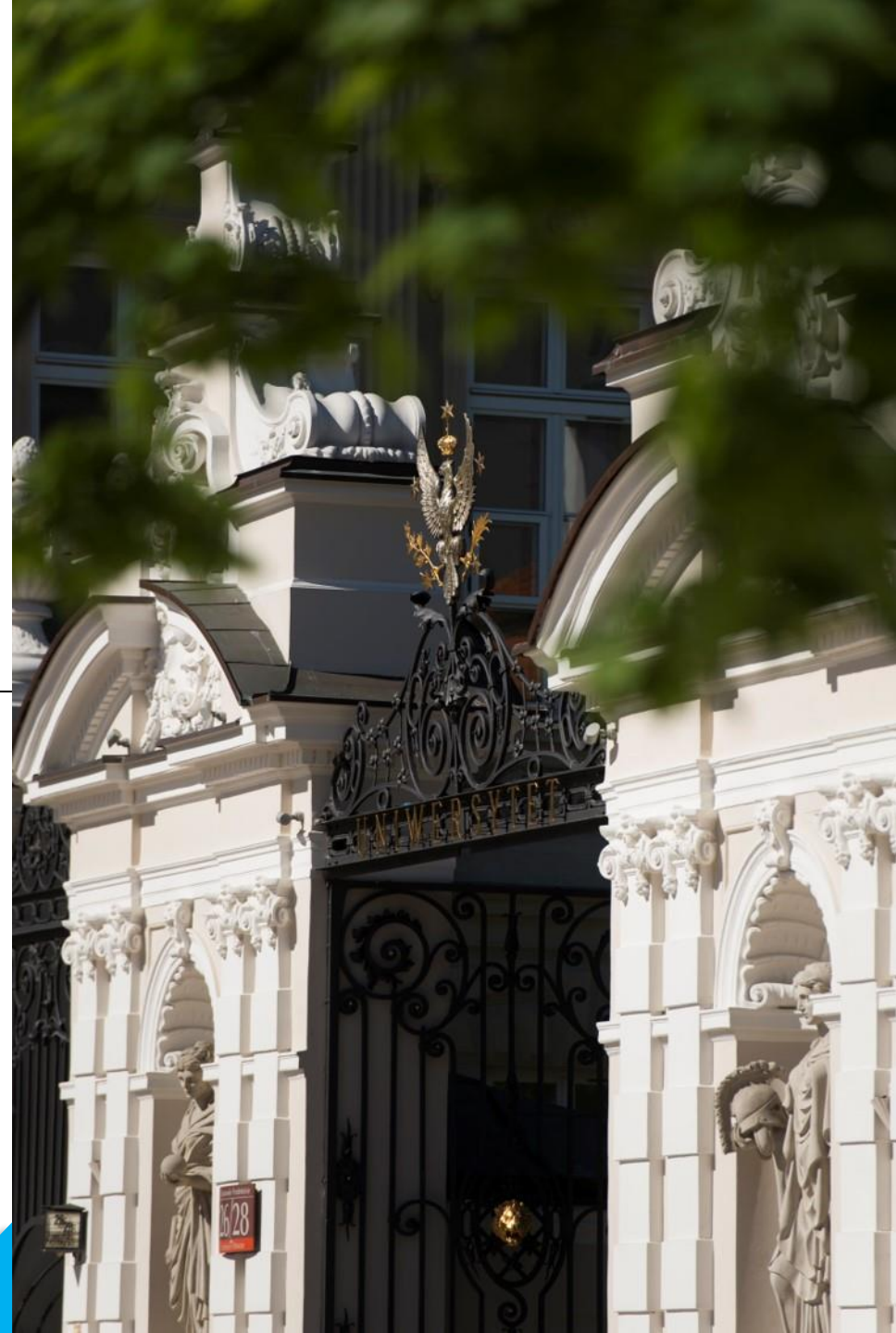




UNIVERSITY  
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Pro-quality mechanisms in the new form of  
doctoral education in Poland – case of the  
University of Warsaw

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# Doctoral studies (2005- 2023)

- The new Higher Education and Science Act of 2018 abolished „doctoral studies”.
  - Underfinanced
  - Without scholarship
  - Concentrated on faculties and Institutes
  - Ineffective ( low success rate)
  - Concentrated on number of PhD students





# New approach in PhD education Doctoral Schools (2019-??)



- Instead it proposed Doctoral Schools that started in 2019
  - Not concentrated on number of PhD students
  - All PhD students receive scholarship
  - Concentrated around at least two scientific disciplines
  - Education is accompanied by realisation of Individual Research Plan that includes schedule for the doctoral thesis.
  - After 2 years – IRP is checked through mid-term evaluation.
  - Passing this evaluation increases the scholarship, and not passing it – removes PhD student from the School

# Pro-quality mechanisms at the University of Warsaw

- Promoting interdisciplinary research
- New unified recruitment system
- Modular construction of the study program
- Impartial rector's review of the final decisions

# Promoting interdisciplinary research

- Besides 3 doctoral schools concentrated around a field of study – humanities, social sciences, exact and natural sciences there is one special **Multidisciplinary Doctoral School**.
- The main idea is the obligatory work with two supervisors from different disciplines which could lead to a PhD **in a field of study and not discipline**.
- It is also a lot smaller than other schools.

# New unified recruitment system

- Recruitment system of „doctoral studies” was concentrated on the level of faculties or institutes
- It was incomparable and often based on completely different set of criteria and documents.
- Now every school has its own recruitment system based on the same set of documents with the same categories of recruitment points set for every candidate in the school.
- Decisions are made in selection team for each discipline
- System is comparable and anomalies are easier to spot.

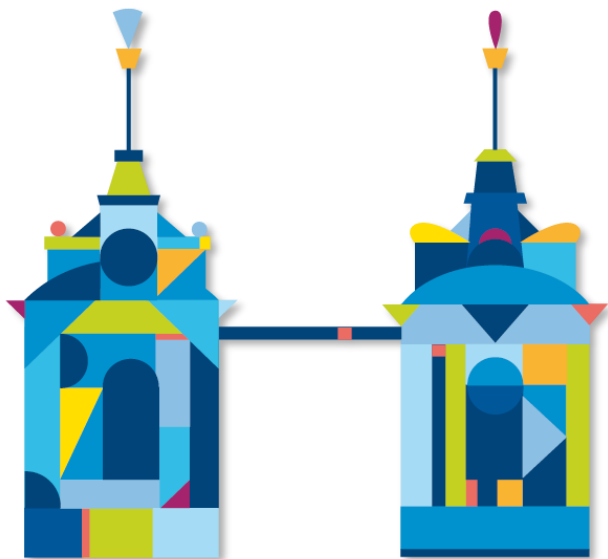
# Modular construction of the study program

- Study program is different for each scientific discipline.
- There is also a whole set of modules connected with research and pedagogy skills available to every PhD student in the school.
- It is created in such a way, that even joining the school from 2'nd semester enables PhD student to move his modules between them.
- Totally impossible in the old system.

# Impartial rector's review of the final decisions

- Decisions concerning the PhD students are made by the director
- Including a decision about removal from the school
- According to the Polish law in such cases the only option to object is the reconsideration of the doctoral school's director.
- Due to the new Regulations of Doctoral School a 2nd decision that is unfavourable to the PhD student is firstly proposed to the Rector, who impartially can offer some changes or solutions.





**Thank you!**

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