

EKA UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

**SCIENTIFIC AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY
ANNUAL REPORT 2019/2020**

Riga 2020

Annual Report of the EKA University of Applied Sciences on Scientific Activity
2019/2020

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	4
SCIENTIFIC VISION OF THE EKA UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES	5
PRIORITIES OF THE EKA UNIVERSITY IN SCIENCE AND RESEARCH	6
1. PRIORITY "EKA STAFF"	7
2. PRIORITY "SCIENTIFIC REPUTATION OF EKA"	9
2.1. Scientific and creative events organized by EKA.....	9
2.2. Events organized by EKA for schoolchildren	13
2.3. EKA publishing activities.....	15
2.4. EKA participation in international projects	17
3. PRIORITY "RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITIES OF THE EKA STUDY DIRECTIONS"	21
3.1. Research directions	21
3.2. Activities and achievements in EKA study directions.....	22
3.3. Scientific achievements of EKA academic staff.....	28
3.4. Involvement of EKA students in research and creative activities	35
4. PRIORITY "INFRASTRUCTURE"	38

INTRODUCTION

The development of science and research is a priority area for the overall development of the country, governed by a number of strategic documents at national level:

The Latvian National Development Plan 2014-2020 (NDP 2020). NDP is hierarchically the highest national-level medium-term planning document. It also sets medium-term priorities in the field of education and science, highlighting the areas of action: the development of competences and the development of research, innovation and higher education.

Latvian National Reform Programme for the implementation of the EU 2020 strategy. To ensure that the objectives set out in the strategy Europe 2020 are met, it includes measures to promote the implementation of the principle of lifelong learning, structural changes in vocational training, the modernization of higher education, the development of scientific potential, the modernization of the material and technical provision of higher education institutions and the increase in resource efficiency, equal access to higher education, improving the quality of studies and scientific activity, ensuring access to basic and secondary education, introduction of modern teaching and learning methods.

Science, technological development and innovation guidelines 2014-2020. The overarching objective of science, technology and innovation policy is the development of Latvia's knowledge base and innovation capacity and coordination of the innovation system. To achieve this goal, human capital in the field of science, technology and innovation will be developed, international competitiveness of Latvia's science will be enhanced, the research and education sector modernized and integrated, a more efficient knowledge transfer environment will be developed and the capacity of companies to absorb and innovate will be established, the management of science, technology and innovation will be optimized, as well as demand for science and innovation will be created.

In Latvia, there is "the need for strengthening the link among education, research and innovation policy, through supporting its innovative interaction with all the areas of life of the society, including also innovative business, facilitating research excellence, transfer of knowledge and ensuring innovation process in the national economy. It urges the necessity to review the existing perception of the interrelation between higher education and research, acknowledging that all levels of higher education are directly research-based, by modifying relationship models between studies and research: including various emphasis on the content, process and problems of research". (The national concept of the development of higher education and the institutions of higher education of the Republic of Latvia 2013 - 2020).

Higher education institutions have the duty to perform scientific activity (the Law on Scientific Activity) and to provide a study process in which the research activity and/or artistic creation of students is an integral part.

SCIENTIFIC VISION OF THE EKA UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

The scientific vision of the EKA University of Applied Sciences (EKA) is defined in line with the overall vision of EKA development: "EKA is developing as an inter-branch multicultural university. It prepares knowledgeable, creative and independent personalities who are excellent professionals in their areas. EKA is associated with competitive education, internationally acknowledged diplomas, high professional quality of our graduates, well-developed scientific research base and highly qualified academic and administrative personnel."

The main objective of EKA **in the development of science and research** is to enhance the competitiveness of the university by building a strong base of scientific infrastructure and human resources, strengthening the cooperation between the science and business sectors, developing the transfer of research results to business, thus contributing to the achievement of the Latvian national strategic development goals.

In 2020, the EKA University of Applied Sciences is a science-based and innovation-oriented higher education institution recognized in Latvia and Europe:

- where highly motivated and qualified employees (mainly holding a doctoral degree) are attracted to perform scientific and academic activities,
- where interdisciplinary research areas have been developed,
- where students are actively involved in research and creative activities,
- where international scientific and creative activities take place on regular basis,
- which actively cooperates with other universities, institutions and employers in Latvia and abroad in order to strengthen its research capacity.

Our success pillars are:

Interdisciplinary approach to study process implementation. EKA implements study programmes in different thematic groups which, in turn, promote a multidisciplinary approach to carrying out research and creative work:

1. Social sciences, commercial sciences – study directions "Economics", "Business management, administration and real estate management" (hereinafter referred to as "Management direction") and "Law";
2. Natural sciences, mathematics, information technology – the study direction "Information technology, hardware, electronics, telecommunications, computer, and computer science" (hereinafter "IT direction")
3. The humanities and arts – study directions "Translation" and "Arts".

Intercultural environment. In today's globalized world, successful business is based on cross-cultural literacy, which provides opportunities to navigate freely in the international market. By combining the economy and culture in its concept, by offering study programmes in different languages, by giving its students the opportunity to participate in seminars of foreign professors and master study

courses abroad, by organizing international scientific and creative events, EKA is preparing business people for their work in the international business environment.

Creative and innovative approach to study. EKA provides both a face-to-face and distance learning process in the e-environment, offering e-studies where lectures, seminars and tutorials with teachers, as well as examinations take place in online virtual classrooms. EKA students are provided with the opportunity to acquire knowledge through the innovative infrastructure of EKA: simultaneous interpreting classroom, business simulations, DIG laboratory, court hall and artistic creation rooms.

PRIORITIES OF THE EKA UNIVERSITY IN SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

In order to achieve the scientific and research development objectives, a strategy for the development of science and creative activity (ZRDAS2020) of the EKA University was developed in 2016. ZRDAS2020 is a university-level medium-term planning document, developed within the framework of the "Development Strategy of the EKA University of Applied Sciences (Latvian acronym – EKAAS)".

ZRDAS2020 has been developed in line with the aims and objectives of the national development planning documents – priority “Advanced Research and Innovation and Higher Education” included in the Latvian national development plan for the 2014-2020 (NAP2020), “Guidelines for the development of education 2014-2020” and “Guidelines for science, technology development and innovations 2014-2020”.

ZRDAS2020 defines EKA priorities in science and research:

1. EKA staff

Higher education institutions have the duty to perform scientific activity. In order to perform scientific activity, a higher education institution needs academic staff with scientific qualifications.

Objective of the priority: *To increase the number of the university's staff involved in science*

2. Scientific reputation of EKA

The scientific reputation is a prerequisite for the improvement of the overall image of the university in the academic environment, which, in its turn, promotes the visibility of the university among students, facilitates cooperation with other universities and institutions, provides for the loyalty of academic staff.

Objective of the priority: *To ensure the recognition of the EKA University of Applied Sciences in Latvia and Europe*

3. Research and creative activities of the EKA study directions

One of the criteria for the evaluation of a higher education institution is student scientific research activity and/or creative activity as a part of the study process.

Objective of the priority: *To increase research capacity in each study direction of the EKA University of Applied Sciences; to ensure the involvement of the academic staff and students of each study programme in research and creative activity.*

4. Infrastructure

Research and creative activity infrastructures are essential for enhancing research and innovation capacity and ensuring competitiveness.

Objective of the priority: *To develop research infrastructure and material and technical provision of the EKA University of Applied Sciences.*

1. PRIORITY "EKA STAFF"

One of the objectives of EKA strategic priorities under ZRDAS2020 is *to increase the number of the university's staff involved in science*. The academic staff of EKA in 2019/2020 consisted of more than 147 persons, 51 of whom were elected to the academic positions of EKA (as of 20.06.2020, incl. 28 persons (55%) with a doctor's degree).

Table 1. Academic staff elected to the academic positions of EKA

	Name, Surname	Scientific degree	Position	Direction
1	Stanislavs Keišs	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	professor	<i>Economics</i>
2	Vita Zariņa	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	professor	<i>Economics</i>
3	Jeļena Titko	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	professor	<i>Economics</i>
4	Anna Ābeltiņa	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	assoc.prof	<i>Economics</i>
5	Aija Sannikova	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Economics</i>
6	Ilona Lejniece	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Economics</i>
7	Ilga Lipšāne	<i>Mg.oec.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Economics</i>
8	Inga Brasla	<i>prof.Mg.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Economics</i>
9	Edgars Čerkovskis	<i>Mg.sc.soc.</i>	<i>Lecturer</i>	<i>Economics</i>
10	Inga Šīna	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	professor	<i>Management science</i>
11	Velga Vēvere	<i>Dr. phil.</i>	professor	<i>Management science</i>
12	Ināra Kantāne	<i>Dr. sc. admin</i>	assoc.prof	<i>Management science</i>
13	Oksana Lentjušenkova	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	assoc.prof	<i>Management science</i>
14	Ksenija Ijevļeva	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Management science</i>
15	Tatjana Kuļikova	<i>Dr.oec.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Management science</i>
16	Anna Svirina	<i>Dr.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Management science</i>
17	Viktorija Skvarciany	<i>Dr.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Management science</i>

Annual Report of the EKA University of Applied Sciences on Scientific Activity
2019/2020

18	Sergejs Paramonovs	<i>Mg.sc.soc.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Management science</i>
19	Jekaterina Bierne	<i>Mg.psyh.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Management science</i>
20	Tatjana Daudiša	<i>Mg oec.</i>	<i>lecturer</i>	<i>Management science</i>
21	Jeļena Jermolajeva	<i>Dr. paed.</i>	<i>assoc.prof</i>	<i>Management science</i>
22	Ingus Barovskis	<i>Dr.philol.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Management science</i>
23	Imants Ļaviņš	<i>Dr.hist.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Management science</i>
24	Ieva Andžāne	<i>Mg.art.</i>	<i>lecturer</i>	<i>Management science</i>
25	Liene Brāle	<i>Mg.sc.soc.</i>	<i>lecturer</i>	<i>Management science</i>
26	Jeļena Budanceva	<i>prof.Mg.sc.admin</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Management science</i>
27	Mārcis Pinnis	<i>Dr.sc.comp.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Information technologies</i>
28	Jūlija Lebedinska-Ļitvinova	<i>Dr.math.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Information technologies</i>
29	Aleksandras Targamadze	<i>Candidate of Techn.sc.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Information technologies</i>
30	Rinat Minyazev	<i>Candidate of Techn.sc.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Information technologies</i>
31	Dmitrijs Finaškins	<i>Mg.sc.ing</i>	<i>lecturer</i>	<i>Information technologies</i>
32	Patriks Morevs	<i>Mg.math.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Information technologies</i>
33	Andrejs Liepiņš	<i>Mg.sc.comp.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Information technologies</i>
34	Jeļena Alfejeva	<i>Dr.iur.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Law</i>
35	Vita Ņemenova	<i>Dr.iur.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Law</i>
36	Una Skrastiņa	<i>Dr.iur.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Law</i>
37	Juris Juriss	<i>Dr.iur.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Law</i>
38	Marina Kamenecka-Usova	<i>Mg.iur.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Law</i>
39	Karina Zalcmane	<i>Mg.iur.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Law</i>
40	Natalja Verina	<i>Mg.iur.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Law</i>
41	Ināra Brante	<i>Mg.iur.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Law</i>
42	Inese Stankeviča	<i>Mg.iur</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Law</i>
43	Baiba Guste	<i>Mg.art.</i>	<i>lecturer</i>	<i>Arts</i>
44	Zoja Geraskina	<i>Mg.art.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Arts</i>
45	Ksenija Milča	<i>Mg.art.</i>	<i>lecturer</i>	<i>Arts</i>
46	Kristiana Kazarjana	<i>Mg.art.</i>	<i>assistant professor</i>	<i>Arts</i>
47	Larisa Turuševa	<i>Dr. paed.</i>	<i>assoc.prof</i>	<i>Translation</i>

48	Gatis Dilāns	PhD	<i>assoc.prof</i>	Translation
49	Aija Poikāne-Daumke	Dr.philol.	assistant professor	Translation
50	Ilona Tiesniece	Mg.philol.	assistant professor	Translation
51	Zane Veidenberga	Mg.edu.mgmt.	assistant professor	Translation

Several EKA academic staff members elected to academic positions have received the rights of experts of the Latvian Council of Science (as of 20.06.2020. – 32%).

