Action Plan for Internationalisation
supporting Tampere University’s strategy 2030
Active Collaboration Partner

Our university is an active and well-known collaboration partner and a contributor to global sustainable development. We boost our international collaboration through partnerships and networks and promote our research and education internationally. We build actively a future European University through ECIU university project. We see our international graduates as future talents and partners.

Key actions:

1. We draft region-specific development plans for intensifying collaboration in education, research and transnational education with priority areas and target outcomes
2. We utilise the flagship programme and centres of excellence in strengthening our reputation as part of the university’s international marketing
3. We create a comprehensive alumni register and activities based on an alumni strategy, in order to support international awareness, recruitment, partnerships and networks and our fundraising

• We set up a visitor centre to facilitate individual and group visits at university- and faculty-level
• We utilise our narrative, tools, webpages and processes in place for brand awareness and partnerships
• We prioritise and set targets for our partnerships
• We build strong partnerships for our profiling areas
• We make our infrastructures more visible to partners and enterprises
• We utilise our internal communication for active engagement in international networks
• We participate actively in capacity building projects, act as a host institution for scholars at risk and brand our university as a contributor to global sustainable development
• Each faculty maps its possibilities to participate in financially sustainable transnational education and defines its support structure for the same purpose
Global Community

We are a global community with shared values and identity. Our people and culture are inherently international and we provide a variety of opportunities for academic mobility. We invest in international recruitment of best talents, e.g. by setting up a competitive international recruitment strategy, by utilising the tenure track model, and launching a Tampere Fellowship programme, and we use English as a medium of our everyday operations.

Key actions:

1. We set up a competitive international recruitment strategy and process and comprehensive relocation services, including starting packages for incoming staff members.

2. We launch a Tampere Fellowship programme for incoming and outgoing researcher mobility, including centralised information on possibilities and funding, an “easy package” to go abroad and come back.

3. We create a language policy to set guidelines for using English within the community.

- We collaborate with the City of Tampere, to support the attractiveness of the city as a global higher education hub and the region’s international business.

- We brand our relocation services and the integration of international staff members and their families as our asset in international recruitment and deploy various measures for social inclusion, e.g. a social club, language training.

- We provide training to improve the international expertise and language skills of our staff members and encourage them to participate in international staff mobility and transnational education projects.

- We acknowledge teaching in English in the working plans and remuneration of academic staff.
International Forerunner in Research

We are an international forerunner in multi- and transdisciplinary research and acclaimed for our work on open science. Our researchers are active on international academic fora and attract international funding. This is facilitated by international university networks and a five-year development programme on international collaboration and partnerships. Our research has global impact.

Key actions:

1. We activate our international research collaboration with seed funding with selected universities, with the aim of giving an impetus for research funding applications and co-publications
2. Our international PhD programmes have clear competency-based curricula including joint courses and programmes with top international universities
3. We emphasise the importance of long- and short-term mobility periods as part of an academic career and provide support for them

- The University monitors how actively international research grants are being sought and set quantitative goals for the acquisition of international grants
- We encourage and support the integration of our researchers in international research consortia to gain more international research funding
- We encourage our researchers to take positions in international research organisations, act as reviewers and serve on the editorial boards of scientific publications
- We actively build international doctoral training networks (ITN) based on our partnerships
- Researchers are offered individual career guidance to support them to reach ambitious goals and compete for top funding, such as ERC
- We produce means to showcase our excellence in research and potential for research collaboration, e.g. by our work in open science, by branding our multi- and transdisciplinary research platforms and by creating a professor catalogue
- We define the best partner universities for all fields separately. We create uniform policies and procedures for open use of infrastructures to pave a way to international collaboration
Attractive Study Destination

Our university is an attractive study destination and a digital campus, where we support virtual learning in global context. Internationalisation is an integral part of all our degree programmes and implemented in personal study plans. We utilise our teaching and learning centre to promote integrated internationalisation in our pedagogy. We focus on providing international degree students and students with immigrant backgrounds support for integration and a path for employment.

Key actions:

1. We define targets for international education and re-evaluate and develop our portfolio of degree programmes (fee-paying students and commissioned programmes vs global responsibility vs talent attraction), and increase the number of international bachelor programmes

2. We provide international degree students and students with immigrant and diverse backgrounds support for integration and well-being and a path for employment, including opportunities for advanced Finnish language studies, in collaboration with the City of Tampere and other stakeholders

3. All degree programmes offer a built-in mobility window with selected partners and a selection of courses for full accreditation

- We renew our strategy for scholarships to support student recruitment and collaborate with national and organisational scholarship systems worldwide
- We have a policy for using recruitment agents and student ambassadors
- Our pre-welcome and welcome services make the international students feel appreciated and their study path begins with lectures given by our top-level professors to get them inspired of career opportunities and science
- Our academic tutors in all degree programmes advise students on the opportunities for short-term or long-term international mobility when making personal study plans
- An internationalisation module, including internationalisation at home, is part of every student’s personal study plan
- The Language Centre offers students a wide spectrum of language studies based on cooperation and dialogue both within the university and with Finnish and international partners
- The Language Centre offers fee-based open-enrolment Finnish courses for everyone and coordinates language revision services for staff members
- We have a policy on which study modules are offered in English, to provide an established selection of courses for exchange students
- Our teachers organise international virtual courses for making a “global classroom”
- We have identified opportunities for our students for internships and other types of collaboration with enterprises abroad
- Faculties are supported in applying for international educational and mobility projects