

Student Union Malmö's Operational Plan 20/21

§ 1 Introduction

The operational plan is the council's task for the board. The operational plan is the steering document, which sets the work and operations for Student Union Malmö (Union) for the operational year 2020-2021.

The operational plan's structure begins with the Union's regular operations, followed by student engagement and representation, study political and last but not least - the focus questions for the operational year. These are visibility and student work environment.

The operational plan is written in such a way so that it is neither too narrow nor too broad, so that the board has the flexibility to reach the set goals, and should therefore be followed by a separate action plan set up by the new board on how to achieve them.

§ 2 Regular operations

During the last years the Union has seen a number of changes in terms of re-organizing and dividing the areas of responsibility among the board. This was done to achieve long-term stability as well as a more clear-cut strategy for who is responsible for a specific aspect of the Union's work.

To ensure that these changes are followed through and implemented within the organization, the development of the Union's structure should continue under the upcoming operational year. Among other things, this includes the continuing operations of having internal committees and revising the constitution and other important documents.

Part of the Union's regular operations concerns the Union house's future physical location. It is yet unclear where and in what form the new Union house will be, which influences both the Union and its associations' operations. Thereby, it is of utmost importance that the work for finding a convenient building for the Union's current and future operations continues.

In addition, the Union shall look into formulating an effective strategy on how to achieve the council's independence and increase the council members' engagement in the Union's operations.

Goals

- Revise the constitution and update Union's documents.
- Formulate a strategy on how to increase the council's independence and consolidate its role as the Union's highest decision-making body.
- Work with the development of the student errand system and how it can reach out to both the university and the students.
- Actively look for a new Union house, so that the Union and its associations can continue their operations in the best way possible.

§ 3 Student engagement and representation

Without students, there is no Student Union! Therefore, student engagement and representation play a vital role in the Union's daily work. Both student influence and study social aspects are crucial for the students' personal as well as educational development. Student engagement and representation has the purpose of securing stronger student influence and enriching the students'

Fullmäktige**Studentkåren Malmö****Besök**

Kårhuset, Bassängkajen 8, Malmö

Postadress

205 06 Malmö

Telefon

040-665 75 65

Org.nr

846502-0868

E-post

receptionen@malmostudenter.se

Webbplats

malmostudenter.se

social life by creating a feeling of community. Furthermore, the Union holds the belief that a good balance between social and academic life can contribute to students' well-being. Therefore, it is important that students have the opportunity to engage in study social activities and chances to influence their education throughout their studies.

In order to keep its relevance, the Union should work for a stable recruitment process and well-implemented routines in regards to how student engagement and representation is encouraged and rewarded, so that students would also want to stay engaged. Student engagement and representation has to be inclusive and welcoming. This can be facilitated by continuously creating and developing strategies for increasing it.

Goals

- Establish new and develop existing routines and procedures in order to assure smooth cooperation between the Union and student representatives.
- Facilitate and further develop conditions for student social life and student culture.
- Execute and facilitate interactivity in our contact with students in order to ensure closeness and continued engagement.
- Start a pilot project for sections for future development of local student engagement.

§ 4 Study political work

Students' life situation is influenced by political decisions they may have little knowledge about or direct power over, whether they are aware of it or not. The Union has a position in assuring that the student perspective is taken into account in many areas of interest vital to the students' well-being, both during and after their studies. While engaging ourselves in safeguarding their rights and best interests at the University and the rest of society, it is important to involve students in the process and base our decisions on their needs and experiences. Student influence must be inclusive to all students.

An important focus lies on the housing situation for students. The Union commits to working with the question on a local and regional level. Another area that the Union will work with is pedagogy, with a focus on the knowledge of said subject being strengthened within the organization, but also further encourage the University to focus more on this question. Additionally the Union will promote internationalization not only as students going on an exchange but as a larger concept.

Goals

- Continue working on a local and regional level with housing-related questions.
- Work with developing the Union's knowledge of pedagogy in higher education.
- Work to encourage alternative pedagogical methods and digital solutions.
- Continue to highlight the importance of course evaluations and course reports to the University and its students.
- Encourage the University to develop more activities related to Internationalization at Home.
- Drive the question of an inclusive meeting culture within University, in order to ensure transparency and accessibility.

§ 5 Focus areas

The focus areas selected for the operational plan have been made after an assessment by the board and council of 19/20 on the most important issues that came up during the year. These are, outside of the Union's daily work (*Regular operations, Student engagement and representation and Study political*), the following;

- Visibility
- Student work environment

§ 5.1 Visibility

The Union has struggled to be visible in a way that students have an understanding of what the Union does and works with. Visibility should facilitate transparency and good opportunities for democratic participation. Some possible ways to measure visibility is to look at the amount of members and student representatives as well as the engagement level on our social media.

In connection with improving its visibility, the Union has identified a need to develop its physical and online presence and communication regarding all its operations, especially in the study political sphere, in a way that is interesting to students. The study political work of the Union towards high-quality education and improved student life has to be communicated on different platforms more effectively and in a more engaging way. Furthermore, making visibility a focus question means that the Union will incorporate visibility, transparency and communication in everything it does.

Being visible does not mean a one-way communication, instead there is a need for increased interaction between the Union and the students and a need to be part of sparking a debate, so the variety of student perspectives can be heard and made visible.

Goals

- To be more visible and to communicate with students what the Union does in a more transparent and accessible way so that it interests and engages students to a higher extent.
- To develop digital and physical platforms and expand on interactive methods to connect with the students.
- To develop already existing and possible new cooperation with relevant actors in regards to communication.

§ 5.2 Student work environment

The Union sees the question of students' well-being and work environment as a complex one, that covers various aspects of the student life. Among those are the overlapping concepts of work, study and learning environment. In addition, other questions related to them, such as student complaint management, equal treatment, mental and physical health and more, have a big impact on the work environment and vice versa. Since this focus question is such a complex issue it is important that the board is well-educated on the matter. Apart from good education for the board, the Union needs to be aware of students' experiences and opinions in order to represent them in the best way.

The university is responsible for the students' work environment. The students are co-actors in education and as such, they need to be included, similarly to university staff and researchers, in the systematic work environment work (SAM). In this line of work, it is also of utmost importance that the whole process is continuously followed up and re-evaluated, so that issues are being resolved. A part of SAM is investigation, which the University has been lacking in regards to students' work environment. This has led the Union to choose student work environment as a focus question for the operational year 20/21.

Goals

- To have a better systematic work environment process both on university-wide and faculty level.
- To improve and develop the Union's routines in students' work environment questions.