



# Erasmus Charter for Higher Education 2014-2020

## Application Form Call: 2014

Note: The data of this application form will be used by the European Commission/ Executive Agency EACEA and National Agencies for evaluation and monitoring

<b>Program</b>	<b>The 2014-2020 EU programme for education, training, youth and sport proposed by the European Commission on 23 November 2011 (hereafter the Programme)*</b>
<b>Action</b>	<b>Erasmus Charter for Higher Education</b>
<b>Call</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>Deadline for Submission (dd-mm-yyyy)</b>	<b>15/05/2013 12:00 midday Brussels time.</b>
<b>Application language</b>	<b>EN</b>
<b>Correspondence Language</b>	<b>EN</b>

**29312-LA-1-2014-1-AT-E4AKA1-ECHE-1**

**Applicant's previous EUC number (if applicable):**

29312-IC-1-2007-1-AT-ERASMUS-EUC-1

**Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy) section D of this application form - original language (official EU languages): EN**

If the original language is not English, French or German, the Erasmus Policy Statement (EPS) should also be provided in one of those three languages.

**Erasmus Policy Statement translation language (if applicable): -**

**Acknowledgement of receipt**

After submission, applicants are invited to consult the website of the Education, Audiovisual & Culture Executive Agency - EACEA to check successful receipt of their Erasmus Charter for Higher Education (ECHE) application. If by the second week after the deadline, the application has not been listed on the website, the applicant should contact the EACEA (e-mail: [EACEA-ECHE@ec.europa.eu](mailto:EACEA-ECHE@ec.europa.eu)).

*\* COM(2011) 788 (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2011:0788:FIN:EN:PDF>)*



## Applicant Organisation

### A.1. Applicant Organisation

PIC, if available. Cf. Application manual	999987357
Full legal name (official name in latin characters)	UNIVERSITAT FUR BODENKULTUR WIEN
Full legal name (English name)	UNIVERSITY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND LIFE SCIENCES, VIENNA
Acronym	BOKU
Erasmus code (e.g. F PARIS33) - if available	A WIEN03
Address (N°, street, avenue, etc.)	GREGOR MENDEL STRASSE 33
Country	Österreich
Region	WIEN
Post code	A - 1180
City	VIENNA
Website	<a href="http://www.boku.ac.at">http://www.boku.ac.at</a>

### A.2. Legal Representative

Title	UNIV. PROF. DI DR. DR.H.C.MULT.
Gender	Male
First Name	Martin
Family Name	GERZABEK
Position	Rector
E-mail	<a href="mailto:rektorat@boku.ac.at">rektorat@boku.ac.at</a>
Telephone (including country / area codes)	+ 43/1 /47654-1000
Address (n°, street, avenue, etc)	Gregor Mendel Strasse 33
Country	AT, Österreich
Post code	1180
City	WIEN

### A.3. Coordinator

Title	Dr.
Gender	Female
First Name	Margarita

Family Name	CALDERÓN-PETER
Department	ZENTRUM FUR INTERNATIONALE BEZIEHUNGEN (ZIB)
Position	Leiterin des ZIB
E-mail	margarita.calderon-peter@boku.ac.at
Telephone (including country / area codes)	+ 43/1 /47564-2601
Address (n°, street, avenue, etc)	Peter Jordan Strasse 82a
Country	AT, Österreich
Post code	1190
City	WIEN

**The purpose of these statistics is to put into context the actions and strategies the institution is asked to present in the following sections.**

**For the academic year 2012-2013:**

**Total number of students enrolled in all degree programmes offered by your institution (data from official HEI register)**

Short cycle:	0.0
1st Cycle:	6318.0
2nd Cycle:	3395.0
3rd Cycle:	865.0

**Number of staff (Equivalent full-time)**

Teaching:	1008.9
Administrative:	474.6

**Number of degree courses on offer**

Short cycle:	0.0
1st Cycle:	9.0
2nd Cycle:	25.0
3rd Cycle:	5.0

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STUDENTS (academic year 2011-2012)

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**1. Credit Mobility for Students (all types of mobility programmes for periods between 2 and 12 months)**

Number of outgoing study mobility students (Erasmus and/or others): to participating countries	182.0
Number of outgoing study mobility students (Erasmus and/or others): to non-participating countries	103.0
Number of traineeship (work placement) mobility students (Erasmus and/or others): to participating countries	21.0
Number of traineeship (work placement) mobility students (Erasmus and/or others): to non-participating countries	4.0
Number of study mobility students (Erasmus and/or others): from participating countries	278.0
Number of study mobility students (Erasmus and/or others): from non-participating countries	140.0

