

## **University of Bradford Erasmus Policy Statement**

### **UK BRADFORD01**

**Charter No: 28336-EPP-1-2014-1-UK-EPPKA3-ECHE**

#### **Overview of the University of Bradford institutional and internationalisation strategy**

The University of Bradford's strategy has four overarching objectives:

- (a) excellence
- (b) internationalisation
- (c) equality and diversity
- (d) sustainability

The University aims to be internationally involved and internationally visible. This sits alongside our long-standing commitment to the local and regional communities and economy, and we will use our international reach to support our local and regional partners.

We will:

- (a) do research that impacts on policymakers, society and business leaders worldwide;
- (b) deliver teaching that prepares students to become leaders in the global economy;
- (c) create opportunities for international exchange with partners overseas.

We aim to be a university where international teachers and researchers want to work, and home and overseas students want to study. We aim to be a world-leading technology university.

We see student and staff mobility as important tools in producing globalised graduates, an enhanced student experience and internationalising the practice of our teaching, research and professional staff.

#### **How we choose our partners and geographical location**

The University of Bradford collaborates, wherever possible, to form strategic partnerships with other excellent universities, businesses, public sector, industry, commerce, professions, charities, government and non-governmental organisations across the world. We partner with overseas organisations to strengthen and support our research and impact, maintain and develop our existing strong networks and seek new ones where appropriate and provide an environment to encourage our staff to operate within the international arena, including supporting overseas sabbaticals and hosting visiting researchers.

We aim to enhance and diversify the student experience by partnering with other universities and organisations that will provide quality opportunities for student mobility. We seek exchange partners with whom we can:

- a) establish a sustainable and mutually beneficial relationship.
- b) maintain a balance of inbound and outbound exchange student numbers .
- c) ensure that both inbound and outbound students benefit from appropriate academic provision and pastoral support.

Current student exchange partnerships are concentrated in Europe and the majority of these operate within the Erasmus Framework. However we also have a number of exchange partners in the US and Canada, Hong Kong, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, and Australia. In addition to exchange partnerships, we operate a range of research and teaching partnerships in China, India, South-East Asia, the Middle East and Africa.

### **Objectives and target groups of our mobility activities**

The University of Bradford is committed to equality, diversity and inclusivity. We believe that a vibrant intellectual atmosphere derives from a mix of people from different backgrounds. We will provide a varied mix of mobility opportunities to students and staff from all regions and countries, irrespective of background or characteristics

We aim to develop globalised graduates and recognise the importance of providing study abroad opportunities to our students to achieve this. Our inbound exchange students from a diverse range of cultural and geographical backgrounds help the internationalisation of our student body and campus.

We aim to globalise our curricula and teaching practices and will do so through providing staff mobility opportunities. We aim to include both academic and non-academic staff in our Erasmus+ staff mobilities. We expect staff to develop international and cultural skills in their research, teaching and provision of support services. We expect staff taking up mobility opportunities to in turn internationalise the campus and curriculum.

We aim to engage as many students as possible in international mobility opportunities, and the presence of Erasmus+ inbound exchange students and staff on the Bradford campus will impact on the internationalisation of those students unable to participate.

### **Impact of participation in the Erasmus+ Programme, on the modernisation of our institution. (Referencing the five priorities of the [Modernisation Agenda](#)\*)**

- **Increasing attainment levels to provide the graduates and researchers Europe needs**
- **Improving the quality and relevance of higher education**
- **Strengthening quality through mobility and cross-border co-operation**
- **Making the knowledge triangle work: Linking higher education, research and business for excellence and regional development**
- **Improving governance and funding**

#### Developing better graduate skills

Erasmus+ enables study and traineeship opportunities to be made available to all our students, regardless of background or ability to pay. The University's institutional strategy sets out its intention to provide more opportunities for students to participate in international exchange as part of its internationalisation agenda. The international experience and knowledge gained by students who participate in international mobility programmes is competence increasingly sought by prospective employers in today's global economy.

(Increasing attainment levels to provide the graduates and researchers Europe needs)

#### Driving systemic change within the university around mobility

Participation in Erasmus+ provides us with a framework within which to develop international partnerships, operate mobility programmes for our students and staff and offer financial support to

their activities. The scale of the programme is enabling us to mainstream student mobility and adopt into programme specifications. It is enabling the wider take-up of mobility opportunities.

(Strengthening quality through mobility and cross-border co-operation)

#### Internationalising the curriculum

Staff mobility opportunities will enable our staff to gain from seeing new perspectives and alternative techniques. This will further the University's implementation of its internationalisation strategy.

(Improving the quality and relevance of higher education)

(Strengthening quality through mobility and cross-border co-operation)

#### Developing our role as a technology university

We believe in doing research and teaching in applied and professional subjects, to deliver economic development and job creation, and career opportunities for our students. Erasmus+ participation enables us to strengthen our links with the regional and European economies through the experience gained by our students and staff.

(Making the knowledge triangle work: Linking higher education, research and business for excellence and regional development)

#### Internationalise the campus, how the institution is managed and ensuring relevance of services we offer

The University strives to ensure that our participation in Erasmus+ develops the experience and cultural skills of our staff and students, benefitting our campus community and the wider regional and international development. Staff mobility for our professional services staff enable us to benchmark ourselves against the best in Europe and to learn from others to improve the services we offer to a diverse student population. We continue to develop and strengthen our governance and oversight in support of excellence, and sustainability is one of the University's strategic objectives: we want people and society to benefit from our activities, while ensuring financial viability by maintaining surpluses and cash flow, and minimising environmental impacts. We believe that on-campus diversity, resulting from our widening participation efforts, global partnerships and mobility programmes provides a stimulating and inclusive environment which attracts, values and supports the intellectual contributions of academic staff, contract researchers, and students.

(Improving governance and funding)