



# Language Teaching at the University of Szeged

Language Policy Roundtable

Szeged, 4 September 2009

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# Outline of the Presentation 1

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- ◆ Language teaching and undergraduate programs in Hungarian
- ◆ Undergraduate programs in foreign languages
  - Programs and target groups
  - Foreign students in Szeged



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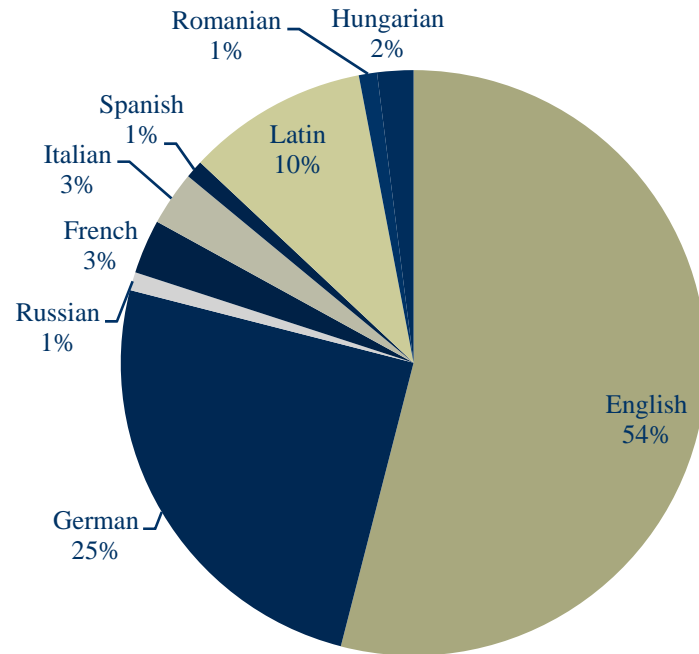
# Outline of the Presentation 2

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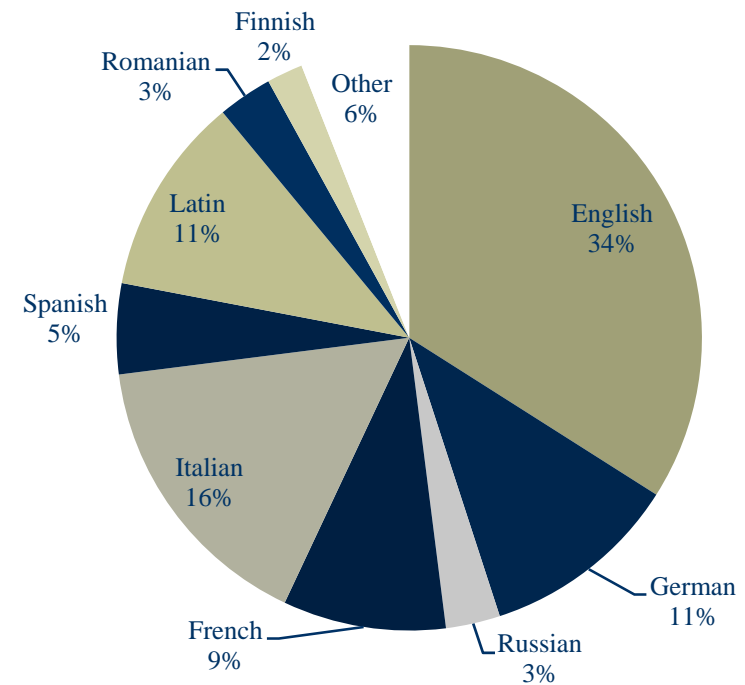
- ◆ Foreign languages in post-graduate education
  - English in medical and related sciences
  - Other research areas
- ◆ Linguistic aspects of support and marketing structures (library, homepage etc.)
- ◆ Does UoSz have a linguistic policy?
- ◆ SWOT analysis
- ◆ Conclusions

