



PLAN OF OPERATIONS

Reg. no
STYR 2022/2739

Date 12 January 2023

Recipient
Education Board

Student Affairs
Education Strategy Support
Oskar Cornelius, Policy Officer

The Education Board's Plan of Operations for 2023

Introduction

The Plan of Operations describes the direction of the Education Board's work in 2023. The structure of the Plan of Operations is based on the lessons learnt from the work carried out by the Education Board in recent years and clarifies the areas in which the Board intends to work in the coming year. The areas and activities emanate from the work already initiated by the Education Board, special assignments given to the Board, and issues identified as relevant by the Board in the coming period. The Plan of Operations is also based on discussions conducted within the Board at an away-day event in November 2022.

Education strategy

Lund University has a number of strategies that are to act as guidance for different key parts of the University's work. However, no overarching strategy for educational issues has been drawn up. In 2021, the Education Board discussed forms for a vision of education that could act as a strategy for the University. In 2022, Lund University established a Platform for Strategic Work that is to guide the University in its development work with the goal of being the self-evident choice for students and staff by focusing on relevant and current areas for development. The Platform for Strategic Work was discussed at the Board's meeting on 15 November 2022 and the results of the

Board's discussions formed the basis for important feedback in the continuing work on an education strategy. An education strategy proposal is planned to be presented to the Education Board and thereafter submitted for a decision by the University Board in early 2023. The implementation of the education strategy will be conducted during the remainder of 2023.

Activities

- Discuss the forms for and work on implementation of the education strategy based on the Board's Plan of Operations.

Educational development

Higher education is currently in a phase of strong development, driven by developments in a number of areas. In recent years, Lund University has worked on a broad front on the development of the forms, content and conditions for first and second-cycle education. Before and, in particular, during the pandemic, the Education Board and the rest of the University initiated a number of different development projects in the area of digitalisation. Today, greater demands are placed on higher education institutions regarding digital tools, digital accessibility, renewal of teaching methods and the content of courses and programmes. In order to meet the organisation's needs in the area of digitalisation, a new unit was established in 2021 called the Unit for Educational Services, which is to work on providing services, support and training, primarily for teaching staff. The Education Board is responsible for establishing the unit's remit in consultation with the university director in accordance with the Decision on the Establishment of a Unit for Educational Services (reg. no STYR 2021/2349). The Board is to contribute to the unit's work through input and clarification of the organisation's needs. There is also a corresponding unit for e-infrastructure. The Education Board should follow this unit's work in case there are specific activities that affect the area of education.

Through EUGLOH membership since 2019, Lund University has been involved in the major changes that are being implemented in the European educational landscape through the European Universities Initiative (EUI). In 2023, Lund University will continue to deepen and broaden collaboration within EUGLOH. Within the framework of the EUGLOH collaboration, the Education Board has drawn up proposals for courses and programmes. The Education Board will continue to have a corresponding assignment from the University Board for 2023. The International Council has also developed a proposal for processes for the allocation of seed funding in the development of joint courses and programmes within the framework of the EUGLOH collaboration.

In autumn 2022, the Education Board and Research Board started a joint project to promote conditions for the intertwining of education and research. The project is based on a special assignment from the Vice-Chancellor, which was a result of the RQ20 research evaluation. The project is also based on the Swedish Higher Education Authority's (UKÄ's) review of the University's quality assurance system for education. In October 2022, the boards organised a joint workshop on the issue. In 2023, the Education Board will continue to work on the assignment from the Vice-Chancellor, among other things through further results from the workshop and implementation of additional workshops with the Research Board. In the longer term, the Research Programmes Board will also be involved in the work. Within the framework of the assignment from the Vice-Chancellor, the boards are to take into particular consideration the intertwining of interdisciplinary education and interdisciplinary research. In addition to the collaboration with the Research Board, the Education Board will follow Lund University's initiatives in the profile areas. As a result of this, the Board will also follow and draw lessons from the University's work on the profile areas.

Activities in 2023

- Design and follow-up of assignments to the Unit for Educational Services in consultation with the university director.
- Develop a proposal for how courses and programmes within EUGLOH are to be implemented and announce funding to enable the courses and programmes to be offered in 2023.
- Support the conditions for the intertwining of interdisciplinary research and interdisciplinary education in collaboration with the Research Programmes Board and the Research Board as tasked by the Vice-Chancellor.
- Follow the profile areas' work regarding the intertwining of education and research.

