



UPPSALA  
UNIVERSITET

# UNIVERSSEN



We note that many researchers at the University have not even heard of the open access agreements.

Ann-Louise Lindström, Librarian at the Scholarly Communication Division at the University Library, PAGE 7



New Mission,  
Goals and  
Strategies PAGE 4

Universen to  
be discontinued  
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Competence  
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# Care of cultural heritage

← RESTORATION AT THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY. Floriane Clerc, Paper Conservator at the University Library, restores archaeological sketches before they are digitised. PAGE 10

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Conservator Adam Larsson restoring the spine of a book.



FOTO: MIKAEL WALLERSTEDT

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Ann-Louise Lindström talks about agreements to publish with open access.



FOTO: MIKAEL WALLERSTEDT

Daniel Brandell is the Director of the new Batteries Sweden competence centre.

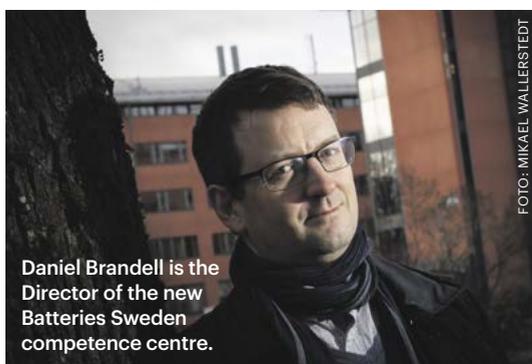


FOTO: MIKAEL WALLERSTEDT

” The Mission, Goals and Strategies reflect issues on which we have worked persistently for years across the broad management organisation at the University.

ANDERS MALMBERG, PAGE 4

## LEADER UNIVERSITY MANAGEMENT

# ELECTION YEAR



**THE TERM 'SUPER ELECTION year'** is typically used when several important political elections coincide, as in 2014 when Sweden held both general elections and elections to the European Parliament. Uppsala University is in just such a period now.

The super election year got a head start in the autumn when we got a new University Director. The University Board will change on 1 May. On 1 July, a new term of office will begin for disciplinary domain/faculty boards, vice-rectors and deans, while a new Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Vice-Chancellor will take office at the beginning of 2021 and at least ten departments will change their head of department, as is the case every year.



**HOW IS THE UNIVERSITY** affected by the transition in management positions and how can a smooth changeover be ensured? How can we maintain the pace of activities without interruption? How do we arrange an appropriate send-off for those leaving and positive conditions for those taking office? We have a lot to learn from the student representatives who typically have one-year terms of office.

It is a matter of clearly handing over responsibilities and authority from individual to individual and appointing functioning new boards and management groups. Strong leadership at every level is extremely important, but we should not exaggerate the importance of staff changes. Uppsala University is a large, broad and decentralised organisation with a strong inherent potential for development. Education and research thankfully don't wait around for the next head of department, vice-rector or vice-chancellor to take office and settle in to their role.



**THERE ARE TWO RISKS** facing departing management. The first is to become a 'lame duck' too early and to stop taking initiatives and driving development forward. The other is to manically try and finish everything they started, forcing issues and forgetting the importance of a long-term approach and solid preparation. It is a question of finding the right balance.

**AS A UNIVERSITY MANAGEMENT** team in its final year, we are naturally aiming to ensure a handover worthy of a world-class university: to consistently work 'to the very last', pass the baton with a steady hand to those taking over and then – quite a challenge – let go of the reins. All of us run the risk of falling victim to the classic contradiction: those who believe themselves to be indispensable are so annoying for those of us who actually are!

**Eva Åkesson, Vice-Chancellor**  
**Anders Malmberg, Deputy Vice-Chancellor**  
**Caroline Sjöberg, University Director**



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# IN BRIEF

## The origins of the consumer society

A new digital exhibition about Sweden's first fashion magazine opened on 29 January. The exhibition has been produced by two Master's students in history during their traineeship at the University Library.

Sweden's first fashion magazine, 'Konst och Nyhetsmagasin: för Medborgare af alla Klasser' was published between 1818 and 1844 by Fredrik Boije.

"The magazine can be seen as the start of the fashion and consumer society. It was during this period that the middle class began buying clothes not simply for practical reasons," explains Daniel Rönnegård.

**DANIEL RÖNNEGÅRD AND CELICIA Widell**, Master's students in history, have produced the exhibition as part of their course during a traineeship at the University Library. While producing the exhibition, they also analysed the content from various perspectives.

"For the first three years the magazine was published, the most prominent colour was white," explains Widell. "White radiated status and prosperity, as it was difficult to keep white clothes clean. In practice, servants were needed."

The exhibition was made possible thanks to the University Library digitising all of its texts and making them searchable.



A colour photo from Sweden's first fashion magazine. The photo is from an article in 1826 about fashionwear for men and women.

"The magazine is a fantastically rich source of material, not least the photos. Fredrik Boije engraved all of the images himself, and they are incredibly high quality and rich in detail in the fashion magazine compared with those in equivalent magazines throughout Europe," adds Gudrun Andersson, Senior Lecturer at the Department of History.

**THE DIGITAL EXHIBITION ON** the fashion magazine can be accessed via the University Library's website.

"As a visitor you can either take a digital stroll through the exhibition or review the material more systematically. Just like in a physical exhibition," notes Rönnegård.

**Anders Berndt**

↳ [ub.uu.se/about-the-library/exhibitions/](http://ub.uu.se/about-the-library/exhibitions/)

## A breakfast of herring

■ In 1977 Uppsala University celebrated its 500th anniversary. In honour of that anniversary, the Swedish photographer Karl Werner Gullers, produced a photo album. K W Gullers often produced anniversary albums for organisations and companies and was one of that era's best-known Swedish photographers. The caption reads: "A herring breakfast on one's own balcony concludes the Walpurgis celebrations." On another spread in the anniversary

album, a woman is watering plants by a table with a sewing machine, and the opposite side is a picture of a man changing an infant's nappy. The caption reads: "Outside of their studies and academic festivals, students live a rather humble life, nowadays characterised by starting a family early and often with scarce financial resources. Prince Gustaf's Student Song is perhaps starting to feel increasingly irrelevant."

**Anders Berndt**



## The coronavirus

■ Uppsala University is monitoring the situation constantly and following the information and recommendations issued by the Public Health Agency of Sweden and the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs relating to the coronavirus 2019-nCoV. You can find the latest news and any recommendations on the Staff Portal.



## Trains increasing, flights decreasing

■ The amount of business travel by train increased in 2019 by some 11 per cent, while air travel fell compared with 2018. The total distance travelled by train also increased by around 30 per cent, while the total distance by air fell by almost 10 per cent. Another positive aspect is that bookings of equipment for travel-free meetings (video conferences, Zoom and Adobe Connect) have doubled, and the number of meeting hours using such equipment has risen by 28 per cent.

1%

of research and teaching staff in Sweden annually change jobs between academia and other sectors, according to a statistical analysis by the Swedish Higher Education Authority. This can be compared with a staff turnover of around 10-15 per cent at Swedish higher education institutions.

## Association for student union collaboration

■ The six students' unions at Uppsala University have launched the association Uppsala University Student Unions (UUSU). The new association will replace the previous collaboration agreement between all of the students' unions. The aim is to improve the central study liaison services and ensure a clear, more unified student voice. Each student union appoints two representatives to UUSU.

## Highest quality and relevance the goal

Sights are set high in the new Mission, Goals and Strategies that took effect on 1 January. The overall goal can be summarised as 'education and research of the highest quality and relevance'.

The University Board decided on the new Mission, Goals and Strategies for Uppsala University in December. With this overall goal as a basis, the new Mission, Goals and Strategies specify six development goals and five strategic priorities. The development goals are directly connected to the renewal of our education and research, and should serve as guiding principles for development efforts at the University. The strategic priorities involve creating the general conditions for education and research of the highest quality and relevance.

