

Akdeniz University International Relations Office

Newsletter

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AKDENIZ UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXAMINATION (AKDENİZ YÖS)-2018



The AKDENIZ YÖS-2018 examination will held at 14.00 Turkish Time on May 12th 2018 at 35 centres in 22 countries including Turkey (Antalya, Ankara, Istanbul, Izmir, Van, Edirne and Trabzon), Germany (Cologne, Munich, Berlin and Hamburg), Austria (Linz and Vienna), Switzerland (Zurich), Belgium (Brussels), Denmark (Copenhagen), Norway (Oslo), France (Paris), Netherlands (Amsterdam), Bosnia and Herzegovina (Sarajevo), Northern Cyprus (Nicosia), Azerbaijan (Baku), Iran (Urmia), Kazakhstan (Almaty), Kyrgyzstan (Ashgabat), Afghanistan (Mazar-i Sharif), Russia (Moscow), (Bishkek), Turkmenistan (Riyadh, Jeddah, Medina and Taif), Egypt (Cairo), and Ukraine (Kiev), Saudi Arabia (Algiers). International student candidates will be able to apply for the Algeria AKDENİZ YÖS Examination between the dates of January 15th and April 16th 2018 using following the online application system the location; at https://bys.akdeniz.edu.tr/akus/?lang=en.



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INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CANDIDATES SHOW GREAT INTEREST IN OUR UNIVERSITY

Members of the International Relations Office staff organized an info meeting on December 26th 2017 dealing with the Akdeniz University International Student Examination (AKDENİZ YÖS-2018) for the benefit of international student candidates who want to study on



undergraduate or associate degree programmes at Akdeniz University. Information about the application process and the requirements of the AKDENİZ YÖS Examination was presented by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Binnur Genç İlter, Advisor to the Rector for International Relations, Bahar Şahin, International Student Coordinator, and Emel Kahraman, Bologna and Farabi Exchange Programme Institutional Coordinator. After the presentation, questions about how to become an international student at Akdeniz University were answered during the Question and Answer Session. It was a great pleasure for us to welcome the international student candidates to our office, and we wish them success in all their future endeavours.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADMISSION TO GRADUATE PROGRAMMES FOR THE 2017/2018 SPRING SEMESTER

Akdeniz University offers a wide range of graduate programmes which attract great interest from international students. International student candidates will be able to apply for graduate programmes between the dates of January 2nd and 10th 2018 using the online application system at the following location; https://obs.akdeniz.edu.tr/oibs/ogrsis/basvuru_login.aspx. Applicants will be able to find information about the examination results which they are required to achieve on the website of the relevant institutes. Applicants who are eligible to register for graduate programmes must complete their registration process between January 29th and February 2nd 2018.



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A MEETING WITH OUR UKRAIN/KIEV EDUCATION COUNSELLOR



Members of the International Relations Office staff met with Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ekrem Kalan, a lecturer in the History Department of the Akdeniz University Faculty of Letters. Prof. Kalan has been appointed Education Counsellor to the Turkish Embassy in Kiev, and we discussed with him the organisation of the AKDENIZ-YOS Examination in Ukraine, where Kiev is one of 35 centres in which the AKDENIZ-

YOS Examination will be held on May 12th 2018. We would like to offer our thanks to a most respected member of our academic staff for the contribution he has made, for his commitment to continuing to support our work, and to wish him success in his future career.

INFO MEETINGS FOR POTENTIAL FULBRIGHT SCHOLARS

The International Relations Office organised an info meeting on November 28th 2017 regarding Fulbright Scholarships. During the course of the meeting Serin Alpokay, representing the Fullbright Education Committee Department in Istanbul, made a series of highly informative presentations. In first session she spoke about Fullbright Scholarships for Vocational



Schools, while the second session dealt with scholarships for graduate programmes, the application process and the requirements for candidates. The programme concluded with a question and answer session which dealt with any outstanding questions that the students had about the Fullbright process. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Binnur Genç İlter, Advisor to the Rector for International Relations, stated that by increasing the number of info meetings of this kind, the IRO aimed to open more opportunities for students to take advantage of the graduate and vocational school scholarships on offer. Prof. İlter added that no Akdeniz University students had so far taken advantage of the Vocational Schools Scholarship Programme, so the priority of the IRO was to correct this situation.



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PARTICIPATION IN A FULBRIGHT WORKSHOP



At the invitation of the Turkey Fulbright Education Commission, we participated in a workshop named "Strengthening Student and Academic Exchange between Turkey and the United States" held in Ankara on October 19th and 20th 2017. In the workshop, Fulbright scholarships were introduced and discussions were held on how to develop strategies for cooperation between the Fulbright Commission and Universities. Akdeniz University was represented at the workshop by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Binnur Genç İlter, Advisor to the Rector for the International Relations, and Emel

Kahraman, Bologna and Farabi Exchange Programme Institutional Coordinator.

