



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

- 1) In order to assure that that the **review panels of the Swedish Research Council** includes members that have expertise in the Virology field we urge you to **nominate yourself or a colleague**. According to the instructions of the Scientific Council for Medicine and Health  
*... The nominated candidate should be an established and senior researcher within the research community. He or she does not need to be based in Sweden. Review panel members are appointed for three years.*

....

The nomination survey is open **until December 15, 2017** and you can find it at the link below

<http://fluidsurveys.se/surveys/Vetenskapsradet11/nominering-av-granskare-2018/>

- 2) Note that The Swedish Research Council will open a **Call on "Research Environment Grant - Infections and Antibiotics"** March 27 with **deadline May 8**.

<https://vr.se/inenglish/researchfunding/applyforgrants/overviewcalls2018.4.44482f6612355bb5ee780002186.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 each application may contain up to 8 PI:s. The environment may contain one, or mutiple nodes. The contact person at the Swedish Research Council is Patriq Fagerstedt [Patriq.Fagerstedt@vr.se](mailto:Patriq.Fagerstedt@vr.se).

- 2) The **2018 Smögen Summer Symposium on Virology** will take place **August 23-25**. Remember to book the dates in you calendar! This year, as usual, we will have several prominent keynote speakers. We are especially thrilled to announce that **Stanley Prusiner**, who 1997 received the Nobel Prize for his groundbreaking studies on prions, has accepted to be the first Erik Lycke lecturer. We are also very happy that **Nihal Altan-Bonnet** has accepted to join us in Smögen this year. Her work at NIH about novel viral transmission and entry mechanisms has gained a lot of attention. As previous years, there will most likely be courses organized in conjunction to the Smögen meeting, and the preliminary 2018 themes include "**Clinical Virology**" and "**Zoonotic Virology**". More details on the 2018 Smögen Summer Symposium on Virology and the Courses will soon be announced.

- 3) 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](http://www.swedishvirology.se/travel_grants.html)
- 4) In this newsletter we highlight a recent **Virology News** on "**An interferon-independent lncRNA promotes viral replication by modulating cellular metabolism**" see below or our website  
[http://www.swedishvirology.se/virology\\_news.html](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](mailto:Tomas.Bergstrom@microbio.gu.se).
- 5) 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](mailto:Marianne.Jansson@med.lu.se), SSVs webmaster.



## Virology News

### "Viruses hijack a host lncRNA to replicate"

The authors have identified a long non-coding host RNA that is induced by infection and that promotes replication of both RNA (VSV) and DNA (HSV-1 and Vaccinia) viruses. Its mechanism of action, which does not involve the IFN system, is mediated through direct binding to the mitochondrial enzyme glutamic-oxaloacetic transaminase 2. This enzyme is translocated to the cytoplasm during VSV infection and binds to the non-coding RNA to alter cell metabolism in a manner that is suitable for viral replication. This mechanism may constitute a novel target for broad-spectrum antivirals.

### **An interferon-independent lncRNA promotes viral replication by modulating cellular metabolism.**

Wang P, Xu J, Wang Y, Cao X.

Science. 2017 Nov 24;358(6366):1051-1055. doi: 10.1126/science.aao0409.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29074580>

### **Commentary: Viruses hijack a host lncRNA to replicate.**

Kotzin JJ, Mowel WK, Henao-Mejia J.

Science. 2017 Nov 24;358(6366):993-994. doi: 10.1126/science.aar2300.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/29170219>