

Organizers

Warsaw Agricultural University (SGGW)

Warsaw Agricultural University (SGGW) is the oldest agricultural academic school in Poland and one of the first in the world. Its history dates back to 1816 when the Institute of Agronomy in Marymont was created. Nowadays, the University consists of 11 faculties and 6 interfaculty units and hosts about 11,000 full time students. Students can choose from 23 disciplines.



The research work covers the entire field of agricultural related sciences among the others: agriculture, veterinary medicine, forestry, economics, food technology, human nutrition as well as the environmental protection and engineering. On the whole, there have been 1395 research projects carried out recently at SGGW.

Throughout about 190 years of its history, Warsaw Agricultural University has always been an active participant in Polish scientific, economic and socio-political life. The main part of academic life concentrates in the Ursynów district about 20 minutes by bus from downtown.

There are over 24000 students including post-graduate and doctoral studies and around 1100 academic staff.

The student's scientific and cultural life is vested in student self-government, 23 scientific students' organizations, Academic Sport Association of SGGW, Academic Tourist Club, Student Mountain Climbing Club. There is an Academic Choir and Artistic Folklore Group "Promni" which represent Polish culture all over the world and grace the most important academic ceremonies. There is also the Buddy group, consisting of the Polish ex-Socrates students who help the incoming students in daily life in a foreign country.

At the end of 2005 SGGW became an observer member of Euroleague of Life Science (ELLS) a network of leading universities cooperating in the fields of Natural Resource Management, Agricultural and Forestry Sciences, Life Sciences, Veterinary Sciences, Food Sciences, and Environmental Sciences. Presently the ELLS network includes the following founder members:

- The Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University (KVL), Copenhagen, Denmark
- University of Hohenheim (UHOH), Stuttgart, Germany
- Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), Uppsala, Sweden

ENOAS Summer Meeting VI

- University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences (BOKU), Vienna, Austria
- Wageningen University and Research Centre (WUR), Wageningen, The Netherlands
- Czech University of Agriculture Prague, Czechia (CUA) as observer member
- Warsaw Agricultural University (SGGW) as observer member

Contacts:

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Vice-rectors for Science: Prof. dr hab. Katarzyna Niemirowicz-Szczytt

Vice-rectors for Didactics: Prof. dr hab. Krystyna Gutkowska

Vice-rectors for Development: Prof. dr hab. Alojzy Szymański

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<http://www.sggw.waw.pl>

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<http://www.sggw.waw.pl/cpe/index-e.html>

Faculty of Human Nutrition and Consumer Sciences

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02-776 Warszawa

(+48 22) 593 70 10

zcz_dziekan@sggw.waw.pl

www.sggw.waw.pl/jednostki/wydzialy/zcz/index.html

Academic personnel: 81; Student enrollment: 1716

Major: Food Technology and Human Nutrition



Units

Department of Human Nutrition

Department of Dietetics

Department of Functional Food and Commodity Science

Department of Engineering and Catering Technology

Branch Teaching Center in Lubiejewo
ul. Klonowa 4, Lubiejewo
07-300 Ostrów Mazowiecka
(+48 29) 746 22 01

Main Research Areas

- Environmental and socio-economic factors in food intake and nutritional status of different population groups,
- Preventive nutrition and diet therapy of chronic diseases and metabolic disorders,
- The designing of composition and nutritive value of food for special nutritional use (functional food, dietetic food) and convenience food,
- New techniques and technologies for improving quality and safety of food processing and catering,
- Functioning of the food chain in market economy in Poland, including consumer behaviour,
- The level and structure of consumption in different type of households.

International Collaboration

- Bonn University, Germany,
- CC Food Research Association, Great Britain,
- INRA, France,
- The Royal Veterinary and Agriculture University, Denmark,
- University of Wageningen, The Netherlands.

The Faculty of Agriculture and Biology

ul. Nowoursynowska 159
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(+48 22) 593 25 10
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www.agrobiol.sggw.waw.pl

Academic personnel: 92, Student
enrollment: 2231
Majors: Agriculture, Biology



Units

- Department of Agronomy
- Department of Biochemistry
- Department of Botany

ENOAS Summer Meeting VI

- Department of Plant Physiology
- Department of Soil Environment
- Department of Biometrics

The faculty also has three teaching branches at Leśna Podlaska, Łowicz and Widzew.

