



Annual Report

East Asia Student Association

2021/2022

Preface

As the board of 21/22 began the year by being elected we all sat behind our computers and presented ourselves to each other and to the election meeting virtually. We had little knowledge of how our year would be affected by the ongoing pandemic, let alone the situation in the world. We longed for new experiences, we longed for events and lectures focused on East Asia, we longed for much awaited study trips together, we longed for normality. Our year of operations started in the midst of the vaccination phase and in the midst of the pandemic. As the restrictions were lifted during the fall and spring we were able to arrange a wide range of activities such as movie screenings, sittings, language cafés, lectures and study trips which have been incredibly successful and well attended by members of the association. We have further had a great focus on creating a solid internal structure through implementing new routines and adopting new steering documents that will dictate how EASA will be run now and in the future. EASA has recovered a lot following the pandemic and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future and we are sure that a lot of good things await the association in the upcoming months and years.

On behalf of the board 2021/2022,

Karolina Boyoli

Secretary of East Asia Student Association 2021/2022

1. The work of the board

In the following chapter the work of the board during the year will be explained.

1.1 Board members

The board of 2021/2022 consisted of the following members:

- Mai Nguyen, President (June 1st-July 22nd).
- Marcus Björk, Vice President (June 1st-July 22nd. Acting President from July 22nd-August 26th. President from August 26th-May 31st).
- David Alexanderson, Vice President (September 14th-May 31st).
- David Zhou, Treasurer (June 1st-September 14th).
- Oscar Johansson, Treasurer (September 14th-May 31st).
- Karolina Boyoli, Secretary (June 1st-May 31st).
- Olivia Culot and Enkezhuela “-”, Head of Social Events (June 1st-May 31st).
- Patrik Tao, Head of IT (June 1st-May 31st).
- Valeria Raimondo, Chief Editor of the Lunar Times (June 1st-August 26th).
- Lara Franken, Chief Editor of the Lunar Times (September 14th-May 31st).
- Julia Olsson, Head of Grants (September 14th-May 31st).
- Katherine Denoisieux and Weiting Zhang, Head of Lectures (September 14th-May 31st & September 14th-March 8th).
- Daok Jung, Head of External Relations (June 1st-November 16th).
- Mimmi Shen, Head of External Relations (November 16th-May 31st).
- Maneechaya Sarasuk, Head of Strategic Communications (June 1st-May 31st).

Each member of the Board contributed to parts of the action plan (can be found as an appendix below at the bottom of this document). The concretization of the action plan was all made on an individual board member basis. Below the events and other activities that occurred within the association as well as internal administrative matters are recorded under their respective areas. The financial statement will be added as a separate document.

2. Social and cultural events

Despite the pandemic, we, heads of events, successfully held many sorts of activities which met our objective: being diverse. We managed to regain what we believe was EASA's pre-pandemic social status and organize as many different types of social and cultural events as possible. We had to face changing rules and regulations but we delivered, we believe, good content for our members. Our biggest challenge was the European covid pass check AF asked us to have for our events in Café Athen in January and february, which reduced drastically the attendance to our events because many are exchange students from outside of Europe and therefore did not have the European covid passport. However, we did not set up an event committee and it is something to be considered for the next academic year. We have not been well-informed about what exactly a committee does, nor did not have a trustee position in mind, therefore we considered that board members coming to events can and will help, and did not realize those tasks should have been given to committee members. We did not have any problem this way, but for future heads of events, it is best to consider having a committee to have people do such tasks (setting up the venues including making tea, etc.) so other board members won't have to work during events.

We discussed the possibility of having a trustee position for a language café and holding it more regularly. We also perpetuated the tradition of holding mid-autumn festivals and lunar new year events. Furthermore, we held a sitting each semester, which, we hope, will keep happening in the future. We also acquired mahjong sets for future events, because the association used to rely on borrowing sets from the Mahjong club of Malmö. Finally, we made great use of Café Athen, which is provided in the agreement with AF. We also successfully partnered with Wermlands and Smålands Nations, which allowed us to organize events for free (and not booking the nation), which is a great success.

