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A survey on Erasmus Student Placement

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Career Service - University of Padua

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The LLP Programme: objectives

- development of quality lifelong learning, and promotion of high performance and innovation in a European dimension;
- realisation of a European area for lifelong learning;
- increasing participation in lifelong learning by people of all ages, including those with special needs and disadvantaged groups;
- cooperation in quality assurance in all sectors of education and training in Europe.

The LLP Programme

It is composed of 4 sectoral sub-programmes, 4 transversal programmes and the Jean Monnet programme.

Lifelong Learning Programme			
Comenius School Education	Erasmus Higher Education	Leonardo da Vinci Vocational Training	Grundtvig Adult Education
Transversal Programme <i>4 key activities</i> – policy co-operation and innovation; languages; ICT; dissemination and exploitation of results			
Jean Monnet Programme <i>3 key activities</i> – Jean Monnet action; european institutions; european associations			

Erasmus Placement 2007/2008

- Erasmus Placement is a new form of student mobility commencing from the academic year 2007/2008 within the framework of the Lifelong Learning Programme 2007-2013.
- Erasmus Placement provides for the students the possibility of carrying out a **traineeship period** at public or private companies, education centres, research centers or other organizations in one of the partner Countries (the 27 EU member Countries, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Turkey).

Survey objectives

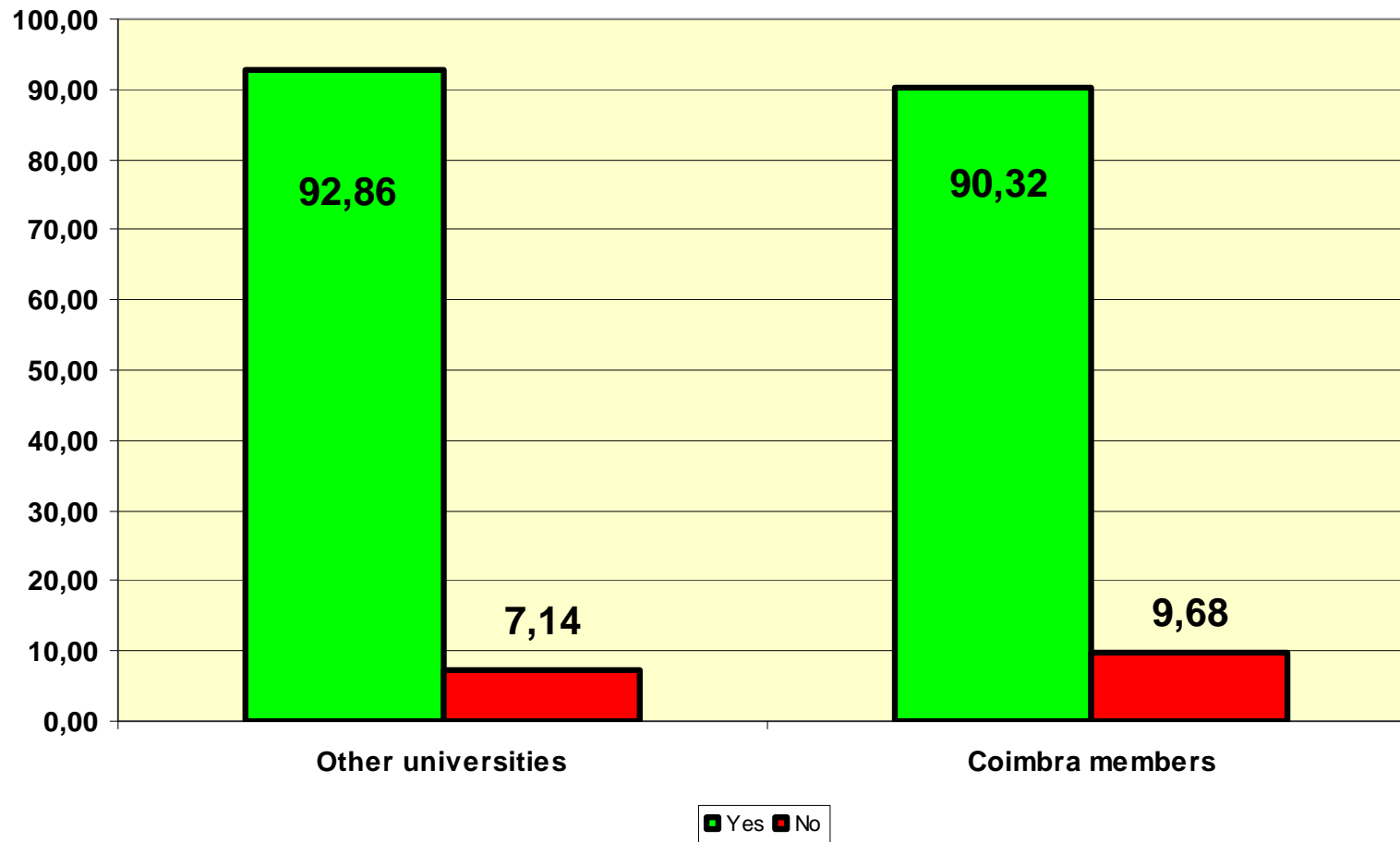
1. To understand within the Coimbra Group members and other Italian universities which administrative office deals with placements abroad and how they are managed;
2. To identify possible difficulties found by the universities in managing placements abroad;
3. To gather possible availabilities in creating a “cooperation network” with other universities for students/graduates and hosting companies exchange;
4. To collect possible suggestions to start concrete actions for cooperation among universities.

Survey Methodology

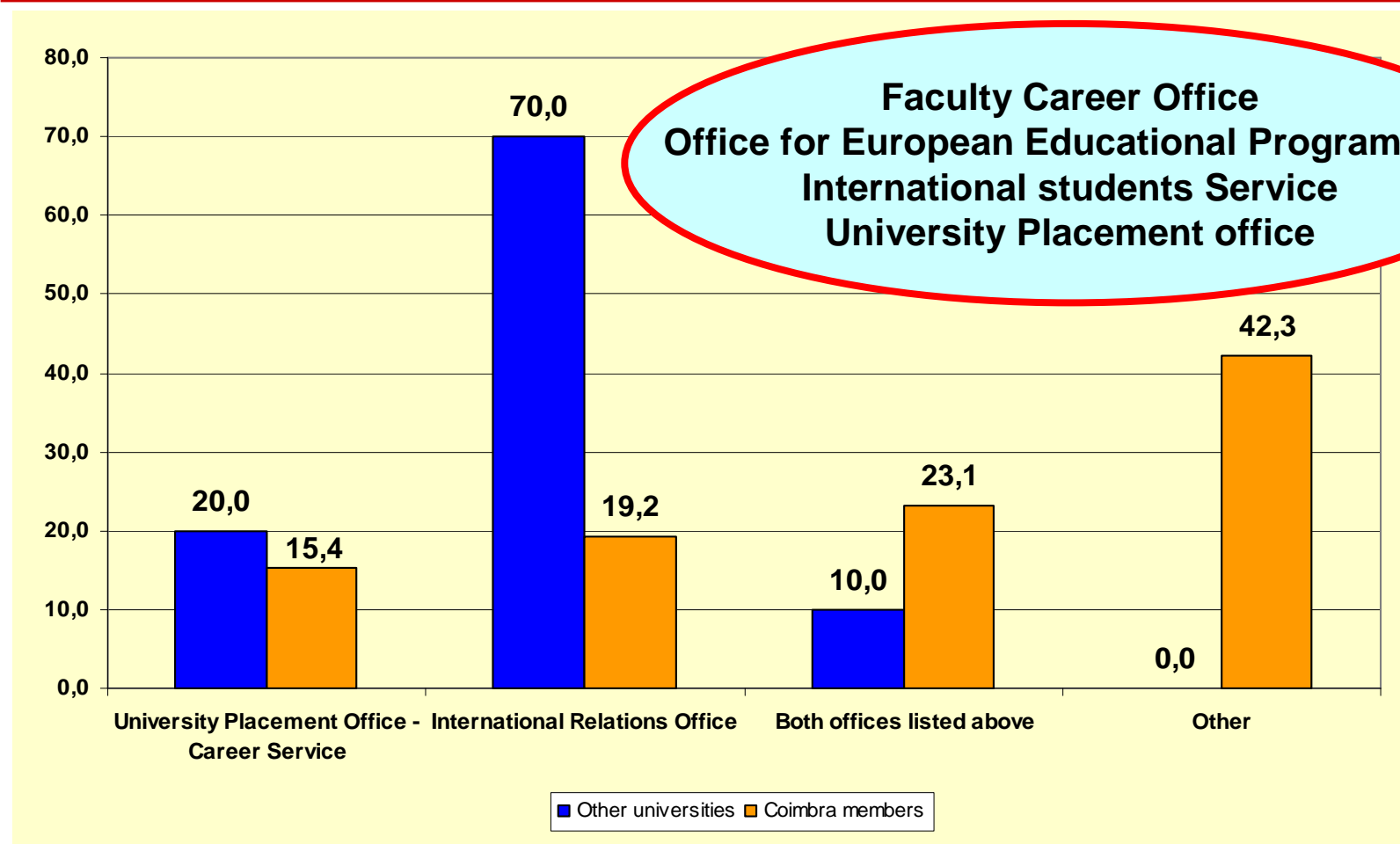
On line Questionnaire (33 questions)

	Coimbra Group's Members	Other universities (all from Italy)
List	38	62
Answers	81,6% (31)	22,6% (14)
Total	45%	

Is your University offering placement opportunities abroad?



