



TECH INITIATIVE

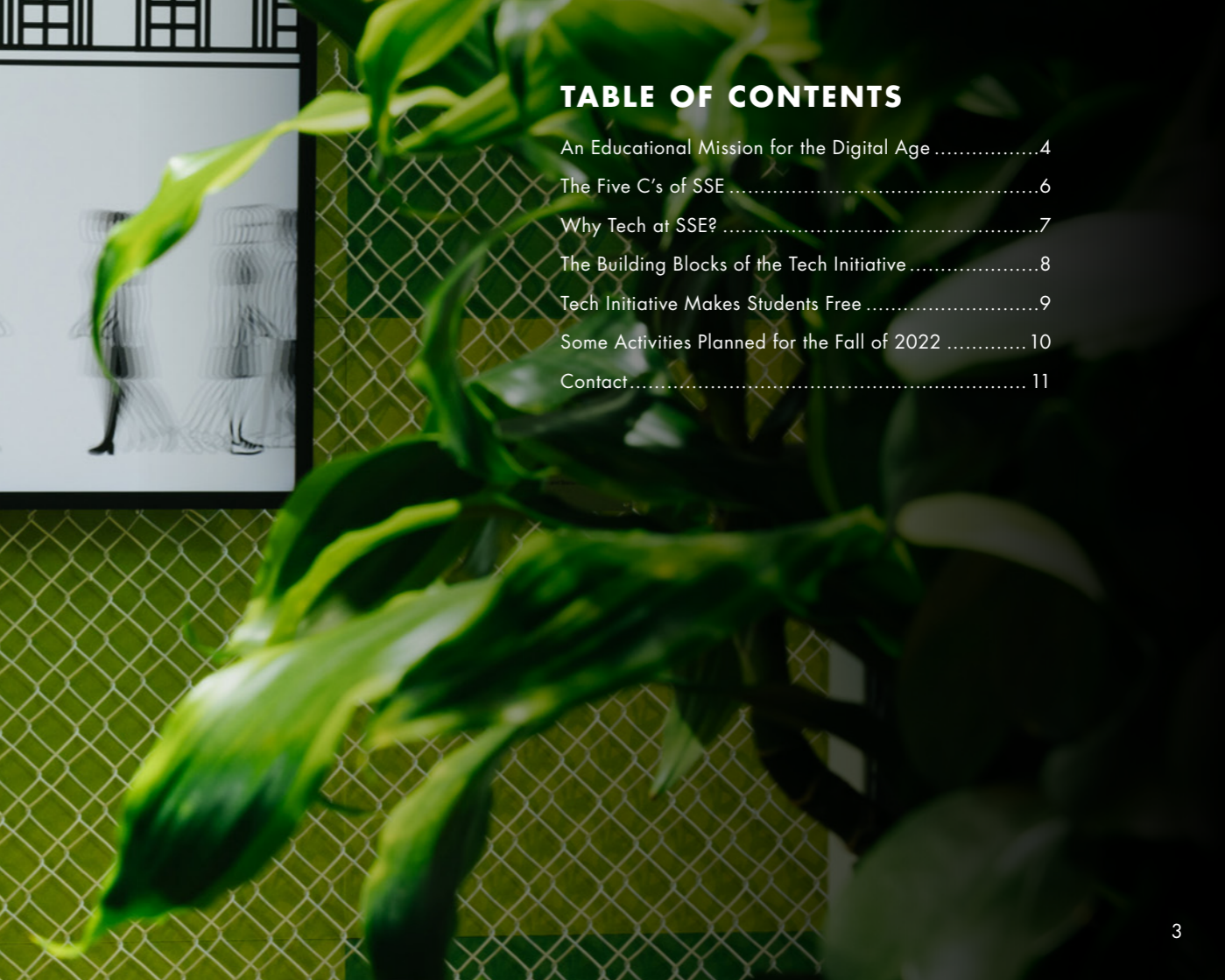
AT THE STOCKHOLM SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS





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AN EDUCATIONAL MISSION FOR THE DIGITAL AGE

SINCE 1909 THE Stockholm School of Economics has collaborated with the business community and society at large to carry out a mission: To make Sweden more competitive through advanced education in the economic disciplines, with education programs designed around up-to-date research in those fields. That research and teaching continue today.

» *The digital age requires that we better understand ourselves, and perhaps more important that we become better at understanding others. The empathic ability – to see the world from the other’s perspective is the key to not only humanism, but also to better professional practice.*«

Lars Strannegård,
Professor and President of the Stockholm
School of Economics

Yet, as the pace of change increases globally – social, political, technological and environmental change – the tools that business school graduates need also change. In our efforts to provide these tools, SSE has expanded its conception of education. Inspired by the philosopher Ingemar Hedenius, tomorrow’s successful decision makers will be “free and alive in relation to that which is uncertain”. We want to offer students a well-rounded education that prepares them to take on the world and its lack of order with humility and curiosity. We call this educational mission FREE. By defining attributes of the graduates that our community will need, this acronym helps guide the School’s educational work, communicate the nature of that work, and clarify student expectations.



