

REPORT FOR 2010
on the final examination of the RSHU group of students studying
meteorology in English

The session was held on 2 and 4 June 2010. Five students (the list of students is attached) passed the examination in meteorology and successfully defended their graduation work.

The examination questions prepared by the staff of the meteorological faculty covered the basic aspects of meteorology.

The graduation works were devoted to a set of wide-ranging meteorological subjects: detecting of convective systems and complexes using satellite imagery, identification of noble gases sources using atmospheric trajectory modelling, global navigation satellite system monitoring of the ionosphere, fire weather conditions and identification of fire risk areas from satellite imagery, and the surface temperature changes over Northern Europe since 1885-2008.

The results of the session are presented in the following table.

Examination		Defense of the graduation work	
Number of the students with the mark of 5	5	Number of the students with the mark of 5	5
Number of the students with the mark of 4	0	Number of the students with the mark of 4	0
Number of the students with the mark of 3	0	Number of the students with the mark of 3	0
Average mark	5.0	Average mark	5.0

All the students who participated in the final examination were awarded a "Bachelor Degree in Meteorology". Also it was recommended that they should continue with their studies at RSHU.

Along with this account I would like to make the following comments

1. The performance of this group of students was outstanding both in the examination and in the defense of their graduation work. Indeed the assessments exceeded those of students in previous years.
2. The wording of the questions used in the examination has been revised and this gave the students a clearer indication of what was expected of them. Also some new questions have been added. However, there appeared to be a rather excessive number of questions about radiation and associated topics so care needs to be taken that there is a good range of topics covered with the questions that are chosen for a particular exam. With the planned revision of curriculum there may be an opportunity to include questions about new topics such as remote sensing.
3. Despite efforts to improve knowledge of synoptic meteorology there still appears to be a slight lack of confidence in linking an understanding of physical processes to features on a synoptic chart. This was illustrated by some students not being able to describe the weather associated with highs and lows and the synoptic conditions in which convection was likely to occur.
4. The presentations were of an exceptionally high quality. The graduation work was clearly explained and well structured (e.g. the aims, method and conclusions were clearly described and often follow-up work was identified). Also the PowerPoint presentations were very effective and used a variety of visual techniques.
5. The quality of spoken English was outstanding. All the students were articulate and spoke with a high degree of confidence. They demonstrated sound knowledge of technical terms as well as being able to use more colloquial English.
6. Overall the students are to be congratulated on the quality of their English and the extent of their meteorological knowledge. The students and staff at RSHU have every reason to be proud of what has been achieved by this group of students. In particular Gennady Tarakanov would have been proud of all his students.

R W Riddaway

R. W. Riddaway
 Chairman of the Examination Commission
 8 June 2010