

# **Annual report**

## **2020/2021**





# Annual Report 20/21

1<sup>st</sup> of July 2020- 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2021

**Dear members,**

We would say that covid-19 pretty much sums it up.

During the summer of 2020, we realized that covid-19 was going to impact the students and their life, as well as everyone else, in a more profound way than we could imagine.

At the start of the operational year, new restrictions were constantly implemented and before the operational year started in July, we had cancelled the Kick Off Festival and during the rest of the summer, the plans for kick-off were changed again and again and again. The operational year of 20/21 has in general been riddled with uncertainty and changing plans and trying to adapt our operations has been the theme.

Focus has been on upholding the operations we have as good as possible, and the constant adapting has pulled resources that otherwise would have been spent on developing the organisation further. Sometimes it is easy to forget how much it takes to “just” uphold an organisation and how much value the “usual” operations bring to campus.

At the end of the operational year of 20/21, we know that covid-19 is something we will have to learn to live with but that the future looks brighter and that one dares to hope for a more normal year.

*The JSU Board*

June 2021



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## Core Operations: Student Influence

### Education

Education is the main Student Question for the Student Union; it is the Vice President that has the responsibility for this area, and they essentially work full-time within this area. During the spring of the operational year, one of the Generals (one of the presidents of the student associations that works part-time for the union) has worked within this area as well.

To read more about recurring activities for the Vice President see the plan of operations 21/22 and the Vice Presidents' role description.

The focus within the education area has been to continue to participate in the development of JU:s cyclical program assessment system and to continue developing the Studentpool which ensures that students are represented in these assessments.

During the spring a new initiative was taken by a General (the HI TECH President) to map the whole course development system at all of JU and a report, "Project: Course Development", became the result where 8 areas of improvements were identified and later, during the autumn of 2021, presented to JU. The Union has as far as the organisational memory stretched never done this kind of report or initiative before and it has been an excellent way to get an overview of the issues and an easy way to communicate what we and students think can be improved, which increases the chance those changes will be made.

### Work Environment

It has been one General who has been mainly responsible for this area during this operational year and this person has partly been on sick leave during the year due to personal reasons which has limited the work that has been possible to carry out.

Within the work environment, none of the goals set has been achieved and much time has been spent on developing the committee and upholding the representation we hold in councils and committees at JU.

### Equal Opportunities

It has been one general who has been mainly responsible for this during the operation year.

The focus of this area has been to try and lobby for that JU shall develop the system to which you as a student are supposed to report if you have been discriminated. This work has been slow as there is only one forum for these questions and it has no decision power or clear mission from JU's side, which means that it is unclear who to turn to lobby for a change. The focus has also been on getting the committee up and running.

### Accommodation

Accommodation is an area where the internal structure is unclear and has varied. This area has this year not been prioritized due to the limited resources of the union, in terms



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of time from remunerated and the Board has had to be spent on organisational matters and other questions following covid-19.

### **Integration**

IAC and the Integrations coordinator have together worked on providing digital solutions to the many events that otherwise are produced within the integration area, for example, the Culture Days were made completely digital. The focus has also been to try and offer outdoor events as there have been fewer restrictions and less risk of spreading covid-19 at these kinds of events. Outdoor Hikes have been successful, as well as other outdoor events which have been appreciated by the students.

### **National Representation and Collaboration**

JSU continues to strive to influence student questions on a national level and has therefore taken part in all the members meeting as well as the annual meeting of The Swedish National Union of Students/Sveriges Förenade Studentkårer (SFS). All the meetings have been held digitally and it has been more difficult to get to know the other unions which normally is an important part of the national representation. However, we have maintained our contacts with the group so-called SIV (Studentkårer i Väst / Student Unions in the West) which Jönköping Student Union was allowed to join by the beginning of this operational year.



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## Core Operations: Study Social

### Kick-Off and other events from the Union

The Kick Off Festival 2020 was to our disappointment cancelled, especially since it would have been the first time we arranged completely on our own. However, much of the planning can be used for the next time we host it which we hope will be in the autumn of 2021.

The Autumn Kick Off was re-planned a number of times but we are very grateful that a covid-adapted kick-off was possible to carry out. Here we would like to thank the fadders and especially the sexmasteries and the Project leader who worked many, many hours to bring the best possible experience to the new students despite very uncertain conditions.

During the autumn, the likeliness of being able to arrange a physical spring kick-off seemed remote and we decided together with the sexmasteries and student association to start planning for a digital kick-off. It was a lot more work to create this kind of kick-off compared to a normal one and for being the first time such a kick-off was arranged we were pleased with the results and at large it was appreciated by the students.

We were unable to host a Colour Run or a Valborg celebration due to covid-19 but the Project Leader took the initiative to host quiz nights which was a great success.

During the spring we started also to plan for the next autumn kick-off and much time has been spent on building different scenarios as the uncertainty remains high even if it looks like some restrictions are going to be lifted during the summer.

### Trips

Trips have been very restricted by covid-19 and most of them has be cancelled or postponed.

### Associations

In terms of the sub organisations, the focus has been on helping them to stay alive and helping them to continue their operations. It has especially affected them negative with the restriction of the number of people in venues.



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## Core Operations: Support Functions

### Administration

Administration includes the Administrative Chief and the operations in Student Service.

Student service has been heavily affected that there have been fewer students on campus throughout the year due to digital education.

The Administrative Chief time has been focusing on applying for government grants as many of the employees of the union has been on short-time allowance (korttidspermitteringar).

### Communication

Communication efforts have also been heavily affected by covid-19. Many events that usually take place have been cancelled and there has been an increased need of helping JU communicate how the education was going to be structured.

It was not possible to host the Festive Friday event. As we could not participate in barely any events it restricted the union from reaching out with information about the annual meeting and the recruitments, but JSU Studio developed a new graphical profile to make the digital communication clearer and more modern.

### Organisation

In terms of the internal organisation, the board has focused on the work environment and decision-making structures. An external HR consultant was hired to assist the Presidium in getting an objective analysis of most of the work environment and internal HR processes which during the spring of 2021 resulted in a plan to work upon during 21/22.

In the spring of 2021, the president developed a new budget structure to try and increase transparency both internally and externally and make it easier to understand economic follow-ups.



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## Service Operations

Akademien has been closed the whole operational year, with an exception for the quiz nights in May 2021 and some recruitment mingles. The Akademien Manager has been on as high a short time allowance as it has been possible which on average meant that he has been working 1-2 days per week during the whole operational year.

Rio has been open with partly adjusted opening hours but the sales have been heavily affected following that so many students have not been on campus and that no evening activities essentially have been allowed.