**HÖGSKOLAN
I SKÖVDE**

Strategic Plan for the University of Skövde 2023 – 2026

The strategic plan ("Utvecklingsplanen") was ratified by the board on April 13 2023 and is in effect as of the same date.

Dnr HS 2023/16

Introduction

The University of Skövde's (the University's) strategic plan is based on the main mission that the University has been charged with: education, research, and collaboration. The strategic plan designates those areas that are deemed to be the most crucial in order to strengthen and develop the University in the coming years.

The strategic plan is grounded in a vision. This vision describes what the University aims to be. University-wide goals and strategies have been formulated based on this vision. The goals highlight those areas that are to be emphasized within the framework of the University's main mission. The strategies outline the methods and procedures that are to be prioritized to reach the goals. Specifications of steps to be taken in reaching the goals are to be stipulated in the operational plans which are formulated on a yearly basis by the departments, University support services, the Vice-Chancellor's advisory groups, and the faculty board.

The University's work towards the vision is characterized by closeness, care and consideration, curiosity, and quality awareness. This work is guided by the core values and principles of the Swedish state authorities – democracy, legality, objectivity, free formation of opinion, respect for the equal value of all human beings, as well as efficiency and service – which are derived from the constitution.

Vision

The University of Skövde –the obvious source of knowledge for a digitalized and sustainable future.

Overarching goals

The University of Skövde integrates education, research, and collaboration

The University is striving towards creating complete, integrated academic environments within strong, viable educational and research environments. This means that programs and courses are available at the undergraduate, graduate, and postgraduate levels. The educational activities are integrated with the areas in which the University's research is conducted. At the University as a whole, both sustainability and digitalization perspectives are pervasive. In regard to both education and research, there is co-operation and collaboration with trade and industry, with the public sector and with other parts of the surrounding community.

Complete, integrated academic environments provide a stable foundation for the University's continued development.

The University of Skövde attracts and helps students, employees, and collaborative partnerships to develop.

Education and research are two vital civic areas that all students, employees, and collaborative partnerships contribute to in one way or another. To be attached to the University of Skövde involves operating on local, regional, national, and international levels. People become engaged in our activities on a long-term basis due to the opportunities for development which the University offers.

For trade and industry, the public sector, and other parts of the surrounding community, the University is a highly sought collaborative partner, both as regards education and life-long learning as well as in terms of research endeavors.

Together, students, employees, and collaborative partners create an academic environment which they want to be a part of.

The University of Skövde is leading sustainable societal development within its areas of competence.

Current societal challenges are complex and global. In order to create long-term sustainable societal development based on the three perspectives ecological, social, and economic sustainability, commitment is needed from many different societal stakeholders. The University contributes to digital transformation of society and to sustainable societal development through high quality education and research within its selected areas.

The University's students will become the next generation of societal developers, with knowledge, skills, and capabilities that enable them to take on the challenges of society. Research generates new knowledge and new insights which propel us as well as our partners and the surrounding community in a direction that is sustainable.

The University of Skövde takes on the responsibility of creating a sustainable present and future.

Strategies

Leadership and employee development

The University of Skövde works deliberatively on a long-term basis to ensure that all employees can strengthen their competence and capabilities based on both rights and obligations. Both the individual employees and the University as a whole are strengthened as the management and employees develop together, based on the needs of the University's activities. The developmental work entails mutual responsibility to ensure that experience is valued, knowledge is used, and that each individual can contribute to the University as a whole.

A vibrant campus

Campus is the hub of the University of Skövde, and it contributes to a sustainable work and study environment, which is complemented by digital meeting spaces.

Profiling

At the University of Skövde, education and research are carried out within selected areas. Within these areas, the ambitions are high in order to be the obvious source of knowledge for a digitalized and sustainable future. Through profiling, the University gathers strength and strategically chooses what should be developed in the long term. While the University profiles itself in the selected areas, other areas are deselected.

Collaboration and co-operation

At the University of Skövde collaboration and co-operation involve taking on challenges and questions together with other parties. Academic cooperation and collaboration with external parties result in mutual benefits, which for the University means strengthened education and research.

A Cross-disciplinary approach

The University of Skövde has a cross-disciplinary approach that is based on the profound subject knowledge that our employees have. By working together across the disciplines, we gain a broader perspective and the power of our collective competence is strengthened. By means of this approach, and by taking responsibility for the development of a digitalized and sustainable future, opportunities for new solutions to complex problems are created.