Appendix 1
University of Borås Operational Plan for 2017-2019   Reg: 235-16

Focus areas for 2017-2019

• The sustainable university

The university has a very important task to develop, explain, and impart knowledge within sustainable development. The university will be developed to be and remain a sustainable university. A sustainable university focuses on sustainable development of education and research. Equality integration and a good work environment are keys to the sustainable university. Being a sustainable university includes a global perspective and ongoing internationalisation through increased mobility of students and employees and more incoming students, guest lecturers, and researchers. The sustainable university takes care of students by promoting good housing environments and safe transportation to and from campus. Progress towards and the establishment of the sustainable university coincides with efforts to obtain formal status as the third university in western Sweden.

• Development of the university's educational activities

To continue to develop the university's educational activities, those educational programmes that strengthen the university's work towards the establishment of complete academic environments will be prioritised. During this period, a strategy for the university's doctoral programmes will be developed. The strategy will state how the university will proceed with the development of doctoral programmes in the areas of Business & IT and Pedagogy as well as how already established doctoral programmes will be developed in terms of quality. Furthermore, there will be focus on the teacher training programme at the Skaraborg campus, the strengthening of educational programmes in the field of urban planning, and preparations for a social work education programme. Continued efforts should be made when it comes to university pedagogy as a tool to put students' learning in focus.

• Development of the university's research activities

In order to strengthen the university's research areas and development of complete academic environments and as part of increasing research funding as well as creating a better balance between education and research (60:40), strategic investments will be made. In particular, the development of networks for making applications to the EU's research budget Horizon in 2020 will be prioritised. A particular partner to be prioritised is the Knowledge Foundation.
• Strategic alliances

A successful institution of higher learning has established strong partnerships with other colleges and universities nationally and internationally. The partnership, which should be within several areas, provides inspiration and strengthens already strong education and research activities. It also conveys an image of an attractive institution, one interested to learn from others’ experiences. We have developed strategic partnerships on several levels with the University of the Highlands and Islands and the University of Skövde that will be extended and lead to a strategic alliance. Additional strategic alliances will be examined; among other things, forms for collaboration with the University of Østfold will be tested.

• An actor in the regional innovation system

During this period, Science Park Borås will be developed into an obvious platform for collaboration and innovation as well as a strong brand for the region. With Science Park Borås as a base, the university's education and research will contribute to the continued development of the regional innovation system and enable innovations based on our activities. During this period, Science Park Borås will initiate and organise activities targeted at researchers and instructors at the University of Borås as well as external stakeholders.

• Development of artistic education and research activities

University of Borås conducts unique work in the field of textiles and fashion that has the possibility to go from nationally leading and internationally recognised to being internationally leading. To achieve such a development requires increased state funding. Furthermore, interdisciplinary research in the field of design will be developed and artistic methods and approaches will be developed and tested in other research areas. During this period, a strategy for artistic education and research activities will be developed at the University of Borås.