

News from SLU Water Forum. We bring together water-related education, research and environmental monitoring and assessment at SLU.

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Newsletter

SLU Water Forum

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Hi!

It is about time to sum up late autumn 2020 and early winter 2021 within SLU Water Forum. During the autumn, as usual nothing has really been the same, but despite this, a lot of fun and good things have happened that have close contact with water, at SLU. This newsletter lists a selection of these activities and events.

Several research projects concerning water at SLU have received funding via Formas, Vetenskapsrådet and Vinnova, and a number of brilliant scientific paper and dissertations on water have been published. But perhaps the biggest Christmas present of them all was the announcement in "forskningsproppen" from the government, that Formas will launch a new research program for seas and waters starting already this year, 2021. In "forskningsproppen", the government also highlight the research needs on biodiversity and circular economy, two areas that have close connection to water.

In mid-February, Örjan Östman together with the coordination team for SLU Water Forum organized an internal seminar where 13 leading scientists from SLU:s broad competence on water held lectures about their research and shared their views on future knowledge needs in their subject area.

With this half year behind us, we are now looking forward to the spring and summer. A launch of new "seed-money" from SLU Water Forum, to strengthen cooperation on water at SLU, and World Water Day on March 22, will be some of the highlights. The first calls within Formas new national research program for sea and water will likely be launched, and hopefully a lot of additional things will happen that lies within the domains of water at SLU.

Take good care and stay healthy, Jens Olsson, coordinator for SLU Water Forum.



[Collaboration on water with Uppsala municipality](#)

Within the framework of the collaboration agreement between SLU and Uppsala municipality, five thematic dialogue meetings were held in October between researchers at SLU and experts at Uppsala municipality and Uppsala vatten och avfall AB. Read the notes of the meetings [here](#). Those of you who have not yet participated in the collaboration but would like to do so, please send an e-mail to water@slu.se.

Photo: Lisa Beste

[New pictures and researcher films at the Baltic Sea Science Center](#)

New and old pictures from the exhibition and the fish at the Baltic Sea Science Center at Skansen are now available via [SLU's Media bank](#). During the winter, we have also produced three new research films from SLU to be shown at the Baltic Sea Science Center. [Watch the films here](#).

Photo: Mark Harris for SLU



[Projects on water at SLU received funding from the national research councils](#)

SLU's research on water is competitive. As many as 18 projects related to water at SLU received research funding from the national research councils during the autumn of 2020.

Photo: Jens Olsson

[New national research program for seas and waters](#)

On December the 17th, the Swedish government announced that it would set aside 210 million Swedish crowns over the next four years to establish a national research program on seas and waters. The program is expected to run for the next ten years. Formas is now beginning the work on developing a strategic research agenda for the program, and the first calls are expected to be launched in 2021.

Photo: Elisabeth Ohlson



[Launch of "seed-money" to strengthen cooperation on water at SLU](#)

Are you interested in developing and strengthening cooperation in water at SLU? SLU Water Forum is now announcing funding for this purpose.

Illustration: Fredrik Saarkoppel

[Current and future perspectives on water research at SLU - a seminar for collaborative activities](#)

February 15-16, Örjan Östman together with the coordination team of SLU Water Forum organized a seminar where 13 leading scientists on water from different parts of SLU gave presentations about their research and the need for research in their respective subject area. Read more about the seminar [here](#) and [check out the presentations that were held](#).

Photo: Lisa Beste



VÄRLD
VATTEN
DAGEN

[World Water Day 22nd of March](#)

March 22 it is again time for World Water Day. This year focusing on the theme "valuing water". SLU Water Forum will, among other things, draw attention to the day by disseminating news about the specific theme and water work at SLU. Do you want to join and contribute with a news post? Contact water@slu.se.

[News in short](#)

- [Öystein Evensen is since September 1, 2020, a new guest professor in fish health at SLU.](#)
- [Magnus Appelberg from SLU Aqua achieved the king's honorary award.](#)
- [Foon Yin Lai is a new associate professor in environmental chemistry at the Department of Aquatic Sciences and Assessment.](#)
- [Four of the in total seven first senior specialists in environmental analyses is working with water.](#)
- [Blaize Denfeld is the new deputy director for SITES.](#)
- [Lars Sonesten at the Department of Aquatic Sciences and Assessment is re-elected as the chairman for OSPAR INPUT and HELCOM PRESSURE.](#)
- [Brendan Mckie is a new senior lecturer in freshwater ecology at the Department of Aquatic Sciences and Assessment.](#)

For more water-related news, please visit [SLU Water Forum's website](#).

