

DMU Global Partnerships Report 2024-25

Contents

Introduction	1
Strategy and mission	2
Our global footprint	3
Partner listing	4
Partnership development	5
ISEP membership	6
Representation and networking	7
Turing Scheme	8
Student Exchange	9
DMU Global partner engagement	10
TNE & branch campuses	11
Staff testimonials	12
Stay engaged with us	13



Introduction

I am delighted to present DMU Global’s first ever Partnerships Report, produced by our Global Mobility Office covering our 2024-25 activity.

Despite the significant global challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, and the UK’s departure from the European Union over the past 5 years, DMU and specifically our Global Mobility Office have remained committed to being a global institution. We demonstrate this in our work delivering the DMU Global programme, and also through our continued growth and diversification of global partnerships.

This report highlights the work of our Global Mobility Office working in cooperation with colleagues across DMU to build and strengthen our partnerships in the field of student mobility. These partnerships allow us to deliver a wide range of international activity for the benefit of our students, and we would like to thank our global network for being part of these successes.

Alongside our significant institutional commitment to offering inclusive international experiences through our DMU Global programme, we are an active participant in the Turing Scheme, and we fully embraced the global nature of the programme which allows us to deliver an even more diverse range of opportunities in cooperation with our global network of partners. The programme allows us to send large numbers of students abroad to study, work and volunteer, and we are excited to see how this programme develops, alongside the potential re-association with the Erasmus+ programme in future years.

Our work plays a key role in DMU’s strategic goals by enhancing and expanding our global partnerships, articulated in the ‘Partnerships with Purpose’ strand of our institutional strategy, ‘The Empowering University.’

I hope this report brings to life the fantastic work of the Global Mobility Office in managing global partnerships, and delivering life-changing opportunities that benefit DMU students.

Leo Smith
Head of Global Mobility



Strategy and mission

Within DMU’s Partnerships with Purpose strand of the wider institutional strategy we articulate our commitment to international education and student mobility partnerships. Our focus is on growing global partnerships [...] that will provide the university with a global footprint.

These partnerships enable our students to access international opportunities and networks. Our aim is to work with our overseas partners to support students to gain international experiences through programmes such as the Turing scheme and DMU Global.

Locally, DMU Global’s objectives align with and support the aforementioned University targets. In particular, through our global partnerships our vision is to make international experiences accessible to all DMU students, to support their learning, growth and development.

Our global partnerships help us to deliver our aims which include:

- Enhancing academic study and the student experience through overseas experiential learning.
- Collaborating with universities globally to develop partnerships to support student exchange and Turing Scheme mobilities.
- Supporting our students to develop a range of key skills as a result of their international experiences, equipping them with the tools and knowledge to be successful in a global workplace and society.