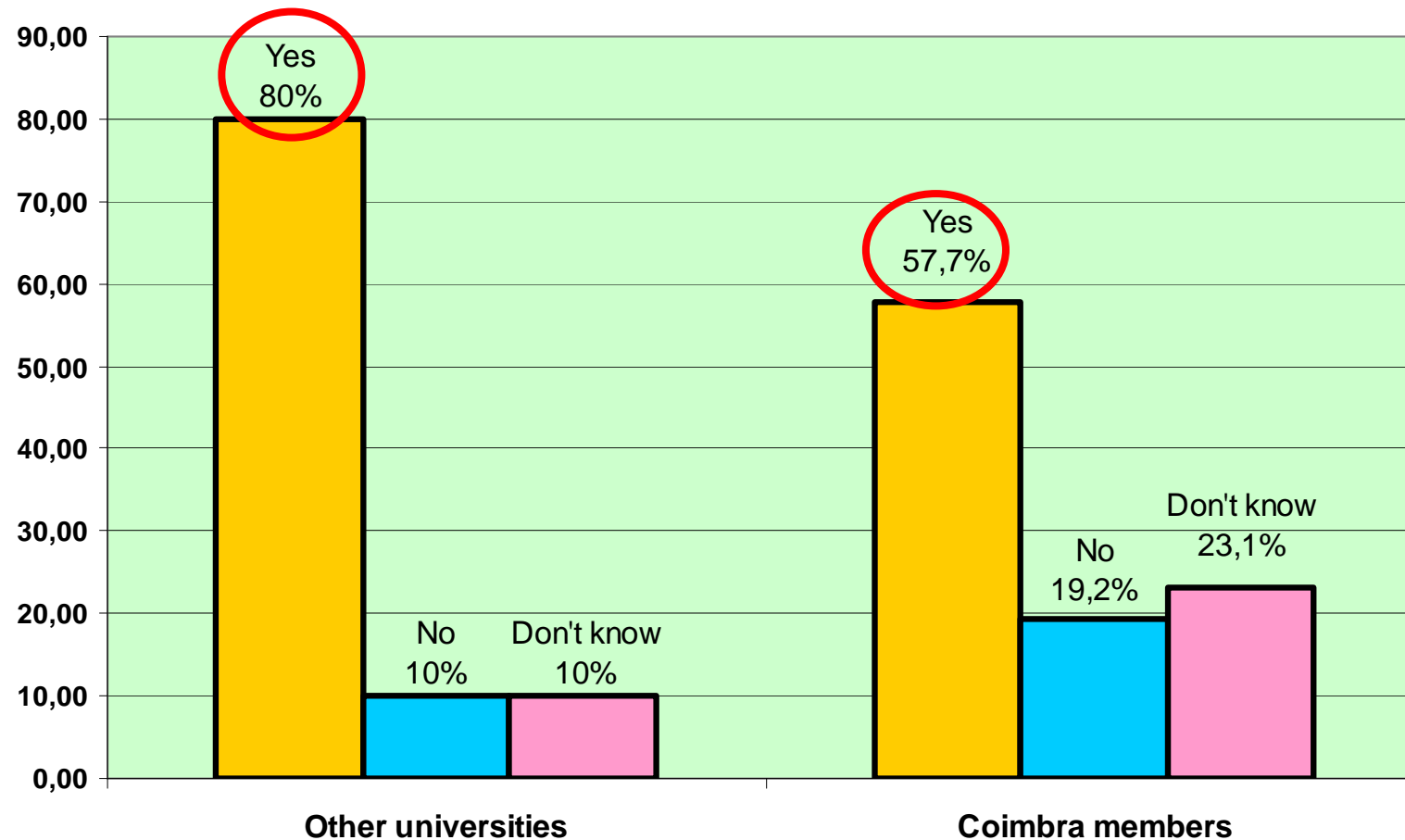
Which administrative offices/services take care of placements abroad at your University?



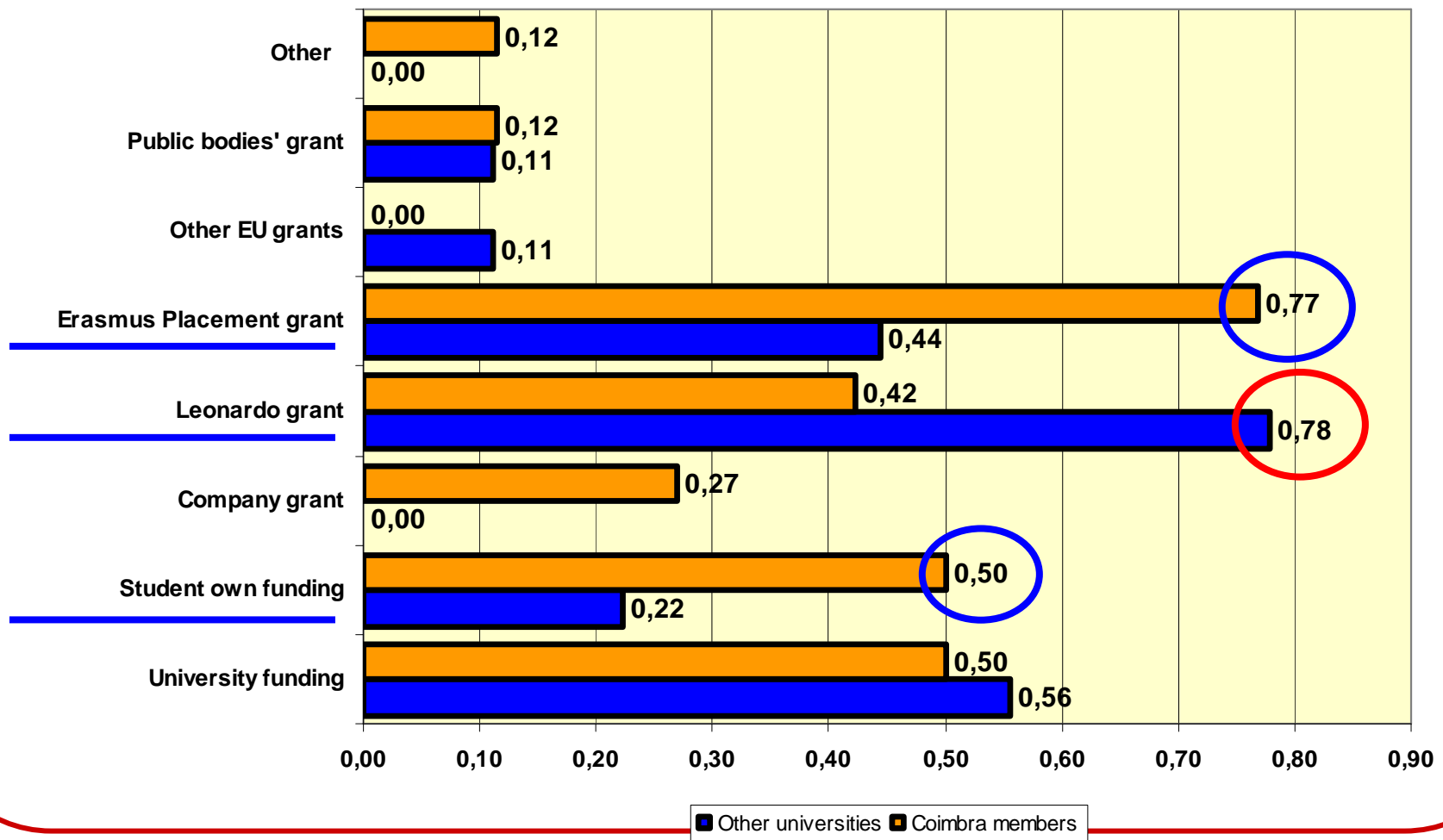
How many people did a placement abroad in 2006 - 2007?

	min	Max	Total	Media
Coimbra members (n=23)	0	350	1.648	71,7
Other universities (n=9)	0	115	354	39,3

