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Goals and organization

The Swedish Institute for Disability Research (SIDR) was established in the year 2000 on the initiative of several persons, including the Rectors of Linköping University and Örebro University, Bertil Andersson and Janerik Gidlund. Professors Jerker Rönnberg, Linköping University and Berth Danermark, Örebro University, who also are acting Directors, were also involved from the start.

SIDR is devoted to the establishment of a vigorous international level research programme, as well as a doctoral programme, and undergraduate level courses at the universities in Linköping and Örebro. The goals of SIDR can be summarized as:

- To further benefit from the experiences of persons with disability
- To promote collaboration with institutions and industry
- To relate SIDR-research to ICF
- To produce world-class disability research
- To develop the model of the doctoral programme in disability research

The two universities are jointly responsible for SIDR, which is led by a board of directors appointed by the vice chancellors of the universities. The board of directors has an overall responsibility for SIDR’s financial status and activities.

Obligations of the board of directors are:

- To promote the development and financing of the programmes
- To promote other relevant subject areas and the development of strategies and policies
- To coordinate applications for external funding
- To cooperate with other interests, for example, industry and health care, when development of the programme so demands
- To convene an international reference group with scholars known within the field of disability research
- To act as a forum for the discussion of ideas.

Financing

SIDR’s activities are financed by funds contributed by both universities and by external grants. An important part of the financing consists of contracts for the financing of doctoral students. Such contracts exist with the Swedish Defence Research Agency; Örebro County Council; Gävle University College; Norrköping Local Authority, Division of Rehabilitation Technology; Trollhättan/Uddevalla University College; and the Östergötland County Council. SIDR also has a programme grant from The Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research, as well as support for a number of research projects from foundations such as the, the Bank of Sweden Tercentenary Foundation, the Swedish Research Council and the Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research. Additional support has also been received from other private foundations.

Recent Scientific Evaluations

In a recent international evaluation of SIDR, Aug. 5, 2003, commissioned by the Rectors of Linköping and Örebro universities, the evaluation report given by Professors R. Campbell and K. Hugdahl highlighted the following points regarding research and teaching, plus a summary of recommendations. (For more information, please go to www.ihv.se.)

Research

According to the evaluation, the work produced by SIDR is unique in Europe, and possibly worldwide. While the University of Illinois, Department of Disability and Human Development (whose doctoral programme may have been the model for SIDR’s doctoral programme), includes some of the topics SIDR addresses, it has not got the same emphasis on integrating high level scientific research with translational science which characterises SIDR.

Scientific output of unit staff and doctoral students is extremely high. (150 peer-reviewed articles in scientific journals and more than 90 books, book chapters, and other types of articles and reports).
The staff at SIDR is also active in presenting their research at international and national conferences and congresses. On the basis of the materials sent to the evaluators, they judge the quality of the work to be of national excellence throughout, international excellence in 60 - 70% of outputs.

The formation of the Unit has consolidated and extended ongoing research at Örebro and Linköping, with many collaborative publications arising in the last three years.

Research is underpinned by a coherent, articulate epistemological research ethos, developed in terms of critical realist theory (Danemark and colleagues) and philosophy (Nordenfeldt). This is more or less evident in all the research outputs, however different their core disciplinary base. It acknowledges the importance and inter-relationship of different scholarly perspectives, from history to basic science, in understanding disability and influencing social attitudes to it.

Research publications are balanced, including those with an international scholarly impact in basic science and philosophy, as well as translational and applied research of value to the user (patient, health professional). The needs of one inform the other, and often enhance the quality of the work.

Research publications feature doctoral student work to a high degree, as well as the (independent) work of senior researchers. The doctoral programme itself enhances the research profile of SIDR (for instance Danemark’s textbook on CR).

The predominant discipline, in terms of high quality basic research, is audiology and hearing research - construed widely to encompass molecular, biological, psychophysiological, perceptual, cognitive and social aspects of hearing and hearing disorder. This is likely to be the core activity with the highest potential of likely ‘breakthrough’ research. This is the area which also, in our view, will have the highest probability of attracting funds and publicity in the future.

Overall, the quality and coherence of the work produced by members of SIDR in the last three years is very impressive in an international context, fully validating the establishment of the programme as a research programme with an excellent doctoral training programme at its heart.

Teaching

The highlights of the doctoral program so far are:

A balance of students across both the departments and with respect to the topic of study.

