

As a future Europa-Universität, the university pursues the aim of educating a generation who understands Europe, recognizing and enforcing its necessary political and economical reforms. By example, the university plans to introduce a tri-national Bachelor's degree course entitled "European Cultural Identity", as well as Master's degree courses in "Social Change (Transformations Design)" and "European Education in Transitions". The University's main areas of research include school and education research as well as integrative European Studies. According to the university mission statement issues such as justice, sustainability and diversity, as well as minorities and inclusion should be paramount. Bearing this in mind, the university will also meet the increasing need for international training with lessons and seminars being taught in English.

a. Strategic partnerships form the basis for further internationalisation. International cooperations that are already established are regularly evaluated so they can continue and grow/improve. At the same time the University Board actively seeks to establish new strategic partnerships which cover as many subjects as possible and are actively supported by a variety of measures implemented by those academically responsible/responsible for the respective subjects. Some of these partnerships could include mobility programmes for teachers, administrative personnel and students. Universities with a similar profile (teacher training and educational science, economics, cultural studies, European Studies and health studies) and of a similar size and having comparable aims and guiding principles will be considered to be suitable prospective partners.

b. The process of internationalisation takes place at EU level as well as at non EU level. One focus is on the creation of a European network with partners from Scandinavia and Eastern Europe, as well as Spain, Turkey and Russia. Its location on the border to Denmark has already resulted in privileged partnerships in the multi-national border region and the Baltic area. In parallel with these partnerships, the university also co-operates with universities located in European border regions therefore share the university's unique selling point. There is already a spotlight on north south cooperations with Africa, North and South America and India. This is, amongst other reasons, thanks to the educational orientation of the university and the UN Millennium Development Goal "School Education".

c. The University of Flensburg runs a consistent strategy of Europeanisation and internationalisation. It is the objective of regional politics to convert the University of Flensburg to a Europa-Universität. In accordance with the university's guiding principle the focus is on issues of inclusion, minorities and European education. The goal of advancing students' mobility is given high priority. The strategic aim is for students to acquire technical skills, language skills and personal competencies as well as intercultural awareness. A mobility window for all Bachelor degree courses is planned with effect from 2013/2014. Students can choose between study stays and internships abroad. Master degree students can obtain financial assistance for internships and research stays abroad. Potential PhD students are informed specifically about the possibility of doing a PhD in an international context. The university is aiming to send at least 20% of students abroad, especially those who are studying teacher training courses, in order to ensure that future teachers receive the best possible preparation for the ever changing reality of teaching in schools. Students and university staff receive specific language and cultural training to prepare them for their stays abroad. We seek a balance between the number of students going abroad ("outgoing quota") and the number of foreign students coming to study at the university ("incoming quota"). To increase the number of incoming students, more courses will be offered in English and will be supplemented by manifold subject-specific lectures, seminars and events. Currently we offer additional courses on "academic writing" in both German and English. This will ensure that the university opens up to international students and

teachers so the campus will become an international venue of teaching and learning ("internationalisation at home"). A further goal is to increase the mobility of university staff therefore raising the international awareness of lecturers and administrative staff. By establishing a common international focus, synergies between different university member groups will be strengthened.

Together with its Danish partner university across the border, the University of Southern Denmark (SDU), the university has been offering a number of German/Danish degree courses in Economics, Humanities and Social Sciences. Another European Bachelor degree course in cooperation with three European partners is in the planning stage. It is planned that students of this new degree course study in three different countries and languages over a period of three semesters in order to receive the best possible qualification appropriate to the European labour market.

The University of Flensburg pursues a further Europeanisation and internationalisation by establishing strategic partnerships and network cooperations within Europe, with EU neighbouring countries (Turkey, Russia and Morocco) and with countries outside Europe in Africa and Latin America. This is already being practiced as part of the EU programmes that have already been implemented (e. g. the Jean Monnet programme and the Erasmus Mundus programme of the national student exchange agency, DAAD). International degree courses are under construction that can be developed and implemented so that they will be available long term.

Such a broad, innovative and multi-lingual range of courses available at the University of Flensburg will ensure a higher number of students and graduates. At the same time the university will be open to all age groups and groups of society and we are keen to recruit new students from ethnic minorities on to our teacher training courses. Academic success is ensured by making the most of the first consultation for prospective students and by assisting students during their studies with any methodology-, subject- or language-related issues by offering mentor schemes.

Excellence in teaching and research will gain additional momentum by the process of internationalisation. Quality of teaching is continually evaluated and promoted by providing additional courses. All members of the university have access to a wide range of further education courses.

For those courses during which a stay abroad is compulsory, and on the innovative international Bachelor and Master degree courses, students shall acquire additional skills and competencies that are relevant to their chosen occupation/profession. Long-term international networks facilitate international recognition of courses studied and qualifications attained abroad. Documentary evidence of the stay abroad ensures the transparency of the degree.

The University of Flensburg as an education and research institution plays an important role in the German-Danish border region. The close collaboration between its economic political and educational providers creates synergism required for further development thereby ensuring growth of the location and whole region. Cross-border and international internships in companies and schools allow students to acquire practical key competencies in their subject areas, intercultural awareness and prepare them adequately for the regional, European and international labour market. Simultaneously students, researchers and lecturers provide the vital impetus for this special European region through joint projects and partnerships (e.g. the Centre for Teacher Training, Climate Pact, KMU and border region research).

Establishing partnerships with international higher education institutions and economic institutions opens up opportunities for creating further centres of competencies.