List of events:

- Asian fika with EASA (26/08, Café Athen) activities and get-to-know the association, high attendance.
- Annual Mid Autumn Festival (20/09, Café Athen) moon cakes, presentation of the festival, quiz and games, sold out, 50 attendees.
- Parasite Movie Night with EASA (13/0, Sydsånska Nation) food and screening of the movie, around 25 attendees. Side note: too complicated to organize this way as we had to provide a guest list and pay 10-ish days in advance, many people registered but did not show up
- Spooky Halloween Sitting with EASA (30/10, Sydsånska Nation), very successful event, sold out, +40 attendees.
- Mahjong Game Night with EASA (01/11, Café Athen), 30-40 attendees. Side note: mahjong sets provided by a member of the Mahjong club in Malmö for free.
- EASA's Language Café (18/11, Café Athen), offered Japanese, Korean, Cantonese and Mandarin, Japanese was extremely popular, around 30 attendees.
- EASA's Movie Night: The Farewell (13/12, Café Athen), around 15 attendees
- EASA's Kick-off Board Game Night (20/01, Café Athen), board game night with Asia-related games.
- EASA Movie Night: First they killed my father (26/01, Café Athen), less than 10 attendees
- EASA Lunar New Year 2022 (31/01, Café Athen), games and presentation of what is the lunar new year, around 40 attendees.
- EASA's Language Café (16/02, Café Athen), around 15 attendees. Side note :many foreign students including many Japanese speakers could not attend due to AF covid restrictions.
- Asian Pub Night EASA x Wermlands Nation (23/03, Wermlands Nation): collaboration with the nation, pub night with Asian food and beers served, pub quiz on Asia, Asian Music, very successful, main pub of the nation full.
- K-pop club EASA x Smålands Nation (02/04, Smålands Nation), collaboration with the nation, K-pop club, huge success.
- EASA Movie Night: Howl's Moving Castle (13/04, Café Athen), people overall not interested talking about the movie when it ends, around 15 attendees.
- Spring Theme Sitting at VG's (27/04, Västgöta Nation), music quiz on Asia, photographer, very successful night, 60 guests.
- Asian Culture Night (05/05, Café Athen), calligraphy, origami, mahjong, Mario Kart, almost 50 attendees.
- Vegan Food Cafe - EASA x Smålands Nation (10/05, Smålands Nation), served about 45 people, and sold out very quickly.
- K-pop club EASA x Smålands Nation (14/05, Smålands Nation), collaboration with the nation, K-pop club, it was the same day as Eurovision, not that many people came.

3. Lectures

List of Lectures:

- “Evergrande and China's Real Estate Bubble. Will it burst?”, guest lecturer: Professor Stefan Brehm (02/12, Café Athen). ,
- ”The Future Prospects of the Thai Youth Protests”, guest lecturer: Professor Duncan McCargo (24/01, Livestream on EASA Facebook). A dozen of people showed up.
- “China’s social credit system”, guest lecturer: Professor Nicholas Loubere (24/02, Livestream on EASA Facebook). Less than 10 people showed up, the main reason was probably because it was held online.
- “Sino-Russian Friendship under strain; Official Relations and Popular Views”, guest lecturer: Professor Marina Svensson (16/03, Café Athen). Very popular lecture, it attracted a very diverse audience in terms of backgrounds, over 30 people came.
- “Crisis in Ukraine and North Korea issues”, guest lecturer; Mister Ha Tae-youk, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Sweden (29/03, Spoletorp hörsal). Very popular lecture as well.
- “Queering Chinese Women and Documentary Film”, guest lecturer; Zeng Jinyan, scholar, filmmaker and human rights activist (30/03, Café Athen). 15 to 20 people came.

