



STRÖMSTAD AKADEMI

Nordiskt institut för avancerade studier

NYHETSREVY AUG 2021, international edition

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Editors corner

Editor's corner

Anders Gustavsson

Surgeon and Chairman of the Board Peter Fritzell reports on important events in Strömstad Academy.

Vice-Chancellor and Information System Scientist Per Flensburg informs about current events within Strömstad Academy.

August's chronicle in Strömstads Tidning on 21 August was written by **Chemist Ulf Berg**. He discusses the relationship between music and science in the form of chemistry.

On 28 August presented **vice-Chancellor and Information System Scientist Per Flensburg** the upcoming science festival in Strömstad.

Proposals for new chronicles in Strömstads Tidning should be sent to **Mariana Back** mariana.back@tekniskamuseet.se

Economist John Fletcher comments on Linguist Jens Allwood's post in the previous newsletter on research culture and economics culture.

Educator Åsa Morberg reflects on a new government study on research infrastructure, SOU 2021: 65. She also discusses the issue of the importance of politicians allocating financial resources for the purchase of teaching materials in school education.

Business economist Rune Wigblad argues in the ETC Debate on 1 August for the positive possibilities of maglev trains compared to high-speed trains.

<https://www.etc.se/debatt/vand-tagproblem-till-mojligheter-med-magnettag>

A program for the Academic/Science Festival in Strömstad on 30 August-2 September is presented.

The anthology "Pandemics - past and present for the future" has been published and presented in a press release. <http://stromstadakademi.se/Pandemierforhand.pdf>. The book can be ordered via Strömstads Bokhandel:

Redaktör: Anders Gustavsson
Layout: Per Flensburg

std.bok@telia.com or Bokus.com. The price is SEK 249. <https://www.bokus.com/bok/9789189331006/pandemier/>

I want to urge a previous call for all members to verify and complete their personal information on the Academy website. Also try to recruit new members to the Academy, not least young scholars. Please, send suggestions to Vice-Chancellor Per Flensburg per.flensburg@stromstadakademi.se

I wish new contributions to the September issue 2021 of the Newsletter sent to my e-

mail address with deadline on 26 September 2021: anders.gustavsson@ikos.uio.no. Send short articles, opinion articles and/or reviews of new scientific literature. Swedish contributions should have an English translation.

Please, also send contributions to the Academy's publication series Acta Academiae Stromstadiensis, AAS, and the video series to the e-mail address:

gudmundbergqvist@hotmail.com

Report from the chairman

Colleagues in Strömstad Academy

Within a few days, the Science Festival will begin in Strömstad. It has been turbulent to say the least for our Vice-Chancellor Per and Pro-Vice-Chancellor Anders, with new decisions every other day regarding covid-19. The school option, where we planned to be, had to be canceled because, according to the Public Health Agency, there are risks meeting school children with regard to covid-19. Various options have been discussed, and many of them being on our list were already booked. It has now been decided that those of us who come to Strömstad will use a room above the Toro restaurant, very centrally. I think it is interesting and it brings my thoughts back to how my research career started. You were happy to get a place to sit and keep your stuff, and the important thing was that there was a place at all. "Back to basics" in a way. We must remember that our meeting takes place in the shadow of the pandemic, and therefore have great respect for the solutions that have been created. I think it is exciting. As everyone knows, the program is very extensive and interesting, although it had to be corrected on an ongoing basis due to

unforeseen events. All presentations will also be broadcasted digitally, and also recorded and posted on our website.

I would like to take the opportunity to refer to my column from July where the issues of ethics, publishing and marketing are addressed. Another thing I want to stress again is that all members should send a recent CV to Per Flensburg to be posted on the Website. This is very important for the Academy's continued operations. It would also be good if all members, who have not already done so, would pay the annual membership fee, information about this can be found on the Website under the heading Contact.

I welcome new members to the Academy and look forward to a long-awaited Science Festival to which I warmly welcome everyone, whether you participate physically or online. Per Flensburg has informed about this in a mail to all members: To join the conference: Type "perflensburg" in the GoToMeeting app window or <https://gotomeet.me/perflensburg> in your browser.

