What is RQ20 and why do we need it?
From the RQ 20 Project Plan

RQ20 – Aim and Task

RQ20 should provide a picture of how competitive the research of Lund University is in an international context. The evaluation is to look to the future by identifying strengths, weaknesses and development potential in all of the University’s different research environments and in the organisations linked to these environments – for example, departments and faculties.

The aim of RQ20 is therefore to produce advisory documentation for the future, based on an analysis of the conditions within the University’s different research environments.
From the RQ 20 Project Plan

RQ20 is LU’s own process – not a response to rankings or an adaption to outside requirements

Our starting point is that RQ20 is to benefit the reviewed activities: it should be possible for the evaluated environments (and the faculties and University management) to use the self-evaluation immediately for planning, operational descriptions and as documentation for funding applications both internally and externally.
From the RQ 20 Project Plan

"Help to self-help"

The aim is not to compare the research environments or to grade each one individually, instead, it is to contribute constructive observations on improvements and to recognise already accomplished achievements. Neither will RQ20 address direct financial benefits or distribution instruments. The aim is to detail the conditions at the different units and to draw conclusions at the panel level and at the university-wide level.
Relation to RQ08

RQ20 is a significantly broadened follow-up of the earlier research evaluations RQ08 and RQ14. The intention of RQ20 is also to be more prospective than the earlier evaluations.

One of the self-evaluation tasks is to mention – if applicable – major changes that have been undertaken within the research environment during the last decade.

Relation to governmental evaluations

RQ20 is taking place at the same time as Swedish higher education policy is becoming more and more focused on the development and assessment of quality enhancement at universities, primarily by the Swedish Higher Education Authority (UKÄ) and with collective response from the Association of Swedish Higher Education Institutions (SUHF). The frameworks that UKÄ and SUHF have produced indicate the importance of self-initiated inventories and evaluations. RQ20 therefore fulfils a clear role. In addition, RQ20 takes this ambition further. The aim is to highlight and critically evaluate the organisation’s qualities and ambitions and how they can be further developed.
The RQ20 Phases

SPRING 2019
PLANNING PHASE

AUTUMN 2019
SELF-EVALUATION PHASE

SPRING 2020
EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT PHASE

AUTUMN 2020
FOLLOW-UP
RQ20 – GENERAL SCHEDULE

SPRING 2019 PLANNING PHASE

1/3
15/6
1/9
8-12/4: Dean Meetings
1/3 – 3/5:
• Definition Panels
• Definition Environments (UoAs)
• Project Plan
3/5 – 3/6:
Revisions of environment lists
14/6: Self-evaluation Instructions to environments
4/10: Base data to environments
20/12: Self-evaluations finalised

AUTUMN 2019 SELF-EVALUATION

15/6
1/9
Recruitment of panel advisors (subject and transversal)
Self-evaluations carried out
3/9 Open RQ20 Info meeting

SPRING 2020 EXTERNAL ASSESSMENT

1/1
9/1
Subject panel Chairs meet in Lund
9/1
Subject panels site visits in Lund

AUTUMN 2020 FOLLOW-UP

15/6
1/9
Faculties, Panels and Research environments use the RQ20 conclusions for their future progress

The RQ 20 report is delivered to the LU management

RQ-20 Result

RQ20 meetings (management) 10.00 Mondays odd week numbers from 28/1 2019
Reference group meetings 10.00 Mondays even week numbers from 4/3 2019

7
Main goals:

1. Define RQ20 structure and research environments

2. Identify and formulate evaluation dimensions used for self assessment

3. Produce basic information on the units’ funding and activities (base data)
What is a RQ20 research environment (Unit of Assessment)?

The *research environments* (*Units of assessment, UoA*) are primarily defined by the faculties and may in some cases be large and broad (which may be hard to break down into smaller units) and in other cases clearly defined. The definition of the research environments is decided on by the faculties in consultation with the RQ20 office. **We expect research environments to be homogenous and easily recognisable by those involved, but not too small.**

**We are aware that this homogeneity is sometimes very hard to achieve!**
The term (subject) panel is used in this project description for both a group of **linked research environments** during the self-evaluation phase (32 in all) and for the same group of research environments during the external assessment phase.
RQ 20 - RESULT

External Advisors

Self-Evaluations

6-8 Research Environments (UoAs)/Panel
20-25 Researchers/UoA \( \rightarrow \) 100 – 150
Researchers/Panel \( \rightarrow \)
Approx. 4000-5000 researchers in total

Approx. 4-6 Advisors / Panel \( \rightarrow \)
Around 200 Advisors in total

National Comparison (not exact)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>SLU</th>
<th>UU</th>
<th>GU</th>
<th>LU</th>
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<tr>
<td>KON18</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>35+5</td>
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<tr>
<td>KOF17</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>RED19</td>
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<td>RQ20</td>
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<td>No Panels</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>130</td>
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<td>200</td>
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<tr>
<td>No Advisors</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>4000</td>
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### Employees at Lund University

