



Sektionen för Arkitektur och Industridesign
inom Teknologkåren vid Lunds Tekniska Högskola

POLICY FOR INTERNATIONALIZATION

Purpose

The purpose of this policy on internationalization is, within available capacity, to fulfill the goals set in the Student Union at LTH's (TLTH's) policy for internationalization. International students form a significant part of the guild's members. They should have the same opportunities as Swedish-speaking students directly admitted to LTH to access information and participate in events. Every year, a large portion of newly admitted students within the A-guild consists of international students. It is therefore of utmost importance that the guild's work is inclusive and relevant for international students.

Background

Historically, international students have mainly been represented by exchange students. These students can study for a maximum of two semesters, and the guild typically receives around 40 students in the autumn semester and approximately half that number in the spring semester. As a result, the focus on their involvement in the guild has been limited and tailored to their specific needs. However, the guild has seen a significant increase in international students since the introduction of two programs—Sustainable Urban Design (SUDes) in 2007 and the Master of Science in Architecture (MARK) in 2014—which were opened to international applicants. Today, these students constitute the majority of international students, making proper representation even more important. It is therefore necessary for the guild to make a strong effort to include all our members.

Goal

The goal is that all students, regardless of nationality, should feel represented in the guild's work. International students should find it natural and self-evident to be members and contribute to the guild's activities.

Scope

This policy applies to all activities within the A-guild and its committees.

Information

International students within the A-guild include:

Exchange students

- Exchange student (1 semester, autumn)
- Exchange student (1 semester, spring)
- Exchange student (2 semesters)

Students admitted to master's programs

- MARK (Master of Science in Architecture, 4 semesters)
- SUDes (Sustainable Urban Design, 4 semesters)
- MID (Master's Programme in Industrial Design, 4 semesters)
- DAEF (Digital Architecture and Emergent Futures, 4 semesters)

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The Guild

The A-guild's work should be open to all members. Regardless of the language a member speaks, they should have the opportunity to contribute to and influence the guild's work. Not speaking Swedish should not be an obstacle to becoming a volunteer, committee chair, or board member. Therefore:

- Formal documents, statutes, and regulations should be available in English.
- Committees should welcome international students to their events, both as participants and as functionaries. It is the responsibility of committee chairs to ensure compliance.
- All external communication, such as the website and posts through other channels, should be in English or have an English version available.

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Evenemang

Events are one of the guild's key methods for fostering community spirit and showing appreciation for members. When events are conducted in Swedish, international students are not welcomed and are excluded as members. Therefore:

- Event planning should take international students' needs and preferences into account. The event manager is responsible for ensuring this is followed.
- Industry-related events should be organized with companies interested in hiring international students. The business relations manager is responsible for ensuring this is followed.
- Events should be understandable for non-Swedish speakers when they are present. The event manager is responsible for ensuring this is followed.
- This means that at events, speeches/presentations/information sheets/menus should be in English, and performances should, if possible, be in English, easy-to-understand Swedish, or more of a theatrical presentation.

Introduction Weeks (Nollning)

The A-guild's introduction period (nollning) should be aimed at all newly admitted members, including international students. Not speaking Swedish should not be an obstacle to participating in the introduction. The introduction period provides great opportunities for integration between international and Swedish students, which benefits both groups. Therefore:

- The Phøs (student coordinators for the introduction) should include an international representative who collaborates with the International Office and the "Världsmästare" (responsible for international students). Good communication should be maintained between these three.
- Before the introduction period, the "Världsmästare" should assist the international representative of the Phøs in their work and planning.
- All new guild members, including international students, should have the opportunity to participate in the introduction period. The international representative of the Phøs is responsible for ensuring this is followed.
- The planning of the introduction period should take international students' needs and preferences into account. The international representative of the Phøs is responsible for ensuring this is followed.
- These needs and preferences can be identified through, for example, surveys, workshops, etc., with past and incoming students.
- The introduction team should actively work to integrate international and Swedish students during the introduction period. The international representative of the Phøs is responsible for ensuring this is followed.

Educational Advocacy

The A-guild advocates for the education of all students within the guild, and all students' perspectives should be considered. Furthermore, all students must have the opportunity to work toward improving education, and no one should be hindered by language barriers. Therefore:

- International students' perspectives should be considered in educational advocacy. The chairs of SRA and SRID are responsible for ensuring this is followed.
- Educational advocacy for master's programs should be of the same quality as that for other programs. The chairs of SRA and SRID are responsible for ensuring this is followed.