Peter Fritzell

Report from the Vice-Chancellor

The past month has been marked by the planning of our Science Festival. Anders and I have put together a great program and our collaboration worked really well. Thank you, Anders, for all the valuable comments you provided! But at the beginning of August, we received word from the high school that the region in Västergötland had issued strong orders not to conduct gatherings where classes are mixed. This meant that we could not have the students as an audience, we could not eat in the school canteen and we could not have a public audience. There would be 20 people in a hall that can hold several hundred. The search for other premises soon began, but it was certainly not easy. City Hall was booked, Skagerack was booked, the Museum was available only after 16:30/4:30 pm etc. But in the end we got quotes from two places where one was three times as expensive as the other. In addition, the festival would then lose at least SEK 7,500. So the choice was pretty simple. And we can invest in proper documentation in the form of professional recording instead. At least partially.

The highlight will be the premiere of Elaine Bearer's string quartet called "Strömstad Quartet". It is written for this very occasion. In addition, a guest, Per Enflo, will both play at the concert and give a lecture on the theme "Music and Science". In short, it seems to be a very interesting program. It is

possible to participate digitally free of charge and we will also publish a digital anthology of our festival.

And now something completely different:

Every year since 1997, the Gothenburg International Science Festival creates meeting places for knowledge, inspiration and new perspectives. These present science in creative and unexpected ways. On average, about 70,000 visits are made to the festival, which makes it one of Europe's leading popular science events. Every year there is a theme and the theme for 2022 is "The Unknown". I think it fits well with Strömstad Academy, because we are quite unknown. Therefore, I urge as many as possible to send in a contribution and state Strömstad Academy as affiliation. You do it on their website.

Otherwise, the text for the/our English website is ready, but the correct text remains to be entered on the page. I do not think I have time for this before the festival but then there will be time. What is also time for is a review of the homepage, if everything is included that should be included, for example, there is no information about membership fee. Note, however, that in the right-hand column, news are published in the form of short blog notices. If you come across something interesting that you think the whole Academy should find out about, please let me know!

Åsa Morberg: School starts soon

School starts soon: More teaching materials for the school are wanted by politicians

By Åsa Morberg

School starts soon. Many schools cannot afford the teaching materials that teachers need for their teaching. The Liberals work to ensure that students receive good and up-to-date teaching materials so that schools will

"reach the top again". It is interesting that politicians value printed teaching materials so much and to the point that printed teaching materials is expected to bring schools to a top position.

Money to buy appropriate teaching materials is simply not available in all municipalities and in all schools. It is said by the Liberals

that it is not acceptable that the municipalities cannot buy teaching materials. According to our national control system, however, it is the politicians who decide on the framework and resources for the school and its activities. What is seen in the report on resources for teaching materials is the result of political decisions. The criticism of the lack of funds for teaching materials thus falls back on the politicians themselves. It actually feels like an end in itself!

The important report "The right to knowledge" shows results from several surveys carried out by the authors of this book, and this book is the one that is presented as a main reference in the Liberals' argumentation. The report addresses issues such as what the purchases of teaching material look like in Swedish schools, how teachers experience the teaching material situation and how students like the teaching materials and how they use them. The report is a collaboration between the Swedish Teachers' Association, the Swedish Student Council, the Swedish Student Unions, SVEA (the board of the Swedish Student Council) and the Teachers' Materials Authors. Interviews and questionnaires were conducted during March 2020. The study is thus relevant.

As many as 86% of the teachers state that they cannot actually buy the teaching materials needed for teaching. Purchases also vary greatly between municipalities in Sweden. The survey shows that teaching material purchases vary from SEK 0 to SEK 1,500 per student and year. More than one-fifth of the schools buy teaching materials for less than SEK 400 per student. This means that students from different municipalities may not get equal resources to pass school. The situation obviously complicates the development

of an equivalent school. The survey also shows that Sweden is the country in the Nordic region that invests the least resources in teaching materials. This is serious criticism, but here politicians can never absolve themselves of responsibility for frameworks and resources.

We in Sweden lack a national teaching aid strategy. The state inquiry led by Gustav Fridolin has submitted its report on what the role of the state should be when it comes to teaching materials. There used to be a state control of teaching materials, and it will be interesting to see what the state's role in teaching materials really becomes.

