



UNIVERSITY  
OF LATVIA

# Data-driven Initiatives in Doctoral Education at the University of Latvia FROM REACTION TO ACTION



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1919

Dibināšanas gads  
Foundation year

Times Higher Education  
World University Rankings

1001-1200



3100+

Darbinieki  
Faculty and staff

Bilances aktīvi  
Total assets

224M+



1000+

Zinātniskās publikācijas  
Scientific publications



Studenti  
Total Enrolment

11061



112

Studiju programmas  
Study programmes

Ārzemju studenti  
Foreign students

7,6%



2335

Grādus ieguvušie  
Graduates

# LU SKAITĻOS KEY FIGURES (2024)



# PhD in numbers

Doctoral Study  
programs at UL

**13**

Total number of  
PhD students at  
UL

**501\***

In / «out»

**~150**

PhD, %  
inhabitants


**0.5**



\*1st of January `24

# Data


### Study




### Scientific community



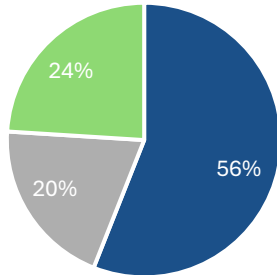
### Well-being



### Demography



## Support system



15 min



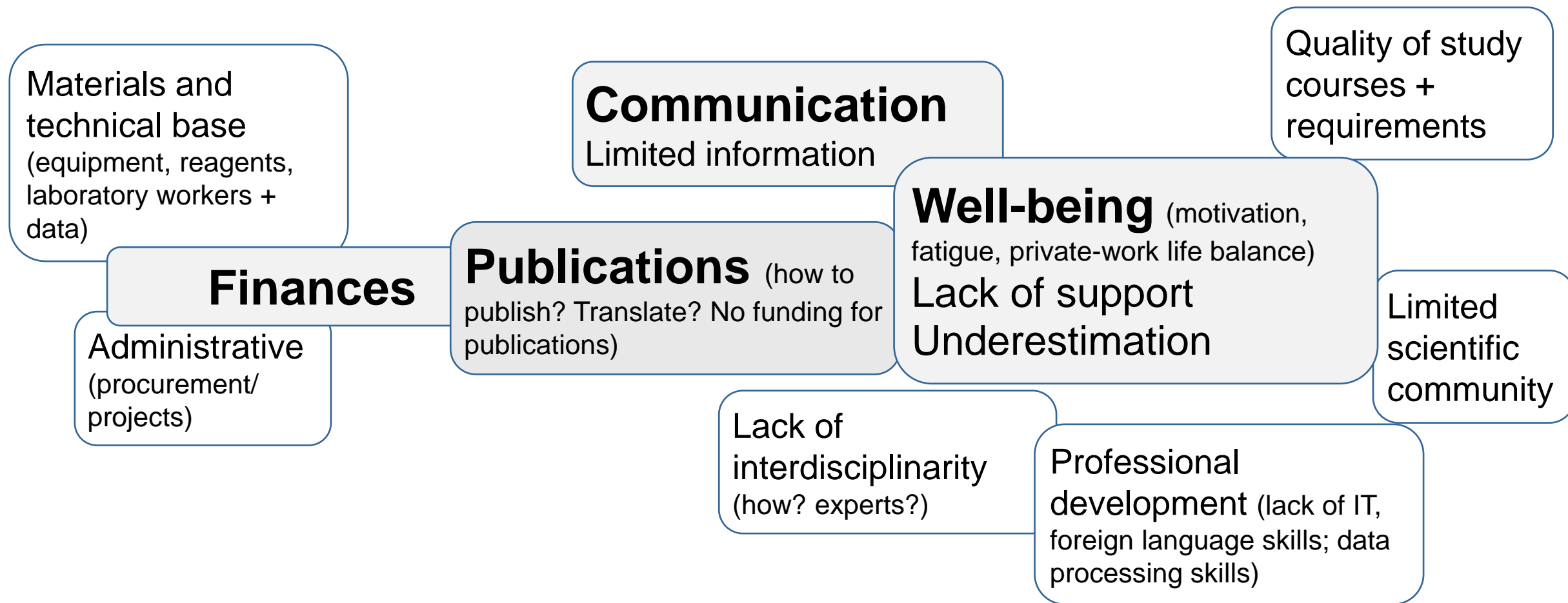
Early spring  
'22 and '23



1/5

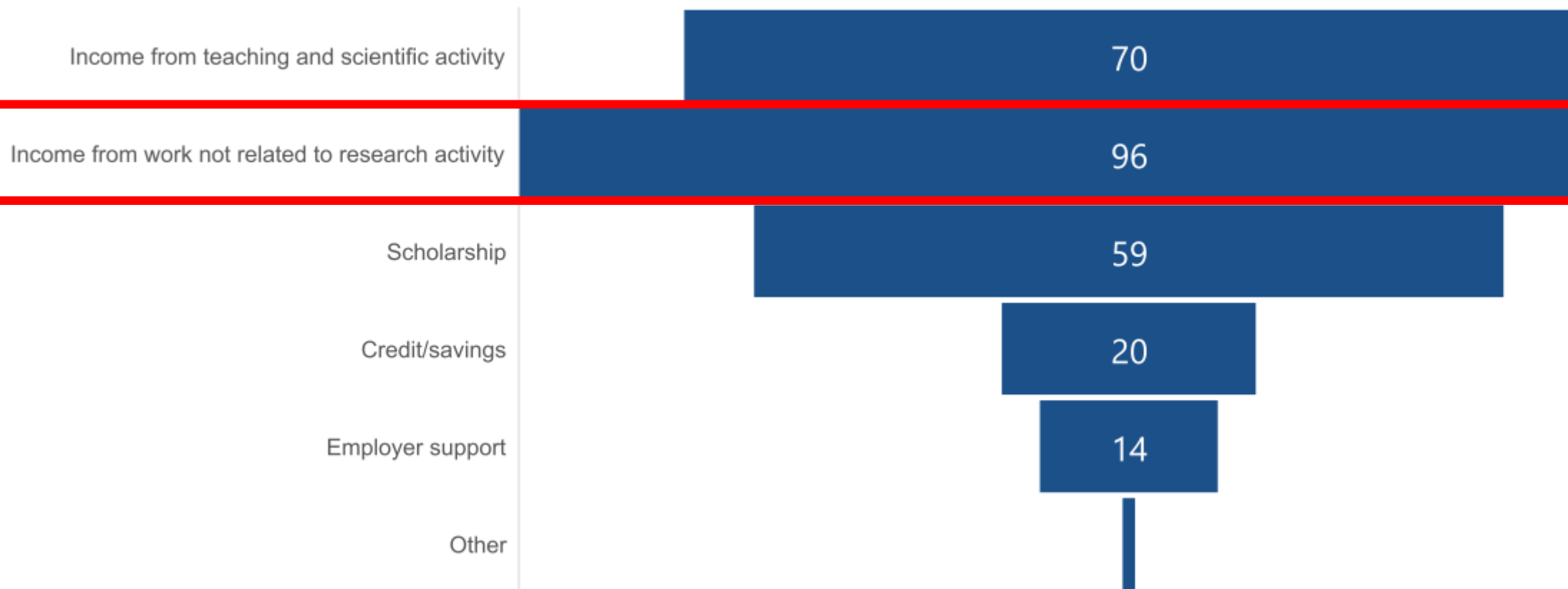
- 1st and 2nd year student
- Candidate for a scientific degree
- Other