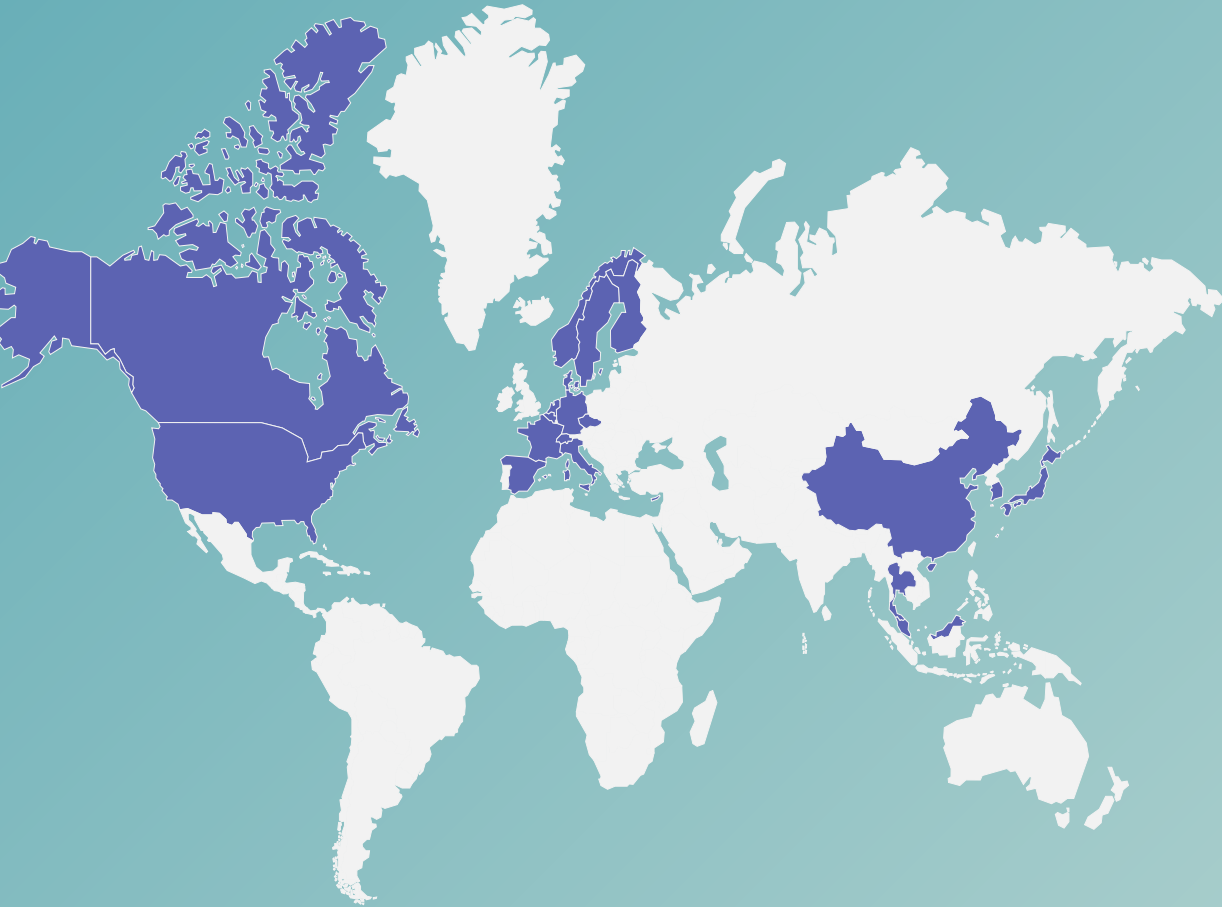


Our global footprint

DMU Global manages a diverse range of **60 student mobility partnerships globally**. This includes links with universities across Europe, which remain strong and continue the legacy of the Erasmus+ programme.

In addition, over the past 5 years we have significantly expanded our footprint in Canada and the United States to respond to student demand, with us now having 16 partnerships in North America.

Similarly, we have recently grown our global partnerships in Asia to satisfy interest in both full year study programmes as well as summer schools in destinations such as South Korea and Japan primarily, but also Hong Kong, China and Thailand. In total we have 13 student mobility partnerships in the Asian region.



Partner listing

Our full list of global partnerships which facilitate our student mobility opportunities can be found here:

Europe

- Belgium**
HOGENT University of Applied Sciences and Arts
University of Antwerp
- Cyprus**
University of Cyprus
- Czech Republic**
Charles University Prague
- Denmark**
VIA University College
- Finland**
Helsinki Metropolia University of Applied Sciences
University of Turku
University of Oulu
- France**
ESC Rennes School of Business
University of Strasbourg (Sciences Po)
- Germany**
Hochschule Für Gestaltung Schwäbisch Gmünd
Hochschule Furtwangen
Osnabrück University
University of Konstanz
- Italy**
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (Milan)
University of Padova
- Netherlands**
Amsterdam Fashion Institute (HvA)
Arnhem Business School (HAN)
Inholland University of Applied Sciences, Amsterdam
- Norway**
Western Norway University of Applied Sciences (HVL)
- Spain**
Comillas Universidad Pontificia
ERAM University School
Universidad de Coruña
Universidad de Deusto
University of Alicante
- Sweden**
Malmö University
Stockholm University
- Switzerland**
Bern University of Applied Sciences
University of Lucerne

North America

- Canada**
Carleton University
Memorial University
Mount Royal University
University of Regina
University of Winnipeg
- USA**
California State University, Chico
Ball State University
Francis Marion University
Georgia College and State University
Grand Valley State University
Northern Kentucky University
The College at Brockport, SUNY
Towson University
University of North Florida
University of South Alabama
Weber State University

