Welcome to the SzEEDS³ Doctoral Program of Széchenyi University

The name of SzEEDS³ is an acronym that, in English, may also mean source of something new; in this case, source of new [management] knowledge. The first part of this acronym is coming from the widely used Hungarian abbreviation of Széchenyi University: SzE (“E”, in Hungarian, stands for “Egyetem” or university). By adding Doctoral School (DS), it will become SZEDS that – with an addition of “E” may sound like “seeds”, our chosen abbreviation. The Doctoral School is the place where the seeds of knowledge are sown and, after some “manufacturing lead time”, new management (“M”) scholars and practitioners will be reaped.

SzEEDS³ is unique in three ways. First and quite surprisingly, as of 2016 fall it is the first English language PhD program in Management in Hungary. Second, the program, in addition to academic rigor, emphasizes practical relevance both by welcoming practitioners to join the program and by inserting a semester of business immersion (a semester to be spent outside of academia, working for a company) into the curriculum. Third, in addition to the traditional management approaches, it also offers a transdisciplinary specialization that emphasizes the importance of using multiple theoretical lenses (e.g., economics, complex systems theory, cultural anthropology) in developing an analysis of the issue at hand.

In the first two years of the program (before the Comprehensive Exam), PhD candidates, typically Thursday, Friday afternoons and Saturdays, have to take a total of 19 four-credit courses (five courses/semester in the first three semesters and four courses in the fourth semester): seven core courses (Research Methods, Finance, Leadership, Operations Control, Entrepreneurship, Nonlinear Systems, Organizational Behavior) and 12 specialization courses. After the Comprehensive Exam, the emphasis will be shifted from acquiring the necessary theoretical foundation and research skills to pursuing individual research agendas and, working with chosen supervisors, to publish.

The ultimate goal of SzEEDS³, with the help of generous scholarships, is to enable PhD candidates to become leaders of change in their communities both in academia and in practice by offering them, with the active participation of noted international scholars, a program that is up-to global standards.

Gyula Vastag
Professor and Program Director