

Hi!

Who turned down the heat? Who turned on the rain? That was not what was order, but again tell about the passing of things. The dark and gloomy weather might weigh you down, but do not worry. The holidays with much needed rest (hopefully) is just around the corner.

Here is the monthly newsletter for November:

## **The new coordinator for the Agenda 2030 Graduate School**

28<sup>th</sup> of September, there was a vice-chancellor decision for the replacement of Kristina Jönsson as the coordinator for the graduate school. As of 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2024, **Markus Gunneflo** from the Faculty of Law will be taking over from Tina, who has been appointed head of department at Political Science. Markus have been an active steering group member ever since the graduate school started and have been study director for the PhD student education at his faculty for quite some time. He is excited to start this new position and to eventually meeting all of you in person.

## **A2030 Courses**

- **A law to save the world?** (Faculty of Law, 7.5 ECTS). Time to be given: 29 November 2023 – 31 January 2024. This course offers critical analysis of the sustainable development goals and the discourses and interests they serve. Material from a range of disciplines - history, politics, economics, and law is used for a better understanding of where Agenda 2030 is coming from and where the world it brings into being might be heading. The course focuses in particular on the relationship between sustainable development and our existing global legal order. Send Markus Gunneflo ([markus.gunneflo@jur.lu.se](mailto:markus.gunneflo@jur.lu.se)) an e-mail if you are interested.
- **Digital monies for a sustainable future?** (School of Economics and Management, 7.5 ECTS). Time to be given: 4 April – 16 May 2024. Growing inequality, apocalyptic environmental damage, and the protracted effects of a global financial crisis have resulted in a discussion on the role of our monetary system for the organization of society. This interdisciplinary PhD course examines the technological developments that are facilitating monetary innovation and the role of monetary entrepreneurs in re-organizing the production and circulation of money. The course provides students with the tools to explore opportunities for addressing big societal challenges and asks in particular how new forms of money can contribute to developing more just and equal societies.
- **Nature-based solutions at the climate-biodiversity-health nexus: environmental psychology, ecology and epidemiology perspective** (Faculty of Science, 5 ECTS). Time to be given: 15-19 April 2024. Climate change, biodiversity loss, and diverse health crises are pressing issues of the Anthropocene. They are fundamentally interlinked through shared drivers, mechanistic links and feedbacks and pose significant challenges and risks for human societies, health, and well-being. Nature-based solutions have emerged as an umbrella concept to describe actions taken to protect, conserve, restore, sustainably use, and manage natural and modified ecosystems that address societal challenges such as climate mitigation and adaptation, while simultaneously providing human well-being, ecosystem services, resilience, and biodiversity benefits. This course departs from a psychological perspective and incorporates ecological and epidemiological perspectives on nature-based solutions.
- **Degrowth and sustainability pathways** (Faculty of Social Science, 5 ECTS). Time to be given: 20 May – 10 June 2024. In the context of a climate emergency, there is an increasing demand from society and students to learn about societal models (including welfare provision) that function without economic growth. In this context, degrowth aims for a multi-scalar transformation beyond the growth-oriented economic paradigm to achieve socio-ecological sustainability. It primarily emphasizes the downsizing aspects of production and consumption but also alludes to the pathways of a society that can thrive or manage without relying on growth. This course will inform these pathways by placing wellbeing for all species and natural systems at the center and rethinking our social systems independent of

economic growth in fields such as work, culture, civil society, governance and decision-making.

- **Sustainability in the light of risks** (Faculty of Engineering, 7.5 ECTS). In the last years, it is evident that local and global risks have materialized into adverse events with severe consequences for our society. Communities, businesses, authorities, and people in Sweden, Europe, and worldwide are affected by and need to handle the consequences of various events such as food crises, disturbances in global logistics, pandemic diseases, hydrological and meteorological hazards like floods, droughts, water scarcity and hurricanes, and, not the least, social unrest, terror, and war. How do we plan for and manage risks and, at the same time, keep sustainable development in focus? We will dig deep into how sustainability is connected to risk management. We will look at what kind of future solutions and ideas must be developed and implemented and our roles as researchers.

