



LUNA
The Science Student Union

Operational Plan

2017-05-24

LUNA

Operational Plan 2017/18

The Operation Plan 2017/18 for the Science Student Union (henceforth LUNA) will outline what matters the union will work with during the upcoming year of 2017/18. The plan is approved by parliament subsequently the members of LUNA. The plan is divided into focus matters, monitoring matters, internal and external work.

The union board is obliged to concretise the plan and work along what it dictates. The concretisation of the plan should take place during the first board meeting after the constitutive board meeting of 2017/18. The presidium should report back to the board and union parliament on how the work is advancing, continuously throughout the year.

1 Focus Matters

The focus matters should be the major focuses given extra effort in all parts of the work of LUNA throughout the year. The matters should be an integral part of the union communicative work.

1.1 Integration of Students at Advanced Level

Throughout the years bachelor students have constituted the bulk of student representatives and holding the majority of the organisational posts, both on a student council level and centrally within the union. This weighed distribution of active members' inherence to student groups the union represents, could possibly have a detrimental effect on what student matters the union works with and undermine the legitimacy of the union.

Student matters brought to, and the orientation of education politics of the union, often originate among the students taking an active role in the union organisation. With a lack of representation of some student groups, the union work is likely to be lopsided. The legitimacy of the student union is a vital part of its work both towards the university and to portray a solid and supportive organisation to the students it represents.

Many students, especially international ones, start their studies at Lund University on an advanced level. Without prior exposure to introductory activities such as the Novisch Period, many students fall outside of the grasp of the union from the very beginning.

Another issue is the fact that the Faculty of Science and its departments easily overlook advanced level studies in their quality work, as they do concern fewer students than for example introductory courses on basic level. Education quality should not be dependant on student population size and the union should aim towards a comprehensive monitoring and representation process throughout the faculty.

At a faculty praised for its internationalisation and research-oriented studies, LUNA should not miss out on a comprehensive representation of the wide variety of students found within its premises. To improve education quality for all students, as well as the work of the union itself, LUNA should focus on integrating advanced level students in its organisational and representative work.

It is the responsibility of the union board of 2017/18

- to* identify problem areas when it comes to integration of advanced level students in union work,
- to* encourage participation of advanced level students in union activities,
- to* anchor union opinions with advanced level students where their input is needed but lacking,
- to* highlight the issue of primarily focusing on basic level studies in faculty and department instances,
- to* carry out a campaign on union work participation aimed specifically at advanced level students, and

to work more closely with the Doctoral Council of Natural Sciences (NDR), as advanced studies and matters may overlap with research studies.

1.2 Study and Career Advisory

The studies at university can be quite a complicated journey from the very beginning to the final of getting a degree. To navigate the maze of programme structures, interdisciplinary courses, and to schedule in order to keep up with the demands from CSN, is a difficult but necessary task every student faces. Subject profiling and career matching may depend on the information and support students receive concerning their education planning.

The greatest support found in order to create solve the above mentioned difficulties, are the study advisors. Each department offer study advisory concerning their own subjects and departments, and the university offers general advisory on both studies and career through Allmänna studievägledningen and Karriärservice.

Despite the services offered, issues still arise. The extent of study advisory offered at different instances across the Faculty of Science vary and could consequently affect students and their studies. What department one belongs to should not be a deciding factor in whether or not one gets the best possible education. At a faculty with great opportunities to personally customize you education, the extent of the help offered in doing so, should not be a limiting factor.

Student career advisory is currently, partly limited to what the university offers centrally. The union itself provides help for students through events on corporate relations and through the career fair ATLAS, but one could deem the faculty lacking in that area. According to Högskoleförordningen (§6.3) both study and career advisory is to be offered. With the establishment of the Arbetsmarknadsrådet, the possibilities to offer students guidance on a work life outside of the academia are increasing.

It is the responsibility of the union board of 2017/18

- to* inform students of the current possibilities for study and career advisory,
- to* map study and career advisory currently offered students at the Faculty of Science, and evaluate the results through comparison of departments and how rewarding it is to students in order to pinpoint areas of improvement,
- to* advocate for an improved and extended study and career advisory faculty-wide,
- to* investigate the possibility of faculty-specific career advisory through Arbetsmarknadsrådet and other appropriate instances across the faculty, and
- to* continue to explore the relationship between the corporate world and natural scientists through the Sveriges Naturvetarkårer (SNaK) cooperation and other appropriate instances.

