

## **Erasmus Policy Statement**

28th November 2008

The commitment of Redcliffe College to European activities is founded upon its recent investment in a European Studies teaching programme and the establishment of a dedicated European Research Centre. Redcliffe sustains an academic, intercultural learning community of students that has included citizens of other EU member states for several decades and which offers the opportunity for European students to study in close interaction with their colleagues from every continent of the world. In addition, Redcliffe has sustained an academic interest over many years in African and Asian Studies, is a recognised centre for Intercultural Studies in Asian contexts, and has plans to develop an academic interest in Latin American Studies.

One of the objectives of the College's current Next Stage review is to encourage changes in the course structure that allow increased staff and student mobility, student placements, and the development of multilateral projects. The College has a number of well-established partnerships with other European institutes of theological education and we currently receive students from three other European Colleges. We will encourage student mobility through the Lifelong Learning Programme. Our own undergraduate and postgraduate programmes will be strengthened through developing links with new partner institutes. We will encourage staff development through visits to our partners as well as by inviting staff to Redcliffe in return. Staff development through Erasmus will be reviewed in the annual cycle of Staff Appraisals.

Incoming Erasmus students will be allocated a tutor who will be responsible for their studies whilst at Redcliffe. All Erasmus students will benefit from the existing pastoral support arrangements within the College, including informal weekly meetings with pastoral staff and formal discussion with pastoral tutors once every Semester. Erasmus students will be housed in the College. Where this is not possible, the College will assist in finding suitable alternative accommodation in the vicinity. A feature of Redcliffe College is a multi-lingual student community that provides informal language support to its members.

Students on the College teaching programmes receive credits within the national credit framework for the UK. The College is committed to accrediting its courses within the framework of the ECTS. Periods of study undertaken by College students under the Erasmus programme will receive full academic recognition. Incoming students will receive all necessary reports to allow them to receive appropriate credit from their home academic institute.

Redcliffe already has an effective student international placement programme that is a required part of its assessed undergraduate degrees. Preplacement briefing is offered to the placement provider and desired learning outcomes are discussed in advance of the placement. Preparation, supervision, reporting, and de-briefing of all student placements are overseen by a dedicated academic and pastoral staff team. Placement providers assist with appropriate cultural orientation, introduction to the workplace, accommodation, and access to appropriate health and safety information. Full credit recognition is given by the College for this period spent abroad.

The Erasmus University Charter and the Erasmus Policy Statement will be available on the College's website and made available to students through the College's Erasmus co-ordinator. The College will maintain an online directory of international links, including all Erasmus partnerships. Present and potential students and staff will be able to use these pages in order to gain a clearer understanding and knowledge of the Erasmus programme in general and of staff and student mobility opportunities in particular.

Redcliffe has developed and promoted policy statements and codes of practice concerned with disability, equal opportunities and promotion of racial equality, as required by UK and EU legislation. Redcliffe is experienced in making the necessary arrangements to enable students with disabilities to participate as fully as possible in student life. Redcliffe is committed to meeting all statutory obligations under relevant legislation and anticipated future requirements signalled by EU directives