Excellent productivity and publication schedules. Students seem to submit work for publication within two years of starting their PhD.

A disability focus incorporated well into basic science and scholarship.

Integrative approaches to complex bio-medical issues. The SIDR framework appears to be having a strong effect on the quality of the work produced.

Sustained high quality of work, reflecting high-level supervision and critical development.

A broad variety of methodological approaches, both qualitative and quantitative, underpinned by a clear research ethos. This is clearly well delivered in the interdisciplinary training sessions.
Recommendations

1. Resource planning

Directors should consider establishing a minimum core faculty, with commensurate infrastructure (technical, secretarial support) within SIDR itself, reflecting the fact that the SIDR-specific doctoral and research training programmes are now strongly established and generate revenue for the universities.

SIDR-linked funding for core faculty should be permanent and not sensitive to variations in external funding. The evaluation suggested that an additional separate 20% positions, corresponding to two fulltime professor positions, will guarantee supervisory capacity at SIDR appropriate to an biannual uptake of about 15 doctoral students. Separate 20% positions would provide the necessary flexibility with regard to supervisory competence within several different research fields, which is the hallmark of SIDR interdisciplinary research.

General staffing considerations should be reviewed. The need for replacement of Professors Arlinger and Borg who are approaching retirement, and who are world leaders in auditory science, should be a focus of such efforts. In addition, the need to fill the hierarchy between very senior (professorial) and doctoral level research should drive more research initiatives featuring postdoctoral research positions.

An international scientific advisory board (SAB) with 3-4 top international researchers in the disability research area, should be considered. The role of the SAB would be to monitor the progress of the research on an international scale, and to advise and assist the Directors of the SIDR with regard to overall issues of policy, research and dissemination.

2. Scientific and scholarly focus

Maintain current excellent cross-disciplinary work, and sustain the current ethos that has successfully informed a growing, highly productive, high quality programme of research and research training.

Continue excellent record in applying for and obtaining external funds from a wide variety of sources, and extend these internationally (NIH, NSF, EU, HSFP).

For depth, focus on audiology and hearing science, with a view to making 'breakthrough research' of outstanding international impact.

Neuroscience: make even greater use of well-established Scandinavian neuroimaging facilities and collaborators.

Consider emergent areas of science and scholarship (postgenomic human science; nanotechnology in communications and health, bioethical issues) with respect to disability - and be prepared to fund pilot projects and instigate new collaborations.

3. Doctoral programme

At the scholarly and scientific level, the doctoral programme is succeeding admirably and the recommendations (above) are intended to support and extend its unique success in developing interdisciplinary research and training. Within the universities themselves, attention may need to be paid to developing student identification and affiliation with SIDR.

4. Additional activities

International advisory board will help develop an international presence for SIDR through oversight and expansion of a range of activities (workshops, EU-based training and research placements).

Development of website and other publicity mechanisms.

Monitor equality issues in relation to all aspects of personnel, including disability.

Apply for EU Marie Curie Early Stage Training (MCEST) status and EU Research Training Network (RTN) that will include accepting international doctoral and postdoctoral students.
Doctoral Studies

Linköping University and Örebro University are together responsible for the graduate programme in disability research. The Department of Caring Sciences, Örebro University and the Department of Behavioural Sciences, Linköping University, serve as hosts for the institute. Disability research is an interdisciplinary subject which includes knowledge in medicine, technology, behavioural, social and cultural sciences. The reason for formulating disability research as an area of study is to encompass various dimensions of handicap and disability and to allow various perspectives to meet and to come into conflict with and enrich one another. Disability research investigates dimensions such as individuals-society and nature-culture. The dimension individual-society includes the individual's opportunities, problems and perspectives, as well as the social conditions of the disabled. The dimension nature-culture comprises medical and technical problems, as well as the cultural and social aspects of handicap and disability.
Doctoral Students

Gunilla Andersson, born 1964, is a licensed occupational therapist and works in Örebro at a centre called “Upplevelsen”. It’s an activity centre for disabled children, young people and adults. After she finished her studies in 1991 she has also studied for, and achieved both a Bachelor’s and a Master’s degree in occupational therapy. Apart from this she has also studied education, psychology and neuropsychology. Gunilla’s research is focused on self-hurting behaviour in disabled persons.

Patrik Arvidsson, born 1969, works as clinical and research psychologist in County Council of Gävleborg. The aim of the research project is to explore factors, body-functions and environmental factors from ICF, related to everyday-functioning/well-being, self-reported participation from ICF, in people with intellectual disability.

