

Annual report

East Asia Student Association

2022/2023

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,

Ju O

Julia Olsson Secretary

1. The work of the board

During the operational year of 2022/2023 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:

- Patrick Tao, President (2022/05-2022/12)
- Maija Palomäki, Head of External Relations (2022/09-2023/05), President (2022/12-2023/05)
- Reihuan Wu, Vice President (2022/05-2022/05)
- Julia Olsson, Secretary (2022/05-2023/05)
- Fengyu Yin, Treasurer (2022/05-2023/05)
- Keisha Sterling, Head of Events (2022/09-2023/05)
- Tilda Olsson, Head of Events (2022/09-2022/11)
- Lin Cui, Head of Lectures (2022/05-2023/05)
- John Sun, Head of IT (2022/09-2023/05)
- Ami Fujii, Head of Strategic Communications (2022/05-2023/01)
- Francesca Scriboni, Head of Strategic Communications (2023/01-2023/05)
- 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 <u>www.asialund.org</u>. 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

As President I promoted EASA through fairs and meetings and supervised the board completing their tasks, paying extra attention to making sure everyone had a good time with us. This has meant keeping up with the board members, committees, and members to ensure that their rights and a fun time are guaranteed in all of our events. I have worked as an idea bank to further broaden EASA and our activities to provide a family-like environment and

great opportunities to all of us like-minded. This has involved a lot of emailing and visiting offices asking questions to ensure the best possible outcomes to our organization.

Some of the events I had the responsibility for are: Student Association Fair, Hälsnings Gillet, Introduction week Treasure Hunt, and Get To Know Us- Game night event where the organization was introduced with all its operations to new students.

I also worked with our Merch team and we ended up finalizing a beautiful t-shirt that can be sold further in the future, the posters of our organization have also been taken care of by the president for the whole year.

1.1.2 Vice President

During my tenure as the Vice President of EASA 2022-2023, I was engaged in a diverse range of responsibilities. In the Autumn 2022 semester, my initial focus was on recruiting enthusiastic members to join our team. Additionally, I stepped in to assist the Events team and helped organize several events when there was a vacancy in the Head of Events position.

While the president concentrated on external affairs, I dedicated myself to internal matters, which involved overseeing the three committees—Events, Communication, and Lecture—and ensuring the smooth execution of our events. To stay connected with the EASA community, I made a concerted effort to attend numerous events and lectures, and I even organized social gatherings with active members.Furthermore, I took on the responsibility of managing the EASA Squad 22/23 Facebook group, where I regularly shared important event updates and information with our members.

Regrettably, my involvement with EASA was somewhat diminished during the Spring semester of 2023 due to my relocation to another city. However, I made sincere efforts to stay connected with the association and provide support whenever possible.

1.1.2 Secretary

As a secretary for an association, I have had the privilege of managing the administrative functions of the organization. My responsibilities have included maintaining meticulous records, archiving materials, and providing support to other members of the board. Through

my work, I have been able to develop a deep understanding of the critical role that effective organization plays in ensuring the success of an association.

In addition to these tasks I wrote an Anti-Drug Policy for the Association that was implemented on September 14th 2022. I also wrote two motions to change the formulation of the bylaws in two paragraphs and they were voted through at the Annual Meeting, awaiting a second board to finalize the decision in accordance with said bylaws.

As a member of the board, I have been keenly aware of the need to support my fellow members in their respective roles. This has included providing administrative support to the president, treasurer, and other board members, as needed.

1.1.3 Treasurer

In my capacity as treasurer, I have undertaken the responsibility of overseeing and managing a range of financial activities for our organization, which includes but is not limited to membership management, budgeting, payments, billing, reimbursements, and merchandise sales. Over the course of the year, I have diligently managed the membership program, in collaboration with the president, and developed a comprehensive budget plan for the organization. In addition, I have been responsible for maintaining payment records, settling bills, and processing reimbursement requests from members.

Furthermore, I have facilitated event registration and merchandise transactions by processing fees and managing inventory. As a part of the merchandise team, I have contributed to the development of new products and the management of sales. I have also completed essential financial documentation required by our organization.