Main Research Areas

- Agronomy – improvement of plant productivity in various agricultural systems, including end-use quality and environmental safety,
- Biology – biological improvement in plant productivity, including photosynthesis and plant productivity, anatomical and ultrastructural interactions between plants and other organisms of symbiotic and pathogenic nature, biochemical mechanisms of plant resistance to sprouting and water stress,
- Ecology and Environmental Protection – biodiversity of natural and agricultural ecosystems, anthropogenic effects on soil properties, soil protection and reclamation.

International Collaboration

- Ain Shams University, Egypt,
- Ball State University, Muncie, USA,
- Pierre and Marie Curie University, Paris, France,
- State Agroecological Academy in Zhytomyr, Ukraine,
- Agricultural University in Prague, Czech Republic,
- Agricultural University in Nitra, Republic of Slovakia.

Experiment Station

The Faculty of Agriculture and Biology manages an Experiment Station in Skierniewice, about 70 km south of Warszawa. Multiyear experiments on plant mineral nutrition have been run continuously in Skierniewice since 1922, on the area of 60 ha. They are in the 8th position in Europe in the category of soil experiments run continuously for over 75 years. At present, organic experimental farm is in the process of organization.

Address:

ul. Sobieskiego 10
96-100 Skierniewice
(+48 46) 833 33 11

Education in organic farming at SGGW

Specialization in BSc offered by Faculty of Agriculture and Biology:
Organic Farming
3 semesters, starts in autumn semester (as 5th - 7th semester)

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Responsible person: PhD Katarzyna Kucińska

Curriculum:

Semester	Module	Hours			ECTS
		Lectures	Classes	Total	
5	Introduction into organic agriculture	30	-	30	3
5	Biological methods of plant protection	15	30	45	3,5
5	Microorganisms, soil mesofauna and macrofauna in organic agriculture	30	-	30	3
6	Organic plant production	28	28	56	4,5
6	Organic animal breeding	28	28	56	4,5
7	On farm tourism	30	-	30	3
7	Organic products in human nutrition	15	30	45	3,5
7	Organic production of vegetables and fruits	30	30	60	5
5 - 7	Total				30

The specialization „Agroecology” at the MSc level is planned to start from 2008 (with some possibility to conduct lectures in English).

There are also courses related to organic farming at faculties:

- Organic food
- Ecological methods of food production
- Environment, food, health
- Ecological aspects of food and nutrition
- Ecological production of horticulture crops

Scientific Association of Agriculture Students - yesterday and today

Anna Popławska

The history of Scientific Association of Agriculture Students is very strictly related to the whole image of Warsaw Agricultural University. The activity of this students' organization was widely spread on many branches of university area. For some period of time it has possessed its own Scientific Department, till 1918 when the activity of Scientific Association of Agriculture Students was interrupted because of national issue. After First World War the cooperation was revived. Many actions hold by this organization have not limited only to popularization of matters of agriculture but also they have entered into social and local activity sphere. Sections which then acted were connected to scientific, publishing area and touched organizational question of practices and excursions. Worth mentioning is at that time function of inward library.

ENOAS Summer Meeting VI

The situation after Second World War was not so favourable for association activity on account of introduction so called "iron study discipline". The presence on lectures was then also compulsory. In fifties the protector of Scientific Association of Agriculture Students prof. Listowski has participated in organization development with great success. 1952 is the year of creation of regulation and new forms of activity in new social-political conditions which influenced all structure of the organization. Sixties were years of extended prosperity. Many scientific projects were realized owing to cooperation with local authority. Numerous trainees and courses took place during all year time. The number of researches considerably increased and their results were reported during country and foreign scientific conferences. Prof. Kołpak who took over the control of development direction in 1982 widened the sphere of association activity by taking participation in agricultural publication. Scientific researches mainly this conducted on the area of coal-mine in Bełchatów revealed interesting, unexpected results. Next to five earlier sections: soil-knowledge, agrarian chemistry, general and particular plant and land cultivation, meadows-science and plant physiology are formed new ones: crop physiology, herbology and microcomputer section.

After some breaks in activity Scientific Association of Agriculture Students proceeds under direction of dr Katarzyna Kucińska. New experiences gained by participation in seminars, scientific discussions and research meetings are enriched by excursions to industrial plants, scientific-research institutes or farms. The successful participation of members in conferences, summer courses, foreign departures (concerned also nowadays a very top subject – organic farming) and important events influences the development and popularization agricultural knowledge what makes the main aim of activity of Scientific Association of Agriculture Students.