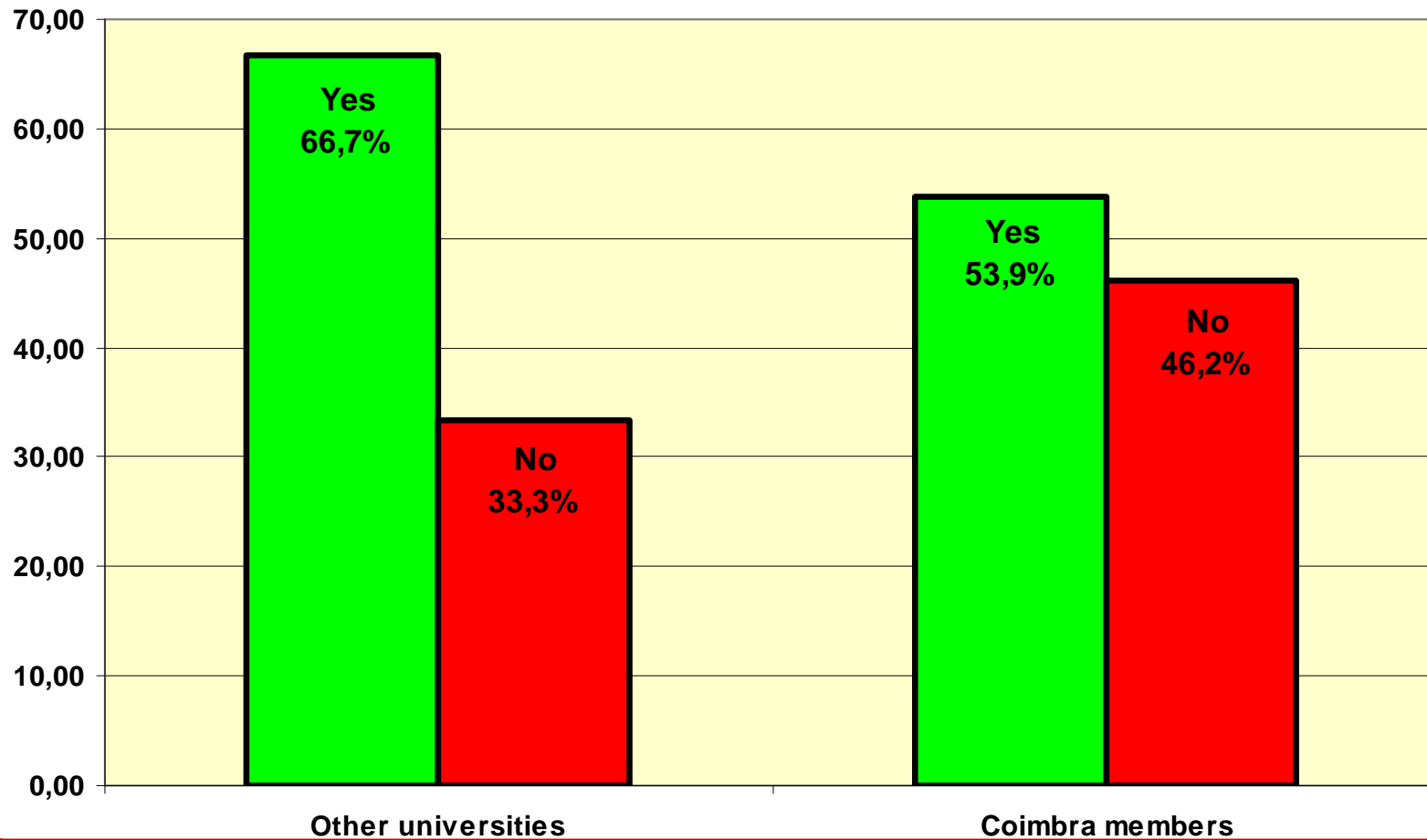
Has the number of such placements increased in the last three years?



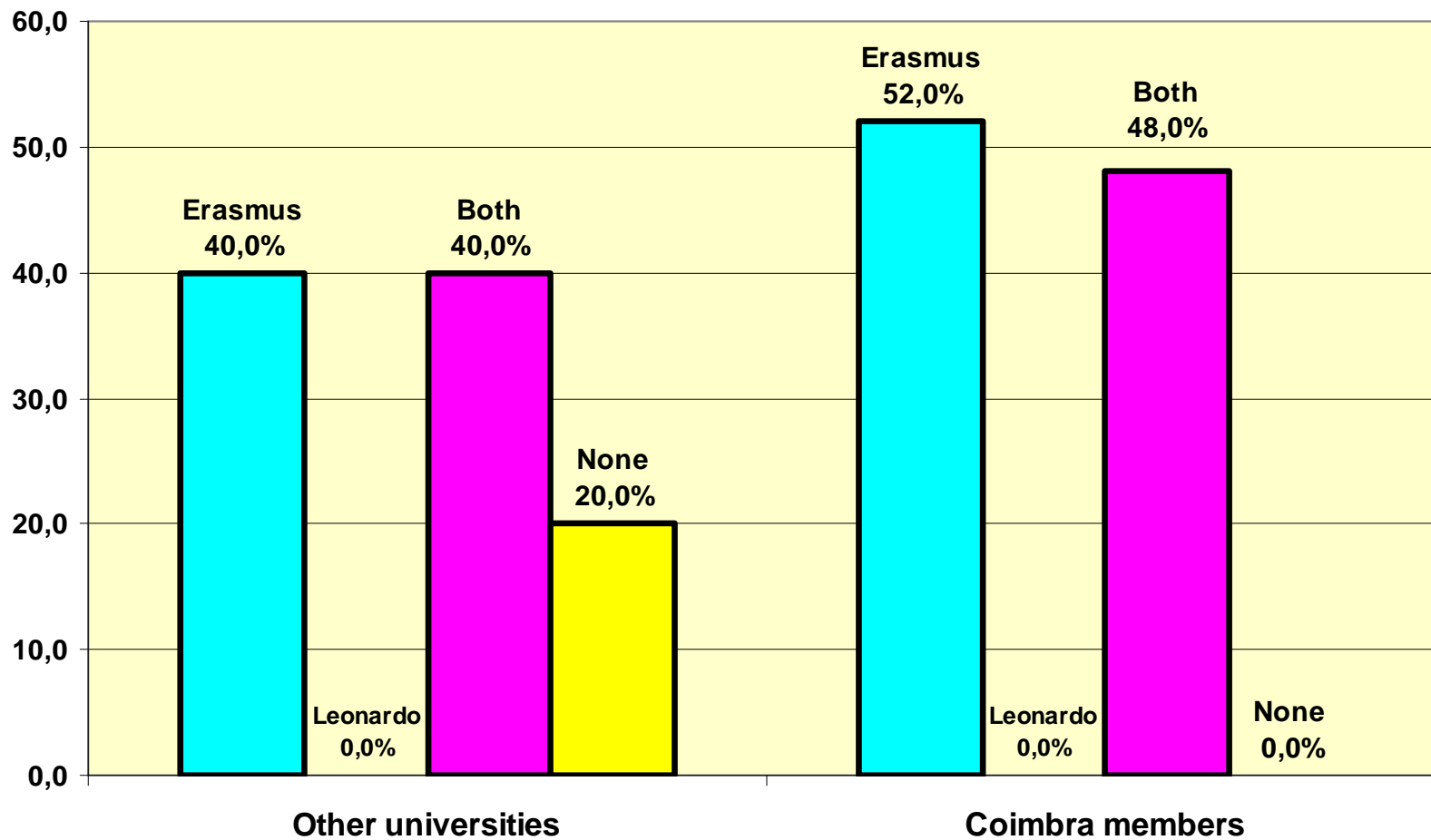
How are placements founded?



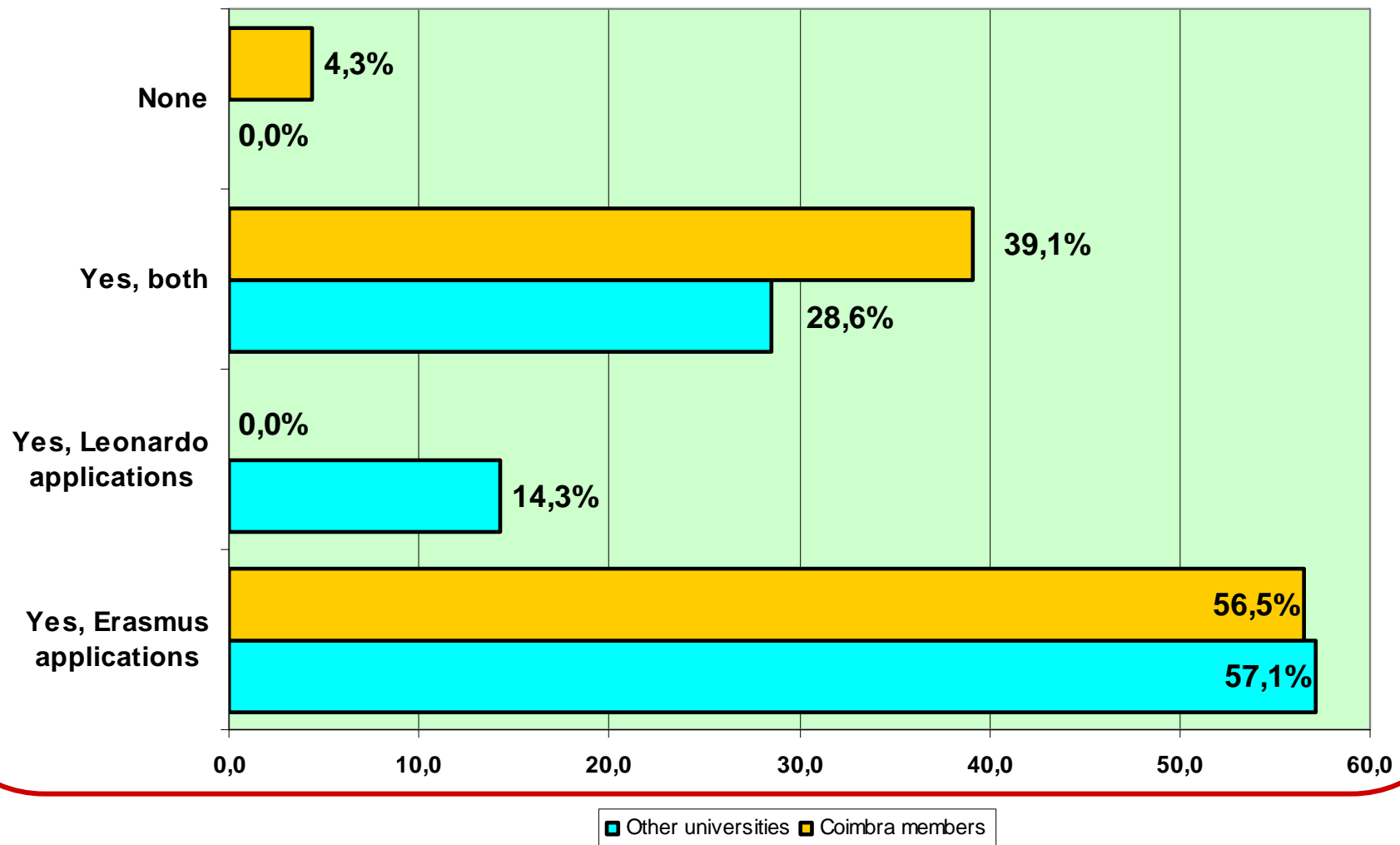
Do you assign placement positions without grant?



