



## **TU DRESDEN'S INTERNATIONALISATION STRATEGY "TU DRESDEN – CONNECTED TO THE WORLD"**

Our University is one of Germany's eleven Universities of Excellence. We are among the largest universities of technology in the country and – with regard to our scientific disciplines and study programmes – the only full-scale university of technology offering such a wide range of courses. Thanks to this broad spectrum, we are able to stand out with the following five distinct research priority areas:

- Health Sciences, Biomedicine and Bioengineering
- Information Technologies and Microelectronics
- Smart Materials and Structures
- Culture and Knowledge
- Energy and Environment.

Our close relationship with Dresden as a scientific region is reflected in DRESDEN-concept (Dresden Research and Education Synergies for the Development of Excellence and Novelty), an alliance which to date has 22 strong research partners from science and culture. Together, we pursue the goal of becoming more visible globally and of making our location even more attractive for national and international talents. As the centre of this research alliance and as a competitive full-scale university, we will continue to distinguish ourselves internationally, and are thus committed to promoting the international character of our members and cross-border collaboration in research and teaching. The good progress we have made so far on this path is demonstrated by the top position we occupy in attracting EU third-party funds. We owe this position not least to our European Project Center (EPC), an institution which serves as a role model throughout the whole of Germany. We also display great strengths in the acquisition of DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) funding and in the implementation of the relevant measures, regarding, for example, the mobility of lecturers and the participation of our students in placements abroad.

We view it as our task to maintain teaching and research at the highest international level and to secure their continued development. Internationalisation as a long-term goal of our University is an integral element in all strategic documents, above all in the Institutional Strategy "The Synergetic University", in our development plan and in our mission statement. Internationalisation is of great significance as a cross-sectional task that is embedded in all structures and processes, and is consequently an essential component of all university decision making and of the way we see ourselves as an institution. It includes the following fields of action:

- 1. The internationalisation of studying and teaching**
- 2. The internationalisation of research**
- 3. General conditions for the internationalisation of teaching and research**
- 4. Improving TU Dresden's position on the international stage.**

Implementating the goals within these fields of action is directed actively and systematically by the Rectorate through the creation of adequate control mechanisms, and requires the support and active participation of all university members. Internationalisation of our University is not an end in itself, but is indispensable for a university that wishes to be among the best, attract highly talented people at all stages of their careers and ensure they stay and at the same time reach their personal aims.

## 1. The internationalisation of studying and teaching

*We provide our students with an internationally-oriented education, preparing them for their future tasks as mobile, internationally active scientists and academics as well as specialists and executives. It is our goal to equip them with the skills necessary for a globalised world and for the employment market, and to support them as they develop into open-minded members of our society.*

We participate actively in the development of the higher education areas of Europe and the wider world, thus promoting **student mobility abroad**. Dismantling barriers to mobility is of particular importance in this regard.

The successful education of tomorrow's international specialists and executives has top priority in view of the shortage of skilled employees in science and the economy. By **extending our internationally-oriented study programmes and those held in English**, especially in the subjects which are particularly attractive for international students wishing to study in Germany, we also live up to our educational mandate in the international context. Internationality in studying and teaching enables all students – independently of their individual opportunities for mobility – to have a change of perspective when engaging with specialised knowledge, and it opens up new ways of thinking in intercultural exchange.

Our responsibility for the young people who come from all over the world to study at TU Dresden is something we take particularly seriously. As a reaction to the drop-out rate among international students at German universities, we have set ourselves the goal of significantly **improving the academic success of international students** with the help of supervision and integration measures, and of occupying a top position in Germany in the successful education of this target group.

## 2. The internationalisation of research

*We are intensifying our links with international partners in order to promote research collaborations and to achieve top research results. Our junior researchers are already actively involved in this development during their doctoral phase.*

Promoting international research collaboration and the internationalisation of junior researchers is required to strengthen TUD as a scientific location and the competitiveness of Germany as a research location in the long term. Today, successful research projects are more than ever international projects that thrive on the exchange of the ideas and the knowledge of mobile researchers.

Only as an attractive university within an international network will we be in a position to master global scientific and social challenges. **Active international networking with the purpose of achieving top research results** therefore represents one of our main areas of focus in this field of action. We wish to already integrate this subject in the education of our junior researchers and have set ourselves the goal of **internationalising the doctoral phase**, in particular with regard to increasing the number of international doctoral candidates.

### **3. General conditions for the internationalisation of teaching and research**

*We are creating general conditions in which the internationalisation of teaching and research at our University can unfold in the best way possible, and which serve to equip all university members with the necessary skills to enable them to contribute effectively to shaping this development.*

Cultural diversity and international experience ensure the critical examination of socially relevant questions. We are committed to an international campus and – along with creating effective, service-oriented support structures – we attach the utmost importance to having an **academic staff that is international in character**. Building on our available welcome services, we are creating a service culture geared towards internationality to ensure the successful arrival and integration of our international TUD members. What is more, we offer support to our employees in the **acquisition of linguistic and intercultural competences** in order to put the idea of an international campus into practice in everyday life.

### **4. Improving TU Dresden's position on the international stage**

*We want to establish our University as an internationally recognised institution and to increase its visibility to ensure it has worldwide appeal for the "best minds".*

We are making a name for ourselves internationally as an excellent university in order to succeed in the global competition for the brightest minds. The internationalisation of studying, teaching and research is essential to improve the international positioning of our University and its wide range of activities. Here, our main focus is on **intensive cooperation with selected partner universities and networks** to ensure our active performance in the worldwide scientific community. This also includes the international collaboration within our research alliance, DRESDEN-concept. Moreover, we are taking complementary measures to raise our profile and to make our University more visible both within Germany and on the international stage.