INTERCULTURAL DINNER FOR INCOMING STUDENTS JOINING THE AUTUMN SEMESTER OF THE 2017/2018 ACADEMIC YEAR



An "Intercultural Dinner" event was held in coordination with the International Relations Office, representatives of the Mevlana and Erasmus+ Exchange Programmes, and with students from different countries around the world including Palestine, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russia, Ukraine, Germany and Lithuania. The guest students prepared and presented a variety of delicacies from their national cuisines as part of the event.



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Among the participants at the event were the Rector of Akdeniz University Prof. Dr. Mustafa ÜNAL, Vice-rectors Prof. Dr. Mehmet ALTUNYAKA and Prof. Dr. Erol GÜRPINAR, as well as Advisor to the Rector Responsible for International Relations Assoc. Prof. Dr. Binnur GENÇ İLTER, Vice-Secretary-General Güler ÇIĞDEM, and Coordinator of the Erasmus+ and Mevlana Exchange Programmes Nurgül BÜYÜKKALAY. The guests enjoyed the opportunity to sample the meals prepared by the students, and learned more about the food cultures of the countries they came from.

Rector ÜNAL stated that Akdeniz University organized many activities of this kind for incoming students under the coordination of the International Relations Office, adding that these events



increased the levels of satisfaction among the students, encouraged intercultural communication, and improved the sensitivity of both students and staff towards other cultures. After the dinner, the students expressed their happiness at being given the opportunity to prepare and introduce traditional food from their own countries.

WELCOME DINNER FOR INCOMING STUDENTS JOINING THE AUTUMN SEMESTER OF THE 2017/2018 ACADEMIC YEAR



As part of the Erasmus+ and Mevlana Exchange Programmes conducted by the Akdeniz University International Relations Office, a welcome dinner was held for the benefit of incoming students. The dinner was attended by Vice-rector Prof. Dr. Ahmet ÖGKE, Advisor to the Rector for International Relations Assoc. Prof. Dr. Binnur

GENC ILTER, Erasmus+ and Mevlana Exchange Programme Institutional Coordinator



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Nurgül BUYUKKALAY, and members of the staff of the International Relations Office. Erasmus and Mevlana students from many different parts of the world attended the dinner, which was held in the Akdeniz University Social Facilities "Kır Kahvesi". Assoc. Prof GENC ILTER stated that the exchange programmes gave both students and academic staff members the opportunity to study either in Turkey or abroad, and expressed her wishes for the students to spend a successful and productive period of study at Akdeniz University. In reply, individual students spoke of their happiness at being given the opportunity to study in Turkey.

EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES INFORMATION MEETING

A series of information meetings was organised by the International Relations office on the Akdeniz University central campus, and in the academic units in the surrounding districts. During the meetings information was provided to students and members of the academic and administrative staff about the Erasmus+ Programme, the Mevlana Exchange



Programme, and the Farabi Exchange Programme.

A "TURKEY EDUCATION DAYS" EVENT WAS HELD AT RUSSIA/VORONEZH STATE UNIVERSITY ON NOVEMBER 29TH AND 30TH 2017



A "Turkey Education Days" event, hosted by Russia/Voronezh State University, was held on November 29th and 30th 2017. 8 Russian Universities and 3 Turkish Universities participated in the event, at which Akdeniz University was represented by Advisor to the Rector for International Relations Assoc. Prof. Dr. Binnur Genc Ilter, Erasmus+ and Mevlana Exchange Programme Institutional

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Coordinator Nurgül Büyükkalay, and Alina Aksoy who is responsible for the Mevlana Exchange Programme. A presentation of our university was made. This was followed by the signing of bilateral cooperation protocols between Russia/Voronezh State University and our university. The Turkish Ambassador to Moscow Huseyin Dirioz spoke on behalf of the Turkish Delegation regarding the Akdeniz University International Student Examination, and discussed the establishment of cooperative ventures and other project issues.

A MEVLANA EXCHANGE PROGRAMME MEETING WAS HOSTED BY AKDENIZ UNIVERSITY UNDER THE COORDINATION OF THE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION

As part of the Project-Based International Exchange Programme and the Mevlana Exchange Programme, a meeting was held by the Council of Higher Education (CoHE) on November 15th December 2017 with the aim of sharing knowledge on the effective running of the programme,



which was hosted by Akdeniz University. The meeting held in the Akdeniz University Atatürk Conference Hall was attended by Prof. Dr. Mustafa Unal, Rector of Akdeniz University, Aysegul Kutay Gundogan, President of Project Development and Support in the Department of Higher Education, Dr. Esra Ebru Mavi from the Project Development and Support Department of Higher Education, other members of staff from the Council of Higher Education, and a number of exchange programme institutional coordinators.



The opening speech was made by Prof. Dr. Mustafa Unal, Rector of Akdeniz University, who said "We have been successfully participating in the Mevlana Exchange Programme since the 2013/2014 academic year, and our university now has 88 Mevlana Protocols with 29 different countries."