4. Communication and IT

We have successfully redesigned the website and created new pages to inform our members about board positions, various committees and their roles in the association. Policies and documents have also been added and updated, and the old logo was replaced by a new one to give the EASA a more modern look. Over the course of the year, the Head of IT has been identifying and implementing IT-solutions to improve organizational transparency and internal planning in the board. This has resulted in a transition of communication platforms from Messenger to Slack, which includes adequate features such as channels, private messaging and threads. Furthermore, all passwords on our platforms have been updated due to security reasons, and the rest of the year has then focused on developing a new membership management app that will contribute to an increased efficiency in our work operations.

This year, the Head of Communication has designed a new logo for EASA and a banner roll-up for offline events as well as a poster to place around Lund University. We also managed to connect both Facebook and Instagram on Meta Business Suite which allows the online posts on these social media platforms to be easily managed and planned ahead of time. Since we received the FBA grant this year, I used the money, as discussed with the Head of Grants, to boost the post on Facebook and Instagram to increase engagement and participants to the lecture events throughout the year. I also used money to buy a Zoom Pro account which allows the Zoom meeting to be livestreamed on Facebook to increase viewers who did not have the Zoom account. I believe this is to give the opportunity for everyone and make it easier for our members and followers on Facebook to be able to watch the lectures without struggles. I am also in charge of designing visual graphics and crafting the content for all events and posts.

5. The Lunar Times

During this year we published one article per week, with the exclusion of January. Which resulted in roughly 22 articles for the academic year. The articles included a monthly news catch up, and on average three articles on other themes per month. This year included several interviews, including the ambassador

of Taiwan, the ambassador of China and a photojournalist located in Japan. In comparison to last year, we have reached 8,3% more people in the month of May via our social media channels, we could also increase the amount of followers for our Instagram, within the last three months. In the last three months our account reached 390 other accounts. We added on our social media presence and added several new features to our regular posting, in addition to us posting our articles. This year we had several more regular writers, in particular for the news section of the magazine but also several who wrote two or three articles over the course of the academic year. Unfortunately, we have not been able to expand into a new section called Asia in Lund, due to time constraints. In addition, we held one book club, on the themes of women's month with the *Magical Language of Others* by EJ Koh as the book discussed.

6. Study trips

During this year we have completed two study trips; one to Stockholm, and one to Copenhagen. The plan was at first to have the trips in December and February but because of the pandemic it got pushed to April and May. On the 7-9 of April the Head of Grants and Head of External Relations traveled with 12 members of the Association to Stockholm. There we met with SIPRI, UI, the Ambassador to Sweden from Thailand, the Ambassador to Sweden from Malaysia, and on the last day we visited Östasiatiska Muséet (The Museum of Far Eastern Antiquities). It was greatly appreciated by the members and a wonderful opportunity for the association. The participants were asked to write a short text on what they thought of the trip and the response was overwhelmingly positive. The second trip was a day trip for 23 participants to Copenhagen where we visited UN city and attended a lecture on the work by two UN agencies; UNFPA and UN Women. The lecture brought insight into what issues the UN is dealing with in regards to women's rights and health, and the discussion the participants were able to ask about area-specific issues in regards to East and South East Asia. We had two seats on the Copenhagen trip that were unfortunately left empty as we had two last minute cancellations. The Head of Grants and the Head of External Relations, the organizers of these trips, revised this issue and came to the conclusion that these types of cancellations sometimes happen and are difficult to protect against, but perhaps a greater involvement by the participants in an earlier stage (such as perhaps a hang-out session before the trip) might minimize the risk. No trustees were elected to assist in these trips. We elected a travel coordinator in the fall when the plan was to have the trips early in the year, but when it got postponed due to COVID they resigned from their post. For trips of this size it was enough to have two people involved with the planning, but for future reference we recommend perhaps one travel coordinator to help take care of the practical things during trips.