Staffan Bengtsson, born 1970, has a Master’s degree in history. The overall purpose of the current dissertation is to analyse the tension between normality and deviance on the societal level. The study focuses primarily on disability in Swedish society 1860-1914. Since this was a time of great change, it is interesting to illuminate these changes and show how they affected the social policies concerning disability. How did politicians and educators deal with problems concerning schooling, the labour market and social benefits? This approach also triggers the question of how disability is to be understood? Previously, scholars have argued from different angles with a basic line being drawn between those who lean toward the medical model and those who stress different kinds of social models. This dissertation emphasises that disability must be understood as interplay between concepts such as social control, social recognition and the agent-structure-issue.

Stefan Billinger, born 1961, is a licensed psychologist and psychotherapist and works part-time as a school psychologist. His research is focused on the development of self-control in children and adolescents. The main question in his PhD these is whether it is possible to develop teaching strategies that increase children’s possibilities to self-control? The theoretical basis of his work is the Relational frame theory. Relational frame theory is a psychological theory about human language and cognition. It is based on principals of learning and tries to provide a useful account of how people learn and use language.

Jamie Bolling, born 1955, has her master’s degree in social anthropology. She has a part-time work as information officer at SHIA – The Swedish Organization of Disabled Persons International Aid Association. Her doctorate research studies concern full participation of persons with impairment of immigrant background. One area of concentration is that of application for social support with focus on personal assistance through a comparison between people with impairment of Swedish and immigrant background.

Tomas Boman, born 1954. He has a Master of Social Science from the University of Uppsala. He works at the University in Gävle where he holds the post of lecturer. He also holds the post as Director of studies in Sociology. The objective of his thesis in disability research is to examine the labour market situation for people with disabilities. The main aims of his licentiate degree are employment and discrimination issues for people with disabilities.

Katrin Boström, born 1955, has an MA in social work and is a strategic planning officer at the Department of Health and Medical Services at Örebro County Council, with special attendence to rehabilitation, impairment and disability and assistive devices on the behalf of the political board on health care. The research project is a ten-year follow up study with the aim to elucidate Quality of Life and life situation for individuals with muscular dystrophy. Another aim is to elucidate next of kin’s experiences when a family member has muscular dystrophy.

Marianne Boström, born 1953, registered Occupational Therapist, BS degree from University of Gothenburg and Master of Caring Sciences in occupational therapy, education and sociology, from Uppsala University. She is a lecturer at the Department of Caring Sciences, Örebro University in the occupational therapy program. The subject of her dissertation deals with theoretical examination of psychosocial theory applied in activity-oriented rehabilitation for individuals with mental disabilities.

Per-Inge Carlsson, born 1959, commenced medical school at the University of Umeå, 1983, and graduated in 1988. He served as a physician at the
Central Hospital in Karlstad, 1988-2002. He is a specialist in Otorhinolaryngology and Audiological Medicine, and served as Head of the Department of Audiology in Karlstad, 1999-2002. Since 1 July, 2002, he has been working as a consultant at the Department of Audiology at the University Hospital in Örebro. From January 1st 2005 he serves as Head of the Department of Audiology in Örebro. The thesis points out the importance of studying HI and deafness in a broad perspective based on a multi-level approach, evaluating how interactions of mechanisms at different levels form the consequences, in a long-term perspective, to which HI and deafness can lead.

Örjan Dahlström, born 1973, holds an MSc in Electrical Engineering and Applied Physics with a profile in Medical Technology. He has a special interest in Medical Informatics. His research interests are Knowledge Discovery and Decision Support using computer technology. More specifically he will examine how computer technology can be used and adjusted to the different conditions, ways of thinking and acting among different persons working with health care among patients with disabilities.

Henrik Danielsson, born 1974, has a Master of Science in electrical engineering. His master thesis focused on using pictures taken with a digital camera as an aid for persons with aphasia. At SIDR he is working with cognitive and communicative prerequisites to adapt the use of pictures for persons with learning disability.

Tanja Edvardsson, is a psychologist working at the Adult Rehabilitation Centre at Örebro County Council. The aim of the dissertation is to describe different experiences when affected by a low malignant brain tumour; the process of falling ill, quality of life, the consequences and coping are the major themes. The description includes daily life experiences of both those subjected to the brain tumour and their next of kin. The results will contribute to new knowledge about living with the consequences of a slowly growing brain tumour, which in turn may form the basis when designing rehabilitation programs and other supportive interventions. The results will also become informative in developing the professional encounter with the persons them selves as well as their next of kin.

