

# Pie 6: Guidance and support for students outside the classroom

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In the Jones model pie number 6 is 'Guidance and support for students outside the classroom', this contains:

- Effective system and services provide support to support internationalisation, including language and intercultural competence development.
- Promoting and encouraging internationalization for all students.
- Language, cross-cultural capability, academic support, relevant advisory and counselling services.

This document is a collection of examples on different subjects.



# Inclusive internationalisation

# SHORT DESCRIPTION

Internationalisation initiatives are putting more effort in opening up their projects to all students to establish an inclusive internationalisation.

We refer to some projects or literature on this topic below.

# **GOALS**

Offering <u>all</u> students the opportunity to take part in internationalization or exchange

### **TARGET GROUPS**

students

# **SOURCE AND/OR ANNEX**

https://aurora-network.global/project/inclusive-internationalisation/

https://www.mapped.eu/about

https://www.eaie.org/training/webinars/webinar-detail/inclusive-internationalisation-students-disabilities.html

http://www.aca-secretariat.be/fileadmin/aca\_docs/event\_presentations/ACA-2019-April\_Reflection\_Paper\_Inclusion.pdf



# Go Abroad Fairs and Information Sessions

# SHORT DESCRIPTION

Pre-departure informative sessions are a great way to support students intending to go abroad for a study semester, internship or project. Next to triggering curiosity and fostering further interest, students can get a first idea on what it entails to spend a semester abroad. The following elements can be part of these meetings:

- logistics of the process
- visa regulations and other paperwork
- working with commercial organisations
- risk management and calamity protocols
- options and opportunities within and/or outside the institutions international network
- Erasmus funding options and procedures
- Commercial and private funding options and procedures

# **GOALS**

- 1. Recruit students who want to go abroad / on exchange
- 2. Inform students adequately on exchange possibilities
- 3. Inform students adequately on procedures and protocols

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students



Welcoming & introduction weeks, orientation days, preparation courses (e.g. languages)

### **SHORT DESCRIPTION**

It is not only wise to prepare students for an international experience as part of their degree programme. And not only prepare but also debrief after returning back to their own institution. As the book "Student Learning Abroad: What Our Students Are Learning, What They're Not, and What We Can Do About It" explains, one might have had a wonderful experience but it remains unclear what has been learned and how one has developed further international and intercultural understanding. In this case it remains unclear what the added value of the international and intercultural experience has been and it might even have caused unwanted effects.

A semester (or longer) abroad requires sound preparation and follow-up to reassure the added value of the experience and the development of the student immersed in another culture, and the development of international and intercultural competencies.

See also the option to use a world citizen test; e.g. via <a href="https://www.odat.nl/en/world-citizen-test/">https://www.odat.nl/en/world-citizen-test/</a>

### **GOALS**

Welcome and inform international and exchange students on campus
Learn the local language and culture
Getting acquainted with 'how things go' at the host/guest institution
Cultural awareness and putting one's own backgrounds into perspective
Understanding the developed competencies e.g. via ICOMs or other test options (e.g. intercultural readiness check).

### **TARGET GROUPS**

students

### **SOURCE AND/OR ANNEX**

Student Learning Abroad: What Our Students Are Learning, What They're Not, and What We Can Do About It: short description via <a href="mailto:this link">this link</a>

De Wit, H. & Jones, E. Inclusive Internationalization: Improving Access and Equity. 2018. See <a href="link">link</a>



Every 10 weeks an 'international cafe' evening can be organized in the school or at a nice bar. Incoming students and locals bring homecooked food and share it with each other.

Food is a good conversation starter and it helps overcome boundaries.

### **GOALS**

To bring local and international students together and share food from the home country. Learn short sent ences: "how are you? / I like your food. / Can I try your food? / I love it!"

Get to know other people. Develop a buddy system: foreigners can ask questions to local students about transport/classes/where to do laundry/where to eat/....

Local students get in touch with other cultures and might be inspired to go abroad themselves.

Discuss country differences; both professional and personal aspects.

# **TARGET GROUPS**

Students & staff



# **Buddy projects**

### **SHORT DESCRIPTION**

Each country and each institution have their own specific buddy system.

Some buddy systems are coordinated on a national level (e.g. by an international student network like ESN) or they are coordinated by the institution.

In some buddy systems, the buddy students are also international students (experienced), whereas in other systems the buddy students are local students (familiar with the local situation).