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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>Total Number Approximatively</td>
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<tr>
<td>A Professors</td>
<td>800</td>
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<tr>
<td>B Teachers, Researchers and doctorate students</td>
<td>4,100</td>
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<tr>
<td>C Technical and Administrative Staff</td>
<td>2,500</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research Staff</th>
<th>Economy</th>
<th>Central Adm.</th>
<th>Humanities and Theology</th>
<th>Law</th>
<th>Arts</th>
<th>LTH Technical University</th>
<th>Medicine</th>
<th>MAX IV</th>
<th>Science.</th>
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<th>LU Special Branches</th>
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<tr>
<td>A+B above per faculty</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Approximatively</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>427</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>1205</td>
<td>1152</td>
<td>91</td>
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<td>Number of panels out of 35 panels in total from fraction above</td>
<td>2.33</td>
<td>0.03</td>
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<td>0.83</td>
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<td>8.53</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>35</td>
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</table>
RQ20 structure at University level

- **Faculties**: 9 in total = all 8 faculties + MAX IV
- **Panels**: 32 in total
- **Research Environments**: 159 in total
  - Subject Panels, linked research environments during the self-evaluation phase
  - Subject areas defined by faculties (as departments, divisions & larger research groups or themes)
- **Researchers**: 4726 in total = members of teaching staff/researchers

Research environments are also referred to as *Units of Assessments (UoA:s)*
Each faculty is divided into 1-9 panels...

..each panel is divided into 1-8 research environments...

..each comprising 20-25 researchers
Joint Faculties of Humanities & Theology

Panel H1
- Research Environments (UoA:s)
  1. Ark-Antik
  2. Hist
  3. Kultur1
  4. Kultur2
  5. Kultur3
  6. Uvet1
  7. Uvet2
  8. Sol1

Panel H2
- Research Environments (UoA:s)
  1. Sol2
  2. Sol3
  3. Sol4
  4. Sol5
  5. Sol6
  6. Sol7
  7. Fil1
  8. Fil2

Panel T
- Research Environments (UoA:s)
  1. Ctr1
  2. Ctr2
  3. Ctr3
  4. Ctr4

For example...
The self-evaluation instructions are delivered to the research environments by June 14 and the process itself started in mid-August.

The self-evaluation is governed by Appendix 1 to the Project Plan and comprises reflexions on the following themes:

A. Overarching summary
B1. Leadership
B2. Collegial culture
B3. Quality ecosystem
B4. Transversal themes
C. Final Remarks

• When responding to the questions A-C above, please refer to the background material (financial conditions, publication patterns, impact) when appropriate.
• The self-evaluation should not exceed 7000 words, excluding figures.
• Last day for submission of the self-evaluation report from each research environment to the RQ20 office is December 20 2019.
Base Data / Background Material

Why?
Supports analysis about the research quality and future developments within the research environments (when appropriate). It can be understood as a backdrop to the self-evaluations.

How?
Is produced on a research environment basis by the University Library, Lucris-team and Economists.

What?
1. Financial summary, 2018 (e.g. resources used for undergraduate education, direct government funding of research, and external funding of research)
2. Publication patterns, 2014-2018 (e.g. articles, books, book chapters, and reports and other publications and forms of research outlets, as well as a bibliometric analysis of citation patterns/impact)

When?
Made available late September/early October
<table>
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<th></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>C</strong> Number of citations per year</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>C/P</strong> Average Number of citations per publication and year</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Top 10%/1%</strong> Fraction of publications per year that is part of the 10%/1% most cited publications in their field (according to Scopus classification of publications/Journals)</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

Researcher’s Input → LUCRIS → SciVal [https://www.scival.com/] → Report to the research environments
During Spring 2020, External advisors will work with the self-evaluations from the 32 subject panels.

Suggestions for external advisors was submitted by the faculties, panels and/or research environments during May – August 2019

Identification of all external advisors will be ready by December 2019.
However, a university is more than the sum of its parts!

The five Transversal Panels will cover important issues that are critical to the university in its entirety – issues that pertain to the standing and further development of the research environments, and subsequently for the university as a whole.

These panels will start to work once the self-evaluations are ready and they will obtain their information from:

- Selected parts of the the self-evaluations made in the 35 “organic” panels
- Other sources (such as regulatory documents, policy documents, results of internal/external evaluations) made available by the RQ20 office.

- We estimate 5 Expert Advisors per panel
- Recruitment starts October 1 2019
- 2-3 Days site visit per panel during Spring 2020 (not May 4-8)
- The reports from the transversal panels will be part of the RQ20 result
9th of January: Preparatory meeting with panel chairs

- Each external panel hold one appointed chair person = 32 chair persons in total

- These are tasked with:
  - Coordinating the evaluation work within their panel before/during the site visit
  - Overseeing the writing process of the report during/after the site visit

- Aim of meeting is to inform and prepare chair members about the evaluation process:
  - Provide information about the project
  - Clarify expectations/responsabilities (on both sides)
  - Answer questions

Important RQ20 events in 2020:
Transversal panel site visits 2020:

- Management and leadership: June 1-2
- The relationship with strong and broad research areas: May 26-27
- Infrastructures: April 20-21
- Recruitment: May 18-19
- Collaboration: June 9-10
4th-8th of May: Site visit by external subject panel advisors

• RQ20:s major event!

• Main aim is for the external panels to:

  ✓ Assess the self-evaluations and meet with the respective research environments
  ✓ Begin the process of writing a report comprising their impressions, their feedback and suggestions for improvements (deadline 30th of June)
  ✓ Hopefully, enjoy doing it!