



UPPSALA  
UNIVERSITET

November | 2018

# IEG News

*November edition*

## Report from the IEG Day

On October 26, the department gathered at the Gillet Hotel for a day of interesting talks, discussion and fun. First, the Head of the Department Lars Tranvik presented figures from the employee survey which was followed by a group discussion on how the department can address the points raised from the results of the survey. A few PhD-students then made some very interesting presentations before there was a break for lunch. After lunch, there was a very interesting talk by Stefan Eriksson about good research practices, predatory journals and the like. This was followed by a talk from Feelgood, the University's occupational health service about stress and stress management. The last item on the agenda was a fun creative activity, coming up with plausible and not so plausible scenarios for the game of academic life. The day concluded with a dinner and a display of the department singing talent.



Photos by: Johan Edin



*The winners of the game of academic life, Evolutionary Biology!*

## New Doctors of Philosophy

We congratulate Willian Silva, Marcin Bogusz and Jennifer Morinay on successfully defending their theses!

## IEG is now on Youtube

IEG now has an official Youtube channel. Check it out [here](#). If you have a video you want featured in the channel, you can contact Johan Edin. We can both link to videos already up or add new ones. Examples of things we can feature is filmed lectures, presentation videos of your research projects, interesting animal encounters and so on. Of course, other ideas are also very welcome. Currently, there are two animal encounter videos from Per Alström featured.

## Shut up and write

Do you want someplace quiet but still want to write with other people? [Shut up and write](#) is an initiative to do just that. Sessions will be held in Room 1003 on the following dates:

November 27th 10 - 12

December 13th 10 - 12

December 18th 10 - 12

Contact Valentina Peona for more information or visit the [website](#) for the initiative. You can also sign up for their [newsletter](#).

## New publications alert

Simon Kärvemo, Sara Meurling, David Berger, Jacob Höglund och Anssi Laurila has published a study on the effects of host species and the environment on the prevalence of *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*. You can read the paper in its entirety [here](#).

Robert Ekblom, Linnéa Smeds, Malin Johansson and Hans Ellegren have published a paper on genome sequencing and conservation genomics in the Scandinavian wolverine population. They provide a direct link between genomics and management of a redlisted population of wolverines. Read the full paper [here](#).

## Opinion piece

Hans Ellegren has written an opinion piece about the preservation of academic freedom in the Swedish newspaper Svenska Dagbladet. You can read it [here](#) (in Swedish).

## New grants

Congratulations to Gustaf Granath, Jacob Höglund, Anssi Laurila and Lars Tranvik who got new grants from the Swedish Research Council and Frank Johansson, Göran Arnqvist, Dolly Kothawala, Jacob Höglund, Nina Sletvold och Anna Qvarnström who got new grants from Formas!

## News from the Head of the Department

### ÖB19

The Faculty of Science and Technology will evaluate and revise the internal distribution of research funding. As a step in this process, called "ÖB19", all the 60 research programs and 10 departments have submitted self-evaluations. The reports from our department can be found at mp.uu.se - go to documents at the department page, and you will find them in the folder "ÖB19". Many have been involved in developing these plans – thanks a lot! They give an impression of how we see ourselves, and some visions and plans that may materialize, depending on new funding.

### Academic flying

Academic research is a very international enterprise. Successful research environments, like IEG, have a constant flow of personnel, students, guest lecturers, etc, on flights in and out of the department. Some of our field work is far away, and we frequently travel between continents to conferences and collaborators. This is highly beneficial to our work and to the progress of science, but the downside is that it is not environmentally sustainable. Aviation represents in the order of 10% of the total anthropogenic greenhouse effect, and for individuals like us it dominates the carbon dioxide footprint. There is no easy fix, but a first step is awareness. Several networks of academics have formed in response to the problem, see for example [this petition](#).

## Uppsala is the global climate city 2018!

### Uppsala climate protocol

In order to keep reducing our effect on the climate, Uppsala climate protocol will raise the bar further. The goal is to become fossil free by 2030 and the municipality aims for negative emissions by 2050, members of the climate protocol are urged to take on at least five climate challenges. The tough challenges must be completed by 2030 and concerns areas such as energy, plastics, transports, facilities and purchases. All challenges are found here (in Swedish). Uppsala University has taken on eleven challenges in the above areas.



*Photo courtesy of Gunilla Engström*

### Plastic use in the University

The emissions of carbon dioxide from plastics made by fossil-based raw materials is about the same as the emissions for traffic in Uppsala. This is one of the reasons that Uppsala University continues to work actively with reducing the amount of plastic for combustion (i.e plastics that aren't containers) and to find alternatives plastics made by renewable raw materials, which minimizes the increase in emissions. Starting with the overview of plastics made in the spring, the work to reduce the amount of plastics in the university continues. We are getting a better picture of how plastics are being used, which makes it easier to know what actions need to be taken. We are also continuing to get products made from more sustainable materials.

We are also issuing a reminder regarding plastic use:

- Remove
- Replace
- Reduce
- Recycle

## Lab corner

### Liquid nitrogen

Information about how to handle liquid nitrogen is now available in English at Campus Management, as well as on the [internal pages of IEG](#). Please read up on the risks and safety measures.



*Photo courtesy of Malin Johansson*