Janna Ferreira. PhD student at The Swedish Institute for Disability Research. I am stationed at the Department of Behavioural Science in Linköping and a member of the CCDD group. I have a Master of Science in Speech and Language Pathology with a completing Degree of Bachelor of Arts in General Linguistics. I am a certified Speech and Language Pathologist educated at the Department of Logopedics and Phoniatrics and on the Department of Linguistics at the University of Göteborg, Sweden 1998. I have been employed through the KomY-project (Swedish link), which is a multidisciplinary communication centre that provides speech disabled and communication impaired people with low- and high-tech communication aids and augmentative devices. I have also worked with communication assessment for children at The District Habilitation Centre for Children and Young People in Norrköping. My main research focus is on the nonvocal children. I am currently working with a project involving computerized phonological training for children with Cerebral Palsy, with the aim to enhance their literacy skills.

Kerstin Finndahl, born 1950, has a degree with an emphasis in business administration, and has worked for many years with business economic analysis at a national level. In recent years she has been engaged in questions of violence and domestic assault to handicapped women. This is a relatively new sphere of research, where there are a large number of cases of hidden violence. There are problems in the legal area, with the assistance the disabled women receives and the support the abused woman senses she needs. In her doctorate Kerstin has chosen to focus on threatened women’s contacts with the social services. The purpose is to investigate what happens in meetings between the assaulted women and the organizations they contact. She is particularly interested in the process of inter-action, which results between organizations of social assistance and disabled women who look for support.

Helena Forne-Wästlund, born 1955, speech-language pathologist specialised in audio - logopedics and stuttering in combination with a BA in Swedish language, phonetics and archaeology. Commitment in Clinical development: language screening tests, speech samples for audio frequency tests. She introduced the Comprehensive Stuttering Program (CSP) in Sweden during 1998-2003 in cooperation with Robert M. Kroll PhD, associate professor in Speech-language pathology at the University of Toronto. The aim of her thesis in Disability Research is to study the con...
connection between stuttering, intervention and social life with an emphasis on social conditions in the workplace.

Veronica Fremenius, born 1972, has a Bachelor's degree in history. Her research project deals with the history of epilepsy in Sweden 1750-1920. The project uses a broad approach from the perspective of cultural history and follows the development of legislation from the marriage prohibition in 1757 and onward. She has served as assistant at SIDR, and has been responsible for the seminar series.

Johan Gunnarsson, born 1979, earned his MSc degree in Medical Biology with additional specialization in psychology and mathematics. His research concerns functional brain imaging of language processing with an emphasis on exploring the differences and similarities between spoken and signed language.

Mathias Hällgren, born 1972, has a MSc in Applied Physics and Electrical Engineering and a Tech. Lic. in Technical Audiology. He works with a project on hearing and cognition in speech processing – methods and applications.

Kajsa Jerlinder, born 1976, Msc in Education, Health Education. In her licentiate thesis she illustrated a dilemma and its potential outcomes where demands for justice for pupils with physical disabilities are raised in inclusive physical education. The field of inclusive physical education and pupils with physical disabilities will continue to be the centre of interest in the thesis for a doctoral degree. Kajsa teaches Special Needs Education at the teacher training programme and Health Education at the University of Gävle.

Olga Keselman, born 1959. Masters degree in Special Educations, bachelor degree in linguistics with additional specialization in English language and literature, speach therapist. Worked as an interpreter in Linköping between 1992-1998 and as a speach therapist in the day-care for children with speach impairments. The doctoral theses is about the dynamics in interpreter-mediated encounters.

Pia Käcker, born 1952, is a licensed occupational therapist. She is employed in Norrkoping, a Swedish community where she works with disability questions. The research is financed by the community. Pia has a six-year long contract which means that she also works 33 % in the community. The work is mostly focused on questions of how different groups of disabled people themselves think of their situation, their living and daily activities. The research concerns, communication/interaction, between people with severe language disability problems, and their relatives and staff (assistants and personnel). It is impossible not to communicate (Rygaard 1990, 1991) but how do we communicate and interact with persons who don’t speak? What does the interaction/action look like? There is a risk of becoming isolated and to become an “invisible person” (Magnusson, 2003). The participants, who are included in the study, have severe language disability problems. They can be categorized into two head groups, first the causes is limited to stroke and second, severe traumatic brain injury (TBI). Individuals in both groups sustain from global aphasia, which means that a large area of the brain is damaged and the person cannot talk at all. The study has a qualitative approach and the method how are used is collecting data by;

1. Interviews with family members and with personal assistants.
2. Videotapes where the participants interact together with a personal assistant in a daily life situation. The video is then analysed together with the respondent.