Table 2 Academic staff elected to the academic positions of EKA – experts of the Latvian Council of Science

Name, Surname	Degree	Branch of science, sub-branch
Vīta Zariņa	Dr.oec.	Social sciences - economics and business
Ināra Kantāne	Dr. sc. admin	Social sciences - economics and business
Jelena Titko	Dr. oec.	Social sciences - economics and business
		Social sciences - education sciences
Inga Šīna	Dr.oec.	Social sciences - economics and business
Oksana Lentjušenkova	Dr.oec.	Social sciences - economics and business
Aija Sannikova	Dr.oec.	Social sciences - economics and business
Mārcis Pinnis	Dr.sc.comp.	Natural science – computer science and informatics
Jelena Jermolajeva	Dr. paed.	Social sciences - education sciences
Velga Vēvere	Dr.phil.	Humanities and arts: Philosophy, ethics and religion
		Social sciences - economics and business

2. PRIORITY “SCIENTIFIC REPUTATION OF EKA”

2.1. Scientific and creative events organized by EKA

International Scientific Conference

In April 2020, in cooperation with Alberta College (Latvia), Walsh College (USA) and Faculty of Management of the University of Economics in Katowice (Poland), the International Scientific Conference *Emerging Trends in*



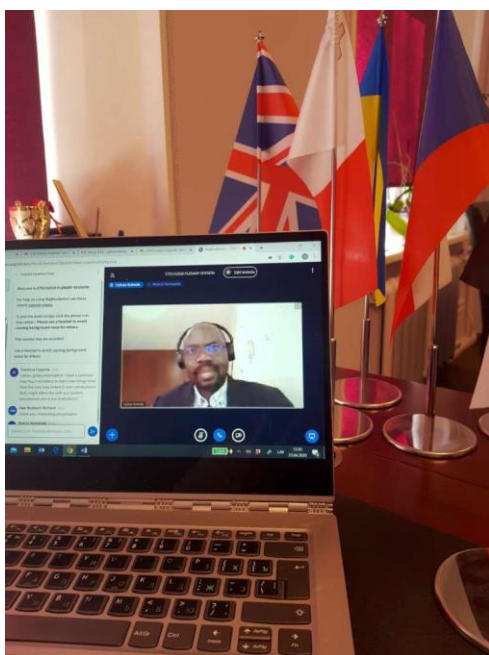
International Conference
ETECH
Emerging Trends in Economics,
Culture and Humanities

Economics, Culture and Humanities – etECH2020 was organized. Taking into account the state of emergency in Latvia due to the spread of COVID-19 virus, virtual conference sections were organized in the Moodle environment using the video conference system BigBlueButton (BBB).

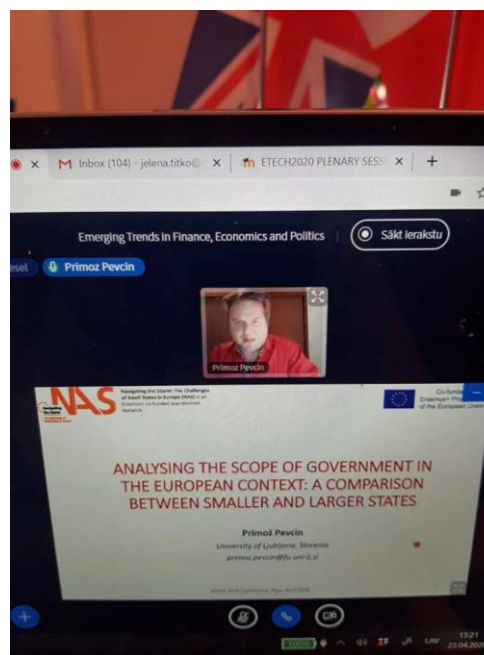
The annual International Scientific Conference has been held at the EKA University of Applied Sciences since 2011. Since 2017, it has been organized under the title

Emerging Trends in Economics, Culture and Humanities. A new logo of the conference was also presented in that year.

In 2020, around 110 participants from different higher education institutions from Latvia, Lithuania, the United States, Italy, Germany, Portugal, Great Britain, Russia, Poland, Slovenia, Slovakia, Ukraine, Malta, Cyprus and the Republic of South Africa participated in the conference with their presentations.



Ephias Ruhode, Professor of Cape Peninsula University of Technology (Republic of South Africa), etECH2020 virtual plenary session, 23.04.2020.



Primoz Pevcin, Professor of Ljubljana University (Slovenia), report in the Economics section, 23.04.2020.



Best presentation award ceremony, 23.04.2020.

International Student Scientific Practical Conference

Considering the emergency situation in Latvia due to the spread of COVID-19 virus, the face-to-face sections of the Student Conference were not organized this year. Students submitted abstracts and scientific articles.

In total, 81 presentations and 57 full text articles were submitted to the conference by the students of EKA and other universities. In addition, 29 descriptions of student creative work were submitted to the section of EKA Arts study direction (descriptions of the pieces of work of the study programme "Interior design" and descriptions of the games developed by the study programme "Computer game design and graphics"). In 2020, for the first time, a separate edition "Student research and creative activity 2020: description of creative projects and works of art" was issued.

Training and methodical conference

On 29 January 2020, a training and methodological conference "Organization of academic and scientific work in the study process" was held. This year, the conference was devoted to quality assurance in higher education. The event was attended by representatives of the EKA University and Alberta College.

The conference was opened **by Anna Saltikova** (Board Member of the EKA University and Alberta College), with a presentation "Standards and Guidelines for quality assurance in the European higher education area (ESG)". The following speakers took the floor:

- **Vita Stīge-Škuškovnika** (Director of Alberta College), presentations "Ensuring the principles of a student centralized approach: process, teaching and learning methods, assessment" and "Cooperation with employers and other educational institutions"
- **Oksana Lentjušenkova** (Rector of the EKA University), presentations "Internal quality management system: mechanisms and procedures", "Quality assurance: obligations of stakeholders" and "Personnel management: recruitment, assessment and development"
- **Jeļena Titko** (Vice-Rector of the EKA University for Science and International Relations), with presentations "Research-based studies" and "Staff involvement in research and internationalization processes".



Presentation of Vita Stīge-Škuškovnika, Director of Alberta College



Presentation of Jeļena Titko, Vice-Rector for Science, the EKA University of Applied Sciences

At the end of the methodological conference, **a festive opening of the EKA Science Club took place**. EKA Science Club is a hobby club bringing together EKA academic staff to make a contribution to EKA research development, to develop EKA priority research areas and to promote scientific activities organized by EKA.

2.2. Events organized by EKA for schoolchildren

Olympiads for schoolchildren

On 27 November 2019, the EKA University of Applied Sciences (EKA), in cooperation with Alberta College (AK) and the representative office of Pearson Central Europe in Latvia, hosted an English Olympiad for schoolchildren "**English Guru**". Pupils of the 11th and 12th grades from Latvian educational institutions, students of the final courses of professional and vocational secondary schools participated in this event. In the Olympiad, schoolchildren had the opportunity to demonstrate their skills in written translation and oral interpreting.



On 6 February 2020, secondary schoolchildren from all over Latvia demonstrated their knowledge at the "**Digital Economics and Business Olympiad 2020**" hosted by EKA. The aim of this Olympiad is not only to enable young people to assess their knowledge and skills in digital economy and business, but also to stimulate their interest in the modern economic and business processes.

On 22 February 2020, the EKA University of Applied Sciences in cooperation with Alberta College and the Latvian National Library held a competition "**Event Master 2020**", during which secondary schoolchildren, working in groups, tried their strength and gained new experience in developing cultural activities that would be held in the Latvian National Library (LNB). The participants were supported by mentors – the students of the 4th year of EKA Cultural Management programme. The aim of the competition was to present the profile of cultural managers and organizers of cultural events to young people, develop their research and creative skills, as well as to stimulate interest in cultural developments and cultural institutions. The jury, composed of the EKA academic staff members and representatives of the LNB, assessed the relevance of the idea to the image and possibilities of the LNB, their feasibility, the planned communication activities, the detail and justification of the idea, cooperation capacity, visual presentation of the idea and the way how it was presented.

Shadow Day

As every year, EKA hosted a career education event Shadow Day for schoolchildren organized by the Business Education Association *Junior achievement Latvia* (JA Latvia). Academic staff of the following study directions were shadowed: the Management direction (Cultural management programme), the Economics direction (Logistics programme), the IT direction and the Arts direction (Interior design programme and Computer game design and graphics programme). 40 young people shadowed the academic staff of EKA and learnt about the professions of a network and computer system administrator, computer game developer, interior designer, logistics specialist and manager of cultural events.

The shadows of the computer system administrator gained insight into the computer and network components, as well as in the installation, use and configuration of different operating systems. The shadows of the game designer participated in a creative workshop "How to make a computer game" and in the work of a class on 3D programming and prototyping. The shadows of the interior designer discussed what the interior designer is, what composition means, and learnt about the theory of interior designing. The shadows of the logistics specialist gained insight into the issues of this profession the specialist has to deal with, as well as they did various practical tasks on a rational use of cargo space. In turn, the shadows of cultural event managers, also listening to the experience and lessons learnt from the EKA Cultural management students, were acquainted with the everyday life of this profession.



Participants of the Shadow Day with Inga Brasla, Director of the EKA International Trade and Logistics Programme, 12.02.2020.



Participants of the Shadow Day with Jelena Budanceva, Director of the EKA Culture Management programme, in the Black classroom, 12.02.2020.

2.3. EKA publishing activities

One of the priority areas of ZRDAS2020 is the development of the EKA publishing activity.

Each year, conference abstract proceedings are published as part of the etECh Conference. This year it includes 63 research abstracts.

The best articles are published in the scientific journal "Economics and Culture". The journal is issued twice a year (in June and December) by the International Publishing House SCIENDO. The journal has OPEN ACCESS status; all articles have a DOI number. The scientific journal "Economics and Culture" is currently indexed by the EBSCO Discovery Service, Google Scholar, Research Papers in Economics (RePEc), Sherpa/RoMEO, Summon (Serials solutions/ProQuest) and other databases (the full list is available at: <https://content.sciendo.com/view/journals/jec/jec-overview.xml>)



Since 2015, EKA in cooperation with Alberta College has been issuing a collection of scientific articles "Collection of student scientific research papers". The collection of scientific research papers includes extracts from the final papers of the EKA University of Applied Sciences (EKA) and Alberta College (AK) students and their articles submitted to the International Student Scientific and Practical Conference. The articles reflect the results of the research carried out in the fields of economics, finance, accounting, management, linguistics, public relations, marketing, information and communication technologies, law, etc. fields.



Besides, a collection of conference abstracts is published in the framework of the joint conference organized by EKA and Alberta College. The issue of 2020 contains 81 abstracts of student research. In addition, in the field of Arts, this year for the first time a collection "Description of Students' Creative Projects and Works of Art" was published, which brought together descriptions of 8 works of art and 21 computer games created by the students of the study programme "Interior design" and the students of the study programme "Computer game design and graphics".

As part of the international project "Online Master Programme for Circular Economy" (CIRCECO), EKA academic staff published two study books: *Introduction to Circular Economy* (authors: Tambovceva, T., Titko, J.) and *Business ethics and Corporate Social Responsibility* (authors: Vēvere, V., Svirina, A.). The books are available at the EKA library and will be used for the Master's study programme Business Administration.

The information on publications issued by EKA in 2019/2020 is summarized in Table 3.