### Six development goals

- expand education and strengthen the connection between education and research
- develop research excellence and strengthen the capacity to attract prestigious grants in international competition
- strengthen transdisciplinary and challenge-driven research
- coordinate and concentrate the University's resources
- exploit the potential of Campus Gotland
- develop collaboration as an integral part of education and research.

### Five strategic priorities

- quality assurance and enhancement
- internationalisation
- infrastructure
- talent attraction and career systems
- support and wider environment.

In addition the University Board also decided in December to abolish six strategic programmes which will be replaced in part by the new goals and strategies and in part by development mandates.

- Programme for External Collaboration
- Programme for Campus Gotland, 2017–2021
- Programme for Sustainable Development
- Programme for Internationalisation
- Programme for Quality Management at Uppsala University
- Programme for Equal Opportunities.

Anders Berndt



Deputy Vice-Chancellor Anders Malmberg has led efforts to produce the University's new Mission, Goals and Strategies.

PHOTO: MIKAEL WALLERSTEDT

# Focus on the challenges

**In December 2019, the University Board decided on the new Mission, Goals and Strategies, which specify the direction the University will take over the coming years.**

"The Mission, Goals and Strategies obviously contain a range of challenges," explains Anders Malmberg, Deputy Vice-Chancellor and project manager for the production of the new Mission, Goals and Strategies. "We have identified areas that we need to develop if we are to ensure education and research of the highest quality and relevance. For example, we are currently strong in intradisciplinary excellence, but we need to improve in cross-disciplinary research – a challenge that will require major efforts if we are to achieve our aim."

Proposals regarding the content of the Mission, Goals and Strategies have come from the entire University via the management organisation, boards, advisers to the Vice-Chancellor, student organisations and others.

"The new document reflects issues on which we have worked persistently for years across the broad management organisation at the University. They are fundamental goals and needs that are hard to circumvent."

Two goals include expanding course programmes and increasing the number of places in freestanding courses.

"Over the past decade we have become a more extreme research university. Education as a part of turnover has reduced from 33 per cent to 28 per cent."

**IN TERMS OF RESEARCH**, the goals include better outcomes for international research applications and augmented cross-disciplinary and challenge-driven research.

"We have also highlighted sustainability more clearly and are emphasising that collaboration is an integral part of education and research."

However, the Mission, Goals and Strategies do not contain any concrete measures for achieving the goals.

"The University Board's decision on the Mission, Goals and Strategies serves as a command signal to the Vice-Chancellor and organisation. The University Board should specify the overall direction but not decide on which new courses should be launched, for example. Those should be produced by the University

**"Our expectation is that the boards and management organisation will concentrate on what is most relevant for them."**

Anders Malmberg

based on the guiding principles in the Mission, Goals and Strategies."

**"OUR EXPECTATION IS THAT** the boards and management organisation in each disciplinary domain, faculty and department will review the Mission, Goals and Strategies and concentrate on what is most relevant for them to work on."

Part of the implementation will be ensured via a new, annual supplement to the University's operational plan. From autumn 2020 the Vice-Chancellor will decide on a supplementary operational plan.

"We can then request proposals from different areas as to how we can best innovate in education and research and steer towards top quality and relevant activities."

**Is it not the wrong moment to be deciding on a new Mission, Goals and Strategies in the same year that new boards and management roles are being elected?**

"Not if you think it through. The University takes a long-term approach, we can't have the organisation in standby mode. Obviously a new management team may want to emphasise new aspects, but revising the mission, goals and strategies is a process that takes a couple of years and that's not something you jump into on day one."

Anders Berndt



A few covers of Universen from the past few years.

# Universen to be discontinued as a printed magazine

**The next issue of the staff magazine, Universen, to be published in May 2020 will be the final issue in print form. Internal communication will instead be published entirely digitally.**

After 51 years it is time to say farewell to the printed form of Universen and instead welcome fully digital internal communication. Digital internal communication could be developed in line with the launch of the Staff Portal, and it is now time therefore to discontinue the printed magazine.

"There are several reasons why we are now discontinuing the printed magazine," says Pernilla Björk, Director of Communications at Uppsala University. "It forms part of the University Administration's digitisation, internationalisation and sustainable development efforts."

**BY STOPPING THE PRINTING** and distribution of a printed magazine, paper, transport and working hours can all be saved.

"We are creating financial room to allocate more money to translation. We need to improve bilingualism in our internal communication."

But the fact that the printed magazine is being discontinued at this point is due to the fact that money is lacking for all current needs.

"We had discussed this before, but it became relevant now as we need to reorganise our priorities in the division."

**THE LATEST READER SURVEYS** conducted by Universen showed that many employees were positively disposed to the printed magazine.

"Yes, there was a high level of reader satisfaction with Universen compared to equivalent products. And I love the printed magazine. Universen has helped increase awareness across Uppsala University. It has contributed to a sense of 'us' and internal pride. Reading a printed magazine is different to reading articles on a screen."

**"We will develop internal information in the Staff Portal and work on the internal newsletters."**

Pernilla Björk

Many employees also continue to register for the magazine after retiring. But Björk can see the issue with a printed magazine.

"Universen is not quick to produce and the internal flow of information needs to be faster. We have also heard from employees who want to avoid getting the magazine home or ending up with duplicates when two people in a household are employed at the University. We need to take all of these needs on board as we now start afresh with internal communication."

**Will it be possible to convey the qualities of the magazine in digital communication?**

"Yes, but it is not possible to simply move everything Universen did over to a new, digital solution. We will develop internal information in the Staff Portal and work on the internal newsletters. But we must also think up other solutions and ideas, for example films. We will be working intensively on this area during the spring. How can we maintain the values Universen conveyed while also reinforcing and updating our internal communication?"

Anders Berndt



PHOTO: MICAL WALLERSTEDT

**HELLO SOOREJ JOSE PUTHOOPPAMBAL,** Senior Lecturer at the Department of Women's and Children's Health. You are coordinator for the new interdisciplinary course "Migration, Health and Ethics in a Globalised World".

**"A holistic perspective is needed"**

**1 What does the course involve?**

"Migration and refugees are terms discussed everywhere in society. However, there is a general lack of knowledge and we want to contribute knowledge about how health among different migrant groups is affected at different stages, including when they arrive in a country like Sweden. We also want to discuss some of the ethical dilemmas that occur during migration and how we can manage them."

**2 Why an interdisciplinary course?**

"Migration is an important social issue that needs a holistic perspective. It is not simply a matter of ethics or health, there are many aspects that are interlinked: local and international structures, policies, laws and agreements, and so on."

**3 Which subjects form the basis of the course?**

"The course is a collaboration between myself, Lars Löfvist, Senior Lecturer in Ethics at the Department of Theology, and Magdalena Bjerneld, Senior Lecturer focusing on global and humanitarian health."

**4 Who can apply for the course?**

"We hope the course participants will come from various backgrounds but will have the fundamental eligibility requirements, which is why we are holding the course in English and in the evening. This could mean students, doctoral students, the public or officials who come into contact with migration in some way."

Satisfying the different needs of a mixed group will be a positive educational challenge, but we believe it will lead to rewarding discussions."

Anders Berndt

■ The course is one of ten new interdisciplinary courses created thanks to the call for funding in spring 2019. There is currently an equivalent call for funding with applications closing on 31 March 2020.

➔ [mp.uu.se/en/web/info/undervisa](https://mp.uu.se/en/web/info/undervisa) under Educational development/Interdisciplinary courses

## Digital platform for journals

■ The government has tasked the National Library of Sweden with producing a national digital platform for open-source Swedish academic journals. In its press release regarding the decision on the platform, the government writes that “Swedish academic journals represent an important part of academic communication and are often well-established publishing channels, not least in the humanities and social sciences. As the journals are often voluntarily produced and not-for-profit, they risk being disadvantaged in the transition towards open access.”



PHOTO: MIKAEL WALLERSTEDT

## Funds for educational development work

■ It is now possible to apply for funds at Uppsala University for educational development work. The project funding will be divided between five areas: educational renewal and general teaching and learning development projects; active student participation; eLearning; sustainable development; and internationalisation and intercultural communication. Applications should be made by 26 March at the latest.