Did your university apply for EU grants in 2007/2008?



Were such applications successful?



How many Erasmus student placement grants did your university ask for in the academic year 2007/2008?

	min	Max	Total	Media
Coimbra members (n=19)	0	150	868	45,7
Other universities (n=5)	2	45	117	23,4

How many monthly grants were given to your University in 2007/2008?

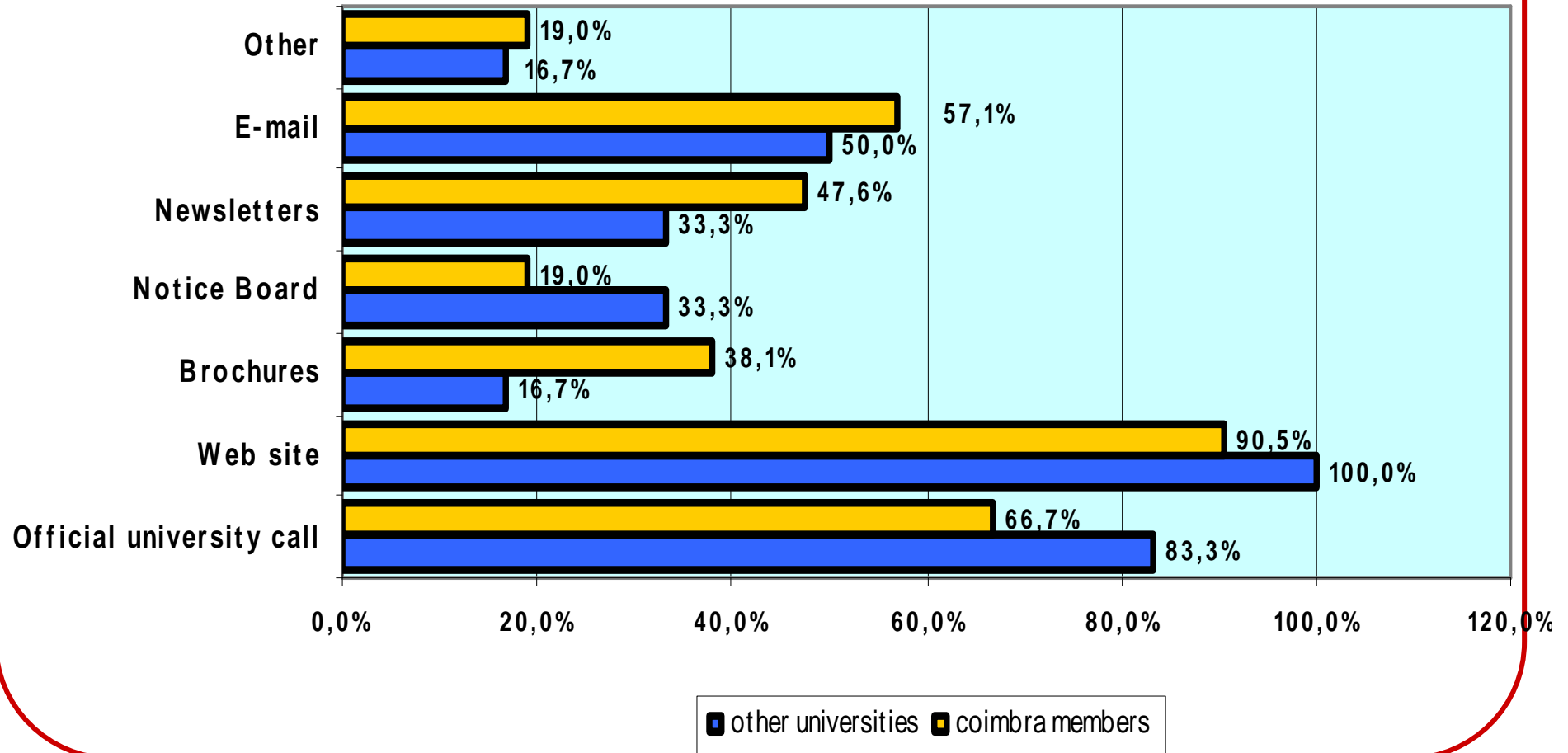
Number of months:

	min	Max	Total	Media
Coimbra members (n=18)	0	375	1864	103,6
Other universities (n=5)	3	189	262	52,4

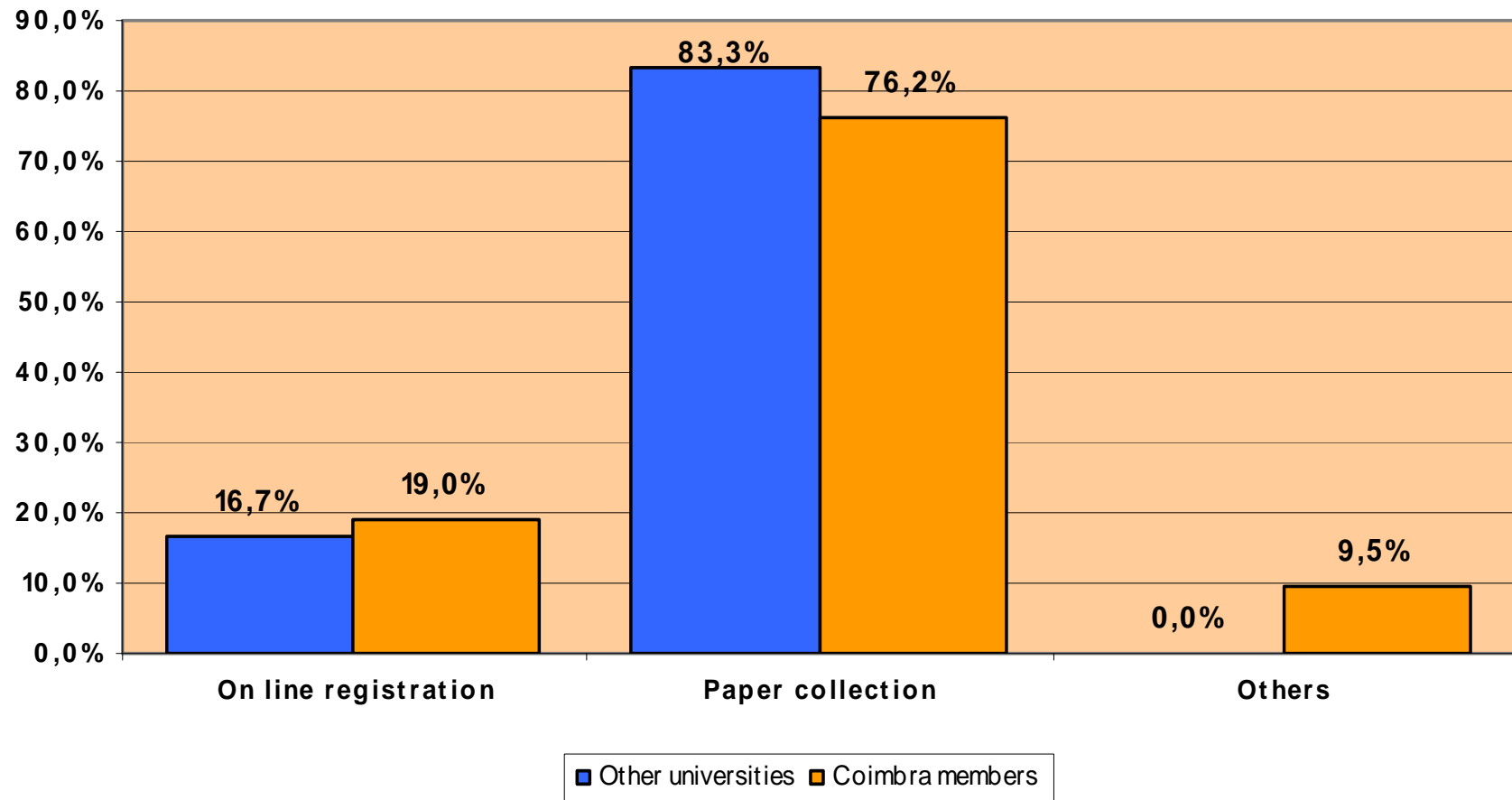
How many Erasmus placement grants are actually being assigned in 2007/2008 by your university?

	min	Max	Total	Media
Coimbra members (n=16)	0	125	417	26,1
Other universities (n=5)	0	43	64	12,8

