



Swedish Society for Virology (SSV) Newsletter, September 2022

Dear fellow virologists,

Summer is over and we are all back at work. Our society has organized another successful Symposium at Smögen (thanks Nina Nyström for time and efforts put into this!). As previously, the meeting was fully booked, but all presentations were streamed and many participated online. Keynote speakers gave timely and excellent updates on SARS-CoV-2 origin (Mike Worobey), rotavirus vaccines (Timo Vesikari), and immunity to viruses in bats (Karen Mossman). All members, **please suggest keynote speakers** to next year. This is a team work and as always, we (the board) appreciate suggestions from you/members of the society. It was also a pleasure to listen to and discuss with all PhD students, postdocs, and fellows about exciting and impressing research going on! The future looks bright, and I am convinced that our research field will contribute with knowledge and tools needed to limit the impact of virus-caused diseases. Some news from [Virus- och pandemifonden](#): We are currently developing a **knowledge portal: "viruskollen.se"** with the aim to share knowledge about viruses and virus-caused diseases. Our plan is to show a map, with pictures of virus (families) that cause disease in humans. Clicking on a certain virus (family) will take the visitor to a page with popular scientific information about relevant viruses in this family. We are currently developing a frame that will fit all families. Our ambition is that this will be a useful tool that the general public, media etc, can turn to, to get information and facts about viruses and virus-caused diseases. Do you want to help out and share knowledge about your favorite virus family (or want to know more), perhaps a joint venture with your supervisor or PhD student/postdoc, please contact joohan.nordgren@liu.se and/or niklas.arnberg@umu.se to know more! Finally, we are very happy to inform you that we can proceed with last year's initiative and now **welcome nominations of candidates to the Pandemifonden Award**. Thanks to a generous donation by Eva-Maria Fenyo, we can now give two awards to talented virologists, 100 000 SEK each (for research)!

Niklas Arnberg, Chairman
on behalf of the board

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- 1) The board welcomes **nominations of candidates to the Pandemifonden Award**, which will be given by Virus- och pandemifonden – Svenska Sällskapet för Virologi (The Swedish Society for Virology), to two junior, talented virologists active at Swedish universities or hospitals, for the purpose of promoting virus research. This year the award will be 100 000 SEK to each awardee. See attached pdf for details on the eligibility of candidates and nominations, to be **submitted latest Nov 15, 2022**, to info@pandemifonden.se
 - 2) **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 Ali.Mirazimi@ki.se

- 3) **Meetings:** The third “**State of the Art Covid-19**” meeting, Online November 16-17, 2022, [see link](#).
- 4) **Open positions:**
Senior Lecturer in Tumor Virology, at Lund University, [see link](#). Deadline October 10.
Postdoctoral fellowship in Vaccine development, at Örebro University, [see link](#).
Deadline October 3.
- 5) **Take the opportunity** to give comments on the “**Research Overview**” of the Swedish Research Council (**VR**). The overview contains a description of the current situation and a forecast for the development in the next 5–10 years for the subject area. The completed research overview is the basis for the strategic work of VR.
[See link](#).
- 6) **Enjoy photos**, taken by Anders Widell at the Molecular Virology Course and at the Smögen Summer Symposium on Virology. See link to the photos from the [course](#) and the [meeting](#).
- 7) **Stay updated** with the **virus podcast** by Lennart Svensson and guests (in Swedish).
www.viruspodden.se
- 8) **Nominate** internationally renowned researcher who has made a ground-breaking contribution to virology research **to M.W. Beijerinck Virology Prize**. See [link](#) for more information. Deadline October 30.
- 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
- 10) 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/>
- 11) Would you like to engage in Pandemifonden as a volunteer and join **Crew Pandemifonden**, together with us/others who share the vision and ambition of Pandemifonden? Contact niklas.arnberg@umu.se . Together we can make a difference, and, it will be fun!
- 12) **Reminder!** We kindly ask you to post, in your neighborhood, the attached Pandemifonden poster, with information on how to donate money.

**Best wishes for a nice autumn to all members (n=320)
from SSV**