

## Welcome to the Association of Swedish Higher Education Insitutions (SUHF) Annual Quality Conference 2025 at the Hilton Hotel Slussen in Stockholm, Thursday 13 March 2025, at 09:30-16:00.

## Enhanced quality through collaboration between higher education institutions - nationally and internationally

In recent years, quality assurance issues of cooperation in education have received increasing attention, both at European and national level. The pressure on HEI's to work more actively with joint degrees, European universities, micro credentials and a proposed new European degree is increasing. At home, questions about national educational collaborations have been brought up, which require new solutions to succeed.

Educational collaborations of various kinds touch on questions of an administrative and legal nature - how can we respond to differences in how different countries and institutions of higher learning have built up their systems and regulations for quality assurance and how can we harmonize the work? What is required to facilitate more collaborations? At the strategic level, it is about the role and mission of the higher education sector. How does national and international harmonization affect the university's structure and functions, for example with an increasing focus on the sector's role in meeting the needs of the labor market? How free are higher education institutions to collaborate in education?

At the conference, which is a collaboration between three SUHF's expert groups for Quality, Study Administration, and Internationalization, the above and other issues regarding collaborations in education will be highlighted. In addition to information and inspiration, it will primarily be a day for discussion about opportunities and challenges that collaboration brings and how these can and should be handled.

The primary target group is people in university management functions or senior administrative functions who work with quality assurance, internationalization, study administration and/or educational collaborations.

## Themes / seminars / sessions (TBD):

- The Swedish framework in relation to EU initiatives and the ESG revision: What is important to us? What do we want? What should be monitored? What can change?
- What drives quality in higher education: competition or collaboration?
- Do international joint programs lead to better quality?
- Would more collaboration in the higher education sector lead to less administrative burden?
- Joint programs at national level: collaboration or competition?
- Is the European Degree needed for Swedish HEI's? What's in it for us?
- National strategies for skills How can higher education institutions take greater responsibility?
- Could a more widespread use of the European Approach ease the administrative burden and contribute to the international (European) development of higher education?