Asia

- China**
University of Science & Technology Beijing
- Hong Kong**
Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Hong Kong Shue Yan University
- Japan**
Hosei University
Kwansei Gakuin University
Seinan Gakuin University
Sophia University
Yokohama City University
- Macau**
Macau University
- South Korea**
Hankuk University of Foreign Studies
Kyung Hee University
Sookmyung Women's University
- Thailand**
Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University

Partnership development

We are committed to developing a global network of exchange partners, that foster mobility opportunities on a reciprocal basis. Annually we review the performance of our current partnerships and identify potential areas for growth and development, with the aim of creating new, sustainable partnerships with ambitious and prestigious institutions from around the world. **When building new partnerships, we look for links with institutions that...**

- ✓ Have a reputation for academic quality, and innovative pedagogy.
- ✓ Offer programmes and modules that complement and expand the learning experiences for our students.
- ✓ Offer an excellent exchange experience, complemented by high-quality welfare and student support.
- ✓ Are located in a range of unique and exciting destinations where our students would be interested in living and studying.

Over the 2024-25 academic year we continued to diversify and expand our partnership network, adding the following exchange partners to our offer:



Ball State University Muncie, Indiana, USA

Founded in 1918, Ball State University is a public research institution offering over 120 undergraduate majors and 100 graduate programs. Known for immersive learning and innovation, it serves more than 20,000 students across seven academic colleges. The university emphasizes hands-on education, research, and community engagement, with a strong reputation in architecture, business, and education.



Hosei University Tokyo, Japan

Founded in 1880 as a law school, Hosei University is a prestigious private research university in Tokyo, recognized for its global outlook and academic excellence. It offers programs across 15 faculties and 38 departments, including English-taught degrees in global studies, business, and sustainability. A member of Japan's Top Global University Project, Hosei hosts over 30,000 students and 1,500 international learners.



Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University Bangkok, Thailand

Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University, established in 1940 and upgraded to university status in 2004, is a leading public institution in Bangkok's historic Dusit district. Originally a royal garden, it now serves 20,000+ students with programs in education, management, arts, science, and technology. SSRU emphasizes cultural heritage, practical skills, and global integration, offering exchange opportunities and language support for international students.



University of South Alabama Mobile, Alabama, USA

Established in 1963, the University of South Alabama is a comprehensive public research university located along the Gulf Coast. It enrolls nearly 14,000 students and offers programs through ten colleges, including medicine, nursing, engineering, and business.

ISEP membership

The 2024-25 academic year saw DMU join International Student Exchange Programme (ISEP), a not-for-profit organisation that brings together a consortium of universities around the world, to make studying abroad more accessible to DMU students. Being a member of ISEP allows DMU students to study at over 100 universities in the US.

The model of ISEP works on the basis of reciprocal exchange. Students pay fees (such as accommodation and a meal stipend) to their home university, with a student from within the ISEP network taking their place. This means that it will cost a DMU student about the same cost to study abroad as it would to study at DMU.

Looking forward, we hope to build on what has been a successful inaugural year with ISEP. Initial feedback from students has been positive, with participants reporting they like the fixed cost and guaranteed accommodation. We continue to raise the profile of ISEP with student information sessions and advising. Membership contributes to our ambitions of increasing the number of students who spend a year studying abroad through vastly increasing the capacity in the US – the most popular destination for DMU students.

Highlights



Access to **100+ US institutions**, across all subjects – increasing capacity without making new bilateral agreements or putting pressure on existing partnerships



Guaranteed accommodation and extensive visa support make it ideal for less experienced travellers – fitting DMU Global's accessibility agenda



Four DMU students are currently spending the 25-26 academic year studying on exchange through ISEP at institutions in Georgia, Maryland and Massachusetts.



Incoming students are **not limited to the US**, meaning ISEP is creating a more diverse incoming student body. In 25-26 we have students joining from France, New Zealand, US, South Korea and Argentina.



Representation and networking

A key component of our partnership management and development work involves engaging with colleagues, peers and partners nationally and internationally. Our Global Mobility Office is an active member of a range of networks and organisations, with the aim of facilitating and creating new partnerships and opportunities for our students.

Over the past 12 months DMU was represented in the following international forums:



EAIE 2024
DMU attended this European conference held in Toulouse, France in September 2024 which gathered over 7,300 participants from 110 countries to explore the future of international higher education. The purpose of the event was foster relationships with key student mobility partners based in Europe.



