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An ITN Alumni Perspective

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Dept. of Materials Science and Engineering

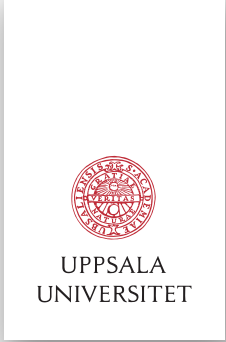
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- Who am I and what do I currently spend my days doing?
- How did I get here and how did the ITN experience help getting here?
- How can you get here? (or wherever else you want to get)



Prof. Cecilia Persson

Dept. Materials Science and Engineering
Uppsala University



President, 2019 –
Founded in 2008. Scandinavian, Nordic and Baltic states.



Director, 2020 – 2025
23 partners, 10 M€, VINNOVA*



Coordinator, 2019 – 2022
9 partners, 4.2 M€, 15 ESRs (5 at UU), EU*



Coordinator, 2020 – 2022
10 partners, 2 M€, EIT Health*



PI at UU, 2021 – 2024
16 partners, 4.3 M€, 15 ESRs (4 at UU), EU*

**from academia, industry and healthcare*



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Dean Engineering, 2020 –
Board of Faculty of Science and Engineering: Faculty has 2000 employees and 14 000 students, (30% of UU), 15 eng. degrees



The Additive Manufacturing initiative
at the Ångström laboratory

Chair of Steering Group, 2019 –



Group Leader
Approx. 15 people



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How did I get here?

2004 - MSc Materials Engineering, spec. in Biomaterials

Luleå University of Technology / Institut National Polytechnique de Lorraine / Universitat Politecnica di Barcelona



Key: What do I want to do?
-> goal, plan, execution

2006-2009 - MSCA ESR -> PhD Mechanical Engineering, spec. in Biomechanics, University of Leeds



Key: What do I want to do?
-> goal, plan, execution

2009 – Uppsala University, since 2018 Professor in Applied Materials Science, spec. in Biomaterials, Uppsala University





How did the ITN experience help getting here?

- Practice taking responsibility for your (research) projects (PhD general)
- Network - Maintaining good relationships and collaborations (ITN specific?)
- A better level of English always helps... (UK specific)
- MC ERG! -> one grant leads to the next

Deliver!



How can you get here? (or wherever else you want to get)

- Prepare – start early. Define your goal.... etc, and talk about it! Use LinkedIn and make sure the rest of your online you is presentable! Polish CV and cover letter...
- Know your enemy and accept it is not your enemy – match-making....



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How do we assess job applications?

- All our positions are advertised
- Usually 2-3 evaluators
- First screening: application
 - For PhD: CV, transcripts (course topics, grades somewhat), reference letters, then cover letter. For post-doc also earlier position(s), publication list.
- Second selection(s):
 - Written assignment(s)
- Interview
 - Short ppt of your background and summary of your MSc or PhD thesis
 - Scorecard
- References



What we are looking for

- Interest in research and in the field, plus ambitions
 - CV and somewhat cover letter
 - Interview
 - References
- Good written and oral communication skills
 - Application, writing assignment and interview, references
- A basic understanding of the field
 - CV, courses, grades, ppt of thesis, written assignment, references
- If moving – stability
 - Cover letter if possible, interview, references



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Advantages and disadvantages with a PhD from the UK when applying for a post-doc / tenure track position in Sweden

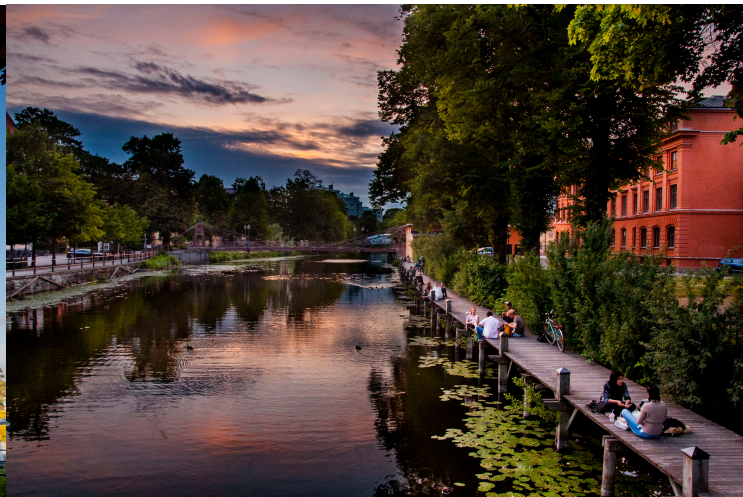
+ : English

- : Monograph? Teaching?



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Questions?



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