



After the summer break, we hope to return to a more normal academic year. Progress with vaccinations is certainly encouraging, but it is too soon to predict the development of the pandemic, and different scenarios need to be considered and prepared for. This subject was one of the themes discussed at the recent faculty breakfast meeting. The pedagogic quality of our courses and a sustainable workload for our teachers are the primary considerations for effective planning. The School management and the Department Directors of studies are working together to formulate a plan guided by these two principles.

The other subject discussed at the breakfast meeting was co-funding of external grants. At present we lack a general model, and it is too often the case that organising the co-funding is left to individual researchers. This is not an ideal arrangement, but finding a general solution is complicated and may limit the flexibility that we benefit from today. The School management and Department Heads will continue to discuss the question. For me, it is important that the co-funding system provides a sense of security and appreciation to our researchers. Researchers at the School are highly successful in attracting external grants. The School had a 20% increase in external funding during 2018-2020 - something I am extremely proud about!

**/Sandra Di Rocco**



# SCI NEWS

APRIL 2021

## Göran Gustafsson Foundation Prize winners

Congratulations to Alexander Edström and Mats Persson for receiving the Göran Gustafsson big prize for young researchers and to Kathlén Kohn, Liam Solus and Maciej Dendzik for receiving the small prize.

[MORE](#) 



## We welcome Gunilla Svensson, guest professor at Engineering Mechanics

On May 1st, Gunilla Svensson joins the faculty at the Department of Engineering Mechanics as a guest professor of fluid mechanics with specialisation in climate modelling.

[MORE](#) 

## New website - SCI PhD Student Council

We have a new website on the SCI intranet! Do you have questions about your doctoral studies/employment and are unsure who to turn to? Reach out to us, and we will help you! You can find your closest point of contact, and more on the website (which is being continuously updated, so be sure to save the page and check on it from time to time)! Do you have suggestions of how to improve the doctoral education at SCI/KTH, or activities that we can organize? We are happy to listen to your ideas!

### What is the SCI PhD student council?

We are the SCI branch of the PhD chapter at THS, consisting of at least one member from each doctoral program at SCI. We represent the interests of doctoral students by participating and exerting influence in different workgroups and committees at SCI. Want to know more, and learn how you can engage? Check out our website and/or send an e-mail to the council chair ([sci-chair@dr.kth.se](mailto:sci-chair@dr.kth.se)). Our monthly meetings are open for all PhD students to join!

[Visit our website here](#) 



# SCI NEWS

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## Apply for a faculty sabbatical!

The next application period for centrally funded sabbaticals is 1-31 May 2021. All faculty have been sent information on which details the SCI nomination process.

[MORE](#) 

## We congratulate

**Ali Elshaari** (Applied Physics). Appointed as associate professor in applied physics with specialisation in experimental quantum photonics, from 1st April 2021.

**Dmitry Grishchenko** - Appointed as docent in physics with specialisation in nuclear engineering .

**Gunilla Svensson** (Stockholm University). Appointed as guest professor in fluid mechanics with specialisation in climate modelling, 1st May 2021 - 30th April 2024 (50% level).

## Recent doctoral graduates

### **Rabia Akan**

Applied Physics

*Metal-assisted chemical etching for nanofabrication of hard X-ray zone plates”*

## Recent licentiate exam

### **Johan Nygren**

Engineering Mechanics

*On the impact of noise and energy demand from traffic: an assessment using microscopic modelling*