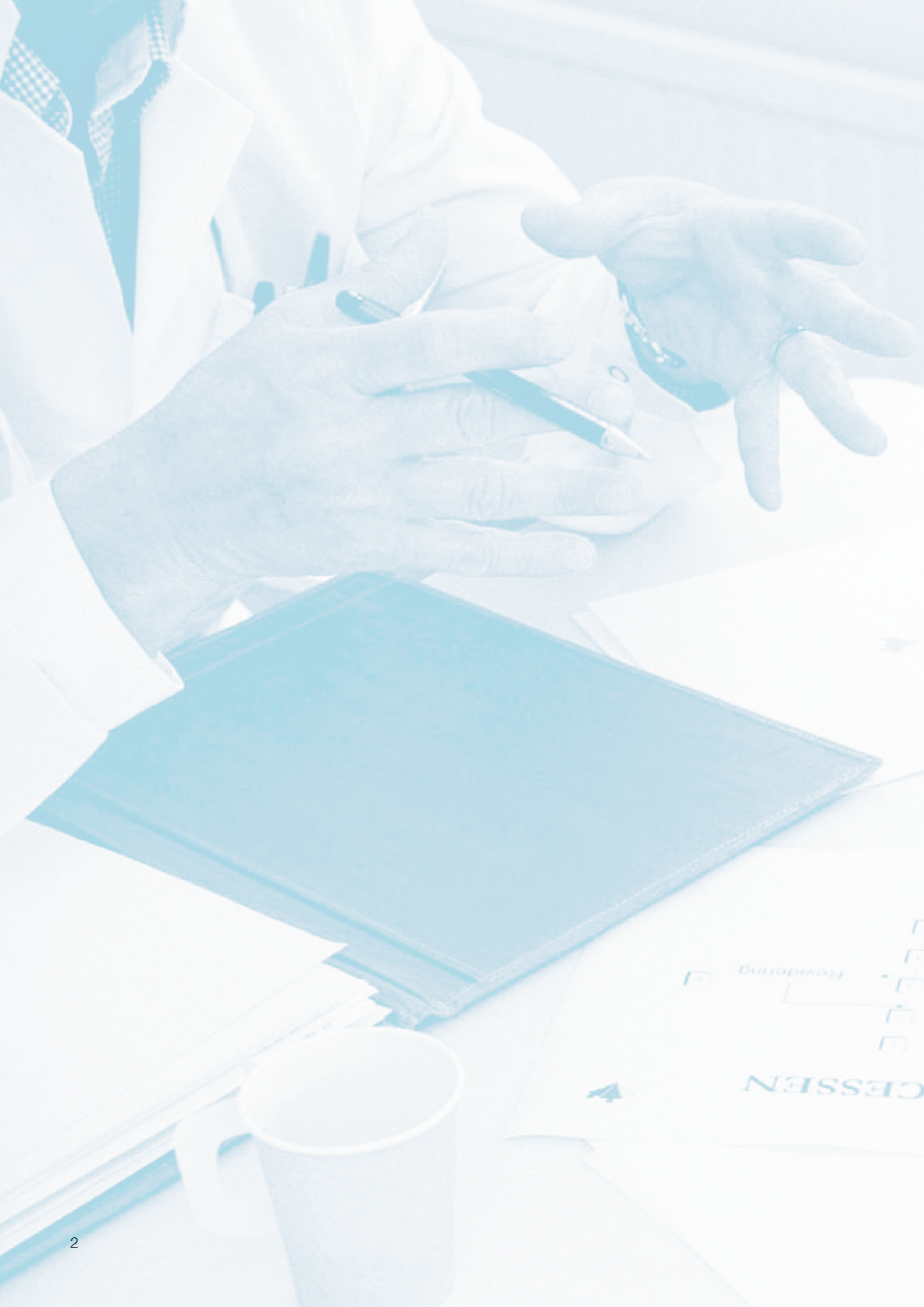




Strategy for cooperation with universities and colleges





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Linköping municipality sees universities, colleges and other educational institutions as key partners for the development of its own activities, for community development as well as business growth in the municipality and the region. Having a successful university within its community also brings with it the challenge of offering an open and proactive municipal organisation that can exploit the results of research and education.”

*Paul Lindvall (M)
Chairman of the Executive Board*

1

Motive

Three fundamental reasons for collaboration with universities, colleges and other educational institutions*.

The municipality needs the skills, resources and results that come with the university in order to improve and develop its operations. If the municipality is to offer its citizens the best possible service, it requires competence that is based on recognized expertise, proven experience and the latest knowledge in science.

Collaboration with the university is also important for Linköping so that it may strengthen the development and growth of the municipality as well as the region. Close cooperation with universities is vital from an employment and growth perspective. Proximity in particular to Linköping University and its research resources, benefits not least the establishment of knowledge-intensive businesses and activities but also contributes to the establishment of more service operations. Therefore the university supports the municipality's aims to develop a broader business and labour market for greater economic sustainability, increased range of choices as well as contributing towards greater development dynamics.

Growth in the number of students in Linköping and in the region also increases the municipality's skills and recruitment base thus contributing positively to the municipality's potential for a positive population growth. The possibility to recruit foreign students also provides opportunities for wider international exchange with access to a larger range of goods, to the services market as well as increased resources for research. Attractive job opportunities, a rich cultural life and ample leisure activities are also important factors for universities if they are to attract staff and students.

*Definition of Terms - Other institutions refers to all post-upper secondary school education.

2

Strategies

Five fundamental strategies for collaboration with universities and colleges.

The municipality shall:

- 1.** Play a leading role in creating good cooperation with universities and colleges, with particular emphasis on interaction with the students.
- 2.** Support the establishment and growth of research and development environments that are of importance for the municipality, the business sector and local residents.
- 3.** Collaborate with universities and colleges within those areas that promote the municipality and its residents as well as the local and regional business community. The municipality will also support entrepreneurship and new enterprises originating from universities and colleges.
- 4.** Take advantage of the universities and colleges as a resource for the organisation of the municipality ensuring development is based on recognized research and proven experience. The municipality's various departments are to collaborate with universities and colleges in the fields of research and development.
- 5.** Provide attractive environments in which to live; social and community services that attract students and researchers to establish in the community.

3

Implementation and follow-up

It is the responsibility of each committee, board and authority to implement and monitor the strategies in this document through the use of actions and activities.

Each administration has a mandate to collaborate with universities and colleges with the aim of developing the administrations own operation and also the municipality as a whole.

The Municipal Executive Board has overall responsibility for coordinating and supporting the individual administrations in their contacts with universities and colleges.

The Municipal Executive Board also has the responsibility for reporting the entire municipal research and development effort to the political leadership.

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