

Activity Plan Doctoral Student Union 2021

Background

Every year, the DSU board decides upon the activities that are prioritized during that specific year. In the annual report at the end of the year, the DSU board describes how they have worked with these activities

Main visions and goals

The main goal of the DSU is to remain actively engaged in creating a dynamic, reliable and creative research and work environment for all doctoral students at Malmö University (MaU). By actively and continuously partaking in conversations on all administrative levels of MaU, the DSU's ambition is to create and maintain influence in the decision-making process of areas that touch upon the education, research environment and employment of doctoral students. To this end, the DSU strives to ensure that all levels of doctoral representation and influence can be easily identified and proactively engaged with.

Goals for 2021

Activity	2020	2021	How?
Doctoral Student Ombudsperson	In 2020 a couple of meetings took place with the student union from Linné University about a joint doctoral ombudsperson.	The DSU will continue the efforts of finding collaboration and make a plan for a common doctoral ombudsperson.	Reach out to the other doctoral unions in the south of Sweden (Halmstad, Linné, Kristianstad, Blekinge, lärosäten syd. Write a proposal on how such employment could be designed. Collaborate with MaU's doctoral support regarding this process.
Information and communication	The work with the website was started by updating information and links.	The DSU will strive to improve the information and communication to PhD students from Malmö University, and continue to	Prompt MaU to organize the central MaU PhD student web site pages better and make sure all important information is also given in English.



Social events	Two workshops with Åsa Burman on productivity were held. Digital doctoral fikas was tested.	The DSU will discuss activities that might be possible during corona restrictions.	Lobby for a Central place for information. Organize the DSU website further. Keep the Facebook page updated. Outdoor activities? Something online? Digital AW with PhD student talks during the Academic ceremony week. AW IRL in November?
International PhD Students	The DSU continued to work for improving the situation for international PhD students in terms of language issues and introduction.	In the work toward putting more effort in improving the work and study environment for international phd students, the DSU plans to introduce an international chapter of the board. Advocate for all information relevant to research education and doctoral student work environment to be available in English.	Get in contact with new doctoral students to identify the most problematic areas. Lobby housing issue. Spread information to PhD students and in University committees and boards about the new immigration act and follow up on related developments. Lobby for a specific coordinator for international research education questions and initiate collaboration with the new central international staff services to support PhD students.
Collaboration with PhD students and the bodies of PhD organizations at the Faculties (collegia etc)	The DSU will support and collaborate with the doctoral collegia at the faculties.	The DSU will continue to support and collaborate with the doctoral collegia, and collaborate with the PhD coordinators and collegium chairs at the faculties.	Organizing meetings with the PhD representatives at MaU. Keep in touch via our media channels, email, webpage, facebook. Encourage and support faculties to organize research seminars and social events for PhD students.



The Swedish National Union of Students (SFS) collaboration/representation	Preparations for joining the SFS.	DSU malmö was voted in in April 2021.	Learn more about the national and international collaboration between student unions by taking part in introductions, meetings and discussions with SFS. Represent doctoral students from MaU in SFS and SFS-DK contexts. Spread information about the new SFS-DK doctoral education study handbook.
Update the positioning documents	The DSU positioning documents were first made by the 2019 DSU board. In order to respond to developments that have occured over time it was decided to update the positioning documents.	Updating the DSU positioning documents.	Make a draft out of our prioritized goals. Organize forums for collaboration with members of the DSU and doctoral student representatives at MAU. Finalize new document before end of 2021.
Working with issues concerning the pandemic and prolongations.	In 2020 the DSU board took part in relevant meetings, discussions and a number of reports and surveys concerning the pandemic. Meetings hosted by the SFS-DK and ST as well as international discussions. These results were presented and discussed in the decision making bodys at the University. In november 2020 the DSU launched a survey on the pandemic here at malmö university.	During the spring in 2021 the DSU analysed the survey and finalized the work by publishing the report. This report together with other relevant reports and information by other sources (SFS-DK, ST, Sulf) was presented and discussed in the decision making bodies at the university. Continuous discussion and representation in the central and faculty boards and committees.	Finalizing the survey. Keep up to date with relevant developments on the issue both locally and nationally. Continue to monitor and guard PhD students rights in the process of prolongations in the central organs of MaU (mainly KFU). Sharing information and taking part in discussions on the matter with PhD students at the university.
Strengthening equality of the research – diversity and gender equality		Starting up and/or partaking in discussions about matters of equality and diversity at MAU, like litterature, seminars, expand the course offerings.	Request a central course in diversity in research (positioning document)



Organizational memory and	Structures for	Work on ways to stabilize	Make relevant information
recruitment strategies	organizational memory and recruitment are currently weak in the union and	the organisational memory.	more accessible within the organization board. e.g. by improving the structure of
	union board due to the naturally rapid turnover in	Improve the handover procedures between	the box folders.
	people and variations in commitment level due to the organization being run	representatives.	Make an effort to have a physical AW to talk about recruitments and meet
	by doctoral students.		doctoral students in person to de-mystify the assignments.