

Arcada studerandekår – ASK

Läsårsöppning 2025–2026

Ärade rektor, personal, inbjudna gäster, studerande och vänner.

Det är en stor ära att få stå här framför er alla idag som ordförande för studerandekåren och välkomna er till studieåret, vare det då att Arcada är ert andra hem vid det här skedet eller att ni just har fått börja ett helt nytt kapitel i livet.

To our new students, welcome, with all my heart, and get ready for the journey ahead of you. Ni står inför år fyllda med lärande, nya möten, och chanser att växa, inte bara i kunskap utan också som människor.

Förra våren visade oss att vi lever i en tid av snabba förändringar. Vi har mött utmaningar som påminner oss om att livet inte alltid går som planerat. Våra studier, vår vardag och våra mötesplatser har på kort tid formats om. Vi har behövt lära oss att anpassa oss, hitta nya sätt att arbeta tillsammans och ibland också nya sätt att orka vidare. Det har inte alltid varit enkelt, men det har visat att vi är starkare än vi tror, särskilt när vi står enade.

Last spring taught us resilience, creativity, and the importance of community. Even when everything around us seems uncertain, the bonds we create here, in classrooms, in student associations, in the student union and in everyday encounters will carry us forward.

Så mitt råd till er är: ta vara på den här tiden. Våga fråga, våga prova, våga misslyckas och våga lyckas. Var nyfiken och öppen, både i studierna och i möten med andra.

My road in Arcada has been *long*. I started studying energy and environmental engineering in 2021. When I started here, I was really quiet and not really social, just here for my studies but definitely wanted more, so I spontaneously decided to become a tutor. That opened up so many doors for me and it was really unexpected. I had such a fun time being a tutor, so much fun that I became a part of the board for the student union and became the person that got to educate our lovely tutors. I also became active in an association here that then became a really important part of my life and last fall I was pretty set in my decision to leave both boards and just be a participant for the rest of my time here. But my friends know me too well and called me out on my lie so here I am as the chairperson of the student union.

My point in sharing my journey is you never know unless you try, Arcada is more than just a school or a campus, it's a community. I was that nervous fresher that didn't know anything and was quiet and maybe a little scared and I could not be

more happy that I took that spontaneous jump to actually be a part of the things this school and everybody around it has to offer, it has given me friends for life and opportunities and experiences I wouldn't get anywhere else. Arcada as a whole is a safe space and I hope you will feel that too.

Together, we can make this year and tonight unforgettable. Welcome to your new beginning, welcome to your second home and I will see you at the Kick off party.

Tack.