

## **Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)**

The UNIVERSITY OF THEATRE AND FILM ARTS/SZFE hereby prolongs its Erasmus Charter for Higher Education for another 7-year period in the areas of student, academic and non-academic staff mobility as well as European joint programmes/degrees (Key Action 1), building and strengthening strategic partnerships in higher education (Key Action 2) with partners in European and non participating countries.

Over the past 7-year period SZFE

- has had the highest student mobility rate (adjusted for the university's total student population) in the area of the arts in Hungary
- has been the consortium leader of a new joint EMMC in documentary film-directing, which was launched in 2012 ([www.docnomads.eu](http://www.docnomads.eu));
- was among those initiating the founding of the Union of Theatre Schools and Academies by 14 member institutions;
- for 5 years, it was a partner in the Low Budget Film Forum project organized by the London Film School and in the virtual university programme about new digital technologies organized by Den Danske Filmskole – both of these were supported by the Media Program;
- led two Leonardo innovation transfer projects of faculty training and sharing best practices with Danish, Norwegian, Polish, UK, and Portuguese partner universities;
- has participated in the pilot project "Cinema and Industry Alliance for Knowledge and Learning" led by the Portuguese Universidade Lusofona;
- has had 20 bilateral contracts and sent students to internships at prominent British, German, Spanish, Portuguese, Polish, Lithuanian, and French theatres, workshops, and numerous film production companies and television channels. It has been host to students primarily from Belgium, Portugal, Lithuania, Norway, France and Romania. SZFE has carried out all this despite the fact that the institution's own contribution could only be secured by external sources of funding as a result of the drastic decrease in higher-education funding in Hungary, which has also made it impossible to launch English-language courses for incoming Erasmus students.

In accord with the "Erasmus for All" programme of the European Commission and transparently to European and national supervising agencies, the University hereby commits itself to the following over the next 7-year period as approved by its Senate:

### **1. in mobility activities at the BA level**

- It will use academic and non-academic staff mobility to prepare international activities and trainings planned in the University's curriculum development plan and will recognize these in professional advancement in Hungary. In each case, it will contract with the participants prior to departure based on a work programme for teaching or faculty training abroad;
- It will compensate for the lack of English-language courses by offering one-on-one tutoring to incoming students. Since the relatively less known Hungarian language limits further bilateral contracts with universities, it will orient its students to internships abroad;
- It will commit to non-discrimination and take additional measures to promote the mobility of underrepresented, socially or physically disadvantaged students and faculty;

- it will only send and receive students in the framework of bilateral institutional contracts stating the annual student/faculty/staff quotas and the level and duration of accessible courses of study, signed at the highest institutional level and thereby ensuring a safe and dependable framework for mobility;
- it will publish an English-language course catalogue to make registration easier for incoming students; it will make the names and contact information of university staff in charge of administrative and study affairs accessible on its website; it will provide a university tutor for mobility students received in the areas of film and theatre; it will release a Transcript of Records within a month of completing the studies in question; it will not require the payment of tuition; and it will assist incoming students with obtaining a Hungarian visa, finding accommodation and getting involved in local student life;
- prior to outgoing students' mobility, it will sign a trilateral Study Contract for all courses of study and internships; it will accept exams and credits passed and earned abroad within regulations, and it will note the fact, duration and completed courses of any credit mobility or internship abroad in the Diploma Supplement; it will verify its students' required and sufficient language skills and their possession of international health insurance prior to departure; it will provide continuous background support throughout the duration of studies and internships abroad;
- it will publish the Senate-approved Erasmus Policy Statement on its website, thereby making the framework and conditions of study abroad and internship opportunities transparent. All decisions by the University's Erasmus Committee will be made public on the university's website.

In its Joint Masters programme(s):

SZFE is currently implementing a programme with English as the language of instruction, while also offering the opportunity to learn Hungarian. It strives to offer a joint degree; until that goal is reached, the language of the degree certificate issued to students is Hungarian. Students are offered assistance in English in the areas of obtaining a visa and finding accommodation, and students in the joint programmes are genuinely integrated into the Hungarian programme. The programme curriculum, course materials, faculty, assessment criteria, and marks conversion charts are accessible on the website. SZFE operates a student self-government and assists with the creation of an alumni network. Striving to ensure the sustainability of the joint program, it initiates a mobility scheme and prepares a joint programme with third-country universities. It ensures the national and international dissemination of the programme and its results both in higher education and in the profession.

3. It will continue to participate in European cooperation projects among universities both as a partner and as a consortium leader, particularly in the area of cooperation between higher education and the relevant professional enterprises.

University of Theatre and Film Arts/SZFE

1. Creates a special funding quota to increase the mobility of students in previously underrepresented, socially disadvantaged groups;
2. Ensures the ongoing development of the structure and content of education to harmonize it with the continuously changing needs of the film, theatre and media professions and participates in the newly launched Alliance project;
3. Secures private and other funding to compensate for budget cuts in higher education in order to teach cutting edge digital technology to its film and media students. It participates in international projects aimed at an intensive use of advanced digital technologies as part of the curriculum.

4. Plans to launch a second Joint Masters degree programme that will disseminate European cultural tradition and embody European excellence in the arts and education;
5. Motivates its faculty to join European and non-European educational co-operations that help them keep their knowledge and skills internationally competitive and up-to-date.
5. Maintains its current high rate of student mobility (in proportion to its total student population).
6. Joins the EU visa code in its Joint Masters programmes in order to streamline visa administration for incoming students from third countries.
7. Intends to create a European professional and knowledge centre around its EMMC in documentary film-directing, which will make this international educational programme sustainable and preeminent in the field; it will also serve as an institutional base for the alumni, whom it will motivate to keep creating globally informed media content of the highest professional quality.