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During the course of the meeting Aysegul Kutay Gundogan provided information about the Mevlana Exchange Programme and the Project-Based International Exchange Programme, and stated that Akdeniz University, with 548 exchange mobility projects, holds first place among participating universities by a large margin. President Kutay congratulated Akdeniz University for the scale of their achievement, and hoped that their success would be an example to other universities.

IAESTE TURKEY ANNUAL REPRESENTATIVES MEETING

A meeting of the General Assembly of IAESTE Turkey (The International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience) was held at the Istanbul Technical University on October 27th 2017 with the participation of representatives from member universities.



The event was held in the Prof. Dr. Remzi Ülker Conference Hall of the Earthquake Engineering and Disaster Management Institute. The event opened with a speech by the General Secretary of IAESTE, Prof. Dr. Gülhayat Saygılı. Our university was represented at the meeting by Nurgül Büyükkalay and Ayşe Tuğcan, who attended because of the benefits that our university students can enjoy under the terms of the traineeship mobility programme offered by IAESTE.

ERASMUS+ AGREEMENT WITH ZARAGOZA UNIVERSITY IN SPAIN



Prof. Dr. German F.de la Fuente visited Prof. Dr. Mustafa Unal, Rector of Akdeniz University, in his office. The issue of the Erasmus+ Programme Agreement between Zaragoza University and Akdeniz University was discussed during the visit.



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IAESTE APPLICATIONS FOR THE 2017/2018 ACADEMIC YEAR



Student applications for the International Association for the Exchange of Students for Technical Experience Programme (IAESTE) for the 2017/2018 academic year were accepted by the Akdeniz University International Relations Office between October 9th and November 10th 2017, and the foreign language examination was held on November 22nd 2017. The foreign language examination, which was organized by the School of Foreign Languages and held in English, German, and French, was attended by 86 students, of whom 31 were deemed entitled to be candidates for an internship in a foreign country.

A VISIT TO ERASMUS+ PROJECT PARTNER NOVI SAD UNIVERSITY IN SERBIA

A delegation from Akdeniz University, which was made up of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Binnur Genc Ilter, Advisor to the Rector Responsible for International Relations, Nurgul Buyukkalay, Coordinator of the Erasmus+ and Mevlana Programmes, and Ozge Kaya, member of staff from the International Relations Office, visited our KA107 project partner Novi Sad University



within the framework of the Erasmus+ Programme, which encompasses both partner countries and other countries participating in the Erasmus+ project with whom we have started cooperation. During the meeting there was a briefing which covered Erasmus+ student and staff mobility during both the 2017/2018 and 2018/2019 academic years, followed by the signing of a Mevlana Exchange Protocol between Novi Sad University and Akdeniz University.



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YEAR-END EVALUATION MEETING OF ERASMUS+ HIGHER EDUCATION MOBILITY



A Year-End Evaluation Meeting for Erasmus+ Higher Education Mobility was organized on December 21st and 22nd 2017 in the Law Faculty of Akdeniz University in Antalya, with the participation of representatives from higher education institutions and consortium coordinator institutions. The meeting was attended by approximately 300 representatives from various universities in Turkey, and featured discussions dealing with existing problems and possible solutions. The recent period of Erasmus+ mobility activities has been marked by greater effectiveness and a more efficient use of resources. Information about the Erasmus+ Programme and how these improvements have been achieved was provided to representatives of the participating higher education institutions, as well as an opportunity to share knowledge. The opening speech was made by Prof. Dr. Ahmet Ogke, Vice-rector of Akdeniz University, who stated that our university has been a pioneer among the universities implementing the programme since its very first year, adding that Akdeniz University was responsible for instituting cooperation agreements with countries in every part of the world every year through participation in a wide range of education fairs abroad. Prof. Dr. Ogke revealed that our university now has Erasmus+ agreements with 240 universities from 25 different countries, and that the ultimate goal was to become a centre of attraction in the international arena through such agreements, which would represent major progress towards the internationalization of our university.



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2ND TRAINING OF "CREATIVE INTERNPRIZE"

ERAMUS+ KA2 PROJECT IN SPAIN

"Creative InternPrize"
Erasmus+ KA2 Vocational
Education Strategic Partnership
Project in which the Akdeniz
University Faculty of Eductaion
is the coordinator with the
support of the International
Relations Office, and funded by



the Turkish National Agency. The second international training of the Project was held in Spain between November 10th and 15th 2017 with the participation of 22 people from 11 different partners. Creative InternPrize, carried out between September 1st 2016 and August 31st 2018, will generate opportunities for start up in careers in the creative industries for students in VET through work based learning apprenticeship experience within the school environment. Such project work is generated by the school in partnership with local industry and players in culture, media, social work, youth and other fields and in this way it places students in contact with the labour market.





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