Table 3. EKA publications issued in 2019/2020

Publication type	Name of the publication
Scientific Journal	Economics and Culture (ISSN 2255-7563) https://content.sciendo.com/view/journals/jec/jec-overview.xml

Conference Abstracts Proceedings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - International Scientific Conference "Emerging Trends in Economics, Culture and Humanities (etECH2020)" Abstracts proceedings (ISBN 978-9984-24-236-1) - Studējošo pētnieciskā darbība: teorija un prakse' 2020. Konferences tēžu krājums (Student Research Activity: Theory and Practice '2020. Conference Abstracts Proceedings) ISBN 978-9984-24-234-7. - STUDĒJOŠO PĒTNIECISKĀ UN RADOŠĀ DARBĪBA 2020 (STUDENT RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY 2020). - Studējošo radošo projektu un mākslas darbu apraksts (Description of Students' Creative Projects and Works of Art) (ISBN 978-9984-24-239-2)
Collection of articles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Studējošo zinātniski pētniecisko rakstu krājums (Collection of Student Scientific Research Papers) (ISSN 2500-9761)
Textbooks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Introduction to Circular Economy</i> (authors: Tambovceva, T., Titko, J.) Rīga: EKA University of Applied Sciences, 2020. ISBN 978-9984-24-231-6 / e-ISBN 978-9984-24-230-9 - <i>Business ethics and Corporate Social Responsibility</i> (authors: Vēvere, V., Svirina, A.) Rīga: EKA University of Applied Sciences, 2020. ISBN 978-9984-24-233-0 / e-ISBN 978-9984-24-232-3; UDK 658(07)

2.4. EKA participation in international projects

On 30 September 2019, the International project **“InVent - Partnership to develop VET educators in event management with learner-centred approach”**, where the EKA University of Applied Sciences has participated since 2017, was completed successfully.



The leading partner of the project was Gecko Programmes Ltd in the UK, and 10 partner organizations from the UK, Germany, Spain, Slovenia and Latvia participated in the project. Latvia was represented in the project by EKA and Latvijas Kultūras darbinieku biedrība (the Association of Latvian Culture Centres).

The aim of the project was to enhance the skills and competences of vocational educators working with event management courses, as well as to improve the programmes of training in event management in line with the latest trends and requirements of the labour market and industry. EKA's participation in this project is very important as it offers a variety of courses related to event management in two vocational training programmes: college level study programme “Management of entertainment industry” and Bachelor programme “Cultural management”.

The final project meeting was held on 23 and 24 September in Hannover (Germany). Representatives of all partner organizations, i.e., Gecko Programmes Ltd (UK), Television and Radio Industries Club of the Midlands (UK), Fakulteta za komercialne in poslovne vede (Slovenia), EKTC Maribor (Slovenia), Hochschule Hannover (Germany), The German Entertainment Technology Association, Centro Superior De Formacion Europa Sur – CESUR (Spain), Fundación Coremsa (Spain), EKA (Latvia) and the Association of Latvian Culture Centres (Latvia) shared their experience of participating in the InVent activities and key achievements during the project.

During the project, several results were achieved in improving the quality of event management training:

- Standard of competences for event managers and skills scan tool ("Standard of competences") was developed, based on a study of the occupational standards of project partner countries (Slovenia, Latvia, Spain, Germany) and their comparison with the UK National Occupational Standard, as well as a study carried out among representatives of the event management sector of the five project partner countries.
- A skills assessment tool (Skills Scan) for event managers was developed, as well as guidelines for its use and drafting of an individual development plan.
- Training materials that can be used by vocational education and training educators in the event management training.

The results of the project will be used in the EKA study programmes "Cultural management" and "Management of entertainment industry".

InVent project was supported and financed by the European Commission within the framework of Erasmus+ KA2 Strategic partnership programme (grant agreement No. 2017-1-UK01-KA202-036615).



The final meeting of the InVent project in Hannover, 23-24.09.2019. EKA was represented by Kaspars Steinbergs

In January 2020, the international project "**Online Master Programme for Circular economy**" (CIRCECO) was successfully completed, and the EKA University of Applied Sciences had participated in it since 2018.

The project was coordinated by European University – Skopje (Macedonia), the project partners – Zelena Infrastructura, Green Infrastructure (Croatia), Fakulteta za commercialne in poslovne vede (Slovenia), YES Foundation (Macedonia) and the EKA University of Applied Sciences (Latvia).



Participation in the CIRCECO project has made a major contribution to the development of the EKA academic staff and to the improvement of the quality of the study process. This was reflected in enhancing the knowledge of the EKA academic staff on circular economy, in supplementing the EKA library stock with two valuable textbooks for Master's programme students, in creating new ideas for improving the study plan of the Master's study programme "Business Administration", and in developing a new Master's programme in the field of Economics.

In addition, new partnerships were established and existing cooperation with the FKPV partner was enforced, which is an important contribution to the development of the EKA internationalization process.

CIRCECO project was supported and financed by the European Commission within the framework of Erasmus+ KA2 Strategic partnership programme (grant agreement No. 2017-1-MK01-KA203-035392).



The final meeting of the CIRCECO project in Skopje 09.01.2020. EKA was represented by Jelena Titko

Since November 2019, the EKA University of Applied Sciences has been one of the partners of the international project **“Accelerating ICT students’ start-up development competence via interdisciplinary modular courses in the HEI curricula” (abbreviation - UXiship)**.



The project consortium includes EU universities as well as partner universities from Russia and Kazakhstan. Project implementation period: November 2019 – November 2022.

EU partner universities: Hochschule Wismar, University of applied Sciences (Germany); Tallinn University of Technology (Estonia); the EKA University of Applied Sciences (Latvia)

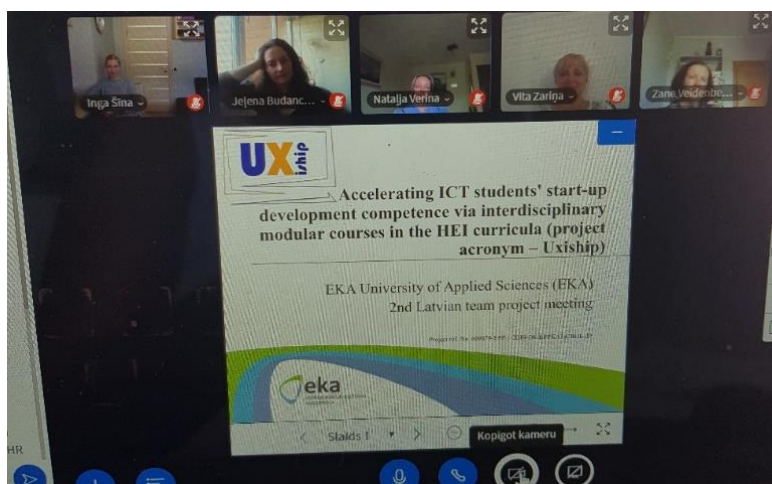
Partner universities in Russia: Kazan National Research University (named after Tupolev); Rostov State University of Economics; Peter the Great St. Petersburg Polytechnic University

Partner universities in Kazakhstan: Kostanay State University; Almaty Management University; Caspian State University

The consortium has set the following objectives:

- revise and update under EU universities' supervision the contents of ICT curricula;
- define learning outcomes that should evolve as a result of ICT-based entrepreneurship module implementation in ICT majors curricula;
- update partner countries universities staff knowledge in accordance with industry challenges, guest lecturing and internships;
- create online scalable model of ICT-based entrepreneurship hard and soft skills development module that can be implemented in partner countries;
- enhance ICT competence by wide involvement of engineering and technology students in learning-by-doing IT-practices including block chain, internet of things, automation etc.;
- elaborate guidelines for recognition of joint ICT-based entrepreneurial module within ECTS credit system in partner countries;
- implement ICT-based entrepreneurial module in ICT university curricula in partner universities.

UXiship is financed and supported by the ERASMUS+ programme of the European Union Capacity building in the field of higher education (Project ref. No. 609870-EPP-1-2019-DE-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP).



Virtual meeting of the UXiship project EKA team in Moodle environment 30.04.2020.

The information on projects in 2019/2020 is summarized in Table 4.

Table 4. EKA participation in international projects in 2019/2020

Period	Title of the project	Grant agreement No	Coordinator
2019 – 2022	Accelerating ICT students' start-up development competence via interdisciplinary modular courses in the HEI curricula (UXiship)	609870-EPP-1-2019-DE-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP	Hochschule Wismar (Germany)
2017-2020	Online Master Programme for Circular Economy (CIRCECO)	2017-1-MK01-KA203-035392	European University – Republic of Macedonia (R.Macedonia)
2017-2019	Partnership to develop VET educators in event management with learner-centred approach (InVent)	2017-1-UK01-KA202-036615	Gecko Programmes Ltd. (UK)

3. PRIORITY “RESEARCH AND CREATIVE ACTIVITIES OF THE EKA STUDY DIRECTIONS”

3.1. Research directions

Taking into account the study programmes provided by the EKA University of Applied Sciences and in line with the priority directions in science for the time period from 2018 to 2021 (Ministry of Education and Science, 2017), the priority research areas of the EKA University of Applied Sciences have been defined.

EKA priority in science is interdisciplinary research. This means that several research projects can be carried out within one research direction involving the academic staff and students from different study directions.

Research directions are approved by the Study Board of the relevant study direction. The list of research directions is approved by the EKA Vice Rector for Science.

A coordinator is appointed for each research direction, who leads the work of the research group and is responsible for research results in the direction.

The priority research areas for each academic year are defined in the Action plan of ZRDAS2020. The 2020/2019 priority research areas are summarized in Table 5.

Table 5. EKA priority research areas 2019 /2020

NAME OF THE RESEARCH AREA	STUDY DIRECTION
Emerging Trends in Education and Pedagogy	all
Digitization: Challenges for Economics, Business and Society	IT Management
Economics & Finance	Economics
Intellectual Capital: Understanding, Management, Protection	Management Law

Corporate Social Responsibility: Understanding and Management	Management
ICT studies	IT
Cultural studies	Management
Creative Industries and Design	Arts
Emerging Trends in Law	Law

3.2. Activities and achievements in EKA study directions

The information on the activities of students and academic staff in the EKA study directions is summarized in Table 6.

Table 6. Activities and achievements of students and academic staff in EKA study directions

STUDY DIRECTION ECONOMICS
<p>Activities in study programmes “Business Economics”, “Accounting and Audit” and “International Trade and Logistics”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In order to raise awareness of the import/export processes and the role of customs in them, students of the study programme “International Trade and Logistics” and “Business Economy” visited RTU on 5 October 2019, where they visited the Customs Museum – a repository of tangible and intangible cultural assets about Latvian customs and tax history from ancient times to today, as well as a customs control laboratory where future customs control officers develop the ability to find contraband goods, as it is equipped with various measuring and technical means used by customs officers in their daily work. - Lectures do not always have to take place in a classroom – on 5 October 2019, students of the EKA study direction “Economics” were given the opportunity to broaden their knowledge of courses in Transport logistics and transport geography by visiting the Museum of Railway History. By studying the importance and development history of locomotives and wagons in Latvia, the organization of day-to-day railway work, students gained a better understanding of the advantages and prospects of railway transport in this country. - On 11 December 2019, LG_P students had an opportunity to visit JSC ELKO Group – their new warehouse in the Airport Park and to get acquainted with the specifics of a wholesale company warehouse. - Traditionally, study tours to the largest airport in the region Riga International Airport are organized every year. On 11 December 2019, LG_P1 students learnt both the backroom of the passenger terminal and other airport services involved in the operation of the transport hub. - EKA assistant professor Inga Brasla, under the ERASMUS+ programme, visited the Technical University of Varna (Bulgaria) from 11-15 November 2019. - In order to promote the profession of logistics specialist and the offer of EKA to learn this profession, EKA assistant professor Inga Brasla visited several Latvian schools and organized trainings and quizzes for pupils on logistics issues: 3 October 2019, at Ludza Secondary School No. 2, and 23 January 2020, at Riga Classical Gymnasium. - EKA assistant professor Inga Brasla is active in the Latvian Aviation Association (www.laa.aero) and participates both as a listener and as a speaker at the events organized