**2. International Degree Students (students enrolled for a full degree programme with foreign nationality or having completed a foreign previous degree)**

Number of foreign students, if applicable: from Participating countries	1650.0
Number of foreign students, if applicable: non-participating countries	591.0

**3. If applicable, number of local (having the nationality of the country) and international students (of foreign nationality / with foreign previous degree) involved in double/multiple/joint degrees:**

Number of Local students, involved in Double/multiple/joint degrees	196.0
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Number of international students, involved in double/multiple/joint degrees

205.0

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ACADEMIC STAFF (academic year 2011-2012)

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***All types of Erasmus staff mobility (for periods between 2 days and 2 months) for teaching and training purposes***

Number of outgoing academic staff to participating countries

34.0

Number of incoming academic staff from participating countries

29.0

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COOPERATION (academic year 2012-2013)

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***HEI AGREEMENTS IN EDUCATION AND RESEARCH valid in 2012/2013: European and International HEI Agreements / Consortia / Networks***

Number of Erasmus interinstitutional agreements:

150.0

Number of other cooperation agreements (e.g. Memorandum of Understanding) with HEIs from participating countries

26.0

Number of other cooperation agreements (e.g. Memorandum of Understanding) with HEIs from non-participating countries

83.0

Total number of consortium agreements for double/multiple/joint degrees:

10.0

Of these, percentage of the consortium involving non-participating countries

30.0

***European and International Education and Training Projects with contracts running in 2012-2013 (e.g.: Lifelong Learning Programme, Erasmus Mundus or Tempus)***

Number of projects as coordinator:

1.0

Number of projects as partner:

20.0

***Equivalent full-time administrative staff engaged in the HEI's European and International Offices working for the Programme (2012-2013)***

Number of staff at the central level:

7.25

Number of staff at the Faculty/School/Department Level:

0.0

## General Organisation of Programme activities

### **C1. General Organisation**

Please describe the structure at your institution for the implementation and organisation of European and international mobility (division of tasks, operational and communication methods). (max. 1000 characters)

Please provide the direct web link with the contact details of the international office (or equivalent) in your institution dealing with the implementation and organisation of European and international mobility:

International affairs at BOKU are the strategic responsibility of the Rectorate, supported by the Committee for Internationalisation meeting 4 times/year (representatives of the Rectorate, Senate, students, Centre for Development Research, QA, ZIB). The ZIB (Centre for International Relations) is responsible for the operational implementation and day-to-day administration of int. cooperation, mobility and BOKU's language courses. These activities are complemented by those of the departmental coordinators responsible for each partnership or ERASMUS agreement (who provide subject-specific support for the cooperation), the members of the Scholarship Nomination Council [Auslandsbeirat] who allocate BOKU's scholarships, the programme co-ordinators of the international study programs and the international contact persons of each department. This group joins the Committee meetings twice/year. A weekly international e-newsletter informs all scientists.

<http://www.boku.ac.at/international.html>

### **C2. Fundamental Principles**

**By applying for the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education my institution will:**

Respect in full the principles of non-discrimination set out in the Programme and ensure equal access and opportunities to mobile participants from all backgrounds.

Ensure full recognition for satisfactorily completed activities of study mobility and, where possible, traineeships in terms of credits awarded (ECTS or compatible system.). Ensure the inclusion of satisfactorily completed study and/or traineeship mobility activities in the final record of student achievements (Diploma Supplement or equivalent).

Please explain the academic credit system and the methodology used to allocate credits to the different course units followed by your students abroad. (max. 1000 characters)

In addition, please provide the direct web link where the methodology is explained:

BOKU was the first Austrian university to convert Diploma studies into Bachelor- and Master programs (incl. ECTS) in 2003/04. The principles of transparency of recognition, as set out in the ECTS guide, are fully respected at BOKU: Outgoing students need to submit (before leaving): Äquivalenzliste (Paper for Recognition) and Learning Agreement; signed by the Dean of studies. These documents are automatically produced in the online application database. Upon return, students hand in these documents and their Transcript of Records (ToR) at the admission office and the courses taken abroad are fully recognised and listed in the BOKU ToR. The ToR explains the local grading scale; and, in case of mobile students, lists the courses and ECTS credits taken abroad. The Diploma Supplement, which is issued automatically upon graduation in English and German, also lists the courses and ECTS. The procedure is explained on the website:

<http://www.boku.ac.at/int-out-e-mystayabroad.html?&L=1>

Charge no fees, in the case of credit mobility, to incoming mobile students for tuition, registration, examinations or access to laboratory and library facilities.

