

Pre-ICC2021 CET workshop

Session 5: *Career*



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Historical (my) background: our department

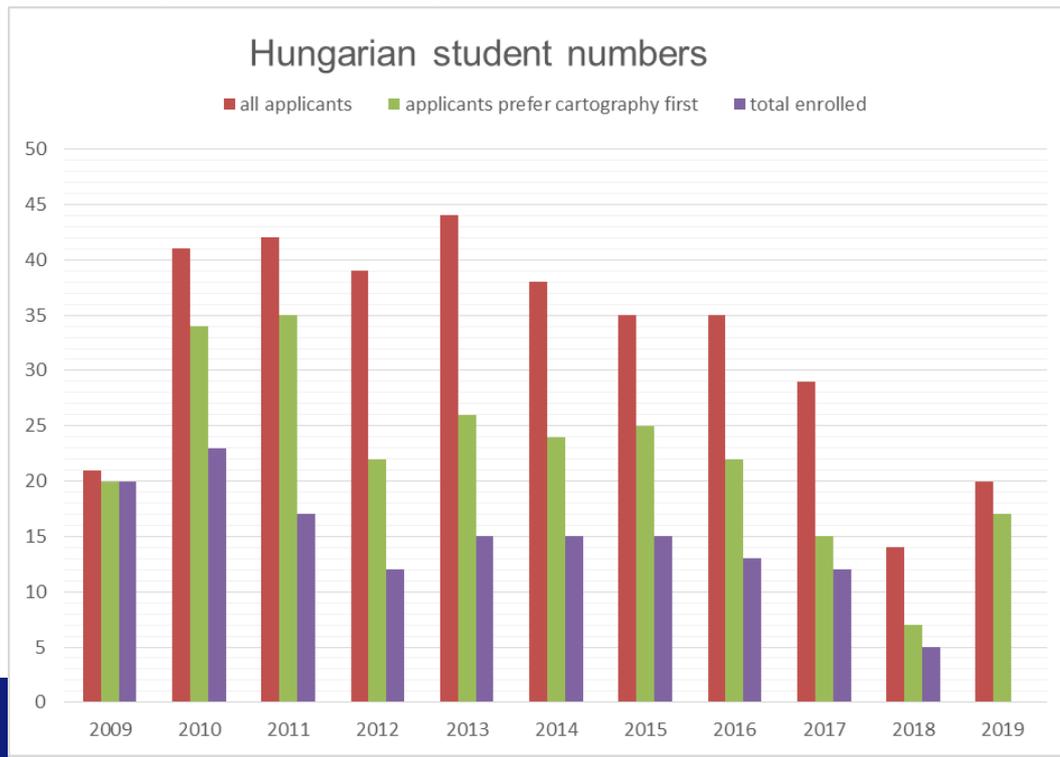
- ❖ We were asked to share our career experience and observations, on how we have conducted research, teaching and managing in Cartography & GIS.
- ❖ The Department of Cartography was founded in 1953. I have been the fourth head of the organization since then.
- ❖ Since then, we have been the only cartography department in the country.
- ❖ The name was extended to Cartography and Geoinformatics in 2003, when we also moved from the Faculty of Sciences to the newly formed Faculty of Informatics.
- ❖ Due to structural changes in the Faculty, we have been the Institute of Cartography and Geoinformatics since 2020. Even it is the smallest institute of the faculty we are responsible for a separate training area (natural sciences) inside the Faculty of Informatics.

Our cartography programme

- ❖ 1955–75: specialization in the 5-years long **geography programme** (starting only in every third year in the beginning).
- ❖ 1975–1988: a 5-year programme: the first 2 years were a joint basic training on **earth sciences** (like a BSc), and followed by a **cartography** programme (like an MSc).
- ❖ 1988–2006: a 5-year programme on **cartography** only.
- ❖ 2006–: **Bologna system**, BSc on Earth sciences (specialization in cartography and geoinformatics) and a Cartography MSc programme since 2009 (**flexibility**).
- ❖ 2016–: the Cartography MSc is available in English as well (Stipendium Hungaricum scholarship programme).
- ❖ 2022–: a separate **Geoinformatics MSc** programme in Hungarian (not unique, some other universities will also start it), planned to launch in English in 2023. It took 15 years to achieve this goal (accreditation difficulties).

Our cartography programme

- ❖ It has always been a **unique programme** in the country. We always had to take it into consideration:
 - no special focus on certain areas,
 - we had/have to train students for various jobs, needs in Hungary,
 - but we always focusing on international trends.



Our geoinformatics programme

- ❖ We developed the programme together with the Institute of Geography (Faculty of Sciences), but we have the leading role, it is the MSc of the Faculty of Informatics.
- ❖ Intentionally much wider entry opportunities:
 - Primarily: Geography, Earth sciences, Surveying and land management, Agricultural water management and environmental technology, and Agricultural and business digitization.
 - Additional programmes: Computer science (software engineering), Civil and environmental engineering.
- ❖ At least two other Hungarian universities will start the Geoinformatics MSc in 2022, so it will be an inspiring competition for us.



My experience/philosophy

- ❖ My/our approach concerning our teaching programmes (BSc, MSc, PhD):
 - be **versatile**, do not focus only on one software, do not focus only on one type of software;
 - be open-minded, you regularly have **to work together** with experts of other areas (not necessarily natural sciences);
 - monitor **international trends** in cartography, in GIS and in IT;
 - but keep in mind **the national responsibility**;
 - cartography and GIS are only **tools** for other experts in many cases, we provide them with good advice, but we do not have to unconditionally take the lead in every project;
 - our area is closely linked to IT, you need to keep your knowledge **up-to-date** (life-long learning) and we have to fine-tune our programme continuously.



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