

Erasmus+ testimonial - Veronique Eurlings, YUFE education coordinator, Maastricht University

I am truly happy that I got the opportunity to go on staff exchange with Erasmus+ mobility funds. Meeting in person with peers, learning from them, discussing our work together has helped me grow and has improved my professional skills as well as my network.

The interesting thing is that in the end, it was not only about learning how things are done at that other university, for me it was also about getting a better understanding of how my own university works. It is funny but by going abroad, you see your own country and your own university in a different perspective, which can bring valuable insights in addition to the valuable peer exchange.

I very much enjoyed my one-week stay at McGill University in Canada. Besides great peer learning, it was surprisingly interesting to see (as a side effect) that some universities do not need to have marketing & communication departments dedicated to student recruitment. Students there did not have to be recruited, they were coming in high numbers just like that anyways. Yet here in the Netherlands and Europe, with many more universities within hand's reach, a real competition for students is ongoing. My more recent exchange to Lithuania gave me in addition to the topic I was discussing with my peers, also a better understanding of Europe and not just from a Western-European perspective, which I was more used to.

So, I can truly say that my knowledge and understanding of how things are done elsewhere but also how I see my own work and my university has grown through Erasmus+ Staff Exchange. Experiencing how other universities work, what connections exist between universities and between disciplines but also more practically how my peers at other universities do their work and discussing how we can jointly cooperate in different projects has brought me great insights.

NB: although you do have to fill out several documents before your stay and when you return, applying for Erasmus+ mobility funds is really easy.