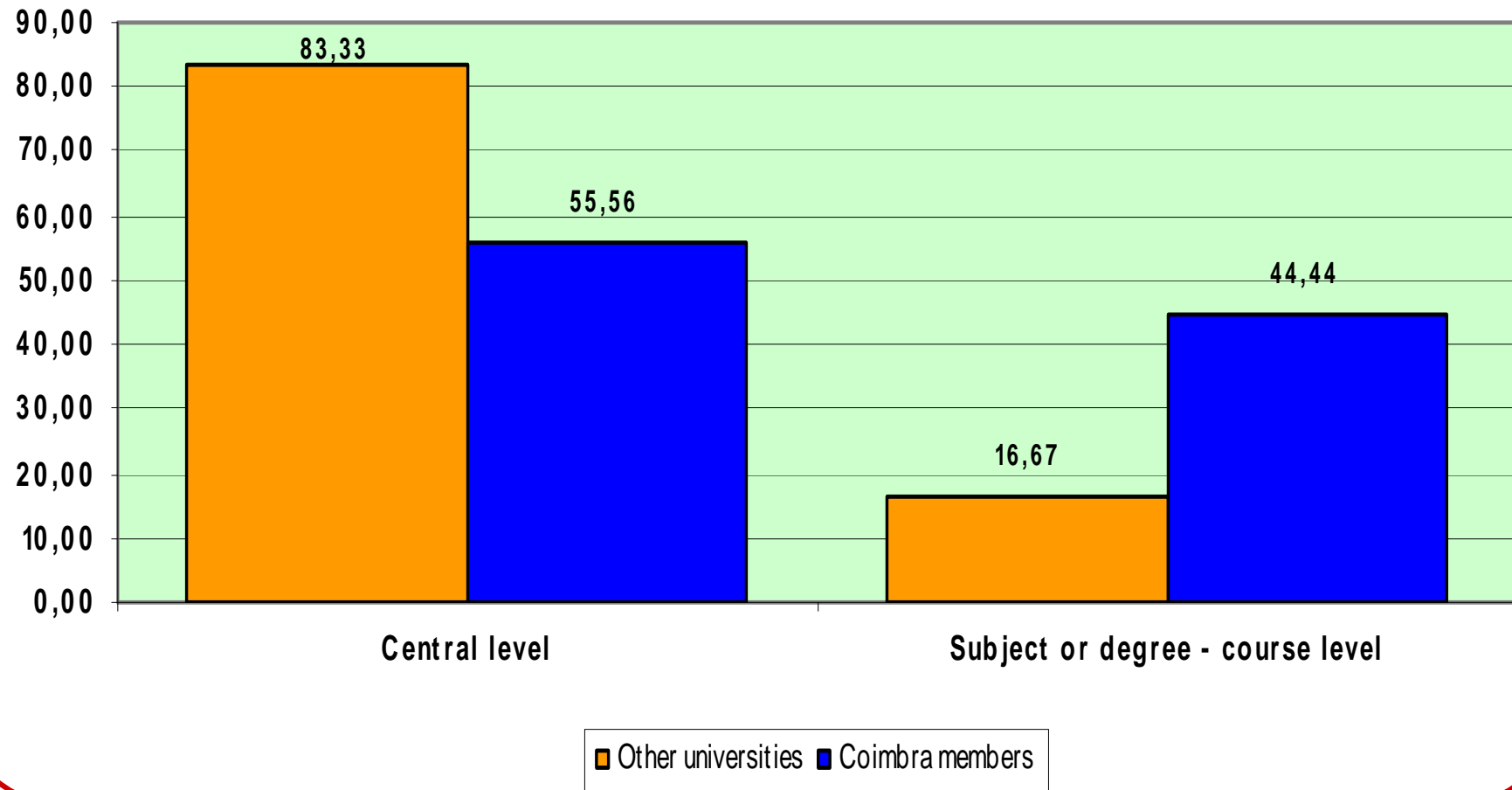
How is this new opportunity – Erasmus student placement – being promoted among students?



How are students' applications collected?

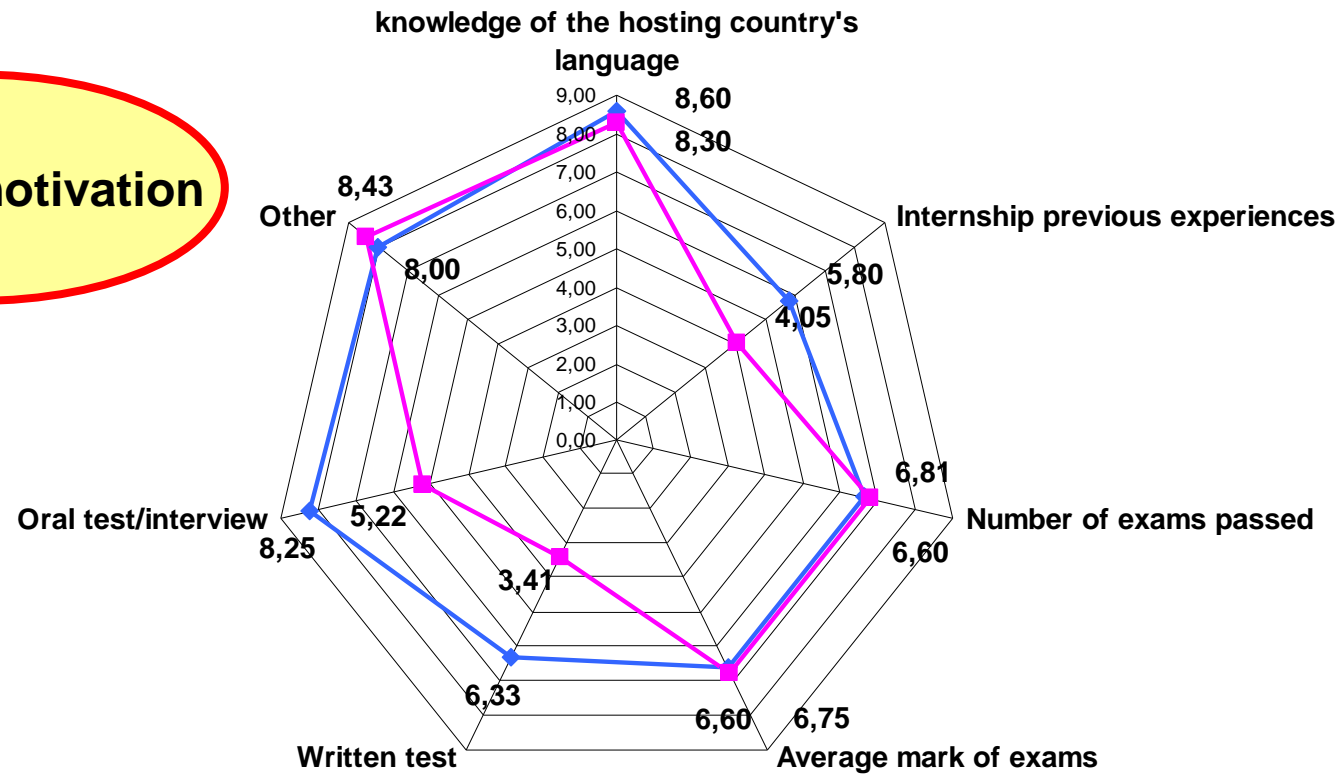


How is the selection procedure organised?



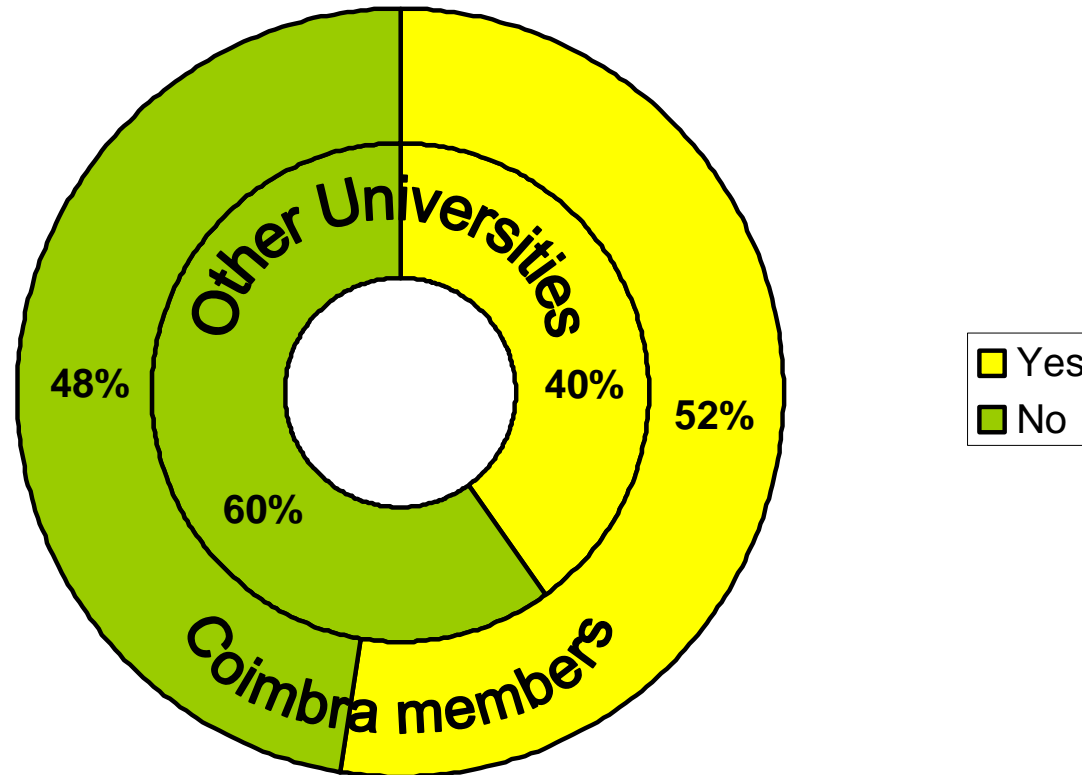
In your opinion what is the importance of the following selection criteria in order to assign placement position?