### **C3. When Participating in Mobility Activities - Before mobility**

Publish and regularly update the course catalogue on the website of the Institution well in advance of the mobility periods, so as to be transparent to all parties and allow mobile students to make well-informed choices about the courses they will follow.

Provide guidance to incoming mobile participants in finding accommodation.



Please explain if all courses taught at your institution are described in the Course Catalogue and in which languages. (max. 500 characters)

In addition, please provide the direct web link to your Course Catalogue:

BOKU's ECTS guide comprises info on BOKU, studies and Vienna.

All courses are described in English and German in the yearly updated "BOKU online" system, which details e.g. time, venue, content, Learning Objectives, language of instruction, teaching and exam method, etc. Archives exist.

How to use BOKU online: <http://www.boku.ac.at/int-in-boku-howtolookforcourses.html?&L=1>

Course catalogue: <https://online.boku.ac.at/BOKUonline/webnav.ini>

General Info: <http://www.boku.ac.at/int-in.html?&L=1>

Carry out mobility only within the framework of prior agreements between institutions. These agreements establish the respective roles and responsibilities of the different parties, as well as their commitment to shared quality criteria in the selection, preparation, reception and integration of mobile participants.



Please describe the institutional procedure for the approval and monitoring of inter-institutional agreements for study and teaching mobility and/or learning agreements in case of traineeships (work placements). (max. 1000 characters)

Inter-institutional ERASMUS agreements are only signed if at least one department fully supports the signature and activities implemented. Third-Country co-operation agreements need the support of 2 BOKU departments and approval by the Committee for Internationalisation. Details on agreement options and procedures: <http://www.boku.ac.at/int-coop-strategy.html?&L=1>

All agreements are evaluated annually, and in addition regularly within the framework of the evaluation of BOKU's strategy for internationalisation. In order to increase mobility, training agreements are signed upon request of mobile students; teaching agreements upon request of mobile staff. Outgoing students and staff are selected in a transparent, fair and documented way ensuring equal treatment and non-discrimination. Learning and training agreements are evaluated before and after departure by the departmental co-ordinators /study commission / Dean of studies.

Ensure that outgoing mobile participants are well prepared for the mobility, including having attained the necessary level of linguistic proficiency.



Please describe your institution's language policy for preparing participants for mobility, e.g.: course providers within or outside the HEI. (max. 750 characters)

If possible, please provide the direct web link for your language policy:

BOKU provides a broad range of language courses at different levels (A1 to C1 of the European Reference Framework for Languages). 14 different languages are taught by trained native speakers, including German courses for incomings. The courses are open for students, remaining places can be "filled" with BOKU staff. BOKU's Human Resources Department offers English courses for BOKU staff. Staff and students are regularly informed via e-newsletter about external language course providers (Summer schools, Staff training weeks, etc.) Students with special needs get special support.

List of all language courses: <http://www.boku.ac.at/int-languages.html?&L=1>

BOKU's language policy: <http://www.boku.ac.at/int-coop-strategy.html?&L=1>

Ensure that student and staff mobility for education or training purposes is based on a learning agreement for students and a mobility agreement for staff validated in advance between the home and host institutions or enterprises and the mobile participants.



Provide assistance related to obtaining visas, when required, for incoming and outgoing mobile participants.





Provide assistance related to obtaining insurance, when required, for incoming and outgoing mobile participants.

#### ***C4. When Participating in Mobility Activities - During Mobility***

Ensure equal academic treatment and services for home students and staff and incoming mobile participants.

Integrate incoming mobile participants into the Institution's everyday life.

Have in place appropriate mentoring and support arrangements for mobile participants.

Please describe mentoring and support arrangements for incoming mobile participants and outgoing students for study and traineeships. (max. 750 characters)

For incomings the Center for Int. Relations (ZIB) helps with info on accommodation, visa, insurance, studying at BOKU (e.g. BOKU library, IT facilities, student Restaurant, departmental coordinators help), language courses and living in Vienna. Each incoming student gets a "Buddy" Austrian student who helps to settle in Vienna. The ZIB + student union organise several social activities, e.g. "Welcome Days", intercultural training.  
Equal, similar info and support in the whole mobility process is given by ZIB to outgoing students.  
Students with special needs get special support.  
Academic progress of both incoming and outgoings is regularly checked.  
Details: <http://www.boku.ac.at/int-in.html?&L=1> and <http://www.boku.ac.at/int-out-e.html?&L=1>

Provide appropriate linguistic support to incoming mobile participants.

