

Dissertation topics for academic year 2020/2021

Field of study: Economics and Management

Study programme: Business Economics and Management

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

Supervisor:

Dr.h.c. prof. Ing. Peter Bielik, PhD.

Dissertation topic:

Economics for Biobase Production a Way of Diversifying Farmers' Incomes

One of the objectives of the EU Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) is to promote farmers' competitiveness and ensure food security. Despite the existence of the CAP, the incomes of pro-producers in many EU countries, including Slovakia, are not at the level of incomes in other sectors of the national economy. The bio-based economy, based on natural materials and resources, is gaining ever more support in Europe and creates new opportunities for increasing incomes of primary agricultural producers, strengthening their competitiveness and reducing production surpluses. Currently, the vast majority of bio-refineries use first- and second-generation technologies to produce biofuels or chemicals from corn, wheat, sugar beet, sugar cane, micro-organisms from plant and animal waste. The production of biofuels, biochemistry, biopharmacy from agricultural biomass in different EU countries has different levels and since bioeconomics needs productive farmers, the aim of the dissertation thesis will be to research the economy based on biological raw materials and its impact on diversification of farm incomes in selected EU countries.

Topic for applicants for full time and part time study.

Supervisor:

doc. Ing. Daniela Hupková, PhD.

Dissertation topic:

Organizational Structures and Business Strategies Types and their Performance Implications in Enterprises

Understanding how organizations in individual sectors create and sustain a competitive advantage in today's highly dynamic environment is of interest to both researchers and managers. The main aim of the dissertation thesis is to explore the impact of organizational structure dimensions on enterprise performance as well as its implications on business customers' relationship value and financial performance. This dissertation will investigate how different business strategies are implemented to produce enhanced organizational performance by utilizing both market oriented culture and organizational structure simultaneously. For example, the ideal configuration for prospectors is high customer orientation, high competitor orientation, and high specialization. Also in research will be examined whether the level of the type of strategy use mediate the relationship between market orientation and firm performance and how it does affect enterprise performance directly. Data will be collected through a questionnaire survey and the respondents will be at CEO level in selected companies. Data from questionnaire will be processed and evaluated by chosen statistical methods (Chi-squared test). In order to achieve the defined goal of the dissertation, it is assumed to use the databases from the Financial Statements Analysis of selected companies.

Topic for applicants for full time and part time study.

Supervisor:

doc. Ing. Zuzana Kapsdorferová, PhD.

Dissertation topic:

Corporate Social Responsibility and its Activities to Reduce Food Waste in Selected Companies

Food waste is a problem of all the planet. On one side we are fighting against hunger and on the other side we waste a lot of food. The problem with hunger will even grow in importance because of rising population in the world and the need to feed the population. Ongoing discussions about food waste and food losses shows how big a problem it is and the reality shows how little work we have done in this issue. But food waste contributes also to economic disparities, social inequalities and environmental pollution. Forecasted recent calculations in a long time period vision shows that halving the food waste and food losses will occur that instead of increasing agricultural production to 60% we will need to increase the production only to 25% to enhance nutrition for 9,1 billion people in 2050. According to FAO (2019) approximately one third of the food produced at a global level (1,3 billion tons years) is wasted every year and individuals in developed countries waste as much food (222 mil. tons) as entire food production in sub-Saharan Africa (203 mil. tons). However, the causes of food waste differ in each country depending on the level of economic development in underdeveloped countries almost 40% of the food waste is a result of inadequate processing and storage of raw materials, whereas in developed countries more than 40% of food waste is a result of market inefficiencies. There is a need to pay high attention on responsibility for sustainability of natural resources. The main objective of the PhD research is to assess the situation with food losses and waste and to propose activities and innovative approaches to minimize the food losses and food waste to reduce food waste and food losses. There is a need to work with national databases focused on food waste and municipalities waste.

Topic for applicants for full time and part time study.

Supervisor:

doc. Ing. Radovan Savov, PhD.

Dissertation topic:

Managerial and Economical Evaluation of Microbreweries in Slovakia

Consolidation and the impact of globalization have created several global giants in the brewing sector that operate worldwide. At present, however, small craft breweries are developing alongside them, which are growing every year. This is mainly due to the wider range that these small breweries can produce and despite the higher price on the market. The volume of beer produced cannot be compared with the big giants, but from a regional point of view, small breweries can find market space and be successful. The objective of this thesis is to evaluate microbreweries in Slovakia in terms of utilized managerial principles and achieved economic results. Also, the ambition is to identify the basic differences in the management of small and large breweries with regard to the achievement of economic results per unit of production. The subject of the research are the beer production costs per liter, the realization price of a liter and indicators of production profitability. From the managerial point of view, identification of these aspects will be used: strategy of individual microbreweries, evaluation of the number of employees and their qualification structure, analysis of used management styles, identification of weaknesses and strengths in the use of managerial functions of planning, organization, leading, and control. Basic methods of data collection and research will be used. At the same time, the effort will be to identify differences in the management of individual microbreweries according to selected criteria such as the region

where the microbrewery operates, the number of years on the market, the annual beer exhibition, the width of the portfolio of beer produced, the age and education of the owner. Statistical methods will be used to identify statistically significant differences according to the number of microbreweries that will be involved in the research. The need to solve the problem is evident as there is no similar comparison of beer production in small and large breweries in Slovakia. There is also no detailed statistics on the production, consumption, cost and profitability of micro-breweries based on different types of beer.

Topic for applicants for full time study.