# Language Teaching and Undergraduate Programs

## First Foreign Language



## Second Foreign Language



# Undergraduate Programs in Foreign Languages

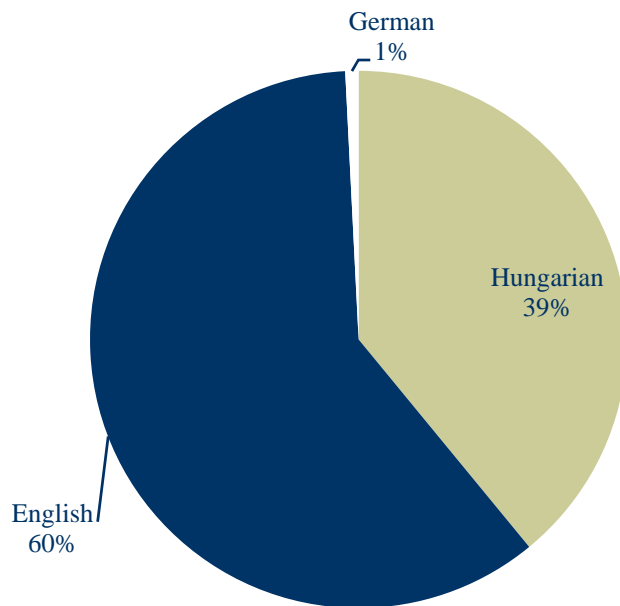
- ◆ Faculty of Law
  - LIM – Droit européen (French); Deutsches Wirtschaftsrecht (German)
  - American Legal Experts' Training (English), Formation de droit français (French)
- ◆ Faculty of Medicine / Dentistry / Pharmacy
  - Medical Program (English and German)
  - Dental Medicine Program (English)
  - Pharmacy Program (English)
- ◆ Faculty of Arts
  - MA – German/French/Spanish/Italian Language, Literature and Culture; English and American Studies; Applied Study of Religions (English)
- ◆ Faculty of Science and Informatics (English, from 2010)
  - MSc – Biology, Chemistry, Computer Program Designer, Computer Economist
- ◆ Faculty of Musical Arts

# Foreign Students in Szeged

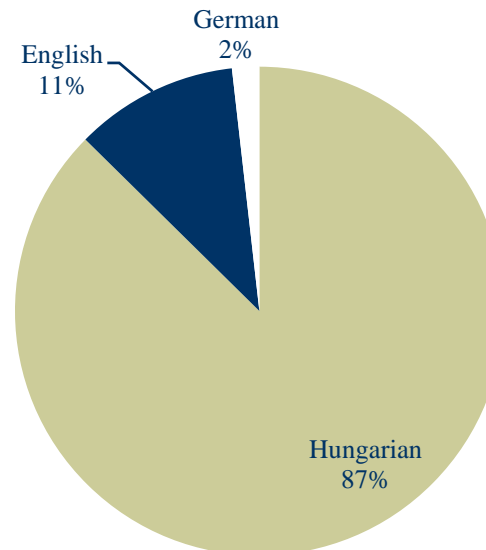
- ◆ Foreign Students - OECD average: 6-7%
- ◆ Foreign Students in Hungary: 2-3% (including ethnic Hungarians from neighbouring countries, cca. 50%)
- ◆ Foreign Students at the University of Szeged (including Erasmus students): 1500-1700 (5-6%)
  - of which medical and related sciences: 900-1000 (55-60%)
  - Major source countries: Germany, Iran, Israel, Serbia, Romania

