

## **International Strategy**

InterNapa College (INC) was established in 2003 to offer tertiary education on a broad, liberal and modern basis. It is open to all without distinction of gender, religion or race. The name InterNapa is to identify the College to the broader geographical area: the Famagusta region and Ayia Napa.

The College is making efforts to expand its cooperation programmes. The College through local partners has been involved in consultancy and training schemes through the European Social Fund to regional SMEs. In these programs the College has been involved in recruiting SMEs in to the program, faculty have been involved in consultancy and training of these organizations and the facilities of the College were used for training of these organizations.

INC as part of its mission in fulfilling its social responsibilities to the community in the area has in 2010 established the Centre of Liberal Studies of Famagusta (KESA from the Greek spelling). KESA offers individuals the opportunity to develop and broaden their horizons through offering lectures, and acting as a forum for discussion on topics of academic, general and cultural interest thus serving as a centre of life- long learning in the free Famagusta region. INC has from its outset attracted international students from EU and non-EU countries for its short cycle and first cycle programs in Hospitality Management, Culinary Arts and Business Administration.

Students taking advantage of the internship programs that the College arranges for its students in the local hospitality region. Partner institutions are chosen on the basis of similar interests such as internationalization, mobility and similar academic programs.

## **Mobility**

INC is making efforts to increase student and staff mobility and network opportunities and expand multilateral collaborative projects on a European level. In 2017 INC was awarded the Erasmus Charter. Mobility is paramount in the College strategy for purposes of personal development and to attend international conferences and workshops in Europe. Likewise, academics from European universities frequently visit the College in Cyprus. The College location at the center of the local tourist industry makes it a perfect location for students wishing to take advantage of the Erasmus programme at the College to enhance their knowledge and skills in the hospitality sector taking up internship opportunities through college links in the region.

The INC mission is to continue to develop as a college of higher education by fostering a learning environment where students, faculty, personnel and stakeholders strive ethically to achieve their goals and fulfil their social responsibilities. We at INC dedicate all our efforts to providing students personal support to excel academically, professionally and socially for today and the future. A large percentage of the student body are international and in particular from third countries who are most keen to explore the possibilities of the European Union. Our college provides students the opportunity to become familiar with the local language of Greek, to study English and through a curriculum aiming to achieve the mission that supports lifelong learning and to experience the global environment. By participating in the Erasmus programme we aim to offer students, faculty and other human resources opportunities to enrich academic and professional experiences and appreciate and become closer to our European culture. Within the Erasmus programme we will provide opportunities for mobility, networking and cooperation with higher education institutions, other institutions and placement in businesses in Erasmus projects and networks. The College has so far

not offered joint degree programs though we have researched the possibility of franchise programs with British university franchise programs and with Asian institutions.

### **Organisation and implementation of international cooperation projects**

The College is active in international cooperation programs through the office of the Student Affairs Director. Such cooperation allows international students to gain InterNapa qualifications. The College has collaborated locally on the European Social Fund with local Cypriot partners offering consultancy and training to Famagusta SMEs. It has been involved in recruiting organizations for the program, faculty have offered consultancy and training to these organizations and the College facilities are used for the training programs. The College is located in the heart of a tourist and agricultural region that would combine well for this program. INC is very aware of the need of the Famagusta region in which it is located to participate in European programs for the purposes of teaching and training and to expand European cooperation.

### **Policy objectives**

InterNapa College is acutely aware of its social contribution as the only college in the Famagusta region to have close links with Erasmus, local industry, education and local municipalities. The College is aware that it need to offer modern higher education relevant for the needs of the region. The College being the only major college in the region is uniquely able to offer more young people locally higher education thus increasing the number of Cypriot graduates. The College is continuously improving with its programs being nationally accredited and offering higher education programs relevant to the needs of the local region making graduates employable for local industry needs. In designing its programs whether academic or vocational the College collaborates closely with local municipalities and local chamber of commerce to offer programs needed by the region. The College intends to strengthen mobility by offering locals the opportunity to join European programs and cross-border co-operation and European the opportunity to join such programs in the Famagusta region. InterNapa College strongly applies the knowledge triangle by offering a link to higher education, and business strengthening regional development