# Major challenges (N=161, 2023)



# Source of income during PhD studies

## THE MAIN SOURCE OF INCOME (N=161, 2023)



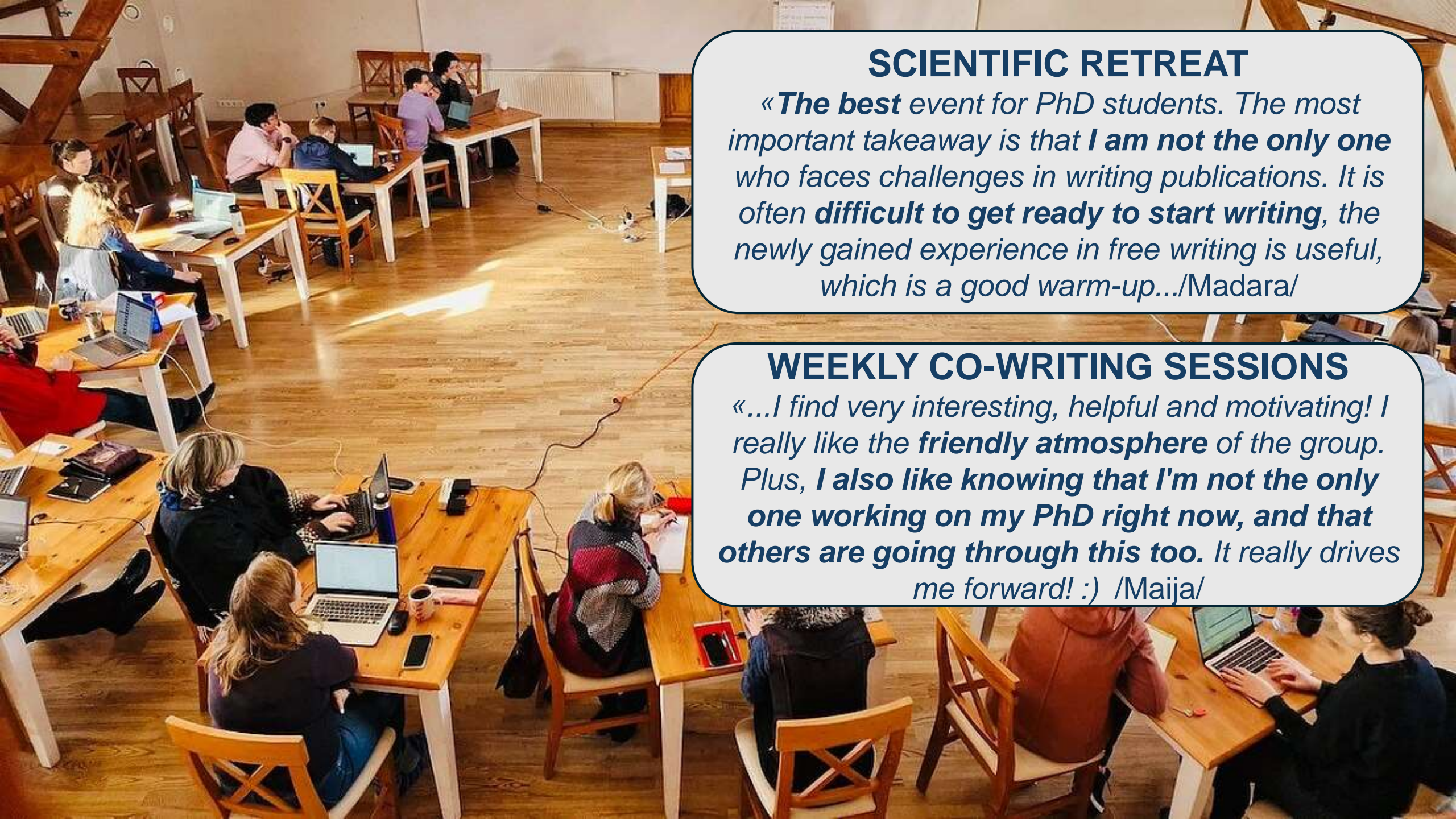
## INFORMAL GATHERING «How to survive and get PhD?»

*«Everything was at the highest level.. professional speakers - everyone can take something valuable. Loved dating games, especially BINGO. An ideal environment for a coffee break for informal conversations..» /anonymous/*



0:05 / 0:10





## SCIENTIFIC RETREAT

«**The best event for PhD students. The most important takeaway is that I am not the only one who faces challenges in writing publications. It is often difficult to get ready to start writing, the newly gained experience in free writing is useful, which is a good warm-up.../Madara/**

## WEEKLY CO-WRITING SESSIONS

«**...I find very interesting, helpful and motivating! I really like the friendly atmosphere of the group. Plus, I also like knowing that I'm not the only one working on my PhD right now, and that others are going through this too. It really drives me forward! :) /Maija/**



