### School of Physics Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

# Postgraduate Program: Physics of the Atmospheric Environment and Global Change

## A6. Quality policy of the academic unit for the development and improvement of the Postgraduate Programs

#### Decision of the Assembly of the School of Physics, meeting no. 5/23-102023

The Quality Assurance Policy of the School of Physics fully complies to the quality policy of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, as approved by the Senate of the University and reflects its core values.

The School of Physics ensures and promotes the quality of its teaching, research and administrative work, through continuous improvement, with the participation and contribution of all its members.

The School of Physics organizes and implements Postgraduate Programs of high standards in the most significant fields of its science, oriented to modern trends and demands, thus enhancing its academic profile. In addition, the School is committed to developing a creative research and work environment for all staff members (teaching, research and administrative) as well as for its students.

High Quality is a fundamental element enabling the School to successfully realize this vision and achieve its mission, so to this direction, the development of a culture of quality assurance is of highest importance

#### Implementation of Quality Policy – Quality Assurance

The School of Physics and the Postgraduate Program of *Physics of Atmospheric Environment and Global Change* in particular, are committed to the implementation of quality assurance policies, to enhance the academic profile and orientation of postgraduate programs, promote their purpose and objectives, implement their strategic goals (as set annually) and determine the means, actions and methods to achieve them, ensure the involvement of stakeholders and implement appropriate internal and external quality assessment processes to ensure continuous improvement. In addition to the above, the School is committed to building an environment of communication and cooperation between its members (staff, students and stakeholders).

The School of Physics and the Postgraduate Program of Studies in Physics of the Atmospheric Environment and Global Change implement the established quality assurance procedures of the Internal Quality Assurance System (EQMS) guide of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, with the required specialization at the level of the Postgraduate Program. The implementation of EQMS procedures is carried out in cooperation with the University's Quality Assurance Unit (MODIP). These quality assurance procedures are a valuable tool for the School and the individual Postgraduate Programs in the process of carrying out their teaching and research activities, ensuring the achievement of their goals and upgrading academic work in general.

The School of Physics and the Postgraduate Program of **Physics of the Atmospheric Environment and Global Change** are committed to implementing quality procedures that will demonstrate:

- the suitability of the structure and management of the Postgraduate Studies Program
- the accordance of the learning outcomes and qualifications with the European and National Qualifications Framework for Higher Education
- the promotion of quality and effectiveness of the teaching/research work of the Postgraduate Studies Program
- the suitability of the teaching staff qualifications for the Postgraduate Studies Program
- drafting, implementing and reviewing specific annual quality objectives for the improvement of the Postgraduate Studies Program
- the level of demand of the graduates' acquired qualifications in the employment market
- the quality of support services
- the efficient use of the Postgraduate Program's resources, possibly originated from tuition fees

and will conduct annual internal evaluation and review of the quality assurance system for the Postgraduate Program of Studies in *Physics of Atmospheric Environment and Global Change*, in collaboration with the School of Physics' Internal Evaluation Group (OMEA) and the Quality Assurance Unit of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.

The actions initiated for the monitoring and continuous improvement of the quality of the Postgraduate Programs include the following:

- Implementation of a quality assurance policy for the Postgraduate Program, its regular review and revision, when required.
- Designing of the Postgraduate Program, in accordance with the current Legislation and Regulations
  of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, integrating, when possible, feedback from students,
  graduates of the School and the Postgraduate Program, and stakeholders.
- Harmonization to the current legislative framework and regulations.
- Implementation of all Regulations concerning the Postgraduate Program and other Regulatory Decisions of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki.
- Submission of the Personal Inventory forms and the Course Description Forms to the MODIP platform by the members of the teaching staff.

- Conducting course and teaching staff evaluation by students.
- Implementation of alternative evaluating methods for the student assessment
- Monitoring the professional career progression of the Postgraduate Program graduates
- Management of the Teaching staff (selection, regulations, performance, support).
- Allocation and management of the Postgraduate Program' resources (infrastructure, equipment, etc.).
- Collection and process/analysis of (complete, correct and up to date) data related to quality assurance in order to further improve the *Physics of Atmospheric Environment and Global Change* Program
- Monitoring, analysis and comparison using national and international quality assurance indicators.
- Dissemination of information related to the Postgraduate Program.
- Qualitative and systematic update of the Postgraduate Program's webpage (in Greek, English and possibly a third language), where information relevant of the Program can be found.
- Establishing strategy and goal setting feedback mechanisms, such as reviews and corrective actions (when required).
- Annual internal evaluation (monitoring, control and revision of the Postgraduate Program), based on the instructions of HAHE (Hellenic Authority for Higher Education) and MODIP.
- External evaluation and accreditation processes, in cooperation with MODIP.

#### **Quality Objectives**

The quality objectives, within the framework of the strategic objectives, on which the School of Physics will focus its efforts for the Postgraduate Program of Studies in *Physics of Atmospheric environment and Global Change* are the following:

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE	QUALITY OBJECTIVES
A. High quality of education provided in the MSc	A1. Evaluation/ assessment of the educational process A2. Quality competence of teaching staff
B. Improvement of the performance of the students of the MSc	B1. Improving student performance B2. Reduction of the duration of the MSc studies

C. Development of high-level research	C1. Increase of high quality published research work C2. Increase of funding for research
D. Development of extroversion and internationalization	D1. Enhancement of the international profile of the MSc- Promotion of the research work D2. Mobility
E. Improvement of the Program's performance and provided services	Q1. Improvement of learning environment and daily operation

#### Disclosure

The Quality Assurance Policy is communicated and disseminated to academic and administrative staff, students, and other stakeholders and is published on the website of the Postgraduate Program of Studies:

https://msc-env2024.physics.auth.gr/quality-policy/?lang=en