NAFSA 2025
DMU was represented at the annual conference held between 27-30 May 2025 in San Diego. The event gathered 10,000 student mobility professionals from over 100 countries. We were able to meet and engage with existing partners, and develop new links as a result of the conference.

In addition to our international representation, DMU has been actively involved in UK networks, which foster collaboration and best practice sharing. These networks and groups include:



Universities UK International (UUKi)
The international arm of Universities UK, representing UK universities globally. We have engaged with its Outward Mobility Network, annual Global Mobility Conference, Internationalisation at Home working group, and represented on its Climate Action Working Group.



British Universities Transnational Exchange Association (BUTEX)
DMU is a member of this organisation, which supports student mobility and international education. We were represented at the Annual Conference and delivered two sessions for practitioners sharing best practice.



HEURO (The Association of UK Higher Education European Officers)
We are a member of this UK-based organisation for professionals working in international education within higher education. It includes over 100 institutions.



East Midlands Mobility Network (EMMN)
DMU is a founding member of this regional collaboration among universities in the East Midlands focused on student mobility, internationalisation, or widening participation. We organised and hosted an event on campus in summer 2025 for members.

Turing Scheme

The Turing Scheme is the UK Government's global mobility programme that funds opportunities for studying and working abroad. DMU Global submits and secures bids annually, enabling our students to participate in international experiences lasting between four weeks and twelve months.

Most UK universities submit bids and receive funding through the scheme. The scheme aims to develop students' skills and boost employability through international experiences, with a strong emphasis on advancing social justice by making these opportunities accessible to all.

In 2024-25, we were **awarded £525,000 in Turing Scheme funding**. This funding enabled 88 students to undertake overseas experiences, with 85% of participants coming from underrepresented backgrounds. Additional funding was also available to support these students who were identified as qualify as a widening participation student. The funding was allocated as follows:

- **£200,000** supported students with accommodation and daily living costs while overseas.
- **Over £50,000** was awarded to students from widening participation backgrounds to cover return travel costs.
- **Nearly £20,000** was reimbursed to students from disadvantaged backgrounds for travel-related expenses such as visas, passports, and insurance.
- **Full financial support** was provided for any adjustments or additional support required by students with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).
- The **average total funding per student** in 2024/25 was **£3,065**.

This funding facilitated a wide range of engagements and strengthened our collaboration with international partners. Highlights include:



34 DMU students studied on exchange for a full academic year at partners in Europe, North America, and Asia.



Our first ever student studied at our newest Japanese partner, Seinan Gakuin University.



30 students attended language and culture summer schools at 4 different partner universities



10 students participated in work-based experiences overseas

Looking ahead, we are pleased to have **secured £311,000 in Turing Scheme funding for 2025/26**, which will allow us to continue creating overseas opportunities with both new and existing partners.



Did you know?

Since the launch of the Turing Scheme in 2021, DMU Global have **secured over £1.5 million in funding**, which is awarded directly to DMU students to remove financial barriers associated with going overseas.

Student Exchange

In the 2024-25 academic year, DMU Global was responsible for managing all incoming and outgoing student exchange opportunities with our global network of partners. Below you will find a summary with key numbers and statistics related to the activity in this field:

Outgoing



Incoming



DMU Global partner engagement

Beyond the traditional semester and full year exchanges that underpin our bilateral agreements with universities globally, we also delivered a range of short-term mobilities to our partners in the 2024-25 academic year. These experiences included academic-led trips as well as summer programmes.

 Total participants: 128  Number of trips: 10

Full list of mobilities to partners



TNE & branch campuses

Leveraging our branch campuses and Transnational Education (TNE) partnerships, DMU Global was able to deliver a wide range of opportunities to strategic locations and partners in 2024-25.

There are currently over 10,000 students now studying for a DMU award in places as far afield as Denmark, Vietnam, Hong Kong, Sri Lanka, and the Philippines, with established campus operations in Dubai, Kazakhstan and Cambodia. Through these partnerships, we were able to create mobility opportunities for DMU Leicester students, bringing them into contact with their peers overseas, encouraging intercultural exchange whilst also strengthening our global partnerships.

