

REPORT FOR 2011
on the final examination of the RSHU group of students studying
Meteorology in English

The session was held on 7 and 9 June 2011. Six 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: aircraft flight in a Cb cloud zone, study of planetary waves in the stratosphere, diagnostics of deep convective phenomena, analysis of sea surface temperatures, and two studies of precipitation forecasts using the WRF model. Marina Likhmanyk was awarded the Gennady Tarakanov Memorial Prize for her graduation work.

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.
2. The wording of the questions used in the examination was revised in 2010 and this gave the students a clearer indication of what was expected of them. However, there still appeared to be a rather excessive number of questions about radiation and associated topics (4 out of 12 questions) 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 any revision of the curriculum there would be an opportunity to include questions about some modern topics such as remote sensing and NWP.
3. The certificate awarded to the students indicated that they have met the requirements to be designated as a WMO Meteorologist. The WMO Congress that met in May/June 2011 agreed a new definition of a WMO Meteorologist and the associated learning outcomes that will need to be satisfied (implementation date of 1 December 2013). Consequently, consideration needs to be given to whether any changes to the curriculum are required if it is intended that the course should continue to lead to students being designated as WMO Meteorologists beyond December 2013.
4. Compared with previous groups, there appeared to be a slight improvement in linking an understanding of physical processes to features on a synoptic chart.
5. 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.
6. 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.
7. 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.



R. W. Riddaway
Chairman of the Examination Commission
13 June 2011