalykų skaičių per semestrą) ir pataisyti jį pagal teisės aktų reikalavimus.
4. Kolegija turėtų peržiūrėti studijų planą ir nustatyti bei sumažinti galimus temų ir numatomų studijų rezultatų pasikartojimus.
5. Kolegija turėtų labiau skatinti dėstytojus tobulinti kvalifikaciją užsienyje ir dalyvauti tarptautinėse mainų programose.
6. Kolegija turėtų labiau skatinti kolegijos absolventų dalyvavimą Alumni klubo veikloje.

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Paslaugos teikėja patvirtina, jog yra susipažinusi su Lietuvos Respublikos baudžiamojo kodekso<sup>1</sup> 235 straipsnio, numatančio atsakomybę už melagingą ar žinomai neteisingai atliktą vertimą, reikalavimais.

Vertėjos rekvizitai (vardas, pavardė, parašas)

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<sup>1</sup> Žin., 2002, Nr.37-1341.