

Action Plan for the Science Academic Area 2023–2024

1. Measures to ensure that the faculty conducts internationally leading research and drives the emergence of new knowledge

- Strengthen and develop the research environment in the academic area by further developing quality dialogues for research, focus evaluations and strategic teacher recruitment.
- Primarily recruit teachers as associate senior lecturers.
- Evaluate the academic area's current investment in core facilities.
- Strengthen and develop the research environment in the academic area by making balanced strategic investments in research infrastructure, core facilities and technical platforms.
- Consider the alternative of using Wallenberg Academy Fellows (WAF) nominations when the opportunity presents itself to conduct long-term, strategic teacher recruitment via this route.
- Stimulate the recruitment of doctoral students and take advantage of the opportunities offered by external investments, such as the Wallenberg Initiative Material Science for Sustainability (WISE), Data-Driven Life Science (DDL) Fellows and the Wallenberg Initiative on Networks and Quantum Information (WINQ).
- Strengthen the faculty's efforts to seek larger research grants, especially Wallenberg Scholars and European Research Council (ERC) grants.
- Encourage departments and equivalent organisational units to strengthen their processes in support of small and medium-sized research grant applications.

Områdesnämnden för naturvetenskap

- Strengthen Stockholm University's engagement in operations at Campus Solna and SciLifeLab.
- Stimulate the use of SciLifeLab's infrastructure by Stockholm University researchers.
- Investigate how relevant research groups in the academic area might be invited to affiliate to the Wallenberg AI, Autonomous Systems and Software Program (WASP).
- Investigate the possibility of establishing a centre of excellence for computational science, AI and machine learning at Stockholm University.
- Secure funding for the Bergius Botanic Garden, if possible in some way other than the Faculty of Science's own direct government funding for research and third-cycle studies.
- Strengthen dialogue between the academic area and the Swedish Research Council's Natural and Engineering Sciences subject area, and continue to develop collaboration with the Council for Research Infrastructure within the framework of the University Reference Group for Research Infrastructure (URFI).
- Communicate Stockholm University's status as a leading research university in order to strengthen our reputation and recruitment of students and staff.
- Provide input to the Commission of Inquiry into Research Funding and the Research Bill.

2. Measures to ensure that the faculty offers a broad range of high-quality, research-based courses and programmes for the development of the individual and society

- Investigate how the university's education profile in the science academic area can be strengthened and developed, further enhancing the quality of education and attracting more students.

- Identify the conditions for developing and establishing a joint course module for basic skills in mathematics, programming, statistics and data analysis in the faculty's first-cycle programmes.
- Analyse how well the faculty's courses and programmes respond to the needs of society and the labour market.
- Develop educational collaborations within the frameworks of Stockholm Trio and CIVIS.
- Secure and develop the faculty's engagement in and influence over teacher training in general and the specialist training of science and mathematics teachers in particular.
- Develop an education strategy within the frameworks of student finance for transition and retraining and lifelong learning.
- Act to secure an increase in per-capita funding from central government for science and mathematics.
- Strengthen the internationalisation of our courses and programmes through the recruitment of international students.
- Complete the recruitment of a faculty communications officer and strengthen collaboration between the Information Committee and the First- and Second-Cycle Education Committee to increase student recruitment.

3. Measures to ensure a fit-for-purpose organisation with a strong academic environment that conducts strategic recruitment and skills provision

- Recruit an observer to our academic appointments boards to, among other things, oversee gender equality in recruitment.
- Strengthen work to place a high premium on teaching expertise, including by reviewing the possibility of appointing an expert in pedagogy to academic appointment boards.
- Advocate for the reform of employment categories to introduce the job titles staff scientist and senior staff scientist.

- Review the principles for allocating direct government funding for research and third-cycle studies to departments/equivalent.
- Support the planned merger of the Department of Organic Chemistry and Department of Materials and Environmental Chemistry.
- Support the work of the Department of Zoology to balance the books by offering external advice at least until the end of 2023 and account reconciliation with the department three times a year.
- Together with University Administration, strengthen mutual trust between the faculty and University Administration to strengthen the administrative support provided to the science academic area.
- Advocate for the creation of a university-wide gender equality training course, primarily for teaching staff.
- Work to ensure that all of the faculty's premises are fit for purpose, maintain a good standard and are cost-effective, including by planning and optimising the use of premises at university-wide level.

4. Measures to ensure that the university is force for democracy and sustainable development in society

- Strengthen the role of sustainable development in the faculty's courses and programmes.
- Work towards the goals of Stockholm University's Climate Roadmap, with particular emphasis on the importance of research, education and third-stream activities in the fields of climate, the oceans, the environment and sustainability.
- Encourage departments and equivalent organisational units to report on the development of their climate impact over time, and how this can be reduced, during regular meetings with faculty management.
- Stimulate SU researchers to conduct additional research in the field of environment and health at SciLifeLab.



- Conduct a pilot study of possible organisational forms for an investment in basic radiation science, focusing on health and medical applications, in collaboration with Region Stockholm and possibly other external stakeholders.
- Encourage the faculty's teachers and researchers to disseminate scientific knowledge and participate in the public discourse and democratic processes.