<p>by the Association, e.g. Business breakfast once a month dedicated to one of the themes in the field and the annual Aviation Forum.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On 29-30 October 2019, EKA assistant professor I. Brasla took part in the Cargo Events conference in Amsterdam (the Netherlands), organized by the International Air Transport Association. - On 17.10.2019. students of the study programme "Accounting and Audit" visited the State Revenue Service; topics of discussion: areas of SRS activities, tax administration, customs service activities, job opportunities in SRS. - On 05.12.2019., "Current developments in the Latvian national economy", Bank of Latvia economist Agnese Rutkovska. The differences in productivity and wage growth still raise many questions about balanced development, but the answers are mixed. Besides, the national economy is undergoing significant structural changes: the segment of the financial sector serving non-resident customers is shrinking, construction is growing very rapidly, the ICT sector and tourism are showing growth tendencies. - Guest lecture "How to draw up the cash flow?" on 10.03.2020. Diāna Lopeta, training expert from Altum, shared advice on how to correctly plan cash flow when starting up business, as well as on Altum support tools for business start-ups and entrepreneurs. - EKA professor Vita Zariņa participated in the work of the Riga City Council Grant allocation commission, assessing business ideas, as well as attracting business projects to the EKA Business Incubator
<p>DIRECTION "MANAGEMENT"</p>
<p>Activities in study programmes "Business Administration", "Management" and "Creative marketing and sales management"</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guest lecture "Image creation in the eyes of employers" was held for Latvian students of the study programme "Management" on 31 August 2019, led by Eva Mareka Šaknere, junior recruitment specialist of CVO Recruitment Latvia - On 31 September 2019, 1st year students of the study programme "Management" had a guest lecture provided by Kate Mažāne, EKA graduate, Executive Director of the Digital Freedom Festival. - In August and September 2019, guest lectures were organized for students of the study programmes "Business Administration" and "Creative marketing and sales management" with Liega Zusmane (EKA graduate, Costa Coffee marketing and Product Development Manager) and Maksims Kušnarevs (partner and digital strategist at the Digital Agency Digibrand). - On 17 October 2019, Latvian students of the study programme "Management" together with their lecturer Tatjana Daudiša, within the framework of the study course "Accounting", visited the State Revenue Service (hereinafter – SRS). Topics of discussion: Areas of SRS activities, tax administration, customs service activities, job opportunities in SRS. - On 19 October 2019, Latvian students of the study programme "Management" participated in a guest lecture by EKA graduate Aleksandrs Fjodorovs on the basic principles of starting a business. - In November 2019, students of the 3rd year of the study programme "Management" together with their lecturer Inga Oliņa, within the framework of the study course "Public Relations", visited media agency Inspired, where they had a lecture conducted by the agency's staff. - In November 2019, 3rd year English students of the of the study programme "Management" together with their lecturer Inga Oliņa, within the framework of the study course "Public

Relations”, visited media agency Inspired, where they had a lecture conducted by the agency representatives.

- In November 2019, 3rd year English students of the of the study programme “Management” together with their lecturer Inga Oliņa, within the framework of the study course “Public Relations”, visited PR agency Deep White, where they had a lecture conducted by the agency representatives.
- On 20 November 2019, 3rd year full time students of the study programme “Management” together with assistant professor Ksenija Ijevļeva visited the Investment and Development Agency of Latvia (LIAA) meeting LIAA export specialist.
- On 5 December 2019, a guest lecture “Current developments in LV national economy” given by the senior economist of macroeconomic analysis of the Bank of Latvia's Monetary Policy Department, Agnese Rutkovska, was held for Latvian students of the study programme “Management”.
- On 14 December 2019, students of the study programme “Management” attended a guest lecture by Gunta Veismane “Leader vs. Manager?”. Gunta Veismane held the position of acting Rector of the EKA University of Applied Sciences from the beginning of 2011 until the end of 2016. From 24 April 2000 until 31 December 2010, G. Veismane worked as the director of the State Chancellery. Before that, G. Veismane was the Director of the School of Public Administration, and established both the school itself and the training system for officials.

Activities in the study programmes “Cultural management” and “Event management”

- In 2019/2020 acc.year, the study programmes “Event management” and “Cultural Management” continued to cooperate with Laimrota Jaunzeme, Head of Iecava House of Culture Artistic division, where students and their teacher Ieva Andžāne went to a study tour to Iecava House of Culture.
- Latvian Folk Art Union expressed their gratitude to the EKA University of Applied Sciences for supporting the show “Creative Restlessness” – a demonstration of various hand-made clothing in different techniques.
- In September, EKA Cultural Management group CULTURE POINT was established on social network FACEBOOK with the aim of creating a platform for culture representatives; the present number of participants in the group is over 233 culture representatives from all over Latvia
- On 15.09.2020, a guest lecture on organizing outdoor festivals was held by Gundars Caune, EKA graduate and project manager of Jelgava municipal agency for culture,
- On 24.09.2020., a guest lecture on how to organize and advertise music events was delivered by Zane Vītola, producer and marketing specialist
- On 26.09.2020., a guest lecture on the specificity of the implementation of events and the best examples of Lithuania was conducted by Andrius Juškus, a teacher from Lithuanian university VILNIUS KOLLEGIA,
- On 26.11.2020., a guest lecture for the students of Cultural management and Event management was delivered by Latvian multidisciplinary artist and designer Kašers
- On 13.12.2019., a conference on Internship and Erasmus was held to provide students with an overview of internship opportunities in Latvia and opportunities for study and placement abroad. Representatives of 6 internship places (Tv24, riga boom, Riga Film Museum, Latvian Academy of Culture, 2ANNAS, mittome), as well as EKA graduate Arta Vitoliņa, Elze Danenfelde-Kirpe and the Erasmus coordinator of EKA took part in the conference.
- A survey of potential internship providers was carried out with an aim to find out the readiness to host EKA students in for their placement; in total, 16 institutions of culture and entertainment industry responded, where students also had had their internships (including

Latvijas Koncerti, Festival Bildes, MMC, Rīga Circus, Jūrmala City Museum, Alūksne City Museum,

- On 23.01.2020, the competition for secondary schoolchildren EVENT MASTER took place in cooperation with the Latvian National Library and Rīga Secondary School of Cultures. The idea of the competition was created and implemented by the programme director Jeļena Budanceva and professor Velga Vēvere
- On 28.01.2020., in the Black classroom, a performance of talented EKA students – musicians took place. 3 Latvian and 1 English flow students performed.
- On 12.02.2020., within the SHADOW DAY programme, cultural management students led workshops on event planning and implementation for 4 schoolchildren groups
- On 22.02.2020., the first EKA concert was held, which was fully organized by the 4th year students of the Cultural management programme within the framework of the study course PRODUCTION. The concert took place in Studio69 and well-known musicians – EKA students and graduates participated in it.
- On 22.02.2020., there was a special event for EKA most outstanding graduates and special prizes were awarded to graduates. This event was also organized by the 4th year students of the Cultural management programme.
- On 24.02.2020., students together with the teacher Agnese Nemme (course Event management and methodology) took part in a study tour to the location of events at Hanzas perons
- On 09.03.2020., Aija Auškāpa, Director of music group Brainstorm, delivered a guest lecture on concert and music event management within the framework of the study course Event management and methodology
- In May 2020, 11 lectures of EKA academic staff, graduates and students on the consequences of COVID on various fields of social life and culture (from philosophy to crisis management) took place in the CULTURE POINT group
- On 14.05.2020., brain game *Culture and economics* took place, which was devised by the academic staff of the Cultural management programme Baiba Guste, Ieva Andžāne, Velga Vēvere, Ingus Barovskis and Jeļena Budanceva
- On 15.05.2020., in the CULTURE POINT group, a discussion on the defense and presentation of research papers was held by lecturer Ieva Andžāne and assistant professor Jeļena Budanceva
- On 03.06.2020., in online environment on YouTube, Jeļena Budanceva, Director of the Cultural management study programme, together with Kristers Rudzītis, 4th year student, and Arta Vitoliņa, EKA graduate, conducted a discussion about the challenges of studies and experience of a successful student
- On 19.06.2020., Jeļena Budanceva, Director of the Cultural management study programme, participated in an online discussion on cultural education opportunities initiated by the Event forum and LAPP
- In June, the CULTURE POINT group hosted a number of discussions and an examination in the course International Cultural Systems (lecturer, dr. philol. S.Ratniece)
- 2019 / 2020, several study tours were organized for students of the study programmes “Event management” (formerly “Management of the Entertainment and recreation industry”) and “Cultural management”. The Latvian National Museum of Art, the Museum of Art Rīga Bourse, Iecava House of Culture, the Latvian National History Museum, the Museum of the Artists' union of Latvia, the Latvian Union of Writers, the French Culture Center, the Museum of Decorative Arts and Design, the folk costume centre "Senā klēts", the Museum of the History of Rīga and Navigation, the Museum "Rīga Art Nouveau Center", Study excursion "Medieval

Annual Report of the EKA University of Applied Sciences on Scientific Activity
2019/2020

Riga", excursions to different creative neighbourhoods, etc. have been organised in different study courses.
LAW
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – In June 2019, Karina Zalcmāne, EKA assistant professor and Director of the study programme "Law", attended a breakfast discussion "Fair process in anti-doping cases" organized by sworn advocate office of Inga Kačevska, law firm Eversheds Sutherland Bitans, in cooperation with Women in Sports Law (WISLAW). – In September 2019, EKA assistant professor I.Stankeviča delivered a lecture under the ERASMUS+ mobility programme in France, Universite de Valenciennes et du Hainaut-Cambreis. – In September 2019, a guest lecture was given by Marija Dzelme, Deputy Head of the Legal Department of the National Council for Electronic Media (NCEM). – Between 13.12 and 14.12.2019, within the framework of the ERASMUS+ mobility programme, Karina Zalcmāne, EKA assistant professor and Director of the study programme "Law", visited the University of Athens to improve the e-study process of the EKA University of Applied Sciences. At the University of Athens, the "Law" programme offers 230 study courses that can be studied in the e-environment. In addition, doc., K.Zalcmāne participated in a discussion with the academic staff of the University of Athens on topical issues of law in the field of education separately and higher education in the European Union as a whole. – On 14.12.2019., EKA assistant professors Karina Zalcmāne and Marina Kamenecka-Usova participated in the International Congress on Sport Law. – On 21.02.2020., EKA assistant professor Marina Kamenecka-Usova attended a guest lecture "Georgia's main foreign policy priorities" by Teas Maisuradze, Georgian Ambassador to Latvia. – In the framework of the notary days on 25.02.2020., Karina Zalcmāne, EKA assistant professor and Director of the study programme "Law", attended a seminar DigitNotāri – electronic approvals in private legal transactions. – On 29.02.2020., Karina Zalcmāne, EKA assistant professor and Director of the study programme "Law" took part in the sports law panel discussion during the "14th Riga vis pre-Moot" international mock court process games. – On 02.03.2020., EKA assistant professor Marina Kamenecka-Usova attended a lecture by Professor Dr. Tomas F.Shaler of the University of Meriland on the US presidential elections.
ARTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – On 6-8 March 2020, Student Game Jam with more than 40 participants took place in the EKA University. – On 6-8 March 2020, the students of the study programme "Computer game design and graphics" Artūrs Svārs, Nauris Blumbahs and Ieva Kuduma won the 3rd place in GameHack 2020 Ventspils. – In February 2020, the students of the study programme "Computer game design and graphics" Rihards Lūris and Rihards Kurts participated in the event HyperTown Riga 2020 with their game "Surviving the Dungeon". Participation in the event took place in cooperation with the Latvian Association of Games developers. – At the end of January 2020, the students of the study programme "Computer game design and graphics" participated in Global Game Jam 2020 Riga.

