

Report from BUP Finland

4.12.2025



The current situation and activities 2025:

- The BUP team at ÅAU has diminished since 2024. This is due to the economic situation at ÅAU and the annual budget from the university is cut dramatically. From a team of four people and budget for arranging activities, we now have one person left (center director Cecilia Lundberg on 20 % (50 % earlier)), no communication, and a diminished ability for arrangement of courses and training for BUP teachers.
- In February a report on the role of BUP in connection with the faculties at ÅAU was delivered by the Centre of Lifelong Learning on request of the rector Mikael Lindfelt.
- The agreement with UU was finally signed in June 2025, with half a year's delay.
- There has been students from Finland attending almost all possible BUP activities during the year.
- Cecilia and Annina Kainu attended the partly BUP organized conference Qualifications, Training, Micro Credentials and Sustainable Development at Tallinn University 20-21.2.
- The second and final workshop of the BUP Teachers' Course 2024-2025 took place at Maria Curie-Skłodowska University in Lublin, Poland, on 13-14 March with 14 participants. On the 2.10 an extra online seminar was offered for those that of one reason or another did not finish the course during the spring. The extra event had 5 participants, and altogether 23/31 finished the course and received a certificate (Event report: <https://www.uu.se/en/collaboration-innovation/the-baltic-university-programme/events-and-announcements/event-reports/bup-teachers-course-2024-2025>). Cecilia and Shepherd Urenje were the supervisors for the course.
- Cecilia was requested to give an online lecture on sustainability competences in the course Innovating Teaching of Foreign Languages at Igor Skorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute, National Technical University of Ukraine on March 20.
- The BUP Teachers' Day was held online on 28.4. This year's theme was Ethical, Educational, and Sustainable Approaches to AI, presented by Martin Gustafsson, Professor in Philosophy, and Tomás Lehecka, University lecturer in Swedish and General linguistics, both from Åbo Akademi University (Event report: <https://www.uu.se/en/collaboration-innovation/the-baltic-university-programme/events-and-announcements/event-reports/bup-teachers-day-2025>).
- Cecilia took part in the Center directors' meeting at Tallinn University 21-23.5, and online 2.9.

- Cecilia participated and presented the concept of Habitability at the BUP symposium at UU 26-28.11. At the same time she advertised the Interreg project ClimaResponse, which is led by CBSS.
- Prof Tapio Salmi member of the international board of BUP, participated in both board meeting in 2025: in June and December at Uppsala University.

Plans and activities for 2026:

- An online meeting for the Finnish BUP member universities will be held in January 2026 in cooperation with the coordinating secretariat at UU.
- The BUP Teachers' Day will be held in March, online with the topic Climate anxiety.
- The BUP Teaching Training will be arranged in autumn 2026 at Riga Technical University in cooperation with the BUP national center in Latvia. The coordinating secretariate will assist with the practical issues.
- In March 2025 BUP Finland received 10 000 e for testing a new course concept for BUP teachers, the BUP Walks (Walking Activities for Learning and Knowledge in Sustainability) with focus on climate anxiety and inner sustainability. For realizing the course during the current situation BUP Finland needs both more financial support (about 20 000 e) and cooperation with the coordinating secretariate. The course is postponed to autumn 2027, and during 2026 new applications will be made together with BUP Uppsala to receive more financing.