7. Grants

During this year we have applied for four grants but have unfortunately not to date received any of them. We applied for Studiefonden twice (once a term), Ekmansstiftelsen, and Helge Axon Jonssons stiftelse. Helge Axon Jonssons stiftelse have not yet sent out their decision and we are expecting that in July. The applications sent in have been uploaded to the "Grants"-folder in the drive so that future board members can see what formulations we have used. This is to make the whole process more transparent for future boards and so that we can learn from each other. For the future we think that more cooperation between the Head of Grants and the Head of Events, as well as with the President, should be encouraged, so that it becomes clearer what type of grants are needed and what the association needs money for.

The biggest project for the Head of Grants this year has been to manage the grant project funded by Folke Bernadotte Akademien, focused on peace and security policy. Because of the pandemic we have had some difficulty in executing the project. The project was focused on having lectures and debates on a variety of topics related to peace and security, which was difficult to achieve when people were not supposed to meet, so we had to get creative. For example, we have had a few lectures online on Zoom and decided to spend some of the grant money on a Pro Zoom account so that we could also stream it live on Facebook and thereby get more participants. For this purpose we also invested in a tripod to hold the phone streaming content to Facebook during live lectures. The biggest monetary part of the grant was the study trips, and these were executed as described under point no 6.

8. Other

8.1 By-elections

After the annual election meeting in May 2021 quite a few positions were left vacant. The vacant positions were: Head of Grants and Head of Lectures. The position as Treasurer and Editor in Chief of the Lunar Times were filled temporarily by the previous holders of these positions, however they only chose to remain until a replacement was found. During the summer the President resigned, leading to the Vice President to step in and later also being elected as President and therefore resigning from the position as Vice President leaving that position vacant. At the first board meeting of the semester the board decided to market the following positions: Vice President, Treasurer, Head of Grants, Head of Lectures and Chief Editor of the Lunar Times. At the second meeting of the year the board filled all of these positions (a complete list of the mandate periods of each board member during the fiscal year of 21/22 is presented at the start of this report). Later during the fall Daok Jung informed the board of her resignation leading to the marketing and by-election of a new Head of External Relations in November.

8.2 Interorganizational development

With EASA still being quite a new association in Lund a large focus during the year was put on developing the organization internally. This was done through creating a set of new steering documents and internal guidelines as well as through establishing and further developing internal processes in the work of the board. A set of new templates for annual meetings, annual electoral meetings, board meetings and other forms of reporting have been created, implemented and added as templates in Google Drive.

In terms of new regulatory documents one guideline about archiving was adopted and two policies: a Data protection policy and an Anti Harassment policy. The new guideline about archiving is intended to regulate how the Secretary archives the association's material in the future in order to make sure that we preserve the history of the association from the beginning. In line with this new guideline EASA has also started to archive in AF's student museum where alumni and students alike can view what EASA has in its archive for many years to come which will be very fun to see in the future as the archive grows. The new Data protection policy is intended to increase our transparency towards members in how we handle and keep their data and what type of data we keep. Further, it also regulates how EASA handles data in order for the handling to be in line with GDPR. The new Anti Harassment policy regulates how discrimination is handled within the association. Being a multicultural and highly international organization we believe that it is very important to stress that no discrimination is allowed within the association and further try to create an open environment where everyone feels welcome. At the annual meeting during the fall the By-laws were updated in accordance with the previous board's proposal.

At the beginning of the year the membership system was divided into several different parts due to EASA sending out digital membership cards during the pandemic instead of the physical cards. Since this caused a bit of confusion with handling the membership system the board decided to only use digital membership cards and move away from the physical cards, which will also be a cheaper and more sustainable way of identifying members. However as long as old members have had their physical cards we will accept them, just not hand out new ones. The Secretary and Treasurer have put in a lot of work in sorting out the membership system and clearing out old members whose information should not be kept. As it is now EASA has one membership system where all members are included to make it easier to keep track of the memberships. Furthermore, two standard e-mail addresses have been created, one about renewing your membership with EASA that is sent out when a members membership expires and the other is a welcome email for new members that introduces the organization to the new member and explains what EASA is and does and how they can get active.

