

## Action plan for internationalisation 2018-2020

*«VUC has a particular commitment to internationalisation»*

*«VUC shall be on the forefront concerning student mobility»*

*«VUC shall promote national and international cooperation in research and development»*

*«VUC shall make use of the Erasmus+ programme to increase student mobility»*

VUC Strategy Plan 2017-2020

### Objective 1: VUC shall take active part in Erasmus+ and other programmes/funding mechanisms supporting internationalisation of education and research

#### Important measures:

- VUC will increase the use of *Erasmus+* grants through higher numbers of outbound student mobility to European partners and by getting more funds from the *Erasmus+ Global Mobility* programme for cooperation with selected countries outside Europe (India, Russia, etc.)
- VUC will increase the number of student internships abroad by raising more funding from Erasmus+ and other funding mechanisms, by promoting this possibility better to our students and helping faculty/staff connect to relevant industry partners abroad
- VUC will particularly foster internationalization in teacher education by strengthening cooperation with other teacher training institutions in Scandinavia and by obtaining funding from the *NOTED*-programme (Norwegian programme for int. in teacher education)
- The VUC International Office will further its competence on international funding mechanisms and engage in dialogue with the Faculties in order to facilitate applications for international projects and ventures

### Objective 2: All study programmes at VUC shall contain integrated and relevant components of internationalisation, directed also at non-mobile students

#### Important measures:

- Relevance and quality of the international components in each study programme must be assured through annual meetings between the International Office and the academic department
- Internationalisation components will be considered in the strategic review of study programmes and the International Office should be consulted in the approval of new or revised study programmes
- The VUC International Office will provide feedback and suggestions for the paragraph on internationalisation in the study programme descriptions to ensure that this information better promotes the study programme and inspires internationalisation
- The number of international guest lecturers coming to VUC on Erasmus+ grants will be increased to app. 20 per academic year in 2019/2020 by better promoting this possibility and by providing information at the appropriate time (before completing teaching schedules)

### Objective 3: VUC shall be on the forefront concerning student mobility

#### Important measures:

- VUC will increase the exchange percentage (percentage of graduates who have studied/interned abroad) from today's 20% to 30% within 2020 by improving information about student mobility, by securing relevant exchange agreements and by modifying the structure of study programmes to make student mobility more attractive
- VUC will in particular increase mobility in the teacher education programmes by developing information material focusing on the possibilities of international teaching placements and academic offers at our partner universities abroad
- Students will share insights and knowledge gained from student mobility through establishing arenas where returning students can present their study abroad experiences
- VUC will increase the number of incoming exchange students in the fields of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences by developing courses in English that are attractive to both international and local students and by recruiting more students from the Nordic countries who can follow courses taught in Norwegian

### Objective 4: VUC's campus should reflect our international orientation and be a lively and diverse meeting place for students and staff

#### Important measures:

- VUC will ensure sufficient numbers of applicants to its international programmes, including the newly established Master's in Media Practices
- The diversity of students on campus will be secured through increased recruitment of students from outside Europe. From an internationalisation perspective, maintain the Norwegian language course for international students (NIS) desirable
- All study programmes should offer courses in English relevant to both local and international students
- VUC will try to ensure that international students, staff and guests feel welcome by providing relevant information in English on our website, in e-mail correspondence and with sign posting on campus
- VUC will ensure integration of local and international students through the use of existing meeting grounds such as Pangaia, the Buddy Week, etc., and most importantly, through the deliberate mixing of local and international students in class
- The VUC International Office will develop a «Certificate of Internationalisation» to be awarded to students, in order to inspire them to take part in international activities such as student mobility, internships abroad, International Day, study trips/conferences abroad, events organised by Pangaia, the Buddy Week, etc.

## Objective 5: VUC shall strengthen internationalisation in research and development

### Important measures:

- International R&D activity will be fostered through better information on the availability of *Erasmus+* grants as a low-threshold offer for academic staff who wish to establish contacts with research communities abroad
- VUC will make it easier for academic staff to find information about and prepare for international research cooperation by establishing a resource group consisting of experienced researchers at VUC and writing a how-to guide on the topic
- The incentives for international R&D cooperation ought to be strengthened through counting international activity in the faculty members' work plans and emphasising international work when considering academic promotion
- All academic departments should have international agreements that enable staff mobility and international research cooperation and focus on these agreements in external communication and advertised vacancies

## Objective 6: VUC shall better communicate and highlight its international activities

### Important measures:

- VUC will improve international marketing through the new English website that contains relevant information for prospective students, international partners and others
- To ensure better and more professional promotion of VUC abroad, the Office for Communications and Outreach (Kontor for samfunnskontakt) will develop Word and PowerPoint templates in English, as well as a brochure in English with key figures about VUC