# Foreign Languages in Post-Graduate Education

**Defended Ph.D. Dissertations  
by Language**

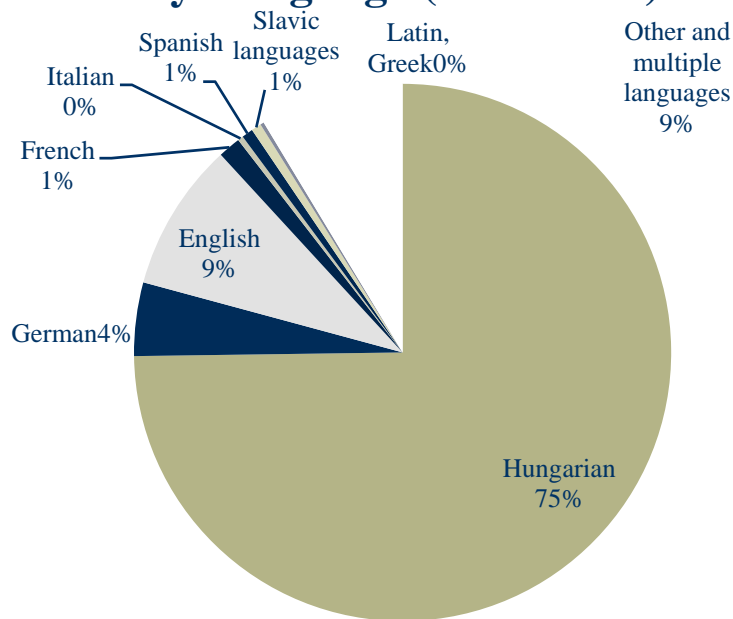


**Defended Ph.D. Dissertations  
by Language (Excluding  
Medical and Related Sciences)**

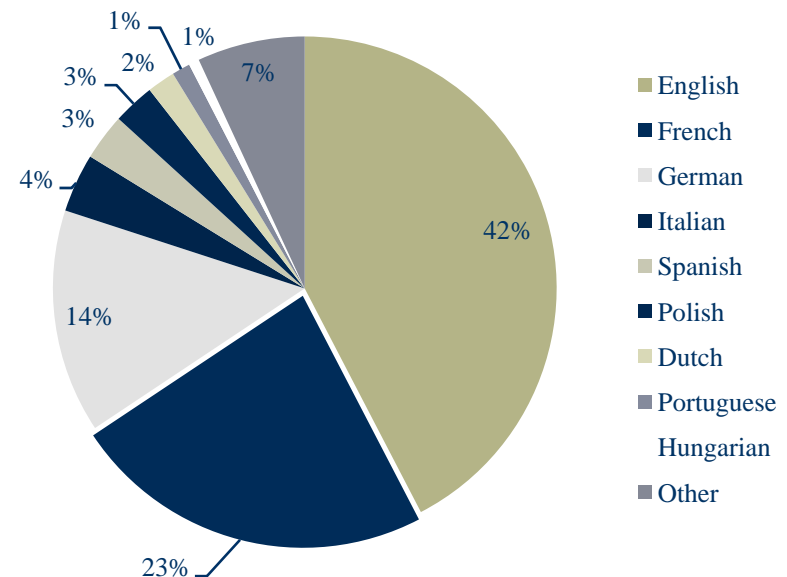


# Linguistic Aspects of Support Structures - Library

**University Library Acquisitions by Language (2005-2008)**



**Orders of Books in the EP Library (2004-2008)**







# Linguistic Aspects of Support Structures – Website and More

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- ◆ University website – available in English with meaningful information on general and Faculty related issues
- ◆ Meaningful Faculty websites in Foreign Languages:
  - Medicine/Dentistry/Pharmacy
  - - / some department websites are available in English
- ◆ Support personnel
- ◆ ETR



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# Do We Have a Linguistic Policy / Strategy?

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- ◆ A strategic objective to widen the spectrum of programs offered in foreign languages
  - income
  - international cooperation / teaching experience
  - prestige
- ◆ Focus on Ph.D. and M.A. programs



# SWOT – I.

## ◆ Strengths

- Well-established, well-marketed and popular foreign language programs in some areas
- Awareness of the need to broaden and diversify these programs

## ◆ Weaknesses

- Limited competitiveness
- Lack of experience in most areas
- Lack of a culture of long-term planning
- Limited interaction between programs in Hungarian and foreign languages
- Lack of multi-lingual support structures



# SWOT – II.

## ◆ Opportunities

- Geographic proximity of Serbia and Romania
- Presence of a significant international business and NGO community in Szeged
- Increasing student mobility in the EU
- Multi-cultural and multi-linguistic character of the host city

## ◆ Threats

- Tough and in some aspects more advanced competition from Hungary and abroad
- Demographic decline
- Unstable financial and regulatory environment



# Conclusions

- ◆ The University of Szeged already has the potential to diversify its linguistic portfolio.
- ◆ It must identify and develop further areas where programs in foreign languages are feasible.
- ◆ Strategic planning is required:
  - Choice and development of areas;
  - Use of regional synergies;
  - Choice of language;
  - Efficient marketing.