

# Last of the semester- Impact of the month

May - 2022



**In order to strengthen the insight for our students in Consensus influence, Impact of the Month is sent out, a newsletter focusing on our latest work with university, municipal and national related questions.**

Do you have something that you would like us to work on more or an issue that you think Consensus should pursue? Get in touch, you will find our contact information on the right!

The textbook example of member influence: The clinical practice issue is now at the national level!

Many of you students have raised frustration and injustice with the costs associated with clinical practice. You have raised it to your sections and course representatives who then raised it with us in Consensus. During the year we, therefore, felt it was time. Time to gather strength. Time to tighten our muscles as a student union properly. That's why we have pushed this issue hard during the spring both towards the faculty, the



*Impact of the month is Consensus new way to give you students more transparency to the work and advocacy towards the university. You will also find the **Impact of the month** here: <https://www.consensus.liu.se/aktuellt/manadens-paverkan>*

*Don't forget to get member in Consensus here: [medlem.consensus.liu.se](https://www.consensus.liu.se/medlem)*

## Contact us:

PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

*Linus Ohlsson*  
[ko@consensus.liu.se](mailto:ko@consensus.liu.se)  
070-710 07 62

VICE PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

*Jannice Bygdén*  
[vko@consensus.liu.se](mailto:vko@consensus.liu.se)  
070-944 57 78

HEAD OF EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS

*Tilda Jalakas*

university, politicians, and most recently towards the Swedish National Union of Students (SFS). Between the 6th and 8th of May, the SFS had its annual meeting in Malmö where, among other things, the business plan for the coming year was to be decided. The visiting delegation from Consensus had a motion on its own area, which was to be added to the business plan for the financial year 22/23, namely *Costs for clinical practice*. For several days Consensus representatives preached on the importance, significance, and problem ethics of the issue and finally managed to win over a majority of Sweden's student unions to support our proposal and the target area is now a priority issue in SFS's business plan 22/23. SFS is represented in several national bodies such as SUHF and CSN's board, but also has direct contact with both ministers and parliamentary politicians. The issue of clinical practice costs that you students raised to us in Consensus has thus in less than a year gone from being a local and program-specific issue to ending up at the highest national level. We call this membership influence.

## National opinion development on international student influence

During SFS annual meeting, as described above, Consensus also motioned, together with The Social Sciences Student Union at Lund University, on the development of opinion within SFS's opinion program on the international student influence. This is an issue we have pursued very actively at the local level, but at the same time believe that it is of the utmost importance that SFS, in parallel with this, has concrete and reality-based opinions on the issue for its work at the national level. Many of the obstacles that exist today to increasing influence for English-speaking students and

[uu@consensus.liu.se](mailto:uu@consensus.liu.se)

073-940 55 20

HEAD OF STUDENT WELFARE AND SUPPORT  
FOCUS: RECEPTION

*Isabelle Arnberg*

[sam@consensus.liu.se](mailto:sam@consensus.liu.se)

073-940 55 21

HEAD OF STUDENT WELFARE AND SUPPORT  
FOCUS: WORKING ENVIRONMENT

*Jolanda Saxfors*

[sac@consensus.liu.se](mailto:sac@consensus.liu.se)

073-981 50 25

HEAD OF MEMBER- AND STUDENT  
REPRESENTATIVES

*Rima Patel*

## New student strategy with Linköpings municipality

The student unions collaborate a lot with Linköpings municipality regarding current issues for you students'. Everything from Valborg, to housing issues and security issues. This type of collaboration is regulated in a document called *Linköpings municipality's student strategy*, which, among other things, contains the vision that Linköping should be Sweden's best student city. However, this strategy has been around for a while now and the unions and the municipality, therefore, saw a need for a revision and update. The most important aspect for us in Consensus was not to change the content but rather how the municipality works with the strategy. It is easy to set fine and ambitious goals but the way there is usually not as obvious. From now on, the municipality and the unions will therefore each year create an action and activity plan for how we should work together towards the goals in the strategy. We believe that this can be a very important step in strengthening an active and productive collaboration between us and

staff are also national language requirements at universities, which makes SFS's work very important. This motion was also approved during the annual meeting and the Consensus, therefore, evaluates the annual meeting as a success. It is very fun that we as a Medical Student Union succeed in making our voice heard in these contexts and that our political footprint grows every year.

the municipality. This is to go in the right direction to become Sweden's absolute best student city.

## Audit of costs for Clinical Practice

As a complement to the concentration of power that was made during SFS, we in Consensus have also carried out a thorough audit of costs for clinical practice among our students at the Medical faculty. To collect your opinions, a questionnaire was sent out to students at five of our programs during April, where they had the chance to express their opinions about clinical practice costs. The survey's response resulted in a report that was presented in the spring to all program managers, and representatives from our regions and which will be presented to the principal at the Student Management Council in June. Even here, we at Consensus work hard to ensure that the issue is pursued nationally also by the university, both through the principal and through the national care competence council. The full report can be read on our website or via the link [https://www.consensus.liu.se/images/Granskning\\_av\\_kostnader\\_f%C3%B6r\\_VFU.pdf](https://www.consensus.liu.se/images/Granskning_av_kostnader_f%C3%B6r_VFU.pdf).

## Examinations in the Medical program

The working group for examinations under the Medical Program 2.0 is now beginning to approach the end of its assignment. In the group, many questions about the design and assessment of examinations have been up

for discussion and after pressure from both students and the pedagogical research, the final report will contain proposals for clearer assessment criteria and a new structure to make the written examinations more equal over time. It is our hope that the written examinations in the future will correspond better with what students are actually expected to be able to do, instead of specific details that are barely mentioned in the teaching. After the final report, it is the steering group that decides which action proposals are to be pilot tested in the future.

## Followup of the work with the Nursing program

In December, students in the nursing program were invited to a discussion forum to raise their suggestions for improvement in the program. This is because for several years there have been signals from students that semester 3 and its associated semester examination have been problematic. Consensus has, therefore, together with the nursing section made a joint effort to change the program. Based on the discussion forum, a list of identified problem areas and proposals for action was created. We invited both representatives from the faculty management and the program management to a meeting where the students' options were in focus. After 3 months with the opportunity for improvement, the program has now presented its action plan, which has been developed in dialogue with course coordinators and examiners. Unfortunately, no concrete changes have been made during the spring to improve the students' situation, however, a closer collaboration has been planned for the autumn term. The program is now reviewing the content of both semesters 2 and 3 to reduce the gap between them. Students will receive a clearer introduction to the service web and the program will also increase transparency

for students in the work with the written examinations.

Despite the spring's solid work to improve the situation, there is still a lot to do and we are therefore handing over the baton to future boards with a call to continue the work. If you want to know more specifically what the program plans to do in the autumn, please feel free to contact [uu@consensus.liu.se](mailto:uu@consensus.liu.se).