Most of the time, buddies are volunteers and a buddy training from the institution is not always offered.

Buddies can offer a wide range of services to international students, both pre-arrival and during the stay at the institution.

E.g.

Pre-arrival: guidance in the search for housing, administrative support, language support ...

During the stay: transportation upon arrival (pick-up at the airport or the train station), administrative support (finalizing registration), finding the way on campus and in town, social activities to get to know other (local and/or international) students ...

You can apply to be a buddy or to get a buddy assigned through some of the buddy organizations and networks, or in the host institution.

### **GOALS**

The goal is to help foreign students with everything they need at the start of their studies abroad. The main types of support is help with accommodation and transportation, administration, the first days at school ... Furthermore, the students can plan some social activities, trips or sightseeing to get acquainted in the new environment.

# **TARGET GROUPS**

International students, local students

# **SOURCE AND/OR ANNEX**

www.esn.org

www.buddysystem.eu www.buddygodutch.nl



BuddyGoDutch helps international students meet Dutch people and vice-versa. We provide a personal buddy program for Dutch students and international students from all over the globe. This way both parties can learn about each other's culture!

# Our buddyprogram

You can sign up for the program at the beginning of every semester. After signing up, we host a matching event where you can meet the others who applied. Then we use your personal interests and preferences to match you with your ideal buddy. For more info about the program, visit our <u>matchingprocess page</u>.

### **Activities and events:**

Once you are matched you can attend our two weekly events together with your buddy. Here you will meet other students both international and Dutch. It is the perfect environment to discuss culture, politics, traditions, all the while practicing languages and customs that might be very foreign to you! You are also free to meet up with your buddy in your own time!

We organize activities ranging from pub-crawls and ice-skating to dinners and parties. If you want to know more about our activities go to the activities page, or visit our Facebook page. Even if you are not a buddy with us, you are still welcome to join us on our activities. See you soon!

# **GOALS**

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### **TARGET GROUPS**

International students

### **SOURCE AND/OR ANNEX**

www.buddygodutch.nl



Physio Couch is a couch surf network for international physiotherapy students/alumni. Their goal is to facilitate experiences abroad and an informal way of learning based on connecting, sharing 'out of the comfort zone' and having fun. Physio Couch connects international students through couch surfing.

The idea of couch surfing and Physiotherapy was first postulated by Roeleke Schepers in 2009.

# **Physio Couch event**

A two-day-event inspiring all participants to learn in different ways. Its program provides expected and unexpected events. The expected parts consist of a client case, practical experience, short 'pitch' lectures, fun, peer interaction, formal and informal meetings.

Non formal division exists between the roles of students, graduates and teachers. All will be learners through sharing information and experiences.

### **GOALS**

To create an easy accessible physiotherapy network /platform for students and alumni; To facilitate international exchange in an informal way.

The Physio Couch event is an opportunity for international students to be part of an unique event, meeting new people, sharing experiences, gaining new knowledge, having a cultural experience and of course to have a great time.

### **TARGET GROUPS**

Physiotherapy students and alumni all over the world

# **SOURCE AND/OR ANNEX**

https://physiocouch.wixsite.com/physiocouchevent/about1

or visit on Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/392723284187439/?ref=share



Each exchange student who wishes to take part in the tandem programme is matched with a local student (the matching is either done by signing up via e-mail at the International office, with the local student indicating their country/language preference OR with a speed dating event where all interested students go and make the matches themselves).

The two students then meet at least 5 times per semester and do various activities together (e.g. going for coffee, using half of the time to chat in the local language and the other half in the foreign language so both students can benefit; cook together; attend a sports class together; go to an event/the museum/theatre; do an outing together etc.).

Optionally (as it is at FH Joanneum), the tandem programme can be part of an "Intercultural Competences Module" with ECTS (in that case, students have to record their meetings, reflect on them, take part in intercultural lectures and do a poster presentation at the end of the semester about what they learnt from their tandem partners), but it is not necessary and can be done in a much more informal way.

### **GOALS**

Get local and international students in touch with each other. Give the students the opportunity and time to form friendships. Foster foreign language skills.

### **TARGET GROUPS**

Local and international students (both exchange and whole degree)

# **SOURCE AND/OR ANNEX**

FH Joanneum Graz, Austria

www.fh-joanneum.at/en/international/services/tandem-programme/