[Publications](#)

SLU publish several hundred research articles on water every year. Some examples of recently published articles are:

[COVID-19 lockdown reveals tourists as seabird guardians](#)

by Hentati-Sundberg et al. in Biological Conservation 2021

[A spatial regime shift from predator to prey dominance in a large coastal ecosystem](#)

by Eklöf et al. in Communications Biology 2020

[Local attitudes towards management measures for the co-existence of seals and coastal fishery - A Swedish case study](#)

by Waldo et al. in Marine Policy 2020

[Unraveling the chemodiversity of halogenated disinfection by-products formed during drinking water treatment using target and non-target screening tools](#)

by Postigo et al. in Journal of Hazardous Material 2021

[Occurrence and removal of chemicals of emerging concern in wastewater treatment plants and their impact on receiving water systems](#)

by Golovko et al. in Science of the Total Environment 2020

[Modeling bioavailable concentrations in zebrafish cell lines and embryos increases the correlation of toxicity potencies across test systems](#)

by Lungu-Mitea et al. in Environmental Science and Technology 2021

[Assessment of source and treated water quality in seven drinking water treatment plants by in vitro bioassays – oxidative stress and antiandrogenic effects after artificial infiltration](#)

by Oskarsson et al. in Science of the Total Environment 2021

[Recent advances in understanding and measurement of mercury in the environment: Terrestrial Hg cycling](#)

by Bishop et al. in Science of the Total Environment 2020

[Stream microbial communities and ecosystem functioning show complex responses to multiple stressors in wastewater](#)

by Burdon et al. in Global Change Biology 2020

[Comparing nutrient reference concentrations in Nordic countries with focus on lowland rivers](#)

by Skarbovik et al. in Ambio 2020

[Neuroactive drugs and other pharmaceuticals found in blood plasma of wild European fish](#)

by Cerveny et al. in Environment International 2021

[Multiple stressors in small streams in the forestry context of Fennoscandia: The effects in time and space](#)

by Kuglerova et al. in Science of the Total Environment 2021

[Events and conferences](#)

On the [SLU Water Forum webpage](#) you find a calendar for upcoming events. If you would like to add something here, please contact water@slu.se.

[Recent PhD-theses](#)

During the autumn of 2020, several dissertations on water have been presented and defended at SLU. For example, the Department of Aquatic Sciences and Assessment got their [50th PhD](#) during 2020. Additional defended thesis includes:

[Warmer and browner waters: fish responses vary with size, sex, and species](#) by René van Dorst at the Department of Aquatic Resources.

[Stabilization remediation of soils contaminated with per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances \(PFASs\)](#) by Mattias Sörensård at the Department of Aquatic Sciences and Assessment.

[Treatment methods for the removal of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances \(PFASs\) from drinking water: optimizing existing and exploring novel treatment techniques](#) by Vera Franke at the Department of Aquatic Sciences and Assessment.

[Towards a sustainable tilapia breeding program in Tanzania](#) by Redempta Athanas Kajungiro at the Department of Animal Breeding and Genetics.

[Toxicity pathways in zebrafish cell lines - An ecotoxicological perspective on "toxicity testing in the 21st century"](#) by Sebastian Lungu-Mitea at the Department of Biomedical Sciences and Veterinary Public Health.

[Occurrence and removal of organic micropollutants in drinking water : Analytical approaches for wide-scope screening of contaminants of emerging concern](#) by Rikard Tröger at the Department of Aquatic Sciences and Assessment.

[Coming PhD-dissertations](#)

There are many dissertations underway in the spring of 2021 at SLU. Here we list those that are relevant and have a clear connection to water.

Sophia Renes at the Department of Aquatic Sciences and Assessment. Prel. title: *Shaped by the past:*

resilience and ecological memory in microbial communities. March 5, 2021.

Wiebke Düring at the Department of Aquatic Sciences and Assessment. Prel. title: *Wide-scope screening for contaminants of emerging concern in archived biota - method development, suspect prioritization and non-target screening towards a novel identification tool*. March 12, 2021.

Claudia Cascone at the Department of Aquatic Sciences and Assessment. Research area: *methods for purifying drinking water*. March 19, 2021.

Monica Mion at the Department of Aquatic Resources. Research area: *growth, migration and mortality in Baltic Sea cod*. May 14 or 21, 2021.

Jens Blomquist at the Department of Soil and Environment. Research area: *agricultural water management*. May 19, 20 or 27, 2021.

Yvette Heimbrand at the Department of Aquatic Resources. Research area: *methods to improve age estimation of Baltic Sea cod*. May 21 or 28, 2021.

Bonnie Bailet at the Department of Aquatic Sciences and Assessment. Research area: *role of diatoms in aquatic ecosystems using DNA-barcoding methods*. June 3, 2021.

Hannah Fried-Petersen at the Department of Aquatic Sciences and Assessment. Research area: *dynamics in freshwater bottom fauna communities*. June 8 or 15, 2021.

Benjamin Gossweiler at the Department of Soil and Environment. Research area: *agricultural water management and quality*. June 9 or 10, 2021.

Frank Menger at the Department of Aquatic Sciences and Assessment. Research area: *micro-pollutants in drinking water*. June 11, 2021.

[Open positions](#)

Positions as coordinator and deputy coordinator for the environmental monitoring program *Lakes and watercourses*. For more information [please click here](#).

[More information](#)

If you want more information about the activity within SLU Water Forum, please take a look at the [activity reports](#).

If you want to contribute to upcoming newsletters, contact SLU Water Forum at water@slu.se.

Feel free to go visit [SLU Water Forum's website](#) for regular news updates, or follow us on Twitter, @SLUwater.
