



Annual report

East Asia Student Association

2023/2024

Preface

The past year has been a highly successful operational year for our association. We have organized numerous exciting events, delivered interesting lectures, and published fascinating articles, providing a positive experience for our members. Through our efforts, we have fostered a thriving community of like-minded individuals who are passionate about East- and Southeast Asia, cultural exchange and international relations. Our members have benefited greatly from the variety of events and activities that we have organized, including social gatherings, workshops, and lectures from distinguished guest speakers. Overall, the year has been marked by tremendous growth and engagement, and we look forward to continuing to provide valuable experiences for our members in the future.

On behalf of the board of 2022/2023,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julia Olsson', with a stylized, flowing script.

Julia Olsson
Secretary

1. The work of the board

During the operational year of 2023/2024 members of the board changed a few times, thus the board members whose writing forms part of this report are the incumbent board members and the text is therefore restricted to their time on the board.. The members and their period of incumbency is as follows:

- Niklas Ku, President (2023/07??-2023/12)
- Alex On, President (2023/12-2024/05)
- Fanny Vancutsem, Vice President (2024/01-2024/05)
- Kae Matsuda, Secretary (2023/09-2024/05)
- April Sagandoy, Treasurer (2023/09-2024/04)
- May Charinya Boonsawa , Head of Events (2022/11-2024/05)
- Valerio Nejoumi, Head of External Relations (2024/01-2024/05)
- Stella Titika Demesticha, Head of Grants (2024/01-2024/05)
- Alex On, Head of IT (2022/09-2023/05)
- Christopher Wang, Head of Strategic Communications (2023/09-2024/05)
- Luke Farrelly Spain, Chief Editor of the Lunar Times (2022/05-2022/09)
- Colin Montier, Chief Editor of the Lunar Times (2022/11-2023/05)

The actions of the board have been made public throughout the years through signed meeting protocols available on our website www.asialund.org. A summary of these actions will follow here. The financial statement is attached at the end of this document.

1.1 Presidium

1.1.1 President

(Alex)

1.1.2 Vice President

(Fanny)

1.1.2 Secretary

(Kae)

1.1.3 Treasurer

(April)

1.2 Events Committee

Our goal for this year was to create a safe place for people from any background to come together and meet new people with similar interests. We planned to create events that showcase as many Asian cultures as we could. An objective in which, we feel, we have achieved. We heard a lot of positive feedback about a lot of our events, in which many have expressed that they had a good time and found our themes interesting. In addition, we received requests from our members to have more events, such as game nights and K-pop clubs. I would suggest to the new committee that follows us to keep that in mind. A good tip is to start early with getting intouch with nations in order to have K-pop clubs, as they like to have things planned by the beginning of the semester. While I do stress that when working with nations, we also found that getting a head of things for every event works best. Through that we are able to let our communication team know about upcoming events in good time so they won't have to stress to get advertising posted in time and our members get notified ahead of time. This proves difficult especially when in collaboration with other parties as they can take some time to reply, another thing for the new committee to keep in mind. We especially had struggles in finding the appropriate venues for each of our events. While simple events such as game nights or yoga were easily fixed by booking Cafe Athens, events concerning movie nights and food were more difficult. However, it became easier near the end of the semester as we created a successful partnership with Kalmar for pub nights, along with relationships with Hemgården and EOS Hallen, who were happy to provide us with their venues free of charge. Which leads me to another hurdle that we struggled with, our budget. Because our budget was low, we were restricted in the events that we could plan. Nevertheless, I feel that we were able to overcome that very well. While our events may not have been extravagant, it was always enjoyable. In the beginning of the fall semester we started off with two Heads of Events, while it was less work for each of them, I found that

after one of the heads had left everything was able to be planned a lot faster as we no longer had to consult with one another. I feel that it is sufficient to have one head along with a hard-working committee that one can rely on; a committee in which I am grateful to have had worked with these past two semesters.

List of Events:

- First Meet-Up with EASA (29/08, Cafe Athens) Welcome event and get to know EASA with quizzes on Asian subjects, high attendance.
- Mid-Autumn Festival: Day Trip with EASA (10/09, Ven Island) Day trip to Ven Island to celebrate Mid-Autumn Festival, around 30 attendees.
- Vegan Food Cafe: Pad Thai (13/09, Smålands Nation) Collaboration with nation, serving vegan pad thai, EASA members did not receive discounts, high attendants.
- Watch BTS: Permission to Dance on Stage with EASA (19/09, Cafe Athens) Movie screening with snacks, around 30 attendants.
- Autumn Hike at Söderåsens National Park (01/10, Söderåsens National Park) aid from Korean restaurant Dosirak to provide lunch, picnic and hike, around 40 attendants.
- K-pop Club Night (15/10, Smålands Nation) collaboration with nation, too much work was left to us, high attendance.
- Asian Meditation Day (24/10, Cafe Athens) Fellow student, Valentina conducted a ashtanga yoga lesson, Masumi Daito from Dechen: Massage & Healing conducted a sound healing session, around 20 attendants.
- Costume Party - Sittning (05/11, Lund Nation) Cancelled due to cancellation from venue.
- Anime Quiz Night (16/11, Smålands Nation) Collaboration with nation, pub night with quiz, high attendance.
- Asian Board Game Night (22/11, Cafe Athens) Hang-out event with mahjong, origami and additional asian games and snacks, high attendance.
- Tea Tasting Event (13/12, Cafe Athens) Collaboration with Annie's Tea House who taught a lesson on how to make tea and its origins with tea and asian desserts, 10 attendants.
- Get Active: Asian Game Night (17/01, Cafe Athens) Get-Active event to get to know EASA with mahjong, origami and additional asian games and snacks, high attendance.

