

Erasmus Policy Statement

Queen Mary University of London (QMUL) is based in one of the world's most international cities. We have students and staff from over 150 countries on our London campuses. We are also an internationally engaged institution with exchange, partnership and research activities on every continent. Our international interactions benefit the staff and student body as a whole wherever they are based, and are particularly important for our graduates who are increasingly required to have an understanding of global problems and solutions as part of our Graduate Attributes profile.

Our current International Strategy and Overall Strategic Plan (2010-15) focus on our twin aims of knowledge creation and knowledge dissemination. Our new emergent strategies will build on our achievements, and our engagement with the new Programme will help us to deliver our key aims.

QMUL is already actively engaged in a wide range of EU-funded activities in addition to those that are included within the scope of the new Programme. In 2012/2013 for example we were the grant holder of just under £47.5m of EU research funding, primarily from the European Commission's R&D FP7 Programme. We intend to enhance our involvement in all EU related activity in the coming years where appropriate.

Our participation in the new Programme will form a key part of our continuing internationalisation. Building links with selected European and international partners will enable us to raise our international profile and enhance mobility opportunities for students and staff.

QMUL priorities for the new Programme (for the period 2014-2020)

Selecting partners:

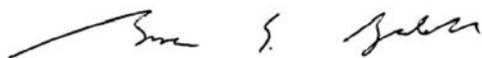
- We will be developing strategic partnerships with appropriate high quality EU and international institutions and organisations.
- QMUL has a number of well-established Erasmus and international partners. These have benefited participating staff, students and their peers, who have experienced the different perspectives brought to the classroom by incoming students. We plan to maintain and develop these partnerships in the new Programme, increasing the opportunities for our students and staff to have an international experience.
- We will build longer-term and sustainable networks and partnerships with universities and other organisations within and beyond participating countries in teaching, research and enterprise for mutual benefit based on high quality and balanced engagements. We will also look to establish a broad geographical spread of partners.
- Currently partnerships are reviewed annually, to ensure that their potential for mutual engagement is maximized. Academic units are encouraged to establish new partnerships which will bring long term benefits for both partners.
- Host organisations for traineeships will be approved on the basis that they can provide a placement of sufficient quality to ensure that the required learning outcomes will be achieved by the student. Due diligence and risk assessment will be carried out for each host.

Objectives and target groups:

- We will increase high quality mobility opportunities for our students (study and traineeships) while continuing to balance the number of incoming students. Thus we will support individuals by increasing their academic, social, intercultural and personal skills, and enhancing their employability after graduation. Our focus will remain on undergraduate mobility; however we are also planning on increasing postgraduate mobility to offer an international experience at this level.
- Periods of study or work mobility undertaken by our students receive full academic recognition, and do not lead to an increase in the overall length of study.
- QMUL encourages high quality staff mobility. Outgoing staff strengthen the individuals' and consequently the institution's profile and development; incoming staff from university partners or enterprises delivering teaching, training or workshops bring an international perspective to the curriculum and broaden the minds of both home students and staff. This is of particular importance to those students who cannot undertake a mobility period abroad themselves.
- QMUL aims to send students and staff of all backgrounds abroad. We are committed to equality and the provision of opportunity for all. No one is treated less favourably on grounds such as age, gender role and identity, marital status, disability, race, colour, ethnic or national origin, sexual orientation, family circumstances and religious or political beliefs.

The Programme will be coordinated by a designated person in the International Partnerships Office and coordinators in participating academic units.

Activities will be publicised to all QMUL students and staff making full use of college communication tools. Both National Agency and in-house designed materials will be used for promotional purposes. Meetings and events will continue and be enhanced in an effort to reach all students and staff over the course of the year.



Professor Simon Gaskell, President and Principal