

HIGHER EDUCATIONAL REFORMS – INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES: AN ANALYSIS OF HUNGARIAN UNIVERSITIES’ ENROLMENT POLICIES



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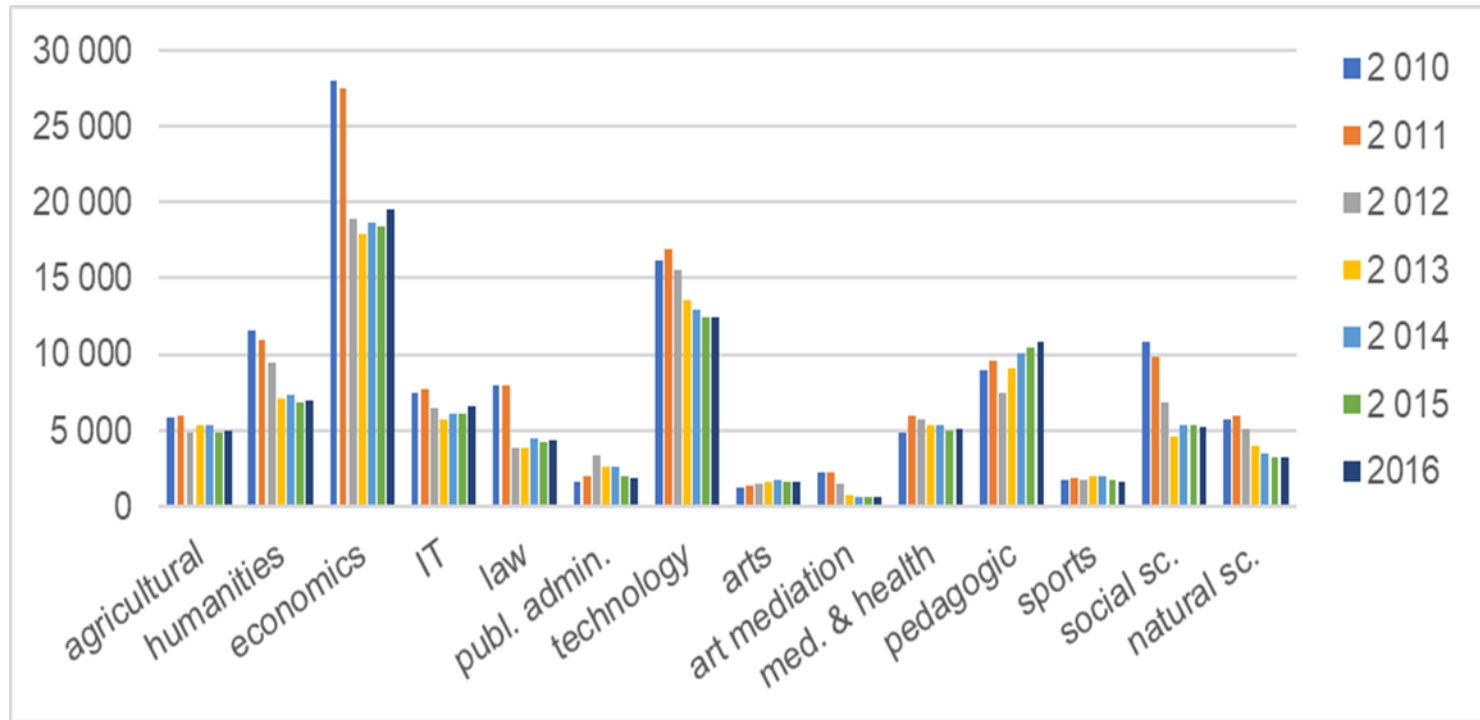
International Conference The Future of Education
Florence, 28-29 June 2018.



Introduction

- Reform of Higher Education in Hungary from 2011-2012
- Main goals:
 - Restructuring fields of studies:
 - To have less students at economics, law and social sciences
 - To have more students at fields of engineering (technology), IT
 - „To restore the honour of manual labor” – to have less students in HE at all
- Means: basically through allocation of state financing of students

Let's have a glance...