The report provides five action requirements, in the report "The right to knowledge", for changes and they are the following:

- Tighten the Education Act regarding the role of teaching aids.
- Increase resources for teaching materials to create an equal asset.
- Guarantee teachers' purchase of both analogue and digital teaching materials.
- Sharpen the follow-up of resources for teaching materials so that official statistics are created.
- Increase funding for research on teaching materials.

Four out of five proposals, numbers 2-5, are actually based on politicians' assignments regarding frameworks and resources. The Liberals are now demanding an increased investment in printed teaching materials. This is a straightforward and clear call to politicians themselves to decide whether to invest increased resources in school teaching materials (in the broadest sense).

Åsa Morberg: Research infrastructure

New report presented, SOU 2021: 65, on research infrastructure, interesting for Strömstad Academy

Reflections by Åsa Morberg

On Wednesday 11 August, the inquiry Organization, governance and financing of research infrastructure submitted its proposals to Matilda Ernkrans, Minister of Higher Education and Research.

The Government's Special Investigator Tobias Krantz has been commissioned to submit proposals on how the organization, governance and financing of research infrastructure can be developed at a national level.

This may be of interest to Strömstad Academy if the Academy is to propose that Strömstad Academy become part of the government as a research organization. For my own part, I see Strömstad Academy as an important part of the government research organization.

A research infrastructure is an advanced tool or facility for research that is open and can be used by more than individual researchers or research groups. Examples of research infrastructures are databases, archives, field stations, laboratories and advanced technical equipment. Researchers from Strömstad Academy can thus collaborate using databases, archives, field stations, laboratories and advanced technical equipment. Here, interested parties can write a consultation response even if Strömstad Academy is not a formal consultation body.

Research infrastructure is needed in all research fields and can be supercomputers, databases, measuring stations for greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, telescopes, or large materials research facilities.

The investigator has also been commissioned to evaluate various solutions to ensure continued access to research icebreakers and to submit proposals on how a system for

national prioritization of research infrastructures can be designed. The research icebreaker is probably not the most interesting thing for Strömstad Academy. The aim is to maintain a high-quality research infrastructure that will be an effective support to meet societal challenges, and in the realization of the goal that Sweden will be one of the world's foremost research and innovation countries. The report, 'Strengthened focus on the research infrastructure of the future, SOU 2021: 65, Strengthened focus on the research infrastructure of the future', was published on the Government's website in connection with the press conference and is available for interesting reading. The investigation is a huge tome that can be downloaded or in fact also procured in hard copy for a larger sum.

The Inquiry's most important assessments and proposals are summarized in a few points.

- Develop political governance regarding research infrastructure.
- A future authority for research infrastructure of particular national interest should be established.
- Collect digital infrastructures for research within one authority.
- Strengthen the conditions for the higher education institutions' collaboration on research infrastructure.
- The MAX IV laboratory and SciLifeLab should continue to be run in the form of government with clarified national responsibility.
- Some research infrastructure of particular national interest should be considered as a societal investment.
- Broaden the perspective on research infrastructure and increase the business community's opportunity to participate in both construction and use.

- New construction of a polar research vessel requires an increase in ambition regarding Swedish polar research.

The inquiry is of a certain interest for Strömstad Academy. The activities conducted within the framework of Strömstad Academy do not allow own acquisitions of databases,

archives, field stations, laboratories and advanced technical equipment.

Collaboration is necessary.

John Fletcher: Reply to Jens Allwood

Reply to Jens Allwood's comments on my article "Cultures" in the July Newsletter

What do we mean when we say "A well done piece of research"?

John Fletcher

Jens, we are in complete agreement that "New Public Management" has caused a lot of damage in many areas, but that does not offer a reply to the question: "*How is the Government to find out whether the scientist, doctor, teacher etc. is doing a worthwhile work?*". It is, after all, the Government which pays for that work, using the money we supply through our tax payments.

So, what are our options?

Let me begin by stating that professionals also are humans, with all the strengths and shortcomings connected to being a human. The issue here, of course, is the shortcomings which affect all societies.

As far as our government is concerned, democracy is the least bad method known to us today. But which is the least bad method known to us today when trying to govern scientists, doctors, nurses, teachers, in short, all the professions which contribute to the development, health care, education, which serve us all?

Should we look at a return to the professionals having a "calling" – and how would we go about returning to that kind of society? And would we accept all the other consequences of such a societal return? There is a lot of research waiting to be done here.

