



Dear all,

Even though autumn is officially not here yet, the autumn semester at SLU in Sweden has begun. (The definition of the meteorological autumn is when the daily average temperature is between zero and 10 degrees Celcius.)

At campus Ultuna, where my office is located, most people have returned from summer holidays. Soon we'll welcome all new PhD students at the faculty introductory programs as well as celebrating the former PhD students who recently successfully defended their thesis, and will now be honored at the award ceremony and banquet. Unfortunately, I had to decline the invitation to the ceremony this year, but I hope to be back next year again. It's always such a pleasure to meet all PhD students who I've seen struggle so hard, sometimes almost given up, but now successfully made it all way.

When it comes to the faculty introductory programs I will attend all of them, and I'm really looking forward to meet all more or less new PhD students.

A reminder: Last semester, I launched a PhD dropin every Wednesday between 10-11. This semester, the first dropin session will take place on 20<sup>th</sup> September. Don't hesitate to get in touch if you like to talk! No issue is too small. (For more information, go to my webpage!)

Some news that might be of interest: Recently a break out of African swine fever was detected in Västmanland. Now the authorities are working hard to locate and fight the infection. As mentioned on the SLU website all students and staff in the affected area should keep themselves updated and follow the instructions issued by the Swedish Board of Agriculture.

I'll end this DO-letter with a link to my webpage, and also wish you all the best!

<https://internt.slu.se/en/support-services/education/doctoral-education1/the-graduate-students-ombudsman/>

Warm regards, Monika