

Letter of Intent, Karin Hakelius

I started working for SLU as a teaching assistant in business administration (25%) in 1989. Since then I have maintained the commitment to undergraduate education. After my PhD I have taken the role as teacher and examiner in many courses in business administration at the Department of Economics (see CV). In addition to being a teacher, I have also held the position of Director of Studies and of Deputy Head of Department with responsibility for strategic work regarding undergraduate education. Between 1999 and 2008 I was the Head of the Department of Economics. In short, I have held a number of academic leadership roles.

During the period 1997-1999, the department had two Directors of Studies, one in economics and one (me) in business administration. During that time, we developed the brand new master's programme "The Economics Programme with a Natural Resources Focus", which was a very educational process.

I have been a representative of SLU's teachers and researchers on the SLU Board since May 2020, which has been a very interesting and instructive experience. Unfortunately, most meetings have been held in Zoom. For a year now, however, we have been able to hold the meetings in person, which is preferable. We have had two meetings outside Uppsala, in Alnarp and in Ås (Norway), which adds an 'extra dimension' to the meeting – being able to learn from other's experiences and see other environments than Ultuna where I usually am.

As a teacher representative on the SLU board, I have represented SLU's teachers and researchers by monitoring the issues that are particularly relevant for them, such as the educational programs that are offered by SLU, aspects related to the roles of 'teacher' and 'researcher', and the importance of focusing on both education and research. I consider myself well-qualified to take on this role on the SLU board, as I have acted as a teacher since the autumn of 1989, a PhD-student from 1990 to 1996, then as a researcher and teacher since that time. In parallel with the assignment as a representative of the teachers and researchers on SLU's board, I have continued as a member of the NJ faculty Program Committee – since last summer as vice chair-person (see CV). The role as Head of Department between 1999 and 2008 has also contributed to my understanding of the role of academic leader. I have a large network both within SLU and in the agrarian sector – especially in the sector of agricultural cooperatives.

I consider my previous work with the SLU board as a very positive experience. I would like to continue for another period in this position, since it takes time to learn the responsibilities of a new position. I have moved passed this point and feel that I could contribute even more to the governance process on the SLU board if I am given the opportunity to continue for another term.

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