Personal motivation

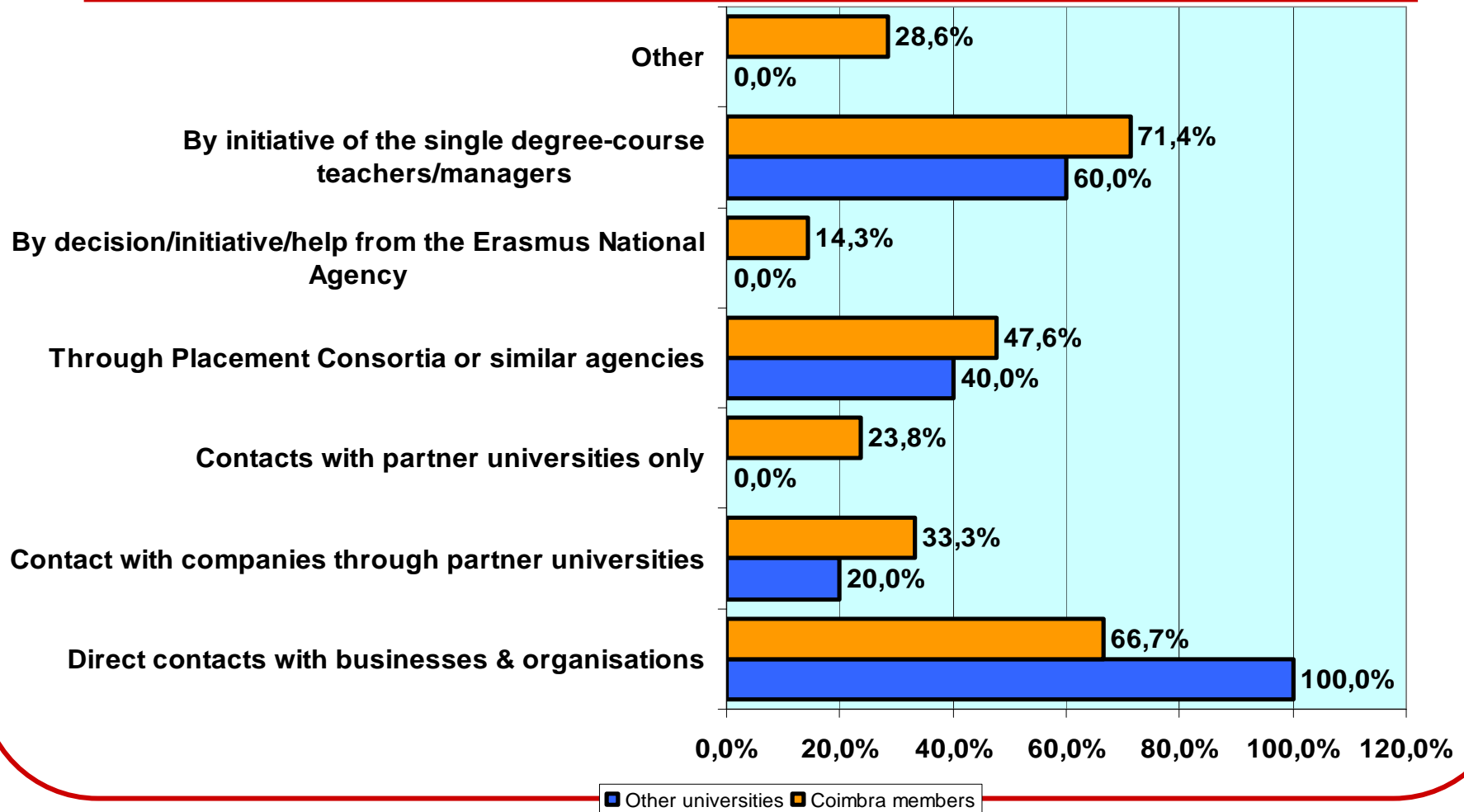


Other universities Coimbra members

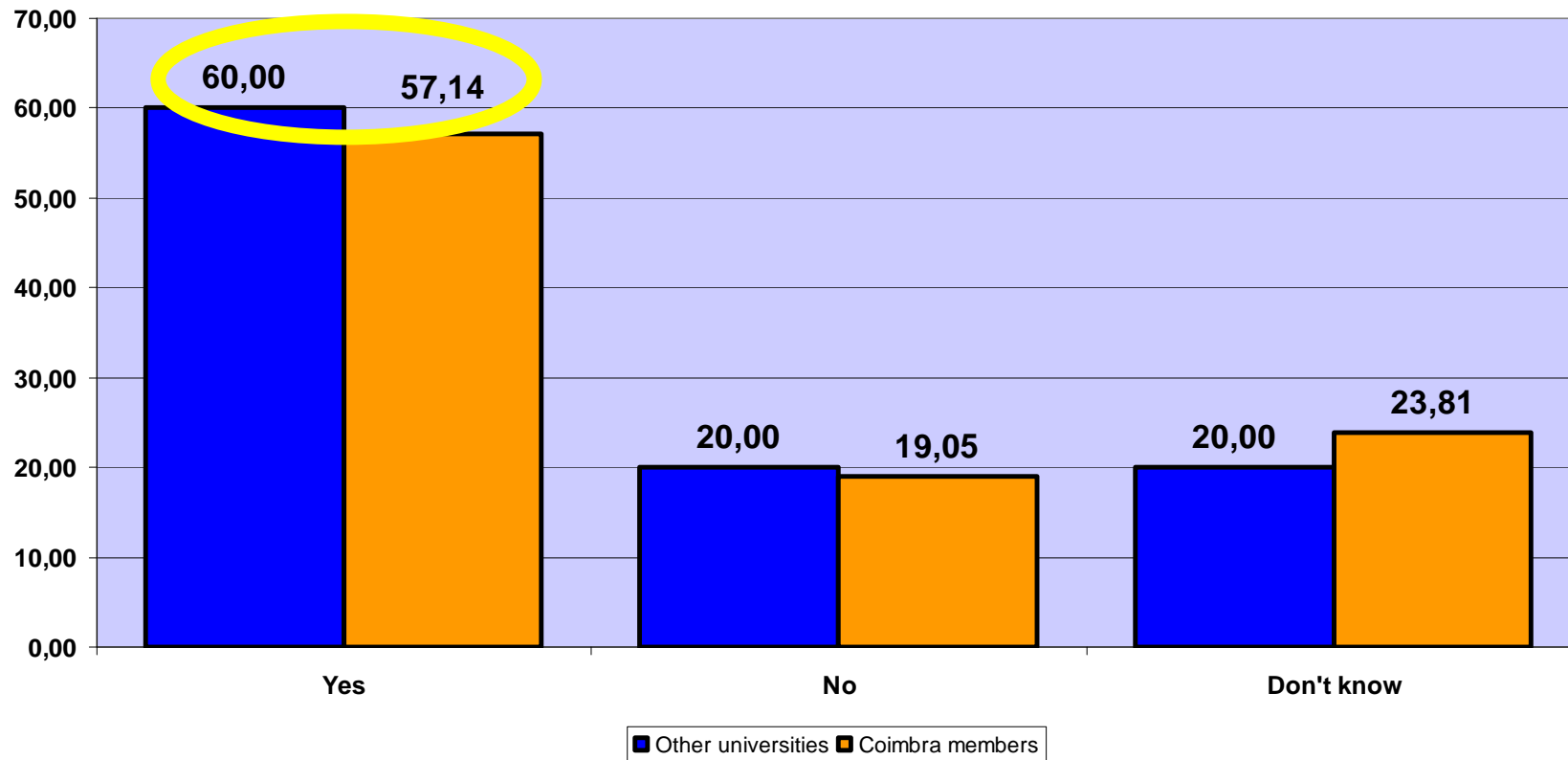
Is the host organisation involved in the student selection procedures?



