

## FICAHT 2022

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### **Abstract: Developing a sustainable model of hospitality exchange between the French Lycéé system and the Irish Technological University system through Erasmus + study mobility**

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Every year a substantial number of Erasmus students participate across the breadth of the 4-year International Hospitality and Tourism Management programme (IHTM) in the Technological University Dublin (TU Dublin). This Erasmus cohort can be categorised into two broad types. Firstly, we have those from other partner universities who are following related semesterised degree programmes. These students make up the majority of Erasmus participants in TU Dublin college life. With the excellent support of the International Office, they successfully blend into our standard learning environments/pedagogies in classroom lecture situations. Secondly, we have Erasmus students who come from more vocational learning environments such as Lycéé Alexandre Dumas in Strasbourg and Lycée Christian Bourquin. These students typically come from the newly reformed *BTS Management en Hôtellerie Restauration* and frequently thrive in practical modules in TU DUBLIN such as Wine and Beverage Studies, Kitchen and Restaurant Operations, Front Office and Accommodation. Due to the practical nature of their studies and the nature of the IHTM module structures, these students must deal with requirements beyond more typical Erasmus student challenges. At the same time IHTM students benefitting from study opportunities abroad have to date been reluctant to undertake reciprocal Erasmus study periods within the *Lycée* system in France. This research project proposes an examination of barriers and enablers regarding:

Hospitality students coming from the BTS programme in France onto the IHTM programme in TU Dublin

Hospitality students going from the IHTM programme in TU Dublin onto the BTS programme in France

Through observational visits, structured course presentations, participant interviews and open exchanges of course materials, a clearer interpretation of the requirements of both modes of hospitality education will be developed. Challenges and opportunities in terms of integrating both hospitality education models, will be examined and a draft model of course integration will be proposed.