

European Policy Statement - "1 Decembrie 1918" Alba Iulia

1) a) The development of international cooperation holds an important place in the strategic development plan of the "1 Decembrie 1918" University. The importance of exchanges in the field of learning, teaching and research innovation has been primarily acknowledged by our lecturers and students who have already been involved in the Socrates- Erasmus programme since 1999. They were the first who had the opportunity to observe the differences between our own system and the system of the European universities with which they came into contact, and, on their return, they did their best to share their experience with us so that we could take steps in minimizing the existing differences. Following their intervention, our university board has become even more aware of the fact that support for all Erasmus activities, and especially mobility, of any possible nature and especially a financial support was mandatory. Our University's future plans for 2007-2013 aim at the development of already existing partnerships as well as at extending our collaboration with new universities, firms, research centres, to achieve our objectives in the context of the new Life-long Learning Programme. We try to have a more solid balance between the incoming and the outgoing student and teaching staff fluxes. In order to improve our participation in the Life-long Learning Programme, our priorities are: - organize information seminars on our country, our region and our University at the partner institutions; -curriculum development: the improvement of the curricula applied in our University by discussing it with our European partners, so that, in the near future, they may be aligned to the conception and quality standards in Europe; also, we intend to implement in our University new areas in the Humanities, Social Sciences, Informatics, Tourism, Topography through several Curriculum Development Projects ; - availability to participate in a number of Thematic Networks, so as to make our own contribution to the research European projects. All international activities of the "1 Decembrie 1918" University take place under the sign of the European Policy Statement corresponding entirely to the Strategic plan of institutional development of our University established by the university board, which will be posted on our web site for information and reference.

b) The "1 Decembrie 1918" University has an equal opportunities programme stating that equality is to be promoted in all functions of the University, including international activities. Racism and ethnic discrimination is not an issue within the University. Social and economic cohesion is practised such that there is no tuition fee for degree-seeking or exchange students. High quality is ensured in student and staff mobility by embarking upon a programme of strategic marketing aimed particularly at outgoing students. We intend to concentrate on educating our own students about the programme and the international study options that are offered, with the view to increasing mobility and improving reciprocity between partner institutions. This would include the publication of informative literature, presentations in each department and events organised in collaboration with former Erasmus students. The "1 Decembrie 1918" University is committed to principles of respect, equity and tolerance. Specifically, we maintain the confidentiality of personal information relating to students, staff and participants in research studies. We promote equal opportunities in employment for staff. We promote

equal opportunities for students and for potential students and seek to extend participation by groups that are under-represented in Higher Education. We aim to develop policies to ensure that activities within the “1 Decembrie 1918” University and relations with the exterior are conducted in ways that are sensitive to the ethnic, religious and social backgrounds of students and staff and to the needs of people with disabilities.

2)

“1 Decembrie 1918” University of Alba Iulia wishes to enhance the quality of international relations and especially of the ERASMUS activities. We have broad experience in evaluation and quality assurance in teaching and learning. Quality of studies is monitored under the auspices of Academic Affairs as well as the Deans' Offices. As an added effort to these traditional means, our students, including incoming students, are actively involved in the evaluation procedure of academic quality. Student satisfaction surveys are performed on a regular basis. The EU Programmes Office keeps close contact with all incoming students, beginning with the stage of preparation for their visit, and continuing throughout their entire period of stay, and until the delivery of the certificates of academic records. The EU Programmes Office is also responsible and committed to the coordination of student requests, and together with the Student Union, it is actively engaged in dealing with questions that are acute to other social aspects for foreign students.

We have decided to continue and improve our actions related to the Organization of Mobility: information of outgoing students on the existing programmes and thus, we regularly organize information sessions with the students and we have created on our web site a special link for the Life-long Learning Programme programme, where we provide all the necessary information for the students; we will keep trying to identify means of co-funding the grants of outgoing students, because students generally have few means of self financing; we will continue to ensure technical support; we offer language preparation courses at our University; we ensure complete academic recognition of the courses attended by our students at the partner universities. For incoming students, information by means of the Internet and editing several brochures on the conditions offered by our University. Among other facilities, we offer accommodation and board for incoming students; permanent academic assistance by tutors for each specialty, Romanian language courses for the interested students. As concerns teaching staff mobility, we aim to inform the entire teaching staff of the existing programmes; provide assistance for the organization of outgoing teaching staff visits at the partner universities (travel tickets, visas, co-funding, etc.); providing technical assistance. For incoming teaching staff: information on the conditions offered by our University; providing accommodation and board; providing the necessary technical equipment; integration of courses in our curricula.

3) The University of Alba Iulia is committed to maintaining the highest possible standards in its placement activities. There is a clear strategy for the maintenance and monitoring of standards which are applied to all students, researchers and academic staff and this is implemented through the International Relations Department. In addition, faculties which take part in mobility and co-operation projects are represented in the EU

Programmes Office. The University ensures that students are sent to placement locations that are safe and to offer the best advice on personal safety matter.

We offer well equipped centres where under and post graduated can develop good routines for the practical process by following specific standards and procedures by working directly with the applicants under the guidance and supervision of specialists. This will offer new forms of learning and developing basic skills in vocational and educational training, (improving the quality of training).

Helping young graduates work and gain experience in these centres will increase, helping to develop European standards in Romania (improving the quantitative aspect of the training process). The placements are selected after a preparatory visit to each placement site.

Measures: offer information and advice to applicants; help applicants find the best placement according to their curricula; organisation and management of information days and regular workshops; placement monitoring, based on analysis of reports and visits to placement sites.

The monitoring and evaluation is set on a regular basis, as well the placement period to be recognised as part of the curricula. The evaluation's main aim is to assess if:

- the students achieve and use new knowledge, equipment and technologies that will assure an optimal use of competencies to develop and adapt the most efficient procedures with good results, offering new pathways to achieve specific training
- new employment possibilities have been offered by increasing the beneficiaries' experience and quality of training
- lifelong learning strategies have been implemented by elaborating a new curricula adapted to European standards and creating a virtual centre
- learning material have been created, with specific information
- the results of the placement are disseminated