British College of Technology

The Academic Council of the British College for Technology, based on the Law on Higher Education in the Republic of Kosovo no. 04/L-037 and its Statute, at the meeting held on ...., approves:

REGULATION ON INTERNATIONALIZATION AND MOBILITY

Article 1

Purpose

This policy aims to define the guidelines and procedures concerning the internationalization and mobility of students and staff at British College of Technology. The institution is committed to fostering global cooperation in education, facilitating the transfer of knowledge and skills in the international arena, and offering professional development opportunities for both students and staff. These regulations also ensure compliance with the standards set by the Kosovo Accreditation Agency (AKA), specifically addressing student progress monitoring, partnerships, and international collaboration mechanisms.

Article 2

Definitions

1. Internationalization: The integration of international and intercultural dimensions into the institution's curriculum, teaching, and research, ensuring that both students and staff benefit from global perspectives.
2. Mobility: The movement of students and staff members to and from international academic institutions for short or extended periods to pursue studies, research projects, or professional development.
3. Partner Institution: Any external university, academy, research institution, or company that has established a formal cooperation agreement with the at British College of Technology for purposes of academic exchange, collaborative research, or internships.

Article 3

Objectives of Internationalization and Mobility

1. The goals of internationalization and mobility for the British College of Technology include:

1.1.Developing students' and staff's global skills and knowledge, enhancing their ability to operate within international frameworks, especially in the rapidly evolving fields of technology. Students will gain experience working with new technologies and methodologies while immersed in diverse cultural settings.

1.2. Providing opportunities for students and staff to engage in intercultural experiences, allowing them to broaden their perspectives and adapt to various cultural and academic environments. This exposure is designed to foster tolerance, flexibility, and teamwork in international contexts.

1.3.Encouraging the development of international research projects, which will foster innovation and the exchange of ideas in the fields of information technology and programming. These partnerships will help enhance the quality of research conducted within the institution, leveraging the resources and expertise of international collaborators.

1.4.Facilitating professional internships for students with international companies and organizations, offering hands-on experience in real-world IT environments. These opportunities will help students apply their academic knowledge to global challenges and projects, improving their employability in the global market.

Article 4

International Partnerships and Agreements

1. British College of Technology will establish and maintain strategic partnerships with reputable international universities, research institutes, and IT companies. These partnerships are essential for fostering academic collaboration and professional development. The institution will formalize cooperation agreements that include:

1.1.Facilitating opportunities for students to spend one or two semesters abroad at partner institutions, where they will attend courses, engage in joint research projects, or participate in collaborative programs related to IT and programming.

1.2.Offering academic staff the opportunity to teach, conduct research, or engage in professional development activities at international institutions. Faculty members will be encouraged to develop joint research initiatives with their international counterparts, contributing to the global academic community.

1.3.Supporting collaborative research projects between the British College of Technology and partner institutions. These projects will focus on cutting-edge topics in IT and programming, utilizing the combined resources and expertise of the participating institutions to achieve groundbreaking results.

1.4. Leveraging international programs such as ERASMUS+ and others to enhance student and staff mobility. Through these programs, the institution will provide funding and logistical support to students and staff participating in mobility opportunities, ensuring that international exposure is accessible to all eligible participants.

Article 5

Student Mobility

1. British College of Technology will monitor the progress of students participating in mobility programs and ensure that they receive adequate support to successfully complete their studies. The student mobility process will involve:

1.1. Eligibility and Selection Criteria:

1.1.1. Students must have completed at least one year of the Bachelor's degree in IT and Programming and demonstrate satisfactory academic performance and proficiency in the required foreign language. Selection will be based on academic achievement (50%), language skills (30%), and motivation (20%).

1.2. Duration of Mobility:

1.2.1. Mobility programs can last from one semester to a full academic year, depending on the agreements established with partner institutions. British College of Technology will ensure that all students participating in mobility programs are adequately prepared for their academic and cultural experiences abroad.

1.3. Transfer of Credits:

1.3.1. Students will sign a Learning Agreement prior to their mobility, detailing the courses they will attend and the credits they expect to transfer back to their academic record. The institution guarantees that the credits earned during mobility will be fully recognized in accordance with ECTS guidelines, ensuring that students do not lose academic progress due to participation in international programs.

