



Dear fellow members of the Swedish Society for Virology (SSV),

1) 15th Smögen Summer Symposium on Virology will take place August 23-25, 2018. In line with previous Smögen meetings the scientific program will include keynote lectures from outstanding international experts in various fields of Virology. However, one novel feature is the introduction of a special lecture to honor Professor Erik Lycke, who together with the late Professor Sven Gard contrived the successful inactivated Swedish polio vaccine. The organizers are proud to announce that **Dr. Stanley Prusiner**, Nobel Laureate 1997 for "the discovery of Prions, a novel biological principle for infection", has accepted to give the first Erik Lycke Lecture. Two additional excellent keynote speakers have agreed to join this years symposium **Dr. Nihal Altan-Bonnet**, Laboratory of Host-Pathogen Dynamics, NIH, Bethesda, MD, USA and **Dr. Kartik Chandran**, Department of Microbiology and Immunology, Albert Einstein College of Medicine, New York, NY, USA. More information can be found at following link. Registration will soon be opened at our website.
http://www.swedishvirology.se/15th_smogen_summer_symposium_of_virology_1st_circular_2018.pdf

2) This year there will also be national courses in virology preceding the Smögen meeting, including

Course in "Clinical Virology (in Swedish)", Smögen August 20-23, 2018

We repeat the course in clinical virology, for ST doctors in infectious diseases and clinical microbiology. Like last time, the course is Lipus-certified and can be used as part of ST education. This course is also approved as a PhD course for PhD students at the University of Gothenburg (can be applied by PhD students from other universities). The course is given in Swedish, and more information can be found at following link. http://www.swedishvirology.se/klinisk_virologi_2018.pdf
Registration will soon be opened at our website.

Course in "Vector Borne and Emerging Viral Zoonoses", Smögen August 22-23, 2018

The course offers lectures of international and national experts on vector borne and emerging zoonotic viral infections. Tentative program can be found at the following link.
http://www.swedishvirology.se/course_-_vector_borne.pdf
Registration will soon be opened at our website.

- 3) Note that The Swedish Research Council has now opened a **Call on “Research Environment Grant with Infections and Antibiotics”** with **deadline May 8.**

<https://www.vr.se/inenglish/researchfunding/applyforgrants/callforproposals/opengrants/researchenvironmentgrantwithininfectionandantibiotics.5.753cc09616008e1195e7a0fb.html>

This could be a good opportunity to strengthen Swedish Virology. All virologists are urged to prepare for this application and to form appropriate constellations/networks. As indicated, this call will be well funded (>100 MSEK) and in addition to the main applicant the application should involve two to five co-PIs. The environment may contain one, or multiple nodes.

- 4) Please remember that you as a PhD student or Postdoc have the possibility to apply for **Travel grants from SSV**. See our website for instructions and the application link

http://www.swedishvirology.se/travel_grants.html

- 5) In this newsletter we highlight a recent **Virology News** on **“Inborn Errors of RNA Lariat Metabolism in Humans with Brainstem Viral Infection”**

http://www.swedishvirology.se/virology_news.html

Anyone that has suggestions on publications that should be highlighted, and are of interest for Swedish virologist, please send this information to Tomas.Bergstrom@microbio.gu.se.

- 6) If you are interested to post information on meetings, courses, jobs or other relevant information about Virology at the website, do not hesitate to contact, Marianne.Jansson@med.lu.se, SSVs webmaster.

**Best Spring Greetings from
SSV**

Virology News

“Inborn Errors of RNA Lariat Metabolism in Humans with Brainstem Viral Infection”.

Zhang et al, 2018, Cell 172, 952–965. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cell.2018.02.019>

This paper describes familial mutations (seven patients in three pedigrees) in the DBR1 gene, which encodes debranching enzyme 1 which is the only known RNA lariat-debranching enzyme in humans. The mutations might cause susceptibility to brain stem encephalitis caused by very different viruses such as HSV-1, Influenza B and norovirus. Presumably, altered splicing may lead to local immune defects in close compartments such as the brain stem.