

ACTION PLAN 2023

Operating Year 2023

The year 2023 will focus on rebuilding the student union. We aim to modernise our operations and make them more efficient. This involves assessing our current activities and ensuring they meet the needs of all stakeholders. We will also work on promoting consistent practices across all campuses. A new operational model will replace committees with a national board. Additionally, we'll actively participate in influencing parliamentary elections through our umbrella organisations and update our political program. The board will consist of the chairperson, 3 vice-chairpersons, and 8 board members, with each campus having a dedicated campus chair- and vice-chairperson, as well as event and tutoring coordinators. coordinators.

Administration

The management of the student union is overseen by the executive director, the chairperson of the board, and the chairperson of the council. These individuals regularly provide updates to the board on financial and administrative matters, and they also inform the representative council as needed.

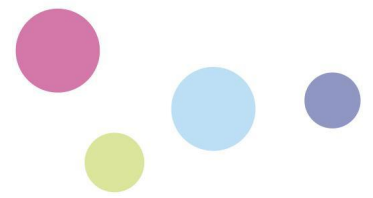
Key Initiatives:

- The student union's financial stability is maintained through clear funding sources, including a general grant from Diak and membership fees.
- Efforts will be made to enhance the student union's financial stability through active partnerships and membership growth.
- A thorough review of potential amendments to the student union's regulations will be conducted.

Advocacy

The advocacy efforts of the student union are transparent, ensuring that students are well-informed about how to engage with the union on relevant matters. O'Diako plays a role in influencing decision-making concerning students at the University of Applied Sciences, in the cities where campuses are located, and at the national level. O'Diako actively participates in initiatives led by OPKU+, World Student Capital, the National Union of Students in Finnish Universities of Applied Sciences (SAMOK), and the Finnish Student Sports Federation (OLL). O'Diako encourages students to actively participate in advocacy both nationally and locally, providing opportunities for them to explore various avenues of influence through party politics and other organisations.





Key Initiatives:

- Establish an advocacy network for student representatives at Diak, which convenes regularly to discuss advocacy matters relevant to their respective bodies.
- Revise the process for selecting student representatives to ensure that all students have a genuine opportunity to apply for positions in Diak's bodies.
- Actively participate in advocacy efforts before parliamentary elections through candidates and in government program negotiations through SAMOK.
- Enhance advocacy communication to make it more accessible and visible to students.
- Create an anonymous channel for students to raise advocacy issues within Diak.

Communication

One of the student union's vice-chairpersons is responsible for communication. Our communication is clear, accessible, and consistent across all campuses. We actively engage in communication across all sectors, striving for transparency in our activities. Important documents guiding our work are shared with members and available on our website. We communicate in both Finnish and English to reach all members. Our internal communication is respectful and inclusive. At the beginning of each year, we establish common rules for internal communication.

Key Initiatives:

- Transition all communication to a unified channel by 2023.
- Assess the accessibility of our communication and make necessary adjustments to comply with accessibility standards.
- Streamline internal communication channels by 2023.
- Improve our website to better serve students and stakeholders

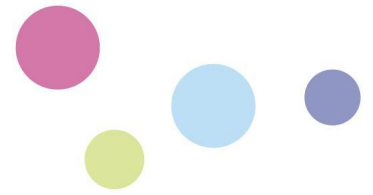
Events and Sports

The student union's events are diverse and accessible to all students. We organise events suitable for both on-campus and remote students. Our events promote a substance-free environment and ensure a safe space for every student. In addition to traditional student events, we aim to increase the number of sports events.

Key Initiatives:

- Celebrate the 25th anniversary.
- Secure old event concepts after the covid-19 pandemic and assess the need for new ones.
- Explore opportunities for broader event collaboration with other universities of applied sciences and universities student unions.
- Plan event offerings for diverse student groups, such as students with families.





Tutoring and Internationalisation

Tutoring is consistent and equitable across all campuses, actively attracting new students into student active activities. Tutors play a crucial role in promoting student union membership to newcomers, this is assured by providing them with comprehensive tutor training. In 2023, tutoring will undergo improvements through the YTYÄ project. Additionally, resources will be allocated to enhance international activities, better serving both exchange and International Degree students. Communication about student union events and initiatives will be strengthened to encourage greater participation among exchange and International Degree students.

Key Initiatives:

- Standardise tutoring procedures, recruitment processes, and training programs across all campuses.
- Explore the possibility of streamlining tutor recruitment to reduce workload and conduct it annually.
- Establish tutor contracts to solidify commitment to tutoring activities.
- Investigate the feasibility and resources required to establish an annual tutor retreat as a collaborative effort across all campuses.
- Evaluate successful tutoring practices implemented by student unions in other network Higher Education Institutions.

Spiritual Activities

One of the vice-chairpersons of the student union oversees spiritual activities. O'Diako fosters spiritual engagement across all Diak campuses by regularly hosting spiritual events based on students' preferences. It also strengthens partnerships with local parishes and other religious organisations.

Key Initiatives:

- O'Diako will lead the establishment of an annual spiritual trip to Taizé, France, in collaboration with church professionals and potential external partners.
- A yearly calendar of spiritual events will be developed to ensure consistent offerings tailored to students across all campuses.

Machine Translation:

Helsinki, April 15, 2024

Adel Rizvi

Executive Director

The Student Union O'Diako of

Diaconia University of Applied Sciences

