

erasmus



Quality assurance in international placements in the Netherlands

José Ravenstein, NA LLP/ Nuffic
Zagreb, 16 December 2011

Subjects

- Dutch HE system
- Different types of placements
- Actors involved
- Phases in the international placement

Dutch Higher Education

- binary system
 - 14 research universities
 - 3- year Bachelor/2 year master
 - 231.838 students
 - 39 universities of applied sciences
 - 4- year Bachelor
 - 402.210 students
- 8150 incoming students within Erasmus or with resident permits for internship
- 2300 outgoing Erasmus placements

Research universities versus universities of applied sciences

Research Universities	Universities of Applied Sciences
Placement is standard practice in some fields of study	Placement is mandatory
Bachelor is not seen as an exit qualification	Professional profile of the Bachelor programmes = clearly related to jobs/career
No structural cooperation with employers	Curriculum focuses on professional development

Different types of placements

- Orientation placement
 - short (weeks, rather than months)
 - work shadowing, small assignments
- Profile placement
 - a few months, semester
 - semi-independent work, under supervision
- Final year placement
 - a semester or academic year
 - high degree of independence
 - complex assignment, resulting in thesis

actors involved

- Students
- Placement coordinator
- Teacher
- International office
- Management of the institution/exam board
- Placement coordinator in the enterprise
- Management of the enterprise
- HR officer
- Intermediary organisations (sometimes)
- Coordinator consortium

Consortia

- What are consortia?
- Leonet

<http://www.tue.nl/studeren/studeren-aan-de-tue/waarom-de-tue/internationale-samenwerking/internationale-netwerken/leo-net/>

Three phases in the international placement

- 1. Preparing an international placement
- 2. Quality assurance during international placements: supervision
- 3. The evaluation and assessment of international placements

1. Preparing the international placement II

- Embedded in the **Curriculum**
- **Pre departure meetings**
- Finding “ **good quality** “placements
- **Requirements** on student before going
- **Clear expectations** student/institution
- **Length** of the placement

1. Preparing the international placement II

- Language and cultural preparation
- Insurance
- Finance
- Accommodation
- Emergency plan

Erasmus documents before the placement

- Placement agreement between sending institution and student
- tripartite training agreement

2. Quality assurance during international placements: supervision

- **Supervision**

exemple:

At the end of the first month:

- Initial placement report from student
- First month placement evaluation by company supervisor

At the end of three months

- Intermediate placement report from student

At the end of the placement

- Final placement evaluation by company supervisor

Within one month of completion of placement

- Assessment of final placement report

3. Evaluation and assessment of international placements

- Work placement itself
- Workplacement process
- Workplacement report

Erasmus documents

- Placement report
- Transcript of work
- Statement of the host institution

information

- jrvstein@nuffic.nl
- <http://www.nuffic.nl/nederlandse-organisaties/netwerken/cospa/cospa-publicaties>

statements

- A placement should have a minimum duration of 5 months. If it's shorter the student will not take enough in!
- The HE is responsible for the quality of the international placement
- Students are responsible for finding a international placement!