Please describe your institution's language support for incoming students and staff with a minimum of 2-month mobility period. (max. 500 characters)

If possible, please provide the direct web link for your language policy:

BOKU provides a broad range of language courses at different levels (A1 to C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages). 14 different languages are taught by trained native speakers, including German courses for incomings. All courses are also open for incomings.  
Tandem-language-learning is also organised by CIR.  
List of all language courses: <http://www.boku.ac.at/int-languages.html?&L=1>  
BOKU's language policy: <http://www.boku.ac.at/int-coop-strategy.html?&L=>

#### ***C5. When Participating in Mobility Activities - After Mobility***

Accept all activities indicated in the learning agreement as counting towards the degree, provided these have been satisfactorily completed by the mobile students.

Provide incoming mobile participants and their home institutions with transcripts containing a full, accurate and timely record of their achievements at the end of their mobility period.

Regarding the above two Charter principles, please describe the mechanisms your institution has in place to recognise mobility achievements for study and traineeships in enterprises. (max. 750 characters)

In addition, please provide the direct web link for this recognition procedure:

Learning agreements and Training agreements are submitted (before departure and upon return) to the departmental coordinators / study commission / Dean of studies, who acknowledge these activities. They are included in the BOKU transcript of records as timely as possible and count towards the degree. The Diploma Supplement also lists the courses taken abroad.

A description of the recognition procedure can be found:

1) for study periods abroad:

<http://www.boku.ac.at/int-out-e.html?&L=1> (see: "How to apply" and "My stay abroad")

2) for internships abroad:

<http://www.boku.ac.at/int-out-ep.html?&L=1> (see: "How to apply" and "My stay abroad")

Support the reintegration of mobile participants and give them the opportunity, upon return, to build on their experiences for the benefit of the Institution and their peers.

Ensure that staff are given recognition for their teaching and training activities undertaken during the mobility period, based on a mobility agreement.

Please describe your institution's measures to support, to promote and to recognise staff mobility. (max. 750 characters)

One of the goals of BOKU's strategy for Internationalisation is to increase outgoing and incoming staff mobility. The Center for Int. Relations promotes it in e-newsletters, information sessions, website, direct counselling etc and supports mobile staff.

Scientists on a tenure-track position are obliged to spend at least 3 months abroad. (HR strategy)

Recognition of staff mobility is made in the individual (personal) evaluation (yearly career planning evaluation with the direct supervisor). Reports of the mobile individuals are presented e.g. in the BOKU magazine or the website.

Lessons learnt during the mobility are incorporated in teaching/research activities of the mobile individual or passed on in special workshops for future outgoings

### ***C6. When Participating in European and International Cooperation Projects***

Ensure that cooperation leads to sustainable and balanced outcomes for all partners.

Provide relevant support to staff and students participating in these activities.

Please describe your institutional measures to support, promote and recognise the participation of your own institution's staff and students in European and international cooperation projects under the Programme. (max. 750 characters)

The Center for International Relations promotes educational co-operation projects in e-newsletters, information sessions (with current project leaders / experts in the program / mobile persons), workshops for potential applicants, individual counselling; and actively supports applicants by providing BOKU general info text for the application, proof-reading applications and checking the budget with regard to the application guidelines and in some cases also manage the project. Projects are listed in the BOKU project database.

Recognition of these activities is given in the yearly performance goal agreements with the individual departments: international projects are a core indicator for the department's share of BOKU's general budget.

Exploit the results of the projects in a way that will maximise their impact on individuals and participating institutions and encourage peer learning with the wider academic community.

### ***C7. For the Purposes of Visibility***

Display the Charter and the related Erasmus Policy Statement prominently on the Institution's website.

Promote consistently activities supported by the Programme, along with their results.



## **Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)**

### ***D. Erasmus Policy Statement (Overall Strategy)***

The Institution agrees to publish this overall strategy (all three parts) on its website within one month after the signature of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education by the European Commission.

Please describe your institution's international (EU and non-EU) strategy. In your description please explain a) how you choose your partners, b) in which geographical area(s) and c) the most important objectives and target groups of your mobility activities (with regard to staff and students in first, second and third cycles, including study and training, and short cycles). If applicable, also explain how your institution participates in the development of double/multiple/joint degrees. (max. 5000 characters)

Original language [EN]

BOKU's strategy for internationalisation was first developed in 1998, updated in 2002, 2007 and 2010; and evaluated by external International experts in 2001 and 2009.