Lifelong learning and widening participation

Lifelong learning and professional development for those in employment continues to be a prioritised issue for Lund University, as well as nationally. Examples in recent years include specific initiatives by the Government and *student finance for transition and retraining*. During the period 2022-2024, the Government is conducting an initiative focusing on courses and programmes in lifelong learning and is expected to allocate SEK 22.6 million to Lund University in 2023. The grant will be divided between the faculties on the basis of the number of full-time equivalent students and the size of the grant. The Education Board will follow work on the initiative in 2023.

In recent years, the Education Board has been tasked by the University Board to manage and allocate specific initiatives in educational development. These have been initiatives funded by both the Government and Lund University. In 2022, a joint experimental workshop for education, EduLab, was established to enable more long-term sustainable management of various new educational initiatives. The Education Board has followed the EduLab project in 2022 and discussed with the project management how it can be optimally implemented. This will continue, as the Board will carry on following and supporting the

project in 2023. It will then also be particularly important to discuss if and how the project's work can be implemented in regular operations. Furthermore, the Education Board has continued its assignment from the University Board to draw up a proposal for the allocation of a total of SEK 2 million to promote courses and programmes that reflect LU as a comprehensive University.

During the period 2021-2022, LU underwent UKÄ's thematic review of the University's work on widening participation in recruitment. The evaluation and its results have given Lund University valuable input for the continued development work on widening participation. As a result of the evaluation, Lund University established a project in late 2022 to develop the University's work on widening participation in recruitment. The Education Board will follow the project in 2023 and based on its conditions will contribute to the project's implementation.

A further two projects relating to lifelong learning, the comprehensive University and widening participation in recruitment were established by the Education Board in 2021 and 2022. One problem that has been identified within Lund University in connection with the various new Government initiatives in lifelong learning, among other things, is that there is no cohesive communication concerning all the education options that Lund University offers. To address this problem and facilitate cooperation between the units working on marketing and communication of education, the Board established the project An Entry Point to the Comprehensive University. During the project, it became clear that there was a particular problem regarding the online presentation of the range of courses and programmes, specifically that the same courses and programmes are often presented on different webpages at different levels. Due to this, the Education Board established another project, The Range of Courses and Programmes Offered Online – a Vision for Interaction with Prospective Students. Both projects will

conclude in 2023, and the Board will discuss how the projects' results should be managed.

The Education Board's remit includes the processing of strategic first and second-cycle educational issues as well as other educational issues that do not relate to the third cycle. This also includes commissioned education. The Education Board has previously managed various aspects of commissioned education, including the allocation of seed funding for the development of commissioned education and general status updates with Lund University Commissioned Education (LUCE). However, it is still not clear how or in what way the Education Board should work on issues relating to commissioned education or the exact remit the Board has for this issue. In 2023, the Board will therefore discuss and examine which aspects of commissioned education should be included in the Board's remit.

Activities

- Follow the Government's initiative for courses and programmes in lifelong learning.
- Follow and support the EduLab project – Experimental Workshop (reg. no STYR 2021/2537).
- Draw up a proposal for the allocation of funds to promote courses and programmes that reflect LU as a comprehensive university and that are offered in a collaboration between several faculties.
- Follow the project established by the Vice-Chancellor, Assignment to Develop the University's Work on Widening Participation in Recruitment (reg. no STYR 2022/2232).
- Follow up the project An Entry Point to the Comprehensive University (reg. no STYR 2021/1219).
- Follow up the project The Range of Courses and Programmes Offered Online – a Vision for Interaction with Prospective Students. (reg. no V 2022/1898).
- Discuss and examine which aspects of commissioned education should be included in the Board's remit.

Quality enhancement

Lund University's internal system for quality assurance and quality enhancement has been in operation for a few years and the six-year cycle for course and programme evaluations is nearing its end. In 2023, the UKÄ will revise the national quality assurance system. Based on lessons gained from the University's own quality management work and changes to the national system, a project should be initiated to develop and revise Lund University's guidelines in this area. Not least, the issue of quality assurance for research needs to be coordinated with the system for education. The aim of the revision is to further develop the work on finding meaningful and effective ways to ensure and develop the quality of the University's courses and programmes.