The data is analysed in a Grounded Theory inspired way. Early results point to, a couple of strategies, used by the disabled people. A very important strategy is, to use the body, the face, only a few of the participants use techniques as ACC.

Gunvor Larsson Abbad, born 1970, has a master's degree in Psychology. She is a clinical psychologist and a cognitive behavioural therapist. The aim of her PhD thesis is to increase the knowledge of adults with the diagnosis Asperger Syndrome, especially concerning self image and close relationships. The thesis is a mixture of tests and of persons with Asperger syndrome. Hopefully, the thesis will increase the chances for people with Asperger Syndrome, to get proper help from society and health professionals, which perhaps will give them an easier social situation and a higher quality of life.

Anna Levén, born 1976, has a BA in social psychology, and will soon complete a Master of Science in Molecular Biotechnology. The research is focused on the relation between cognitive aspects that are important for prospective
memory, e.g. working memory, long term memory, and more general conceptual skills, among individuals with intellectual disability. Furthermore Anna is a student representative from the Faculty of Arts and Sciences in "Funktigruppen" which works with e.g. ideas for how to recruit and make Linköping university attractive for students with disabilities.

Kerstin Möller, born 1950, MSc in Health and Welfare Organisations. She has also been studying, Politics, Sociology and Management. Her research field is deafblindness and service. Preliminary title of her thesis is: Support and service for persons with deafblindness – a dual problem. She has herself impairments and therefore does her doctoral studies on half time.

Ingvar Pettersson, born 1950, MSc and works as a lecturer in occupational therapy at the Department of Caring Sciences, Örebro University. The aim of the dissertation is to increase knowledge of the experiences of using assistive devices in daily life from the perspective of persons with stroke and their next of kin. Furthermore, the aim is to evaluate the usage of a powered wheelchair for outdoor use regarding activity, participation, and quality of life of persons with a disability after stroke.

Mary Rudner, born 1958, has a BA (hons) in Modern and Medieval Languages from the University of Cambridge and an MA in Cognitive Science from Linköping University, Sweden. She has worked for many years as a translator. In her research Mary investigates cognitive processes mediated by signed and spoken language. Her research is experimental and includes behavioural and neuroimaging work.

Emelie Rydberg, (b.1978) has a Bachelor’s degree in Hearing Science and has also studied Sociology and Special Education at the University of Örebro. Moreover she has studied the Swedish sign language and knows it well. In her dissertation project she is working with pre-lingually Deaf and their position in the Labour market.

Åsa Skagerstrand, born 1969, was graduated audiologist in 1994. Since 1999 she is working as lecturer at the university of Örebro, Department of Caring Sciences. Her primary teaching area is acoustics, psychoacoustics and signal systems for hearing aids. The doctoral thesis focuses on annoying sounds for hearing aid users. The work will give a description of the hearing aid users ordinary environment of sound with focus on annoying sounds. The thesis will study how the modern hearing aids deal with annoying sounds in...
order to provide a better way of rehabilitation for the hearing impaired, focusing both on the signal system and the audiologist’s work.

**Thomas Strandberg**, born 1965, has a master degree in social work and a university diploma in nursing education, in social care. The overall purpose of his thesis in disability research is to illuminate the changeover process experienced by people with traumatic brain injury in everyday life and to increase the understanding of this process. The themes and areas in everyday life specially focused on are the following: housing, family life and network, working life and occupation and finally spare time, interests and activities.

**Helena Stålnacke**, born 1973, has studied to become an audiologist at Örebro university. In 1998 she became a lecturer in hearing sciences at Örebro university. Her licentiate thesis will focus on speech development in children aged 2-4 years who in their first two years have had several middle ear inflammations. The aim of the study is to describe their language- and speech development compared to children who hasn’t suffered from any ear problems.

