



Sveriges förenade studentkårer

Responsible: SFS board

Date: 2020-02-21

English summaries for SFSFUM 2020 propositions

The summaries are intended as supplementary to the propositions themselves, but does not replace them. The entirety of proposition 1 regarding SFS coming plan of work will be translated and sent out in a separate document. If at any point there is a discrepancy between the english summary/translation and the original Swedish document then the Swedish document takes precedence.

English summary for Proposition 2: SFS membership fee and budget 2020/2021

1. Introduction.

The summary is intended as supplementary to the proposition itself, but does not replace it. This consists of the following three sections; “Budget”, “Income and expenses”, and “How to propose changes for the budget”

The section “Budget” contains general information on the budget and the principles behind it. The section “Income and expenses” includes an overview of the different type of income and expenses SFS has. The section “How to propose changes for the budget” is the board's recommendation for how one proposes changes for the budget.

2. Budget

SFS financial situation has stabilized and is sustainable based on the current nature and scope of the business. SFS has made surplus in the previous years. This may in the long term be difficult to justify for a grant-financed organisation. The board therefore proposes a budget that will make a deficit 2020/2021.

The budget has been revised based on previous years' results. As a result, several budget lines, which have been set with a relatively large margin, have been able to be reduced to a level that better corresponds to the expected costs in the coming year. The budget lines still have some margins.

The board proposes that the budget for 2020/2021 will be set at the same level as the previous year, per cost center and with an opportunity to reallocate 5 percent of the total budget.

The board proposes that the membership fee be kept unchanged at SEK 6 per full-year student.

The board proposes that a special investment is done for the occasion of the 100 year anniversary of SFS.

2.2 Restructuring of accounting in SFS

During the financial year 2019/2020, the SFS board and the SFS office have developed the budget structure. The main purpose is to make it easier to report and monitor how SFS resources are used. As part of this restructuring, some costs have been moved around. It is primarily the case that the organisation's costs for member meetings and SFSFUM should be recorded under these.

3. Income and expenses

To make the suggested budget more readable we include a short summary regarding what income and expenses SFS has. The expenses is described in terms of the major cost holders that SFS has.

3.1. Income:

Membership fee:

The board has calculated the budget using the assumption that SFSFUM 2020 approves the board's proposal to set the membership fee to SEK 6 per full-year student. This is unchanged compared to last year.

Government grant:

The majority of SFS revenue consists of government grants. Previously, the government subsidy was adjusted for inflation, but since 2018 this has not happened.

Student City of the Year:

Winners of Student City of the Year have previously covered all or part of the costs associated with arranging SFSFUM. As SFS financial situation has become more stable, this income is no longer as crucial to being able to implement SFSFUM in a good way. The board therefore proposes that this income be removed from the budget for 2020/2021.

3.2. Expenses:

Kansli:

The expenses associated with the "kansli" costs and working environment. The cost of the IT environment and website is higher than in previous years. This is temporary, and due to the development of the new IT environment. The cost is shared between the cost centers for Kansli and the Presidiet.

Presidium:

The expenses associated with the presidiums costs and working environment. The presidiums costs have been adjusted for inflation. The cost of the IT environment and website is higher than in previous years. This is temporary, and due to the development of the new IT environment. The cost is shared between the cost centers for Kansli and the Presidiet.

The board

The board proposes that the cost center Styrelsen is reduced. Some costs increase, others move. However, no significant costs are removed.

Due to the statute change at SFSFUM 2019, it is estimated that there will be more members of the board for 2020/2021. This results in increased costs.

The committees; Komit, SQC and SFS-DK

SFS has three committees which each have their own budgets. These budgets cover the activities of the committees.

For all three committees the cost of sending one member at SFSFUM have been moved from the committees budgets to the SFSFUM budget. This is to ensure that all three committees are present at SFSFUM such that they can disseminate information on the work of the committees and to be experts in their respective fields.

Member activities:

SFS has several member activities such as the member meetings. The board proposes an increase of the budget for member activities. This is to collect all the costs associated with the member activities.

In order to facilitate more members attendance the member meetings, the board has proposed that SFS pay the travel cost for one person per student union to and from both member meetings. This is included in the proposed budget.

In addition, it is budgeted for a member of the nomination committee to be able to attend both member meetings.

SFSFUM

The board proposes that the budget for SFSFUM is increased. This accounts for the redistribution from other cost holders such as the committees.

Special investments - 100 years of SFS

The board proposes a special investments in the SFS 100th anniversary.

3.3 Result

The board believes that SFS should show a negative result or at most a zero result for the 2020/2021 financial year.

The financial situation is, on the whole, sustainable at the same time as subsidized activities should not make a profit. If the organization continues to make a surplus, it may be considered fiscal for tax purposes, which SFS auditors have also noted. It can also lead to the question of the current level of government grants. However, if the state subsidy is lowered, it would be difficult in the long term to maintain the current plan of work. The SFS budget and finances should not be planned based on temporary fluctuations from year to year, but should have a long-term perspective. After a few years of surplus, it is desirable to show an annual result that indicates the organisation's income and costs are well balanced.

4. How to propose changes for the suggested budget

The board proposes the following approach to work on specific parts of SFS operations and budget. If you want to change something in the concrete budget, the easiest way is

to make a motion for “P1: SFS Verksamhet 20/21” if mentioned there, or write another amendment about the specific activity. The board is happy to help write the amendment if needed.