The BOKU professes to being an international performer in research and teaching, cooperating across national and international borders, and initiating open-mindedness towards new developments.

BOKU is committed to engagement in education, research, innovation and development beyond its national boundaries, in its region and globally.

A key aspect of the identity of the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna is its own development cooperation strategy.

BOKU is involved in several networks (e.g. the Euroleague for Life Sciences [www.euroleague-study.org](http://www.euroleague-study.org), or the Central and South Eastern European network of Life science universities [www.ica-casee.eu](http://www.ica-casee.eu)) and has more than 150 ERASMUS and more than 80 world-wide partner universities, with whom well-functioning student and staff mobility have been established. Agreements are based on compatibility of academic profiles (possible synergies in joint curricula), and mutual trust, developed in previous projects. For details on the selection of partner universities, pls. see section C.3. of this document.

The activities of BOKU in non-OECD countries and in the primary geographic focus regions (Danube Region, Eastern Africa, Latin America, South East Asia and Himalaya Region, Centra Asia - see:

[http://www.boku.ac.at/fileadmin/\\_/H12/Baum\\_2012/G-\\_Internationale\\_Kooperation/C-\\_Strategie/2008BESCHLUSStgeographischeschwerpunkteIntStrategie-1.pdf](http://www.boku.ac.at/fileadmin/_/H12/Baum_2012/G-_Internationale_Kooperation/C-_Strategie/2008BESCHLUSStgeographischeschwerpunkteIntStrategie-1.pdf) ) are to be continued and intensified.

BOKU will fulfil this Mission by focusing on the following objectives/target groups:

- Increase in both incoming and outgoing student mobility (BSc, MSc, Doctoral level) and staff mobility in order to accelerate the internationalisation of the university. An active non-discrimination policy in the selection of mobile students and staff goes without saying.
- "Internationalisation at Home" meaning increased teaching staff mobility, the offering of international and interdisciplinary study programs as well as the establishment or development of an "international classroom". (This should reflect the fact that not every student is able to study abroad.)
- In order to take better advantage of synergies in the areas of both teaching and continuing education, as well as research, the development of international cooperative networks with both European and non-European states (especially in the field of development assistance) should be strengthened. Attention should be paid primarily to interdisciplinary approaches, and also be implemented to a greater extent within BOKU itself. BOKU's involvement in cross-disciplinary networks (EUA, AUCEN, ELLS - the Euroleague for Life Sciences; ICA, IROICA, AGRINATURA) should be continued and taken forward.
- BOKU cooperates with international organisations with offices in Vienna (e.g. IIASA, UN) in terms of teaching (guest teachers at BOKU, student visits and practicals) and research (topics of theses and dissertations, joint projects).
- International alumni and alumni in international organisations are key individuals for BOKU's internationalisation strategy and contact points in these international networks. International, cross-disciplinary alumni networks are given a central role within BOKU.
- Development of foreign language, international and interdisciplinary study programs (e.g. Joint- or (only in cases where the national law does not allow to issue Joint Degrees:) Double/Multiple-Degree programs, such as 9 already existing BOKU MSc programs). In the middle run the goal is to develop foreign-language specification possibilities (in accordance with the target group) in cooperation with several universities for every Master degree subject area. In the long run these specification possibilities should be extended after respective evaluations have been carried out and taking the degrees for international Master degree programs into consideration.
- Development of international continuing education courses which are geared to the competence fields such as Summer Universities specific short courses on-site (for example organised via the Centre for Development Research), but also specific additional offers for university alumni. These have to be held on a regular basis and need to be marketed internationally. Quality standards for continuing education have to be developed together with incentives for the providers of advanced vocational training and used as a basis in determining guidelines for the number of continuing education programs that have to be developed.
- Further development and implementation of internationally orientated doctoral study programs
- English as the second internal BOKU working language

If applicable, please describe your institution's strategy for the organisation and implementation of international (EU and non-EU) cooperation projects in teaching and training in relation to projects implemented under the Programme. (max. 2000 characters)

Original language [EN]

BOKU has long-lasting experience as co-ordinator and partner in all previous EU Educational programs (LLL,EM, TEMPUS, EU-US, EU-CAN, EU-AUS, ALFA,ASIALINK,EDULINK...). Based on the results of these projects, the goal is to continue and expand the co-operation within these networks / consortia and with bilateral strategic partners (including companies + regional authorities) in the new EU programmes (ERASMUS4all +Horizon2020); e.g. by the following activities:

