 ERASMUS POLICY STATEMENT, EPS

The Warsaw College of Health and Engineering is a non-public Higher Education founded in 2003 and educating on the first (bachelor and engineering), second (masters) and third level (postgraduate).

The mission of the Warsaw College of Health and Engineering is professional education of highly qualified personnel corresponding to the needs of the developing economy of Poland and the united Europe.

Our intention is to provide high quality of operations that gives grounds for satisfaction of our students, business environment and staff. Our College:

* Gives the students the material and intellectual conditions to develop and to receive professional education matching the market needs,
* Prepares graduates for future employment and provides them with support in search for suitable jobs,
* Guarantee to the potential employers that they acquire valuable employees,
* Ensures to the College employees satisfying conditions of work and development as well as support in realisation of scientific research,
* Serves the community of the region by actively participating in the development of the region, science and culture.

Quality refers equally to the educational outcomes and development of each student, raising the quality of work and education process of the College and meeting the national and international standards of education.

In the recent years, the College has actively participated in international cooperation and student exchange projects.

This is an essential element of the operations of the College, and its execution requires conclusion of bilateral agreements with foreign partners. Having that in consideration, the College is aiming at enhancing its educational offer by opening new faculties and adding to the syllabus classes in English.

The strategy of the Warsaw College of Health and Engineering focuses on the internationalization of the educational process, mainly on the example of foreign universities. This involves visits of foreign research and academic staff, as well as support of mobility of our students and academic staff. It is a long-running process, so the strategy of the College must involve long-term measures, based on the past experiences and lessons learned, regularly monitored and adjusted to the current conditions of the external and internal environment of the College.

Selection of partner universities is verified mainly by analysis of the courses of study and training programs offered at potential partner HEIs. The growing interest of students in medical studies (cosmetology, dietetics) is the reason behind detailed attention paid to the programs of medical studies offered by a potential partner Universities. At the same time, keeping in mind the need to engage academic circles in the development of the latest technologies and solutions in engineering studies.

 The preferred regions/countries are selected based on consultation with students who express their interest in specific destinations. This is a major aspect since foreign studies should bring the students benefits both in the field of educational and personal experiences that additionally fulfils the motivating functions. The final choice of the partner is a compilation of the factors mentioned above, regularly monitored and evaluated. The method of choosing partner HEIs is also dependent on the current trends in higher education, thus in the early year of our existence we had established many cooperation agreements in the field of IT and management. The International Relations Office continually analyses the trends forming and persisting in higher education and adapts its strategy to them. As for international cooperation, this translates into verification of individual HEIs and monitoring of changes in their study program, which lead us to a multitude of partners in the field of medical sciences.

Additionally, the International Relations Office works on organizing guest lectures of academics from partner universities. The lectures will focus both on the exchange of experiences and knowledge, and on getting know the specifics of teaching in other European countries.

In the light of international cooperation development, the College is aware of the necessity to initiate mechanisms supporting activities for higher attractiveness of studies at the Warsaw College of Health and Engineering for foreign students and facilitating international student and staff mobility. The program of such activities is constantly modified. Students can learn about the activities of the College in the area of student mobility and traineeship programs at the seminar organised at the College as well as from the notice board or the website of the International Relations Office of the Warsaw College of Health and Engineering.

With reference to the EU policy concerning the fight against any forms of discrimination, the Warsaw College of Health and Engineering organizes integration groups, to which students are assigned irrespective of their nationality, race, views, gender or medical condition.

In order to guarantee high quality of international exchange processes, the Warsaw College of Health and Engineering has implemented activities aimed at streamlining the mobility-related procedures. The European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) is now available at all faculties. A partner institution is selected also on the basis of an analysis of the receiving HEI’s syllabus, which aims at recognition of credits for the study period. Prior to signing of the bilateral agreement the parties agree upon the number of incoming/outgoing mobilities of students and/or staff of the College and the length of stay.

Students are recruited on the basis of a submitted application, their academic performance and language skills. For the selected candidates a syllabus is prepared in cooperation with the partner institution and a relevant Learning Agreement on the issue is signed. At the latest a week before the departure, an agreement is signed between the College and the student, which stipulates the conditions of credit recognition for the semester and the amount of the grant. It is planned to organise specialised language courses for outgoing students and intensive Polish and English language courses for incoming students.

The Warsaw College of Health and Engineering does not have its own dormitory, but it undertakes to make every effort to guarantee the incoming students the stay and education in good conditions and friendly environment. Each and every incoming student can count on a warm welcome from our students. International mobility also refers to academic teachers. Considering the qualifications of a staff mobility candidate, a program of at least 8 lecturing hours is agreed upon before they leave. The amount of the grant is awarded as per the recommendations of the National Agency.

The Warsaw College of Health and Engineering has its Career Services, which in cooperation with the International Relations Office organises foreign traineeships for students. The potential traineeship provider is analysed with regard to the scope of obligations of the apprentice, which should be an integrated part of the student’s study programme. For this reason, before signing the Traineeship Agreement between the College and the institution accepting apprentices, negotiations are held to define the traineeship program. Recruitment of students for traineeship is carried out on the basis of an analysis of their academic performance and language skills as well as additional criteria dictated by the receiving institution and specified in the agreement between the parties. Students are awarded a grant in the amount depending on the number of qualified people, but within the limits determined by the National Agency. The agreement between the institutions suggests an appointment of a person – the student’s tutor, who would monitor the course of completion of the traineeship program for the purpose of issuing by the traineeship provider a document certifying completion of the program. An annotation on completion of the traineeship program is enclosed in the supplement to the Warsaw College of Health and Engineering graduation diploma.

It is permissible to combine traineeship mobility with mobility for studies at a partner institution under a student mobility program.