

## **Erasmus Policy Statement**

Ufuk University has recently developed a comprehensive strategic plan. The relevant strategic plan is composed of strategic targets that are developed by each faculty & department. These plans include mid and long-term objectives that are reasonable, and realistic. Further these objectives and plans are on par with the University's mission and in harmony with our vision of developing as an internationally renowned research and an education institution. Apart from our newly developing International Relations Office which includes faculty members as directors and other personnel, we are also at the initiation phase of research Centers for Social Sciences, Medicine and Law Faculties. The target of these research Centers involves several domestic and international (in particular EU related) project development and involvement. In a similar vein our target also is to engage in projects that are particularly international in nature and that can help develop the local economy.

Ufuk University has an impeccable research and education programme. We are keen on involving in the Erasmus activities for enhancing the borders of our horizon and becoming a hub for international research and teaching activities. In order to reach that goal not only our involvement with the Bologna Program is expected to help but the programs of our international relations office and our individual and university based attempts for engaging in international research projects will revamp these efforts. Hence, we are extremely enthusiastic for becoming an active partner of these activities and our international office is planned to engage in intense development of the Lifelong Learning Programmes to enhance our international reach.

The International Office has been planning an orientation program for those that are on board and those who will visit us. The Office also has staff that helps for finding housing for the visiting students. The International Office supports students at both ends to receive all possible support.

In order for our activities to become visible we are developing a comprehensive web-site that intends to increase the traffic between the public, other universities, scholars and Ufuk University. The web-site is planned to be in Turkish and English. These activities we believe is likely to increase the international networking of scholars and

students: a simple example is our plan to have virtual seminars with the involvement of, renown scholars, Ufuk University students and partner Universities` staff and students.

We believe that recruiting faculty members with International experience would help us our goals. We have several faculty members that are graduates of best Universities in the world particularly in the medical and social sciences faculties. We intend to double this number as part of our internationalization efforts within the next 10 years.

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It is very important for our University to facilitate the mobility of its teaching staff and Erasmus students for helping them mature both professionally and personally. Our priority is to give this chance to faculty members and students who have less international experience to cultivate their development. Having said this, being fluent in English is a standard requirement for these individuals. We also use the ability to collaborate internationally as a prerequisite to get involved. As per students we select those students with leadership, team member qualities who aspire to make a change in the community and the world and who prove their creativity in the classroom. We select foreign partners so that our vision and strategies as well as our teaching style are on par with ours. Our International Office intends to provide the general coordination of the Erasmus Activities both administratively and otherwise. To achieve this end the Office uses its web-site actively along with the help of staff at each academic department. The International Office has been planning an orientation program for those that are on board and those who will visit us. The Office also has staff that helps for finding housing for the visiting students. The International Office supports students at both ends to receive support in terms of language and it allows the inclusion of the courses by the visiting teachers to be included in the

curricula. The Office also provides support for the mobility of the teaching staff. However, initially the visiting staff is planned to be placed in workstations within the Office with the intention to further enhance this. The school uses ECTS or a comparable program for the purposes of academic recognition. The University also provides transcripts for the visiting students. In addition we intend to ensure that visiting students are acclimated to the courses with ease and we intend to acknowledge our faculty who participates in Erasmus activities