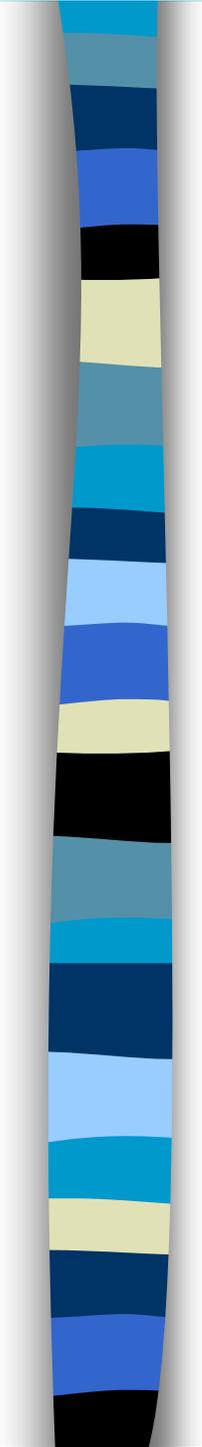




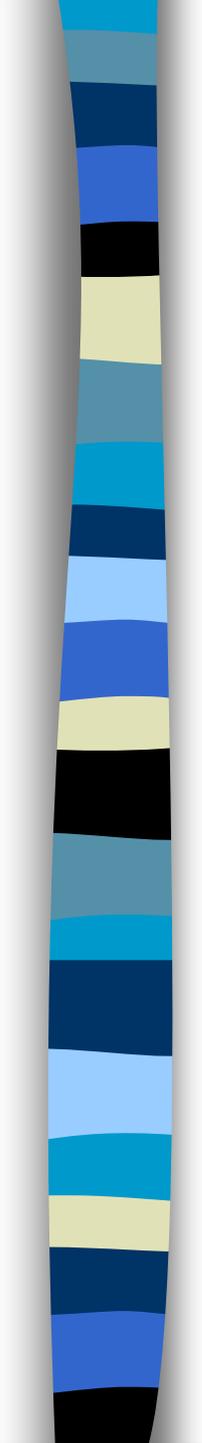
IMPACT OF THE BOLOGNA PROCESS ON THE DESIGN OF SPs IN SLOVAKIA

- *Slovak University of Technology
in Bratislava*
- *Faculty of Civil Engineering*
 - *Eva Jankovichová*
 - *Italy, Roma, November 2013*



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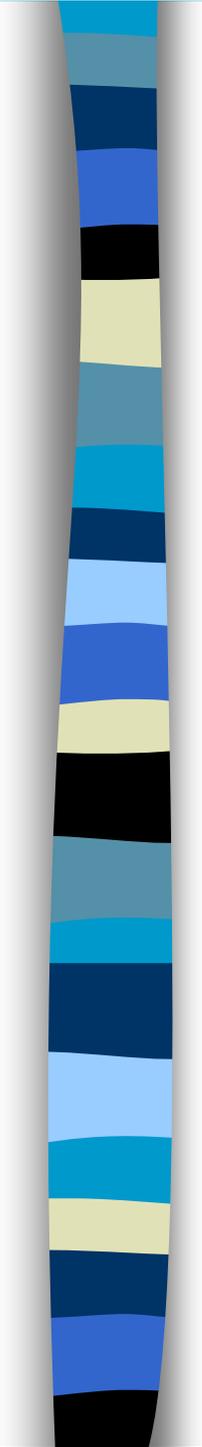
- Slovak Higher Education System
- Three Cycle System
- European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System
- Weaknesses for Design of SPs
- Opportunities or Threats for Design of SPs
- Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava



Slovak Higher Education System

- *According to **Act No. 131/2002 Coll.**, on Higher Education*
and on Change and Supplement to Some Laws
- *implements all components of the **Bologna Declaration***
 - *three levels that implement the credit system for assessment*
- *is provided through the **accredited study programmes***

