



Örebro University's vision and strategic goals 2018–2022

Approved by the University Board, 21 December 2017





Things are going well for Örebro University. The number of applicants for our courses and study programmes is increasing. Research is growing and so is its impact internationally. With that in mind, why not carry on as before?

For every organisation, there is reason to reflect, once in a while, on their development. Therefore, the University needs to stop and think about where we are today, how we are perceived by others, and where we want to be in years to come.

This is especially true in times when the conditions that govern our operations undergo major changes. Competition on markets where we are present is tightening. Örebro University competes with other higher education institutions for students and staff, as well as for research grants. We continuously need to strengthen our competitiveness. And to do so, we need to pick up momentum within internationalisation and digitalisation.

Looking at the world around us, we realise that parts of that which we as a university up until now have taken for granted, for the first time in a long while, now need defining and defending. Even in mature democracies close to us, the value of independent universities is being called into question. In fact, even the scientific outlook with Bildung, enlightenment and facts as a prerequisite for rational debate is no longer a matter of course, but is met with growing scepticism and mistrust, even derision.

With trends such as these serving as a backdrop, Örebro University management and staff have arrived at the new vision and the new strategic goals that we feel should characterise a prominent university. And we have done so by way of discussion and reasoning, and with a considerable degree of involvement, energy, and ambitions that are invariably high.

We are united by a desire to increase our contributions to research, education and external collaboration, and to the public debate on the basis of our values, knowledge and research findings. Contributions that make a difference.

A blue ink signature of Johan Schnürer, consisting of a stylized 'J' and 'S' followed by a horizontal line.

Johan Schnürer
Vice-Chancellor

VISION

*Örebro University – leading towards
a knowledge-driven society*

The University's mission statement

ÖREBRO UNIVERSITY

- ❖ conducts internationally competitive research and offers professional degree programmes that are among the best in the country.
- ❖ combines, with the pursuit of Bildung at its core, a broad range of disciplines with expertise in teaching and research.
- ❖ is a sought-after and dedicated player in society that, together with others, promotes action in support of the global goals for sustainable development.

The University's core values and approach

With the common basic values for central government employees* as the foundation, our actions are guided by the following core values:

SCIENTIFIC RIGOUR

The unbridled search for knowledge constitutes the core of our activities.

We are recognised for independence, objectivity and Bildung.

We maintain an open and critical approach. We allow ourselves time for thought and reflection.

DEDICATION

We are active and forward-thinking. We are dedicated, curious and innovative.

The driving force to develop and attain good results is a key to the University's success.

We have the courage to review and think differently. In our quality efforts, we learn from both achievements and setbacks.

PARTICIPATION

We have a holistic approach to our operations and a willingness to learn from one another.

We develop knowledge in close collaboration with our students, the scientific community and the surrounding world.

Our working environment is characterised by equality, openness, trust and respect.

* <http://www.government.se/information-material/2014/09/common-basic-values-for-central-government-employees--a-summary/>

The University's five areas of development

- ❖ Outstanding research
- ❖ High-quality education
- ❖ Competence management and sustainable leadership
- ❖ Effective and smart working methods
- ❖ Positioning and relations

Outstanding research

STRATEGIC GOALS

- ❖ Our researchers work in strong environments with good infrastructure and international networks. Through cooperation they develop their scientific fields and contribute to meeting challenges facing society and sustainability.
- ❖ Research groups with development potential have grown into strong research environments.
- ❖ The external research funding has doubled.
- ❖ Our achievements are reflected by the University climbing in internationally recognised rankings.

High-quality education

STRATEGIC GOALS

- ❖ All our first to third-cycle courses and study programmes maintain high quality.
- ❖ Active researchers are involved on all courses and study programmes at all levels.
- ❖ All courses and study programmes are characterised by actively developed pedagogy, professional relevance, internationalisation, student influence and creative learning environments.
- ❖ The Bildung perspective is integrated on all our courses and study programmes.

Competence management and sustainable leadership

STRATEGIC GOALS

- ❖ Our staff reflect society's diversity and we have a high proportion of internationally recruited researchers and teachers.
- ❖ A considerable number of junior researchers have been recruited, both nationally and internationally, to the University and taken part in an attractive career development programme.
- ❖ Our working environment is characterised by active employeeship, which is built upon high, mutual expectations between managers and members of staff.
- ❖ It is an appealing endeavour to be a manager and leader at Örebro University.

Effective and smart working methods

STRATEGIC GOALS

- ❖ Every staff member's competence and time are utilised in an effective and respectful way.
- ❖ We pursue digitalised operational development.
- ❖ We learn across organisational and professional boundaries.
- ❖ Our support functions are of high quality, effective and create value for our core operations.

Positioning and relations

STRATEGIC GOALS

- ❖ We are a credible contributor to public debate.
- ❖ We develop knowledge-driven partnerships and strategic collaborations for mutual benefit.
- ❖ We have an increased presence in national and European research policy agencies.
- ❖ Our courses and study programmes are the first choice for new students and we have life-long engagement with our alumni.

