



How to influence

Association trainings 2019
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My background

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Why did I ever apply to council/hallosed?

I have been...

- AYY Academic Affairs Specialist since 2018 spring
- HYY representative council member, board member, volunteer, financial directorate member and member in company boards 2013-2017
- My own study association 2010-2015
- Hallosed (student representative) 2011-2017



My background

Lumi Ketola

Why did I ever apply to council/haloped?

I have been...

- AYY board member, academic affairs
- CHEM Haloped responsible
- Board member in the guild of materials and metallurgy students, VK
- Student representative since 2016



Where your association can and should affect?

- Student Union: what does AYY offer for associations
 - Board angel (the person in the AYY board dedicated for your guild)
 - People in charge of that issue
- Studies
 - Course arrangements – feedback for teacher in charge
 - Programme arrangements – Programme Director, programme committee
 - School – *Vice Dean of Education, Head of Learning Services, School's Academic Affairs Committee, Dean's lunch* with associations
- Opiskelutilat
 - Oma rakennus – oman koulun henkilöt
 - Muut rakennukset – ota yhteyttä AYYlle tai ACREen

Updating Curriculum 2020-2022

- Going on right now in Program Committees
- Decisions spring 2020 in School's Academic Committee
- Get schedule from the study coordinator or programme leader
- New curricula in effect August 2020
- Not a big renewal now because of coming up 2022 hurricane
- Examples what can be done now:
 - New courses / Courses going more times in a year
 - Change the period of courses
 - Obligatory courses / is there options (for example study 3 courses from this 5 courses -type of basket)
 - Completion methods (book exam, group work, lectures, else) & possibly alternative completion methods
 - Learning goals: is something important missing?

Types on influencing

- I want something totally new
 - I want to develop a better system/process
 - I want this to remain as they are
 - Things have changed, everything is terrible and I want to take it all apart
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- Top-down or bottom-up?
 - Choose your battles

Define your goals

Example 1: AYY should buy a pony for the associations

- Is it the pony you want, or a solution to some problem?
- Oftentimes there are many different solutions.
- If you want **the** solution, hold on to it. If you want **a** solution, give space.

Example 2: Aalto communicates poorly, it should do better

- What is the problem? Who does it affect? Is it a large problem? What does the problem cause?
- Better communication is a wide thing to make happen, but a request to communicate more frequently/via a specific medium/faster, is a simpler task.
- Big issues made concrete and split to smaller bites can make getting results easier.

