

Erasmus Policy Statement of the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Internationalization is a fundamental tool to attain the missions of the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. One of the missions of the UAB is to offer high quality education level to our students, because quality and excellence are clear goals in the duties of the University.

By means of mobility, students can enhance their academic performance, due to the fact that internationalization allows them to achieve different competencies and to be better persons and better professionals in the future.

The international strategy of the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona is underpinned in improvement of the quality. This internationalization process is a means to get our goals.

These goals can be resumed with these four key points:

- a quality and multidisciplinary teaching

- an internationally accredited research with local impact
- knowledge transfer to society
- responsible management of the resources

This strategy is focusing the search of international partners taking into account the following geographical areas: Europe, East-Asia (bearing in mind that the UAB is present in that area by its office located in Shanghai), and in the American continent with different targets with North-America and Latin-America. Within these areas the UAB focuses its interest on those higher education institutions with similar characteristics and with a teaching, innovation and excellence investment that results attractive for the exchange of students and academic and research staff.

The UAB is reinforcing as well its international presence by participating in prestigious international networks and consortia that allow, on the one hand, a rewarding cooperation

at the level of teaching and research and, on the other hand, more international visibility and projection.

Promoting the mobility of all the members of the university community is for the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona a key element for the internationalization of the institution. The UAB is giving special priority to the student mobility, either for academic stays or for internships, this last option being an interesting way for students to enter the job market and the business world. The teaching staff mobility involves the knowledge transfer and good practices among the academic staff of the UAB and the opportunity for local students to receive teaching by invited scholars; this kind of activity enriches the local students' learning program, because it supposes a differentiating element for it.

The double and joint degrees represent a strategic investment for the UAB. The participation of the UAB in the Erasmus Mundus Action 1 (with one PhD program and 7 for Master

level) or in the multilateral projects conducted by networks in which the UAB takes part (as for instance the ECIU) or by means of the bilateral agreements with specific institutions, are as well important elements for the benefit of the internationalization of all the university community. For the academic year 2013 we have 19 of these projects, most of them for the master level.

Therefore, the UAB sees in the internationalization an element of participation in a context that becomes more and more globalised and in which the higher education has a specific weight that is more important every day. With the promotion of a more international profile the UAB is reaching a relevant position in the higher education scene at all levels, and this is an aspect to care for its relevance and interest in all the fields of the higher education in Europe.