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Profile of requirements for positions of trust in the Swedish National Union of Students, SFS

SFS Presidium

This profile contains information about the characteristics and experiences considered suitable for members of the SFS presidium.

The Nominations Committee strives to ensure that the members of the SFS presidium as a whole meets the personal qualities and merits described below. The characteristics listed under "Requirements" are expected from each and every applicant.

Description of the role

The presidium of SFS consists of one (1) President and one (1) Vice President. The term of mandate is one operational year starting during the first of July to the last of June. The position is full-time and the presidium of SFS are a part of the SFS headquarters in Stockholm. There can be events, meetings and other activities that take place during weekdays, weekends, and evenings. Therefore flexibility and balance are essential for members of the SFS presidium.

The presidium of SFS serves as the spokespersons for SFS and represents the interests of the member unions and the students in accordance with SFS values. The presidium of SFS are responsible for the day-to-day operations, making decisions in the political advocacy work, implementing activities based on the decisions, plan of operation, and budget set by the SFS board. Furthermore, the Presidium of SFS is responsible for the staff in SFS. SFS operates in both national and international contexts, and so the daily execution is influenced by external events and the needs of the organisation. The distribution of tasks within the Presidium of SFS is determined by the members together.

During their term of mandate, members of the Presidium of SFS are not allowed to engage in work or hold positions that may compromise the political independence of SFS. This means that members of the Presidium of SFS cannot be politically active in other organisations.



Personal Qualities

To perform the duties of the Presidium of SFS, the candidates should have a strong interest in student and higher education politics. The candidate should be confident in their leadership, inclusive, attentive towards employees, elected representatives and members. It is essential that the members of the Presidium of SFS have the ability to act on a diversity of opinions and perspectives. The candidate should also possess strong ambition, good ability to plan, organisational skills, problem-solving capabilities and to have a proactive approach in the work situations.

The candidate needs to be comfortable participating in English-speaking contexts and express themselves effectively in both Swedish and English. This includes speaking and writing. A member of the Presidium of SFS should be able to navigate in social situations, establish new contacts and strengthen existing ones. Therefore, it is important that a member of the Presidium of SFS can make a trustworthy and professional impression.

Requirements

- Experience with organisational work
- Experience with student union activities
- Knowledge of the Swedish higher education system
- Leadership skills
- Fluent in both Swedish and English in speech and writing
- Ongoing or completed higher education (at a higher education institution)

Merits

In addition to the above, it is advantageous if the applicant has experience within following areas:

- Experience of SFS
- Experience of having employer liability
- Experience with international student political issues
- Experience speaking in the media or in front of an audience
- Basic economic knowledge

For a more comprehensive description of the position as a member of the SFS presidium, the Nominations Committee encourages potential applicants to read the Presidium's rules of procedure, which can be found on SFS website. Questions can be directed to the current Presidium of SFS or the Nominations Committee at valberedning@sfs.se.

SFS Board

This part of the profile contains information about the characteristics and experiences considered suitable for the position as a board member of SFS.



The Nominations Committee strives to ensure that the board as a whole meets the personal qualities and merits described below. The characteristics listed under "requirements" are expected from each and every applicant.

Description of the role

The board consists of the presidium of SFS and seven (7) regular members. The number of alternates is determined by SFSFUM (Swedish National Union of Students' General Assembly). The mandate period lasts for one operational year, starting from first of July and reaching until the last of June.

The position is part of the organisation's leadership and is primarily carried out through board meetings. The time and location of board meetings are determined collectively at the beginning of the mandate period, with most meetings taking place in various physical locations throughout Sweden.

The board is formally responsible for the long-term management of the organisation's affairs between meetings of the General Assembly and actively developing the organisation through their work. The board is ultimately responsible for the employees and must ensure that the presidium of SFS has a good working environment. The board is responsible for ensuring that documents regulating SFS operations and organisation are appropriate and continuously revised. The board is also responsible for preparing matters for the General Assembly of SFS.