- Expansion of classes taught in English within the framework of doctoral programmes, particularly for "Doktoratskollegs"
- In the interest of a better use of synergy effects, in general teaching,in continuing education as well as in research, the development of INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION NETWORKS should be considerably strengthened, to increase integrated, interdisciplinary and transnational teaching and research co-operation.
- In non-OECD countries and in the focus regions, BOKU is to be more actively involved in teaching, or win BOKU students from non-OECD countries/focus regions.
- Recognition of our social responsibility by conducting development research and education for developing countries in areas related to sustainable natural resource management
- Contributing to capacity-building in research, innovation and education with special emphasis on the Danube Region and neighbouring countries.

BOKU actively encourages its students and staff to be involved in international educational and research projects. Participation in international projects and mobility programs is seen as a key element of the professional development of staff (HR strategy). These activities contribute to internationalising and modernising the institution, as dissemination and exploitation of results is supported (e.g. in BOKU magazine, website, information sessions, individual "peer" counselling to interested persons; spin-offs).Know-how exchange outside BOKU is also encouraged (capacity building with partners

Please explain the expected impact of your participation in the Programme on the modernisation of your institution (for each of the 5 priorities of the Modernisation Agenda\*) in terms of the policy objectives you intend to achieve. (max. 3000 characters)

Original language [EN]

#### 1. Increasing attainment levels to provide the graduates and researchers Europe needs

BOKU's student numbers have been constantly increasing - this reflects the high relevance of the study programs offered for society in general and the labour market in particular: the employment rate of BOKU's alumni is extremely high (in companies, governmental positions, but also in research institutions). BOKU continues to focus on study offers of high societal relevance (renewable natural resources, climate change...) to keep attracting students. The high quality of services that BOKU provides for its researchers was certified by the EU, who awarded the Human Resource Label "HR Excellence in Research" to BOKU in 2012. (see [http://www.boku.ac.at/hr\\_excellence\\_in\\_research.html](http://www.boku.ac.at/hr_excellence_in_research.html))

#### 2. Improving the quality and relevance of higher education

All education at BOKU is research-driven, and incorporates current scientific developments. BOKU constantly involves external stakeholders (employers, alumni, ministries...) in the evaluation and further development of study programs, to keep the high quality and adapt the study offers to the needs of the labour market.

#### 3. Strengthening quality through mobility and cross-border co-operation

BOKU is involved in several networks (e.g. the Euroleague for Life Sciences [www.euroleague-study.org](http://www.euroleague-study.org), or the Central and South Eastern European network of Life science universities [www.ica-casee.eu](http://www.ica-casee.eu)) and has more than 150 ERASMUS and more than 80 world-wide partner universities, with whom well-functioning student and staff mobility have been established. BOKU offers 10 Joint curricula with international Partners (2 Joint degree programs and 8 double/multilateral degree programs), thus allowing students to follow well-structured mobility tracks within these programs.

#### 4. Making the knowledge triangle work: Linking higher education, research and business for excellence and regional development

BOKU is involved in several networks focusing on regional development (e.g. ICA-CASEE, Danube Rectors' conference [www.d-r-c.org](http://www.d-r-c.org)) and knowledge alliances. Links with both research institutions and enterprises in the region and beyond allow for up-to-date research and educational projects.

#### 5. Improving governance and funding

In addition to the global university budget provided by the Federal Ministry of Science and Research, BOKU always has had a high percentage of external funding. Combined with regular evaluations of organizational procedures (Quality audits, projects for improving administrative procedures etc. in addition to the regular checks made by the University Council (external supervisory Board)), this allows for a high efficiency in BOKU's university governance.

\* COM (2011) 567 (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2011:0567:FIN:EN:PDF>)

**E**

## Endorsement of the application

*I, the undersigned, legal representative of the applicant institution,*

*certify that the information contained in this application is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge. All Programme activities will be implemented on the basis of written agreements with the relevant authorities of the partner institutions;*

*agree to the content of the Erasmus Charter for Higher Education (ECHE) application outlined above and commit my institution to respect and observe these obligations;*

*agree to the publication of the Erasmus Policy Statement by the European Commission*

*Place: Vienna*

*Name: Vicerector  
Hinterstoisser*

*Date (dd/mm/yyyy):*

*I have read and accept the Privacy statement*

*Original signature of the legal representative of the Institution (as identified in section A.2 above)*

*Original stamp or seal of the Institution*