When requesting to reduce costs in the budget without simultaneously calling for changes in the plan of work, the next board will need to prioritize between the various activities in SFS operations if the general assembly decides to approve the request for lower costs in the budget.

English summary for Proposition 3: Change in the SFS bylaws

This proposition addresses three amendments in SFS bylaws, these are

- a change in the purpose of SFS,
- an addition of SFS vision,
- a formulation that would allow the SFS general assembly to elect one to two vice chairs.

Since 2017 SFS has discussed the purpose and vision for SFS. During the fiscal year 2019/2020 the board has continued this work. It was discussed during the member meetings and digital meeting.

The board has identified a financial possibility to increase the number of vice chairs. In order to implement this SFS need to change its bylaws. The current board recommends for the next board to investigate the practical details of the election and nomination process

English summary for Proposition 4: Change in the SFS principle opinion document

The principle opinion document describes SFS overall values.

A major revision of the principle opinion document was made at 2019 SFSFUM, and with this proposal the board proposes only three specific changes to the principle opinion document.

The board's working group on opinion development has identified two areas where SFS positions need to be clarified:

- sustainability issues
- the process for being granted status as student union

In addition, on the initiative of the SFS Quality Committee SQC, the board proposes a change to paragraph 4.3. Quality assurance.

English summary for Proposition 5: Revision of SFS opinion document on the scope and finances of higher education

This is SFS opinion paper on the scope and finances of higher education. The opinion document has six sections; 1: an introduction, 2: a section on the size, 3: a section on content, 4: a section on control of the scope and range of education, 5: a section on resource allocation, and 6: a section on admission to higher education.

The board of 18/19 presented a principal opinion document that is uniform. The background to the work was that it had been identified that SFS principle opinion document and the remaining SFS opinion documents are sometimes in opposition. The board of 19/20 has revised the opinion documents accordingly to this.

The proposition regarding the SFS opinion document “the scope and financial situation of higher education” contains the following major changes:

- The opinion document has been renamed from “SFS syn på högskolans omfattning, utbud, finansiering och antagning” to “SFS ställningstagande: Högre utbildnings omfattning, utbud, finansiering och antagning”.
- Document history has been deleted.
- Redefinitions have been made in the document to clarify and increase readability.
- References have been removed.
- Revisions have been made to create consistency with SFS other positions and the SFS principle policy paper.
- Revisions have been made to make it more timeless.
- Footnotes have been removed throughout the document to improve readability.
- A consistent use of academia, higher education institutions and higher education. Such that
 - The word academia is used for a more holistic view on universities. This includes education and research, as well as the higher education institutions, the students and (teaching) staff.

- The term "higher education institutions" is used when specifically referred to as higher education institutions, which includes both colleges, the university and individual educational providers.
- The word "higher education" is used when higher education is intended and not so much research.

English summary for Proposition 6: Revision of SFS opinion document: Open and equal higher education.

This is SFS opinion document on an open and equal higher education. The policy paper has four sections; 1: an introduction, 2: a motivation for a broader recruitment to higher education, 3: a section on equal opportunities and participation for those accepted into the education, and 4: a section on an equal and representative composition of educators at the universities.

The board of 18/19 presented a principal opinion document that is uniform. The background to the work was that it had been identified that SFS principle opinion document and the remaining SFS opinion documents are sometimes in opposition. The board of 19/20 has revised the opinion documents accordingly to this.

The proposition regarding the SFS opinion document "Open and equal higher education for everyone" contains the following major changes:

- The paper has been renamed so that all opinion documents take the same form. The name is changed from "SFS opinion document: An open and equal university for all" to "SFS opinion document: An open and equal academy"
- References have been removed as position statements are opinion documents.
- Revisions have been made to create consistency with SFS other positions and the SFS principle policy paper.
- Revisions have been made to make it more timeless.
- Footnotes have been removed throughout the document to improve readability.
- A consistent use of academia, higher education institutions and higher education. Such that
 - The word academia is used for a more holistic view on universities. This includes education and research, as well as the higher education institutions, the students and (teaching) staff.

- The term "higher education institutions" is used when specifically referred to as higher education institutions, which includes both colleges, the university and individual educational providers.
- The word "higher education" is used when only higher education is intended and not research.

English summary for Proposition 7: Revision of SFS opinion document regarding student accommodation

This is SFS opinion document on student housing issues. The document consists of four sections; an introduction, a motivation of the need to have a opinion document on the subject, a section on issues that relates to student housing specifically, and a section that discusses housing policies in general.

The board of 18/19 presented a principal opinion document that is uniform. The background to the work was that it had been identified that SFS principle opinion document and the remaining SFS opinion documents are sometimes in opposition. The board of 19/20 has revised the opinion documents accordingly to this.

The proposition regarding the SFS opinion document "Student accommodation" contains the following major changes:

- The paper has been renamed from "SFS bostadspolitiska ställningstaganden" to "SFS ställningstagande: Studenters boendesituation".
- The document history has been removed.
- References have been removed.
- Revisions have been made to create consistency with SFS other positions and the SFS principle policy paper.
- Reallocation of texts with minor importance have been made in the document to clarify and increase readability.
- Revisions have been made to make it more timeless.
- Footnotes have been removed throughout the document to improve readability.