Accessibility to Umeå University Library study spaces and group study rooms due to COVID-19

Present
Hans Adolfsson  Vice-Chancellor  Chairperson
Katrine Riklund  Pro-Vice-Chancellor
Hans Wiklund  University Director
Chatarina Larson  Senior legal officer
Anton Öhrlund  Student
Tine Riklund  Student
Victor Johansson  Student
Erik Thorsten  Secretary

Presenter
Daniel Andersson

Background/motivation
COVID-19 is currently spreading in society. The university follows the Government’s and the Public Health Agency of Sweden’s directives, guidelines and recommendations regarding COVID-19. Additionally, the Vice-Chancellor reaches decisions on other issues deemed necessary. The university’s ambition is that teaching and examination will continue as planned to the greatest extent possible. At the same time, the university is also working to reduce the spread of disease. On 17 December 2020, the Vice-Chancellor decided on the adjustments necessary to the university and its activities due to the pandemic for the period 18 December 2020 until the end of spring semester on 7 June 2021.

Regarding the University Library, the decision states that “The Umeå University Library is still open but additional measures may be necessary to further reduce the risk of infection.”. Regarding public events, the decision states that “Bildmuseet and Curiosum may still carry out activities aimed at pre-school children and children at school given that the Public Health Agency of Sweden and the Swedish Government’s guidelines, regulations and general advice and the current situation with regards to COVID-19 allow that such activities continue” (reg. no. FS 1.1-2617-20). The Vice-Chancellor reached a decision on 18 January 2021 regarding the accessibility to Umeå University Library study spaces and group study rooms as well as opening hours.

Based upon a continually high level of infection in society, and to respond to the requirements necessary due to the current situation, it is deemed necessary to extend the decision until 27 June 2021, after which the University Library’s summer opening hours take effect.

This decision may be revised if new or updated national or regional guidelines are issued. Regarding the exception for Bildmuseet and Curiosum to carry out activities aimed at pre-school children and children at school, please refer to the decision made by the Vice-Chancellor on 18 January 2021 (valid until 28 March 2021).
Decision
The Vice-Chancellor has reached the following decision valid from 9 March 2021 until 27 June 2021.

- Study spaces in the University Library and the Medical Library as well as group study rooms in Universum will remain closed. This does not include bookable resource rooms available to students with a need for reading and writing support.
- The library director may decide on limiting opening hours for the university libraries.
- It is no longer possible to book the library’s group study rooms.
- The libraries are open for loans and returns as well as access to reference literature. Booked visits to a monitored hall for access to research material with restrictions are now allowed.

Hans Adolfsson
Chairperson

Dispatched to:
The University Library
Faculties
Umeå School of Education
Student unions
University Administration