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Faculty Board

Strategic plan for research and research studies at the Faculty of Fine and Performing Arts, Lund University, 2019-2022

This strategic plan is a *policy document* that is to facilitate prioritisation and resource allocation within the faculty's research and research studies. *Planning and implementation* of research and research studies takes place at the departments and, where applicable, in cooperation with the faculty's Inter Arts Centre (IAC). The aim of the plan is to reinforce and develop the faculty's research and research studies by creating clarity and a shared direction.

Preface

The faculty's previous strategic plan for research and research studies covered 2015-2018. Since then, Lund University has produced several strategic documents: a long-term plan for the whole University (2017-2026), a new research strategy (2017-2021) and a strategy for cultural collaboration (2018-2026). These documents highlight the University's role in a troubled and polarised world, together with the broad University's strengths and opportunities. Collaboration within and outside the University, interdisciplinary competence and society's sustainability in a broad sense are emphasised, as well as the formation of artistic knowledge and the role of artistic and culture-oriented research.

The faculty's work to achieve a common campus has also gained momentum and the regulations and direction of IAC have been adjusted for the period 2018-2020. In 2016, an investigation resulted in a proposal for IAC's future activities. All of this justifies a renewed and deepened strategy for the faculty's research and research studies.

The Faculty Committee was tasked by the dean to produce an outline of the plan. Following this, the faculty management and department managements worked on it prior to approval by the Faculty Board on 22 May 2019. Faculty-wide follow up is to take place annually, starting in 2020 in accordance with the annual cycle. The Faculty Committee is responsible for the management of the follow-up to the Faculty Board.

The plan is primarily intended for the faculty's staff and students, but also for other interested parties within and outside the University. The plan covers the 2019-2022 period.

Background and context

The faculty's research and research studies are carried out at the Academy of Music, the Art Academy and the Theatre Academy as well as in collaboration with the IAC. The faculty has four research subjects: fine art, theatre, music and music education.

One aim is for each research subject to be led by a professor with responsibility for research studies. In 2019, the faculty has approximately SEK 35 million in direct government funding (which amounts to 19 per cent of the total allocation) of which approximately SEK five million is allocated to IAC's activities. There is currently financial scope for four doctoral students per subject.

In 2009, the degree of Doctor of Fine, Applied and Performing Arts was included in the Higher Education Ordinance. Lund University was the first university in Sweden to award artistic doctorates (2009) and, as early as in 2000, the Faculty of Fine and Performing Arts established research studies for artistic research. The first doctoral students defended their theses in fine arts in 2006 (at the Joint Faculties of Humanities and Theology). In 1996, research in music education with a scientific foundation was established at the faculty, which has been an internationally leading environment within its field since then.

The Faculty of Fine and Performing Arts was the organisation in charge of the national graduate school in fine and performing arts 2011-2015 with the aim of "reinforcing the emerging artistic research and to place Swedish artistic research on the international front line". Following just under ten years of artistic research studies, certain national development tendencies can be discerned:

- The allocation of research funds/direct government funding to artistic study programmes within Sweden has been uneven and has mainly benefited the artistic higher education institutions in Stockholm.
- It remains difficult to obtain external research funds within the artistic and music education research fields.
- The general view of research infrastructure and its funding opportunities continues to be narrow and from a national perspective does not comprise artistic infrastructure.
- It is unclear how research ethics and copyright should be handled in the field of artistic research and it needs to be investigated.
- There are currently approximately one hundred holders of artistic doctorates around Sweden and the understanding and acceptance of research within the arts is slowly gaining ground and is requested in more contexts.

In order to exploit the full potential of a future joint campus and the fact that the faculty is part of a broad and successful university, the research and research studies need to be reinforced, profiled and made visible nationally and internationally. In doing this, there is also an increase in opportunities to enrich first- and second-cycle studies and, in the long term, the rest of the University and the cultural sector.

Strategic plan

By 2022, research and research studies at the Faculty of Fine and Performing Arts shall

- have a distinctive focus and visibility nationally and internationally,
- clearly feed back into first- and second-cycle studies, and
- have clearly improved financially.

In addition, the faculty's research is also partly to gain intradisciplinary specialisation, and partly to contribute to interdisciplinarity within the faculty and University.

In order to achieve this, the following strategies are to be carried out:

1. The Faculty of Fine and Performing Arts is to further develop its strategic ability in a national context by

- creating an overview of and coordinating the faculty's research and research studies.
- clarifying the Faculty Committee's role to reinforce the faculty's opportunities to contribute to favourable research development.
- taking national leadership of a framework for research ethics within the artistic research field.
- producing a well thought-out funding strategy that reinforces and develops the research, as well as monitoring the allocation of new direct government funding based on strategic goals.

2. The Faculty of Fine and Performing Arts is to create conditions for boundary-crossing research and collaboration by¹

- developing the Inter Arts Centre's possibilities to coordinate knowledge of the research at Lund University that is relevant to the faculty and that may lead to new research collaborations across disciplinary and faculty borders.
- participating in the university-wide Agenda 2030 graduate school and LU Futura as well as other research projects relevant to the faculty focusing on societal challenges/sustainable development.
- continuing to collaborate with the surrounding art and cultural activities in research and doctoral projects.

3. Research at the Faculty of Fine and Performing Arts is to be supported by suitable and accessible research infrastructure by²

- creating improved conditions for collective research infrastructure through colocation.
- developing the resources at the Inter Arts Centre and the departments so they can promote research infrastructure and successful research environments.
- developing the faculty library so it can further support the development of a successful research environment.

4. The visibility of research is to be further increased at the Faculty of Fine and Performing Arts by

- clarifying what research is being conducted and creating a strategy for research communication including division of responsibilities between the faculty and departments.

¹ Interdisciplinary collaborations are to continue to be developed within second-cycle research and education, for example, through the Inter Arts Centre. (From the faculty's strategic plan for 2018-2022).

² The faculty is to work on changing the definition of infrastructure support at the national level to clearly include artistic and culture-oriented infrastructure. (From the faculty's strategic plan for 2018-2022).

- making the faculty's research environments and research infrastructures accessible, nationally and internationally.
- continuing to develop the forms of artistic presentation of research as well as contributing to the development of alternative forms of presentation of research within the University.

5. Research and education within the Faculty of Fine and Performing Arts are to be mutually enriching by³

- creating a joint understanding of what the intertwining of research and education involves and how it can be manifested in our organisation.
- strengthening the links between first- and second-cycle education and research studies/research by ensuring that teaching positions are designed so that members of teaching staff can both teach and conduct research.

³ Education, development work as well as artistic and music education research are to be intertwined in the learning environments. Research/development work by members of teaching staff is to be more clearly linked back to the education and is to be made publically visible. (From the faculty's strategic plan for 2018-2022).