**Anett Sundqvist**, I am a PhD student at The Swedish Institute for Disability Research and a member of the Cognition, Communication, Development and Disability (CCDD) research group at The Department of Behavioural Sciences, Linkoping University. I received my Bachelor of Arts Degree in Speech and Hearing Sciences at University of California at Santa Barbara and a Master of Science in Speech and Language Pathology at the Department of Logopedics and Phoniatrics, University of Göteborg. The main focus of my research is in improving augmentative and alternative communication skills in severely language impaired individuals through enhancing their capacity to perform different speech acts and through specific generalization training.

**Ingrid Thyberg**, Master of Science in occupational therapy and coordinator of the multicentre study "Early Interventions in Rheumatoid Arthritis" with the Swedish acronym TIRA. The project is done in co-operation between 10 rheumatology units in southeast Sweden. The thesis work is based on data from the 320 rheumatoid arthritis patients included in the TIRA project. The relation between laboratory and clinical assessments versus self-reported aspects of health is studied in addition to studies on the use and efficacy of assistive devices in women and men respectively.

**Malin Wass**, born 1975. She has a master’s degree in Cognitive Science from Umeå University. Her doctoral thesis will be about cognitive and linguistic development in children with cochlear implants, specifically in what way and to what extent fundamental cognitive abilities affect speech perception, speech production and reading and writing in these children.

**Marie Öberg**, born 1962. PhD student at the Dept. of Neuroscience and Locomotion, Dept. of Technical Audiology, University Hospital in Linköping and the Swedish Institute for Disability Research. I have a Bachelor degree in Audiology and have been employed as an audiologist at the University Hospital in Linköping since 1989. The essential assignments for the last four years have been related to research, conducted by Oticon Research Department at Eriksholm, Denmark. The overall aim of the PhD studies is to develop and test new methods for first time hearing aid users that may strengthen the rehabilitation process and increase the hearing aid user's competence.
Approved Doctor’s Dissertations


No. 3. Ulf Andersson, Cognitive deafness. The deterioration of phonological representations in adults with an acquired severe hearing loss and its implications for speech understanding (2001, ISBN 91-7373-029-7). Ulf accounts for how a severe hearing loss in adulthood affects the ability to understand speech. What significance does this have for those who have received cochlea implants as compared to those who lip-read?

No. 4. Carin Fredriksson, Att lära sig leva med förvänad hörselnedsättning sett ur par-perspektiv – om anpassningsstrategiers funktionella och sociala innebörder [Learning to live with an acquired hearing loss from the perspective of couples – on the social and functional implications of adaptational strategies] (2001, ISBN 91-7373-105-6). In Carin’s dissertation various couples can be followed to see how their relationships changed and how they developed different strategies so that communication could function. Carin works in the occupational therapy program at the Department of Nursing Sciences, Örebro University.

No. 5. Gunnar Lundberg, Signs, Symptoms, and Disability Related to the Musculo-Skeletal System – Studies of Home Care Personnel and Patients with Fibromyalgia (2002, ISBN 91-7373-160-9). In this study of women employed in the home service corps Gunnar presents his results concerning the occurrence of pain and limitation of functions and their relation to the results of the study (signs).


No. 7. Marie Gustavsson Holmström, Födelseskreativt funktionshem – om barn, födelseskreativt och familjerättsliga [Parents with disabilities – on children, parenting and family law] (2002, Carlssons bokförlag, ISBN 91-7203-500-5). Does life in a family where one of the parents has a form of physical disability differ from the way in which other families live? This is one of the questions Marie answers. Marie has received a grant from The Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research for post-doctoral studies at the Department of Occupation and Leisure Sciences, Faculty of Health Sciences, The University of Sydney, Australia.

No. 8. Kersti Samuelsson, Active wheelchair use in daily life – Considerations for mobility and seating (2002, ISBN 91-7373-196-X). The occurrence of later complications such as back pain and shoulder problems have been charted in this dissertation for people who are confined to wheelchairs due to damage to the spinal cord. The effect of interventions on the ergonomy of persons sitting in wheelchairs as well as aspects of the wheelchair as a means of locomotion are also presented.

No. 9. Marie Jansson, Två kön eller inget alls – Politiska intentioner och vardagslivsrealiteten i den arbetssomrättade rehabiliteringen [Two genders or none at all – Political intentions and the realities of daily life in rehabilitation aimed at working life] (2003, ISBN 91-7373-568-X). This dissertation was published within two series, Linköping
Dissertations on Health and Society, No. 3 and Studies from the Swedish Institute for Disability Research, No. 9.