Should we make it easier to claim mal-treatment (and similar accusations regarding education etc.) in the American fashion/way?

Should we . . . : What options might exist?

Economists are encouraging politicians to gain control over an uncontrollable reality. Lacking that ability, many (not only politicians!) have got stuck in a "it-wasn't-my fault-syndrome". By establishing criteria for success or lack of success they (we?) try to transfer responsibility – and blame for failure – to those responsible for the practical work, to scientists, doctors, nurses, teachers, . . . This has caused demands for extensive and detailed reporting, demanding a lot of time from the actors as well as from the presumed readers of these reports. No wonder that the jobs in administration keep growing in numbers. The net increase in the number of Swedish jobs over the last few decades consists of lots of administrative jobs in the public sector. Private enterprise has made operations more efficient in order to accommodate increases in growth areas.

There is another consequence of this increase in reporting. What can be measured is measured – and is therefore considered important. This leaves a lot of room for research.

Let me give you two illustrations of what might happen: Sandvik subsidiaries were required to submit ever more reports to the point that these subsidiaries began to question the purpose of all those reports. One subsidiary, it was said, submitted a full set of monthly reports based on random numbers to see what might happen – and nothing

happened! I'm not going to tell you what subsidiary I'm talking about!

I also remember how I was taught that in production planning you had to take account of a certain percentage of manufacturing failures, which was perfectly rational in a narrow perspective. The problem was that in doing so, we made producing failures 'acceptable' to people in manufacturing.

Measuring in order to establish control seems to have the greatest negative effects in areas with a focus on creativity and/or on humans, i.e. on areas such as research, health care, education, . . .

Let me also comment on another matter: You disagree with my analysis of "the relationship between entrepreneurs and economists". Jens, you show how easy it is to misunderstand! I wrote thinking of a large enterprise where management has to act through intermediate layers of bosses, but did not say so explicitly – causing you to read 'entrepreneurs'. We are probably both right! My description of leadership in large corporations is based on my own experience of

working in that environment, as well as on a lot of research. Your description of the life of an entrepreneur agrees very well with the reality I and my wife met when we started an independent school in 1994. It took being crazy on the right level! It is also interesting to note that our ever-present need to convince parents that 'Söderbaumska Skolan' was a good school for their children "forced" us to establish very tough demands upon our work to identify and counteract any temptations to take any kinds of "short-cuts" in the way we operated.

It would be very interesting if our conversation would encourage members to look further into issues such as:

Which is the least bad method known to us today when trying to govern scientists, doctors, nurses, teachers, in short, all the professions which contribute to the development, health care, education, which serve us all?

How do new methods for measuring efficiency and quality in research and work with people affect that work?

Program for the science festival 2021

Monday 30 Aug

Time	Activity	Participant(s)
13:00-13:30	Opening of the festival The Vice-Chancellor and Chairman welcome the participants.	Peter Fritzell, Per Flensburg
13:30-14:00	Anthology: Pandemic, overview Based on a chapter in the book "Pandemics - an anthology", Per gives a comprehensive overview of the pandemic, explains why so many have died in Sweden and so few in Norway and updates the figures and graphics in the chapter.	Per Flensburg
14:00-14:30	Anthology: Pandemic, odor and covid-19 Lennart is the Academy's nestor and describes here one of the most common symptoms in those affected by covid-19	Lennart Wetterberg

14:30-15:00	Anthology: Psychological aspects of pandemics Marylou discusses with the audience various psychological aspects of a pandemic such as uncertainty, isolation, age contradictions, etc.	Marylou Wadenberg
15:00-15:30	Coffee with some physical activity	Marylou Wadenberg
15:30-16:00	Sustainable energy and nuclear power Lasse is the one who established Strömstad Academy and was its first Vice-Chancellor. As a physicist, he was at first a strong proponent of nuclear power, but eventually had second thoughts about it. Here he explains why nuclear power is not sustainable.	Lars Broman
16:00-16:30	Strömstad academy and climate threat? The rising temperature is a threat to all of humanity. Within the Academy, we have many leading experts in the field, but we do not have a project that drives the three important questions: Why should the Academy address the subject, How can the Academy contribute and in what way can the Academy do that? There will be a brainstorming with those present.	Brainstorming conducted by Per Flensburg,
18:00-20:00	Reception The traditional reception in the City Hall. Sandwiches are served with drinks (Wine, beer and mineral water)	The staff canteen at Father's hall in the City Hall in Strömstad.

