

## **Erasmus Policy Statement**

### **I**

One of the main priorities determined by the Jozef Rusiecki Olsztyn University College for the coming years is to create the chance for students, teachers and staff to participate in the mobility to achieve new practical and cultural skills. Undoubtedly, the mobility under the Program, being an investment in the human capital, would increase the competences as well as attractiveness of the individual on the labor market, at the same time assuring the growth of potential of the Union in the time of the crisis. The university, relying on its previous experience, aims at cooperation not only with UE countries but also with the neighbor countries e.g. Russian Federation seeing there huge potential. The cooperation with Immanuel Kant University started in 2007 and resulted in various conferences and an international project, thereby strengthening integration process between our region and our neighbor. What is more, the process has been recently strengthened thanks to the "small non - visa traffic" that allows to move freely between Warmia and Mazury province and Kaliningrad province. In 2011 the university acquired Extended Erasmus Charter that permits us to participate in the program in the broadest scope. The actions within the new Program will increase the quality of mobility of students and academic staff and their knowledge and will help them to be more flexible to the diverse requirements of the market. The University has made steps to gain new partners in UE countries, establishing new contacts with universities and other institutions in Germany and Lithuania. The basic criterion of the cooperation with the higher education institutions and other units is the similar character of the conducted activity as well as didactic offer of our university that answers the expectations of the new cooperator. Undoubtedly, the list of the institutions holding a valid Erasmus Charter published on the EACEA website as well as the list of the institutions looking for partnerships presented on the National Executive Agency website are useful when looking for the cooperants and give an opportunity to contact the institutions directly. What is more, academic teachers, experienced in the field of international cooperation, are also very helpful in finding new partners proposing the possible fields of activity.

### **II**

Jozef Rusiecki Olsztyn University College aspires to take part in multilateral projects in teaching and training. The notable effects of such actions that aim at increasing the level and quality of study or mobility as well the improvement of management and financing of institutions of the higher education are undoubtedly one of the key tasks that every university needs to set itself. Having an experience in the joint project with the Immanuel Kant University in pedagogy, OSW sees notable benefits enriching both institutions in educational and cultural terms. The university, sees the development of different European enterprises within the Erasmus Program and treats them as model solutions, preparing itself to follow their way.

### **III**

Jozef Rusiecki Olsztyn University College sees the importance of the modernization of the higher education sector at the same time trying to modernize itself. Undoubtedly, education plays the most important role in the development of the country in social and economic dimension. The need to improve the degree courses and curricula that answer the demands of the market as well as the conditions to achieve broad knowledge has been a priority for the OSW university. Such a need has been partially achieved by creating theoretical and practical curricula at each department according to requirements of the national qualification frameworks (Bologna Process). The university also sees the chance to enrich the didactic offer in non-standard form of education as well as the development of the interactive IT tools that could be used for the individual learning. The

mobility that needs to be treated as an indispensable element which should be included in the curricula will contribute to the improvement of qualifications of not only students but also academic staff. It will be a strong stimulus for the permanent professional development as well provide them with solid knowledge and many skills. The university, having rich experience in the cooperation with enterprises from the business sector, acquiring new foreign partners within the Program, undoubtedly will enrich the educational offer and contribute to a more efficient work of the local market. The cooperation of the higher education institution with the business sector may considerably contribute to the raise the economic potential of the region. Jozef Rusiecki Olsztyn University College, as a private institution, relies on the students' fees. Efficient management of finances and a search for alternative funds are fundamental actions for the university. The participation in the Program will undoubtedly extend the experience and contribute to the improvement the mechanism of financing the education and the university. One of the most essential actions of the OSW is to assure education and the possibility of finding a job among the graduates coming from the impoverished part of our country and consequently improve their status and prevent them from social exclusion.