Number of admitted students according to fields of study, 2010-2016

Prior research – Student reflections

- There was a drop in the total number of students
- Meanwhile the favoured restructuring did not take place
 - Change in the proportion of a field in the total number of admitted students from 2010 to 2017:
 - The „winner” – pedagogic programs by +3,66%
 - IT: +2,3%
 - Technology: +0,63% (though by a constant decrease in the absolute number of admittances)
 - Economics: -1,3% (though still remained far the biggest field)
 - Law: -1,47%

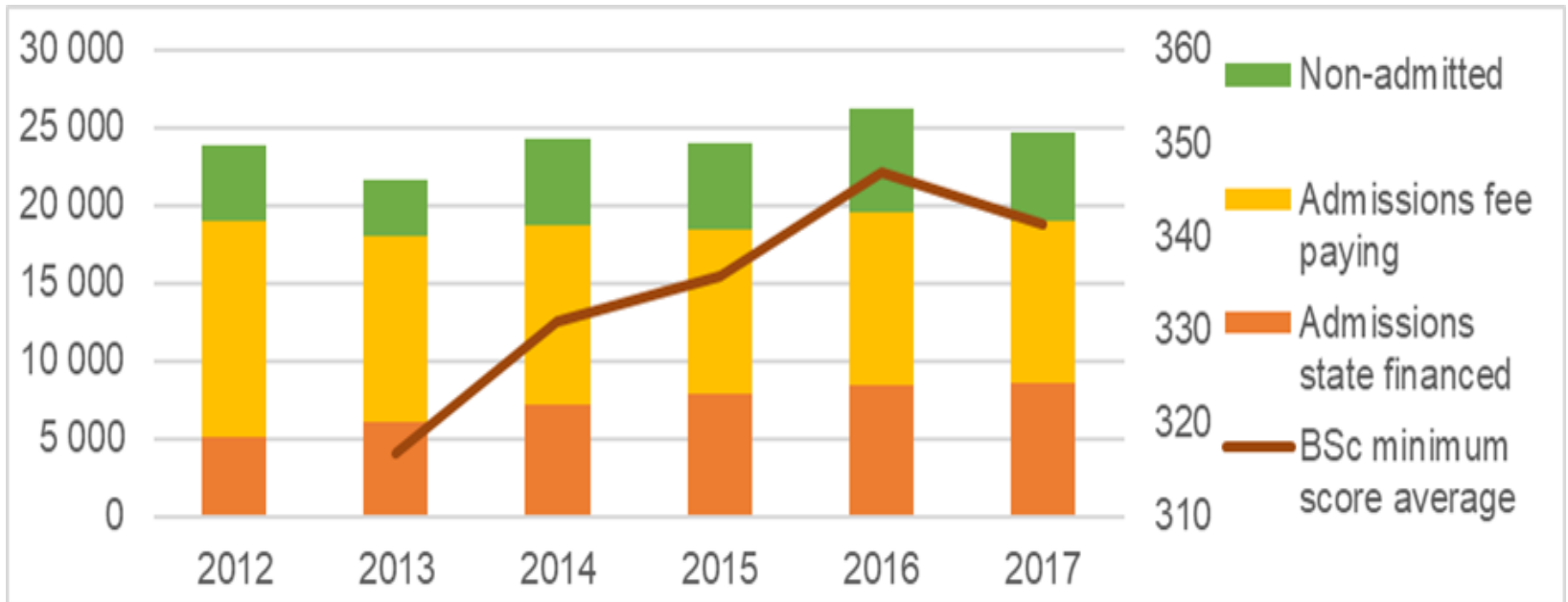
Consequence on student reflection on a statistical basis

- Students decide either to enter or not to enter to the Hungarian HE at a certain time
- But they do not change their chosen field