## Other

- **The Swedish South Asian Studies Network (SASNET) have an open seminar titled 'Extreme poverty and marginalization in Bangladesh' 13<sup>th</sup> of November 13-16. Link here: [Seminar: Extreme Poverty and Marginalisation in Bangladesh | Swedish South Asian Studies Network \(lu.se\)](#). The seminar is on site at Eden, Allhelgona Kyrkogata 14 (room Ed367) or via zoom. If you want to join via zoom, you need to contact Matilda Skoglöw ([matilda.skoglow@svet.lu.se](mailto:matilda.skoglow@svet.lu.se)) to send you a link.**
- Time 2 Talk lunch webinar: Interdisciplinary research – why should I bother?, 16<sup>th</sup> November 12:15-13:30. Interdisciplinarity rests on the assumption that the world in which we live is complex, and that we can shed new light on problems and find innovative solutions by integrating different approaches. Could you perhaps add new value to your research by going interdisciplinary? In this webinar, you will find out about Associate Professor Johan Mårtensson's take on interdisciplinary research. What are the pros and cons of working across the fields? In what ways can it be rewarding, both for solving research questions, but also for the individual researcher? Read more & register: <https://www.intramed.lu.se/en/calendar/time-2-talk-lunch-webinar-interdisciplinary-research-why-should-i-bother>
- Seminar titled '**Academic freedom in Scandinavia: has the Nordic model survived?**', 23<sup>rd</sup> November 15-16:30 (registration before 21<sup>st</sup> of November at <https://survey.mailing.lu.se/Survey/49623>). Recent geopolitical changes have increased the interest for, but also challenged, academic freedom. It is generally considered that academic freedom in the Nordic countries is high. But is this really the case? In this seminar, Prof. Terrence Karran will present his study on academic freedom in Scandinavia and discuss if the Nordic model has survived. More information: [Academic Freedom in Scandinavia: Has the Nordic Model survived? – Lunds universitets råd för etik och akademisk frihet](#)
- Inspirational seminar on **how to navigate a career in academia**, 27<sup>th</sup> November 14-15. Professor Karin Nordström from Flinders University Australia will share her most important research findings and what they mean to our understanding of motion vision. She will also take us behind the scenes of life as a researcher and share her personal journey and advice to early-career researchers. After the seminar, there will be coffee/tea and cake and informal discussions. The seminar is on site at Eden, Allhelgona Kyrkogata 14 (room Ed236) and is hosted by Sustainability Forum and the Agenda 2030 Graduate School.
- **LU Open Science Days** (20-21 November, Lund). Open Science is ascribed increased importance by multiple actors in the research community for facilitating dialogue between academia and society. It enables interdisciplinary research, enhances transparency and replicability, and ultimately strengthens the foundations of research integrity. It's a two-day event to celebrate the essence of Open Science, share ideas and experiences, discuss the expectations from Lund University and explore the future of Open Science. Registration is now open: [Register](#)

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Ylva van Meeningen

- **World Environmental Education Congress** (WEEC, 29 January – 2 February, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates). World Environmental Education Congress (WEEC) is an international congress addressing education for environment and sustainable development. WEEC is held every two years in different parts of the world to spread and share knowledge. [WEEC 12 | Home \(weec2024.org\)](#)
- **SASUF** (South Africa Sweden University Forum) organizes a research and innovation week in Sweden 13-17<sup>th</sup> of May 2024. It is free of charge but the number of participants is limited. To be nominated by Lund university, interested staff has to register at <https://survey.mailing.lu.se/Survey/49632> by latest 15 December. More info at [SASUF - South Africa Sweden University Forum](#).
- In 2024, Forskar Grand Prix is going to be organized in Lund instead of Stockholm as it has been before. It is a national competition in presenting your research in four minutes or less to a wider audience. It is a lot of fun and you learn A LOT! Both me and Juan Ocampo has competed before and at least I can gladly tell you more if you are interested. You are allowed to present in English. More information is found here: <https://forskargrandprix.se/>
- An interesting article from the World Economic Forum titled [What is the UN Summit of the Future in 2024 and why does it matter? | World Economic Forum \(weforum.org\)](#)

On behalf of the Agenda 2030 Graduate School,

Ylva van Meeningen