



## SSV Newsletter, May 2021

Friends and colleagues,

Summer is approaching and together with the covid-19 vaccines there is finally some light in the pandemic tunnel. Vaccines, antivirals and diagnostics all stem from research, and research in virology is more important than ever before. We are pleased that research in virology also receives attention and appreciation from society. We are also very pleased to inform that Pandemifonden is now launched and is receiving substantial interest (and donations!) from individuals, organizations, and companies. If you have not yet visited Pandemifonden's new [homepage](#), have a look and let us know what you think. 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.

As you know, the vision of Pandemifonden is to strengthen research in virology and provide knowledge and tools that help us to cope with virus-caused infections, illnesses, outbreaks, and pandemics. To develop further, we plan to (examples):

- A Society Advisory Board with representatives from different domains of the society.
- A Scientific Advisory Board that help us to organize research applications and funding.
- Ambassadors helping us to spread the word and increase the awareness about Pandemifonden and our vision and ambition.
- Further develop the new homepage, including a "Virology school".
- If possible, participate at "Almedalen".

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) Attached with this newsletter you will find a pdf-file with information about Pandemifonden and how to donate money. We kindly ask you to print the pdf-file and post it in your neighborhood, for example at billboards at your institution, grocery shop, health center, gym etc. This with the aim to spread the news about Pandemifonden and our fund-raising initiative. This would very much strengthen the outreach.
  - 2) 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/>
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- 3) 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!
- 4) Soon, coming week, our Smögen meeting general, Kristina Nyström, will distribute information and open registration for the 18<sup>th</sup> Smögen Summer Symposium, scheduled for August 26-28. Keep eyes open !
- 5) Open positions include Senior Lecturer in Medical Microbiology at Lund University For information see posted position at our [website](#).
- 6) 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)
- 7) Virology research highlights: In this Newsletter we highlight publications from SSV member Ali Mirazimi on “ **Organoid modeling of Zika and herpes simplex virus 1 infections reveals virus-specific responses leading to microcephaly** (see below)
- 8) 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)

## Spring greetings from SSV

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### Virology News

**Organoid modeling of Zika and herpes simplex virus 1 infections reveals virus-specific responses leading to microcephaly.** Krenn V, Bosone C, Burkard TR, Spanier J, Kalinke U, Calistri A, Salata C, Rilo Christoff R, Pestana Garcez P, Mirazimi A, Knoblich JA. Cell Stem Cell. 2021 Apr 7:S1934-5909(21)00110-7. doi: 10.1016/j.stem.2021.03.004