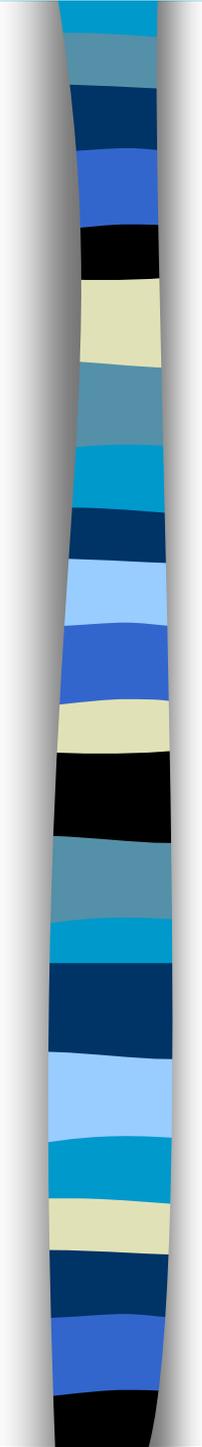
Source [1]: http://www.astu.tuke.sk/dokumenty/L_131.pdf



Slovak Higher Education System

*The Ministry of Education in cooperation with the Higher Education Institutions defined the **list of the fields of study** for higher education; **the accredited study programme** may be carried out exclusively in the field of study which has been included in the list of the fields of study.*

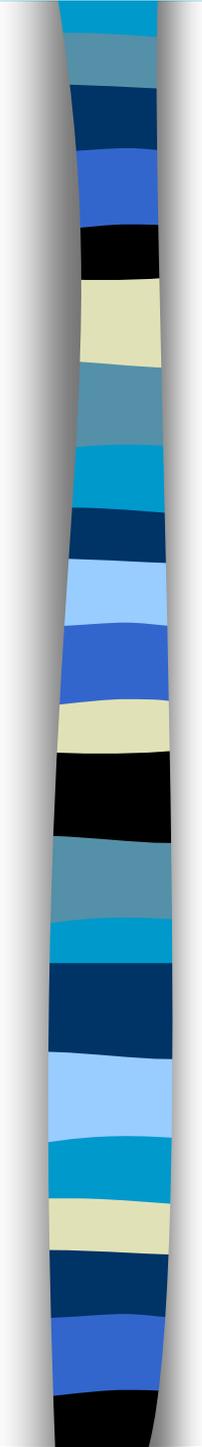
Source [2]: <http://www.minedu.sk/index.php?lang=en&rootId=25>



Slovak Higher Education System

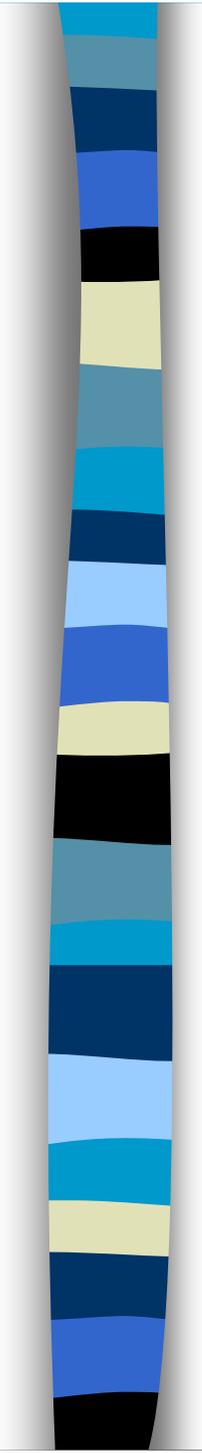
Study program may be carried out

- *only **in the field of study** which has been included in the System of the fields of study of higher education defined and administered at national level,*
- *in combination of two fields of study.*