1.3 Student Representation Work

The core of student union work is representation. In all preparatory and deciding bodies of the university, students are represented. The student unions makes sure student representatives are elected through a democratic process with a basis in the student population.

Being a student representative is not always an easy task. It can be quite an intimidating experience taking part in discussions on complicated university matters, and to simply feel comfortable as a lone student in a room full of university employees with the right expertise. However, the sometimes challenging role as student representative should not discourage participation in the most important of functions of the student influence.

Student representation constitute the direct influence of student opinions towards the university. That possibility should be safeguarded in order to give the highest possible reward. Representatives should be confident and able to be successful in their work.

It is the responsibility of the union board of 2017/18

- to* host worthwhile educations and workshops for student representatives,
- to* ensure a constructive opinion anchoring process between student representatives and the appropriate union bodies,
- to* implement the use of the union opinion document among student representatives and union bodies,
- to* implement the use of the Studeranderepresentantshandboken by LUS where appropriate, and

to acknowledge and inform on the importance of student representation and its impact for all students and their studies.

1.4 The LUNA Identity

As a student union LUNA covers many different areas of natural science studies. The division into student councils is an efficient way of delegating work and make the union more accessible to students at the ten different departments. The student councils are quite independent parts of the union, especially when it comes to the social aspects and events held.

While identifying as a part of one's student council can be very rewarding, concerns have been raised that it happens on the expense of the sense of belonging to the union itself. Engineering students at Lund University easily emphasise with both their central organisation and their subject-dependent sections, an equivalent sense of belonging among the unions members of LUNA is something that could be improved.

A clearer LUNA identity would not only strengthen the organisation, but also create a stronger attraction to and motivation for, engagement in union work. It would improve recruitment of active members, hence improve the coverage of union work, and the quality of that work.

Besides the social aspects, the identity of natural scientists as a collective group is quite vague, if not non-existent. This issue reaches further than union matters and can play a role in career opportunities. Compared to engineering degrees, a degree in natural science is quite unknown in the corporate world.

It is the responsibility of the union board of 2017/18

- to* encourage union-wide activities and inform about the relations between the bodies of LUNA,
- to* inform on the collective work of the union and its faculty-wide implications as well as clarifying the resources and support available at the union-central level,
- to* implement the union Graphic Charter at appropriate union instances,
- to* encourage discussion at faculty and department instances when it comes to the role of natural scientists in corporate relations, and
- to* strengthen the identity of students as natural scientists and members of LUNA.

2 Monitoring Matters

The monitoring matters should be worked upon actively but are secondary to the focus matters.

2.1 The Future of ATLAS

The upcoming year the union career fair ATLAS will be held during the spring term, this after careful consideration by the board of 2016/17. The aim of this is to improve the union career fair based on the results from evaluations of previous fairs. How the union will continue to work with career fair events in the future needs to be contemplated and well-anchored with the student population LUNA represents.

It is the responsibility of the union board of 2017/18

- to* compile, evaluate and analyse ATLAS as a career fair for students of natural sciences, and
- to* decide upon how career fairs are to be offered students at the Faculty of Science in the future.

2.2 Change of Faculty Deans

The Faculty of Science are introducing a new dean, two prodeans, whereof one for basic education and one for research education, and a new faculty board, taking office with the start of 2018. This is an opportunity for LUNA to form good relations with those leading the faculty for the upcoming three to six years. It is an opportunity that should not be missed out upon.

It is the responsibility of the union board of 2017/18

- to* introduce the new deans of the Faculty of Science to the work of the union, and
- to* lay the foundation for future, rewarding cooperation between LUNA and the faculty.

2.3 Continuous Education Monitoring

During 2016/17, the union brought many matters to the faculty concerning education. Matters brought up included anonymous exams, course evaluations, graded examinations and grading criteria for thesis work. It is important that these matters are not forgotten. It is the responsibility of the board of 2017/18 to follow up the matters continuously during the upcoming operational year and make sure that the faculty is encouraged to follow through with their obligations.

2.4 Lundakarnevalen

In 2018 the great carnival of Lund takes place. It is a large event run by students which requires a lot of manpower, both in preparatory work and during the event itself. This may affect the work of the union and its possible implications should be dealt with in order to make sure the union work quality stays intact. The union may also be requested to take part in or arrange activities for the carnival and this should be handled in the best way possible.