<http://www.knr.agrobiol.sggw.waw.pl>

Source: "Historia KNR" – T. Szczygielski, R. Kołpak

Scientific Association of Nutrition and Dietetics Students

Urszula Borowa

Scientific Association of Nutrition and Dietetics Students was established in 2001 as a part of Human Nutrition and Consumer Science Faculty of Warsaw Agriculture University. There are about 15 students which are working as volunteers. Our main aim is education and research. We organise seminars about health, food and nutrition for student of other faculties, nutritional workshops for children and study trips (we were researching diets of tourists in the



mountains and regional food). Moreover our organisation publish students magazine "Food - Nutrition - Life" in which students writes about food, nutrition and present events on University. A few projects which were begining in Scientific Association of Nutrition and Dietetics Students finished as a master's degree. Scientific Association of Nutrition and Dietetics Students is still developing, we have got experience and knowledge and we are open for contacts with European organizations to cooperate in the field of education and research.

http://www.sggw.waw.pl/~zcz_knzd

ENOAS - European Network of Organic Agriculture Students - past, present and future.

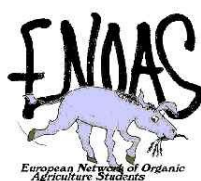
Lena Wietheger

What is ENOAS

ENOAS stands for European Network of Organic Agriculture Students. It is a network created by students for students. Its aim is a twofold one. Firstly, it wants to enable students from different European countries studying organic agriculture or having an interest in it, to get in contact. Secondly, it wants to promote organic agriculture. These two aims can be considered as intermingled in the best case scenario as one might assume that some of the ENOAS members might find their working places in the organic scene after their studies. Thus a good understanding of the agriculture situation in other European countries and the contacts established might be a good help to make organic grow.

History of ENOAS

ENOAS is the successor of the Nordic Student meetings. These meetings had been held in the Scandinavian, later on also the Baltic countries, for already 12 years once in a year. The idea was to meet in one of the Nordic/Baltic countries for about one week and to explore the respective country's organic agricultural situation. Also these meetings were organised by students. To widen their cycle, the Nordic/Baltic students decided to send out an invitation for their next meeting to all European agricultural universities. Thus in summer 2002 25 students from 11 countries came for the summer meeting in Finland that was organised by the Eco University's Eco Studies project at the University of Helsinki, Mikkeli Institute for Rural Research and Training and the student organization Elävä Maa. The overall theme of the week was the connection between organic farming and rural development but there was also one group of students busy to think about in what form future student meetings could be enabled. Finally in a plenary session it became obvious that



ENOAS Summer Meeting VI

enthusiasm for future meetings and contacts was so big that a board was formed that felt responsible for helping a future host country in organising another meeting. The country chosen for the next meeting was Germany as this is a central country in Europe and thus relatively easily reachable from all parts of Europe and because of Germany's role and importance in the development of organic agriculture.

A big debate went on about the name of our future network. ENOAS was agreed upon as this combines all the aspects that we considered as being important: A network spanning Europe, from and for students of organic agriculture.

Besides the big annual summer meeting – that we chose to name ESM, European Summer Meeting, we aimed at a variety of other ways and means to stay in contact. The easiest way was of course direct contact, but where this was impossible due to distance, internet could help via an internet platform. A newsletter compiled of contributions from all over Europe should be sent out by mail once a month. On an ENOAS website information could be provided for everybody's use. Possible could be everything dealing with organic farming, for example information about studying abroad, possibilities for internships or practical farm work, interesting theses, jobs or literature.

ENOAS meetings so far

In summer 2003 ENOAS summer meeting took place in Germany. It was organised by a group of three students of the specialisation of organic agriculture of the University of Kassel-Witzenhausen. The theme was 'Agricultural Transformation'.

In summer 2004 ENOAS took place in Italy with and around the University of Ancona with the topic of 'Food quality in Italian Organic Production'.

In summer 2005 the meeting took place in Poland. Host University was the Warsaw Agricultural University and the theme was 'Organic farming in Poland as example of organic farming in CEE countries – from farm to plate'.

That's how far we have come. The continuation of ENOAS shows its importance. It is due to the voluntary efforts, ideas and energies that students throughout the years have invested that ENOAS has grown. The strong interest of four participating countries in organising next year's meeting shows that the efforts it takes cannot stop us from becoming active. That is because ENOAS is fun and we want to make organic the future!

ENOAS steering group

Currently there is a steering group of six (former) students who work on the general topics related to ENOAS. Questions covered are the registration of ENOAS as an organisation, sponsorship, the compilation of a helping booklet when preparing an ESM, the website and others.