As a result of the quality discussions between the Vice-Chancellor and the faculties, and at the request of the UKÄ following the review of LU's quality assurance work, a joint quality conference was organised in 2022 by Student Affairs on behalf of the Education Board. The aim of the conference was to promote the exchange of experience and collaboration between the faculties concerning certain quality assurance issues. The conference was very well received by the organisation, and it was clear that there was a continuing need for a forum for the exchange of information and experience between the faculties. In 2023, the Education Board will therefore, among other things, arrange a new quality conference and in other ways work to support faculty-wide discussions on quality assurance. In 2023, the quality discussions will continue to generate important results for how quality management work can be strengthened, which the Education Board will need to manage.

To create conditions for educational development, the University needs to ensure that there is a common framework for students' rights and obligations. This work needs to be continuously followed up so that it is always up to date and based on developed practice. At Lund University, this framework is constituted mainly by the List of Rights – Lund University

Students' Rights and Responsibilities. In 2022, the Education Board initiated a revision of the List of Rights in order to update the content in relation to other regulations and laws.

The quality enhancement of Lund University's courses and programmes is mainly conducted at the faculty or department level. However, there are a number of university-wide development projects that clearly affect conditions for teaching staff and students at Lund University. Due to the projects' strategic importance for education quality, it is crucial that the Education Board follows and takes note of the projects' work. Among these projects there is a particular focus on the newly established Coordinated Examination Service, which builds up a common support system and organisation for examination management, and Cohesive Professional Development in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education and Career Development Paths. The Education Board also established a development project in 2022 to prevent deception in connection with examinations. The project was established in order to proactively counteract the increasing number of disciplinary cases. According to the project plan, the Education Board is not only the assigner of the project, but also a reference group.

At the university-wide level, a range of qualitative and quantitative documentation is also being compiled that could form the basis for quality management work. One example of this is the university-wide questionnaire follow-ups. In recent years, the University has conducted and followed up several different types of questionnaires aimed at various groups, including students and teaching staff. However, at present there is no clear coordination and follow-up of which surveys are conducted and what needs they fulfil. In 2023, the Education Board will discuss and follow up previous decisions regarding university-wide questionnaires and surveys.

Activities

- Focus in particular on following the Swedish Higher Education Authority's work on revising the national system for quality assurance.
- Plan and implement a university-wide quality conference.
- Support faculty-wide discussions and exchange of experience regarding quality assurance work.
- Process those issues generated by the Vice-Chancellor's quality discussions with the faculties that are best handled at the university-wide level.
- Draw up a proposal for the revision of the List of Rights – Lund University Students' Rights and Responsibilities.
- Follow the project established by the Vice-Chancellor, Coordinated Examination Service Part 1 (reg. no STYR 2022/790).
- Follow the project established by the Vice-Chancellor, Cohesive Professional Development in Teaching and Learning in Higher Education and Career Development Paths (reg. no STYR 2022/1746).
- Act as a reference group for the project Prevent Disciplinary Offences (reg. no STYR 2022/1215).
- Follow up previous decisions regarding university-wide questionnaires and surveys.

Follow-up work

The Education Board should continuously follow up and monitor important education strategy issues for which the Board has not established any specific activities. This includes student well-being, development of the range of courses and programmes, admission statistics, new laws and provisions, etc. In connection with student well-being, representatives of the Student Health Service should be invited to the Board to spread knowledge and conduct a dialogue on preventive work relating to student well-being. Furthermore, Disability Support Services can also be invited to the Education Board. The Education Board has also, based on a review by the Internal Audit, been tasked with

ensuring that the faculties have procedures for managing complaints concerning education for students.

Collaborative bodies within Lund University

Several of the Education Board's areas of activity for 2023 concern issues that are not only addressed by the Education Board. For example, issues concerning teaching methods should be discussed with the Council for Higher Education Development. A well-developed collaboration with the other boards, the Research Programmes Board and the Research Board, will be important in discussions about the intertwining of education and research. Lund University has set up a number of new bodies at the university-wide level. Finding well-functioning forms of collaboration thus becomes an even higher priority.

The Education Board can focus on developing collaboration with the following university-wide bodies:

- Research Programmes Board
- Research Board
- Council for Higher Education Development
- Campus Development Council
- International Council
- External Engagement Council
- Council for Gender Equality and Equal Opportunities
- Council for Ethics and Academic Freedom
- Unit for Educational Services
- Unit for E-infrastructure