- In October 2019, student Aivars Ivanovs of the study programme “Computer game design and graphics” and lecturer Ēriks Līsmānis with the team “Rīga IFF” won in the technology marathon, developing a product for children suffering from autism.
- The lecturers of the study programme “Computer game design and graphics” Ēriks Līsmānis, Armands Millers, Kaspars Šteinbergs and EKA lecturer Edgars Čerkovskis are working on the establishment of a virtual reality classroom for economics on the order of Rīga Distance Education Secondary School.
- The 3rd year student of the study programme “Interior design” Jana Ļotčikovatika was admitted as a candidate in the Latvian Designers' Union
- Student of the study programme “Interior design” Karlīna Jansone participated in SUSI exchange programme in the USA. In winter, the US Information Center of the Central Library of Latgale, in cooperation with the US Embassy and FHI360, announced an application for the student programme SUSI (Study of the United States Institutes) for students from 18 to 24 years, where 2 students were nominated from Latvia, Karlīna Jansone from the EKA University of Applied Sciences and Vairis Stramkalis from the University of Latvia.
- Students of the 2nd and 3rd year of the study programme “Interior design” went on a tour to London with their programme director Ksenija Miļča from 20.09 to 24.09.2019. They visited Victoria&Albert Museum, Tate Modern, Natural History Museum.
- On 30.09.. EKA interior design students gained new and practical knowledge at the exciting seminars of Arena Rīga, WATT, Anitra, H&L Studija they attended together with their teacher Kristiana Kazarjana in the excellent DECCO CENTRE.
- On 26.09.. EKA interior design students together with their teacher Agris Tauriņš visited AM Furnitūra salon to acquire more knowledge on accessories and their application in interior.
- EKA academic staff – Ksenija Miļča, Barbara Freiberga, Kristiana Kazarjana, Anna Varnase, participated in the LDS exhibition RE:EX(05-22.10). Barbara Freiberga – exhibition producer, Ksenija Miļča – the author of concept and visual identity. Models for the visual part of the exhibition were made by EKA Pb_Dz_Ns_3 student Jana Ļotčikova.
- On 05.11.2019., Evija Skriba (teacher of colouristic, sketches, innovation design) participated in the competition NORDIC & BALTIC YOUNG ARTIST AWARD.
- On 12.11.2019., 4th year students together with their teacher of furniture design and furniture designer Agris Tauriņš went to a project and design workshop for individual furniture manufacturing in the design company Projekcijas Dizains, where they practically participated in making furniture – they sorted the details following technical drawings and carried out other preparatory work.
- From 11.11.-15.11.2019., Ksenija Miļča, Director of the study programme “Interior design”, participated in Vilnius technologijų ir dizaino kolegija – VTDK International Week, acquiring new partners and establishing international contacts for project development in the department.
- On 16.12.2019., the most committed 4th year interior design students were happy to attend a lecture at the leading Latvian furniture fitting and plate material sales company AM Furnitūra, during which they learnt about the latest software for interior design work
- On 17.12.2019., interior design students went on a study tour at the WATT salon of lighting solutions. An extensive lecture on lighting, its types and usage possibilities was conducted by the company's manager and the creator of LaLampa brand Kristaps Jaundzems.
- On 17.01.2020., the opening of student exhibition “Elusive” took place at the Glass Point gallery. Future designers have created EKA prizes in glass, and this learning task has been performed in order to learn in practice how to work with different materials, to try out the process of processing glass manually, and to translate the initially intangible (elusive) idea into reality, which also requires a communication process with a potential customer.

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| <p>– Students of the EKA study programme "Interior design" have created works for the competition-exhibition "DESIGN AFTER TOMAORROW", which is organized together with Vilniaus technologijų ir dizaino kolegija - VTDK.</p> |
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3.3. Scientific achievements of EKA academic staff

In 2020/2019, the academic staff of the EKA University of Applied Sciences have published a number of publications in peer-reviewed scientific publications, including 24 articles in internationally peer-reviewed publications, which are/will be included in the internationally quoted databases Web of Science, Clarivate Analytics and SCOPUS. In addition, EKA academic staff have also made monographs and textbooks.

Publications of EKA academic staff (published in publications indexed or presented to be indexed in Web of Science or Scopus database):

1. Tambovceva, T., **Titko, J.** (2020). Consumer perception of sharing economy: pilot survey in Latvia. *International Journal of Economic Policy in Emerging Economies (IJEPEE)*, 13(1), 72-84. **SCOPUS**
2. Griбанова, S., & **Abeltina, A.** (2020). Management of creative class. The case of IT professionals in Latvia. In *SHS Web of Conferences* (Vol. 74, Article No. 02006). **WOS:000528040800043**
3. **Titko, J., Bierne, J.** (2019). Competence Development of Young Entrepreneurs through Educational Innovations. *Marketing and Management of Innovations*, 3, 255-264. <http://doi.org/10.21272/mmi.2019.3-19> (**WoS: 000488243600019**)
4. **Bierne, J., Svirina, A., Titko, J.** (2019). E-Learning and E-Teaching Effectiveness: Academic Staff Perception // In: Kabashkin I., Yatskiv (Jackiva) I., Prentkovskis O. (eds) Reliability and Statistics in Transportation and Communication. RelStat 2018. Lecture Notes in Networks and Systems, vol 68, 768-778. Springer, Cham DOI: 10.1007/978-3-030-12450-2_74 (**SCOPUS**)
5. **Lentjushenkova, O., Zarina, V., & Titko, J.** (2019). Disclosure of intellectual capital in financial reports: case of Latvia. *Oeconomia Copernicana*, 10(2), 341-357. DOI: 10.24136/oc.2019.017 (**WoS: 000475440300007**)
6. Griбанова, S., & **Abeltina, A.** (2019). Job satisfaction of IT employees in Latvia: expectations and reality. *Economic Annals-XXI*, 178, 148-157. **SCOPUS**
7. Liniņa, I., **Vēvere, V.**, Zvirgzdiņa, R. (2019). Necessity of customer loyalty formation and its peculiarities in the telecommunication services. *Vide. Tehnoloģija. Resursi*. XII Starptautiskās zinātniski praktiskās konferences materiāli, 2019.g. 20.-22.jūnijā. Rēzeknes Tehnoloģiju Akadēmija. pp. 142-146. **SCOPUS**
8. **Zalcmane, K., Kamenecka-Usova, M.** (2019). The cost of policing football matches in Latvia. Proceedings of the 33rd International Business Information Management Association Conference, IBIMA 2019: Education Excellence and Innovation Management through Vision 2020, 6633-6641. **SCOPUS**
9. Morkūnas, M. Volkov, A., Rudienė, E., **Skvarciany, V.** (2019). Joint venture as a risk management tool: experience from construction sector. *International journal of economic policy in emerging economies*, vol. 12, iss. 3, p. 285-298. DOI: 10.1504/IJEPEE.2019.10022432. **SCOPUS**

10. **Svirina A.**, Gumerov A., Polyushko Y. (2019). Innovative Development Tendencies Analysis: the Case of Increasing Effect of Government Economic Regulation. Proceedings of the 33rd International Business Information Management Association Conference, IBIMA 2019: Education Excellence and Innovation Management through Vision 2020, 1393-1400. **SCOPUS**
11. Trofimovich, P., **Turuševa, I.** (2020). Language Attitudes and Ethnic Identity: Examining Listener Perceptions of Latvian-Russian Bilingual Speakers. Journal of Language, Identity & Education, Volume 19, 2020 - Issue 1, pp. 8-24. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15348458.2019.1696682> **WoS:** 000504556000001
12. Grizane T., Gusca J., Jurgelane-Kaldrova I., **Sannikova A.** (2019). Emissions of carbon dioxide (co2) and growth the tourism industry: case study of Latvia. Proceedings of the 2019 20th International Conference "Economic science for rural development". No. 52, pp. 347.-354. Latvia University of Life Science and Technologies. Latvija, Jelgava. **WOS:**000526397500042
13. **Sannikova, A.**, Vevere, V., Grizane, T., Jankova, L. (2019). Economic factors in the choice of studies and work. Economic Science for Rural Development 2019. Proceedings of 20th International Conference, 9-10 May, 2019, Jelgava, pp. 223-229. (**WOS:**000526396700028)
14. **Daudisa, T., & Vevere, V.** (2020). Importance of professional ethics and corporate social responsibility within business studies curriculum within context global economy. In *SHS Web of Conferences* (Vol. 74, p. 04004). EDP Sciences. **WOS:**000528040800071
15. **Vevere, V., & Mons, A.** (2020). Applying behavioural economics in education: study of undergraduate practices of selecting higher educational institutions. In *SHS Web of Conferences* (Vol. 74, p. 01035). EDP Sciences. **WOS:**000528040800035
16. **Lentjušenkova, O., & Lapina, I.** (2020). An integrated process-based approach to intellectual capital management. *Business Process Management Journal*, **WOS:**000527354700001
17. **Titko, J., Svirina, A., Skvarciany, V. Shina, I.** (2020). Values of young employees: Z-Generation perception. Business: Theory and Practice, 22(1), 10-17. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3846/btp.2020.11166> (būs WoS)
18. **Jermolajeva, J., Turusheva, L., Silchenkova, S.** (2020). Professional motives as a leading factor of last year university students' learning motivation. Proceedings of the 13th International Scientific Conference "RURAL ENVIRONMENT. EDUCATION. PERSONALITY (REEP, May 7 – 8, 2020)", Vol. 13, Jelgava: LLU, 70-75. DOI: 10.22616/REEP.2020.008. (will be in WoS)
19. **Jermolajeva, J., Silchenkova, S., Turusheva, L.** (2020). Last Year University Students' Prevailing Motives for Learning and the Ways to Increase Their Motivation. Proceedings of the 14th international conference "SOCIETY.INTEGRATION.EDUCATION" (SIE, May 22-23, 2020), Vol.1, Rezekne: Rezekne Academy of Technologies, 266-275. DOI: 10.17770/sie2020vol1.4863 (būs WoS)
20. **Jermolajeva, J., Bragina, N.** (2020). The Doll in the Paintings of the Late 19th – Early 20th Centuries: Hermeneutic Analysis. Proceedings of the 14th international conference "SOCIETY.INTEGRATION.EDUCATION" (May 22-23, 2020), Vol. V, Rezekne: Rezekne Academy of Technologies, 616-626. DOI: 10.17770/sie2020vol5.4859 (būs WoS)
21. **Vevere, V., & Brante, I.** (2020). Corporate social responsibility and corruption risks of enterprise board members. *Balkan Social Science Review*, 15(15), 219-235. (būs SCOPUS)
22. **Vevere, V., Shina, I., Brencis, A.** (2019). Engagement of Latvian Local Municipalities in Social Entrepreneurship: problems and opportunities. ICLEL 2019 5th International Conference on Lifelong Education and Leadership for ALL-ICLEL 2019. Sakarya University Faculty of Education: ICLEL publication: ICLEL Conferences, 342-352. (will be in WoS)
23. **Vevere, V., Lejniece, I., Linina, I.** (2019). Digital competence, general data protection regulation and university responsibility. Proceedings of 34th International Business

Information Management Association Conference. Vision 20205: Education Excellence and Management of Innovations through Sustainable Economic Competitive Advantage. Madrid: IBIMA, 7006-7012. (will be in WoS)

24. Linina, I., **Vevere, V.**, Zvirgzdina, R. (2019). Corporate Social Responsibility and Loyalty Formation Mechanisms in Retailing. Proceedings of 34th International Business Information Management Association Conference. Vision 20205: Education Excellence and Management of Innovations through Sustainable Economic Competitive Advantage. Madrid: IBIMA, 5333-5343. (will be in WoS)
25. Verina, N., **Titko, J.**, Shina, I. (2019). Digital Transformation in Higher Education: academic and administrative staff perception. Proceedings of the 34th International Business Information Management Association Conference (IBIMA), 13-14 November 2019, Madrid, Spain, IBIMA, Madrid, 6783-6792. (will be in WoS)

Other publications by EKA academic staff:

