



Erasmus Policy Statement 2014-2020

Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem

Supporting the development of international cooperation and further integration of UJEP to the projects of international cooperation is part of the Strategic Plan 2011-2015 and UJEP Strategy for years 2010-2020. All areas of cooperation are based on generally accepted principles (such as transparency, evidence, openness, etc.) that correspond to the rules of European programs. UJEP's goal in the internationalization area is to get involved in European mobility projects and activities offering various types of abroad residency for students and staff (rich experience with Erasmus will be used). UJEP also plans to participate in other mobility projects offered at the national level (e.g. Ministry of Education) and expand the range of educational, scientific, research and artistic projects involving UJEP, with international participation. In the mobility area, which takes place on the basis of previously closed inter-institutional agreements, the effort of UJEP is: to move from quantitative to qualitative point of view in the next programming period, to maintain the percentage of bachelor's and master's students going abroad in order to study and practice during the academic year of 2012/13, increasing the number of doctoral study programs students going abroad and increasing the number of employees going abroad for the educational and training purposes. UJEP's aim is to increase the number of foreign students arriving in order to study and academics and experts coming for the purpose of teaching, which is integrated into the teaching program of UJEP. It helps creating the multicultural environment on UJEP. UJEP wants to achieve this through expanding the range of courses (eventually degree programs, especially master's degrees) in English or other foreign languages (list of courses is published on the website) at all UJEP faculties. UJEP also offers Czech language courses and works intensively on UJEP's promotion abroad. Other objectives are creating conditions necessary for improving language skills of academic staff and employees, expanding the range of e-learning courses and improving conditions for disabled students.

Within Europe UJEP currently cooperates with universities in almost all EU Member States, EFTA member and candidate countries, as well as number of universities in countries outside of Europe. When selecting the partner universities the crucial factors are similarity of study programs or scientific and research focus, as well as field and geographical diversity for wide range of students and academics from all disciplines. Other important factor is the potential for cooperation in the area of joint degree programs. When contracting, the emphasis is on bilateralism and the inclusion of students and staff mobility. UJEP is also developing the cooperation with universities outside the EU, for example with Eastern European countries (especially Russia, Ukraine). UJEP aims to expand foreign partner institutions offering students the possibility of work placement. With regard to the location of UJEP, near the border with Germany, UJEP cooperates with a number of universities in this country on the mobility, educational, scientific and cross-border projects. Cooperation was established with the Universität Bayreuth in order to create a joint degree program concluded by graduation with double diploma. The first exchange of students is planned for the academic year of 2013/14. UJEP is also working in collaboration with several Ukrainian universities on another joint degree program ended with a double diploma.

The support provided to incoming students includes the possibility of accommodation in dormitories, eating in the canteen, getting accommodation scholarships, language

courses, providing the necessary information (insurance among other things) and documentation (or example results statements, documents necessary for the visa). UJEP always tries to improve this support and that is, why within the frame of the support a mentoring group was established on UJEP, its goal is to help international students to integrate into everyday academic life and also to organize various events for students during their study. The support of this mentoring group and the effort to increase the quality of services in this area is another of the UJEP's objectives.

UJEP holds the DS Label 2009 diploma and will seek to obtain the certificate for 2013-2016 periods (the diploma supplement presents the information about the mobility of foreign students). UJEP will continue to require no fees for exchange students. UJEP provides equal access to education and opportunities for all students and employees without any manifestation of discrimination.

Currently there are internal standards in force, governing the mobility spheres (academic, financial, study recognition, etc.). There is a standard in preparation process, which is going to describe the mobility process comprehensively based on the principles mentioned above.

UJEP has experience with organization and implementation of many international cooperation projects in the field of education, for example the Erasmus program (EILC, intensive programs), Comenius, Grundtvig, Leonardo da Vinci, Aktion, CEEPUS, Visegrad Fund etc. The aim of UJEP for the next period of the program is to continue to participate in these types of projects. UJEP will also seek the possibilities of involvement in projects focused on: hosting foreign teachers and experts in order to improve the quality of teaching at UJEP, creation of joint degree programs, short-term study and research mobility for students of doctoral study programs in order to increase the number of students going abroad, short-term degree programs (for example summer schools, etc.), UJEP's cooperation with the private sector, the promotion of the academics participation in the international conferences and workshops (effort to also extend the support from regional business sector).

Mobility of students and staff and their participation in educational projects significantly affects individual participants and thus the evolution/development of the whole UJEP. Students studying abroad are expanding their expertise and learn about other educational systems and new teaching methods. Work placements abroad deepen students' professional knowledge and skills and apply this theoretical acquired knowledge in practice. Experience abroad also improve language skills and students learn about other cultures, which lays the groundwork for understanding the social, cultural, economic and other differences between countries. All this aspects greatly contributes to the personal growth of students and increase their value and competitiveness in the labour market. As a result of these students' experiences abroad, some students have become substantially successful working abroad.

Participation of employees in international mobility projects and various international events is expanding their professional contacts and enable them to gain new information and materials in the field. In case of educational visits, employees meet new teaching methods, which are later used after their return in their own teaching, which improve the quality of teaching at UJEP. Foreign activities are deepening the cooperation in science and research, CV enrichment and increase the qualification in the inaugural and professorial appointment process. Foreign activities motivate UJEP students to go abroad and to participate in joint projects and also motivate international students to study at UJEP. Employee participation in trainings is leading to the acquisition of new knowledge in the field, which is later applied into work activities and management of each department at UJEP; it helps with the realization of student practices in host organizations or educational visits of experts on UJEP.

The study of foreign students at UJEP and the lectures held by foreign academics and experts that are integrated into UJEP's curriculum help to create a multicultural environment at UJEP and affect those members of the academic community, who are not directly participating in mobility.

Within the framework of cross-border cooperation, UJEP intensively cooperates with universities in Saxony. Cooperation in the field of career counselling, which has been established and is going to be further intensified, expands the possibilities of UJEP graduates in the labour market.

Of equal importance is for the university the participation in scientific projects and networks with international participation (FR7, COST, KONTAKT, etc.) and cooperation of the University with the Ústí nad Labem region and regional businesses to improve the overall education culture in the region.

The financial support provided through the projects contributes significantly to the financing of UJEP and without it most of the activities in the fields of education, science and research would not be implemented.

10 -01- 2014



Prof. RNDr. René Wokoun, CSc., Rector