

The Social Sciences Student Union's

Action Plan

2024/2025



SOCIAL SCIENCES
STUDENT UNION

Background

In the Strategic Plan, the student union's long-term goals are stipulated. Those goals are then concretised in this plan into more specific actions for the upcoming year to complete. The board is utmost responsible for the completion of the goals in this Action Plan, but that does not mean the board needs to complete every point by themselves. The board should delegate points of this Action Plan within itself and to the person or group within the student union most suitable to complete them, and follow up on their progress throughout the year.

If the organisation finds itself in a situation where the board needs to prioritise between points in this Action Plan, the guiding strategic values stated in the Strategic Plan for 2022-2025 are *fun*, *community* and *solidarity*. If the board finds that certain conditions prevent any point from being possible to complete, or wants to amend the Action Plan in a larger way, such suggestions can be sent to the RA for decision.

Areas

Education Monitoring

The student union's primary purpose is to monitor and improve the education at the Faculty of Social Sciences, and the conditions for students. At the department level, student representatives should become more visible so that the students they represent know how and when to reach out to their representatives. We should also strive for each department to have a strong and independent Study Council, so that elected student representatives have a context and community for their involvement.

- **Work towards having strong and independent study councils.**
 - *Finalise the Study Council Handbook.*
- **Work towards having visible student representatives.**
 - *Make the contact details of the study councils accessible at all departments.*
 - *Utilise already existing contact channels at the different departments (for example Newsletters, Canvas, TV:s).*
- **Strive to represent all corners of the faculty well by developing the way we organise student representatives, programme representatives and course representatives.**
 - *Propose new instructions for programme representatives to the by-laws.*
 - *Make a recruitment plan for recruiting student representatives at the whole faculty throughout*

the operational year.

- **Develop the student union's political communication and forums for political discussion**
 - *Strive to communicate about the student union's political achievements.*
 - *Organise at least one working group on the most current political themes under the Education Committee, open to all members based on interest.*

Labour Market Matters

The labour market area of the student union strives to bridge the gap between social sciences students' studies and the labour market, through varied projects, lectures and seminars.

The main work is concentrated on the career fair SAMarbete.

However, it is of value to explore other possibilities for labour market matters, and evaluate the work with SAMarbete.

Moreover, it is important that there is a clear anchoring process with the students at the faculty regarding labour market matters, to ensure that the students will want to attend the activities organised by the student union and other external parties. Additionally, the student union strives to continue working on the internationalisation of the labour market.

- **Work with a stronger anchoring process regarding labour market matters with students at the Faculty of Social Sciences.**
 - *Continue working with programme associations and sections to see if there's further ways to collaborate.*
 - *Have continued dialogues with the study councils at the social sciences faculty to see if there is new potential for collaborations.*
- **Explore opportunities for the Labour Market Coordinator to hold a more political role within the student union.**
 - *Continue anchoring with the presidials when labour market related issues are discussed at the faculty and university.*

Community & Recruitment

It is important that we continue to build up our community. It should be fun to be active in the student union, and a sense of community contributes largely to this. With community comes a sense of belonging. Consequently, a strong community will lead to a more fun organisation and easier recruitment.

- **Organise regular social activities for the community of active members as a whole, as well as for subgroups of active members.**

- *Encourage subgroups of active members to host kick-offs together for themselves.*
- *Strive to establish something like a förmanakår (formangroup).*
- **Organise regular social events open for all members, and create a community of members that can be a stepping stone towards becoming active.**
 - *Continue to strive for a sense of community by hosting events throughout the year*
 - *Attempt to create subgroups that can work somewhat independently with different areas of events (ex. novischeri, sexmästeri).*
- **Organise effective recruitment campaigns at the beginning of each semester, and leading up to Representative Assembly meetings.**
 - *Await the result of the RA investigation and map out a recruitment cycle based on the new election cycles.*

Internal Organisation

The student union is nothing without its members, so being an active member needs to be rewarding and sustainable. Sustainable long term engagement also contributes to acquired skills and knowledge being kept in the organisation longer which allows for more strategic work over longer periods of time. Lastly, the campus itself is being developed and the student union should make sure to be prepared for decisions that will need to be made regarding the student union's premises.

- **Ensure sustainable conditions for active members.**
 - *Promote a culture of sustainable working hours, workload, and employer responsibility.*
 - *Initiate a revision of the structure of the Strategic and Action Plans in order to make the plans less extensive.*
- **Improve the speed of the student union's decision-making processes, to increase the student union's flexibility and ability to adapt to its circumstances.**
 - *Work on improving the line of communication within the student union.*
 - *Establish an internal strategy for a smooth transition to the new structure of the RA*
- **Clarify the section relationship and the process for new section memberships, and strengthen the bonds with current sections.**
 - *Establish routines for checking in with the sections.*
- **Create a long-term strategy for the student union's office premises.**
 - *Evaluate how the existing office premises can be used efficiently.*
 - *Investigate our needs for archiving and storage before 2025*

External Communication

It is vital that the student union is visible for our members and the students at the faculty as a whole, because without visibility we will not reach our students. The Communications Committee was created during the pandemic, and to improve communications more, it is essential that the Board and the Communications Committee have a closer working relationship, as the Communications Committee is a group under the board and everyone is affected by the communications. In this vein, it is important to create an overall strategic grip of the communications, as this has been lacking.

Many students find the student union through word-of-mouth, but this is not the most time-effective communication method. The student union ought to evaluate and develop our communication strategies, to see how we best can cater and reach out to the students.

We need to recruit a fully functional Communications Committee. Further, this involves ensuring that the committee becomes self-sustaining and takes ownership of its responsibilities. This entails providing them with sufficient information about the ongoing activities, such as planned events. To facilitate this, as a board, we should consistently update them through effective communication channels.

- **Establish a closer relationship between the Board and the Communications Committee.**
 - *Strengthen the relationship between the board and the communications committee by having continuous communication between the two to the extent possible (this can be achieved through formal and informal meetings in various ways, for instance through a brainstorming session).*
- **Develop the way we organise our external communications, to enable an overall strategic and creative grip of communications.**
 - *Strive to find functioning channels that enable an independent communications committee.*
 - *Ensure that the committee receives sufficient relevant information necessary to assert ownership of their work.*
- **Evaluate and develop the channels for visibility utilised by the student union.**
 - *Keep the different channels of communication continuously updated with information regarding the different happenings in the organisation.*
 - *Work further with evaluating the different social media platforms and where we can reach out to students.*
- **Continue strengthening the student union's brand.**
 - *Think about how we can reach out to students via other channels, and in which contexts.*

External Relations

The Faculty of Social Sciences is uniquely rich in student associations. This has for a long time posed challenges for the student union in terms of involvement, attention and recruitment, but if we work more together we can create a strong sense of community at the faculty. Lastly, external relations also includes sponsorship relationships, an area that the student union could work with more.

- **Create a strong community of student associations at the Faculty of Social Sciences.**
- **Develop our cooperation with the programme associations.**
 - *Establish a forum to offer programme associations further training.*
 - *Reach out to the programme associations about the possibilities of becoming student representatives.*
- **Explore opportunities for more sponsorship relations.**
 - *Identify criteria for relevant sponsors for the student union.*
 - *Reach out to potential sponsors to discuss collaborations.*