

Erasmus Policy Statement (EPS)

The College of Karlovy Vary (VSKV) provides integral bachelor education in a study programme B 6804 "Legal Specialization" in context with the university system of education in the Czech Republic. It was established in 1999 and it currently has over 1,000 students and several generations of graduates – bachelors with legal specialization. The establishment of VSKV arose mainly from the needs of the region. The school is located in the regional city and it is the only college which has its seat in the Karlovy Vary region, which results in practical relations between the college and state administration and self-administration authorities. Within its capacities, VSKV participates not only in serving the educational needs of the city and the region, but it also contributes by its educational activities to the development activities of local institutions, particularly the Municipal Office of Karlovy Vary, the Regional Authority of Karlovy Vary and other significant regional partners. VSKV is one of the partners of the Karlovy Vary region in the project called "The Integrated System of Regional Education". The college has also been promoting reciprocal cooperation with Eurocentrum Karlovy Vary and it has signed an agreement with the Association of Innovative Entrepreneurship of the Czech Republic.

VSKV has been extending development and cooperation with foreign universities in the areas of science and research. In the academic year 2009-10, VSKV signed contracts of bilateral cooperation with the Bratislava College of Law and P. J. Šafárik University in Košice. Within bilateral cooperation, it has been implementing student and academic mobility, organizing professional seminars and holding conferences. In March 2011, an international conference "Economy and Law" was held and it was attended not only by partner colleges, but also by many other entities such as national and foreign colleges, professional chambers and public institutions.

VSKV is also participating in the Lifelong Learning Programme Leonardo da Vinci and is organizing training course for graduates of VSKV at LAW COURTS in Great Britain in September 2011 and 2012.

The priorities of VSKV are as follows:

- to build and develop the quality of the educational process in the system of quality, which are the pillars of continuity and tradition of academic environment and adopted European standards,
- to ensure operation of ECTS, transparency and flexibility of study programmes,
- to carry on preparing and implementing study programmes taught in English and German,
- to continue internationalization of VSKV by joining the Erasmus programme and obtaining an Erasmus University Charter (EUC),
- to increase student and academic mobility within the Erasmus,
- to prepare academic processes to obtain Diploma Supplement Label,
- to develop and preserve all forms of lifelong learning programmes,
- to support publication activities of the academic staff abroad.

The information concerning the Erasmus programme has been displayed on the web sites of VSKV along with the full wording of EPS. If VSKV obtains an EUC, the information will also be displayed on the web sites of VSKV, it will be published in the regional and national press, in selected professional periodicals, and in a reviewed journal *Karlovarská právní revue*, which is published and distributed by VSKV within the whole Czech Republic. VSKV will hold presentations informing our students.

VSKV enrolls all students qualified for study regardless of their race, nationality, gender, faith or age. Race and religious tolerance are incorporated in compulsory education. We do not tolerate discrimination of national minorities, ethnic groups or any manifestations of xenophobia, racism and non-democratic behaviour. In the academic year 2010-11, there are 652 female students and 369 male students. There are 23 foreign students.

VSKV offers bachelor programmes in accordance with the Bologna Process, it uses a functional credit system ECTS and prepares the implementation of study programmes in English and German. These will be subsequently offered to domestic and foreign students. These activities are based on close cooperation of particular departments with the department of foreign languages. One of the partial outputs of this preparation is apart from other things a publication of VSKV: HANKOVÁ, L. *Angličtina pro právníky /Legal English/*. Plzeň: Aleš Čeněk, 2010. 333 pp. ISBN 978-80-7380-285-1. A similar

publication focusing on legal German will be published next academic year. An overview of study programmes along with information concerning the college have been displayed on the web sites of VSKV both in English and German.

Services within mobility are provided by the department of foreign relations which is ready to provide these services also for the incoming students and academic staff within the Erasmus programme. These services include assistance with accommodation, information about study, language courses, joining the collective of students and academic staff, as well as paperwork during the whole period of mobility. Together with lecturers and students we organize trips, social events and excursions for foreign students and academic staff. Similarly, the department of foreign relations takes care of outgoing students and academic staff and it deals with the selection of students, attending to academic mobility, information meetings, transport and accommodation, paperwork concerning student and academic mobility and contacts with other students and academic staff abroad during the whole period of mobility.