

# **Student Exchange Programs between the USA and France**

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# **Student Exchange Programs**

#### • Student mobility abroad for studies

- Two main principles
  - The home university recognizes the courses validated abroad according to the "learning agreement"
  - Students do not pay any university fees at the host university.
- or for internships
  - In labs or companies





**Student mobility** 

- The number of students studying abroad = 1% of all U.S. students
  - from NAFSA / Institute of International Education / 2010
- The number of students studying abroad = 2.4% of all French students

• from Campus France / Unesco / 2010



## **Grenoble INP**

- Number of students who graduated in 2012
  - 1184 « diplômes d'ingénieur »
    - 49% had an intercultural experience admitted as such
      - 30% studied abroad for at least one semester
      - 18% went abroad for an internship longer than 3 months
      - 13% were international students
- Number of students enlisted (PhD students not included)
  - 4228 students (Master & Engineering degree)
    - 886 international students (21 %)
      - 38% were exchange students, equally EU and non EU

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# Academic Exchange Programs

- Very well developed in Europe thanks to the Erasmus program (initiated in 1987)
  - France Erasmus program (2010)
    - 25 800 outgoing students for studies
    - 23 200 incoming students for studies
  - Grenoble INP Erasmus program (2012)
    - 255 outgoing students for studies
    - 149 incoming students for studies

#### Focus on the USA

- Grenoble INP (2012)
  - 13 outgoing students for studies,
  - 88 outgoing students for internships
  - 6 incoming students from the USA to Grenoble INP for studies



## The Bologna Process's impact

- Standardizing higher education into three cycles (Bachelor-Master-PhD)
- Facilitating the mutual recognition of academic qualifications
- Setting guidelines for quality assurance

## **Barriers and opportunities**

It was for me a great

opportunity to

explore the world.

It was a great experience of another culture and language.

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I really appreciated that the courses we took here were equivalent to those of my university and that we had the **possibility to transfer credits**.

I enjoyed the smaller classes than in my university and the **access to the labs**. I think companies will appreciate the fact that I could "survive" abroad and adapt to a different culture.

## **Successful international programs**

#### • Faculty-led programs

- Programs directed by faculty members
- Faculty members traveling abroad with students
- Very short programs.
- Study programs designed for US / overseas students :
  - Short programs at appropriate periods
  - Taught in English
  - With an adequate pedagogical approach

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## **Further Developments**

#### Study programs to be set up

- Summer programs
- Classes in English
- Credit transfer made easy by the recognition of degrees both ways

#### Research fostering mobility

- Successful partnerships brought about by fruitful research collaboration
- Mobility for Master theses or internships in labs in both countries

### • Industrial internships available

in both countries for exchange students



### Thank you for your attention

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