Personal Qualities

To carry out the duties as a board member, candidates should have an interest in student-related issues, good teamwork skills, a willingness to learn, interest in exploring new ideas, the ability to work independently and take responsibility for the organisation. Candidates have to be self-motivated and able to initiate and drive work forward to enable effective results under varying conditions. Furthermore, the candidate should be attentive to different perspectives and contribute to an inclusive environment where every voice is respected. A board member should be able to understand how different situations vary between institutions and member unions in relation to national student politics. Flexibility is a critical competency for handling changes and varying tasks within the dynamic organisation.

Requirements

- Experience within student union activities
- Experience with student politics
- Some knowledge of the Swedish higher education system
- Ongoing or completed higher education
- Proficient in both Swedish and English in speech and writing



Merits

In addition to the requirements listed above, it is advantageous if the applicant has experience in the following areas:

- Experience of SFS
- Experience with budgeting and/or organisational development
- Experience with board work or similar preparatory bodies
- Proficiency in English in speech and writing

For a more comprehensive profile of requirement, candidates are encouraged to read the board's working order, which can be found on the SFS website. Questions can be directed to the current board members or the Nomination Committee at valberedning@sfs.se.

SFS Auditors

The profile contains information about the characteristics and experiences considered suitable for a position as an auditor in SFS. The Nominations Committee strives to ensure that the auditors as a whole meet the personal qualities and merits described below. The characteristics listed under "requirements" are expected from each applicant.

Description of the role

The auditors consist of two (2) regular members and two (2) alternate members. The mandate period lasts for one operational year, starting from July.

The role involves ensuring that SFS operations are conducted in accordance with SFS governing documents. The work is analytical and includes reviewing SFS operations based on established governing documents. The audit should result in an audit report on the operations, which is presented at SFSFUM (Swedish National Union of Students' General Assembly) a year after the mandate period. The auditors are expected to be present at SFSFUM during their mandate period.

The auditors are invited to all board meetings but have no attendance requirements. However, they are expected to be available to the board and other elected representatives and to be knowledgeable about the organisation's operations.

Personal Qualities

To carry out the role of auditor, candidates should be thorough, structured, able to work independently, and take personal responsibility. Candidates should have experience and interest in working with various governing documents and organisational development, as well as experience in interpreting regulations.



Requirements

- Experience with SFS

Merits

In addition to the requirements listed above, it is advantageous if the applicant has:

- Previous experience with audit work
- Previous involvement in association law or interpretation of regulations
- Previous experience with student union activities

The description for auditors can be found in Statute of SFS, Chapter 6, on the SFS website. Questions can be directed to the current auditors or the Nomination Committee at valberedning@sfs.se.

SFS Nominations Committee

The profile contains information about the characteristics and experiences considered suitable for a position on the Nominations Committee for SFS. The Nominations Committee does not prepare its successors. The description below is a compilation of the qualities the Nominations Committee considers important to fulfil the task. Candidacies are received and sent directly to SFSFUM (Swedish National Union of Students' General Assembly).

Role Description

The Nominations Committee consists of seven (7) regular members and possible alternates. The mandate period lasts for one operational year, starting from July. The role includes creating job profiles, interviewing candidates, and presenting proposals of persons to a position of trust in SFS to SFSFUM. In addition, the Nominations Committee should conduct hearings of nominated Presidium candidates in Stockholm, attend member meetings, and participate in SFSFUM. The Nominations Committee holds continuous meetings during the mandate period, with at least two physical meetings. Most of the Nominations Committee's work takes place during the spring semester, and members are expected to participate when required.

Personal Qualities

To fulfil the role, the Nominations Committee needs to have a structured approach that facilitates planning and organisation of the election process. A strategic perspective is required to continuously develop and improve the Nominations Committee's structure over time. Finally, strategic communication is essential for effectively conveying decisions and recommendations to relevant parties. Nominations Committee candidates should be trustworthy and objective.



Requirements

- Experience with SFS

Merits

In addition to the above, it is advantageous if the applicant has experience in the following areas:

- Experience with election work/participation in nominations committees
- Experience with recruitment and election processes
- Experience with student union activities

The description for the Nomination Committee can be found in SFS Statute, Chapter 5. In addition, there are directives for elections and nomination committees on the SFS website. Questions can be directed to the current Nomination Committee at valberedning@sfs.se.