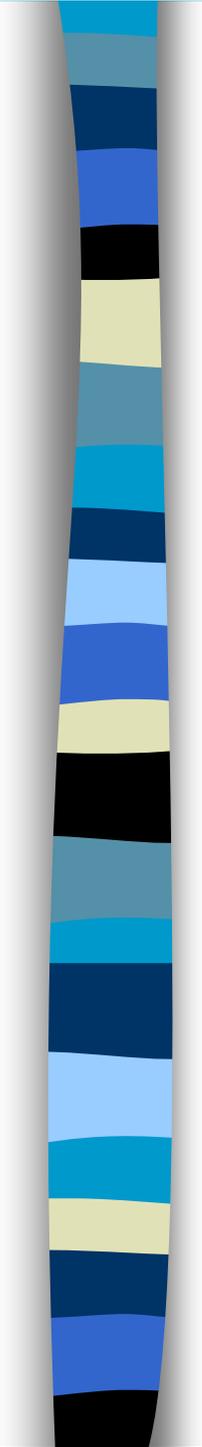
Slovak Higher Education System

- *The Act of Higher Education sets **all formal rules** and **general framework** for changing structure of all study programmes at all HEIs in Slovakia and is compulsory for all HEIs.*
- ***A formal framework was established** and now the content depended on each HEI.*
- *New SPs should be suitable for **universities, labour market and students.***



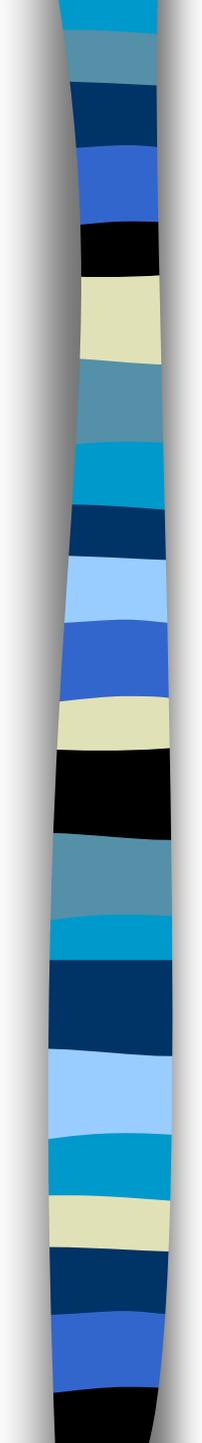
Three Cycle System

- *The three cycle system is seen as a major tool to address the fragmentation of programmes and degrees among the participating countries and to make them more understandable, visible and attractive within Europe and beyond at worldwide level.*



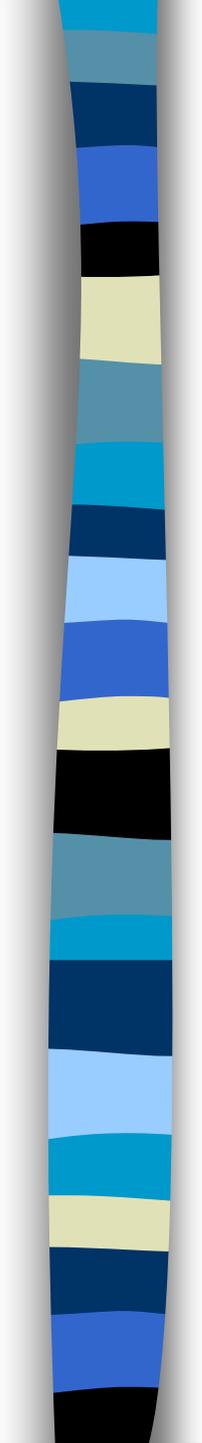
Three Cycle System

- *Easily readable programmes and degrees are indeed a major step towards increasing mobility of students and graduates, more structured and integrated university cooperation leading to joint, double and multiple degrees and enhanced university – business cooperation in an international context.*