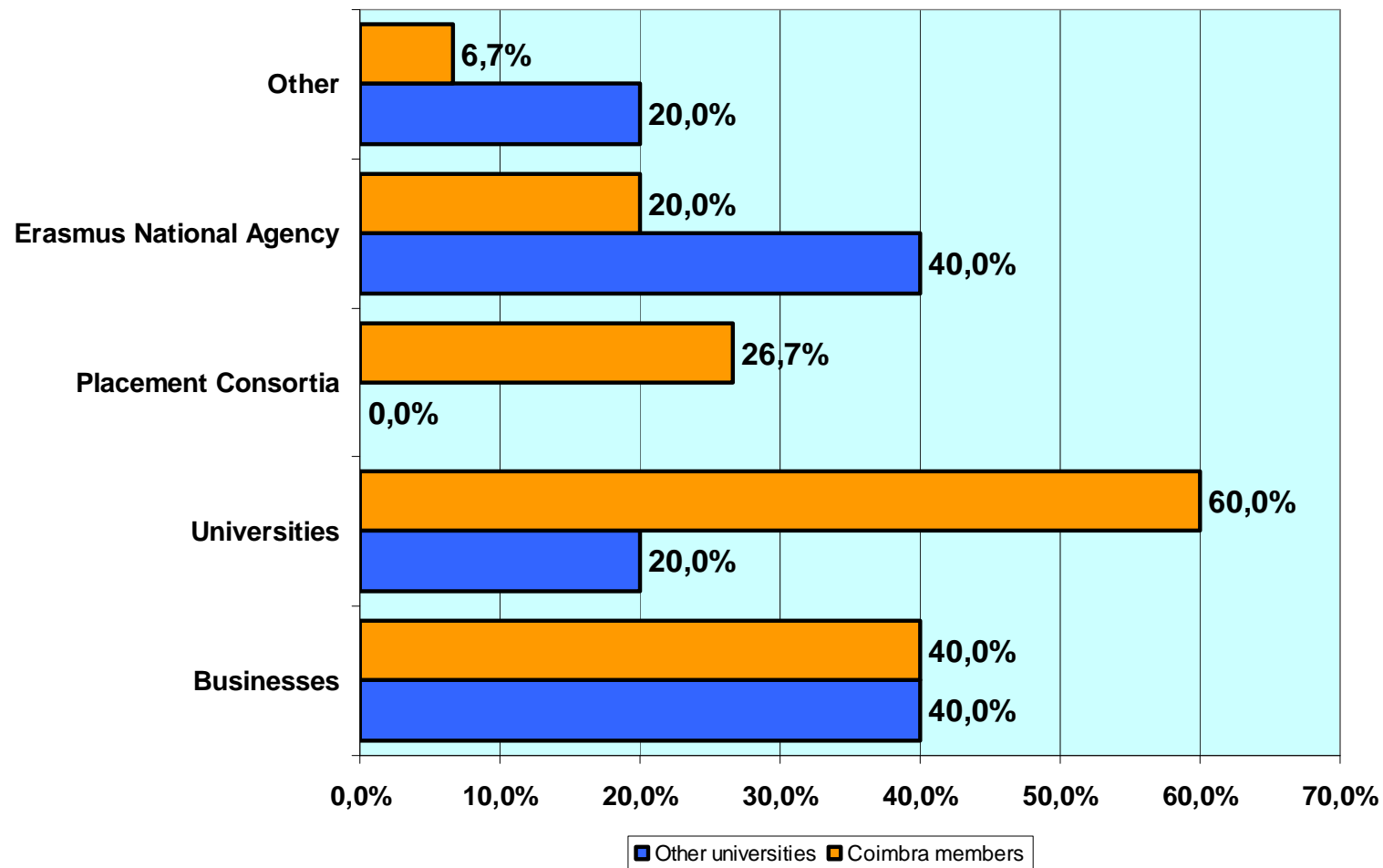
How are the placement opportunities and the host organisation identified?



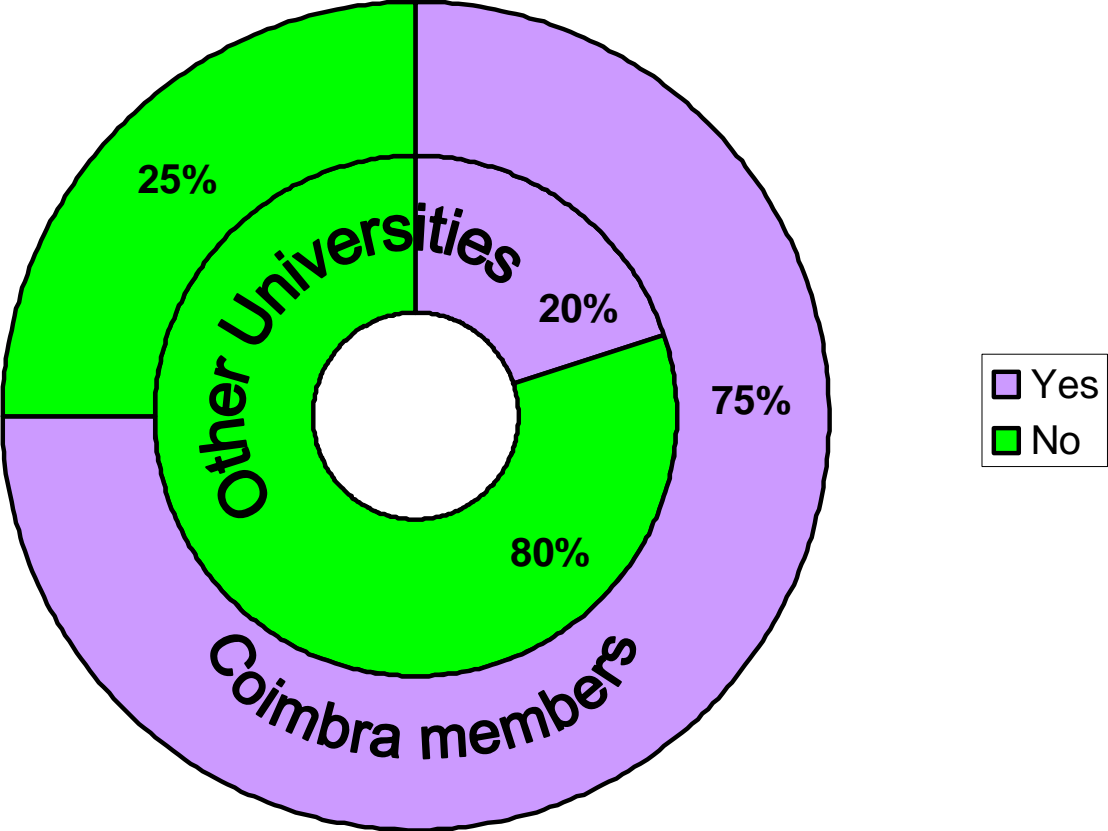
Is your university willing to cooperate with a partner university in order to offer some of your placement opportunities to partner university's students?



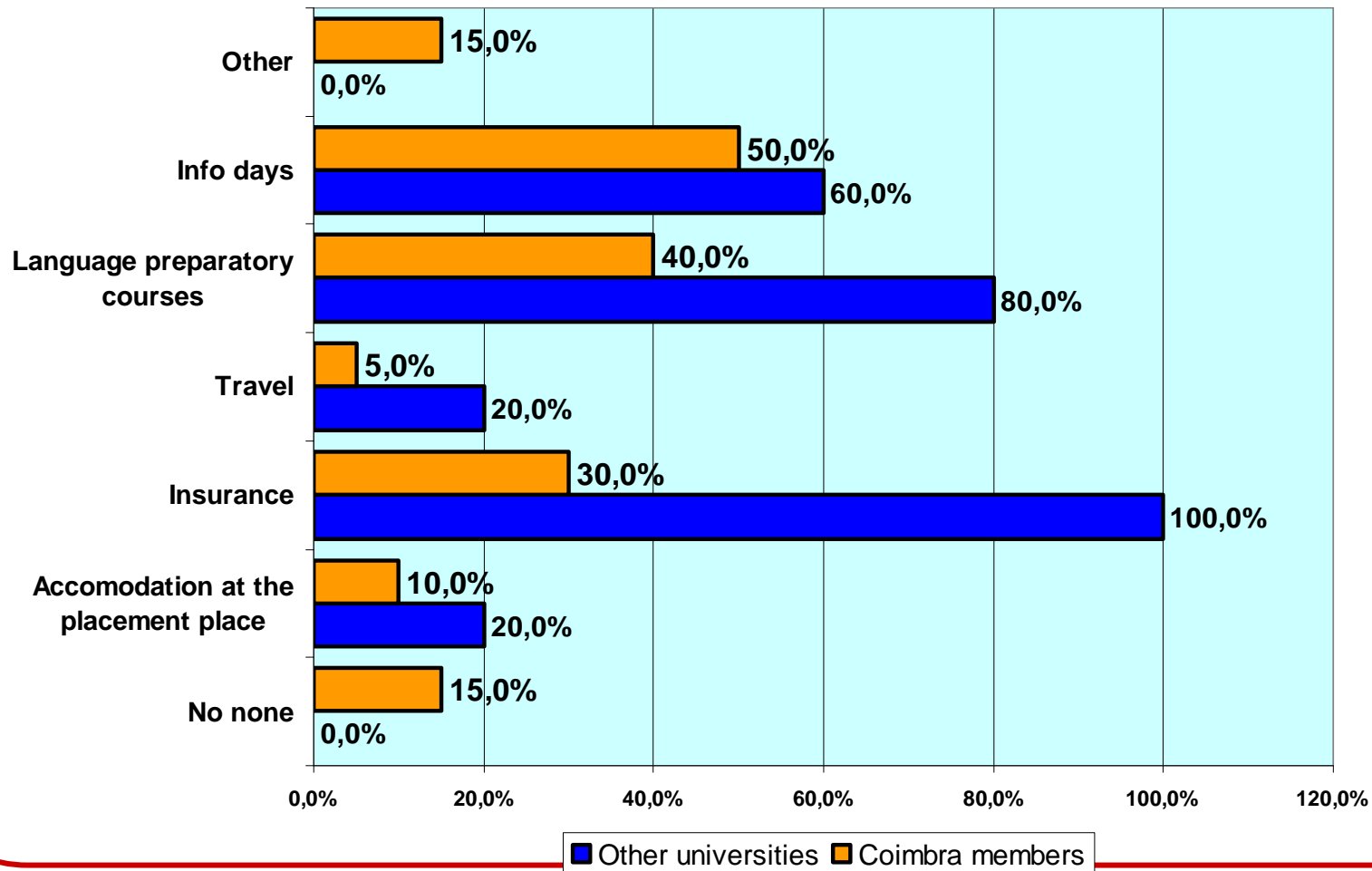
Has your university signed placement agreements (for Erasmus placement) with:



Do you have any difficulty in finding out concrete placement opportunities?