➔ [mp.uu.se/en/web/nyheter/nyheter](http://mp.uu.se/en/web/nyheter/nyheter) under **Calls for applications**.

## Follow-up of educational development work

■ In December 2019, the Swedish Higher Education Authority submitted its follow-up of educational development work at the higher education institutions to the government. In it, the Higher Education Authority makes several proposals with the aim of making collaborations between authorities more systematic:

- a national strategy for development work in higher education
- introduce a national strategy for the digitisation of higher education and research
- broaden the Swedish Council for Higher Education’s promotional mission
- strengthen the role of the Swedish Research Council
- the Higher Education Authority should enhance its reviews and analyses of educational development work at higher education institutions.

The University is no longer investigating actual suspected misconduct in research, explains Stefan Eriksson, Adviser to the Vice-Chancellor on Good Research Practice.



PHOTO: MIKAEL WALLERSTEDT

# Focus on misconduct in research

**From the beginning of the year, new procedures relating to issues of misconduct in research apply. A new national board has been assigned overall responsibility for investigating cases previously managed by higher education institutions themselves.**

The newly formed national board will handle cases involving a serious deviation from good research practice, which entails fabrication, falsification or plagiarism that is committed intentionally or through gross negligence when planning, conducting or reporting research.

**A LOCAL BOARD AT Uppsala University** will investigate, where necessary, other deviations that are not covered by the new act on responsibility for good research practice and assessment of misconduct in research, which applies from 1 January 2020.

“The most important changes compared to the way this was previously handled is that suspected misconduct will not be investigated by higher education institutions themselves, and that

people can now report cases directly to the new authority,” explains Stefan Eriksson, Adviser to the Vice-Chancellor on Good Research Practice at Uppsala University.

Cases can therefore also be initiated directly by the new board. If, for example, a critical discussion of some Swedish research is being held in the academic community, the authority of the board could reduce concerns that things will be “swept under the carpet”.

“We are hoping for a more legally secure procedure ensured by an independent body. However, anything not included in the rather narrow definition of

misconduct contained in the new act will still need to be investigated by the higher education institutions themselves.”

**FOR THIS REASON, UPPSALA** University has established the “Board for Investigation of Deviations from Good Research Practice” to investigate other deviations that risk the integrity of research or researchers.

“We are planning to hold regular meetings, but of course hope that so few cases are submitted that we will be able to cancel some of them.”

There is a risk that issues may arise in terms of drawing a line between what can be investigated nationally or locally, but the cases that are not included in the act’s definition of misconduct must be processed all the same.

“The government has added a provision to the Higher Education Ordinance stating that higher education institutions should assess other types of suspected deviation from good research practice than those contained in the act, so the local board will function roughly as it did before but only in terms of breaches of good practice that are not defined by the act,” adds Eriksson.

**Johan Ahlenius**

## The local board

The Board for Investigation of Deviations from Good Research Practice consists of six members, including the chair Erik Lempert, an external member with legal expertise. Other members include a researcher from each disciplinary domain, a legal expert from the Department of Law and the University

Director, Caroline Sjöberg. Stefan Eriksson, Adviser to the Vice-Chancellor on Good Research Practice, is also a co-opted member. Contact the board via [oredlighet@uadm.uu.se](mailto:oredlighet@uadm.uu.se).

On the Staff Portal there is information about research ethics.

➔ [mp.uu.se](http://mp.uu.se) under the **Research tab**

# “Agreements a major benefit to researchers”

**As part of the aspiration to ensure open access to academic journals, the agreements with academic publishers are being constantly updated to cover both reading and publishing rights.**

Several major financiers currently require open access to research publications. This is based on the government's expressed ambition to see publicly financed research published with open access to promote innovation and collaboration.

“We are heading for a shift in the academic publishing landscape,” notes Ann-Louise Lindström, Librarian at the Scholarly Communication Division at the University Library.

**TO HELP RESEARCHERS AND** prepare for the transition in the publishing landscape, the University Library is working to rewrite the publishing agreements.

“In the past we had agreements that offered us reading rights, but now we have reading and publishing rights for open access in more than 10,000 academic journals.

Reading and publishing rights means that the publishing fee for publishing with open access is already included in the subscription fee. The subscription fee is also paid via the overhead fee at universities, so the research projects avoid having to bear the cost.

**THE PREVIOUSLY MUCH-DISCUSSED** agreement dispute with Elsevier publishing house was about this exact issue. Elsevier only wanted to enter into a reading rights agreement, but the Swedish research libraries succeeded in gaining a reading and publishing rights agreement with Elsevier. Several new agreements with various publishers were also concluded at the end of 2019.

## One stop for all questions

Contact the University Library through “Ask the Library” via chat, email or telephone.

➤ [Read more about support and help for publishing: ub.uu.se/publicera/](#)

“We currently have reading and publishing agreements that cover a large number of those who need to publish articles. The various agreements are a major benefit to researchers, but we note that many researchers at the University have not even heard of these agreements or that we are constantly adding new agreements.”

As many activities are involved in providing open access to academic publications, the publishing landscape is changing continuously and it can be hard to keep up.

“The best thing to do is go through the list of agreements on the library's web pages and contact the University Library directly. We will be happy to help.”

**THERE ARE A FEW** basic tips that are useful to remember. The researcher submitting the article (corresponding author) must be connected to Uppsala University in order for the agreement to be valid. You use your connection to Uppsala University in the article and the publisher's manuscript management system. The simplest way is to submit the article using your University email address, but you should also specify that you are employed at or connected to the University.

“If you do it this way, the University Library and the publisher will manage the agreement and any discount behind the scenes.”

**But what is the situation for publishing academic books?**

“We are monitoring that issue to see what kind of support we can offer. As things look currently, financiers want to see some form of similar solution to the one used for articles.”

**Anders Berndt**



## Fårö popular

■ Researchers and doctoral students enjoy working in Ingmar Bergman's properties on Fårö that he left behind. For several years now, Uppsala University has had access to a house with two bedrooms, a living room, bathroom and kitchen and has invited anyone interested to work free of charge there for up to a week. This year's invitation was published on 5 February on the Staff Portal and every space has already been allocated.

➤ [mp.uu.se/en/web/nyheter/nyheter](#) under Calls for applications.

## Rules of Procedure revised

■ In December 2019, the University Board decided on Rules of Procedure that have effect from 1 January 2020. One innovation in the Rules of Procedure is an introductory section, “Statutes”, which describes the University's core values and takes up autonomy, the free pursuit of knowledge, collegial governance and the role of students. A “constitutional protection” is also being introduced to some sections of the Rules of Procedure. This means that any changes require two identical decisions taken six months apart by the University Board.

➤ [regler.uu.se/](#)



The amount of agreements with publishers to publish with open access is constantly increasing at the University, as Ann-Louise Lindström at the University Library explains.

PHOTO: MIKAEL WALLERSTEDT



PHOTO: MOSTOPHOTOS/REINHOLD WITTICH

## Guest research in Matariki network

■ Researchers, teachers and doctoral students can apply for funding for stays of up to six months at one of the universities in the Matariki network. In addition to Uppsala University, members of the network include Dartmouth College (US), Durham University (England), Queen's University (Canada), the University of Otago (New Zealand), Eberhard Karls Universität Tübingen (Germany) and the University of Western Australia (Australia). Applications should be in by 27 April at the latest.

➤ [mp.uu.se/en/web/nyheter/nyheter](#) under Calls for applications.

2020 will see elections held and decisions made about many of the senior management functions.

