



UMEÅ UNIVERSITY

INSTRUCTION - COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE AT UMEÅ UNIVERSITY (RIS)

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¹ This document has been translated from Swedish into English. If the English version differs from the original, the Swedish version takes precedence.



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1. Description

The instruction for the Council for Research Infrastructure at Umeå University (henceforth also called “RIS”) specifies the council’s composition, responsibilities, and ways of working.

2. Background

Research infrastructures² are a key condition for carrying out high-quality research at Umeå University’s faculties and the Umeå School of Education. Certain infrastructures are funded by the Swedish Research Council’s Council for Research Infrastructures (VR-RFI) funding model, which involves higher education institutions providing co-funding at an equal level to the allocation from VR-RFI, while other infrastructures are funded by the University or other funding bodies. This means that higher education institutions must have a strategic plan for funding and prioritising research infrastructures. For Umeå University to give researchers access to the best research infrastructure, common principles for internal management must therefore be in place that clarify planning, prioritisation, and funding.

The Council for Research Infrastructure at Umeå University (RIS) is a preparatory university-wide body with delegates from all faculties that reports to the Strategic Council for Research and Doctoral Education (FOSTRA).

The policy document “Rules for research infrastructures at Umeå University” specifies the criteria for a research infrastructure to be defined as a *research infrastructure at Umeå University*, the University’s coordination regarding the Swedish Research Council’s process for funding research infrastructures of national interest, and the funding of research infrastructures at Umeå University.

Due to the content and nature of this instruction document, the student, work environment, collaboration, international, accessibility and sustainability and perspectives have not been integrated. The gender equality perspective has been integrated insofar as gender equality must be taken into account in the composition of the group.

² “Facilities, resources and related services that are used by the scientific community to conduct research in their respective fields, and covers scientific equipment or sets of instruments, knowledge-based resources such as collections, archives or structured scientific information, enabling information and communication technology-based infrastructures such as grid, computing, software and communication, or any other entity of a unique nature essential to conduct research. Such infrastructures may be ‘single-sited’ or ‘distributed’ (an organised network of resources) in accordance with Article 2(a) of Council Regulation (EC) No 723/2009 of 25 June 2009 on the Community legal framework for a European Research Infrastructure Consortium (ERIC).” (Source: European Commission, Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014, declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty Text, Official Journal of the European Union 26.6.2014, p. L 187/25).



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3. Composition and term of office

The council consists of five (5) members according to the specifications below. Gender equality must be taken into account in the composition of the group.

- one chair: a member from University Management with responsibility for research;
- one member from each of the four faculties. Faculty members are proposed by their respective dean. Individual deputies with the right to participate in the regular members' absence may be appointed.

The members of the council are appointed by the Vice-Chancellor. The term of office is four years during which RIS must convene at least three times per semester. The University's Planning Office supplies administrative support to the council.

4. Responsibilities

RIS is a university-wide preparatory body tasked with supporting the Vice-Chancellor and remaining members of the University Management. It is also a forum for knowledge exchange and discussion regarding issues related to research infrastructure.

The council is responsible for:

- proposing strategic direction for research infrastructures at Umeå University to FOSTRA;
- developing proposals for the university-wide strategy for research infrastructure at Umeå University for decision by the Vice-Chancellor;
- compiling and regularly updating a directory of research infrastructure at Umeå University;
- planning, coordinating and communicating the Swedish Research Council's funding process for research infrastructure of national interest at Umeå University;
- proposing revisions of the policy document "Rules for research infrastructures at Umeå University" as needed;
- university-wide coordination of activities regarding infrastructure; and
- advising on internal and external communication relating to research infrastructure at Umeå University.

5. Reporting

The Council for Research Infrastructure at Umeå University advises and reports to the Strategic Council for Research and Doctoral Education (FOSTRA) on a regular basis. The council's members are also responsible for communicating the council's suggestions and activities to their faculties' management teams.