- Lunar New Years Dinner (28/01, Smaka på Kina) Large dinner event to celebrate Lunar new Years with quizzes and performances from fellow students: Japanese tea ceremony and guzheng (traditional chinese instrument) performance, great cooperation with Smaka på Kina, 72 attendees.
- K-pop Night: Open Club x EASA (02/02, Sydsjænska Nation) Collaboration with Sydsjænska, good attendance.
- Anime Theme Song Quiz: Pub Night (03/03, Kalmar Nation) Easy collaboration with Kalmar Nation apart from finding volunteers to help with the kitchen and bar, EASA members received free entrance, quiz pub night, high attendance although not a lot of EASA members.
- Chocolate Making (08/03, Hemgårdén) Easy collaboration with Hemgårdén who covered all costs, a celebration of Japanese White Day, around 10 attendees.
- Asian Quiz Night (30/03, Cafe Athens) Hang-out event with quizzes on asian subjects, music and celebrities and snacks, aid from Annie Tea House to provide boba tea, high attendance.
- Yoga Evening x EASA (06/04, Cafe Athens) Taught by fellow student, Valentina, forgot it was during easter break, no attendance.
- Mini Asian Food Fair (16/04, EOS Hallén) EOS provided a free venue, fellow students participated as chefs serving pad thai, onigiri, sushi, kimchi pancakes, scallion pancake, caramelised sweet potato, japanese tea and thai tea, almost sold out, high attendance.
- Ghibli Sittning (26/04, Västgöta Nation) Big dinner with quiz and performance from fellow students: violin and clarinet performance of Ghibli songs, 75 attendees.
- K-pop Dance Lessons (06/05 & 20/05, Gerdahallen) Fellow student, Ivona offered to teach, not as many attendants as we had hoped for, consequently, cancelled two lessons (13/05 & 27/05), 20 attendants all together.
- Japanese Creativity Festival (16/05, Cafe Athens) Planned by fellow EASA members, EASA acts as a supporter aiding help when needed, introducing Japanese games and innovative products, had some problems with proper advertising of EASA's involvement, was resolved in the end.
- Asian Game Night (25/05) Final event of the semester, hang-out event with mahjong, origami and additional Asian games and snacks.

1.3 Head of External Relations

(Valerio)

1.4 Communication and IT

(Alex and Christopher)

The communication team has successfully designed and uploaded various materials for events and lectures, resulting in high levels of engagement as evidenced by our analytics. While Facebook has experienced an increase in followers, Instagram has not yielded the same results. It should be noted that our access is limited to the Business Meta Pro, which has complicated matters somewhat. Additionally, the team has been occupied with other matters recently, leaving little opportunity for us to discuss any new initiatives. Our primary role has been to provide support for the event team, and we have done our best to fulfill this responsibility. Despite these challenges, we have maintained a high standard of work and remain committed to achieving the best possible outcomes for the organization.

During my time as Head of IT I have maintained and organized internal communication platforms such as Slack and Messenger, and I have also maintained the website, adding new information as needed. I have also taken great care in ensuring cybersecurity on our platforms by changing passwords with the changing of board- and active members. Most of the year has been spent on developing our internal web application for the association, with the goal of streamlining the member registration process and member management. The goal is to automate parts of the registration and enable members to pay for their membership online. This would ease the workload of the board and let members get their member cards and subsequent discounts faster. Currently the application has its base functions, but before it can be implemented at the board level we need to add more features and do some further testing to make sure it is fully operational. The web application is estimated to be usable sometime in June to be ready in time for the start of the new semester.

1.5 The Lunar Times

During my time as Chief Editor of The Lunar Times from October 2022 until May 2023, the Lunar Times' team has released 17 articles. Our publications varied greatly, between our monthly news report about events in Asia and other articles digging more deeply into specific topics. The tackled topics were: Japanese drinking culture; the Hong Kong education system; Buddhism and the Spirit Dance in Thailand; ASEAN history and prospects; Oshogatsu Japanese tradition; the 1965 genocide in Indonesia's link with the US; the future of Blackpink the famous K-pop band; the history of the Takarazuka Japanese Theater; or Women Warriors of the Malayan Communist Party.

Challenges such as issues with the website have been encountered and successfully overcome. Moreover, being regular throughout the year has been challenging and motivation has been hard to keep up. Nonetheless, I shall thank the Editors for their work and support: Mark, Nolwenn and Boonsita as well as Giulia for her work for communication and SNS.

The Lunar Times is a great project that could flourish if motivated students keep it alive. Therefore, I hope that the following generations will continue to write articles and stories to make it thrive.

Signatures

Maija Palomäki, President.

Reihuan Wu, Vice President.

Fengyu Yin, Treasurer.

Julia Olsson, Secretary.

Keisha Sterling, Head of Events.

Lin Cui, Head of Lectures.

Francesca Scriboni, Head of Strategic Communications.

John Sun, Head of IT.

Colin Montier, Chief Editor of the Lunar Times.