

Sustainable mobility as a future topic of international university partnerships – Belgian VIVES Unviserty and TH Wildau look to the future



Caption: Sustainable mobility as a common interface – exchange between TH Wildau and VIVESS University in the new Future Mobility Lab at TH Wildau

Picture: M. Lange

Subheadline: University partnerships / International affairs

Teaser:

The VIVES University of Applied Sciences in Belgium and TH Wildau have enjoyed a close university partnership for over 10 years. During an exchange in Wildau at the beginning of February, representatives from both universities discussed opportunities for cooperation in degree programmes and teaching in the field of sustainable mobility.

Text:

A decade of university partnerships

The VIVES University of Applied Sciences in Belgium (VIVES) and the Technical University of Applied Sciences Wildau (TH Wildau) have enjoyed a close university partnership for more than ten years. The Belgian VIVES is also one of the partner universities with which TH Wildau cooperates in the ["European Neighbourhood Initiative"](#) (ENI) network. The ENI is an informal association of seven European universities that are committed to European values and the importance of exchanging knowledge and experience between like-minded institutions.

Double degree agreement in planning

As a result of these long-standing, intensive relationships, a double degree agreement is planned for the Bachelor's degree programme ["European Management"](#), on the basis of which students from both universities can acquire double degrees and further expand their European profile.

Sustainable mobility as a transnational task

Further cooperation projects with the Faculty of Engineering and Natural Sciences are also planned. At the beginning of February, Evert Cottyn, International Coordinator at the Faculty of Applied Engineering and Technology at VIVES University, was a guest in Wildau.

The aim of the visit, which took place as part of the DAAD-funded [Sustainable Mobility Academy](#) project, was to explore joint teaching projects in the field of sustainable mobility, ranging from individual modules to possible degree programmes. Evert Cottyn met with the Vice-presidents for Studies and Learning, Prof. Dr Rainer Stollhoff, and Prof. Dr Stefan Kubica, Vice-president for Digital Affairs and Quality Management, as well as lecturers from various departments at the university. He was also able to gain an initial overview of the modern laboratories, such as the newly established 'Future Mobility Centre'. Promising points of contact emerged during the discussions, for example in the field of autonomous driving. TH Wildau was particularly impressive in this area with its software expertise. Evert Cottyn formulated as a desideratum that relevant English-language courses are indispensable for cooperation in the area of teaching.

Karin Schmidt, Head of the International Office at TH Wildau: "It is important to us to integrate sustainable mobility topics into our long-standing cooperation with VIVES University, to expand and stabilise them in the long term. A strong focus on application and complementary subject areas offer excellent starting points. In order to facilitate exchange in both directions, it would be advantageous if incoming students at TH Wildau were offered courses taught in English, as is the case at VIVES University."

Further information

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Centre for International Affairs: <https://www.th-wildau.de/international/>

VIVES University of Applied Sciences: <https://www.vives.be/en/vives-international>

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