



UMEÅ UNIVERSITY

Mission Statement for Internationalisation at Faculty of Medicine

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This document has been translated from Swedish to English. In case of divergence of meaning between the versions, the Swedish wording shall prevail.



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Mission Statement for Internationalisation at Faculty of Medicine

Foreword

The Faculty of Medicine strives towards excellence in the core missions of Education, Research and Outreach since its inception over 50 years ago. A strong profile within internationalisation has enabled us achieving prominence within education and research consistently through the decades. The Faculty is now a flagship entity in Sweden within health and medical sciences, that is inclusive; that is a hub to a diverse group of talent from Sweden and across the globe; and that is characterized by indispensable global collaborations within many of its endeavours.

Synchronising Agenda 2030 with Internationalisation

The Swedish Higher Education Act §5 (SFS 1992:1433) states that all higher education institutes in Sweden are obligated to promote internationalisation and sustainable development (social, economic, and environmental). The Faculty's efforts within internationalisation are integral to our work with Agenda 2030 and its Sustainable Development Goals¹ (SDG's). We continue to work for advancement of knowledge via teaching, research, and its dissemination, to meet societal needs, and thereby contribute towards a sustainable future.

Continuation of previous undertakings

This document outlines the Faculty's ongoing commitments that are a continuation of the Strategy for Internationalisation (FS 1.1-901-20). The long-term goals are outlined in the Faculty's Operational Plan 2020-2022², which is inspired by Umeå University's Vision statement (FS 1.1-96-19)³. The Vision forecasts a highly productive, innovative and a globally renowned university spearheading change for the betterment of the region, Sweden, and the world. The Faculty's approach with Comprehensive Internationalisation⁴ of all our core missions will facilitate the realization of this vision.

Focused action within Research

The 21st century challenges are global and require global collaborations to be resolved. The Faculty is global in many aspects, with its extensive college of talent representing many countries, and maintains many long-term and deep collaborations with actors across the globe. The Faculty is well-placed to continue to build further to meet these challenges.

The Faculty's stated long-term goal is research excellence nationally as well as internationally. Towards this goal the Faculty has identified the following focus activities:

- Support the Faculty staff, the doctoral and postdoctoral candidates with financial support to increase international mobility.
- Increase the attractiveness of the Faculty, nationally and internationally, with access to research infrastructures.

¹ The 17 goals adopted by the UN: <https://sdgs.un.org/goals>

² Faculty of Medicine's Operational Plan 2020-22 (in Swedish): <https://www.aurora.umu.se/vp>

³ Umeå University's Vision (adopted April 2019): <https://www.umu.se/vision>

⁴ Defined by John Hudzik (*Comprehensive Internationalization*, 2011), subsequently revised by Hans de Wit, et al. Directorate-General for internal policies, EU (*Internationalisation of higher education*, 2015)



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Towards the long-term goal of increasing excellence in researchers' and staff competence, the Faculty aims to:

- Identify and implement efforts to increase all doctoral students' and postdoctoral fellows understanding of the global and international perspectives.
- Support the Faculty staff with repatriation after a postdoctoral mobility.
- Enable increased numbers of sabbaticals with funding support.

Focused action within Education

The majority of the 3500 students of the Faculty will be part of the future corps of the healthcare systems of Sweden and Europe, and some of them even globally. It is unavoidable that they will be confronting a global diaspora of patients and wide panorama of ailments, regardless of their placement. It is therefore imperative that the students are prepared for this.

The Faculty's long-term goal is that the educational programmes are highly competitive on the national and international level. Towards fulfilling this goal, the Faculty will:

- Intensify efforts to increase the competitiveness of the teaching staff, including raising competence for teaching in English.
- Provide funding support for development of courses to be taught in English.
- Provide funding support for increased mobility agreements for staff and students.

To achieve the long-term goal of integrating equal-opportunity, international, intercultural and sustainability perspectives within the syllabi, the Faculty will:

- Explore and increase faculty-wide agreements for mobility for staff and students.
- Increase the number of course-offerings in English.
- Highlight program syllabi with global and intercultural perspectives.
- Actively emphasize the sustainability aspects of all the syllabi, during the studies and the potential impact post-studies.

Implementation and Follow-up

This document is anchored in the current Operational Plan and will be revised as and when needed. All activities connected to the long-term goals are essentially funded by the Faculty. Implementation of the various goals are delegated to the Faculty's relevant boards and committees. The Faculty also undertakes the responsibility to review for the prerequisites needed for the implementation of activities.