The Heckscher-Ohlin Room

WE WANT TO graduate decision makers who exhibit:

F – a fact and science-based mindset. SSE is fundamentally an academic institution where facts provide the basis for all critical and analytical thinking. An ability to appraise information and evaluate various kinds of knowledge claims has always been important, but perhaps never more so than in our current era where demagoguery hides behind “alternative facts” and “fake news”, all while many citizens live within filter bubbles.

R – reflection and self-awareness. While these qualities take many forms, SSE’s graduates should understand their roles in the world, the impact they have on others and on finite resources, all with an awareness of their own values, their personal preferences and, ideally, with insight into the sources of those values and preferences.

E – empathy and cultural literacy. These characteristics distinctly distinguish human decision makers from the computers, robots and AI systems that will change the work content of the future. These characteristics rest upon an ability to cross boundaries and understand others on their own terms, as SSE graduates will meet and collaborate with others across many national, cultural, professional and conceptual boundaries.

E – entrepreneurship and responsibility. These attributes combine because true entrepreneurs take risks and accept responsibility for their actions and decisions. Graduates who merge creative change and personal accountability will challenge the status quo in order to improve enterprises, communities and society as a whole.

SSE’s traditional expertise in economics, finance and business administration represents the core, but other elements of FREE are needed to prepare decision makers for the future as it seems to unfold.

THE FIVE C'S OF SSE

AS A WAY of clarifying and articulating issues around the role of our educational philosophy, we have formulated five C's with the aim of defining what our programs provide.

They provide **Content** — scientifically based knowledge, material and facts.

They also provide **Context** — a contextualization of the material presented. This is created via meetings, discussions and testing arguments.

They provide **Community**, which involves becoming part of a context, not only during the period of study, but for life.

Working and studying at SSE also provides **Contacts**, the network of contacts created through the school but, more importantly, through the deep friendships that are formed during the period of study.

The fifth C, **Confidence**, is about daring to speak in front of others; feeling that your voice matters, that you are worth listening to and that you can and must take your place in social contexts — it's about developing self-assurance and self-confidence.



WHY TECH AT SSE?

Tech Initiative empowers SSE students to tackle the world's challenges by becoming responsible, entrepreneurial, and responsible technology-enabled leaders and innovators. It brings faculty, students, alumni, and partners together to explore how technology has transformed both our contemporary business life and our society. Our students will meet thought and business leaders in the tech industry, critically discuss and reflect upon technological advancements in academic seminars, and learn how to use and leverage technology in practical workshops.

The heart of the Initiative can be found at the House of Innovation (HOI), with active contributions by the Student Association's Tech Committee.

Tech Initiative aims to inspire and foster future tech leaders at SSE by supporting the School's educational mission FREE: Fact-based and scientific, Reflective, Empathetic, and Entrepreneurial.

The SSE Tech Initiative encompasses guest lectures, seminars, and workshops activities that empower students to tackle the world's challenges by becoming technology-enabled leaders and innovators. Tech

Initiative is practical in nature and focuses on the application of digital technologies in different contexts.

We want our students to grasp the business, moral, legal, and social implications of technologies with transformative potential and to be comfortable in leading and managing technology to solve meaningful social and business problems.

Tech Initiative will foster relationships and collaborations with key players in Sweden's technology ecosystem, global technology companies, leading researchers, and training providers. We will give our students the opportunity to engage with business and thought leaders, learn new skills and experiment with cutting-edge technologies.

The heart of the Initiative can be found at the House of Innovation (HOI) which is a research-driven, interdisciplinary and outreach-focused environment at the Stockholm School of Economics concentrating on Innovation, Digitalization and Entrepreneurship and its intersections, with active contributions by the Student Association's Tech Committee.



THE BUILDING BLOCKS OF THE TECH INITIATIVE

WHO'S TECH
– INSPIRATIONAL TECH LEADERS
Tech Initiative organizes guest lectures by key tech leaders who share their perspectives on building and leading technology companies, and thriving in a digital world.

FREE TECH
– ACADEMIC SEMINARS
Tech Initiative hosts seminars, debates, and panel discussions that explore and problematize the use, benefits and drawbacks of technology in today's society.

BE TECH
– PRACTICAL WORKSHOPS
Tech Initiative arranges tech workshops delivered by companies and training providers that give students the opportunity to explore specific technologies, learn best practice, discuss application areas, and develop new business models.

TECH INITIATIVE MAKES STUDENTS FREE

The Tech Initiative 2023/23 primarily builds on the three components just described: Who's Tech, FREE Tech and Be Tech.

The inspirational lectures in Who's Tech link the knowledge production in our teaching to the contemporary tech scene in Stockholm and beyond. Meeting business and thought leaders in the tech scene will talk about the most crucial and promising topics that they are working with right now. Together with fellow students with the same interest in tech and entrepreneurship, you will be able to gain insights into what it is like to work in a tech company, and be provided with a contextualization of how your academic studies are relevant in contemporary business life. The meetings are taking place in classrooms with a limited number of seats to facilitate community-building and networking opportunities.

