Erasmus Policy Statement

The University of Hull agreed to publish this overall strategy (all three parts) after the signature of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education by the European Commission.

The University of Hull's unique number is
28267-LA-1-2014-1-UK-E4AKA1-ECHE

The University of Hull Erasmus Code is
UKHULL01

The Participant Identification Code (PIC) is
999903743
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Part one:

Description of the University’s international (EU and non-EU) strategy. Explaining

a) How does University of Hull choose partners?

b) Which geographical area(s) do partners come from?

c) The most important objectives and target groups of the University’s mobility activities.

Hull is one the UK’s major Gateways to Europe, located in the Humber Region with the busiest port complex in the country. Scarborough was recently voted the most enterprising town in Europe. Internationalisation, mobility & worldwide cooperation are major themes of the University Strategy which emphasises the promotion of stature, reputation, image & brand of the University in the international arena. The University believes that knowledge knows no boundaries, & will participate in the international arena through the continued recruiting of international staff; attracting visiting scholars, international conferences & events to the University. The University will ensure that its academics & students actively engage with the internationalisation agenda & benefit from study, visits, conferences, projects and the widest participation in international activities. It will ensure that all students are offered an exceptional student experience characterised by flexible curricula & the highest service levels. (http://www2.hull.ac.uk/administration/PDF/Learning%20Teaching%20Student%20Experience%20Strategy%202012.pdf).

The University has strong European partnerships stemming from its active Erasmus links with Universities with compatible curricula and research interests and will continue to develop and reinforce these partnerships in as many European countries as possible. Our international strategy commits us to building strong, strategic partnerships with prestigious universities around the world. Our current focus is in seven main areas, Europe EU, Africa (Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria), China & East Asia (China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Korea, Japan), Gulf and Middle East (GCC Countries, Egypt, Libya, Jordan, Oman, Lebanon), North America, South Asia (Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka), Southeast Asia (Brunei,
Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam) where we will foster collaborative work and develop initiatives across all areas of our activity. An example of our successful partnerships is Bordeaux Business School (France) which includes exchanges, dual awards at undergraduate and postgraduate level and research cooperation. Another is Xiamen University (China) a member of the GU8 group of universities. Current activities with this partner include visiting faculty activities, PhD student visits, group student visits & progression agreements & the establishment of a Joint Logistics Institute. In South Africa we work with Stellenbosch University, South Africa, to develop mobility opportunities which focus on postgraduates, including MBA visits & PhD collaboration. The University is a member of several international consortia: the Global Universities 8 Consortium (GU8), the UTRECHT Network which Hull currently holds the Secretariat for, the EUA Council for Doctoral Education and CUSAC. The University will continue to recruit a diverse group of international students & will create opportunities for students of the University of Hull. Staff and students will have international exposure through new ways to be mobile & through cultural integration allowing home & international students to work & socialise together. The University will also continue to foster its ties with international alumni to enable suitable training & placement provision. The University will align its organisational structures with its internationalisation ambitions & internationalisation initiatives.

The University’s commitment to influencing outcomes places a new emphasis on partnership working, particularly from a strategic viewpoint. No organisation can achieve such outcomes alone and hence we must work closely with those partners who share the same vision and values. These partnerships emphasise the commitment of the University to ensure that at least 25% Hull students have some mobility within their programmes by 2020 with an increase in postgraduate mobility.

Short cycle & summer programmes are also important mobility for staff & students & are readily available through our networks & EU & worldwide partnerships. For example the Business School is using 6 worldwide partners for 2 4 and 6 weeks mobility periods. The University will continue to participate in the development of dual (double) and joint awards by working with the two strategic networks & strategic partners around the world with
multiple mobilities were applicable whilst ensuring quality degrees. The development is usually through progression agreements which allow students to enter the University from our partners & be awarded dual degrees. Gemma Erasmus which awards dual degrees & commitment to training projects such as the Centre for Telehealth. Marie Curie fellowship project iCareNet & ACT a project under the EU Health Programme (EIP on Active & health Ageing).
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Part two:

Describe the University of Hull’s strategy for the organisation and implementation of international (EU and non-EU) cooperation projects in teaching and training in relation to projects implemented under the Programme?

