# Erasmus Policy Statement

An international strategy for UIST consists of four basic components: (i) education abroad, (ii) exchanges, (iil) affiliations and international strategic partnership, and (iv) international faculty research and serving the international needs. Meeting the goals of these strategic components will mean: expending student involvement in Europe study programs, recruiting international students, developing new strategic partnerships with highly regarded institutions of higher education abroad, providing opportunities for international professional development for UIST, expending International outreach activities and services. UIST is posed to address the changes brought about by globalization and International competition because of the depth of its resources and expertise. UIST must conserve and enhance its expertise in Europe. UIST must, however also recognize and adapt to international trends that dominate in the 21st century: the focus of economics, intellectual, political and technology development. Our alliances and associations not only assist in creating a distinctive international educational experience for our students, but also allow the University to maintain an active presence in the international academic community. The University continues to develop strong and effective partisanship which provide researchers, staff and students with opportunities for international collaboration and active involvement in projects at regional and global levels. More than 30% of UIST undergraduates want to choose study abroad programs throughout Europe. UIST students could greatly benefit from short-term programs that introduce them to locations in different parts in Europa. UIST can also enter into partnership with providers who already operate reputable programs in Europa so there is no need for UIST to invest in separate services and facilities. These partnerships would expand UIST's portfolio without stretching resources. Because affiliations are more important than ever before to UIST research and education missions, future agreements must be chosen more carefully in order to ensure that UIST derives the maximum benefits. Relationships must be selected on the basis of how they contribute to institutional prestige. Because of the geopolitical Importance this area of the World - Europe will be key strategic region for UIST globalization efforts. Of course, UIST will continue to maintain existing partnerships with Institutions in the United States of America, Turkey, ect. The University or its schools can organize study programs of the first cycle acquiring joint degree, along with other schools of the University, together with one or more other universities in the country or abroad, accredited in the country of the head office, which decides the University of their own Initiative or at the suggestions of the schools of the University. Starting from the third semester students can enroll parallel courses from other study programs within the school of the University, but the total number of credits from both study programs in one semester must not exceed the number of 42 ECTS credits. After successfully completing the two curricula the student receives two diplomas.

The University for Information Science and Technology strives to promote academic excellence, on its way to become a reputable international university. UIST is In Its fourth year of existence, working under an International education system completely In English, while having students from around 20 different countries. Because the UIST team has been globally selected out of the best academic experts of the world, it can perfectly fit into the long-term strategic objectives of EU in terms of education and training aims.

UIST welcomes international cooperation in teaching and training In relation to bilateral projects with other highly-ranked universities of the world. Regarding to bilateral projects, UIST can provide strong academic scientific support by its academic team and by having strong links to the other elite universities of the world under memorandums of understanding. The UIST education system is based on two-way communication with students. The UIST students' parliament has been elected by students in a complete free election system. The students' parliament provides transparent feedback from the student side, thereby assisting promotion of education and training at UIST.

The quality of education at UIST has been constantly improving and it is very close aligned to the strategic plan of EU with respect to higher education systems.

In addition to research and teaching, UIST firmly believes that It Is essential for the University to serve and interact with its surrounding non-academic community, and in this regard UIST has introduced a number of internships where students gain practical experience and also provide a service to the community by developing projects for local companies and educational institutions. In this aspect UIST promotes equity, social cohesion, and active citizenship, which are some of the main EU education and training goals.

The University for Information Science and Technology "St. Paul the Apostle" wants to respond effectively and globally to the requirements of the knowledge economy. To become a part of the EU strategy for growth of the number of people that should have higher education qualification, UIST is working in that field and wants to continue working through EU projects and the ERASMUS program. IN accord with the EU Commission's efforts, UIST supports and works on the main goals for the reform of higher education:

- to increase the number of higher education graduates (UIST is already working with students from foreign countries from the African Continent and Asian Continent and small part form Europe. The main goal of the UIST Is to increase the number of students from Europe and become part of the ERASMUS Program);

- to improve the quality and relevance of teaching and researcher training, to equip graduates with the knowledge and core transferable competences they need to succeed In high-skill occupations (UIST Is already working with foreign professors that come from all around the world (USA, Italy, Iran, Albania etc.), that Is the main concept of the University, the Academic stuff to be from abroad. With that UIST has the opportunity very easy to be part of the staff exchange, and very easy can exchange experience trough research and projects);

- to provide more opportunities for students to gain additional skills through study or training abroad, and to encourage cross-border co-operation to boost higher education performance. UIST is already collaborating with Universities from the USA. Turkey and wants to expand the collaboration with EU countries from nearby (cross-border co-operation);

 -to strengthen the "knowledge triangle", linking education, research and business and to create effective governance and funding mechanisms In support of excellence.

The main goal for all of us is to profit from the collaboration, that doesn't mean just financially but with knowledge, experience, for the University and for the society.

Rector

_____

Professor Ninoslav Marina