



The Politics of Internationalization

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“Approved”

Rector of the Georgian Aviation University

D.T.Sc., professor

_____ S. Tepnadze

_____ 2019

Statement _____

Georgian Aviation University



The Politics of Internationalization

Master copy



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i. Revisions

Implementation of any Revision can only be performed through participation of the Head of Quality Manager and Governing Board. No revision will have legal power, unless it is reviewed and approved.

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| Created by: | Approved by: |
| Head of Quality Manager | Rector |
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| Date: | Date: |
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| Deleted Pages | | | | Added Pages | | | |
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2 Documentation control

Control of documentation is provided by the rules and procedures written in the Quality Manual of Georgian Aviation University. The aim of rules and procedures is to create system to identify and use all documents easily by employees within the organization. All documentation must be created, and storage by the format and terms indicated in Quality Manual. These procedures will establish effective system to create, renew and share documentations easily.

2.1 Document distribution list

| Organization | Format | Copy n: |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Quality service | Hard copy | Master copy |
| Quality service | Electronic version | Electronic version |
| University web page | Electronic version | Electronic version |

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3 Introduction

1. Competition within the field of the higher education, in the environment of the globalization, has advanced to the global level. Bologna process, agreement of association of Georgia with the European Union, visa liberalization and other dynamic processes, that have influence on Georgia require correct analysis and determination of relevant strategy. Involvement of the Georgian Educational sector into the European education and scientific sector makes possible for internationalization of teaching and research processes. This simplifies implementation of educational programs (Teaching in English language) and development of mutual educational programs in cooperation with European partner institution, which from its side shall contribute to education continuation and/or job placement in the European Union;
2. Improvement of the international profile is one of the priorities set by University's strategic development plan. Adequate response to the existing challenges, setting goals and their successful fulfillment is important for integration into an international educational space and reaching success. We consider development of mutual educational programs to be necessary in order to make University more attractive for applicants. Increased participation number of students and staff in exchange programs shall support transfer of best western practices into Georgia and implementing them within Georgian Aviation University. Scientific researches performed with international partners shall underline University's activities within international educational space.
3. Current document describes general directions of University's internationalization politics, developed for internationalization of educational programs offered by the University, based on result analysis of the activities performed by the University and considering past experience. This document is part of 2021-2027 strategy of the University.



4 Aims of Internationalization

1. Georgian Aviation University has set four strategic aim thought the Politics of Internationalization:

4.1 Improvement of International Cooperation

1. Improvement of international education is an important tool for the Georgian Aviation University for enhancing quality of the ongoing educational processes and research activities, which is employed in sharing best international practices, methodologies and standards and implementing into own proceedings; At the same time consideration of constantly altering and developing requirements of the civil aviation sector, and their integration into an educational process is necessary precondition for assurance of their compliance with outcomes of the educational program;
2. University aims for cooperation with aviation educational institution of the international level, to implement mutual projects and educational programs. We believe that such cooperation shall assure transfer of the experience accumulated within educational space and implement into own proceeding, which its side shall have a positive effect on services offered to public;
3. Reception of international funding is never the less important, which shall accumulate necessary financial resources needed for implementation of important research activities. Various important projects are being processed by the scientific research center of the university, success of which shall benefit global civil aviation.

| Strategic Aim | Strategic Objective | Success Indicator |
|--|---|---|
| Aim 1: improvement of international cooperation | Objective 1: development of the institutional as well as joint / exchange programs, according to national education policy | Number of agreements / memorandums of understanding with international aviation partners Quantity of the joint programs / projects Examples of implementation of the international methodology / best practice in university activities |
| | Objective 2: improvement of international reputation | Number of contracts number of invited academic personnel |
| | Objective 3: increase access to university programs and services at the international level | Increasing the number of English-language programs Increasing the number of students on English-language programs / study courses / modules Increasing the number of international student applications |

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| | | through the English-language website |
| | Objective 4: increasing funding from international sources | Projects funded from international sources Ratio of submitted and funded projects |

4.2 Internationalization of Educational Programs

1. Association agreement signed between our country and the European Union along with moving towards integration within European space is vastly important for development of our country. Lates achievements granted citizens of Georgia to enter European countries without visa, thus offering population even more opportunities. One of the most important function in assurance of the better future for citizens of Georgia is relied on internationalization of educational programs. University offers 18 educational programs on all three levels of the higher education in including two offered in English language and 4 educational programs on vocational level offered in English language.
2. University makes considerable statement within the region and later on international level, through enhancement of own educational programs with implementation of best international practices existing within international educational sector. We consider necessary to increase number of educational programs offered in English language to assure increased number of personnel and staff involved into exchange programs;
3. We consider it important to encourage international students for involvement in student self-government for increased role of foreign students in student activities, thus leading to improvement of equal environment for the students of Georgian Aviation University.
4. Establishment of the position of “Student Counselor” at the faculties is never the less important, which shall be occupied by the students of the relevant faculties (with high academic achievements and positive reputation among the students) through the method of selection. Aim of the activity is to support inexperienced students in reception of recommendations that shall help with their integration within University and social activities.