The University has an excellent support structure for organisation & implementation of cooperation projects. The Research & Enterprise office & International Office provides advice & guidance on developing proposals & support on managing projects. Worldwide cooperation projects in teaching & training are essential if the University is to implement its strategy. As well as International & EU partnerships, part of our strategy is to support learning in the region and beyond. As part of the development of collaborative provision within the region the University has established partnerships with seven further education colleges which deliver higher education programmes leading to the University’s awards. We will continue to work with key stakeholders & local & regional authorities; e.g. Yorkshire Universities which is a member organisation to foster the impact and benefit of members in the region through partnership working between members, businesses & other funding bodies. We will also continue to implement projects such as our successful Yorkshire & Humber East Lifelong Learning Network (YHELLN) project, an initiative that has & will continue to increase opportunities for vocational learners to progress into & through Higher Education across the Yorkshire & Humber region. It will be a significant benefit for individual learners & employers looking to develop skills & education in the workplace. The Department of Modern Languages is the lead partner in an EU project entitled Euroversity. This is a project which aims to establish a network of European Universities that use virtual environments such as virtual worlds for education. These projects are essential to increase virtual mobility & cultural integration. We will continue with the Centre for European Union Studies (CEUS), a Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence in teaching & research since 1999. The International Resource Centre offers support & advice on global education & partnerships to schools.
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Part three:

Explain the expected impact of the University of Hull’s participation in the Programme on the modernisation of the institution in terms of the policy objectives you intend to achieve?

The expected impact of participation in the programme is to ensure that we increase the number of higher education graduates who have taken part in a study or work placement programme to at least 25% of the University of Hull's population. We will do this by ensuring flexible curricula that allows students to be mobile & ensures that under-represented groups are given guidance & support. Through careers services, access (widening participation) offices, faculties & the international office. We always strive to improve the quality & relevance of teaching & researcher training, to equip graduates with the knowledge & core transferable competences to succeed in high-skill occupations by promoting research opportunities. This will be achieved through development of new & flexible degree programmes & curricula which allow all students to participate in study or virtual mobility through projects like those within Modern Languages. We will apply for ECTS & Diploma Supplement quality labels. We will increase mobility, best practice in curricula, joint & dual degrees by taking a strategic decision to work on corporation programmes such as ALPHA with our strategic partners & networks. To ensure recognition of all mobility we will work on our student system to ensure full recording of mobility on the diploma supplement & on the transcripts of results. We will further our services to include any actions that assist with funding bids.

To strengthen the knowledge triangle by linking education, research & business we will continue to support centres such as the International Resource Centre for Schools & Colleges which has an international reputation & works with organisations such as the
British Council, the Department for Education & the Department for International Development. It is a major contributor to the British Council's Intercultural Training Project for School International Co-ordinators. We will continue with Comenius courses which focused on the development of skills and competencies of international school co-ordinators. Strengthen the knowledge triangle by completing more projects like HEES part funded by the ERDF fund whose vision is to become a nationally-recognised student hub for business innovation, enterprise skill development and future entrepreneurs. We aim to provide students with the knowledge, skills and experience they need to succeed in the increasingly competitive business environment.

To achieve this, we work closely with the business community on a regional (Hull City Council), national and international (P&O ferries & Smith & Nephew) level ensuring that our teaching and learning, research and enterprise meets the ever changing needs of industry. To create the right governance & funding conditions we will work with our Knowledge Exchange & Enterprise Centre to connect the University with the world of business & enterprise.

For further information on the programme see:

http://www.eaie.org/home/in-the-field/projects/modern
http://www.britishcouncil.org/erasmus-about-erasmus.htm