The FREE Tech academic seminars provide scientifically grounded content that can put the opportunities and challenges of technological advancements in a scientific perspective. These seminars do not only strive to provide facts; they also intend to promote reflection and self-awareness. Technological advancements do not only

bring efficiency, economic wealth, and well-being. Technological advancements could also disrupt labor markets, enable far-reaching digital surveillance, intrude on personal integrity, or even interfere with democratic elections. Technology is not neutral to ethical values and opinions. Algorithms could instead be seen as opinions embedded in codes. By listening to and participating in academic seminars about these matters, we hope that you will be able to position yourself and make informed decisions about how technology works and how it should be treated.

Lastly, the practical seminars in the Be Tech component of Tech Initiative go from talk to action. These workshops ultimately aims to give you a set of relevant and practical tools sought after in the tech industry and in the start-up and entrepreneurial scene. Many students dream of starting a tech company after their graduation. These workshops will teach you how to pitch ideas for investors, where to find them, how to understand technological product development, basic coding and more.



SOME ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR THE FALL OF 2022

14 SEPTEMBER

Guest lecture: Data enabled decision making in modern tech companies

Rebecka Storm, Head of Data & Analytics at open banking platform Tink, shares her insights about how modern tech companies leverage data to make decisions, improve performance and create value. She will explain how the data function at companies like Tink and Zettle are set up and how they operate, covering aspects such as team composition, data infrastructure, A/B testing, and machine learning. TBC

15 SEPTEMBER

Guest lecture: Founding, running and raising capital for Validio, a data quality platform

SSE Alumn Patrik Tran will share his experience of co-founding, running, and raising capital for Validio. He will explain Validio's solution to bad data that hurts companies and organizations across the globe. Patrik will also reflect on the role that SSE students can play in a more tech-intensive world.

5 OCTOBER

Seminar: The application of Artificial Intelligence in a business context and its ethical considerations

Rebecka Cedering Ångström at House of Innovation will hold an academic seminar about the application of AI and its ethical considerations. Rebecka Cedering Ångström is a PhD Student at House of Innovation and a Principal Researcher at Ericsson.

11 OCTOBER

Guest lecture: Sustainable consumption: MasterCard's role in making 3 billion customers more sustainable

Malin Berge is the Head of Global Sustainability Innovation Lab at Mastercard. The Global Sustainability Innovation Lab aims to empower businesses and consumers to transform how products and services are produced, distributed and purchased. Recognizing that consumption will have to shift to a more sustainable paradigm in order to meet global carbon reduction targets, Mastercard is reimagining the future of commerce by collaborating on digital solutions designed to empower businesses, governments and billions of consumers across its network to help preserve the environment.

20 OCTOBER

Seminar: AI and Algorithms in Public Sector Decision Making

Charlotte Kronblad at House of Innovation will lead a seminar on AI and algorithms in the public sector. Digital technologies are increasingly being implemented in the public sector, and an increasing amount of public decisions are made by algorithmic decision making (ADM) systems. But what happens when ADM systems fail and the decisions they produce are faulty. Will anyone be accountable for these faulty decisions, and will anyone take responsibility for correcting them?

27 OCTOBER

Guest lecture: e-Trucks at Scania and their role in sustainable transport

Peter Forsberg, Head of e-truck Solutions at Scania, will present the future of electric trucks and their role in sustainable transport. Scania is one of the research donors to House of Innovation and finance the Scania Center for Innovation and Operational Excellence.

3 NOVEMBER

Tech workshop: A/B testing in the real world

Rebecka Storm, Head of Data & Analytics at open banking platform Tink, follows up her guest lecture in September with a practical tech workshop on how to do A/B testing in the real world. This workshop aims to give you practical skills, as well as demonstrating how you can draw on and make use of research methodologies in your future career.

17 NOVEMBER

Tech workshop: Scania's approach to innovation

Mathias Larsson Carlander is a PhD Student at House of Innovation and Business Concept Manager for Connected Services and Solutions at Scania. In this workshop, Mathias Larsson Carlander sheds light on Scania's unique approach to innovation within the company.

24 NOVEMBER

Tech workshop: Meet the Angel Investor

What does it mean to pitch an idea for an investor? How do you get in touch? Where do you meet? What do they look for? Meet the tech angel investor Per Björklund who gives you hints and advice on how to start your own company.

Please note that the dates and topics are still tentative and might be subject to changes. Locations and times are posted in our online calendar.

CONTACT

We are committed to co-creating the Tech Initiative with faculty, students, alumni and partners. We would love to hear your ideas about what speakers we should invite to participate and what topics to explore. Also, if you have suggestions about how we can improve Tech Initiative, we would appreciate your feedback.



Erik Wikberg

Executive Director
House of Innovation

Gustaf Sörman-Nilsson

Head of Strategic Projects
House of Innovation

Please contact us at:
techinitiative@hhs.se



TECH INITIATIVE

Stockholm School of Economics

Sveavägen 65 · P.O. Box 6501
113 83 Stockholm · Sweden

Phone +46 8 736 90 00
info@hhs.se

www.hhs.se/techinitiative

 facebook.com/ssetechinitiative

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