1.4. Ongoing Support:

1.4.1. The institution will provide academic advising and logistical support to students throughout their mobility. This includes orientation sessions, online support platforms, and regular check-ins to monitor student well-being and academic performance.

Article 6

Academic and Administrative Staff Mobility

1. British College of Technology will support the professional development of its academic and administrative staff by providing opportunities for international exchange and collaboration. Staff mobility will enhance the institution's capacity to

establish and maintain international partnerships while improving staff skills and competencies.

2. Eligibility and Selection Criteria: Faculty and administrative staff are eligible to apply for mobility programs. Selection will depend on the relevance of the proposed activity to the institution's strategic goals, particularly in fostering international cooperation and improving teaching or administrative practices.

3. Types of Mobility: Staff may participate in teaching exchanges, joint research initiatives, professional development seminars, or training programs abroad. Administrative staff may engage in international workshops or study visits aimed at improving institutional management and student services.

4. Institutional Support: The institution will provide financial and logistical support to staff participating in international mobility, covering travel expenses, accommodation, and other necessary costs. In return, staff members are expected to prepare a comprehensive report on their activities and share their experiences and knowledge with colleagues upon their return.

5. Professional Impact: Staff members who participate in mobility will enhance the institution's academic and administrative standards through the introduction of international best practices, new teaching methodologies, and innovative management strategies.

Article 7

Recognition of Diplomas and Degrees

The institution will recognize joint and dual diplomas earned through international mobility programs in collaboration with partner institutions. In compliance with Kosovo Accreditation Agency standards, the institution ensures that degrees awarded meet the academic and professional requirements of both British College of Technology and the partner institution. The process of diploma recognition will follow a transparent, standardized procedure, ensuring that students benefit from their international experience without facing bureaucratic obstacles upon returning to their home institution.

Article 8

Responsibilities of Coordinators and Supporting Services

1. The responsibilities of institutional stakeholders in supporting internationalization and mobility:

1.1.Mobility Coordinator: Responsible for coordinating mobility programs for students and staff, including preparing agreements with partner institutions, assisting with application procedures, and ensuring compliance with academic standards during mobility. The Mobility Coordinator will also facilitate post-mobility credit transfers and monitor student progress.

1.2. Student Services Office: Handles all documentation for students participating in mobility programs, including visa applications, housing arrangements, and course registration. The office is responsible for ensuring that students' credits are accurately recorded and transferred upon their return.

1.3. International Relations Office: Supports the institution's efforts to expand its global network of partner institutions. The office will provide regular updates on new partnerships and international opportunities and ensure the effective administration of existing agreements.

Article 9

Funding and Scholarships

The institution will seek to secure funding for internationalization and mobility programs from a variety of sources, including ERASMUS+, EU grants, and international scholarship funds. To support the widest possible participation, British College of Technology will offer financial assistance to both students and staff, covering travel, accommodation, and tuition fees where applicable.

Article 10

Quality Assurance and Monitoring

1. The quality and impact of internationalization and mobility programs will be continuously evaluated:

1.1. Feedback Mechanisms

1.1.1. Students and staff who participate in mobility programs will complete surveys and submit reports detailing their experiences. The feedback collected will be used to improve future mobility programs.

1.2. Progress Monitoring

1.2.1. The Mobility Coordinator will regularly assess the academic progress of students during their mobility period, providing support to those who encounter difficulties. This monitoring will help ensure that students are on track to complete their studies successfully.

1.3. Periodic Review of International Agreements

1.3.1. All cooperation agreements with international partners will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure that they continue to meet the institution's strategic goals and comply with accreditation standards.

Article 11

Amendments and Updates

These regulations will be reviewed regularly to reflect changes in institutional policy or internationalization strategies. Amendments will be made in consultation with the academic board, ensuring that the document remains relevant and responsive to new opportunities for global engagement.

Article 12

Entry into force

This regulation entry into force at the moment of getting Accreditation from AKA and being approve by the Academic Council of the BCT.

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