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:

- <u>First Meet-Up with EASA</u> (29/08, Cafe Athens) Welcome event and get to know EASA with quizzes on Asian subjects, high attendance.
- <u>Mid-Autumn Festival: Day Trip with EASA</u> (10/09, Ven Island) Day trip to Ven Island to celebrate Mid-Autumn Festival, around 30 attendees.
- <u>Vegan Food Cafe: Pad Thai</u> (13/09, Smålands Nation) Collaboration with nation, serving vegan pad thai, EASA members did not receive discounts, high attendants.
- <u>Watch BTS: Permission to Dance on Stage with EASA</u> (19/09, Cafe Athens) Movie screening with snacks, around 30 attendants.
- <u>Autumn Hike at Söderåsens National Park</u> (01/10, Söderåsens National Park) aid from Korean restaurant Dosirak to provide lunch, picnic and hike, around 40 attendants.

- <u>K-pop Club Night</u> (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.
- <u>Costume Party Sittning</u> (05/11, Lund Nation) Cancelled due to cancellation from venue.
- <u>Anime Quiz Night</u> (16/11, Smålands Nation) Collaboration with nation, pub night with quiz, high attendance.
- <u>Asian Board Game Night</u> (22/11, Cafe Athens) Hang-out event with mahjong, origami and additional asian games and snacks, high attendance.
- <u>Tea Tasting Event</u> (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.
- <u>Get Active: Asian Game Night</u> (17/01, Cafe Athens) Get-Active event to get to know EASA with mahjong, origami and additional asian games and snacks, high attendance.
- <u>Lunar New Years Dinner</u> (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.
- <u>K-pop Night: Open Club x EASA</u> (02/02, Sydskånska Nation) Collaboration with Sydskånska, good attendance.
- <u>Anime Theme Song Quiz: Pub Night</u> (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.
- <u>Chocolate Making</u> (08/03, Hemgården) Easy collaboration with Hemgården who covered all costs, a celebration of Japanese White Day, around 10 attendees.
- <u>Asian Quiz Night</u> (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.
- <u>Yoga Evening x EASA</u> (06/04, Cafe Athens) Taught by fellow student, Valentina, forgot it was during easter break, no attendance.

- <u>Mini Asian Food Fair</u> (16/04, EOS Hallen) 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.
- <u>Ghibli Sittning</u> (26/04, Västgöta Nation) Big dinner with quiz and performance from fellow students: violin and clarinet performance of Ghibli songs, 75 attendees.
- <u>K-pop Dance Lessons</u> (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.
- <u>Asian Game Night</u> (25/05) Final event of the semester, hang-out event with mahjong, origami and additional Asian games and snacks.

1.3 Lecture Committee

This report summarizes the success of eight lectures held between September 2022 and May 2023. The lectures aimed to enhance students' understanding of social, cultural, historical, and political fields of East and Southeast Asian countries. With the help of Studiessociala fonden, two more lectures were held this year as compared to the previous year. This resulted in providing more opportunities to students to learn about the diverse topics related to East and Southeast Asian countries.

The lecture committee managed to invite guest speakers from different backgrounds such as analysts, doctoral students, representatives of an organization, and an author, providing a broader perspective of the subject matter. The lectures included sharing sessions from both academic and employment perspectives, and societal integration, providing valuable insights to participants in academic aiding, career planning, and mental assistance. This term's lectures focused on six East and Southeast Asian countries, namely Vietnam, Philippines, Cambodia, Malaysia, South Korea, and China, along with a lecture comparing Sweden to one of the East Asian countries. The lectures emphasized intercultural understanding and international networking, leading to the development of global connections among the participants.

In conclusion, the eight lectures held between September 2022 and May 2023 were successful in providing valuable insights into the social, cultural, historical, and political fields of East and Southeast Asian countries. With the help of Studiessociala fonden, the lecture committee managed to invite diverse guest speakers, resulting in a broad perspective on the subject matter. The lectures emphasized intercultural understanding and international networking, providing a platform for participants to connect globally.

List of lectures:

- "LGBTQ in Vietnam" (September 21st, Cafe Athen)

Guest speaker: Helle Rydström, professor in Gender Studies at Lund University.

She talked about the chapter of "LGBTQ in Vietnam" in Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Vietnam. Many audiences listened to the lecture and had meaningful discussions with the guest speaker.

- "Elections of an official election observer: Experiences from the 2022 Philippine Polls" (October 11th, Cafe Athen)

Guest speaker: Duncan McCargo, director of Nordic Institute of Asian Studies (NIAS), and Professor of Political Science in University of Copenhagen.