Head injury constitute a great problem all over the world. Hearing and cognitive impairment are common consequences. The present study focus on hearing and cognitive impairments from a long-term perspective in a well-rehabilitated group of former head injury victims. Peripheral as well as central auditory processing disorders, and cognitive deficits were demonstrated in several participants. Progress of a sensorineural hearing loss after head injury could be demonstrated in several of the participants and the possibility to predict such an outcome was analysed. Furthermore, self-assessed hearing, cognition and quality of life was analysed and discussed.

No. 11. Martin Molin, Att vara i särklass - om delaktighet och utanförskap i gymnasiesärskolan. [Participant or Outsider? - on the upper secondary programme for pupils with intellectual disabilities] (2004, ISBN 91-85295-46-9). The general aim of my thesis work is to illuminate different forms of participation within the municipal upper secondary special program for pupils with intellectual disabilities (ID). The analysis shows how it is possible to talk about the pupils participation in terms of different worlds of belonging.

Senior Researchers and Supervisors

Madeleine Abrandt Dahlgren
Assistant professor at Linköping University, senior lecturer in higher education at the Department of Behavioural Sciences/Studies in Adult, Popular and Higher Education.

Gerd Ahlström
Professor in Nursing Science at Örebro University. The research programme is entitled “Changes in life-condition, quality of life, the patient’s resources and professional care”. The research is about the situation of persons living with chronic illness. Some of these projects are studied from a family perspective. One of the aims of the research is to increase the understanding of what problems and strains the person with chronic illness and their relatives face in everyday life. Another aim is to investigate the person’s own capabilities and resources to handle difficult life situations caused by illness and how coping affects their perceived quality of life. Some projects are based on intervention research using tailor-made programs with emphasis on education or complementary health methods.

Gerhard Andersson
was educated in Uppsala at the Department of Psychology, Uppsala University, and graduated in 1991 (M.Sc in Clinical Psychology). I became licensed clinical psychologist in 1993 (from the National Board of Health and Welfare), but before this I studied audiology for one year part-time at the Karolinska Institute, Stockholm. Starting in 1994 I began working part-time as clinician with audiology patients at Uppsala University Hospital, in particular with tinnitus patients. My Ph.D was presented 1995 “Hearing as behaviour-psychological aspects of acquired hearing impairment in the elderly”. After the dissertation I did a 9-month post-doc at the Department of Psychology, University College, London, working with patients with dizziness and imbalance. Back home in Sweden in 1997, I became appointed associate professor, and continued my work as researcher in Uppsala. From then I intensified my work on tinnitus at the Department of Audiology. In 1999 I became board-certified specialist in clinical psychology, and in 2000 I presented my second doctoral thesis. This time it was in Otorhinolaryngology (medicine) and the title was “Clinical aspects of tinnitus- Course, cognition,
PET, and the Internet.” In 2003 I began working part-time at the Department of Psychiatry in Uppsala and also started training as a psychotherapist (CBT). I was appointed Professor of Clinical Psychology at Linköping University and started my work there in 2004 and at the same time started as clinician at the ENT department, Linköping University hospital.

Jan Andersson
I was born in 1965. I took the Bachelor of Science degree in 1991 and the PhD in 1996. The thesis focused on the collaborative aspect of memory. I am a member of the Cognition and Handicap Research group at Linköping University since 1991. In 1997 was I employed as a lecturer at Linköping University and as a research fellow at Manchester University (working with Prof. Peter Meudell and Prof. Graham Hitch, Lancaster University). My research interests are currently turning in the following directions:

1. Collaborative learning and retrieval
2. Discourse analytic aspects of communication/collaboration
3. Information technology, especially computer-mediated-communication and telematics

My teaching areas are cognitive psychology, neuropsychology and methodology. In particular within the programme of Cognitive Science.

Sivert Antonson

Stig Arlinger
Professor of technical audiology at the Faculty of health sciences, Linköping University, and technical audiologist at the department of Audiology, Linköping University Hospital. The research group is active in developing signal processing algorithms for hearing aids, methods for hearing aid fitting and assessment of hearing aid benefit, methods for assessment and description of peripheral as well as central auditory function, and studies of noise and hearing loss.

