



Orbis – International Students in the Faculty
of Arts and Faculty of Theology

ANNUAL REPORT OF 2020

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Preface

Since its founding in the fall of 2019 Orbis has entered 2020 with the new board and opened its events by taking part in January Welcome Fair for the new and exchange students. It was followed by a group visit to the HAM museum. However, after a successful series of real-life events Orbis had to move to the online mode due to COVID-19 situation.

Despite all the unfortunate circumstances members of Orbis managed not only to support the existence of the organization but also to enlarge and significantly develop it. Numerous events were organized online and in real life following HYY's regulations. Moreover, during the Autumn General Meeting, a new board of extremely enthusiastic people was elected. We can't wait to see what next year brings for Orbis!

Board 2020

The second board of Orbis was chosen during the general meeting on the 12th of December 2019. The board consisted of 9 positions and 11 members:

Chair: Ekaterina Nekhay

Vice-chair: Hector Sanchez Garibay

Secretary: Bella Felix

Treasurer: Emma Nikkilä

Communications manager: Akseli Taimi

Events manager: Francisco Rangel Bustamante

Networking managers: Emilia Hietavirta and Riina Rastas

Representation manager: Leah Martin

Social media managers: Mariyana Todorova and Miina Noroila

The year was very active for the organization since new approaches to reach out for new members and create new forms of activities were needed. Board meetings were organized regularly throughout the year and also included smaller meetings for discussing specific issues and suggestions. In addition to board members, some regular members also attended the meetings.

Revisiting Aims for 2020

AFFILIATION WITH HUMANISTICUM

Orbis applied for affiliation with Humanisticum ry, the faculty organization for the students at the Faculty of Arts at the University of Helsinki and officially became a part of in autumn 2020.

ORDERING STUDENT OVERALLS

Orbis has provided all its members with the opportunity to order student overalls in turquoise from the company Opiskelijahaalarit.fi. The order was made in January 2020. One pair of overalls was gifted in a raffle among all members. The results of the raffle were published on the Instagram of the organization.

STUDENT REPRESENTATION

Orbis looked into matters of student representation at the faculty level in the Faculties of Arts and Theology and has advocated for the rights of people with disabilities.

CREATION OF A WEBSITE

Orbis set up its website on the base of the University of Helsinki blogs.

SPRING GENERAL MEETING

Before the end of March 2020, the spring general meeting of the organization was held. The new board presented its take on the events of 2020 and the financial statement, annual report and audit of fall 2019 were officially approved.

NEW BOARD, PLAN OF ACTION AND BUDGET FOR 2021

In November 2020, Orbis started to work on its plan of action and budget for the next year with new members of the organization. The plan of action and budget were discussed and verified in the annual general meeting of the registered organization, where the new board and auditors were elected.

COOPERATION WITH OTHER STUDENT ORGANISATIONS

The board reached out to student organizations such as Humanisticum, SUB, Cissi and Erasmus Student Network (ESN) to negotiate to cooperate on future events. Two events (sitsit in collaboration with Cissi and karaoke night in collaboration with Cissi and ESN) were arranged, but later on, cancelled due to COVID-19 situation. However, in autumn an event together with SUB took place involving following all the necessary regulations.

REGISTRATION FOR THE FINNISH PATENT AND REGISTRATION OFFICE

The organization applied for registration for the Finnish Patent and Registration office in December, once the budget was established enough to be able to afford the registration fee. The registration will be official at the beginning of 2020, and until that Orbis will be funded with membership and overall fees.

PARTICIPATION IN THE EVENTS ORGANIZED BY HYY

Orbis has participated in the January Welcome Fair and Student Associations on Stage event in October to represent the organization.

Events

In 2020, Orbis organized 18 events, not counting normal and General board meetings:

1. **8.01.2020 Participation in the Language Center Welcome Fair.** This allowed us to catch the attention of exchange students.
2. **31.01.2020 HAM museum and a pub visit.** The second event organized by Orbis, was the visit of HAM museum followed by a pub night which gathered about 18 people and was a big success as several exchange students joined.
3. **21.02.2020 Kallio Bar Tour.** This event was attended by 15 participants.
4. **25.02.2020 Orbis celebrates Laskiainen.** This fun event was attended by 11 participants.
5. March events which were planned in collaboration with CISSI and ESN (karaoke night and sitsit) had to be cancelled because of COVID-19.
6. **04.04.2020 Social Distance Party.** This first online gathering to support communication in the changing environment was attended by 14 participants.
7. **20.04.2020 Orbis online networking event with UNICEF.** This was the first collaborative event with a non-student organization and involved 11 participants
8. **1.05.2020 Online Vappu with Orbis.** This online celebration was the biggest online success of the organization with 23 people participating
9. **2.09.2020 2nd Hand Store Tour.** Real-life event organized in line with all the health recommendations. Attended by 14 participants.
10. **4.09.2020 Orbis & SUB Freshers' Picnic.** Real-life event organized in line with all the health recommendations. Attended by 17 participants.
11. **6.09.2020 Hike to Nuuksio.** Real-life event organized in line with all the health recommendations. Attended by 12 participants.
12. **19.09.2020 Day Trip to Porvoo.** Real-life event organized in line with all the health recommendations. Gathered 10 participants.

13. **2.10.2020 Picnic at Tervasaari.** Real-life event organized in line with all the health recommendations. Gathered 12 participants.
14. **15.10.2020 Virtual hangout.** 8 participants attended for an informal chat.
15. **17.10.2020 Street art tour in Pasila.** Real-life event organized in line with all the health recommendations. Gathered 13 participants.
16. **29.10.2020 Halloween movie night.** Due to the worsening COVID-19 situation Orbis had to go back to the online events. Event attended by 8 participants.
17. **12.11.2020 Online pub quiz.** 10 participants participated
18. **24.11.2020 Virtual hangout.** The last online event of the year gathered 9 participants