2.5 Science Village Scandinavia

During 2016/17 the discussions on establishing parts of Lund University at Brunnsög, the area surrounding MAX IV and ESS took off. Parts of the Faculty of Science are planning to move research and possibly education north which could affect not only the education, but also the work of the union and other student activities. LUNA is to monitor the process the upcoming year and represent the opinions of the student at the Faculty of Science. This should be carried out through opinion anchoring work and the proper student representation.

2.6 The Subject Teacher Education

With the dissolution of NALU the subject teacher education is moving from Helsingborg to Lund. Besides that, it is the wish of the faculty to be granted the right to examine subject teacher students in two more subjects. These conditions bring forth the matter of who is to represent the subject teacher students union-wise. The SÄLU Agreement should be updated during upcoming year in accordance with the opinions of LUNA, or possibly disbanded.

3 Internal Work

3.1 Revision of Regulatory Documents

The upcoming year the regulatory documents of LUNA should be screened and updated if necessary. Documents include instructions, rules of procedure, and policies. The policies of LUNA were translated into English with the implementation of the Internationalisation Policy during 2015/16, and work on revising them was started during 2016/17. The possibility of creating and implementing a regulation document has been proposed and should be worked on further the upcoming year.

It is the responsibility of the union board of 2017/18

- to* revise the union regulatory documents according to current statutes and organisation,
- to* make new and scrap old regulatory documents where deemed appropriate
- to* create a regulatory document for the work of LUNA.

3.2 Internal Organisation Structure

LUNA is a student union at a very decentralised faculty and in many ways the union reflects the organisational structure of the faculty. Decentralisation can be problematic in student union work as it may interfere with the unanimity of the student voice and obstruct internal work. During the upcoming year organisational union bodies and their areas of work should be clarified and affirmed.

It is the responsibility of the union board of 2017/18

to establish the areas of work, organisation of, and relations between the bodies of LUNA.

3.3 Educations and Workshops

Well-informed active members are of great value to the union. LUNA should offer educations on student representation, union organisation, and other matters of importance continuously. Besides that, workshops for anchoring student opinions and developing ideas of future work and goals are resources to be appreciated. The union should arrange educations and workshops on various matters, for members during the upcoming year.

3.4 Information and Transparency

For members transparent organisation is a vital key to a thoroughgoing democratic process. LUNA should offer internal documents easily accessible and have functioning contact systems for all situations. The organisation of these should be gone over the upcoming year. The basement archive is to be refurbished and made into a useful inventory for union work. Internal flow of information should be reviewed and modified where needed.

3.5 Events

Throughout the year of 2017/18 LUNA should carry out a number of events aimed at the union members and students at the Faculty of Science.

It is the responsibility of the union board of 2017/18

- to* host the career fair ATLAS in April 2018,
- to* arrange the annual LUNA ball U T O P I A,
- to* carry out a Novisch Period for the autumn term 2017,
- to* arrange a 'Thank You'-event for active union members,
- to* hold inspirational lectures,
- to* host opportunities for discussion,
- to* arrange income-producing events for members,
- to* host educations and workshops according to §3.3, and
- to* arrange other member activities of various kinds.

4 External Work

4.1 Lunds universitets studentkårer (LUS)

LUNA should continue to play an active part in the university-central student union work. The union should promote collaboration and exchange of experiences and information with other student unions at Lund University. The union should promote participation in LUS-internal work and university-central student representation to LUNA members.

Two matters that are to be focused on specifically are the Brunshög situation, see §2.5, and the subject teacher education, see §2.6. In these matters LUNA should cooperate with the other student union affected in order to have an impact on the processes and reach desirable results, in accordance with student opinions.

4.2 Studentlund

LUNA should continue to play an active part in the organisation Studentlund. The union should be represented in the organisational bodies of Studentlund itself, and utilize the positions offered the union within the Academic Society. Promoting membership in Studentlund to the students LUNA represents should be continued as it consequently leads to a membership in LUNA. Membership administration should be handled by the union centrally.

4.3 National Work

Nationally the union should work to represent and carry out the wishes of the students at the Faculty of Science. Through the collaboration Lunds universitets allians (LUA), LUNA should prepare for and attend SFSFUM 2018, and there actively participate and bring forth the opinions of the union.

The union should continue the work within Sveriges naturvetarkårer (SNaK) with regular discussion meetings and two conferences where representatives from the participating student unions meet.

In service,

Ida Lunga, President of the Science Student Union, Lunds naturvetarkår (LUNA), 2016/17