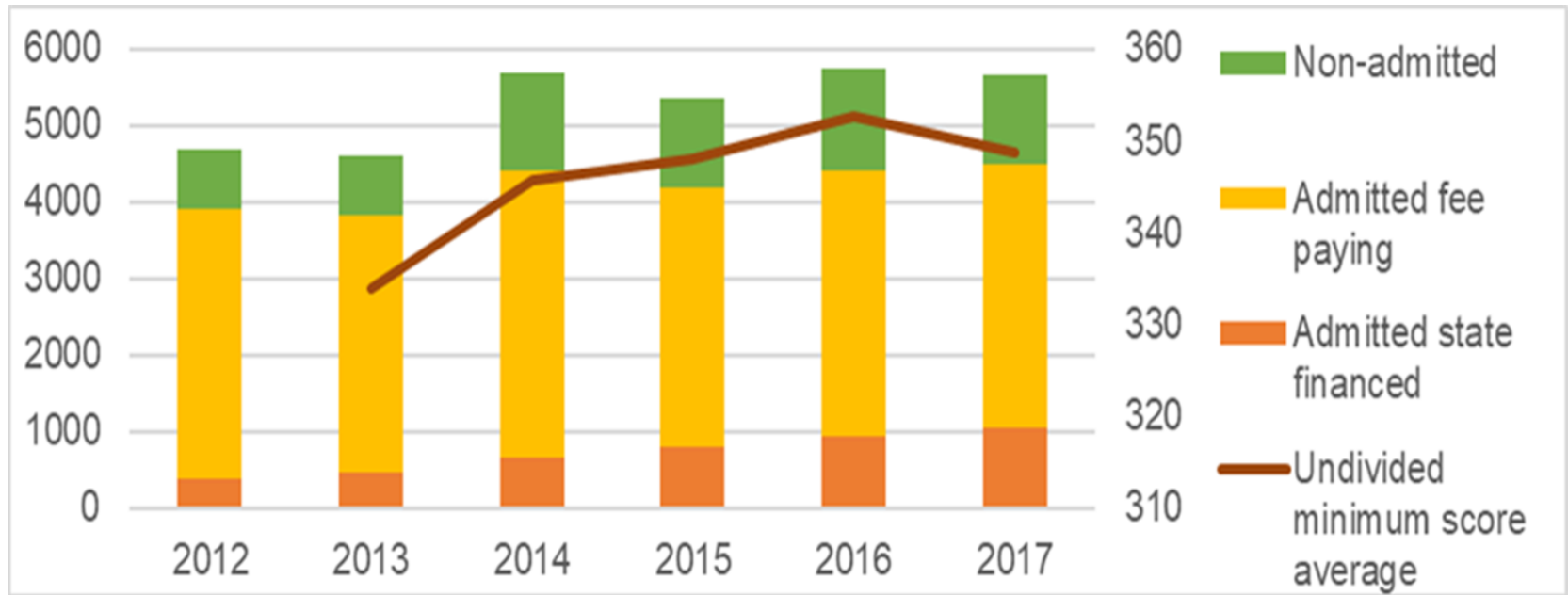
The current research: investigating the same issue from HE institutional viewpoint

- Methodology:
 - On statistical basis
- Examining data of first place applications and admissions
- Admission data of 10 Hungarian universities most relevant at the examined fields of studies
- Examining average minimum entering scores (MES) to a given field at BSc level (except for law studies)
- Expectation: a decrease in MES

