



# Akdeniz University International Relations Office

## Newsletter

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## **AKDENİZ UNIVERSITY ENTERS THE TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS FOR 2018**



Times Higher Education (THE), which has been ranking the world's best universities for 14 years, has recently published the World University Rankings for 2018. Data published by THE are trusted by governments and universities around the world, and are a vital resource for students

when they are choosing where to study. Akdeniz University, one of the most popular and successful universities in Turkey, is now ranked within the list of top 1,000 universities in 77 countries for the first time in its history. The Rector of Akdeniz University, Prof. Dr. Mustafa Ünal noted that 'The Times Higher Education World University Rankings provide the definitive list of the world's best universities, evaluated across teaching, research, citation indexes, international outlook, reputation and more. This is an important breakthrough for our university, and we are certain that this success in the field of education will continue to improve with each successive year'.

## **INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS SHOW PREFERENCE FOR AKDENİZ UNIVERSITY FOR GRADUATE PROGRAMMES**

Akdeniz University has attracted a great deal of interest due to the availability of an extensive range of graduate programmes which provide high quality and affordable education opportunities. Applications from International student for graduate programmes were accepted between July 24th and August 1st 2017 on <https://bys.akdeniz.edu.tr/enstitu/>. Candidates who are eligible to attend Akdeniz University completed the registration process between September 11th and 15th, 2017.

### **NEW INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS IN OUR UNIVERSITY**



International student candidates who became eligible to attend Akdeniz University associate degree and undergraduate programmes as a result of the grades they achieved in the Akdeniz University International Student Examination (AKUS/AKDENİZ YÖS-2017), completed the first stage of the registration process during August 2017. After the completion of the placement process, there will be additional placement procedures to allocate the remaining available places to candidates who have not yet been placed on any diploma programme. All International students were able to complete the registration process between September 11th and 15th 2017 after selecting their courses on the e-Akdeniz Student Portal. The 10 programmes highest on the list of student preferences are Medicine, Dentistry, Architecture, Computer Engineering, Tourism Management, International Relations, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Law, Civil Engineering and Physical Therapy.

### **SIGNING CEREMONY FOR THE PROJECT-BASED INTERNATIONAL MEVLANA EXCHANGE PROGRAMME**

The exchange of students and academic staff members with other countries in many different regions of the world, coordinated by the International Relations Office of Akdeniz University, is now going ahead as part of the “Project Based International Exchange Programme”. This programme is being implemented in an effort to increase quality levels during a



period in which there is a special focus on internationalization in the Turkish higher education system. Applications for Projects for the 2017/2018 academic year in a list of fields published earlier by the Higher Education Council (YÖK) were evaluated by the Executive Committee of YÖK, and two projects submitted by Akdeniz University were approved.

The projects, which will be conducted in cooperation with institutions in Pakistan and Kyrgyzstan in the field of “Sustainable Productive Agriculture”, will be under the coordination of Prof. Dr. Taner AKAR from the Akdeniz University Faculty of Agriculture, and Dr. Türker BODUR from the Faculty of Fisheries, and will involve the exchange of students and academic staff members.



The signing ceremony for the project documents was attended by Prof. Dr. Mustafa Ünal, Rector of Akdeniz University, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Binnur Genç İter, Advisor to the Rector Responsible for International Relations, Prof. Dr. Taner Akar and Dr. Türker BODUR, project coordinators, and Nurgül Büyükkalay, Coordinator of the Erasmus+ and Mevlana Exchange Programmes.

### **A VISIT FROM THE HONORARY CONSUL FOR IRELAND**



The Honorary Consul for Ireland, Seçkin Arıkan, and Head of the Migration and Visa Section, Helen Murphy, recently paid a visit to the International Relations Office, during which improvements in the levels of collaboration between Akdeniz University and universities in Ireland under the terms of the Erasmus Programme were discussed. The meeting was attended by Assoc. Prof. Dr.

Binnur Genç İter, Advisor to the Rector Responsible for International Relations, and Nurgül Büyükkalay, Coordinator of the Erasmus+ and Mevlana Exchange Programmes.

### **PARTICIPATION IN EAIE 2017**

Akdeniz University participated in the Annual European Association for International Education (EAIE) Conference and Exhibition, held in the city of Sevilla in Spain with the aim of contributing to the internationalization of higher education both in Europe and the rest of the world. EAIE 2017, which took place in the Sevilla Congress and Exhibition Centre with 8,000 participants from 5,000 universities in 95 countries, included workshops, meetings and seminars on the subjects of quality, internationalization, cooperation, and related issues in higher education.



