

## Policy statement – Erasmus+

Sophiahemmet University's mission statement includes improving the health and wellbeing of persons in the community through an excellent standard of education for nurses and researchers. Nursing science is an international discipline and global health is an issue that engages all students and staff at Sophiahemmet University.

Sophiahemmet University is aiming to strategically develop the internationalization and to build long-term collaboration with other institutions. International knowledge exchange is vital when it comes to maintaining the high quality in educational programs at Sophiahemmet University. The aim is to have an international perspective and presence throughout the educational system and our university promotes mobility for students, lecturers, researchers and other staff.

Participation in different exchange programs leads to increased knowledge, influx of new impressions and an exchange of ideas for students, researchers and staff. Furthermore, personal development is often stated as an outcome of international collaboration and mobility. In a world of generic competencies, this personal development benefits society at large.

### Choice of partners

We are striving for a broad perspective and intend to have partners from various countries and backgrounds. Our objective is to create win-win collaboration in exchanges and mobility. The exchanges may not be symmetrical, as long as all parties agree and gain on it. An example may be receiving students from one institution and sending staff. We strive for diversity and hope to collaborate with institutions from diverse settings and backgrounds.

### Geographical areas

Our ambition is to develop exchanges in diverse geographic areas with diverse languages.

### Objectives and target groups for mobility activities

The most important objectives of our mobility programs are to

- promote personal development of students and staff
- create a more international learning environment and increase the international focus in education through increased presence of students and teachers from abroad
- improve quality in our educational programs and research
- increase international awareness and knowledge about nursing in other cultures among students and staff

Our ambition is that internationalization will be a natural part of all educational programs, whether they are on first, second or third cycle. In the Erasmus program our main focus is on the first and second cycle students and staff mobility.

Outgoing first cycle nursing students may apply for programs offered by partner institutions. Our intention is to offer a similar setup at Sophiahemmet University. We will offer theoretical courses, for example in Leadership and Management, Global Health, Quality Assurance and Patient Safety as well as clinical placements in hospitals and clinics in, or close to, Stockholm. We have several courses

available in the English language and aim to be flexible in our scheduling. These courses will be offered as elective courses in our mobility window.

Second cycle, nursing students, are often working full-time and studying part-time. They are less inclined or able to leave their homes for a prolonged time. Our aim is to increase staff mobility in association with these groups so that visiting lecturers bring internationalization home to the students. Our lecturers in these programs will be encouraged to participate in exchanges. We will offer mobility programs to students as well and do our utmost to encourage and support those who do want to go.

Third cycle doctoral students are fully engaged in research groups, both nationally and internationally. Part of the requirements is to present at an international conference and hopefully co-publish with institutions in other countries. This group will not be targeted in our present process. The international research contacts are currently increasing, often via new contacts and collaborations between senior scientists and research groups at Sophiahemmet University with means to continue building bridges and enriching students, staff and community through exciting meetings, academic development and an increased international awareness.

We are honoured to be members of the Erasmus family.