

Gdynia Maritime University - European Policy Statement

The mission of the Gdynia Maritime University (GMU) is to educate and train marine officers for shipboard positions on merchant marine vessels and managers for land-based enterprises of maritime industries in compliance with Polish, European and international educational standards. It is provided on a solid basis for their professional careers where the awareness of global labour markets is harmonised with developments in the employment opportunities offered in Polish maritime regions, Poland and the EU.

The strategic goals are as follows:

- Ensure that students are taught by high quality scientific and teaching academic staff;
- A three-stage Bologna process model system of studies by offering bachelor or engineer degrees (stage one), master of science degrees (stage two), and doctor degree (stage three);
- Strengthen the specific maritime profile of the University by developing unique fields, minors and majors of study which can be further offered to Erasmus students under the ECTS system;
- Attain a balance in the number of incoming and outgoing Erasmus;
- Enhance the development of scientific and teaching staff in those domains that constitute a specific maritime features of the GMU;
- Participation of the University's research teams in national and international research projects;
- Upgrading of laboratory facilities and the quality standards of the University's premises;
- Development of cooperation with national, European and international universities seeking to upgrade educational standards and to undertake scientific research;
- Strengthening of the links between the GMU and the enterprises, industry, local and regional self-governments, NGOs, as well as regional, national and international scientific and professional associations;
- Strengthening of the role of the University as a world centre of maritime education and training.
- Increase the number of foreign students and academic teachers visiting the GMU.

Since the implementation of Erasmus activities in the GMU, all the steps were published and presented to wide range of academic societies. The availability of places for exchanges and other actions undertaken under Socrates were published in the GMU's magazine, web pages and the notice boards. The Erasmus University Charter was available on the notice board as well. The EPS will be presented on the web pages.

Equality is one of the basic and most appreciated values for our University. Therefore gender equality and appropriate treatment of special groups, such as foreigners and disabled persons, will be achieved in study and research.

To ensure high quality in academic mobility the GMU has developed and implemented a cycle of recruitment of students. This procedure has been worked out with the Faculty Coordinators during last Erasmus application rounds and is under the process of permanent improvement. Our university stresses the importance of on exchange of valuable information on studying and living conditions among former and future Erasmus students. It is planned to implement the quality control of international exchange in education through regular surveys and reports.

Well completed documents for student enable the maintenance of the high rate of academic recognition. All of our students' results meet the acceptance of results upon their return to home university. It is possible as result of the procedure of updating of the Learning Agreement during the students' stay abroad. All students are encouraged to stay in permanent contact with their Faculty Coordinators and the International Relations Office at home university.

The European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) has been elaborated and implemented. The relevant information on curricula will be published in the web pages within next few months.

To obtain the most measurable results it is planned:

- To establish cooperation and sign Placement Contracts with the enterprises which will offer our students wide range of professional training;
- To evaluate the University's cooperation with the enterprises of maritime character and to focus on them;
- To use foreign partners in seeking potential placements;
- To organize intensive language courses for students selected for placements abroad;
- To implement into placement schemes the system of student monitoring used for mobility;
- To work out and implement relevant procedures for evaluation of placements basing on the signed Placement Contract in the best possible and readable form;
- To recognize Erasmus placements as integral part of the student's vocational preparation when included in study programme.