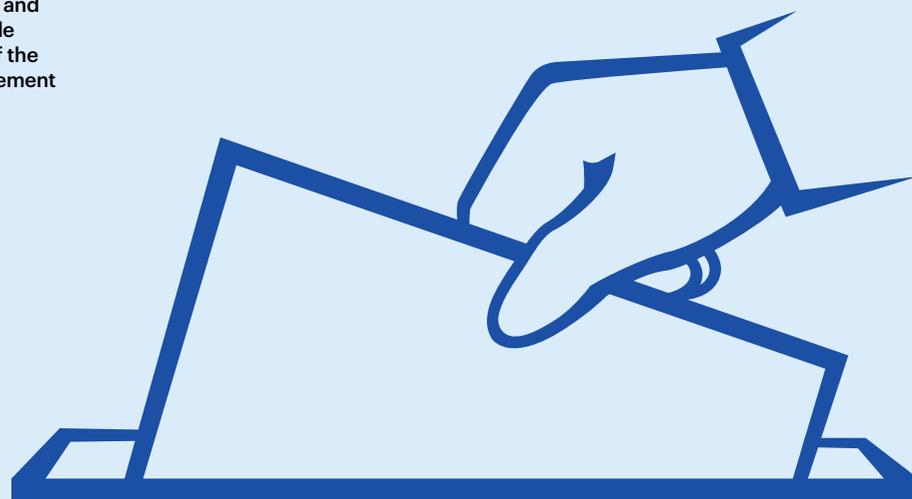


ILLUSTRATION: ISTOCKPHOTO



Jenny Ferngren, Security and Safety Coordinator.

PHOTO: ANDERS BERNDT

## Behind the emergency number

The University's emergency number, 018-471 25 00, connects to a function called "Duty Officer" based in the Security and Safety Division.

"The aim is for Uppsala University, as a public authority, to be prepared to launch its crisis organisation in an effective manner and reasonably quickly. The 'Duty Officer' function makes this possible," explains Jenny Ferngren, Security and Safety Coordinator at the Security and Safety Division.

"I CONSIDER THE DUTY Officer role a fantastic function that enables a fast and early collaboration within the University or with other services, for example the Emergency Services or the duty officers of other authorities."

The problems can often be managed at an early stage and prevented from escalating through collaboration with heads of departments, heads of division and facilities managers.

"If many of us work on an issue, we often resolve it early on. The strength of the Duty Officer function is that it is a central point of collaboration that coordinates a wide range of services."

THE DUTY OFFICERS ARE not only available 24 hours a day, they also monitor global events in order to coordinate a response as quickly as possible if something should occur. If there is a plane crash somewhere in the world, for example, they contact the Ministry for Foreign Affairs to ascertain whether anyone with a connection to the University was on board.

"Much of this work is about putting a response into place at an early stage to ensure we have the mental preparedness to enhance our ability to act."

It is a major task as it concerns all employees and students as well as all of the University's premises and property. There are no geographical limits either, as both employees and students could be located anywhere in the world.

**Anders Berndt**

Telephone number in emergency situations: [mp.uu.se/web/info/stod/sakerhet/nodnummer](https://mp.uu.se/web/info/stod/sakerhet/nodnummer)

# Election year 2020

2020 will see elections held and decisions made about many of the senior management functions. A new Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Vice-Chancellor will take up their roles at the beginning of 2021, new vice-rectors half way through this year and a new University Board will begin on 1 May 2020. New disciplinary domain and faculty boards will also begin work half way through the year.

## 17 January 2020

The University Board decided on the person specifications for the roles of Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Vice-Chancellor. The Vice-Chancellor is appointed by the government for a maximum of 6 years, while the University Board appoints the Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

## January-June

The election process will get under way for the election of vice-rectors, deans and members of the disciplinary domain and faculty boards for the three disciplinary domains. The term of office is three years.

## January-April

The Recruitment Committee produces a list of both male and female Vice-Chancellor candidates based on the person specification.

## 22-23 April

The Recruitment Committee consults the University Board about which candidates for Vice-Chancellor are to be summoned to meet the Electoral College.

## Electoral College

The Electoral College consists of 65 members and its chair is Shirin Ahlbäck Öberg. 36 of the members are appointed through elections at the disciplinary domains, while 18 are appointed by the students and 11 are appointed from among other employees.

## 1 May

The new University Board begins. The University Board consists of a chair and 14 members. The government appoints eight members, of which one is the chair. Both the teachers and students appoint three members each. The Vice-Chancellor is also a member.

## May

The Recruitment Committee submits the names of candidates to be interviewed for the position of Vice-Chancellor to the Electoral College. The names of the candidates are also made public.

## Late May

The Vice-Chancellor candidates meet the Electoral College.

## June

The Electoral College submits its recommendation of a new Vice-Chancellor to the Recruitment Committee, which in turn submits its recommendation of a new Vice-Chancellor to the University Board.

## 17 June

The University Board approves the recommendation of Vice-Chancellor and submits it to the government. The government then decides who will become the new Vice-Chancellor.

## June-September

The Recruitment Committee produces a list of candidates to become Deputy Vice-Chancellor. They consult the proposed Vice-Chancellor about the candidates.

## 1 July

The vice-rectors, deans and disciplinary domain and faculty boards begin.

## 30 September

The Recruitment Committee consults the University Board about which candidates for Deputy Vice-Chancellor are to meet the Electoral College. The names are then submitted to the Electoral College. The names of the candidates are also made public.

## Mid-October

The candidates for Deputy Vice-Chancellor meet the Electoral College.

## Late October

The Electoral College submits its recommendation of a new Deputy Vice-Chancellor to the Recruitment Committee, which in turn submits its recommendation of a new Deputy Vice-Chancellor to the University Board.

## 12 November

The University Board decides on the Deputy Vice-Chancellor.

## 1 January 2021

New Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Vice-Chancellor begin.

## Anders Berndt

## The Recruitment Committee

Consists of eight members and its chair is Gunnar Svedberg. The University Board has appointed two external members from the University Board. Three members with research expertise and one member with experience from other staff categories have been appointed by the Electoral College's corresponding groups. The students have appointed two members.

PHOTO: MIKAEL WALLERSTEDT



Daniel Brandell is the Director of the new Batteries Sweden competence centre.



Christel Bergström, Researcher in Pharmacy.

# New competence centre for battery research

**6-7 February saw the launch of the new competence centre for battery research – Batteries Sweden – which is coordinated by Uppsala University. The centre will support cutting-edge research in the field of batteries in collaboration with companies, with the aim of strengthening both research and the industry.**

The battery competence centre has been named “Batteries Sweden”. It was formally launched on 1 March and is supported by the research funding body Vinnova.

“The idea is for the centre to operate over the long term. Vinnova can provide funding for ten years,” explains Daniel Brandell, Professor at the Department of Chemistry and Director of the centre.

Chalmers University of Technology, KTH Royal Institute of Technology and the research institute Rise are all part of the activities, along with some 15 companies including ABB, Volvo, Scania and Northvolt. The institutions involved represent a large section of the academic environment, which is where much of the battery research in Sweden has historically been conducted. It is also these higher education institutions that continue to do the most research in this area.

“We also have a long history of collaboration with many joint projects. This is an environment in which we can base our activities. It will also be exciting to work in greater depth with the companies with whom we have not had as many collaborations in the past,” says Brandell.

**THE COMPANIES INVOLVED** in the centre cover the entire value chain linked to batteries, from raw materials to battery cell manufacturing, applications within the vehicle industry, power electronics and recycling.

“We are also dealing with companies who model batteries and develop software,” adds Brandell.

**WORK WILL BE CONDUCTED** in projects grouped around different themes, including new materials and concepts for batteries, smart batteries and modelling

## Three competence centres

■ Batteries Sweden is one of three competence centres at Uppsala University that are partially funded by Vinnova. The other two are the Swedish Drug Delivery Forum and Additive Manufacturing for Life Sciences.

and characterisation.

“Within these defined areas we will run a number of projects in which some of the universities and companies are involved and where we have shared systems and materials in which we are interested.

The questions at the root of the research projects have been posed by both the universities and industry.

“One third of the centre’s financing is provided by Vinnova, one third comes from the universities and one third from the companies. This means that there needs to be a clear, shared interest on the part of the universities and companies for this to work,” adds Brandell.

