

## SSV Newsletter, July 2021

Friends and colleagues,

Despite some threats from the delta variant, the numbers tested positive in Sweden is currently on a low level, and with this we are happy to share with you events and developments (see bullet points below) organized by Virus- och pandemifonden – Svenska Sällskapet för Virologi. Besides hosting an event at the “Almedalen week” about “How to prevent Covid-24”, we will also organize “Sweden’s largest talk on viruses and pandemics” with the general public (August 31) and another meeting with politicians and representatives from health care, culture, sports, school and other sectors of the society (September 21). One of the aims is to inform about how research can (must) contribute to a safer, healthier, and more open society when we are hit by future pandemics. Another aim is to prepare for Pandemifonden being a source of knowledge for the general public, media, health care, politicians, companies, and other organizations. This will also be an opportunity for us to network and establish contacts with sponsors. We are thrilled about a recent collaboration with Svensk Elitfotboll (SEF), which is an interest organization for the top 32 football teams in Sweden, and will hopefully provide visibility for sponsors and others. We are also proud to inform that Emma Frans (epidemiologist at KI) has accepted to function as an Ambassador for Pandemifonden. We also receive quite some attention, and donations (!) from companies and organizations, have a look at our [Pandemifonden](#) website to get familiar with our new partners! But, we obviously still have a lot of work to do to make contribute in a manner that makes an impact on Swedish virology. Pandemifonden is also present and active on social media. See below, follow and share! Increased awareness about Pandemifonden is obviously essential for donations and further development.

Importantly, we also encourage and welcome all members of the society to engage and support the development of Pandemifonden, see below. If there are many of us that engage just a little, we can do great things together!

On behalf of the board,

Niklas Arnberg, Chairman

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- 1) Pandemifonden representatives, Niklas Arnberg, Ali Mirazimi and Emma Frans (coordinator), were highly active during the Almedalen event, including panel discussion with Matilda Ernkrans, (minister for higher education and research), Kristina Axén Olin (Moderaterna), and Åsa Kristoferson Hedlund (Chair for the Swedish Covid Association). If you missed the event (in Swedish), you will, very soon, be able to watch it at the [Pandemifonden](#) website.

- 2) Swedish Elite Soccer Association (Svensk Elitfotboll) has now joined Pandemifonden as our ambassadors. Please see (in Swedish) the [declaration](#) by Mats Enquist, the General Secretary at Svensk Elitfotboll.
- 3) For those of you that are active at social media, it would also be a great help to increase awareness – and donations – if you follow/share Pandemifondens messages. If you feel comfortable, recommend your network to follow Pandemifonden:
  - Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/pandemifonden/>
  - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Pandemifonden>
  - LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/pandemifonden/>
- 4) Would you like to engage in Pandemifonden as a volunteer, together with us/others who share the vision and ambition of Pandemifonden? Contact [niklas.arnberg@pandemifonden.se](mailto:niklas.arnberg@pandemifonden.se). Together we can make a difference, and, it will be fun!
- 5) **Reminder!** We kindly ask you to post, in your neighborhood, the attached Pandemifonden poster, with information on how to donate money. See inspiration below.
- 6) The [registration](#) to the 18<sup>th</sup> **Smögen Summer Symposium**, scheduled for August 26-28 is still open. **Abstract deadline July 31**. Updated program: Anthony Cunningham, University of Sydney, will replace Peter Palese.
- 7) Open positions, and generous startup packages, as DDLS fellows (Associate Senior Lecturer/ Assistant Professors) in Data-driven research on epidemiology and infection biology are now open at Umeå, Uppsala, Karolinska, Göteborg and Lund universities. Great opportunity for junior scientists. For more information see the SciLife & Wallenberg program for Data-driven life science (DDLS) [website](#). Deadline September 6.



- 8) Travel grants: PhD students and postdocs are welcome to apply for the SSV travel grants. See guidelines and how to apply on our [website](#), or if you have questions contact [Mikael.Berg@slu.se](mailto:Mikael.Berg@slu.se)
- 9) Anyone that has suggestions on virology publications that should be highlighted, and are of interest for Swedish virologist, please send this information to [Tomas.Bergstrom@microbio.gu.se](mailto:Tomas.Bergstrom@microbio.gu.se)

**Summer greetings from SSV**