



7th ASEF Rectors' Conference & Students' Forum

Higher Education Taking Action towards the Sustainable Development Goals:
Perspectives from Europe and Asia

University West Trollhättan

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Some facts about University West

Trollhättan Sweden, West Coast, SAAB-cars
North of Gothenburg
65 000 inhabitants

University West Founded in 1990
15 000 students, 5100 FE
Staff: 650 3employees, 65 professors



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Fundamental values: All people have equal rights; democracy and diversity contribute to social welfare, justice and sustainable social development

Vision: To create knowledge and make it accessible to a greater extent

Core values: Generosity, Pro-activeness, Inclusiveness, "crazy enough"

Position: Sweden's leading university in the field of Work Integrated Learning (WIL)

Brand Promise: Knowledge in mutual collaboration ("knowledge exchange")



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Work Integrated Learning (WIL)

- “Brand promise”: Main concept/common idea
- Aspects in this concept:
 - (1) Students: WIEducation (theory and practice)
 - (2) Partners: developing business
 - (3) Research: following up what happens, models (life long learning)
 - (4) Third circle/Phd-level: doctor in WIL
 - (5) Careers between academy and working life/companies common publications
- Mutual cooperation
- Open lab-platforms – to invite society and companies to academy



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Social commitment at University West (Sweden) - Background and how we became who we are

- 2011: SAAB crash in Trollhättan
- 2014: large number of immigrants in our region
- 2015: School attack in Trollhättan

- Our university (the students!) and we became actors in society
- Idea of include / including / open up the university to take responsibility for society and democracy

- take care of / develop potentials in the region
- offer possibilities for individual development / careers
- strengthen the region (individuals / working life)



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Strategic decisions

- more courses, less programs (break down mental barriers, combine work and studies, ...)
- strong decision making: stand up for democracy
- Integration

Platforms in partnership

- Scholars at Risk (together with other universities in Sweden)
- (2017) contract with Support Group Network / Restad Gård
- (2017) platform “Kommunakademin Väst” (14 municipalities in the region)



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Concrete initiatives

Working together with refugees (Support Group Network at Restad Gård / Scholars at Risk)

Teaching (students and teachers)

Offering the universities platforms and contacts

Internships

”Double Cup” with university staff and employers

Meetings in the university, together with employment agency

Employment agencies are represented in our university

International conferences about inkludering, validation, immigration



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Other projects i mutual cooperation with actors from outside the university, in line with SDG 2030

09 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure

11 Sustainable Cities and Communities

- concepts for mobility (e-car-sharing) /// families in Trollhättan
- Additive manufacturing, thermal spraying /// aeroplane-engines
- Cirkular economy /// companies in our region

In mutual cooperation. Mutual cooperation gives impact!