When it comes to keeping organizational knowledge alive in the board and developing the knowledge about board work with the board members a set of internal guides and handbooks have been created. EASA now has one board handbook that goes into detail about how the association works and is structured, how board work works, how formalia and working with steering documents works and the history of EASA. Further, internal guides on membership registration at events, how to coordinate the Drive and the Drive templates and such have been created. To further try to create more continuity between the different years, handover documents or “testaments” have been created for several positions which will ensure that the newly elected board gets the information they need to have even if the position was left vacant and the predecessor is not able to conduct a handover.

8.3 Collaborations

Throughout the year of 2021, the association has enjoyed and kept a good relationship with its previous collaborative partner LOKCHAN AB. On the 7th of December, the contract expired and since then the association has not initiated a new collaboration. The reasoning behind this is because of the general discount LOKCHAN AB has initiated for every student with Mecenat, making it not as exclusive and enticing for our members. EASA however still maintains a good relationship with LOKCHAN AB.

As part of the action plan, the association has a goal of establishing and developing new relationships with local businesses. In relation to this point, the association has during the first half of 2022 actively been seeking out and establishing new relationships with relevant actors in Lund.

Annie's Tea House

A new partnership for 2022/2023 was signed on February the 8th between EASA and the local bubble tea and tea shop, Annie's Tea House, located in Saluhallen. This partnership is formed to be mutually beneficial for both parties. In short, the agreement obligates the association to market Annie's Tea House and include its logo on graphic material that is published within the association. In return, EASA members get a 10% discount on purchases in the shop.

The contract is valid for one year, 2022-02-08 to 2023-02-08, and provides a significant benefit and incentive for membership in the association.

The Center for East and South-East Asian Studies

A formal collaboration was established between the Center for East and South-East Asian Studies and the Lunar Times with an agreement signed 2021-02-18. In accordance with this agreement the Lunar Times

will market the Center for East and South-East Asian Studies on their webpage, and the Center for East and South-East Asian Studies will grant the Lunar Times a sum of 3000 SEK.

AF

In 2019 EASA became a recognized association (erkänd förening) of AF (Akademiska föreningen). The agreement of recognition is renewed on a yearly basis and the association has retained its status as a recognized association since 2019. In early May 2022, AF sent out information regarding a restructuring of its affiliation with all recognized and cooperative associations.

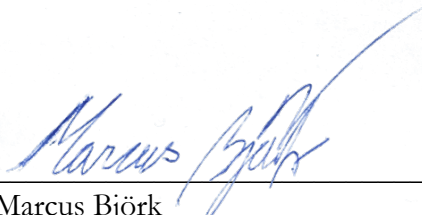
The current system with two types of affiliation (recognized and cooperative associations) is being replaced by Affiliated Associations (Ansluten förening) and Subsidy-contracts (Subventionsavtal).

While the benefits of being an affiliated association do to a large extent overlap with the current form of recognized association, there are changes in the criteria to attain the status. One new criterion is the requirement to have a “strong connection to the student life and student culture”. EASA does not meet this criterion as it is currently interpreted by AF.

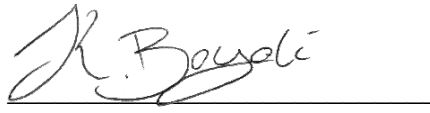
Subsidy-contracts come with less benefits, but also less responsibilities. The possibility to use AF’s channels for advertisement has been removed, and so has the obligation for the associations to display AF’s logo and to state affiliation. The possibility to book Café Athen free of charge is retained. Unlike the affiliated associations, there is no requirement for a “strong connection to the student life and student culture”, but instead a requirement that the associations “must have AF's members and students at Lund University as target groups”. Thus does EASA meet the new requirements to sign a Subsidy-contract with AF.

In addition, both forms of agreement with AF run until further notice and do no longer need to be renewed annually. No new agreement with AF has been signed by the board of 2021/2022, as AF is yet to finalize the terms of the contracts.