1. Gribanova, S., **Abeltina, A.**, & Ozols, J. (2019). Evaluation of factors that influence the motivation of it specialists in Latvia. In Proceedings of the International Scientific Conference, Volume VI, 156-168.
2. Gribanova, S., & **Abeltina, A.** (2019). Work motivation and labour productivity growth among it professionals in contemporary Latvia. In Proceedings of the conference "Economic Science for Rural Development", Jelgava, Latvia, 165-174.
3. Gribanova, S., & **Abeltina, A.** (2019). Shaping of the professional community in digital economy: a case study. In *International Scientific-Practical Conference "Business Cooperation as a Resource of Sustainable Economic Development and Investment Attraction"(ISPCBC 2019)*. Atlantis Press.
4. **Vevere, V.** (2019). Traces: Baltic Intellectuals in Northfield (USA). Aktuālas problēmas literatūras un kultūras pētniecībā. Rakstu krājums, Nr.24. Liepāja: LiepU, 259.-269.lpp. (EBSCO)
5. **Skvarciany, V.**, Germanaitė, L. (2019). Financial risk assessment: case of „Lietuvos Geležinkeliai“, AB // Open economics. Warsaw : De Gruyter. ISSN 2451-3458. eISSN 2451-3458. 2019, vol. 2, iss. 1, p. 19-29. DOI: 10.1515/openec-2019-0002
6. Kazimieraitytė, M., **Skvarciany, V.** (2019). Factors that determine shadow economy in Lithuania and Europe. *Economics and Management*, vol. 11, p. 1-7. DOI: 10.3846/mla.2019.9388.
7. Ilčiukaitė, V., **Skvarciany, V.** (2019). Assessment of Russian sanctions on economies of the Baltics countries. Proceedings of the 22nd Conference for Junior Researchers „Science – Future of Lithuania“ "Economics and management", 13 February, Vilnius, Lithuania. Vilnius : VGTU leidykla Technika. eISSN 2029-7149. 2019, p. 1-11.
8. Jakeliūnaitė, S., **Skvarciany, V.** (2019). Impact of direct foreign investment in the growth of the economy. Proceedings of the 22nd Conference for Junior Researchers „Science – Future of Lithuania“ "Economics and management", 13 February, Vilnius, Lithuania. Vilnius : VGTU leidykla Technika. eISSN 2029-7149. 2019, art. no. vvf.2019.042, p. 1-10.
9. Lukšaitė, K., **Skvarciany, V.** (2019). Study on factors having impact on foreign direct investment attraction. Proceedings of the 22nd Conference for Junior Researchers „Science – Future of Lithuania“ "Economics and Management", 13 February, Vilnius, Lithuania. Vilnius : VGTU leidykla Technika. eISSN 2029-7149. 2019, art. no. vvf.2019.050, p. 1-9.
10. Puluikytė, M., **Skvarciany, V.** (2019). Factors that determine rural tourism development in Lithuania. Proceedings of the 22nd Conference for Junior Researchers „Science – Future of Lithuania“ "Economics and Management", 13 February, Vilnius, Lithuania. Vilnius : VGTU leidykla Technika. eISSN 2029-7149. 2019, art. no. vvf.2019.048, p. 1-7.

11. Ulozaitė, E., **Skvarciany, V.** (2019). Evaluation of job loss factors. Proceedings of the 22nd Conference for Junior Researchers „Science – Future of Lithuania“ "Economics and management", 13 February, Vilnius, Lithuania. Vilnius : VGTU leidykla Technika. eISSN 2029-7149. 2019, art. no. vvf.2019.046, p. 1-7.
12. Samoškaitė, R., **Skvarciany, V.** (2019). Research on factors influencing emigration from Lithuania. Proceedings of the 22nd Conference for Junior Researchers „Science – Future of Lithuania“ "Economics and management", 13 February, Vilnius, Lithuania. Vilnius : VGTU leidykla Technika. eISSN 2029-7149. 2019, art. no. vvf.2019.049, p. 1-7.
13. Volkov, A., Morkūnas, M., **Skvarciany, V.** (2019). Is it possible to predict food retail prices? Evidence from Lithuanian market // International scientific conference Contemporary issues in business, management and economics engineering (CIBMEE 2019), 9-10 May 2019, Vilnius, Lithuania, Vilnius Gediminas Technical University. Vilnius : VGTU Press, 2019, art. no. cibmee.2019.018. ISBN 9786094761614. eISBN 9786094761621. eISSN 2538-8711. p. 181-187. DOI: 10.3846/cibmee.2019.018.
14. **Lentjusenкова, O., Zarina, V., Titko, J.** (2019). Intellectual Capital Perception among Latvian Financial Experts. Proceedings of the International Conference on Applied Economics "Contemporary issues in economy", Toruń, Poland, 27-28 June 2019, 112-117. DOI: <http://doi.org/10.24136/eep.proc.2019.4>
15. А. С. Берберян, Т. В. Богданова, С. В. Сильченкова, **Е. Б. Ермолаева**, Н. Т. Варданян (2019). Международное исследование профессиональной идентичности педагога. *Гуманитарий : актуальные проблемы гуманитарной науки и образования.* 19 (3), 306-319. ISSN 2078-9823 (Print), ISSN 2587-7879 (Online). DOI: 10.15507/2078-9823.047.019.201903.306-319.
16. С.В. Сильченкова, **Е.Б. Ермолаева** (2019). Управление профессиональными ролями учителей в условиях многозадачности их деятельности. *Актуальные проблемы теории и практики управления. Сборник научных статей IX Международной научной конференции 26 ноября 2019 года*, 304-307. Смоленск: СмолГУ. ISBN 978-5-907270-88-6.
17. Načiščionis, J., Tumulavičius, V., **Skraстіņa, U.**, Radzevičs, J., & Prakapienė, D. (2020). Issues of public security: legal consequences of determining unforeseeable extraordinary events. *Journal of Security & Sustainability Issues*, 9(3).
18. **Brante, I., & Lejniece, I.** (2019). Tax Liabilities of the Board Member in Latvia: Legal-Economic Aspects. *Economics and Culture*, 16(2), 93-105.
19. **Skraстіņa, U.** & Radzevičs, J. (2019). "Pasūtītāju savstarpēji iepirkuma līgumi". XX Starptautiskā zinātniskā konference "Cilvēkfaktors digitalizācijas laikmetā". Biznesa augstskola Turība konferenču rakstu krājums. 2019.gada 24.aprīlis. ISSN 1691-6069. 160-169.lpp.
20. **Skraстіņa, U.** & Radzevičs, J. (2019)." Pašvaldības domes priekšsēdētāja atbrīvošanas tiesiskie aspekti." XX Starptautiskā zinātniskā konference "Cilvēkfaktors digitalizācijas laikmetā". Biznesa augstskola Turība konferenču rakstu krājums. 2019.gada 24.aprīlis. ISSN 1691-6069. 170-180.lpp.
21. Abdykhalykova A., **Turuseva L.** et al. (2020). Multimedia Technologies in Teaching a Foreign Language.// International Scientific Proceedings "Rural Environment, Education, Personality (REEP)". <http://llufb.llu.lv/conference/REEP/2020/Latvia-Univ-Agricult-REEP-2020proceedings.pdf>
22. **Vēvere, V.** (2020). Ētika kā akustiska dzīvesmāksla. *Akadēmiskā dzīve*, 55, 94-98. <http://doi.org/10.22364/adz.55.12>
23. **Vēvere, V.** (2020). Dispassionate Eroticism in "Either/or" bu Kierkegaard and Tiger Lillies. *Aktuālas problēmas literatūras un kultūras pētniecībā*. Liepāja: LiePa, 362-371. <http://doi.org/10.37384/APLKP.2020.25.362>

24. **Vevere, V.** (2019). Feminist autothanatographies: Alice James and Simone de Beauvoir. *Proceedings of NORDSCI International Conference on Social Sciences*. Athens, 229-236. DOI: 10.32008/NORDSCI2019/B1.V2
25. Mons, A., **Vevere, V.** (2020). Behavioral economics perspective on assessment of recruitment and selection processes in Latvia. *Acta Prosperitatis*, 11, 128-139. DOI: 10.37804/1691-6077-2020-11-128-139
26. **Vevere, V.** (2019). Radical demand and spontaneity in K. E. Logstrup's phenomenological ethics: contradiction or grounds for human self-realization. *To let things be! Edmund Husserl 160, Martin Heidegger 130. Proceedings of International Interdisciplinary Conference*, Riga: University of Latvia, 59.

Monographs and textbooks:

1. Kristapsons, S., **Kantāne, I.** (2019). *Iedzīvotāju uzskaitē un sociāldemogrāfisko apsekojumu pieredze*. Autoru kolektīva monogrāfija: Tautas ataudze Latvijā un sabiedrības atjaunošanas izaicinājumi. Rīga: LU Akadēmiskais apgāds, 43.-55. lpp.
2. **Kantāne, I.** (2019). *Iztikas līdzekļu avoti un nodarbošanās*. Autoru kolektīva monogrāfija: Tautas ataudze Latvijā un sabiedrības atjaunošanas izaicinājumi. Rīga: LU Akadēmiskais apgāds, 109.-117. lpp.
3. Vārpiņa, Z., **Kantāne, I.** (2019). *Izglītība un darba tirgus*. Autoru kolektīva monogrāfija: Tautas ataudze Latvijā un sabiedrības atjaunošanas izaicinājumi. Rīga: LU Akadēmiskais apgāds, 109.-117. lpp.
4. Ausma Špona, Airisa Šteinberga, Māra Vidnere, Nikolajs Senčenkovs, **Jeļena Jermolajeva**, Tatjana Bogdanova, Svetlana Siļčenkova, Nikolajs Senčenkovs (2019). *SKOLOTĀJA PROFESIONĀLĀ IDENTITĀTE* (zinātniskā kolektīva monogrāfija). Rīga: RTU. DOI: 10.7250/9789934223877.
5. Tambovceva, T., **Titko, J.** (2020). *Introduction to Circular Economy*. Rīga: Ekonomikas un kultūras augstskola. ISBN 978-9984-24-231-6 / e-ISBN 978-9984-24-230-9
6. **Vevere, V., Svirina, A.** (2020). *Business ethics and Corporate Social Responsibility*. ISBN 978-9984-24-233-0 / e-ISBN 978-9984-24-232-3; UDK 658(07)

Each year EKA hosts International Scientific Conference “**Emerging trends in Economics, Culture and Humanities (etECH)**”. The 2020 conference was organized in a number of virtual sections involving representatives of all EKA study directions (full time staff and visiting academic staff).