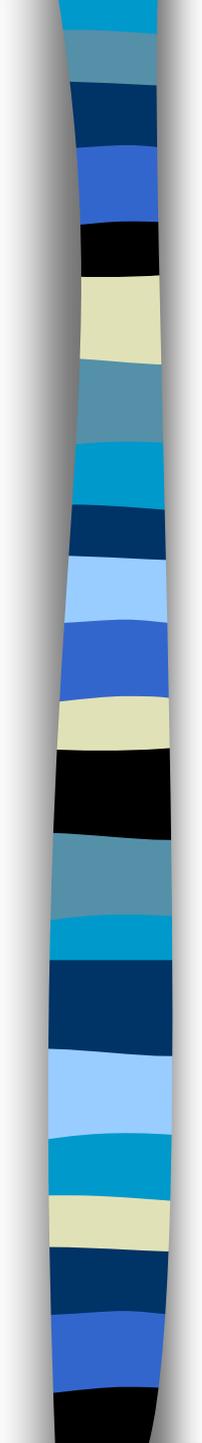
European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System

- *European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS) is a tool which enables students to collect credits for learning achieved through higher education. It aims to **increase transparency of learning outcomes** and learning processes and facilitates the recognition of studies.*



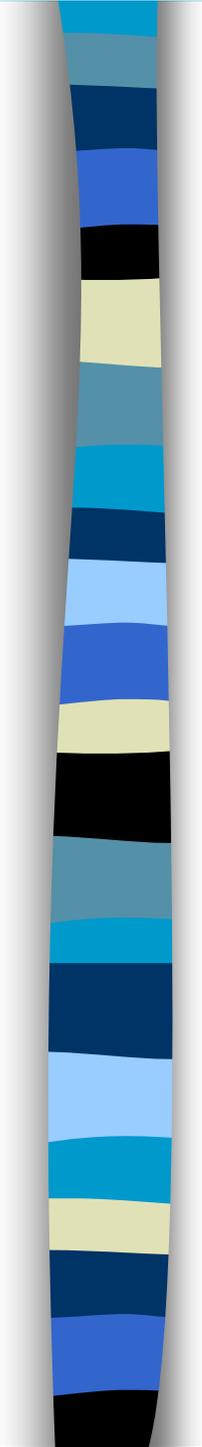
European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System

- *In practice, 60 ECTS credits are attached to the workload of a full-time year of formal learning (academic year) and the associated learning outcomes.*
- *ECTS can make teaching and learning more transparent and facilitates the recognition of studies, whether formal, non-formal or informal. It also **serves curriculum design and quality assurance**, by facilitating the comparison of programmes and structures.*



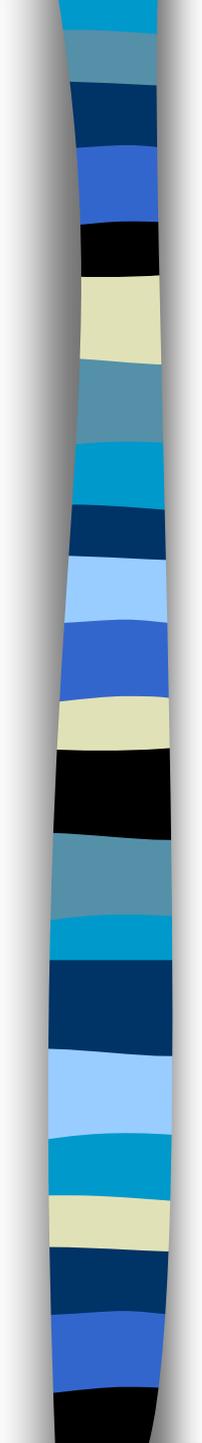
Weaknesses for Design of SPs

- *The first phase - the existing number of lessons were changing to credits. The students' workload was not considered. The amount of ECTS credits per course reflected the professors' workload. That means more hours of lectures – more ECTS.*
- *The existing programmes were only relabeled.*
- *Some distrust was expressed over the academic contents and adequacy to labor market needs of the competencies transmitted in a shorter three-year program.*



