# **Revised Action Plan HRS4R 2022**

## **New actions**

Below you will find the new actions that will be added to the revised action plan in the HRS4R process. The action plan also contains the actions from the current action plan that have not been completed yet and those that have been completed. The remaining actions are at the end of this document. The actions have been developed using input and feedback from open focus groups, workshops, subject and departmental meetings, a survey, the professors collegiate, conversations with resear21 es collegiate,

Action 20	GAP Principle(s)	Timing (at least by
T	1.5	year's quarter/semester)
Incorporate EU Open science policy into the research	1. Research freedom	20.1 Q2 2022
support framework and/or frameworks	2. Ethical principles	20.2 Q4 2023
	3. Professional	20.3 Q1 2024
Open science has been developing over recent years as a	responsibility	
policy nationally and within the EU. At Karlstad University		
we have been engaging and supporting researchers in	Responsible unit	Indicator(s)/Target(s)
relation to important areas of open science. It is now time	Coordinated by the Grants	20.1 Identify the
to widen the open science agenda and to develop a	and Innovation Office	ambitions within
structure that embeds this as a more formalised and settled		the EU Open
process. This work cuts across many departments and		Science policy that
requires a coordinated and systemic approach.		will be addressed.
		20.2 Provide clear
EU Open Science policy:		guidelines for
https://ec.europa.eu/info/research-and-		researchers in each
innovation/strategy/strategy-2020-2024/our-digital-		of these areas
<u>future/open-science_en</u>		20.3 Incorporate into pre
		and post award
		processes as well as
		expanding the
		Research
		Handbook to
		incorporate open
		science
Action 21	GAP Principle(s)	Timing (at least by
		year's quarter/semester)
Create and implement a digital recruitment course for	14. Selection (Code)	21.1 Q1 2021
managers and other staff working with recruitment of		21.2 Q3 2021
staff to Karlstad University.		21.3 Q1 2022
		21.4 Q3 2022
In accordance with principle 14 of the Charter and Code		21.5 Q3 2022
regulating selection committees, members of		21.6 Q1 2023
selection panels should be adequately trained. All		21.7 Q2 2023
recruitment processes have an assigned HR Specialist with		21.8 Q1 2025
the right training and all managers receive training.	Responsible unit	Indicator(s)/Target(s)
However, a need for training staff other than managers and HR Specialists has been identified. To reach a larger	HR Office	

audience and to provide more accessible training at all times, a digital recruitment course is being developed

Action 22	GAP Principle(s)	Timing (at least by year's quarter/semester)
		21.8 Evaluate the course
		organisation
		the whole
		21.7 Launch the course to
		21.6 Review if needed
		evaluate
		a small scale and
		21.5 Launch the course on

Update instructions to experts to indicate that we are positive to and value co-authorship and mobility, including virtual mobility

The instructions to experts do not specifically include that Karlstad University value of co-

Action 17	GAP Principle(s)	Timing (at least by year's quarter/semester)
Update the Appointment Procedures and	12. Recruitment	17.1 Q3 2020
Supplementary Procedures for the Recruitment and	13. Recruitment (Code)	17.2 Q4 2020
Promotion of Academic staff	16. Judging merit (Code)	
	19. Recognition of	
These steering documents needs to be updated to align	qualifications (Code)	
better with the Charter for researchers & Code of Conduct	Responsible unit	Indicator(s)/Target(s)
for the Recruitment of Researchers.	HR Office	17.1 Steering documents
		revised
		17.2 Decided and
		implemented
Action 17	GAP Principle(s)	Timing (at least by
		year's quarter/semester)
Create a toolbox for gender perspectives within	10. Non-discrimination	19.1 Q4 2020
recruitment processes	27. Gender balance	19.2 Q1 2021
	Responsible unit	Indicator(s)/Target(s)

A toolbox for managers will be developed to support them in how to apply a gender perspective to the recruitment processes. The toolbox will be included in an HR guide for managers.

HR Office

The recruitment process is functioning well and has improved due to the adjustments made in the last year.

provide collegial support to newly employed academic staff will therefore be extended to include all academic staff. The programme must also consider openness and transparency.

Co-authorship is considered important, but KAU does not provide clear guidance on this issue. The traditions vary between different subject areas and at the moment co-authorship is only reflected in bibliometric scores and is not considered in a wider perspective. The University Library will, in cooperation with the faculties, develop guidelines on co-authorship.

### 2022 version

Swedish legislation ensures working conditions and social security of a high standard, and state employees enjoy additional benefits. Karlstad University understands that good conditions are vital to attract and retain competent staff. Therefore, KAU has been implementing new recruitment procedures centred on employment stability. This has created a cultural shift in moving away from renewing multiple short-term contracts as a standard practice, towards a higher percentage of permanent contracts, resulting in the lowest percentage of non-permanent contracts for academic staff among Swedish universities. Doctoral students have good conditions with contracts and relatively high salaries, when compared internationally.

