

Department of Geological Sciences

Monday meeting held by Magnus Mörth 15 February 2021

- It is still a limitation of 8 people/room when gathering and be observant when entering common areas like for example our lunch room that this limit prevails. It is still important that those who can be at home should be at home and at the last press conference they believed that this will continue until May this year.
 - There is an interesting report on KVA's home page (kva.se) stating that vaccines are not enough to fight the pandemic. The high spread of infection that we have today gives the SARS-CoV-2 virus great opportunities to mutate. To slow down this development, it is important to limit the number of infections as much as possible. Otherwise, there is a risk that more infectious variants will take over and that the vaccine will not protect as well in the long run.
- Several on the department have been working very hard on applications to VR for new infrastructure, there are two calls with deadlines tomorrow, one of these calls opened on January 13, so it has been limited of time getting this together. Martin Jakobsson is writing one together with MISU, ACES about new infrastructure on the ice breaker ODEN. Matt O'Regan is writing one about upgrading the facility we have on core scanning and physical properties.
 I have myself been involved in writing an application about a new HR-IRMS upgrade for our isotope laboratory. If not Helen, Rienk, Volker and Martin had been helping out on this writing there would not have been an application. Thank you very much to you all for making this happen and thank you to everybody. We hope for the best now and that all of us will get funding for what we want as this will strengthen our research and bring it to a new level.
- I remind you all on the University's travel policy now when we soon can travel again, we hope. To minimize the impact on the climate and the environment, travel should as far as possible be replaced by digital meeting forms. This also applies in cases where the assignment is paid for or provided by external parties. It is not permitted to fly to a meeting or activity that lasts less than one working day if digital participation can be offered.
 - When a trip is justified, the means of transport that generates the lowest greenhouse gas emissions must be given priority, for example trains over flights. Employees and students should, as far as possible, avoid booking flights that include stopovers. If there are no special reasons, means of transport other than air, such as trains and boats, must be used for journeys shorter than 700 kilometers.

In connection with local travel in Sweden, and also abroad, public transport must primarily be used, secondly taxi (by green car) or other ground-based traffic with lower carbon dioxide emissions. All trips must be booked via the procured travel agency. Travel must, as far as possible, be planned well in advance in order to achieve the best possible cost efficiency. All forms of discounts in connection with travel must, regardless of how they are called, go to the university.

- The faculty has better finances than expected. Education has increased, science faculty has taken shares from the hum-sam faculty. Departments in general have decreased their spending; the economic situation looks like it is under control but the rent increases are worrying. A new group will be appointed at the faculty to monitor the rental costs and the reasons for their increase at the faculty.
- The central workshop is now Physics department and our own workshop. Draupnir decides himself how much he can help out with tasks externally. Internal work has priority.
- An important part is profile areas in research and education, I talked about this before on a
 Monday meeting. The government has stated that the funding will be based on the performance
 in the profile areas. In 2021/2022 it will be bibliometric but in 2023 it will switch to profile areas,
 there will be maximum 2–3 profile areas for large universities and maybe only one for the smaller.
 Collaboration or samverkan will be more important. Projects must in the future have samverkan to
 get funded.
- I remind all of you again that it will be a **teachers' collegium on Friday** this week and hope that all teachers have the possibility to attend the meeting. Intensive work is now ongoing and an agenda for the meeting is coming out soon.

Environmental policy

To ensure that SU complies with the law on the transport of dangerous goods, the university's safety adviser for dangerous goods (Daniel Sellberg, SEKA Miljöteknik AB) must be contacted before chemicals are transported outside the university area, https://www.su.se/medarbetare/organisation-styrning/milj%C3%B6arbete/s%C3%A5-g%C3%B6r-du/kemikaliehantering/transport-av-kemikalier.

• Next monday meeting is march 15, see you in three weeks and have a nice sportlov.