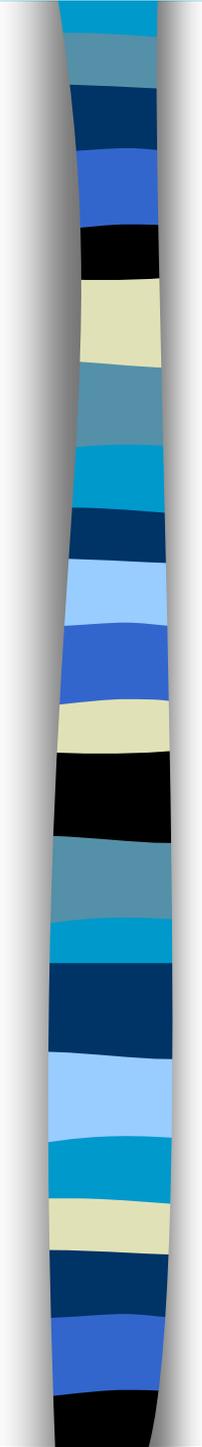
Weaknesses for Design of SPs

- *Because the content of existing programme was not changed, they were only divided to two parts. Study programmes and ECTS were not built to achieve a new learning outcome with small amount (almost no) of voluntary subjects and available teachers.*



Weaknesses for Design of SPs

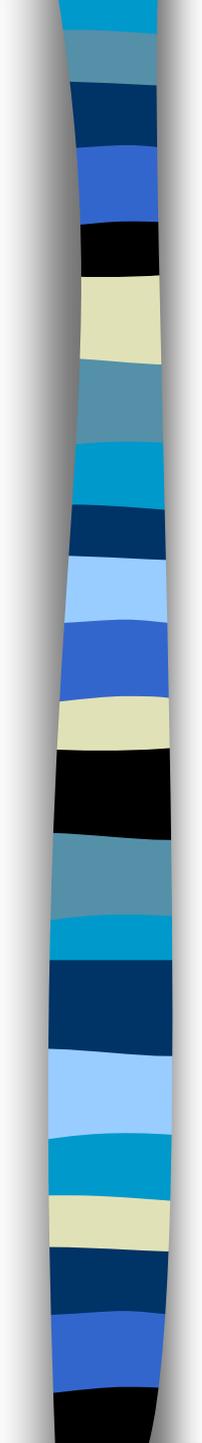
- *Often curricula reform has nothing to do with implementing ECTS, especially when academic staff teaches the same content for ages. The curricula should let the students choose what they want to study to some extent. The programmes often oblige them to pass all exams without any possibility to modify their studies in some way (finish studies earlier, choose study subjects)*



Weaknesses for Design of SPs

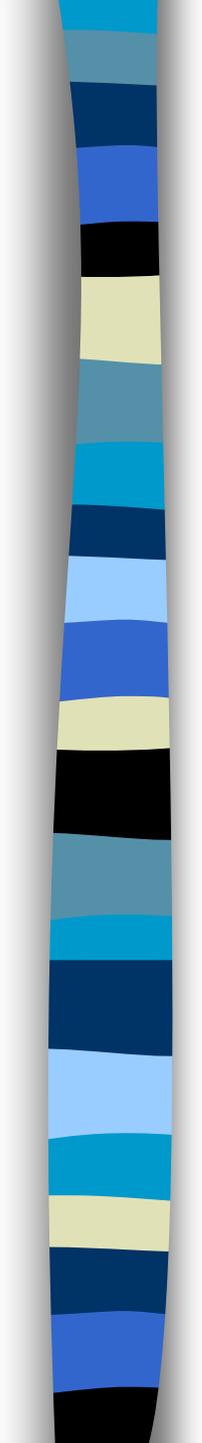
It is a question how a learning outcome can be achieved without any possibility to reflect changes on the labour market?

- *To balance ratio between obligatory/ compulsory subjects and voluntary/elective subjects.*
- *Voluntary/ elective/optional subjects must reflect the labour market and students must have possibility to adapt their study programme themselves to market requirement via elective subject or compulsory elective ones.*