## COMMUNICATION & COMMUNITY

- Informal gathering for new` PhD students; **+**
- From January `24 – board game evening; **-**
- workshops:
  - «*Scientific networking*»;
  - «*Science communication by journalists*»;
- Monthly news on UL home page «*One from 0.5%*» – stories about new PhD`, their research and PhD path;
- Online discussion `22 `23 «PhD = UL»: PhD students + supervisors' stories; **+**
- Radio + podcast «PhD = UL»

## WELL –BEEING

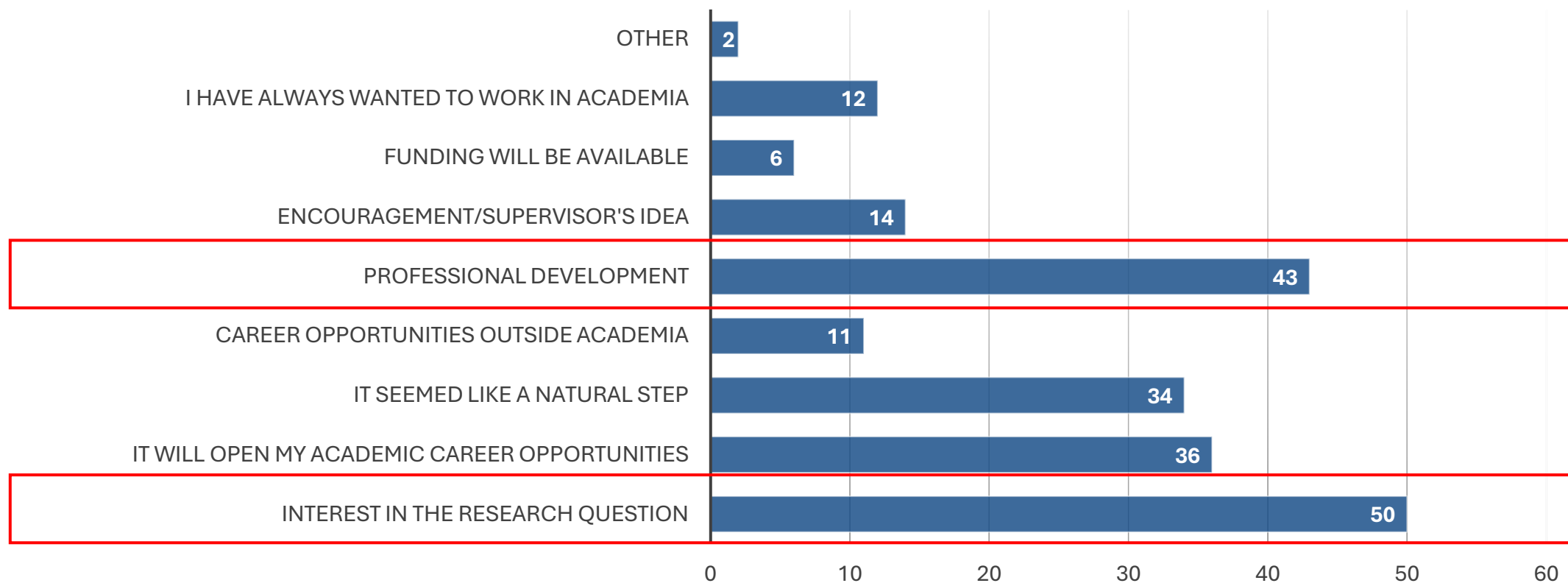
- Practical workshops:
  - «*Mediation into Scientists Life*»;
  - «*Stress and time management*»;
  - «*How to not burn-out in academia?*»
- free yoga and sport sessions;
- Regular surveys.

## SCIENTIFIC WRITING

- Weekly co-writing sessions;
- Scientific Retreat: 3 days outside Academia; **+** **+**
- Workshops:
  - «*2 hours together with Journal Editor*»;
  - «*Systematical Literature Review*»;
- Hands-on workshop «*Digital Profiles – how to be visible?*» **+**

# Motivation

## WHAT HAS DETERMINED YOUR MOTIVATION TO STUDY (N=161\*, 2023)



\*multiple chose



# FROM REACTION TO ACTION!

P.s. Surveys work!



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