

# Impact of the month

March - 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!

## Russia's invasion of Ukraine

Unfortunately, a lot has happened in the world since the last *Impact of the Month*. Linköping University took an early and strong stance against Russia's invasion of Ukraine, something that we in the Consensus viewed very positively. In the first days after the invasion, a lot happened at the university and a special working group was appointed to monitor the situation, which is in constant dialogue with student unions. Consensus also participated, together with crisis management and other employees, in a workshop on continuity management where Consensus, among other things, contributed with opinions on the university's communication, student health priorities and the university's continued international activities. Several students, student associations and groups have also contacted us regarding help with pursuing questions, spreading information and getting in touch with the right people at the university. We



*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://medlem.consensus.liu.se)*

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view this commitment from the student group very positively and are now trying to raise your thoughts and wishes in the right forums as best we can. Do you have ideas or thoughts on how we can support Ukraine? Contact [ko@consensus.liu.se](mailto:ko@consensus.liu.se).

## No one should have to pay for VFU

Hidden travel- and accommodation costs in connection with work-based education (VFU) is something that has been on the table for Consensus, and many other student unions, for many years and we felt that it was time to pursue this issue properly. However, many of our programs have limited financial resources, which means that increased costs for the programs can empty out and, in the worst case, lower the quality of our education. We have therefore chosen to pursue this issue nationally. During March, Consensus therefore proposed to the SFS's that the government should appoint an inquiry to review the possibilities for financial support for VFU students. One solution that we believe the government should review is a CSN-administered grant for students who do VFU in a city other than their place of study. If this is not possible for various reasons, we believe that the government should compensate the programs with extra funds that can cover these costs for students. No student should have to pay for their education. A decision on SFS's business plan will be made on 8th of May.

## One website with information for student

As most of you might know, the current information flow to students is split on several different websites. Except for Lisam students can find information at the general page [student.liu.se](http://student.liu.se), medfak specific information at [old.liu.se/medfak](http://old.liu.se/medfak) and other information at the old page insidan. The unstructured distribution of information has led to confusion among a lot of students and we in the student union have for a long time raised the need to merge all the into one joint platform. Consensus started, when the decision was made on a joint platform and put together for all employees, the intranet for

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## Influence for international students

As we informed in the previous Impact of the Month, we pushed a question of increasing influence for international students during the autumn. The Vice Chancellor and the university's director of internationalization have now approved one of our demands that the university should create an overall action plan for the coming years on how we should address this issue. During March, Consensus held a first workshop on creating this action plan with participating international students from all faculties and key people from LiU's international departments. Now, a first draft of the action plan will be completed before Easter in order to hopefully enable a decision before the summer. We believe that this action plan is a very important step towards a more equal and throughout student influence at the university. Do you have ideas or want to participate in the project group? Email [ko@consensus.liu.se](mailto:ko@consensus.liu.se).

## Better study related support to students

Our students, unlike other students at Linköpings university, are continuously facing the challenge of passing their exams in order to continue to the next semester. Many students express that there is one semester

employees called LiUnet, to argue together with the other student unions for a similar project for students.

The student unions received, along with the project group, the green light from the vice chancellor. The funding for a new sharepoint-platform with all necessary information for students have been decided. Since we as full-timers in Consensus are on a study break we've asked for a reference group with a larger representation from all faculties.

If you have thoughts and ideas about the new student intranet please contact the student representative Isabella van Setten from our faculty on [isava869@student.liu.se](mailto:isava869@student.liu.se).

that is more difficult than the rest. In order to increase the amount of students managing to finish their degree, the vice-chancellor has put aside 9 million SEK for course development, and almost 1,5 million SEK will be directed specifically to medfak. Students have for a long time pointed out issues at the nurse and the speech therapist program and these programs will now, thanks to your feedback, use this money to implement new teaching methods during the first semesters. Our hope is that it will be easier for both students and the program to adapt the support to the individual needs of each student to improve their ability to pass the courses. Would you like to hear more about this? Please contact [uu@consensus.liu.se](mailto:uu@consensus.liu.se).