This was a valuable opportunity to hear about elections in the Philippines. The Filipino community in Lund also participated in the lecture as audiences and had a lively discussion with the guest speakers.

- "Maritime security and geopolitical conflict of interest in the South and East China Seas" (November 24th, Cafe Athen)

Guest speaker: Louis Borer, senior analyst in maritime security.

Many people showed up to the lecture. The audiences had the opportunity to understand the critical issues and relevant aspects of Maritime security and geopolitical conflict of interest in the South and East China Seas.

- "Experience-sharing session with Asian study PhD students" (December 8th, Cafe Athen)

Guest speakers: Doctoral students at the Centre for East and South-East Asian Studies at Lund University.

This lecture achieved the goal of broadening students' horizons and providing them inspiration for their academic performance as well as planning for PhD in the future. Numerous audiences came to listen to the lecture.

- "Survivor Narratives of Victimhood in Post- Conflict Cambodia" (February 2nd, Cafe Athen)

Guest speaker: Savina Sirik, Ph.D. in Peace and Development Research from the University of Gothenburg School of Global Studies.

Many audiences showed up, and we had a thought-provoking lecture of the former Khmer Rouge construct and negotiate victimhood through narratives in post-conflict Cambodia.

- "A Journey of Cultural Integration in Sweden — Discussions from the Filipino community" (March 16th, Cafe Athen)

Guest speakers: Antonio Marañon - Sama-sama sa Lund (SSL), Lucinda David, Esther Calvo The lecture offered a space to listen and discuss the cultural integration of the Filipino group at a micro-level, and the Asian communities at a macro-level. The audiences also shared their experiences during the Q&A session.

- "News Relations: Mobile News in South East Asia" (March 27th, Cafe Athen)

Guest speaker: Annette Hill, Professor and Chair of Media and Communication at Lund University, Sweden, and Visiting Professor at King's College London, UK.

The lecture offered an analysis of news engagement in a case study of young adults in Malaysia and Vietnam. Some of the context resonated with audiences and several people shared their insights and experiences to the guest speaker and other audiences.

- "A Cross Cultural Dialogue: Understanding South Korean and Swedish perspectives" (May 2nd, Lund Stadshallen)

Guest speaker: Seungwee Nah, author, columnist, online game scenarist and the owner of a Korean restaurant in Malmö.

This lecture compared the similarities and differences between South Korea and Sweden in culture, values, society and other perspectives. Many people came to the lecture.

1.4 Head of External Relations

During my time as Head of External Relations, I have worked on collaborations with numerous organizations such as Folkuniversitet, Annie's Tea House, Sydskånska nation, Västgöta nation, Cafe Multilingua, EASA Linköping, Royal Thai Embassy in Copenhagen, Kino, Kalmar nation, and more. Through these collaborations, we have been able to offer our members exclusive deals and access to exciting events. Recently, we have added Dosirak, a popular Korean restaurant, to our list of collaboration partners. Through my efforts, we have secured a special discount for all EASA members.

In addition to managing existing partnerships, I have proactively reached out to several other restaurants and shops in Lund and Malmö in an effort to expand our network of collaboration partners. Although we have not yet secured any official agreements with these organizations, they might be worth exploring in the future.

1.5 Communication and IT

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.

1.6 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

Haíja Palomäki. Maija Palomäki, President.

Fengyu Yin, Treasurer.

Keisha Sterling, Head of Events.

Scriboni Francesca

Francesca Scriboni, Head of Strategic Communications.

Colin Montier, chief Editor of the Lunar Times.

Reihuan Wu, Vice President.

Secretary. ulia Olsson,

Lin Cui, Head of Lectures.

John Sun, Head of IT.

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	Opening balance 2022-06-01	Closing balance 2023-05-31	Notes
Current assets			
Cash in cashbox	2 652,00 kr	2 719,00 kr	
Cash in bank	15 134,15 kr	14 424,15 kr	1
Inventory	50,00 kr	0,00 kr	2
Supplies	750,00 kr	0,00 kr	
Total current assets	18 586,15 kr	17 143,15 kr	
Non-current assets			
Equipment	2 762,03 kr	3 761,03 kr	
Total assets	21 348,18 kr	20 904,18 kr	
Notes			

1. The amount is an estimation based on how much cash should remain after the unused grant money have been returned.

2. Almost all of the inv	ventory have been written off since r	most of the items currently in the ass	ociation's possess	sion either do not

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