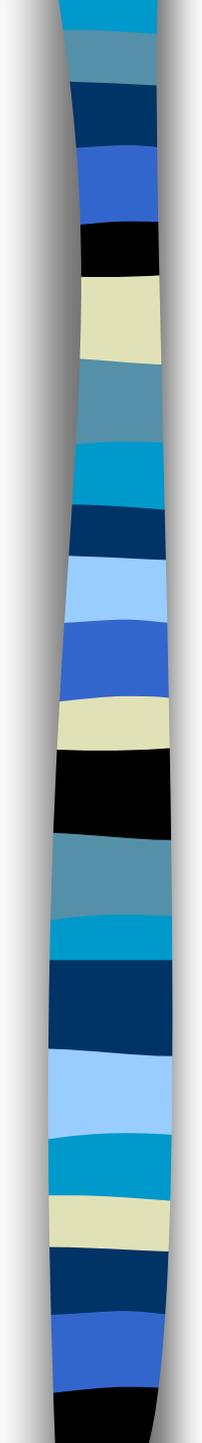
Weaknesses for Design of SPs

- *Sometimes creating a study programme means a fight about the credits. The number of credits for each course is still more a matter of political priorities within the programme than of the actual student workload or reflection of the labour market.*
- *Optional courses are only less than 10% of the study programme.*



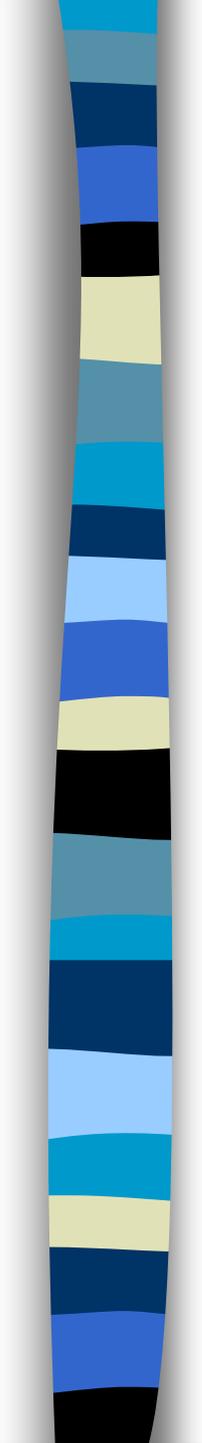
Weaknesses for Design of SPs

- *The greater heterogeneity of students than in the past. Sometimes difficult to respect their abilities and expectations.*
- *Student demands are changing. They are clients. Learners increasingly seek courses that enable them to update their knowledge throughout their working lives. They seek a particular knowledge or skills to satisfy labour market needs, more and more prefer to pick and choose courses from the most suitable providers, rather than studying a traditional clearly defined programme at one institution (OECD, 2008).*



Opportunities or Threats for Design of SPs

- *New technologies have brought changes in approaches to teaching, especially at the undergraduate level, with standardized courses often delivered online, allowing for different use of classroom time.*
- *HEIs have to support a **far wider range of occupational preparation** than in the past. It leads to a strong institutional differentiation to meet the needs of increasingly diverse audiences.*