| Strategic Aim | Strategic Objective | Success Indicator |
|--|---|--|
| Aim 2: internationalization of educational programs | Objective 1: development of educational programs based on best international experience (higher, vocational) | Number of programs positively evaluated by local and international experts Number of staff participating in exchange programs and program development processes Increase the number of students in exchange programs |
| | Objective 2: involvement of international lecturers / professional teachers in | percentage of international lecturers compared to total number |

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| | educational activities and program development involvement | Open lectures / seminars and other events held by international lecturers Increased number of lecturers arriving / sending under Erasmus + and Fulbright exchange program |
| | Objective 3: increasing the number of international students | Increasing the number of international students compared to previous admission |
| | Objective 4: increasing the representative role of international students | Number of international students in student self-government and other relevant structural entries |

4.3 Internationalization of Research Activities

1. Georgian Aviation University plans to organize significant activities during 2019-2026 to achieve internationalization of research activities. Increasing the number of articles published in international referred journals and participations in international seminars performed by academic personnel is a necessity, which from its side shall make name of the Georgian Aviation University recognizable within international scientific and educational field.
2. Through participation of foreign partners University plans to organize research programs processed scientific-research center, successful result of which shall allow manufacturers to increase economic effectiveness of their aircraft.

| Strategic Aim | Strategic Objective | Success Indicator |
|---|---|--|
| Aim 3: internationalization of research activities | Objective 1: involvement of international academic personnel in scientific research activities | Ratio between Georgian and international co-supervisors Percentage of international academic personnel involved in research activities compared to total academic personnel Modern research infrastructure |
| | Objective 2: develop cooperation with international research organizations | Number of joint projects with international research organizations Number of researchers involved in scientific research projects |
| | Objective 3: increase the number of scientific publications / articles | Publishing scientific articles / publications and research in international journals |



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| | and studies in international journals | |
| | Objective 4: participate in scientific research conferences / symposium | Research staff reports |

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5 The Mechanism for Attracting Foreign Students

5.1 Targeted Countries

1. Geographic area covering applicants willing to study on aviation related educational programs offered in English language is quite wide, considering fact that aviation is constantly growing field and requires more and more qualified personnel. Never the less important is attractiveness of the country to the applicants, which is assured by geo-political and economic condition of the country
2. Considering above mention, countries interesting for organization of marketing activities are: Egypt, Nigeria, Iran, Iraq, India, Bangladesh and China, where aviation related education is not available either because of absence of aviation education institutions, or because of limited quotations available. Moreover, receiving education abroad is interesting for some segment of applicants;
3. Also, a document “Short format migration profile – foreign students in Georgia” (international center of migration politics development, 2017) prepared by request of governmental commission on migration issues shows that, 90% of the foreign students in Georgia are citizens of these countries.

5.2 Accuracy and Availability of the Detailed Information

1. Informational related to the admission prerequisites, study plan, awarding qualification, employment perspectives and any other information interesting to potential students shall be available on the website and/or through email communication with the Manager of International Relations;

5.3 Awarding Student’s Status to International Applicants

1. Admission of applicants without passing unified national/master’s examinations is possible based on Directive №224 29.12.2011 of the Ministry of Education, Sciences, Culture and Sport of Georgia.

5.4 Popularization of Georgian Aviation University Employing Webpage, Social Networks and Printed Materials

1. Improvement of University’s English language version of a webpage and filling it with information and photo/video material relevant to educational programs that might be interesting to potential students;
2. Placing materials and information displaying student’s life on webpage;
3. Placing materials and information relevant to living and studying Georgia;
4. Information relevant to legal requirements set towards living in Georgia during education;
5. Development of printed materials in English language displaying:
6. Structure and general courses of educational programs offered in English language, admission procedures, recognition of diploma, career perspectives, price and etc;
7. Basic elements of University’s campuses;
8. Landmarks of Georgia, which may be visited during education at the University;
9. General information required for students arriving to Georgia (transport, accommodation, food and etc. prices);
10. List of services provided by Georgian Aviation University to the students.

5.5 Attracting through Agents

1. Developing cooperation with agents/agencies working over attracting of international students;
2. Attracting through existing institutional and partner networks;

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3. Developing cooperation in “educational tourism” with tourism operators and supplying them with promo material;

5.6 Creating new Positions at Faculties for Internationalization Purposes

1. Availability of the English-speaking specialist to assist international students in education related issues;
2. Establishing voluntary position of counselling student, which shall assist international students in education and social related issues;

5.7 Applied Sources:

1. Short format migration profile – foreign students in Georgia
http://migration.commission.ge/files/migraciis_profili_a5_geo.pdf