

## Our Response to the Letter to the Editor Written by Colleague Zdravko Lenac, Vice-Rector for Research, University of Rijeka

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*Letter to the editor*

*Received: 29 January, 2006. Accepted: 31 January, 2006.*

Dear colleague,

as we have already publicly acknowledged (see NOVI LIST, Sunday, January 29, 2006) it is quite possible that the data sent to us from the Universities in Croatia were not correct. To check this possibility we shall try to get official numbers again. Hopefully, this time with better luck.

Once, we get these data we shall correct the calculation of productivity per author at each of the Universities. If we do succeed, new numbers will be entered into our text. Should we be unable to get reliable numbers (see our first trial), we shall simply omit the calculation of the productivity per teacher. This far we can be only grateful to those who have pointed out that the numbers we have obtained were not correct.

Contrary to this, we cannot accept the second part of the statement contained in the last sentence of the fourth paragraph of the above mentioned letter: „This is significantly different from that presented by Jokic et al. (1), and it puts the question whether this article could be relevant at all in discussing the effective contribution of Croatian universities to the ‘hard science’ field”. The sentence unjustifiably casts doubt on all our data. Here the author of the letter has gone too far without any basis.

Similarly, the author may have an interest to perform an analysis that he suggested in his last paragraph, but this was not our intention. Thus his suggestion may be well taken by some other authors.

Vlatko Silobrčić

Zagreb, January 29, 2006