

## ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT

**The Podlasie Academy of Applied Sciences in Bialystok**, Poland is concerned about high quality of education, raising it through various activities that enable active participation in education broadly understood. Education consistent with Bologna Declaration has to include all the aspects of modern society ensuring high quality of education also through implementation and participation in the LLP programme. The objective of our university is versatile development achievable through access to attractive specialties offered by our school as well as preparation of students to individual and creative thinking, developing educational offer taking national and European job market under consideration through the introduction of the latest information technologies. The University's PRIORITY is to constantly raise qualifications, increasing the number of foreign language courses. High quality of education is raised through:

- updating scientific publications indispensable in educational process in different European languages, emphasizing English and French
- active implication and updating of ECTS points
- engaging students and employees to participate in versatile projects, thematic networks with colleges and universities in EU. The university cooperates actively with different scientific centres in Europe employing lecturers, organizing conferences and publishing international publications, and our participation in LLP will facilitate active mobility of the employees and students
- creating common educational programmes which will be implemented in agreement with foreign partners
- developing abilities and qualifications of the students through contacts with pedagogical organizations, intercultural dialogue, cooperation and participation in social actions which promote LLP programme

Contacts with other nations, getting familiar with their cultures and implementing the above mentioned elements of raising the quality of education instill values connected with educational humanism, openness to misfortune and injustice of other people and sensitivity towards problems of the modern world such as poverty, hunger or disability into the students. Discrimination, racism, xenophobia are concepts known only from literature, because our university is guided by the rule "bridges instead of walls" uniting individualities with common passions and inclinations. Activities connected with getting to know other cultures, its advantages and life of people from UE countries are led, which fosters dissemination of and encouragement to international cooperation.

In order to promote participation in LLP, EPS as well as various activities undertaken within Erasmus, advertising campaigns organized by the department for the development and promotion will be held. The students and employees will be able to participate in informative meetings led by the Erasmus Coordinator, encouraging to participate in international exchange; reaching a broad group of the students and employees of our university will be possible by preparing informative materials, brochures and most of all updating information about the Erasmus Programme and activities within its range on our website which is prepared in English and French. Promoting activities in LLP sector will also be possible through workers

from other European countries who work in our university and will encourage to sign bilateral and multilateral agreements among colleges and universities.

High quality of academic mobility is our priority, which is provided by Foreign Cooperation Bureau together with the Coordinator of the Erasmus Programme supervising students and workers' exchange and participation in multilateral projects and thematic networks (Erasmus Networks). The university counsels outgoing and incoming students, facilitates filling studies documents and issuing suitable certificates indispensable for a foreign student to get credits for a period of studies as well as respects and accepts a period of studies of an outgoing student, whereas learning agreement will enable full recognition for the stay abroad. ECTS system applied by our university will facilitate efficient adaptation of teaching programmes by partnership colleges. Virtual registers will allow students efficient and fast control of achievements during their stay at our university, and virtual library will facilitate using literature sources.

Enrollment of students in foreign trips will be based on their knowledge of a foreign language, learning results and active participation in college's life. The Erasmus coordinator will be responsible for verifying a student's candidature. Incoming students will obtain: professional care during their studies and free time when thematic trips connected with learning about cultural heritage of Podlasie Region and whole Poland will be organized, accommodation and assistance in moving around the city with the help of informative brochures (in English and French) about cultural places, student organizations, restaurants, sports clubs, colleges and places of public utility, participation in intensive Polish language courses as well as ability to take part in a wide range of lectures led in European languages so as to provide high quality of education connected to academic mobility. The Association of Europeans which functions at our university deals with education in EU, cooperates with outer organizations as well as provides foreign students with care during their stay at the university.