

Intent – Candidacy for the SLU Board (Sigrid Agenäs)

I am standing as a candidate for the Board of the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) because I wish to contribute to strengthening SLU as a whole – a university with unique strengths, major societal responsibilities, and a decisive role in future sustainable development.

I have previous experience of the SLU board; in 2000, I served as a doctoral student representative on the SLU Board. Since then, I have held several assignments within, including membership of two faculty boards (JLT and VH) and two terms on the programme board at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science (VH). I am currently the teacher representative on SLU's Disciplinary Board, which provides me with valuable insight into the university's responsibilities regarding legal certainty, professionalism, and the conditions of students and staff.

On the Board, I wish to work for decisions that benefit all of SLU. I strongly believe that we must make full use of our shared strengths while at the same time creating conditions for different disciplines and academic environments to develop in the best possible way on their own terms. SLU is broad and multifaceted – and the Board must safeguard both the overall perspective and academic diversity. I am particularly committed to a healthy work environment for both employees and students. A university that aims to be leading in education and research requires sustainable working conditions, clear structures, and a climate in which people can develop and perform over the long term. I want to contribute to an SLU where quality and work environment go hand in hand.

Collaboration across faculty and disciplinary boundaries – in multi- and interdisciplinary environments – as well as collaboration with our sector: government agencies, companies, and interest organisations is important, stimulating, and at times demanding and challenging. Cross-disciplinary collaboration and to work with actors outside SLU are fundamental prerequisites and a key strength for SLU. At the same time, we must be able to develop disciplinary excellence. I believe I can contribute to well-balanced decisions concerning depth, breadth, and collaboration with our sectors.

Through my engagement and networks, I am also well positioned to contribute to the Board's external perspective. At the local level, I hold a board position at Gotland Grönt Centrum. Nationally, I have a broad network through my work as Programme Director for SustAinimal and as a member of the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry (KSLA). These contexts give me good opportunities to assess expectations of SLU from different stakeholders and to contribute to SLU's development in step with society.

I am convinced that SLU, with the right investments in its teachers, has great potential to further enhance the quality of its education. I would very much like to contribute to strengthening the conditions for teaching and pedagogical development, ensuring that SLU remains an attractive and quality-driven university in the future.

As a person, I have strong analytical skills and am clear and communicative. I am considerate and honest, and I do not shy away from conflict. I am accustomed to taking responsibility, weighing different perspectives, and standing behind difficult decisions – always with respect for the assignment and for SLU's long-term development. I hope to be entrusted with the opportunity to contribute to the SLU Board and view this role as both important and meaningful.