

Monday meeting Department of Geological Sciences (IGV) 17th November 2025

By Viktoria Arwinge

Installation gamma counter

- A special thanks to Julia and Carina for working with Matt to install the refurbished gamma counter on the second floor, taken over from the NRM with IGV's support. Good team work.
 - This instrument measures natural radioactivity in geological materials, and will be useful for determining the geological age of samples ...among other things.

SU conference about data security

- Last Thursday Joakim (asst head of admin) and Viktoria attended a conference at SU about data security. Background: The head of SU had invited all managers at SU to this conference. Speakers was; the head of SU, a representative from the Swedish security Service (SÄPO) and also the head of Security at SU.
- The main message from the conference was that SU as a university should not be overly protective of our data environment, since the absolute majority of our data can be and should be shared openly inside/outside of SU without risking harming Swedish interests - if the data falls into the wrong hands. Only approx. 5% of the data produced at our university has been assessed as sensitive and in need of additional protection. IGV owns some of this sensitive data and we are keeping this data in a safe way according to SU guidelines.

Salary review process 2025

- The salary revision process is still ongoing at SU, during which the unions are now in dialogue with the employer/various institutions regarding the proposed salaries. The unions have not raised any objections to IGV's proposed salaries, so from our point of view we are now just awaiting a formal final decision from SU regarding our proposed salaries. We expect to be able to announce the new salaries at the beginning of December and that the new salaries will be paid out in December - retroactive from 1 October 2025.
- We have not yet received any information from SU regarding the new salary levels for doctoral students. I will get back to you on this once it has been decided.

Budget 2026

- The budget process for 2026 has now begun at Stockholm University and at IGV. This means that each department must compile a budget, which is then presented to and decided on by each department's board. At IGV, this takes place in March. The budget must also be reported to the respective faculty toward the end of February and also to the SU Finance dep.
- A significant part of the IGV department's budget consists of revenues and expenses related to the department's researchers who have their own project funds. These projects may be funded internally with Anslag or with external funding. In order for me, Joakim, and Christina to produce a realistic budget, we depend on all of you researchers with your own projects to compile a budget for your projects and submit it to us no later than 30 of Nov. Thanks in advance!

Social Fee level 2026

- The social fee at SU that is charged on all salary costs in order to contribute to the financing of the Swedish social insurance system amounts to 60,75% in 2025.
- According to a SU preliminary cost estimate the social fee level will be reduced to: 58.52% in 2026. This is a significant positive change if it comes into effect.
- Background of this preliminary estimate:
The National Government Employee Pensions Board (SPV) forecasts that the costs for pension contributions will decrease in 2026 compared with 2025, mainly explained by declining inflation. Please note that this % for 2026 is still preliminary. The final social fee % will be announced by SU in early December.

Reminders

- Bolin Days: 26th–27th November
- IGV board meeting, Wed 10th December
- IGV Christmas lunch: Thursday 11th December, IGV 4th Floor Kitchen
- Lucia celebration 12th Dec 8.30, Geobuilding. All IGV staff/staff within the Geobuilding are welcome (outside of Nordensköldsalen).
- Deadline for reimbursements of any health care activity registrations in Primula: 4th of Dec.

Teaching

- Distance Program teachers met last week to discuss plans for migrating and updating Distance courses to the MOODLE web platform. IGV is investing in teaching support to do the migrations, and a priority list and schedule for the moves was agreed upon. Some of our recently finished and finishing PhD students will help with this work.

Research and seminars

- All staff welcome to a research seminar Thursday 4 December, 15.00 – 16.00, William-Olsson, a presentation by Ernst Johnson, PhD student at CCPG/IGV: title: *Tracing the Pioneers of Scandinavia: drawing inferences from ancient environmental genomics*
- NEO (Navarino Environmental Observatory) will arrange a workshop – **14-17 of March, 2026**. Aim of the workshop: increase knowledge of the possibilities for education and research at the NEO, expanding collaboration. Please contact Martina Hättestrand (Director of NEO) for questions or registrations, through e-mail. Please write NEO in the subject line. e-mail: martina.hattestrand@geo.su.se

PhD students – defence coming up

- Trusha Naik PhD will have her defence the 1 of Dec, 13.00, William-Olssonsalen
- Simone Simonera PhD will have his defence 3rd of Dec, 9.30, William-Olssonsalen

Congratulations

- Congratulations to Antonia Schell, Sophie ten Hietbrink and Scott Cocker who was awarded KVA Geosciences Scholarships funding - call from the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. **Ongoing recruitments**
- Iain

- Iain is recruiting a PhD in geology, financed by his own grant. Deadline for application was the 4 of Nov- is now in the process of selecting candidates for interviews.
- Sascha
 - Sascha is recruiting a PhD in structural geology, financed by IGV. Deadline for application: 2 of Dec
- Malin
 - Malin has recruited a PhD Student, fully funded by IGV. Final candidate will probably start: 8 of Jan.
- Agatha
 - Agatha has recruited a postdoc, financed by external grant. Final candidate selected and probable start: Jan.
- Nina K
 - Nina has recruited a postdoc, funded by Helens KAW grant. The final candidate selected and probable start 5 of Jan.