**THE HOPE IS FOR** the investment to lead to groundbreaking research based on the questions relevant to Swedish industry, he says.

“We will help improve Swedish industry. The research we conduct and the materials we produce will also end up becoming concrete products.”

In turn, companies gain access to top-class research infrastructure and broad expertise in the field.

“We are right at the forefront of this research, and if Swedish companies are to claim to be competitive, they need this type of expertise.”

Josefin Svensson

## Innovation to reduce the amount of animal testing

**Amidst strong competition, UU Innovation has selected 15 recipients to receive the Attractive Innovation Project Award for 2019.**

“It is a considerable stamp of quality to receive the Attractive Innovation Project Award from UU Innovation. It confirms that outstanding experts are identifying the commercial potential that we are convinced exists,” says Christel Bergström, Researcher in Pharmacy and founder of the company Enphasys.

**TOGETHER WITH HER COLLEAGUE** Janneke Keemink, Christel Bergström has developed a tool that will enhance the efficiency of evaluations of oral drug products. The international industry is already showing extensive interest, and thanks to grants from the ERC and Vinnova, the prototype is now being optimised to meet customers’ needs to an ever greater extent.

“We will adjust the design with the aim of reducing the need for substances and formulations, while increasing its capacity. We have the funding required at our disposal and expect to be able to present an updated version in autumn 2021,” adds Keemink.

**THE AIM IS TO** establish Enphasys as a supplier to companies who want to improve existing products or who want to evaluate at an early stage of the development phase the formulations that are most likely to make it all the way to being used in treatments.

“Companies currently have to modify their drug candidate or add excipients to analyse how they are absorbed into the body. Our tool can accelerate that process in a test tube environment, which also means that fewer stages of the process require animal testing,” notes Bergström.

**THE PLANS ARE AMBITIOUS** and regardless of what the future may bring, Uppsala University can be thrilled at even more evidence of the opportunity to combine the roles of researcher and entrepreneur.

Magnus Alsne

# Among Emperor's Bibles and worn textbooks

The teachings of Plato and trivial jokes – the University's Library's restoration work ensures each literary treasure receives the same loving treatment.

"Of course it can be a little nerve-racking to have one of the country's main cultural treasures sitting in front of you on the workbench. But both a Codex Argenteus and a fragment of papyrus from the era of the Old Testament need to be restored at some point, and you get used to it to some extent over the years. It also means that days involving routine repairs to worn textbooks can seem quite relaxing!"

Adam Larsson, Bookbinder at Carolina Rediviva, has what he classifies as a dream craftwork job: there are not just collections from four millennia here, they also represent a living basis for all of the research and teaching conducted at Uppsala University. His path to this role was anything but clearly marked out, however.

"I worked in the construction industry when a friend tipped me off about a course in bookbinding in Leksand. I went there on the off chance, made a calendar and thought, 'yes, I can do this'. I've now been in this job for more than thirty years and realised long ago that you are never too old to learn something new."

**A FEW TOOLBOXES FURTHER** down, Roger Johansson – "one of Sweden's best bookbinders" according to Google – is busy mending an aged volume of the magazine 'Vårt Hem' (Our Home). Precise cuts along worn covers are interspersed with chuckles at the publication's equally worn-out puns. Next up are philo-

sophical teachings of Plato in a beautiful but scuffed volume from the late 1800s.

"Each object needs to be handled in line with its own unique structure. We use contemporary instruments and precise material studies to preserve everything in as close to an original state as possible. I am personally fascinated by the history behind craftsmanship, particularly the 17th century and its many first-rate editions."

**THIS FASCINATION GUIDED ROGER** when he was given the prestigious assignment of designing Uppsala University's guestbook ahead of its anniversary year in 2017.

"Of course, the guest book was an exceptional assignment, but our work is generally more about quality than money. This gives us the benefit of carrying out our profession with pride and no doubt contributes to the fact that we have an almost non-existent staff turnover. We simply look forward to coming to work!"

**NOT A CLOUD IN** the sky above the southern corner of Carolina Park, in other words? Well, perhaps a small one. A few decades ago the number of full-time employees required to meet the needs of this area

**"Each object needs to be handled in line with its own unique structure."**

Roger Johansson

was calculated. The result was fourteen – a number that probably should have increased in line with the arrival of digitisation. The shelves of materials requiring restoration fill up quickly and demand steers the priorities.

"The books ordered for borrowing go first. This means that objects can be lying around for longer than we would like. The other day I restored a volume that had been waiting 24 years. For this reason we've now abandoned our policy of taking on everything, and now we sometimes replace worn-out copies with new ones. At the same time, each decision must be weighed up carefully as the printed materials of today represent a source of knowledge for the historians of tomorrow."

**WHAT IS THE OUTLOOK** for a profession that raises many eyebrows merely for still existing? Just fine, thank you very much – so say Adam and Roger. The collections are getting older, the need exists and vocational training is ensuring the supply of new skills. Targeted funding pays for required project recruitments, and this very winter they are joined by Floriane Clerc, a paper restorer trained in France.

"In my niche area, digitisation could potentially be seen as a threat," notes Floriane. "On the other hand, it is creating more interest in the original materials and I am convinced that our profession will survive for many generations to come!"

Magnus Alsne

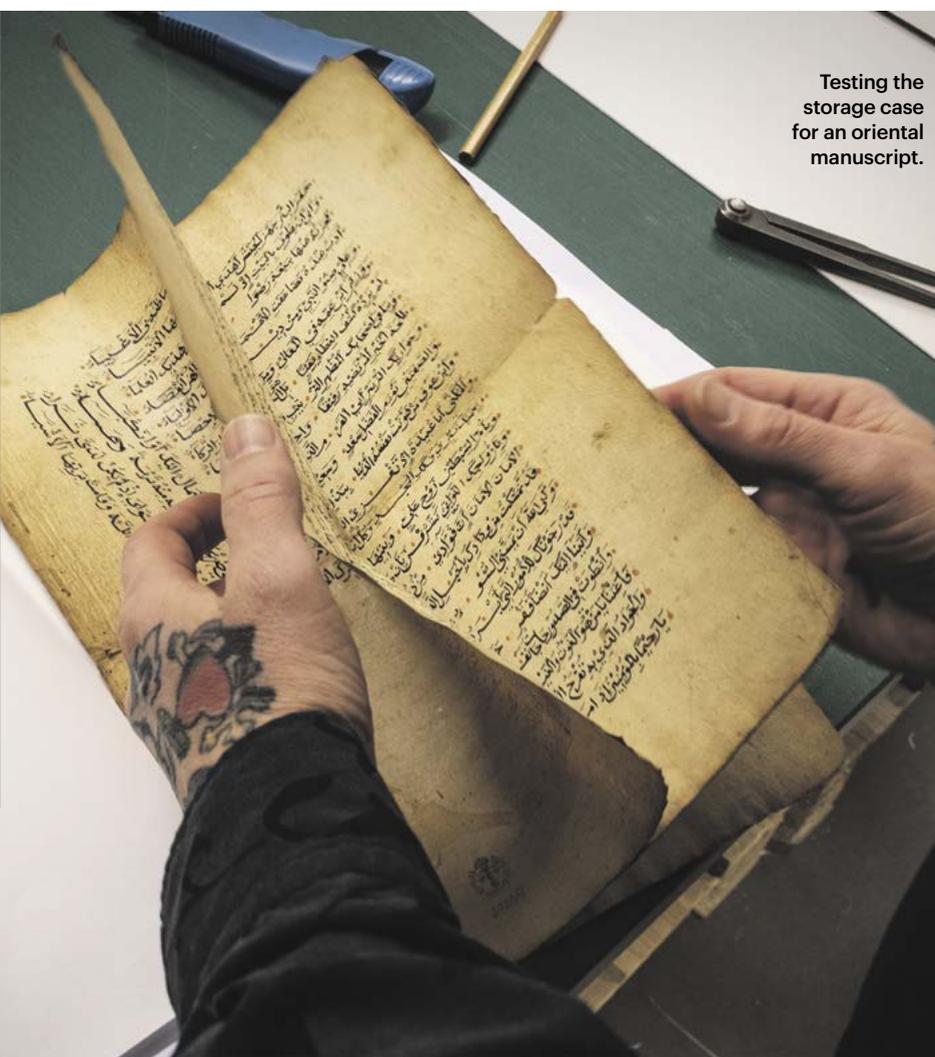


PHOTO: MIKAEL WALLERSTEDT



At the front is a job backer used to 'mould' the spine of the book. In the background Roger Johansson inserts a book into a hand press for a quick binding.