Since 2003 the steering group members are Andrzej Szeremata (Poland), Krzysztof Lawecki (Poland), Luc Steinbuch (Netherlands), Steve Lowman (UK), Mervyn Tucker (UK) and Lena Wietheger (Germany).

Get connected: website and newsletter

The optimal publication rate of the ENOAS newsletter would be every second months. Still, it depends on the amount of contributions of all ENOAS members to fill the newsletter. Everything that is worthwhile sharing can be included!

The same goes for the ENOAS website (www.enoas.org). Even though the structure and design has been created, there is always space for updated information!

Luc Steinbuch (lst@dds.nl) is the contact person for both newsletter and website.

Anecdote: Symbol of ENOAS

In case you have been wondering about the symbol of ENOAS- the donkey kicking his leg: When we were discussing all 5000 terms that were tremendously important to be included in our future network's name and we had finally come up with ENOAS, there was one opposition of the only native English speaker among us: Pronounced in an English way, ENOAS would sound like 'in your ass'. Well, we do not want to express aggression but the name ENOAS remains. The donkey has been designed later on by a Finish ENOAS member and as you can convince yourself, it is not going to seriously harm anybody, it's just affirming with his kick that he is fed up with conventional farming and on his way into the organic future.

<http://www.enoas.org>

Avalon Foundation

Avalon is an international, non-profit foundation that supports sustainable rural development based on organic agriculture in Central and Eastern Europe (the CEE region). In co-operation with local organisations, governments, universities and associated specialists Avalon has activated a wide range of projects in this field.

Over the years Avalon's activities resulted in the establishment of a vast network of actors in the field of organic agriculture and sustainable rural development in Central and Eastern European (CEE) and Western European countries. Strengthening this network is a big challenge for Avalon in the coming years.

Avalon's activities focus on the introduction of sustainable rural development programmes and agri-environmental policy programmes. In the programmes knowledge, capacity building



ENOAS Summer Meeting VI

and market- and chain development play an important role. Activities include seminars, training of trainers, demonstration farms, capacity building and marketing. Our aim is to create synergy between all actors, local, national and international.

The Avalon Network

In February 2004 EU DG- Environment approved the Network funding proposal for 2004 that enables Avalon to start the formal implementation of the Network Project. We are still looking for additional funding that will enable us to realise all the Network goals and to reduce dependency on one single donor. Because of the delayed payment of the first instalment from Brussels, we have only the period June-December 2004 for the realization of the planned activities.

The Network implies co-operation, co-responsibility and input from all participating organisations though initially Avalon is the responsible leading partner to the funding agencies. The Network is meant to be a conglomerate of conscientious organisations (NGO's, government institutions, research institutes and businesses) and individuals that motivate and stimulate each other thus creating synergy.

A first Network bulletin (July) informed (future) partners on the state of affairs of the project and invited them to join Avalon in building and strengthening the Network. The structure, name, criteria for participation and more organisational issues will be on the agenda of the first Network meeting end of this year. Attached to the Avalon Website an Network-extranet will be set up to cover the needs of the Network to exchange information and knowledge between the network partners.

Network aim, priorities and activities

The overall aim of the project is to build and strengthen institutional capacity for organic/sustainable agriculture and agri-environment policy development in the countries of the CEE region with the wider aim of promoting sustainable rural development. Through the Network, we want to explore and work on the cutting edge of agriculture and nature.

In coordination with a number of participating organisations, we derived four priorities from the project proposal's goal, these priorities form the basis for the identification of tangible project activities:

- To build and strengthen the Network organisation as a solid basis for the sustainable rural development movement in the CEE region,
- Strengthening the capacity of network partners through technical and consultancy oriented programmes, building knowledge and skills through an enhanced exchange of information, co-operation between network partners, and creating a platform that links organic farming, rural development and nature conservation,

ENOAS Summer Meeting IV - Organizers

- The preparation and realisation of projects on the cutting edge of nature conservation and sustainable agriculture,
- To influence policy development with regard to organic farming, rural development and nature conservation.

In the work plan the following activities were defined:

- Attending international events on sustainable rural development, organic agriculture, agri-environment, bio-diversity and related themes,
- Network meeting with (potential) partners to share information, discuss topical issues and plan activities,
- Communication and exchange of information,
- Bilateral and multilateral meetings and exchange visits between network partners,
- Development and presentation to funding agencies of project proposals,
- Joint international lobbying activities of Avalon and selected network partners,
- (Co-) organising of international meetings and conferences.

Cited from: www.avalon.nl