

ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT 2014-2020

1. Increasing attainment levels to provide the graduates and researchers Europe needs

To increase the number of graduates is an important issue for JKU. More students should be recruited and the number of dropouts should be reduced. JKU has taken numerous measures to achieve this, such as intensive youth development, advice for potential students with regard to an informed and deliberate study choice as well as support services during the period of study (eg mentoring programs). Students who have taken part in a mobility program are demonstrably less likely to abandon their studies than the average student. A stay abroad serves as a strong motivating factor for many students.

2. Improving the quality and relevance of higher education

JKU strives to design curricula according to the needs of the labor market and therefore involves industry representatives and graduates in the process. New internationally orientated curricula arise through joint/double degree programs. This is done in cooperation with the industry, which partly supports these programs financially. JKU has considerable experience with new forms of learning. The proportion of courses with Blended Learning scenarios as well as the number of students in distance education should be further increased. JKU works in close cooperation with the Fernuniversität Hagen, among others. New forms of learning are implemented successfully when universities cooperate with regard to individual courses. The exchange and transfer of know-how are facilitated. Another important factor is the exchange of teachers which is made possible through participation in the program Erasmus+.

3. Strengthening through mobility and cross-border co-operation

JKU continually strives to improve the quality of exchange procedures. An international perspective as driving force for continuous improvement of accreditation and recognition processes is achieved through the exchange of information across national borders. The ECTS system is increasingly used also in third countries thereby facilitating the cooperation with these countries.

4. Making the knowledge triangle work: linking higher education, research and business for excellence and regional development

As the largest Upper Austrian research center, JKU works in close cooperation on a regional, national and international level with countless institutions, research institutes and companies. The international exchange promotes excellence of faculty and students, to the benefit of the economic development of the entire region. Former exchange students also contribute to the development of the economy by choosing the way into self-employment and setting up new businesses with above-average frequency.

5. Improving governance and funding

JKU is aware of the need for additional sources of funding. Around 30% of the total budget is already made up from third-party funds, which is an above-average portion in comparison to other Austrian universities. In order to make respective provisions, the area "Sponsoring and Fundraising" was expanded. The participation in the Erasmus+ program allows access to additional financial resources.