

Action Plan for internationalization 2015-2017



Primary objective 1: VUC is to play an active role in the EU-programmes concerning education, research and innovation, and engage in Nordic and national arenas for internationalization.

Initiative	Responsibility	Deadline
The International Office at VUC is to be a resource for information about international education programmes (such as Erasmus and Nordplus), and support initiatives from the academic community to participate in such programmes.	Int. Office	2015
VUC will establish a joint degree in religion under the Nordic Master programme.	Faculties Study Admin.	2017
VUC will be actively involved in the Erasmus+ programme, and aim at participation in 3 Strategic Partnerships over the next two years.	Faculties Int. Office	2017
VUC will support participation in international research networks, and inform/mobilize the academic community to apply for research grants through international programmes such as Horizon 2020 (the new European research programme).	Faculties Research	Ongoing
VUC will take part in the present EU research programme FP7 via the HERA programme "Cultural Encounters", with partners in Finland, the Netherlands, Slovenia and the UK. VUC will organize a research seminar on behalf of this EU programme in 2015.	Vice-rector	Ongoing until 2016
VUC will enable future joint degrees by establishing additional courses taught in English at the master's level, and promote cooperative relationships with relevant partner universities.	Faculties Int. Office	2017
VUC will develop international cooperation in online education, enabling students to take part in international learning arenas (virtual mobility) that does not require physical mobility.	Faculties	2017

Primary objective 2: VUC shall provide students with qualifications required by the job market, and offer relevant professional training to local and international students.

Initiative	Responsibility	Deadline
VUC shall offer education which meets the demands for language and cultural competency, as well as relevant international experience, wanted by the job market.	Faculties KEV	Ongoing
VUC will offer a course with a traineeship component to international students, combining relevant work experience and studies at VUC.	Faculties Int. Office	2015
VUC will increase the number of local students completing an Erasmus+ traineeship period abroad, from approx. 10 to 30 per academic year.	Int. Office	2017
VUC will, through Erasmus+ Strategic Partnerships, work with highly relevant national and international organizations on the job market.	Faculties VRI Int. Office	2017

Primary objective 3: VUC will initiate new, and continue to develop the existing joint projects with institutions in lower-income countries.

Initiative	Responsibility	Deadline
VUC will focus on initiating and maintaining joint solidarity projects, and apply to be part of new projects coordinated by the Peace Corps, Norad and others.	Faculties	2017
VUC will improve relationships with collaborating institutions under the Quota Scheme, and increase the number of qualified Quota applicants.	Faculties Int. Office	2015
International Office shall help and inform the academic communities about the Norwegian Quota Scheme and the Erasmus+ Capacity-Building Programme for collaborations with institutions in lower-income countries.	Int. Office	2016

Primary objective 4: VUC will strengthen the cooperation with institutions abroad to improve our international partnerships and make them more relevant for students and employees.

Initiative	Responsibility	Deadline
VUC shall assess its international projects and partnerships on the basis of their relevance and offer a limited number of institutions status as <i>close partners</i> .	Faculties Int. Office	2015
VUC will focus on collaborating with institutions in Europe, North America, Russia, India and Kenya/Tanzania.	Faculties Int. Office	2017
VUC will continue to establish agreements with international institutions that offer master's degree programmes relevant for our Bachelor's students.	Faculties Int. Office	Ongoing
VUC's bachelor's and master's degree programmes will specify a few institutions that they recommend for student and staff mobility.	Faculties	2015
VUC will strengthen the collaboration with Cardiff University for future quality assurance and development of our master's programmes and future PhD in social sciences.	Faculties	2015
Every faculty at VUC should develop at least one international inter-institutional agreement including research and development within its main subject area.	Faculties Research	2017
VUC shall improve the internationalization of teacher training by establishing ties with academic environments abroad, which can provide guest lecturers or the possibility of student- and training mobility for our students.	Faculties	2016

Primary objective 5: VUC will further develop the course offer available for international students.

Initiative	Responsibility	Deadline
Every bachelor's and master's degree programme shall offer a minimum of one 15 ECTS course in English per academic year.	Faculties	2017
VUC will continue to offer English language courses for administrative and academic staff, and encourage the establishment of a part time position to assist with publication/information in English at VUC.	Faculties Int. Office	2017
VUC will develop a course in English in the bachelor's programme Public Relations, Communication and Media.	Faculties	2016
When granting funding to establish new courses in English, the International Office will prioritize courses also popular with local students, which will make new courses less vulnerable for fluctuations in the number of international students.	Int. Office	Ongoing

Primary objective 6: VUC shall strengthen international mobility, and tie student and staff exchange more closely to the learning outcomes in the programmes of study and research activity at VUC.

Initiative	Responsibility	Deadline
VUC will work to increase the number of international exchange students in the spring semester.	Faculties Int. Office	2016
The faculties will provide for Norwegian language training for international students enrolled in Norwegian-medium programmes.	Faculties	2017
VUC shall, in collaboration with student organizations, inspire local students to take advantage of study abroad opportunities. The International Office will organize regular information meetings about student exchange in all programmes of study, and improve the websites on exchange.	Faculties Int. Office STiV (Student Parliament)	2015
VUC will improve and clarify administrative procedures involving exchange, from guidance (before departure) to recognition of courses/credits (after returning home).	Faculties Int. Office	2015
VUC will work to increase incoming and outgoing teaching mobility.	Faculties Int. Office	2017
The work plans of VUC teaching staff shall specify international teaching collaboration and research.	Faculties	Ongoing
VUC will organize more conferences, increase its presence at international conferences and promote academic networking.	Faculties Research	Ongoing
VUC shall put in place a system for the exchange of experience on international mobility between departments by arranging meetings and establish an internal <i>Wiki</i> on partner universities.	Faculties Int. Office	2017

Primary objective 7: VUC shall be an international meeting place, allowing all students and staff to take part in experiences and knowledge gained from international partnerships and mobility.

Initiative	Responsibility	Deadline
Every programme of study shall prepare students for work and participation in a multicultural society.	Faculties	Ongoing
VUC will increase information in English on campus and make it easier for international students, staff and guests to take part in activities hosted by the university college and affiliated organizations.	Faculties Int. Office Info. Office Technical operations	Ongoing
VUC will increase the use of international guest lecturers (giving priority to applications for Erasmus teaching mobility), and include new international research and academic publications in the syllabus.	Faculties Int. Office	2017
Pangaia will be further developed as a venue for local and international students.	Int. Office	Ongoing

Primary objective 8: VUC will make the school's international activities and qualities more visible to its surroundings.

Initiative	Responsibility	Deadline
VUC will map out its international educational activity in order to promote existing activities, and to make use of each other's contacts and networks.	Faculties Int. Office	2017
VUC will increase the amount of English language content on its website, and modify the English website in order to promote the university college internationally.	Info. Office	2016
VUC will create a profile of the institution to be used in international marketing and information services.	Faculties Info. Office Int. Office	2015
VUC's International committee will, when relevant, invite representatives from the Information Office to attend meetings in order to improve the connection between information work and the international activities at VUC.	Int. Office Info. Office	2015