For a more diverse and international Union

According to SULF’s own “Vision 2030” document, in order to fulfill its mission as a critical force in society, academia needs to be “diverse with ethnic, geographical and socioeconomic variation among both students and academic staff.” Over the past decades, Swedish Universities have attracted an increasing number of international researchers. According to the Swedish Higher Education Authority (UKÄ), on average 12% of employees in Swedish universities are not Swedish citizens, with an even greater proportion in larger universities.\(^1\)

It is in SULF’s strategic interest to engage this growing group of employees; SULF should have the ambition to represent better than any other Saco union international teachers, researchers and doctoral students. While translating material to English and providing greater language flexibility are important steps in this direction, it is imperative that SULF as an organization strive to reflect within its own ranks the increasing diversity of the academic workforce. Diversity of the academic workforce is not limited to the current country of citizenship, but also includes different national origins as well as cultural and ethnic backgrounds.

SULF/Uppsala therefore proposes:

- that the Congress decide that SULF should strive for increased diversity among elected representatives, in order to more closely reflect the diversity of employees at Swedish universities involved in teaching and research.
- that the Congress decide that SULF should provide training and networking opportunities to elected representatives with a non-Swedish background.

För SULF/Uppsala
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\(^1\) See for example UKA’s statistics at the website https://www.uka.se/download/18.5f06ad31171ac43e9571ccd/15881700