Karlstad University, like all public higher education institutions in Sweden, was tasked by the government

## Training and development \*

#### 2019 version

The area of Training and Development is in need of further attention, since 4 out of 5 principles are considered not completely fulfilled. During doctoral education, there is a clear supervision structure. However, after obtaining a PhD, the structure disappears and early stage researchers are expected to develop into independent researchers all by themselves. Depending on the research environment in which a researcher is involved, opportunities for guidance and access to research training may not be clear to individual researchers and are therefore not used to a desirable extent. Some managers may not have efficient tools for following up on performed activities in appraisal talks.

There is a wide variety of research training and professional development opportunities available. However,

	Responsible unit	Indicator(s)/Target(s)
The post-award structure and procedures need to be formalised and embedded into the overall research award support structure. This will engage several support offices at the University. The Research Administration Steering Group (Sw: FASG group), which has just completed a review of the pre-award support structure, will continue the development of the post-award structure.  The Post-award Structure with support notes and outlining rules and regulations for the management of projects will be incorporated within the Research Handbook and the	Grants and Innovation Office through the FASG group (FASG: research adm steering group)	Development and decision of new post-award structure  1.2 Implementation of new structure
overall research support structure.		
	a	Timing (at least by
Action 2	GAP Principle(s)	year's quarter/semester)
Research  Research  Researchers at Karlstad University follow good practice concerning accountability (6) towards the University as an employer, as well as to the interests of funders and tax-	Accountability     Evaluation/appraisal systems     Research environment     Supervision and managerial duties	2.1 Q4 2019 2.2 Q4 2019 2.3 Q4 2020
payers in using their money well. Methods of data	Responsible unit	Indicator(s)/Target(s)
collection and analysis are open to internal and external scrutiny. Research is evaluated through designating strong or excellent research groups and appraisal talks on an individual level (11). Researchers have access to a research environment (23) with specialised equipment, labs, databases, internal and external professional opportunities, language training, office spaces, up-to-date IT facilities, etc. The multifaceted roles of senior researchers (37) are demonstrated within the research collegiate and the doctoral supervision collegiate.  However, the gaps in all four of these principles show that although there is research collegiality in relation to internal peer review, seminars, research discussion groups, and idea reflecting forums that function very well in some research areas, this is not standard practice throughout the	Vice-Chancellor for decision, Pro-Vice-Chancellor for information about decision, Deans for implementation	2.1 Decision 2.2 Information about decision 2.3 First evaluation of research unit/group using the QA model completed
University. Currently, the University is working on its Research Quality Assurance Process, as required by the Swedish Higher Education Authority (Sw: Universitetskanslerämbetet, UKÄ). Broadening and structuring the peer-review process will be an important component of these efforts. A proposal has been distributed for a round of internal consultations, which will end on the 30th of September 2019. The QA model for education and research is to be decided, and academic departments need to be informed and implement the Quality Assurance model. Implementation is considered fulfilled when the first evaluation using the QA model is completed.  Action 3	GAP Principle(s)	Timing (at least by year's quarter/semester)
Update the Recruitment Strategy	12. Recruitment	3.1 Q4 2019
		3.2 Q2 2020

The Strategy and Action Plan for the Recruitment of		3.3 Q3 2020
Academic Staff needs to be updated with actions in line	Responsible unit	Indicator(s)/Target(s)
with the HR Excellence in Research Charter & Code	HR Office	3.1 Review of current
		Strategy completed
		3.2 Proposal of new
		Strategy/Policy
		3.3 Decision and
		implementation
		Timing (at least by
Action 4	GAP Principle(s)	year's quarter/semester)

Consolidate information about training and

	communicating and implementing the programme among senior and early stage researchers.	
Action 7	GAP Principle(s)	Timing (at least by year's quarter/semester)
Embed aspects of career advice/professional	28. Career development	7.1 Q1 2020
development for researchers in the appraisal talk	30. Access to career advice 38. Continuing	7.2 Q2 2020
Gaps that have been identified include the lack of structured career advice and how professional development opportunities are utilised, recorded and evaluated. Other	professional development 40. Supervision	
actions have focused on the accessibility and registration of completed research training activities. Aspects of career		

The support, in terms of the guidelines and template for documentation in preparing and conducting the appraisals, does not include career advice and is not customised for specific staff categories, such as researchers. Therefore the guidelines on employee performance appraisal interviews as well as the template for documentation will be updated to include these issues

advice and professional development opportunities for researchers must also be naturally embedded in the

appraisal talks and followed up.

		boards and the ethics
		committee
		9.2 Internal consultation
		on co-authorship
		guidelines
		9.3 Decision on guideline
		for co-authorship
		9.4 Information and
		implementation of
		new guidelines
		Timing (at least by
Action 10	GAP Principle(s)	year's quarter/semester)

Implement continual development opportunities for doctoral student supervisors

Attendance of the doctoral supervision course is mandatory to become a docent (reader or