Signatures



Marcus Björk



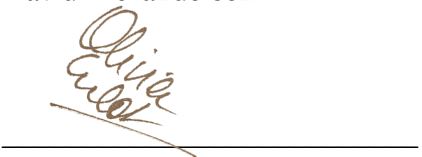
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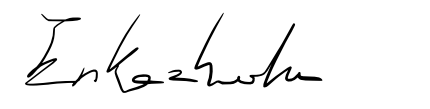
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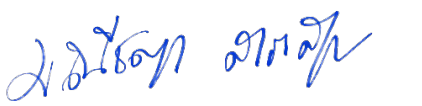
Lara Franken



Julia Olsson



Katherine Denoisieux



Maneechaya Sarasuk



Mimmi Shen

Appendix 1. Operational Plan

EASA

EAST ASIA
STUDENT ASSOCIATION

LUND. EST. 2018

Operational plan 2021/2022

East Asia Student Association Lund

It is the board's assignment to, to the highest degree possible, follow the directions of the operational plan to ensure that the goals set out are reached, as well as evaluate and account for the outcomes in an activity report by the end of the board year.

The purpose of the East Asian Student Association Lund is to function as a platform for activities related to economics, culture and politics in East and Southeast Asia.

EASA is politically and religiously unaffiliated.

Goals for the board of 2021/2022

1. Internal organizational development

EASA is still a young and developing association. During the upcoming operational year the board of 2021/2022 wishes to further work on and develop the internal structure of the association and wishes to ensure and strengthen

continuity between the years in order to give coming generations good preconditions for making EASA bigger and better for each year.

- **to** develop the associations' regulatory documents and create new regulatory documents where needed.
- **to** create internal templates for different organs within the association.
- **to** develop internal educational material such as a board handbook, a guide for internal matters on the Drive and a guide for membership registration with the purpose of creating more continuity between different years.
- **to** create written testaments for board positions to ensure a form of handover even if positions remain vacant after the annual electoral meeting.
- **to** develop the process of archiving and to start archiving in the archive of the Academic Society.
- **to** further develop the member registry in order to make it clearer and easier to work with.
- **to** create an informative welcome letter that new members will receive along with their membership card.
- **to** further develop EASA's website and to include more information about the association.
- **to** identify and implement IT solutions (e.g. the communication platform *Slack*) for organizational transparency, internal planning and communication between the association and members as well as other interested parties.
- **to** identify and pursue possibilities for development and solidification of the association's committees in order to create new opportunities for members to participate in the association, lighten the working load of board members and improve the association's capacity for its various functions and operations.

2. Restoration and improvement of EASA activities

The extraordinary circumstances of the covid-19 pandemic presented numerous challenges for this association. The board of 2021/2022 thus aims to restore as well as improve the mode and level of operations during this operational year.

- **to** establish and develop new relationships with local businesses, university faculties and relevant associations as well as re-establish the previous relationship with local Asian grocery store LOKCHAN AB and regain the discount for EASA members.
- **to** organize lectures and/or conferences on thesis topics of doctoral and postdoctoral students, research topics of researchers and theses of former master's and/or bachelor students
- **to** organize lectures which provide insight into real life experiences in Asian countries
- **to** organize lectures of current events relevant to the Asian continent and/or Asian countries
- **to** create awareness of the association and its activities among Lund University students and alumni with creative content that provide exciting and impactful messaging.
- **to** develop effective communication strategies which meaningfully engage EASA's target audiences.
- **to** regain EASA's pre-pandemic social status and organize as many different types of social and cultural events as possible.
- **to** ensure the continuation of the association's magazine *The Lunar Times*, expanding the magazine's social media presence, acquiring a more regular and loyal writing base and expanding the article repertoire with a new section called *Asia in Lund* which focuses on Asian experiences, realities and research in Lund.
- **to** apply for and acquire grants for financing EASA activities and operations as well as to make this process more transparent.
- **to** keep track of organizational finances and follow the budget as closely as possible.