The University's conservators Adam Larsson, Roger Johansson and Floriane Clerc, study the library's new guestbook bound by Roger Johansson.



Testing the storage case for an oriental manuscript.



Adam Larsson restoring the spine of a book.

Joanne Woodford, Researcher at the Department of Women's and Children's Health, is working on a model to enable healthcare to support those with dementia using restricted funds.



## “Relatives need more support”

**How can we help parents of children suffering from cancer manage their depression and worries? And how can those suffering from dementia and their relatives get support in managing daily life? For ten years, the U-Care research programme has studied how physical illnesses affect those who are suffering and their relatives.**

On 9-10 March, U-Care will celebrate its tenth anniversary with a conference at

### U-CARE's tenth anniversary

■ U-CARE is one of the government's strategic research programmes at Uppsala University that studies how people suffering from physical illnesses and their relatives are affected psychologically and financially and what help they need to manage various difficulties. U-Care also develops self-help programmes provided online.

BMC, under the theme “Informal care”. One of the lecturers is Joanne Woodford, Researcher at the Department of Women's and Children's Health, who conducts research into how depression among dementia sufferers can be prevented.

“Studies show that up to half of all dementia patients show symptoms of depression. A strong contributing factor is that many dementia patients discontinue everyday activities, sometimes because those close to them unnecessarily take over many household duties. Passivity accelerates the negative spiral, and healthcare needs the tools to help the patients and their relatives to restore routines, activity and quality of life,” notes Woodford.

**U-CARE STUDIES HOW PEOPLE** suffering from physical illness and their relatives are affected psychologically and financially and what help they need to deal with the situation.

Joanne Woodford was formerly a Researcher at the University of Exeter before moving to Uppsala University and U-Care in August 2017.

“I can continue developing the work I started in England here. Above all, I hope I can adapt a model to Swedish circumstances that can make it easier for healthcare to provide support to dementia patients with a small amount of funding.”

Traditional cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT) produces good results, but it requires a large amount of resources. CBT-alternatives based on self-help also require extensive access to specially trained staff. That is why researchers in England have developed various interventions that caregivers can use after a short training period to provide people afflicted with dementia and those close to them support with day-to-day living.

**PROFESSOR LOUISE VON ESSEN** has managed U-Care since it was launched and can look back on some eventful years. Today 25 people – four of whom are responsible for different research projects – work in the MTC building at Uppsala Science Park.

“We have developed expertise in both theory and method over the past decade.



PHOTO: MIKAEL WALLERSTEDT

**Louise von Essen, Professor at the Department of Women's and Children's Health.**

We work on a range of different scientific methods, such as developing, testing, evaluating and implementing complex interventions in healthcare and involving those whom the research concerns throughout the research process,” says Louise von Essen.

She has conducted research into children afflicted with cancer and their parents. One of the results of this is an internet-based psychological treatment programme for parents of cancer-afflicted children that is currently available for use.

“It is becoming increasingly common for people to care for their relatives, which can be taxing and means a large amount of support is needed. Relative support groups are becoming more common for various illnesses now, which is fantastic. But it is also a sign that help is truly needed.”

**Annica Hulth**

PHOTO: SVENSKA BARNBOKSINSTITUTET



## New sides to Astrid Lindgren

■ Literary scholar Malin Nauwerck has been running the “Astrid Lindgren Code” project since the beginning of the year, in which she runs efforts to decipher the notebooks left behind by the author.

“Astrid Lindgren’s original manuscripts open up a previously unknown dimension of her authorship,” explains Nauwerck. “The manuscripts have long been seen as key to making new progress in research relating to Lindgren. The fact that no one has taken them on before can be explained by the fact that Lindgren wrote her texts in shorthand and thus there was a well established view that her stenography would be almost impossible to decode.”

## Investment in advanced research equipment

■ To succeed in future research challenges, instruments and machines that have not yet been developed are needed. Uppsala University is investing SEK 80 million to make the FREIA laboratory a lasting national technology environment that can continue to develop accelerators and instrumentation for the large international research infrastructures.

PHOTO: TUVA NYGREN



## Game offers vaccination against fake news

■ The game Bad News, which aims to make gamers better at uncovering fake news, works well, according to a new study. The results also show that the gamers maintain confidence in true news.

“Those who play Bad News become much better at uncovering fake news and disinformation linked to fake accounts, conspiracy theories and smear campaigns against investigative journalists,” explains Thomas Nygren, Senior Lecturer at the Department of Education.

# Super telescope reveals galactic battle

**A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away, two stars met in a battle for survival. The light produced by that confrontation is now reaching our planet, just in time for astronomers at Uppsala University to document the event in image-form using new technology.**

Using the Alma super telescope, astronomers have succeeded in depicting the clash between one of the Milky Way’s smaller stars and a red giant – a star whose supply of hydrogen is exhausted and that is growing far beyond its original size as it dies. During the confrontation that took place around 700 years ago, the smaller star was moving in a spiral formation towards the core of the bigger star, causing the latter to shed layers of gas and thus expose its core.

“For four decades we have been picking up energy signals indicating that something is under way in the area we assess to be some three-thousand light years away. Using new technology, we can finally document the events in image-form and the material to which we now have access is of very high quality,” explains Sofia Ramstedt of the Department of Physics and Astronomy.

**THE CONFRONTATION BETWEEN THE** two stars is a protracted process. The research-



The depicted confrontation took place in the Centaurus star formation in the southern sky.

PHOTO: ALMA (ESO/NAOJ/NRAO), OLOFSSON ET AL. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: ROBERT CUMMING

ers are already following several similar developments in space, but this is the first time a confrontation has been captured in an image. The results add a vital piece of the puzzle to our knowledge.

“We know that stars lose their outer layers during the death process, leaving behind a white dwarf. However, we are

not able to say why or exactly how this happens. The images we are now getting are revealing a transition phase between previously studied stages. All in all this offers significant information about the fate awaiting our own sun, but also the Universe as a whole,” adds Ramstedt.

**Magnus Alsne**

## 4 QUESTIONS TO YAFFA EPSTEIN,

Researcher at the Department of Law.

# Collaboration required

**1** You are researching how scientific terms are used in environmental law, together with ecologists from SLU. What will your project entail?

“Initially we will look at how to combine legal and ecological expertise to translate certain terms, all of which are linked to the natural sciences and are used in several EU directives relating to environmental protection. Then we hope to construct a general theory on how legal experts and natural scientists can work together to interpret these types of terms in law or, even more broadly, how to communicate across scientific disciplines.”

**2** Why is this a particular problem in environmental law?

“Because environmental law is about managing the human relationship with nature, so almost every environmental law is going to involve

the non-human, which has to be understood through scientific intermediaries. One example is that species populations should be viable according to the EU Habitats Directive, but the term viable isn’t defined further in that law. This means you have to talk to a scientist about what makes a species population viable, which isn’t a clear cut question for a scientist either, as it involves the question of how high an extinction risk we want to accept. Nobody really has a monopoly on defining viability.”

**3** How, then, can lawyers better communicate with natural scientists and experts?

“Talking past each other is a common issue in interdisciplinary collaboration. What I’m working on is a method to argue with each other constructively rather than to ignore communication problems.”



Yaffa Epstein, Researcher at the Department of Law.

PHOTO: TOBIAS BJÖRKGREN

**4** Do the laws need to be rewritten to be clear and specific enough?

“No, a law can’t cover every situation or define everything. But it is important to be conscientious when interpreting the law requires scientific input or value judgements.”