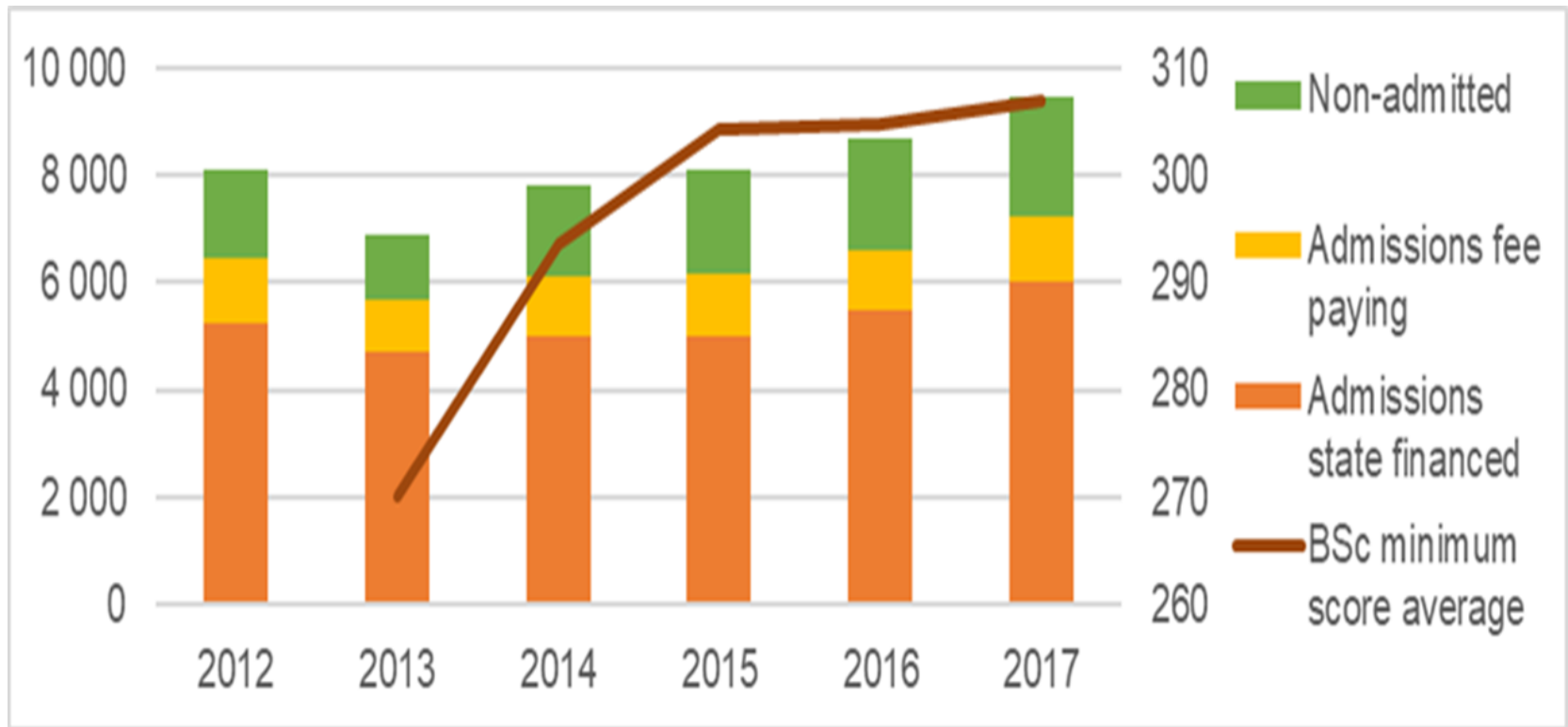
Economics



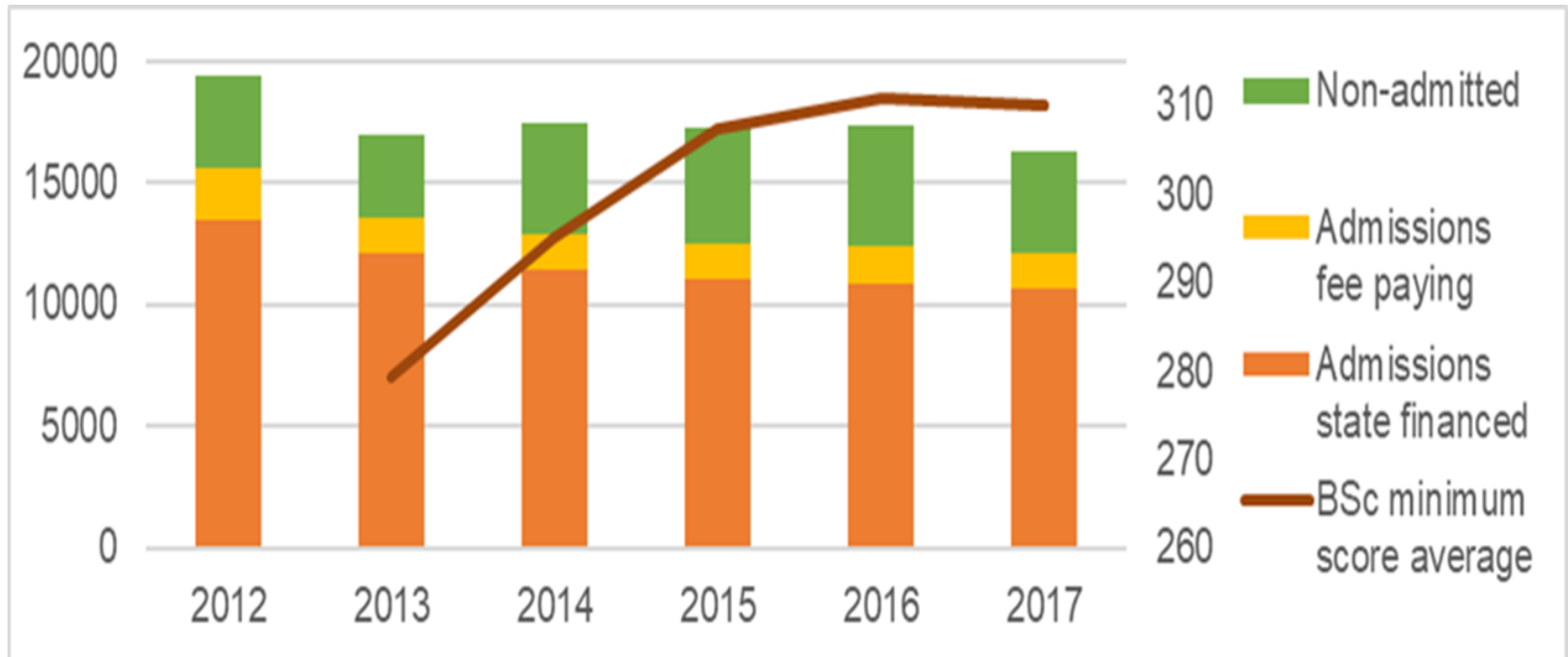
Law



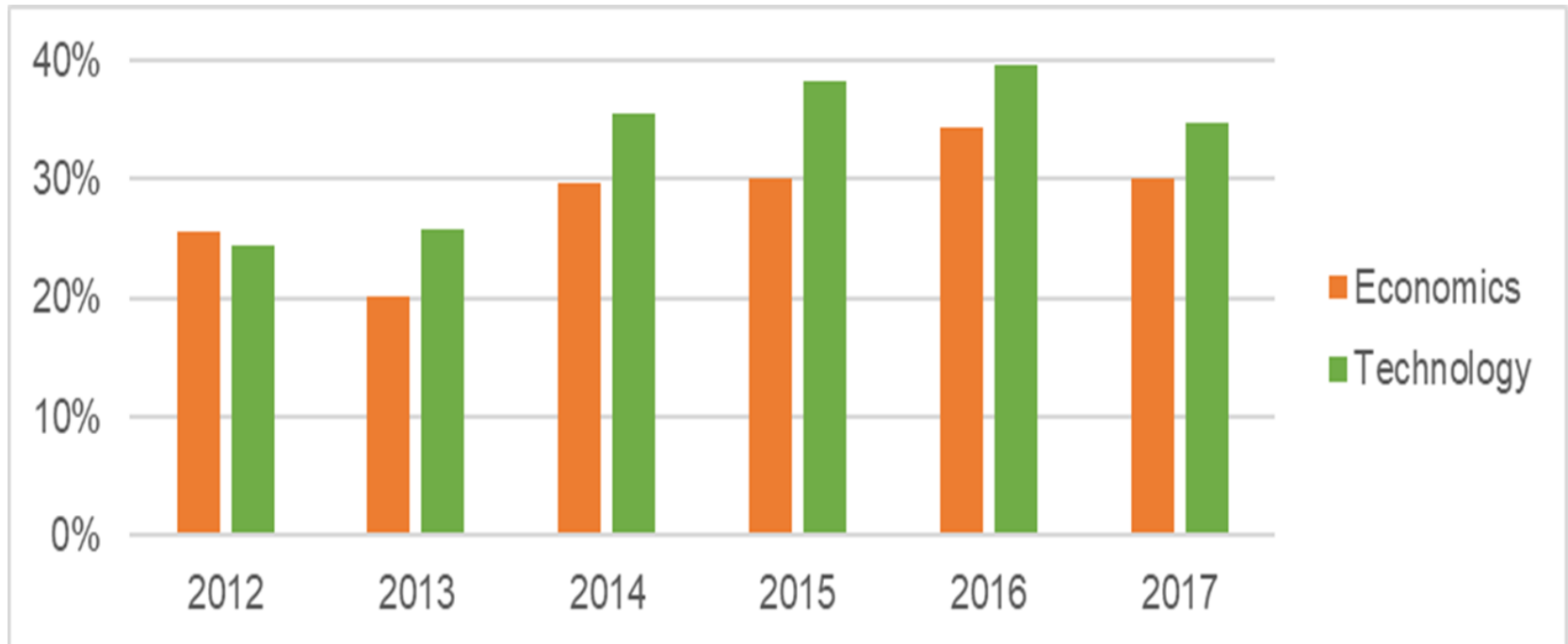
IT



Technology



Let's compare the ratio of rejected applicants...



Time to conclude...

- The HE's average patterns are very similar to the ones of applicants
 - Higher MES – significant number of rejected applications
 - Increasing MES's even where more students would be favoured

It's like choosing between...



Source of picture:
<https://www.facebook.com/irkafirkakavezo/photos>



But if you decided to change your preference to sporty, you could get...



Source of picture: <https://www.123rf.com>

More students with more financing isn't good?

- Increasing MES's seem irrational. But is it really?
- For short term financial advantages should perceived quality be lowered?
 - Lower entering scores show lower prior performance.
- Reputation of a HEI and its program is important for a HEI.

Consequence

- If a policy does not meet (or even contradicts to) the interests of its major stakeholders, the result – optimistically – may be only a partial fulfilment.

Thank you for your kind attention!
Any questions?