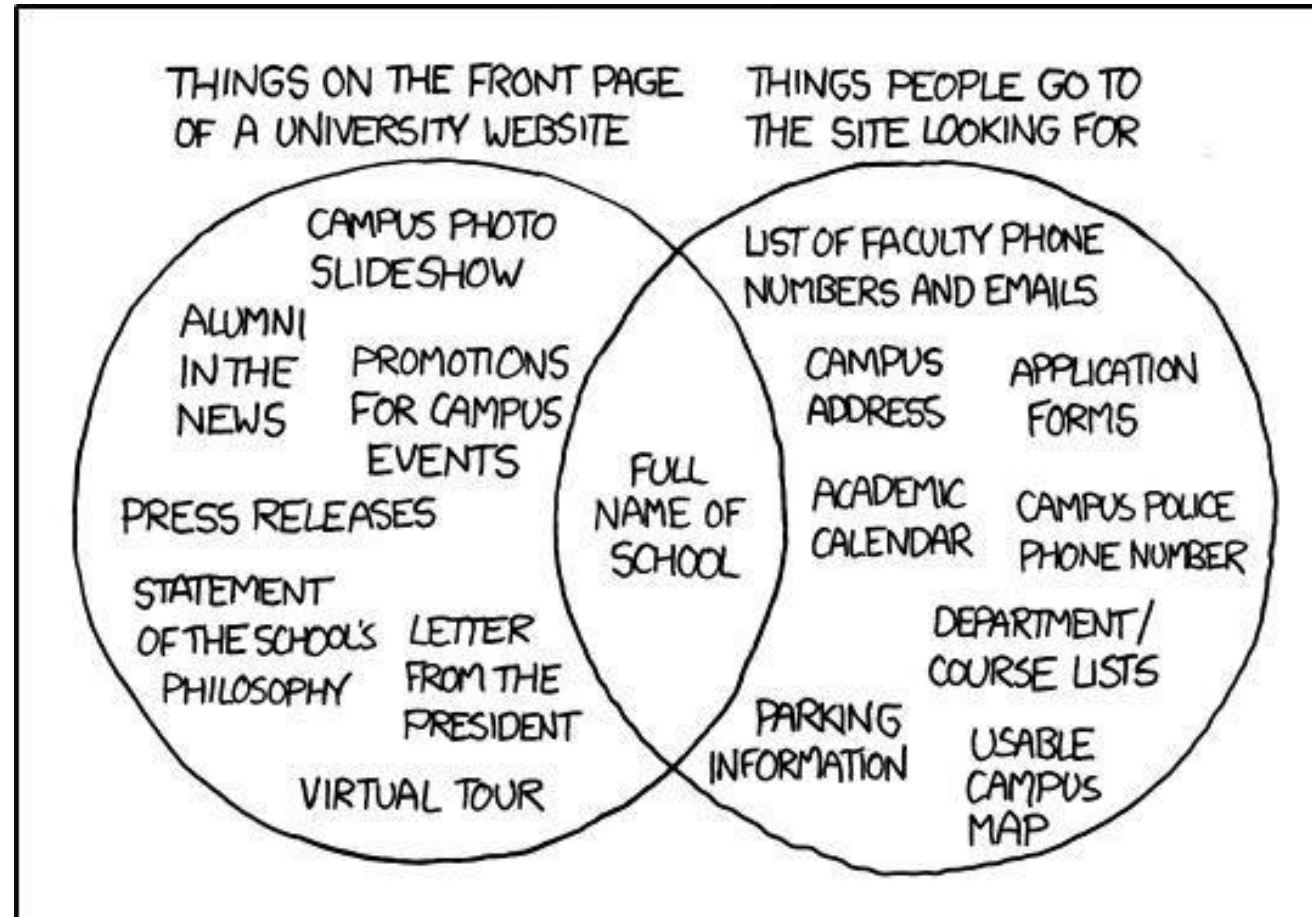
What to do when your idea is not going forward

- Make sure the idea gets heard!
- Is the matter important?
 - > Try testing it on someone else.
- Does it affect many people?
 - > Get those people involved. Especially collaboration inside your School is important.
- Is it in line with policies and values?
 - > If necessary, change policies
- Does it require lots of money?
 - > Where does the money come from, where can the money be taken away from if necessary? Compare amount of money to some other amounts.
- Work hours needed?
 - > 'not many': keep asking after it.
 - > 'many': get it to next year's action plan or strategy. Better start sooner than later.

Minimum level advocacy checklist for every association

- Do you have a communication channel for communicating about advocacy and problems on your own field?
- Do you have a channel for communicating with all your school's student representatives?
- Who is your Programme Director? School's Vice Dean of Education? Head of Learning Services? When do you meet them?

Finding information is not always easy – ask for it!



“Imaginary” advocacy situations

Your school is reducing study spaces

- You hear that your school is going to cut down on study spaces (rent them to high school). Also, your association will have to pay rent for your association room.
- What will you do?

Lecturer speaks out

- Your associations messaging channel: a student tells about a lecture where the lecturer has verbally attacked the competence of international students and the lack of trying of Finnish students
- When you open the chat, there are 50+ messages organizing an address to the president of the university demanding the lecturer be fired
- What will you do?

Assessment methods & criteria changing mid-course??

You are hanging out at the association room and hear that the assessment methods & criteria of some course are changing mid-course.

At the beginning of the course:

50 % exam, 30 % exercise, 20 % attendance

Now:

30 % exam, 30 % exercise, 30 % attendance, 10 % presentation

Attendance mandatory, no exceptions, even with a note from doctor