**Annica Hulth**

# FINALLY

The Royal Academic Orchestra's spring concert will be held 9 May.



PHOTO: QIMAGE

## Online career planning course

In spring 2020, a new online course in career planning for doctoral students will be launched. The "Online Career Programme for Doctoral Students" offers participants the opportunity to reflect on their future career after defending their thesis in a structured and focused manner, regardless of whether or not they are continuing within academia. The course will run from 20 April to 12 June. Register by 3 April.

➤ [mp.uu.se](http://mp.uu.se) under the tab Your Employment/Career/Career Development



FOTO: MIKAEL WALLERSTEDT

## NAMES IN THE NEWS

■ **Eva Tiensuu Janson**, Professor at the Department of Medical Sciences, has been appointed a member of the government's new cooperation group for Health and Life Sciences.

■ **Paula Henrikson**, Professor of Literature at the Department of Literature, has been awarded the Royal Swedish Academy of Letters' Rettig Prize for 2020.

■ **Olle Matsson**, Professor of Chemistry at Uppsala University and popular science author specialised in toxins, will be awarded the Swedish Chemical Society's Gunnar Starck medal for exceptional educational activities in the field of chemistry.

■ **Mia Kuritzen Löwengart** and **Hedvig Widmalm** will be awarded the Geijer Prize for History for 2019. The Prize is awarded every three years to researchers at Uppsala University who have completed their thesis on a topic relating to history deemed especially outstanding.

■ The Rudbeck Medal for 2020 will be awarded to **Tobias Ekholm**, Professor of Mathematics, Ulf Gyllensten, Professor at the Department of Immunology, Genetics and Pathology and **Anna Lind-**

**ström**, Professor of Languages and Social Interaction.

■ **Per Ahlberg**, Professor of Evolution and Developmental Biology, and Lars Holmer, Professor of Historical Geology, have been awarded the 2019 Björkén Prize.

■ **Yaffa Epstein**, Researcher in Environmental Law, and **Grzegorz Niedzwiedzki**, Researcher at the Department of Organismal Biology, have been awarded Uppsala University's Oscar Prize for young researchers.

■ **Anna-Sara Lind**, Professor of Public Law, has been appointed an expert on the State Committee investigating a potential ban on racist organisations.

## ON THE AGENDA

**11/3. Fulbright Lecture**  
Jayson Gonzales Sau-Saue, Southern Methodist University, on the history of the U.S-Mexico border. Humanist Theatre at 16: 15-17: 15.  
➤ [www.kalendarium.uu.se](http://www.kalendarium.uu.se)

**18/3. Public Management Seminar**  
Meeting place for researchers and practitioners interested in the public sector. Register by 11 March at the latest.  
➤ [mp.uu.se/web/info/kalendarium](http://mp.uu.se/web/info/kalendarium)

### 24/3. Equal Opportunities Day

This year's theme is widening participation. For employees and students. Register by 17 March at the latest.

➤ [mp.uu.se/web/info/kalendarium](http://mp.uu.se/web/info/kalendarium)

### 24/3. Chamber music by Beethoven

Members of the Royal Academic Orchestra will perform chamber music by Beethoven. Musicum, 19:00.

### 19/4. Spring-cleaning at the cultural heritage reserve

Linnaeus' Hammarby's cultural heritage reserve, 10-14.

➤ [www.kalendarium.uu.se](http://www.kalendarium.uu.se)

### 9/5. The Royal Academic Orchestra's spring concert

R. Strauss: Oboe concerto and P. Tchaikovsky: Symphony no. 6 "Pathétique". Free entry but a ticket is required. These can be picked up at the Uppsala Student Union or the Segerstedt service centre. The Grand Auditorium, 15-17.

➤ [www.kalendarium.uu.se](http://www.kalendarium.uu.se)

### 18/5. Blue sing-so-long!

Royal Academic Orchestra, Uppsala Academic Chamber Choir and Uppsala University Jazz Orchestra will perform a spring concert with sing-a-long. The Grand Auditorium, 17:30.

## 'Friskör' choir on Thursdays

'Friskör' choir is a choir for employees of Uppsala University. All employees can participate, regardless of singing or choir experience. The choir will meet on ten Thursdays from 15:45-17:15 at Musicum, Kyrkogårdsgatan 4. For further information, contact Erik. Åstrand@edu.uu.se.

## Nominate candidates for the Distinguished Teaching Award

You can now nominate people for the University's distinguished teaching awards for 2020 for outstanding contributions in education. Four of the awards are for teachers in

- theology, humanities and educational sciences
- law and social sciences
- medicine and pharmacy
- mathematics, natural sciences and technology

A fifth distinguished teaching award is presented for varying important themes each year. In 2020, the fifth award will be given for "feedback to students". Nominations must be made by 17 March 2020 at the latest.

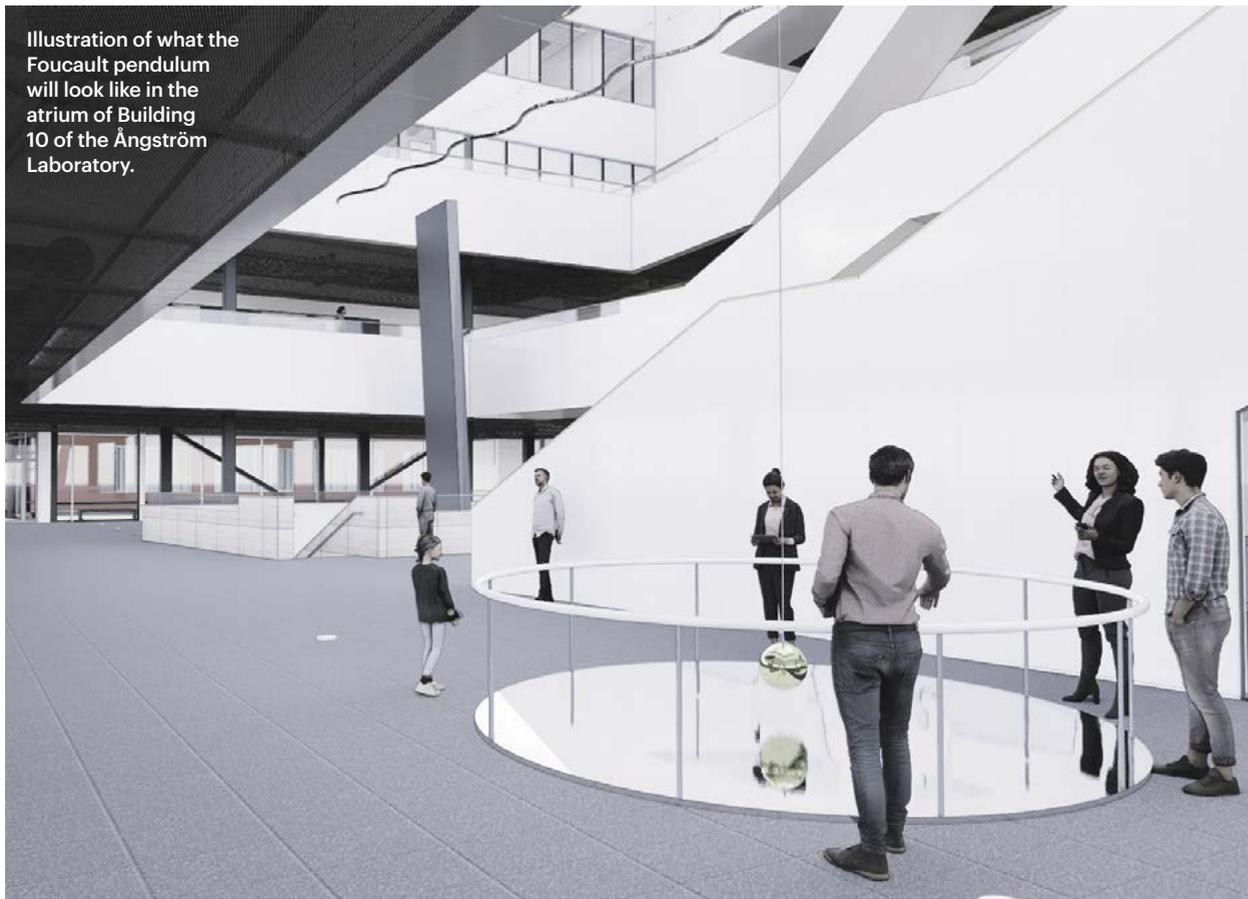
➤ [mp.uu.se/en/web/info/undervisa](http://mp.uu.se/en/web/info/undervisa) under Educational development

“We are convinced that Sweden needs high-quality research in history, languages, religion, culture, literature and philosophy to create the basis of knowledge required to tackle the challenges facing our democratic society.”

