



Erasmus University Policy Statement (General strategy) 2014-2020

Please describe your institution's international (EU and non-EU) strategy. In your description please explain a) how you choose your partners, b) in which geographical area(s) and c) the most important objectives and target groups of your mobility activities (with regard to staff and students in first, second and third cycles, including study and training, and short cycles). If applicable, also explain how your institution participates in the development of double/multiple/joint degrees.

The Hochschule Mainz, with roughly 5000 students belongs to the small universities of Germany. It is in a local open competition with the other universities of applied sciences of Darmstadt, Frankfurt and Wiesbaden. At the same time, the Rhine Main area, as an economical and structural strong region, offers great corporation opportunities with international orientated companies. Therefore, the Hochschule Mainz strives to improve its image by a stronger internationalization which is accompanied by modernization. It shall help increase the incentive of the Hochschule Mainz in the national and international competition.

Alongside numerous, to some extent long-term but also new partners in the EU and overseas, we have additionally established specific new corporations in Asia, North and South Korea as well as in Oceania. Thereby, the attempt was made to find other universities that offer a range of courses as similar as possible to our university, in order to achieve a synergy effect.

The EU and Non-EU corporations focus on the exchange of students and professors, to prepare the students for an international labor market and to not only equip them with professional but also with additional social and intercultural competence. The target group involves Bachelor - and Master students. The Anglophone master degree course "International Business" gives our students the opportunity, to earn a Double Degree, which consists of the two degrees from the home and partner university. Since then, two additional Master Double Degree courses in the business department have been established and accredited in Argentina and France. Moreover, Hochschule Mainz is a member of the CIDDD- "Consortium of International Double Degrees" which is an association of more than twenty business schools worldwide, that work closely together in a transnational manner.

The undergraduate field of the degree course "International Nonstructural Engineering" gives the opportunity for exchange students of the partner universities to enroll for courses in English of the third academic year. At the same time, the students of International Nonstructural Engineering have the chance to study at one of our partner universities or to do an internship abroad.

The obligatory internship semester has been reintroduced to the degree course Business Law, after it had been abolished within the context of the Bologna- Reform. We take part in the ERASMUS Internship – Program in terms of a consortium "EU- Service Point", to which five other universities from Rhineland-Palatinate have incorporated.

It shall be established in those degree courses that do not offer a mobility window yet, in order to simplify the abroad mobility and acknowledgement. ECTS was established university-wide.

The staff mobility could be constantly increased within the past years. The personnel exchange from the administration and engineering department is acknowledged and encouraged as a training opportunity by

the directors of the study programs. The Hochschule Mainz offers the personnel of the partner universities the opportunity to come to Mainz in order to exchange with their colleagues from the same department during the international week.

The Hochschule Mainz conducts applied research and development in the engineering field (i.e. the additional name “University of Applied Sciences”). The research institutions keep several scientists employed. The working language is usually English. Furthermore, the Hochschule Mainz conducts together with some partner universities a corporative promotion which again means a positive outcome for the research activities. The focus is rather kept on the international collaborations with mutual research and development projects than student exchange.

The degree courses in the department of Design as well as Architecture collaborate with the partners abroad in the context of projects and workshops. Common topics are developed at the own university and the results are presented in a workshop either at a partner university or another relevant place. The short-term stays or excursions are especially interesting for those students who do not have the opportunity to study abroad. They have the chance to work together in international teams and at the same time get to know the teaching methods of the professors abroad.

If applicable, please describe the strategy of your institution in terms of organization and realization of international (EU and Non-EU) corporation projects in teaching and training field with regard to projects that are conducted by the program.

International projects with partners abroad are an important means in which all departments are able to show the students an international context in order to prepare them for a global labor market.

“COEUR- competence in Euro Partnership” is the name of an international student workshop that takes place at a COEUR network university every year in September. The COEUR workshop is open for students of all departments and it shall enable corporate ideas for a growing (European) culture of corporate actions. Five European universities in Germany, Scotland, Portugal, Poland and Czech Republic belong to the COEUR-network. The next step of the COEUR- project is the planning and implementation of the module “Business Creativity”, that will be also interesting for universities outside the EU.

The “IUH- Institute for Corporate Transaction” is an academic institution of the Hochschule Mainz which stands in close contact to the COEUR-project as well. IT counsels and supports students of all departments, employees of the university and people who are interested in establishment, through offers of corporate actions and thinking (e.g. setting up business, business planning, business simulation game).

At the annual “CIDD International Student Conference”, American students and all other exchange students come together with our students from Mainz and talk about “Business in Europe”.

Lastly, the international week of Hochschule Mainz, invites all professors and staff members of EU and Non- EU partner universities to give them a chance to deepen their contacts and an opportunity for all students to be in an “international setting”. It can trigger the decision for a stay abroad or offer “internationalization at home” those students who do not have the chance to go.

Please describe the expected consequences of the modernization of your institution in terms of political goals (for every five of the priorities of the modernization agenda) which you try to achieve through your participation in the program.

A university that wants to focus on internationalization has to subdue to a constant modernization process in order to persist in global competition. In 2011/12 the Hochschule Mainz took part in the HRK- Audit "Internationalization of the universities". Due to the recommendations we are going to work on an advanced strategy for internationalization.

Higher education is a strong driving force for economical growth that presents our graduates better living conditions. The study programs have to be further developed in order to help the graduates obtain employability. A constant dialogue with the economy is indispensable and traditionally belongs to the main focus of Hochschule Mainz. Professors, who are appointed for the first time, need to have at least five years of work experience in the economic field.

In a long term corporation with the economy, the Hochschule Mainz established custom part-time and further education study programs, in which professionals have the opportunity to gain a higher education degree and additional qualifications. Thereby, modular learning offers or E-learning/ Blended Learning are proved instruments. A continual further training of the teaching staff is essential.

The enhancement of the quality of the study programs with an increasing number of students proves to be big challenge for the university. They started to establish a quality assurance system in order to cope with the demands.

Additional study programs are being established (e.g. German scholarships), in order to enable higher education in a wider range of all kinds of social classes and underrepresented communities.

The further expansion of student and university staff mobility is an important aim of our efforts for internationalization. Study programs that do not offer a mobility window shall be altered in order to simplify the mobility abroad. Concrete agreements with the partners and the efficient acknowledgment of the academic performance gained abroad through security assurance and constant usage of ECTS and Diploma Supplement have been stood the test at our university. A new German- French master program with double-degree, that starts 2013/14 and is sponsored by the German-French University, opens up a new perspective for a transnational corporation.

The connection between higher education, research and economy shall be intensified through a strong supported applied research and knowledge transfer. Corporate, creative and innovative based skills that we are teaching at our university are going to bring forward excellency and innovation.

All aims and measurements for the achievement of an outstanding university degree are only then realizable if the university is well appointed and adequately supported by the respective country.