Tuesday 31 Aug.

Time	Activity	Participant(s)
09:00-09:30	Anthology: Researcher career The editor-in-chief Åsa Morberg, Associate Professor in didactics, talks about the book and about her own research career.	Åsa Morberg
09:30-10:00	Anthology: Researcher career Gudrun Olsson, Professor in Psychology, talks about her research career, which has been crooked.	Gudrun Olsson
10:00-10:30	Coffee	
10:30-11:00	Anthology: Values The editor-in-chief Carl Olivestam, Professor of Educational science, talks about the anthology "Values" which was published in 2019	Carl Olivestam

11:00-11:30	Anthology: Health and Environment The editor-in-chief Gudmund Bergqvist, associate professor in pediatrics, talks about the anthology "Health and the Environment" which was published in 2018	Gudmund Bergqvist
11:30-12:00	Different measuring scales in politics and the media The old right-left division is increasingly obsolete and new measuring scales are introduced. As you measure, you get answers: GAL-TAN and other measurement scales in politics and the media.	Gudmund Bergqvist / Carl Olivestam
12:00-13:00	Lunch	
13:00-13:30	Threats to democracy There are many threats to democracy today, from extreme militant groups via magic factories to threats that we ourselves more or less recklessly create. Three people with very different views are debating.	Debate: John Fletcher, Carl Olivestam och Per Flensburg
13:30-14:00	Project: Drugs and alcohol Intro: project on psychiatry, alcohol&drug dependence, music&mental health in general, and in particular on the project about drugs and alcohol	Marylou Wadenberg
14:00-14:30	Project: Drugs & Alcohol Alcohol abuse – historical aspects	Anders Gustavsson
14:30-15:00	Coffee with some physical activity	Marylou Wadenberg
15:00-15:10	Theme: Music and science The late afternoon is devoted to this theme. Ulf Berg, who is a chemist, introduces	Ulf Berg
15:10-15:50	The Neuroscience of Emotion from a Musical Perspective Elaine Bearer is an Honorary Professor at Strömstad Academy and something as unusual as both a brain researcher and a composer. In this lecture, she connects the two professions.	Elaine Bearer
15:50-16:30	Mathematics and Music - What is the connection? Per Enflo is a mathematician and pianist. He will perform at tonight's concert and outline the connection between music and mathematics.	Per Enflo
19:00-21:00	Concert in the church	See sperate program

Wednesday 1 Sep

Time	Activity	Participant(s)
09:00-09:30	<p>Migration - An overview and some challenges.</p> <p>Migration is a growing challenge in the world. Strömstad Academy is in the starting pits for one or more projects.</p>	Jens Allwood
09:30-10:00	<p>Project: Migration, book project</p> <p>John Fletcher talks about a book idea where the whole migration process is highlighted</p>	John Fletcher
10:00-10:30	Coffee	
10:30-11:00	<p>Dizziness after neck and head trauma</p> <p>The lecture describes how the signaling from the "balance receptors" of muscles and joints in the neck is disturbed during trauma. In some cases, trauma to the neck or skull can also cause the crystals in the inner ear to loosen in two or more arches, which does not lead to the classic "crystal disease" but to more complex dizziness and instability problems. Treatment tips will be discussed.</p>	Peter Borenstein
11:00-11:30	<p>Back hurts</p> <p>Our back surgeon, Chairman and also register manager for the Swedish back register Peter Fritzell talks about the use of the Swedish back register and the importance of registering and analyzing data in a correct way.</p>	Peter Fritzell
11:30-12:00	<p>The need for scientifically validated surgical training</p> <p>How do you turn a student from medical school into a skilled craftsman? A research topic that is still flying under the radar in 2021. Margareta Berg describes the Surgicon project and a first research grant of SEK 6.3 million from the Swedish Research Council after 10 years of applications.</p>	Margareta Berg
12:00-13:00	Lunch	
13:00-13:30	<p>Swedish school policy</p> <p>Our most active school researcher, Associate Professor Åsa Morberg, talks about Swedish school policy and its shortcomings.</p>	Åsa Morberg