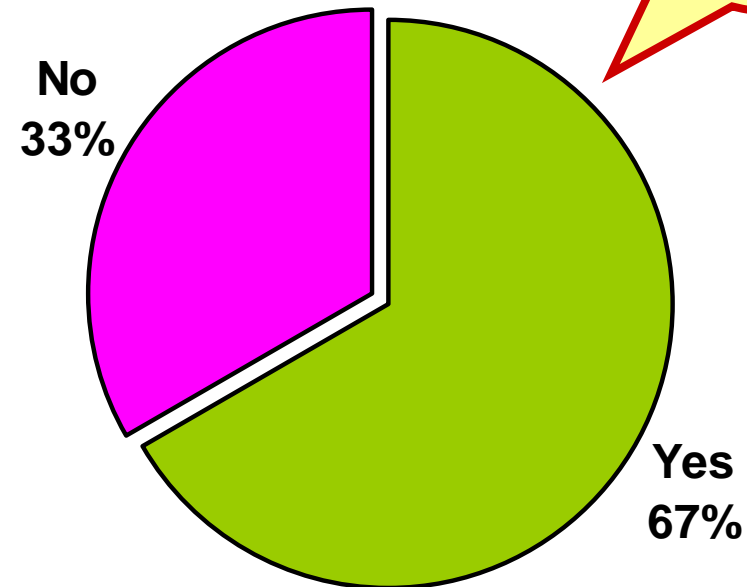


Does your university provide students with services before departure?



Are the placements activities monitored?

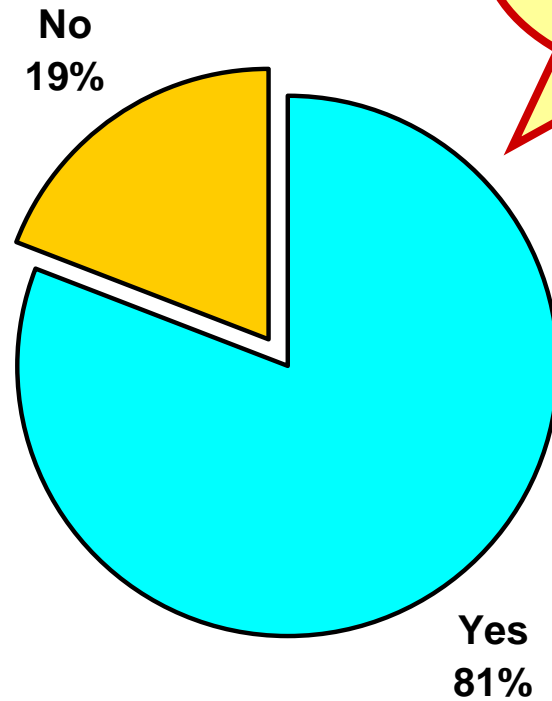
**All other universities
monitor the placements
Activities!**



**Coimbra Group
members**

Are the placements activities evaluated?

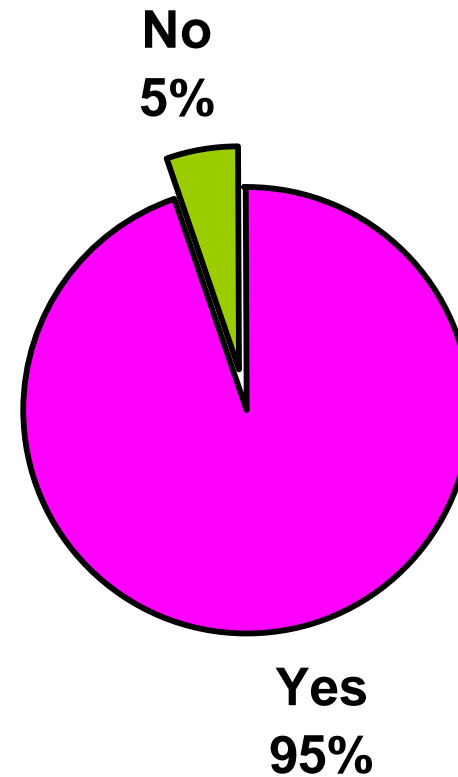
**All other universities
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**Coimbra Group
members**

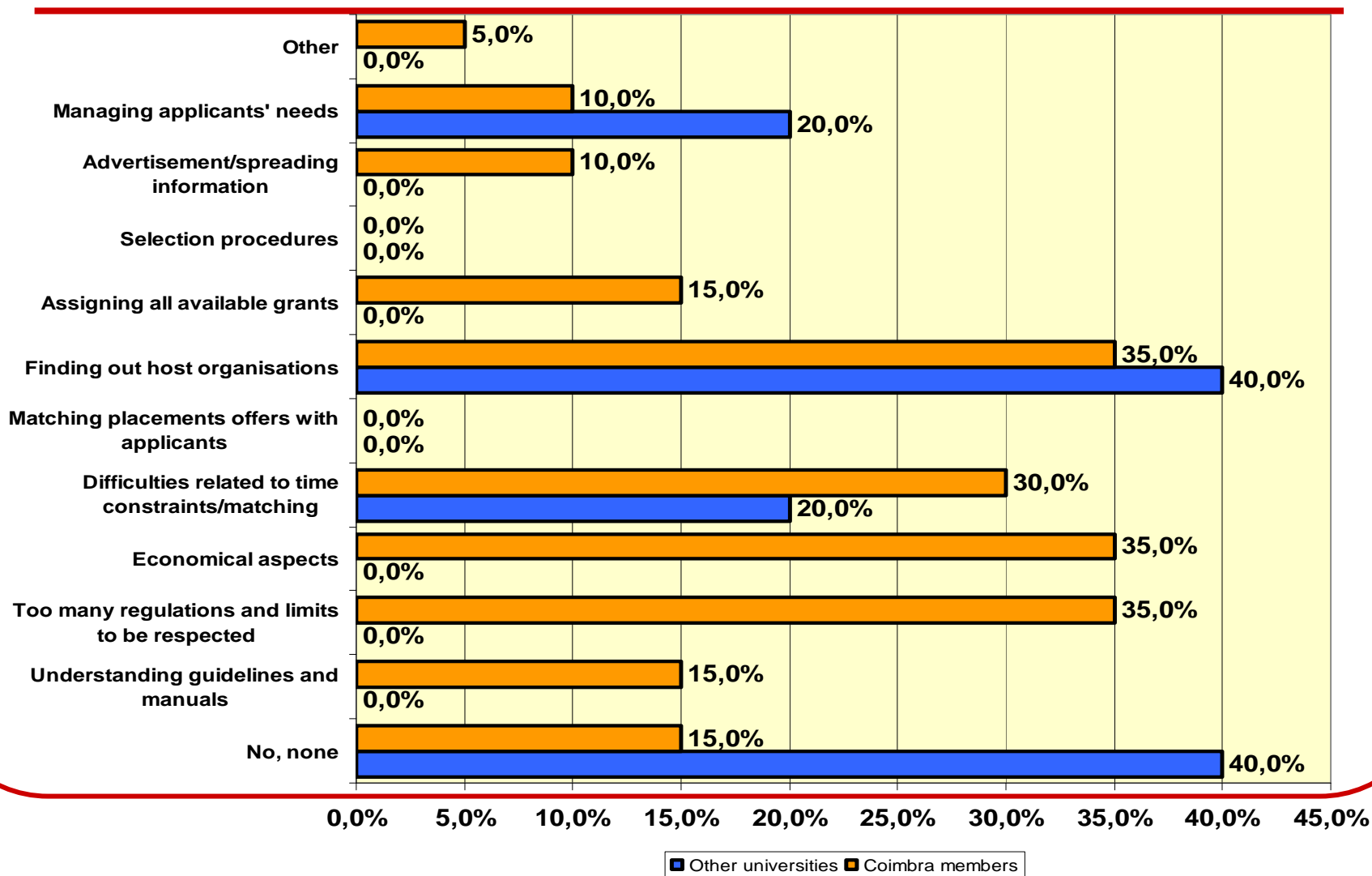
Are credits recognised to students for a successful Erasmus placement stay?

All other universities recognise credits!



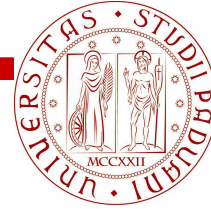
Coimbra Group members

Difficulties in managing Erasmus Placement grants



Conclusions

- It is still not clear which is the office/service that deals with the Erasmus Placement management;
- The majority of respondents agree that there has been an increase on mobility in the last year thanks to the Erasmus Placement programme;
- The majority of respondents have some difficulties in finding out hosting firms abroad;
- The “Knowledge of the hosting Country’s language” and the “personal motivation” are the most important criteria for students selection according to every consulted university;
- The majority of respondent universities are available in creating a “cooperation network” to make students/graduates and hosting companies exchange easier.



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Thank you for your attention!

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