JENNY LARSSON, ISAK HAMMAR and LEIF RUNEFELT, representatives of the think-tank Humtank, in the magazine Curie on 5 February 2020.

IMAGE: PE TEKNIK & ARKITEKTUR

Illustration of what the Foucault pendulum will look like in the atrium of Building 10 of the Ångström Laboratory.



# Pendulum at Ångström

**The Ångström Laboratory is getting a new attraction. Students, teachers, researchers and any other curious folk will be met by a special installation at one of the new buildings currently under construction by the Ångström Laboratory: a ‘Foucault pendulum’ will be installed there. It consists of a heavy ball swinging from a 28-metre-long cable attached to the ceiling. The pendulum’s movement proves that the Earth revolves around its own axis.**

The French physicist Jean-Bernard-Léon Foucault was the first person to demonstrate by way of experiments that the Earth revolves around its own axis. Scientists had already suspected as much since the 1600s, but now it could be proven. Foucault’s first major demonstration took place in 1851 at the Panthéon in Paris, where he hung a heavy iron ball from a long iron wire. The pendulum-like movements of the ball showed the audience that the Earth actually does rotate. The experiment spread rapidly throughout Europe and was conducted for the first time in Sweden several years later at Uppsala Castle.

**NOW UPPSALA WILL BE** getting its own permanent Foucault pendulum. It has been made possible by a donation by Johan Tysk, Vice-Rector of the Disciplinary Domain of Science and Technology.

“The initiative to install a pendulum in the Ångström Laboratory came from Mattias Klintonberg, Professor of Physics, and he is the one who drove the process forward,” explains Tysk. “And I too have always been fascinated by Foucault’s pendulum. It is an illustration of the interplay between the natural sciences and technology. It is a magical gadget that gives us the sense of being part of something huge,” says Tysk. “It

feels wonderful to be part of it and to be able to personally contribute via a donation!”

**THE PURPOSE OF THE** new buildings at the Ångström Laboratory is to enhance the intellectual environment and stimulate social interaction between students, teachers and researchers from different subject areas.

“It is important that we don’t forget the social aspect,” Tysk notes. “This is why it feels particularly gratifying for me to contribute to the placement of a pendulum in the centre of the new atrium in building 10. It will serve as a meeting point through which a flow of people will be constantly passing.”

Building 10 with the Foucault pendulum is scheduled to be complete in spring 2022.

Anna Malmberg

## Foucault’s pendulum

■ Foucault’s pendulum is named after Jean-Bernard-Léon Foucault (1819 – 1868). The amount the pendulum moves in line with the Earth’s rotation depends on the latitude on which it is located. At both poles it rotates 360 degrees in 24 hours, while at the equator it does not rotate at all but simply swings in the same direction.



PHOTO: MIKAEL WALLERSTEDT

## HELLO DAVID VAN DER SPOEL,

You have taken the initiative to call on heads of departments to sign a letter to the University Board regarding Uppsala University Foundations Management of Estates and Funds (UAF).

## “They are now revising their guidelines”

### 1 Why did you write the letter?

“Uppsala University aspires to create a better world through both teaching and research, but also by reducing the University’s direct impact on the climate and environment. As a major landowner and asset manager that reports directly to the University Board, UAF thus plays a vital role in how the University could serve as a role model.”

### 2 Any response?

“Yes, UAF has sent a response at the request of the University Board.”

### 3 What did their response say?

“They acknowledge that they have needed to update their operational targets for a long time, and that now the University has adopted new goals and strategies, they will adapt their targets, sustainability policy and ethical rules.

They also write that their investments in shares have been fossil-free since 2015 and that their forestry activities are certified. However, they also note that they have been poor in terms of providing information about this on their website and that they now will update their website.”

### 4 Are you satisfied?

“It’s positive that the investments have been fossil-free since 2015 and that they are now revising their guidelines. But we should wait to see these new guidelines and whether they set a good example and actually follow them.

In terms of the forestry certification, we will be contacting UAF as the certifications are not sufficient. We need to stop clearing our forest. There are timbering methods that don’t require clearing.”

Anders Berndt

## PROFILE

/ANNA JONSSON CORNELL

Anna Jonsson Cornell has launched the Human Rights Clinic at which law students can provide assistance to vulnerable groups.



PHOTO: MIKAEL WALLERSTEDT

### Professor of Comparative Constitutional Law

- Profession: Professor of Comparative Constitutional Law at Uppsala University.
- Lives: Alsike, twenty kilometres south of Uppsala.
- On the bedside table: *The Lone Woman* – a fascinating portrait of the exceptional Ester Blenda Nordström.
- A famous person I've met: Benny Andersson, I was star-struck and became tongue-tied, but he was extremely wise.
- Whenever I'm free: I travel with my family out to the nature of the archipelago or to Skåne.

# Focus on social responsibility

At a time when illiberal forces are challenging the rule of law and more and more people are lacking someone who can monitor their individual rights, law's role as a defender of democratic values is being intensified. At the Human Rights Clinic, Uppsala's law students are given the knowledge they need to face society's challenges.

"We are currently seeing the rule of law being challenged in a number of countries. This bodes very ill from a democratic perspective, not least in the former central and eastern Europe where the progress of the past few decades risks amounting to nothing. This is why it is necessary for us to critically evaluate the forces driving this course of events and analyse the importance of law in these developments," says Anna Jonsson Cornell, Professor of Comparative Constitutional Law.

JUST AS WE ARE meeting, the BBC is reporting on con-

cerns that Poland could be forced to leave the European Union as a result of the proposed reform of the country's judicial system. The national-conservative Law and Justice party is behind the proposal, which would allow for the removal of judges who question government decisions. According to the Supreme Court of Poland, this risks obstructing the principle that EU law takes precedence over national legislation.

"I am currently involved in a research project focused exactly on the rule of law, law and politics. Our focus is on the dynamic between the international, regional and national levels, and we can see links be-

tween the rise of far-right forces, illiberal urges and differing views of the rule of law and democracy. In this context, the UK Supreme Court's actions during the Brexit negotiations serve as an important example of the important of law for parliamentary sovereignty.

**ANNA JONSSON CORNELL OFTEN** returns to the role of law as a defender of democratic values and constitutional law. When educating the next generation of lawyers, she greets each new student contingent with a reminder that the knowledge they will acquire also entails a social responsibility.

"As a Board member of Civil Rights Defenders, I can see close-up the need to defend each individual's rights, and in 2016 I launched the Human Rights Clinic at Uppsala University. Put simply, this is an arena in which law students assist organisations that provide legal protection to vulnerable groups. Students can get practical experience of real cases here while performing a socially relevant task."

**THE CLINIC FOCUSES ON** both systemic and individual legal shortcomings. One widely noted case took place in the wake of the police's unlawful registration of Roma people. The decision of the Chancellor of Justice to award those affected a lower level of compensation was appealed, and with support from the law students during the legal analysis and argumentation, the compensation was raised for everyone affected by the registration.

"We have a major and important educational mission. Through the Human Rights Clinic, which has now been integrated as an optional part of an advanced course, we are able to provide to an even greater extent the knowledge students need to contribute to a functioning democracy and to uphold the rule of law."

**Magnus Alsne**