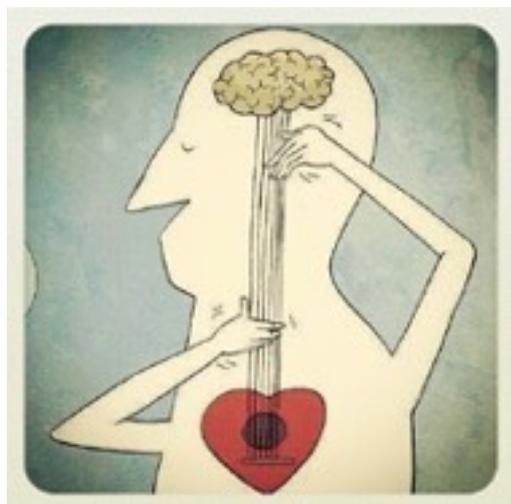
13:30-14:00	Collaboration between University West and Strömstad municipality. How to succeed in getting everyone involved in learning by using digitization and language development activities	Maria Spante
14:00-14:30	Ethics and nursing education The function of ethics in upper secondary care education: Current research project and new teaching material	Carl Olivestam
14:30-15:00	Coffee	
15:00-16:30	Installation of new members This is the academic ceremony when new members are installed in the academy. It is now time to dress up.	Vice-Chancellor
19:00 -	Dinner at Toro	

Thursday 2 Sep.

Time	Activity	Participant(s)
09:00-09:30	Learning practitioners in Swedish sports, especially football and athletics, from the 1880s to 1940. The lecture highlights a development from practical, visual self-learning and knowledge transfer via text and image to union-organized training of primarily instructors and coaches but also active people.	Bode Janzon
09:30-10:00	Bohuslän fishing families Females and males in Bohuslän fishing families during the 20th century	Anders Gustavsson
10:00-10:30	Coffee	
10:30-11:00	The world of education is changing with the digitalisation of knowledge and pedagogical methods. There are still teachers who reject having the content on a PowerPoint but instead want to be able to write freely. Often, these positions spring from a view of what knowledge is and not from a view of what the best teaching could be. In the future, machine learning will individualize your knowledge flow, like Facebook. The algorithm shows the most interesting / engaging areas for you.	Thomas Lingefjärd

11:00-11:30	<p>Climate change communication in Trinidad</p> <p>This presentation will focus on a study that was conducted to compare the style of written communication of scientists and non-scientists in Trinidad and Tobago (2015-2016). The unit of analysis used for the investigation was the newspaper article, using content analysis methodology. Socio-linguistic and pragmatic competence indicators, framing and tone were examined to identify whether these writers exhibited similarities or differences in their communication on the topic of climate change</p>	Celeste Chariandry
11:30-12:00	<p>Friccohesity chemistry boon for capillary sciences for better equilibrium between oxygen and carbon dioxide from lungs to plants</p> <p>The CO₂ exhaled by human body is urgently needed for photosynthesis of the plants. They in turn generate O₂. The reactants O₂ and the CO₂ are mutually generated and mutually consumed to maintain an equilibrium through the water of soil as well as of body. To sustain an equilibrium their healthy link of capillary actions is a foundational science to generate, adhere and transport these gases in human and plant systems.</p>	Man Singh
12:00:13:00	Lunch	
13:00-13:30	<p>Interdisciplinary collaboration and methodological issues</p> <p>What characterizes interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary, etc. and why it is so difficult to achieve</p>	Jens Allwood
13:30-14:00	<p>How to reach out with research?</p> <p>It is not enough to carry out good research, if it cannot be showcased in society, it is useless. Or...</p>	Marketing team
14:00-14:30	Conclusion	Vice-Chancellor

Concert program



Concert in Strömstad kyrka

August 31st 2021 at 19:00

Theme: Music and science

Consert program

1. Elaine Bearer: *The Strömstad quartet*
2. L. van Beethoven: *Piano sonata op. 111, C-moll*

Paus

3. Alexander Borodin: *String Quartet No 2, D-dur*

Participants:

Viken strykekvartett

Per Enflo, piano

The concert is dedicated to the memory of professor
Aadu Ott

Sponsor: Thordénstiftelsen, Swedish Church