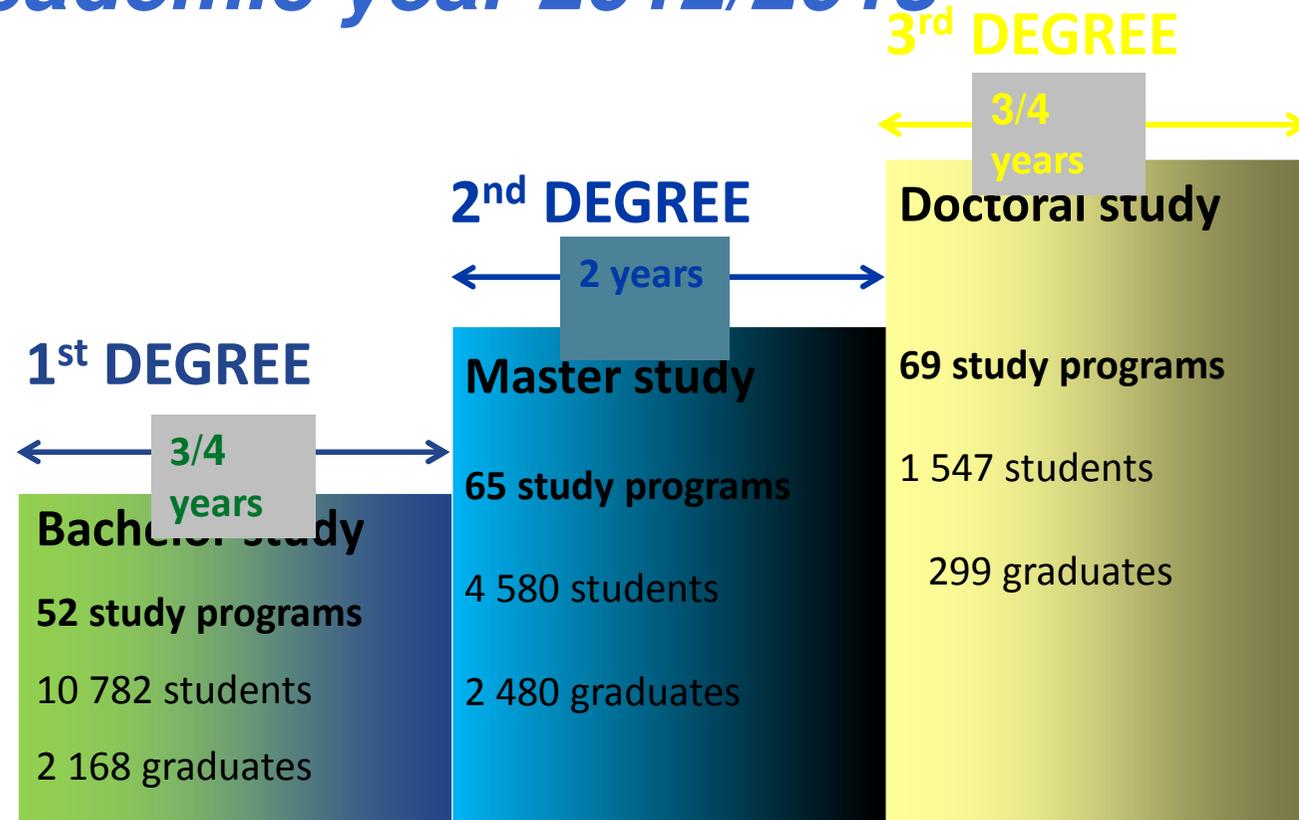


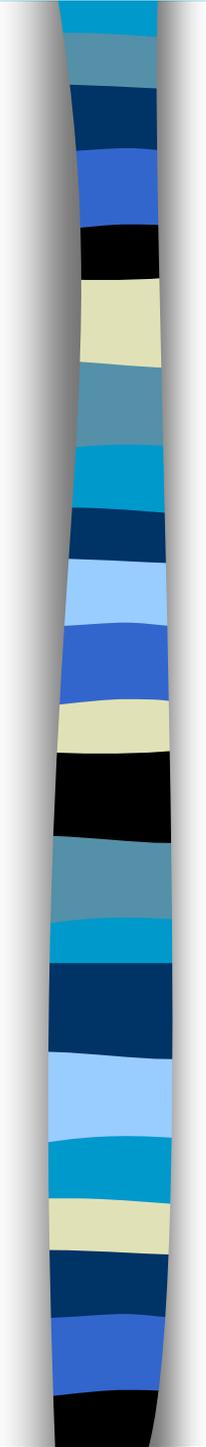
Opportunities or Threats for Design of SPs

- *Internet-based online instructional delivery is now the fastest growing type or sector of higher education in many countries . A lot of Open Online Courses provide access to advanced courses taught by top faculty to hundreds of thousands of students. This has opened doors to even greater opportunities and at the same time **has introduced new challenges for all HEIs.***

Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava

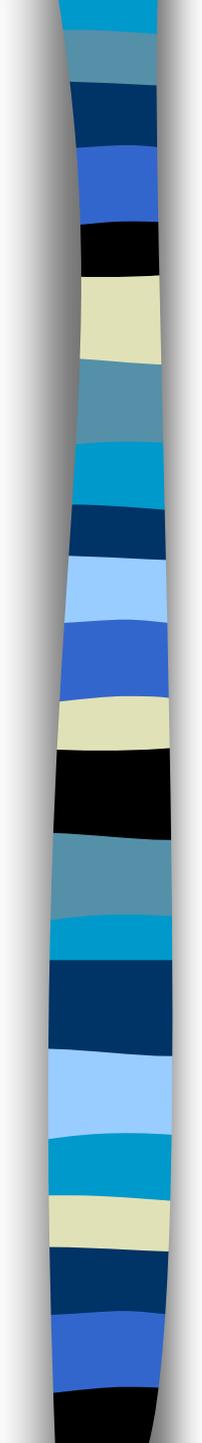
Academic year 2012/2013





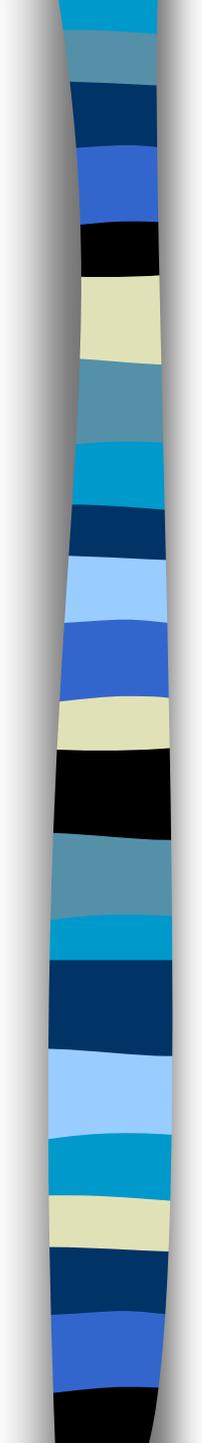
Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava

- *Complex accreditation of the operation of STU has been completed in 2009. Based on the declaration of the AC, the counseling body of the Government of the SR, STU continues to be classified as a **university-type college**. According to Article 84, Section 5 of Act No. 131/2002 Coll. on universities, on amendments and supplements to certain laws as amended and upon the declaration of the AC, the Minister of Education of the SR **has conferred a right to STU to grant relevant academic titles to graduates of study programmes in study branches.***



Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava

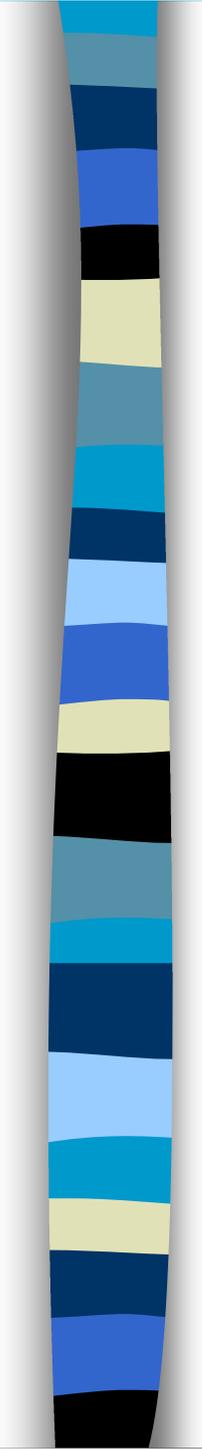
- *In 2013 the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava obtained the **ECTS Label***
 - *is a **prestigious certificate**,*
 - *credit system **is compatible** with European Credit Transfer System (ECTS)*
 - *enabling two-way **student mobility** within EU universities and the wider European area*



Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava

- *All of the study programmes provided by the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava, all exams and credits that students receive are in line with **European Credit System** and thus recognized abroad.*
- *Obtaining the **ECTS Label** is a **signal of quality** for domestic and foreign students.*

Source [3] : <http://www.portalvs.sk/en/vysoka-skola/slovenska-technicka-univerzita-v-bratislave>

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- **Thank you very much for your attention.**

- *Eva Jankovichová*

- *eva.jankovichova@stuba.sk*