In order to represent Akdeniz University, and to convey its mission, vision, educational facilities and the international opportunities it offers, a delegation consisting of Assoc. Prof. Dr. Binnur Genç İter, Advisor to the Rector Responsible for International Relations, and Nurgül Büyükkalay, Erasmus+ and Mevlana Exchange Programmes Coordinator, attended the EAIE, the world's second largest and Europe's largest international education fair. During the fair, many contacts were made which will facilitate cooperation within the Erasmus+ and Mevlana Exchange Programmes, and which can promote the implementation of student and academic staff exchanges. The Rector of Akdeniz University, Prof. Dr. Mustafa Ünal, stated that participation in the EAIE, which is held every year, is important for Akdeniz University in order to strengthen cooperation with universities in Europe, and to diversify the partnership opportunities in accordance with the targets set by Akdeniz University in the field of internationalization.

### **AKDENİZ UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ABROAD WITH EVS**



As part of the European Voluntary Service Programme and within the context of the project "Act to Be Part of Europe II" implemented by our office, 14 of our students volunteered to take part in a project in Mussomeli in Italy and Bucharest in Romania for a period of 30 days. The students who participated in the project gained experience and developed

their abilities in the international arena. The students were also introduced to informal education techniques as a result of the opportunities given to them through the spirit of volunteering.

### **ERASMUS+ YOUTH PROJECTS** **ERASMUS+ YOUTH EXCHANGE PROJECT IN GREECE**

As part of the Erasmus+ Mobility Project for Youth Exchange, to which our office has become a partner, three of our students are eligible to take part in a project to be held in Kalamata, Greece. The target of the project is to give the participants a new way to develop their abilities, raise their awareness in socially related issues, and explore new cultures and habits through peer teaching, which will strengthen their values of solidarity and friendship. A Youthpass certificate will be awarded in recognition of their participation.



### **ERASMUS+ MOBILITY PROJECT FOR YOUTH WORKERS IN ROMANIA**



As part of the Erasmus+ Mobility Project for Youth Workers, to which our office has become a partner, two of our students are eligible to take part in a project to be held in Bucharest, Romania. This is designed to develop the abilities of youth workers involved in non-formal prevention programmes to

help drug abusers progress to their next objectives. The targets of the project are to encourage the accumulation of skills and competence of youth workers in non-formal practices which can prevent and combat drug consumption among young people, to implement the acquisition of experience, and to promote the exchange among youth workers of best practices offered by different organizations and countries in the fight against drugs.

### **MEVLANA EXCHANGE PROGRAMME 2017/2018 ACADEMIC YEAR**

As part of the Mevlana Exchange Programme for the 2017/2018 academic year, the Higher Education Council (YÖK) has approved 108 out of 286 incoming student applications from Azerbaijan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Indonesia, Morocco, Palestine, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Pakistan, Russia and Ukraine, as well as 19 out of 124 academic staff



applications from Azerbaijan, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Brazil, Indonesia, Morocco, Palestine, Georgia, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Sudan and Ukraine. In addition, 21 out of 161 applications submitted by Akdeniz University students were also approved.

## **MEVLANA EXCHANGE PROGRAMME PROJECT WITH LANCASTER UNIVERSITY IN ENGLAND**



Assist. Prof. Dr. H. Kürşat Çelik from the Department of Agricultural Machines and Technologies in the Akdeniz University Faculty of Agriculture participated successfully in a project conducted in cooperation with LPDU: the Lancaster Product Development Unit of

Lancaster University in England, and brought the project to a successful conclusion. As part of the project, Prof.

Çelik conducted research into the use of 3D layer manufacturing technologies in the design and manufacture of agricultural machines, as well as participating in exchange activities with members of the academic staff and graduate students focusing on know-how training, and technology adaptation and transfer.

## **THE 8th “EDUCATHE+” INTERNATIONAL THEATRE WORKSHOP**

EDUCATional THEatre is a space which promotes inclusion and employability for People with Disabilities”. This is a KA2 Adult Education Strategic Partnership Project in which the Akdeniz University EuroMed Youth Centre is a partner with the support of the International Relations Office, and funded by the Croatian National Agency. The eighth workshop was held in



Ventspils in Latvia between July 3rd and 7th 2017 with the participation of 8 organisations from 7 different countries including Croatia, Turkey, Belgium, Latvia, Bulgaria, Italy and Greece. At the end of the workshop in Ventspils, an international theatre performance with the title “I am Free” was performed with the participation of local audiences.





The final meeting of the Project was held in Zagreb in Croatia between September 14th and 16th 2017 with the participation of 7 project coordinators from 6 different countries including Croatia, Turkey, Belgium, Latvia, Bulgaria, and Greece.

### **PARTICIPATION IN FULBRIGHT WORKSHOP**

At the invitation of Turkey Fulbright Education Commission, we participated in the workshop named "Developing Cooperation with Turkey Fulbright Training Commission" held in Ankara on September 22, 2017. In the workshop Fulbright scholarships were introduced and discussions were held on how to develop strategies for cooperation between the Fulbright Commission and the Universities. Emel Kahraman Bologna and Farabi Exchange Program Institutional Coordinator represented our University in the workshop.





Please send contributions and comments to [international@akdeniz.edu.tr](mailto:international@akdeniz.edu.tr)

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