

CV – SIGRID AGENÄS – FEB 2026

Date of Birth

1972-March-29

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Current employment

Professor Management of Ruminants with a special focus on Lactation Biology. Department of Applied Animal Science and Welfare, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU), 100%.
Ongoing since 2016-12-21.

Within this position I am the **Director of the collaborative research centre SustAinimal**, 30%

Languages

Swedish – native, English – fluent, French - basic

University degrees

1997: Master of Science in Animal Science and a professional degree in Animal Agronomy from SLU

2002: PhD in Animal Science, SLU. Title of the thesis: "Regulation of Milk Production in Dairy Cows selected for Different Milk fat Content with Special Reference to Transition Periods". Main supervisor: Kjell Holtenius, co-supervisors: Erling Burstedt, Kristina Dahlborn and Mikko Griinari.

2011: Associate professor (Docent) in Animal Science at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, SLU.

Previous academic positions

- 1998 Apr 20-2002 Jun 05: PhD student at the Department of Animal Nutrition and Management, SLU.
- 2002 Jun 10-2003 Aug 14: Post-doc at the Department of Clinical Veterinary Medicine, University of Cambridge.
- 2003 Aug 15-2007 Feb 28: researcher at SLU, split 50/50 between the Department of Anatomy and Physiology and the Department of Animal Nutrition and Management.
- 2007 Apr 01-2010 Dec 31: Assistant Professor (Forskarassistent) at the Department of Animal Nutrition and Management, SLU.
- 2011 Jan 01-2016 Dec 20: Senior Lecturer (Lektor) in Management of Dairy Cows at the Department of Animal Nutrition and Management, SLU

Scientific areas of interest

My research focuses on the ability of the secretory cells in the mammary gland to produce milk and how this is affected by factors like nutrition, metabolism, light, temperature, activity and sleep, stage of lactation and pregnancy but also degree and frequency of milk removal and udder health, including restricted suckling systems where dairy cows have contact with their calves. My research has been carried out in Sweden, the UK and in Burkina Faso and in collaboration with colleagues from many European countries, North America and Africa. I am interested in all aspects of the biology of lactation and in sustainability and milk quality along the dairy food chain. I have been involved in development of sensors for management of dairy cows and use sensor data in my research. In addition, I am keen to forward the knowledge about the role of animals in agriculture- and food systems. Examples of on-going projects: Dairy cows' need of light and darkness in the barn, possibilities to use brakish water as a drinking water resource for dairy cows in situations of acute lack of fresh water, reasons for incomplete milkings in automatic milking systems, keeping dairy cows together with their calves, re-integration of animals and crops in the sam agricultural landscape (www.slu.se/BLANDSKAP) and the roles of food producing animals in future sustainable and competitive food systems (www.sustainimal.se).

Research funding, previous and current projects

Sum as main applicant of research projects (since 2003): SEK 37 910 902

Sum for SustAinimal, from Formas (SLU is the main applicant): SEK 87 998 655

Selected academic comissions

1999: Chair of the PhD students at the student union for the JLT Faculty at SLU.

1999: Member of the Faculty Board at the JLT Faculty, SLU.

2000: Member of the SLU board.

2004-2006: Member of the Faculty board, Faculty for Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, SLU

2004-2006: Member of the committee for production animals at the Faculty for Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, SLU

2014-2018: Member of the Action Steering Group of the EU COST action DairyCare.

2016-2020: Vice chairman of the board of undergraduate education at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science, SLU

2015-2024: Member of the Editorial Board for the Journal of Dairy Research

2017-2022: Member of the steering group (programråd) for the master programme "Sustainable Food Systems", SLU

2018-2020: Member of the board of the Rural Economy and Agricultural Society at Gotland (Hushållningssällskapet Gotland)

2020-2022: SLU Disciplinary Board, stand-in for the teacher representative

2020-: Member of the Board for the green sector's cluster organisation at Gotland (Gotland Grönt Centrum AB)

2020-: Director of SustAinimal and since 2025 also Director of SustAinimal Academy
2023-: The teacher representative in the SLU Disciplinary Board
2023-: Member of the Board of the Lantmännen Research Foundations (Lantmännens forskningsstiftelser)
2025: Fellow of the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry (KSLA)

Teaching

Since 2000, I have taught, coordinated, and examined courses in physiology, animal nutrition, feeding, lactation biology, and scientific writing. My teaching has primarily been within the programmes in Animal Science (Agronomy), Veterinary Medicine, Biotechnology, and Food Science (Agronomy), as well as within engineering education. I have been involved in the core components of the introductory courses across the agronomy programmes. I also have experience in designing, coordinating, and examining Master's- and PhD-level courses for international student cohorts at SLU and within the MEKARN network. Furthermore, I have supervised and examined a large number of Bachelor's and Master's theses. I currently supervise thesis projects and serve as examiner for the introductory course in the Animal Science (Agronomy) programme, as well as for a Master's course in Lactation Biology. Since 2017, I have been appointed as an Excellent Teacher at SLU, and I serve as a faculty representative on SLU's Disciplinary Board.

Development of university programmes

In 2006, I was a member of the working group responsible for developing the basis for the implementation of the Bologna Process at SLU. I was one of two initiators of the Erasmus Mundus programme *Food of Life*, delivered in collaboration between SLU, the University of Copenhagen, the University of Helsinki, and the Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB); students were admitted between 2010 and 2015. I also chaired the SLU working group that developed the faculty-wide Master's programme *Sustainable Food Systems*, which admitted its first group of students in 2018.

Supervision and examination of PhD-students

PhD-students, co-supervisor

Dr Vinsoun Millogo (2007-2010)
 Marcos Managos (2021-2025)
 Lea Managos (2023-)

PhD-students, main supervisor:

PhD Emma Ternman (2010-2014)
 AgrD Sabine Ferneborg (2010-2016)
 Veterinär Josef Dahlberg (2013-2019)
 AgrD Sofia Lindkvist (2019-2023)
 Claire Wegner (2021-2025)
 Sara Almlöf (2026-)

Evaluating committees:

Helena Öhrvik, SLU, 2010
 Branislav Lakic, SLU, 2011
 Robin Kalmedal, SLU, 2012
 Gudrun Stefansdottir, SLU, 2015 (replacement, not active)
 Denise Laskowski, SLU, 2017
 Theodoros Ntallaris, SLU, 2018
 Sarah McPhersson, Wageningen University and Research (WUR), 2025

Awards

2011 Excellent supervisor award from the PhD council at the student union VMF.
 2016 Teacher award from the student union ULS.
 2017 Teacher excellence at SLU.
 2020 Award for teaching from the Royal Swedish Academy of Agriculture and Forestry (KSLA)

Family and maternity leave

Married to Johan Olofsson and we have two children; Gabriel born 2012 and Matilda born 2014. We live in the rural area of Stavby in the Eastermost part of Uppsala municipality. We share a strong interest in hunting and dogs and currently have five dogs in the household. I was on maternity leave 50-100% from June 2012 until September 2013 and from January until December 2014.