Participants of the section “Emerging trends in Finance, Economics and Politics”:

- Ilona Lejniece, Jelena Titko. *FACTORS AFFECTING PROFITABILITY OF LATVIAN BANKS* Vita Zarina, Anna Abeltina. *ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TRENDS IN THE BALTIC STATES*
- Anna Svirina. *INTERRELATION OF POPULIST MOVEMENT IN POLITICS AND ECONOMIC CRISIS TENDENCIES*
- Viktorija Skvarciāny. *Assessment decent work and economic growth in G20 countries*

Participants of the section: “Emerging trends in business administration, marketing and entrepreneurship”:

- Natalja Verina. *NEW EMPLOYEE ONBOARDING PROCESS IMPLEMENTATION AND IMPROVEMENT IN LATVIA*

Participants of the section “Emerging trends in culture, creative industries and humanities”:

- *Jelena Jermolajeva, Natalia Bragina. THE DOLL IN THE PAINTINGS OF THE LATE 19TH – EARLY 20TH CENTURIES: HERMENEUTIC ANALYSIS*
- *Jelena Budanceva. THE CONTRIBUTION OF LOCAL ENTREPRENEURS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE IMAGE OF LATVIA*
- *Ance Gricmane. ART AS A TOOL FOR SELF DEVELOPMENT IN FOUR CASE STUDIES*
- *Ieva Andzane. IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON DIGITAL COMMUNICATION OF LATVIAN MUSEUMS*

Participants of the section “Emerging trends in international business relations and law”:

- *Ināra Brante, Ilona Lejniece. RELIABILITY AND REPUTATION OF THE BOARD MEMBER IN LATVIA*
- *Marina Kamenecka-Usova. WHAT IS SPORTS LAW?*
- *Karina Zalcmane. SPORT EVENT SAFETY AND SECURITY: FINANCIAL AND LEGAL ISSUES*

Participants of section "Emerging trends in ICT solutions for Business, Economy and Education":

- *Anna Svirina. SHAPING DIGITAL STARTUP DEVELOPMENT ON THE BASIS OF SOCIAL MEDIA PROMOTION STATISTICS*
- *Dmitrijs Finaskins. SECURE NEAR REAL-TIME DATA PROCESSING IN AWS CLOUD USING DOCKER CONTAINERS*

Participants of the section „Emerging trends in education and pedagogy”:

- *Edgars Cerkovskis. LATVIAN EDUCATION QUALITY INDEX*
- *Jelena Jermolajeva. LAST YEAR UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' MOTIVES FOR LEARNING AND THE WAYS TO INCREASE THEIR MOTIVATION*
- *Inga Sina. KEY FACTORS THAT MAKE FOREIGN STUDENTS CHOOSE LATVIAN HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS*
- *Velga Vevere. ETHICS AND CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR BUSINESS STUDENTS: DEVELOPING AN INSERT MODULE*
- *Ieva Bruksle, Vita Zarina, Anna Abeltina. CONFLICT RESOLUTION IN MULTICULTURAL STUDY ENVIRONMENT*
- *Oksana Lentjushenkova, Ilona Lejniece. FACTORS INFLUENCING HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT AT HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS*

In 2019/2020, EKA’s academic staff participated with their reports at several international scientific conferences:

1. Lentjushenkova, O., Titko, J. QMOD conference “Leadership and Strategies for Quality, Sustainability and Innovation in the 4th Industrial Revolution”, October 13-15, 2019, Krakow (Poland). Report: *Measuring of Intellectual Capital Investments in Higher Education: Case of Latvia*
2. Verina, N., Titko, J. 34th IBIMA Conference, November, 13-14, 2019, Madrid, Spain. Report: *Digital Transformation in Higher Education: academic and administrative staff perception*
3. Zalcmane, K. 25th IASL International Sports Law Congress, December 13-14, 2019, Atēnas Grieķija. Report: *Sports Criminology, crime prevention, research*

4. Zalcmane, K. Rīgas Stradiņa universitātes starptautiska zinātniski praktiska konference "Tiesiskās sistēmas aktuālās problēmas", 23.aprīlī, 2020. Rīga, Latvija. Report: *Eiropas Padomes Projekts ProS4 +: par vardarbību, nekārtībām un citām aizliegtām darbībām futbola spēlēs*
5. Kamenecka-Usova, M. 25th International Association of Sports Law's Sports Law Congress 'Professionalism in Sports Activities, International Sports Rules/Sports Law Code', Athens 2019, Greece. Report: *European Dimension of Sports*
6. Kamenecka-Usova, M. Rīgas Stradiņa universitātes starptautiska zinātniski praktiska konference "Tiesiskās sistēmas aktuālās problēmas", 23.aprīlī, 2020. Rīga, Latvija. Report: *ADR and mediation by the French National Olympic and Sports Committee*
7. Vēvere, V., Lejniece, I. 34th IBIMA Conference, November, 13-14, 2019, Madrid, Spain. Report: *Digital competence, general data protection regulation and university responsibility*
8. Jermolajeva, J. IX Международная научная конференция "Актуальные проблемы теории и практики управления" 26.11.2019, Смоленск: СмолГУ. Report: *Управление профессиональными ролями учителей в условиях многозадачности их деятельности*
9. Jermolajeva, J. 13th International Scientific Conference "RURAL ENVIRONMENT. EDUCATION. PERSONALITY (REEP)", May 7 – 8, 2020, Jelgava, LLU. Report: *Professional motives as a leading factor of last year university students' learning motivation*
10. Jermolajeva, J. 14th international conference "SOCIETY.INTEGRATION.EDUCATION" SIE, May 22-23, 2020, Rezekne, Rezekne Academy of Technologies. Report: *The Doll in the Paintings of the Late 19th – Early 20th Centuries: Hermeneutic Analysis*
11. Jermolajeva, J. 14th international conference "SOCIETY.INTEGRATION.EDUCATION" SIE, May 22-23, 2020, Rezekne, Rezekne Academy of Technologies. Report: *Last Year University Students' Prevailing Motives for Learning and the Ways to Increase Their Motivation*
12. Turuseva L. International Scientific Conference "Rural Environment, Education, Personality (REEP)", 2020, Jelgava, Latvija. Report: *Multimedia Technologies in Teaching a Foreign Language*
13. Barovskis I. XIII Zinātniskā konference Literatūra un reliģija. Tēvu grēki: literatūrā, mākslā un kultūrā 2019. gada 6. decembrī. Report: *"Tēvu grēka" koncepts Velgas Kriles dzejā un dramaturģijā*
14. Barovskis I. Zinātniska konference "Latviskā identitāte lokālajā kultūrtelpā: LU Latgales ekspedīcija 2019" 2019. gada 9. decembrī. Report: *Preiļu un Līvānu novada vizuālā ainava.*
15. Barovskis I. PERSPECTIVES OF BALTIC PHILOLOGY V Uwzięzenie w kulturze / Trapped in culture / Kultūras un valodas slazdos / Įkalinimas kultūroje ir kalboje 16–17.09.2019, POZNAŃ Ziņojums: *Slazdu un strupeļa motīvs latviešu pasākās*
16. Vēvere, V., Lejniece, I. 34th IBIMA Conference, November, 13-14, 2019, Madrid, Spain. Report: *Digital competence, general data protection regulation and university responsibility*
17. Vēvere, V. 34th IBIMA Conference, November, 13-14, 2019, Madrid, Spain. Report: *Corporate Social Responsibility and Loyalty Formation Mechanisms in Retailing*
18. Vēvere, V. NORDSCI conference on Social Sciences, 19.08.-23.08.2019, Athens (Greece). Report: *Feminist Autothanatographies: Alice James and Simone de Beauvoir*
19. Vēvere, V. International Interdisciplinary Conference "To let things be! Edmund Husserl 160, Martin Heidegger 130", The University of Latvia, 10-12 December, 2019. Report: *Radical demand and spontaneity in K. E. Logstrup's phenomenological ethics: contradiction or grounds for human self-realization*
20. Vēvere, V. LU 78.starptautiskā zinātniskā konference, Liepājas universitāte, 10.03.-11.03.2020. Report: *Martas Nusbaumas spēju teorija kā humānās eksistences priekšnosacījums*
21. Vēvere, V. XIII zinātniskā konference "Literatūra un reliģija" LU 2019.gada 6. decembrī. Report: *Īzaka klusēšana S. Kirkegora darbā "Bailes un trīsas*

22. Vēvere, V. International conference "Globalization and its socio-economic consequences", Žilina University (Slovakia), 8-9, October, 2019. Report: *Importance of professional ethics and corporate social responsibility within business education within context of globalization*
23. Vēvere, V. International conference "Globalization and its socio-economic consequences", Žilina University (Slovakia), 8-9, October, 2019. Report: *Applying behavioral economics in education: study of undergraduate practices of selecting higher education institutions*

3.4. Involvement of EKA students in research and creative activities

Every year, EKA hosts a Student Conference with students from all EKA study directions, students from Alberta College and other higher education institutions. This year, EKA students submitted 62 research abstracts, as well as 20 descriptions of creative and artistic works.

In addition, EKA students submitted 50 full text articles to the EKA/AK Student research paper collection.

The Latvian and English flow students of the Master's degree study programme "Business Administration" submitted 15 articles:

- *Santa Baranova*. INVESTĪCIJU INTELEKTUĀLĀ KAPITĀLĀ IETEKME UZ KURJERPASTA PAKALPOJUMA NOZARES UZŅĒMUMU DARBĪBU (IMPACT OF INTELLECTUAL CAPITAL INVESTMENTS ON THE ACTIVITIES OF FIRMS IN THE EXPRESS SERVICE SECTOR)
- *Dace Krumina*. IEGULDĪJUMU INTELEKTUĀLAJĀ KAPITĀLĀ IETEKME UZ LATVIJAS KREDĪTIESTĀŽU FINANŠU REZULTĀTIEM (IMPACT OF INTELLECTUAL CAPITAL INVESTMENTS ON FINANCIAL RESULTS OF LATVIAN CREDIT INSTITUTIONS)
- *Diāna Vasiljeva*. BIOĻĪŠKO PRODUKTU RAŽOTĀJU KONKURĒTSPĒJAS UZLABOŠANAS IESPĒJAS LATVIJĀ (OPPORTUNITIES TO IMPROVE THE COMPETITIVENESS OF ORGANIC PRODUCERS IN LATVIA)
- *Sintija Jurkevica*. INTELEKTUĀLĀ KAPITĀLA VADĪBU IETEKMĒJOŠIE FAKTORI REKLĀMAS NOZARĒ (FACTORS AFFECTING THE MANAGEMENT OF INTELLECTUAL CAPITAL IN THE ADVERTISING SECTOR)
- *Krista Benko*. INTELEKTUĀLĀ KAPITĀLA VADĪBAS PILNVEIDOŠANAS IESPĒJAS KOKAPSTRĀDES UZŅĒMUMOS (OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVING MANAGEMENT OF INTELLECTUAL CAPITAL IN WOODWORKING COMPANIES)
- *Dace Kvalberga*. DARBINIEKU MOTIVĀCIJAS SISTĒMAS IZSTRĀDE POLIGRĀFIJAS NOZARĒ (DEVELOPMENT OF EMPLOYEE MOTIVATION SYSTEM IN THE PRINTING INDUSTRY)
- Kishor Kumar Shankar. EMPLOYEES LOYALTY AS THE DETERMINING FACTOR OF IT INDUSTRY IN INDIA
- Nivin Tisson. FACTORS AFFECTING CUSTOMER SATISFACTION IN SUPER MARKET CHAINS IN IN KERALA REGION, INDIA
- Jeremiah O Agboola. FACTORS AFFECTING SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP GROWTH IN NIGERIA
- Akshay,Thottuvayil Jose. THE ROLE OF HR IN AUGMENT ORGANIZATIONAL INNOVATIONAL:MEDIATING COOPERATION BETWEEN R&D AND MARKET RESEARCH
- Josmy Jose. ONLINE EDUCATION MARKET IN INDIA AND INDIAN EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM:CASE STUDY IN INDIA

- Jakhangir Jienbaev. IMPROVING THE STAFF MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR CATERING COMPANIES IN UZBEKISTAN
- Aswathy Rajendran. COMPARATIVE STUDY OF CUSTOMER BEHAVIOUR TOWARDS FMCG PRODUCTS
- Zarina Kholikova. QUALITY ASSURANCE IN PURCHASE PROCESSES OF SMALL AND MEDIUM COMPANIES IN FURNITURE PRODUCTION SEGMENT IN LATVIA

The students of the Master's degree study programme "Cultural diplomacy and international management" submitted 8 articles:

- *Sintija Briķe*. MŪZIKA KĀ KULTŪRAS DIPLOMĀTIJAS INSTRUMENTS: KORA MŪZIKAS GADĪJUMS (MUSIC AS A TOOL FOR CULTURAL DIPLOMACY: CASE OF CHOIR MUSIC)
- *Edgars Jans Lorencs*. LATVIJAS VESELĪBAS TŪRISMA KLASTERA NOZĪME UZŅĒMUMU TĒĻA UN REPUTĀCIJAS VEICINĀŠANĀ (THE ROLE OF THE LATVIAN HEALTH TOURISM CLUSTER IN PROMOTING THE IMAGE AND REPUTATION OF COMPANIES)
- *Inese Plesņa*. PĀRROBEŽU SADARBĪBAS PROGRAMMU IETEKME UZ KULTŪRAS JOMAS ATTĪSTĪBU REĢIONOS (THE IMPACT OF CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION PROGRAMMES ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE CULTURAL SECTOR IN REGIONS)
- *Kristīne Tuča*. KULTŪRAS UN IZGLĪTĪBAS PROJEKTI JAUNIEŠU DIASPORAI KĀ INSTRUMENTS SAIKNES VEIDOŠANAI AR LATVIJU (CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS FOR DIASPORA YOUTH AS A TOOL FOR THEIR BOND WITH LATVIA)
- *Lita Aina Hēla*. BALTIJAS VALSTU KULTŪRPOLITIKAS IEVIEŠANAS STRATĒGIJAS (STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTING CULTURAL POLICY IN THE BALTIC STATES)
- *Rihards Eglītis*. STRATĒGIJA KĀ LATVIJAS SPORTA DEJU NOZARES ATTĪSTĪBAS INSTRUMENTS (STRATEGY AS A TOOL FOR DEVELOPING LATVIAN DANCE INDUSTRY)
- *Sandis Kalniņš*. KULTŪRPOLITIKAS STRATĒGIJAS NOZĪME KULTŪRAS PROCESU ATTĪSTĪBAI REĢIONOS (THE ROLE OF CULTURAL POLICY STRATEGY FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURAL PROCESSES IN REGIONS)
- *Kristīne Veinberga*. STARPTAUTISKĀS SADARBĪBAS IESPĒJU IZMANTOŠANA TŪRISMA UN VIESMĪLĪBAS MĀCĪBU PROGRAMMU ATTĪSTĪBAI (USE OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEVELOPING TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY TRAINING PROGRAMMES)

Students of the Bachelor's degree study programme "Accounting and audit" submitted 3 articles:

- *Sanita Gulbe*. VALSTS PARĀDS, TĀ DINAMIKAS ANALĪZE LATVIJĀ (GOVERNMENT DEBT, ANALYSIS OF ITS DYNAMICS IN LATVIA)
- *Signe Jāneliņa*. STARPTAUTISKI FINANSĒTO PROJEKTU GRĀMATVEDĪBAS ORGANIZĀCIJAS UN UZSKAITES KĀRTĪBA LATVIJAS PLĀNOŠANAS REĢIONOS (ACCOUNTING ORGANIZATION AND ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES FOR INTERNATIONALLY FUNDED PROJECTS IN THE LATVIAN PLANNING REGIONS)
- *Linda Vīgante, Maksims Silionovs, Stella Bula*. MAZUMTIRDZNIECĪBAS PA PASTU VAI INTERNETA VEIKALOS NOZARES UZŅĒMUMU ATTĪSTĪBAS IESPĒJAS LATVIJĀ (RETAIL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN LATVIA BY MAIL OR ONLINE SHOPS)

Students of the Bachelor's degree study programme "Business Economics" submitted 2 articles:

- *Krista Keita Simanoviča, Laura Leke-Vinvalde*. SABIEDRISKĀS ĒDINĀŠANAS NOZARES UZŅĒMUMU ATTĪSTĪBAS IESPĒJAS LATVIJĀ (DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR CATERING COMPANIES IN LATVIA)

- *Stanislavs Rumaks, Laura Strazdiņa.* ELEKTROPREČU TIRDZNIECĪBAS ATTĪSTĪBAS IESPĒJAS LATVIJĀ (DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR ELECTRICAL GOODS TRADE IN LATVIA)

Students of the Bachelor's degree study programme "Law" submitted 3 articles:

- *Sabīne Eberliņa.* TIESĪBAS MAINĪT VĀRDU UN UZVĀRDU (THE RIGHT TO CHANGE NAME AND SURNAME)
- *Valērija Cimoška.* NOZIEDZĪBA UN KRIMINOĢĒNAIS STĀVOKLIS OLAINES NOVADĀ (CRIME AND CRIMINOGENIC SITUATION IN THE DISTRICT OF OLAINĒ)
- *Agita Šimane.* MIRUŠA CILVĒKA ĶERMEŅA AIZSARDZĪBA (PROTECTION OF THE BODY OF A DEAD PERSON)

Students of the Bachelor's degree study programme "Cultural management" submitted 10 articles:

- *Kristiāna Šteinberga.* KĀ STRĀDĀT AR Z PAAUDZI (HOW TO WORK WITH GENERATION Z)
- *Imanta Prūse.* KĀ STRĀDĀT AR X PAAUDZI (HOW TO WORK WITH GENERATION X)
- *Linda Amanda Kalniņa.* PERSONĀLA ATLASES PROCESS LATVIJAS TEĀTROS (RECRUITMENT PROCESS IN LATVIAN THEATERS)
- *Dana Rusecka.* PERSONĀLA ADAPTĀCIJAS PROCESS DEJU NOZARĒ (STAFF ADAPTATION PROCESS IN THE DANCE SECTOR)
- *Ingebora Šperliņa.* VADĪŠANAS ĒTIKAS PROBLĒMAS UN TO RISINĀJUMA IESPĒJAS LATVIJAS RADOŠAJĀS SAVIENĪBĀS (PROBLEMS OF MANAGEMENT ETHICS AND POSSIBILITIES OF THEIR SOLUTION IN THE LATVIAN CREATIVE UNIONS)
- *Ilze Zirņīte, Lāsma Sondore, Agnese Besere.* NEPIĻNGADĪGIE INFLUENCERI LATVIJAS SOCIĀLAJOS TĪKLOS (MINORS AS INFLUENCERS IN LATVIA'S SOCIAL NETWORKS)
- *Samanta Tiliba, Samanta Daniela Hmeļņika, Paula Kristiāna Aparjode, Haralds Bogdanovs.* ATTIEKSME PRET DRAG QUEEN SUBKULTŪRU DAŽĀDĀS VECUMA GRUPĀS (TREATMENT OF DRAG QUEEN SUBCULTURE IN DIFFERENT AGE GROUPS)
- *Elizabete Caune, Alta Ābola.* NOZIEGUMU SERIĀLI UN TO IETEKME UZ SKATĪTĀJU (SERIES OF CRIMES AND THEIR IMPACT ON THE VIEWER)
- *Natālija Melne, Adrija Lija Stepīņa, Veronika Kurilova, Kristiāna Riežniece.* VIENDZIMUMA LAULĪBAS LATVIJĀ (SAME-SEX MARRIAGES IN LATVIA)
- *Zane Uzuliņa.* DARBINIEKU MOTIVĒŠANA EKONOMIKAS MINISTRIJĀ (MOTIVATION OF EMPLOYEES IN THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMICS)

The Latvian and English flow students of the bachelor's study programme "Management" submitted 9 articles:

- *Eduards Heinsbergs.* AZARTSPĒĻU UN IZLOŽU NODOKĻU IEŅĒMUMU SADALĪJUMA ANALĪZE (ANALYSIS OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF GAMBLING AND LOTTERY TAX REVENUE)
- *Elīna Švarca, Eduards Heinsbergs.* INFORMĀCIJAS UN KOMUNIKĀCIJAS TEHNOĻOĢIJU NOZARES UZŅĒMUMA ATTĪSTĪBAS IESPĒJAS LATVIJĀ (INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY COMPANY DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN LATVIA)
- *Linda Kalace, Kristīne Berezņeviča.* SABIEDRISKĀS ĒDINĀŠANAS NOZARES UZŅĒMUMU ATTĪSTĪBAS IESPĒJAS LATVIJĀ (DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR CATERING COMPANIES IN LATVIA)
- *Abidjanov Janobidin.* TRUCK LOGISTICS DEVELOPMENT POSSIBILITIES BETWEEN EUROPE AND ASIA

- *Tokhir Urazov*. NEW RESTAURANT BUSINESS'S DEVELOPMENT POSSIBILITIES IN UZBEKISTAN
- *Nursaidov Sirojiddin*. THE POSSIBILITIES OF OPENING GUESTHOUSES IN UZBEKISTAN
- *Erkaiym Omurbekova*. FACTORS AFFECTING CONSUMERS' CHOICE IN THE MOBILE GAMES MARKET IN LATVIA
- *Амур Тураев*. ФАКТОРЫ, ВЛИЯЮЩИЕ НА ВЫБОР ПОТРЕБИТЕЛЕЙ НА РЫНКЕ ОДЕЖДЫ В УЗБЕКИСТАНЕ.
- *Viktoryia Sedova*. OPPORTUNITY TO INCREASE CUSTOMER SATISFACTION IN COMMERCIAL BANKS IN BELARUS

4. PRIORITY "INFRASTRUCTURE"

The operational target is defined within this priority: *To provide an infrastructure facility (specialized room) for each study direction and improve the material – technical provision for performing research or creative activities.*

For the academic year 2019/2020, the list of new infrastructure facilities and material technical base provided at the EKA University of Applied Sciences and the facilities previously provided is set out in Table 8.

Table 8. EKA Infrastructure facilities and material-technical base elements

Study direction	Name of the facility	Description of the facility
Economics	Logistics room	<u>For the use of the study programme "International Trade and Logistics"</u> It is equipped with powerful computers and software, which allow mastering fully the study course "Logistics information systems", visual aids for marking of dangerous goods, types of cargo containers, as well as geography maps. The room also offers brochures and journals on transport logistics in English, which can be used not only for logistics but also for learning a foreign professional language.
	Virtual room for economics	<u>For the use of the study programme "Business economics"</u> The virtual room for economics is an online learning tool created in virtual reality and provides the viewer with information about the essence of economics. The interior of the room is designed in a neo-classical style and resembles the Harvard training space. The room offers information on the main economic issues, systems, demand, supply, consumer behaviour in the market and the role of the state in economy. The information is divided into 6 different virtual objects. Mobility between objects is ensured by specially established platforms. The room is supported by an online video from the Bank of Latvia archive.
Management	The Black room	<u>For the use of study programmes "Event management" and "Cultural management"</u> In EKA, the Black room was established to open up opportunities to practice public performances, acting and perform various

Annual Report of the EKA University of Applied Sciences on Scientific Activity
2019/2020

		creative activities on an improvised stage. The room provides multimedia facilities (sound, light, projector), and can be transformed for different purposes.
	Business Simulation Software	<u>For the use of the study programmes “Business administration” and “Management”</u> One of the EKA computer classrooms provides access to the Business Simulation Software (BSS) developed under the SPIDE project. BSS enables students to acquire important knowledge in business management theory and practice through business simulation games.
Law	Court Hall	<u>For the use of the study programme “Law”</u> A training court room has been set up at EKA premises to enable prospective lawyers to train their skills in the profession and roleplay court proceedings in the role of a lawyer, a prosecutor or a judge. The layout and furniture of the court hall correspond fully to a real court hall, and it even has a barred space for the accused. The room is also used daily for classes for law students, as well as for conferences and meetings. At present, the Court Hall of EKA is among the most modern court halls in higher education institutions in Latvia.
Translation	Simultaneous interpreting room	<u>For the use of the study programme “Translation and interpreting”</u> One of the EKA's classrooms is used for the acquisition of translation technologies. In addition, EKA has a room with simultaneous interpreting equipment. It is possible to provide simultaneous interpretation for 12 people in 2 languages.
Arts	digLAB	<u>For the use of study programmes “Computer game design and graphics”, “Information technologies” and “Interior design”</u> A computer game development and testing laboratory (digLAB) has been established at EKA premises. It is equipped with Mac and Windows computers and software for the development and testing of games. iOS and Android tablets and smartphones for game testing on various mobile devices have been installed in the laboratory. Oculus Rift is also available for the development and testing of games and applications for virtual reality needs. The room is also equipped with a flat-screen TV, a sound system and a board. The laboratory is designed as a computer game development studio, providing work stations for 5 persons.
	Design rooms	<u>For the use of the study programme “Interior design”</u> There are 2 specialized rooms for designer training purposes at the premises of EKA. They are equipped with a projector, a board, and work desks. In these rooms, interior designers learn practically how to make models, design, develop tasks in composition. The premises have all the necessary materials for successful projects. There is also a room for drawing and painting at EKA, which is a spacious room with six places for settings and gypsum. The room

Annual Report of the EKA University of Applied Sciences on Scientific Activity
2019/2020

		has easels for drawing and painting, it is well lit, and the settings are additionally illuminated by local lights. The drawing room can provide space for several groups working at the same time.
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