Highlights



4
key partners and campuses



119
students



9
international opportunities

Full list of mobilities to partners



DMU Dubai, UAE

- Discovering the power of your voice in Dubai (20 participants)
- Marketing and Personal Branding in Dubai (13 participants)
- Renal Care and Adult Nursing practice in the UAE (12 participants)



Asia Pacific University (APU), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

- Cultural influences on Psychology and Wellbeing (9 participants)
- Engineering in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (9 participants)
- Sustainability in Malaysia (12 participants)



Niels Brock Copenhagen Business College, Denmark

- Business Management in Copenhagen (14 participants)
- The Art of Networking, in Copenhagen (16 participants)



SISFU (Southville International School affiliated with Foreign Universities), Manila, Philippines

- Global Working in and out of The Philippines (14 participants)

Staff testimonials

“In June 2025, I led a trip to Malaysia in partnership with APU, one of DMU’s TNE partners. The experience was enriched through lectures, campus activities and visits arranged through APU’s staff and local networks. Collaborative sessions with APU students fostered cross-cultural dialogue around sustainability and education, offering insights into diverse pedagogical approaches and national progress toward the UN SDGs. The trip offered students a first-hand look at how TNE partnerships operate, particularly the dual-degree model, highlighting the global dimension of DMU and higher education more widely.”

Aamena Meidell
Senior Partnerships Officer
GPU
Visited Asia Pacific University (APU), Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia



“It was my privilege to take students to Copenhagen, where we had inspiring collaborations with Niels Brock, one of our valued TNE partners. As the Subject Lead for Business Management, I was honoured to deliver a keynote speech at the Strategy Subject Group Meeting, which evolved into a highly interactive discussion. In addition, Christian Kruse organised a session with our students, which the students described as very inspiring. Furthermore, Charlie Davay Mpengula delivered an insightful presentation on sustainability, reminding us of the importance of living sustainably.”

Milan Gyanwali
Senior Lecturer in Business Management
Visited Niels Brock Copenhagen Business College, Denmark



“Two years ago, I approached DMU Global to explore an overseas opportunity to enhance our policing students’ learning experience. With their support, we connected with Malmö University’s Department for Police Work and developed a partnership that led to our first study visit in February 2025. The trip was a huge success—our students were inspired by Sweden’s hands-on police training, including firearms and driving simulation, while sharing insights about UK police education with their Swedish counterparts. We’re already planning to return in 2026 with even more to look forward to.”

Adam Verity
Lecturer in Policing in School of Applied Social Sciences
Visited Malmö University, Sweden



“Arts and Festivals Management BA (Hons) has had a partnership with InHolland University for over 20 years. Annually, the programmes offer to learn beyond the classroom with a visit to Amsterdam for a cultural policy research trip which is embedded into a module. Students meet with professionals from a variety of organisations in the city. Over the years we have also engaged with InHolland students on various projects during our visits. It is a great way for AFM/GLAM students to start their networking in a different country and they have said how this enhances their learning experience and confidence.”

Jacqui Norton
Associate Professor and Subject Leader in Arts and Festivals Management
Visited InHolland University of Applied Sciences, Amsterdam, Netherlands



Stay engaged with us

I hope that you have found our Partnerships Report enlightening, and that it has given you a greater appreciation of the global network of partners we work with to facilitate DMU Global and student exchange opportunities for the benefit of our students.

There are a number of ways that you can stay in touch, and help support us with our mission to deliver more high-quality international opportunities in cooperation with our partners.

Staff newsletter

We produce a quarterly DMU Global staff newsletter which showcases new partners, success stories, student trips and also staff opportunities to engage with the programme.

If you would like to sign up to receive this newsletter, email: dmuglobal@dmu.ac.uk.

DMU Global opportunities

- **Propose a trip** - If you have an exciting idea for a new international experience for DMU students, then **we would love to hear from you**. In particular, we are looking for submissions that demonstrate active engagement with DMU partner universities. Planning for 2026-27 activity will begin in April 2026.
- **View our current partners** - If you would like to see an up-to-date list of our student exchange partners you can **visit our partner web page**.
- **Learn more** - If you are interested in knowing more about what it takes to organise and deliver a DMU Global opportunity you can **visit our DMU Connect page**.



Global Mobility Office

De Montfort University
The Gateway
Leicester
LE1 9BH
UK

E: dmuglobal@dmu.ac.uk
W: dmuglobal.com