Erik Borg
Physician specialized in medical audiology. Research in auditory physiology 1965-78. Since 1978 the focus has been in patient work and research in clinical audiology at Karolinska Institutet, and since 1991 at University Hospital of Örebro. Leader of the Ahlén Research Institute since 1998 (now integrated into IHV). The institute contains ecological laboratories, a psychological and a diagnostic audiological laboratory. Main research projects are on Genetics of hearing impairment, particularly interaction between environmental and genetic factors; Diagnostics of hearing disorders with physiological methods particularly focused on loss of function of inner and/or outer hair cells; Sequelae of head injuries, progressive hearing impairment, central auditory disorders, disability and quality of life; Language development in hearing impaired children, qualitative aspects and reference values; Event detection, localization and identification in the deaf-blind; development of technical aids; Ready-Ride: positioning control system for deaf-blind in leisure activities. Basic hearing science and pathophysiology at cellular and molecular level is conducted in collaboration with The Center for Hearing and Communication Research at Karolinska Institutet.

Ann-Christin Cederborg
Associate Professor, authorized psychotherapist, senior lecturer in psychology, Department of Behavioural Sciences, Linköping University. She teaches in developmental psychology, communication and social sciences. Her main research interests concern maltreated children, family treatment, handicapped and asylum seeking children. The main topics of her publications concern how different agencies work with maltreated children and how to understand the unique child’s capabilities to tell about its experiences.

Lotta Coniavitis Gellerstedt
PhD in sociology. Engaged in research and evaluation studies in areas related to communication disorders.
Peter Czigler
Background: Qualified speech and language therapist (1985), lecturer (1986-1998), PhD student (1992-1998) and senior lecturer (1998-2001) in Phonetics at Umeå University. PhD in Phonetics (1998). My thesis examines the temporal aspects of some Swedish consonant sequences. Since 2001 I have been a senior lecturer in hearing science at the Department of Caring Sciences at Örebro University, Sweden. Research: My research currently focuses on the analysis of the discourse between audiologists and their patients from a linguistic (Psycholinguistics) viewpoint. My other research interests include speech perception where I cooperate with Professor Dawn Behne (NTNU, Trondheim, Norway) and Associate Professor Kirk Sullivan (Umeå University, Sweden). Together we are investigating the development path of the perception strategies used by children in their acquisition of the perceptual distinction(s) between the Swedish phonologically long and short vowels.

Berth Danermark
Professor of Sociology, Örebro University. He is head of the postgraduate school at the Swedish Institute for Disability Research. His research is primarily on the psychosocial aspects of disability. His main research focus is people with hearing impairment.

Torbjörn Falkmer

Staffan Förhammar
is associate professor in history at the University of Linköping. He is employed as a lecturer at the Department of History which is a part of the Department for Studies of Social Change and Culture, Linköping University. Förhammar is the chief advisor for one of the doctoral candidates at the IHV and together with Professor Marie C Nelson he is responsible for the historical perspective of the IHV programme. Förhammar’s research interest includes disability politics and the development of social political ideas.

Björn Gerdle
Professor in rehabilitation medicine at the Faculty of Health Sciences, Linköping University. Also head of Pain and Rehabilitation Centre at the University Hospital in Linköping. Main research focus is pain and its consequences as well as consequences of neurological disabilities.

Peter Gill
born Cork, Ireland, 1949, B.A. (Psych.) (1971), M.A. (Ed. Psych.) (1973), University College Cork, M.Ed. (1974), Trinity College Dublin, PH.D. University of Gothenburg, (1979), elected fellow, Gothenburg (2000), Professor of Education, University College Gävle (2001), Gävle’s first Chair of Education, while in Ireland research interests mainly in the area of Intelligence Testing. Since living in Sweden (1974/75) has focused his research on Youth Violence, Moral Judgments of Violence, Violence in Intimate Relationships, in Sport. During the period 1988-1994 remigrated to Ireland to reside on an offshore island, founded The Centre for Island Studies, Clare Island, developed a project in the area of Cultural Tourism, returned to Sweden 1993/94 to University of Karlstad and began in Gävle 1995. Since then has been Head of Subject for Health Promotion Education and later the Department of Education. Publications in the areas of Intelligence Testing, Island Mentality, Health Education and Violence Reseach.

Mats Granlund
Professor in Psychology with an emphasis on disability, intervention and health, at Mälardalen University.

Anders Gustavsson
Professor of Social Education and Disability Research at the Department of Education, Stockholm University. Also head of research in social education at the Department of Social
Stefan Gustafson
I joined CCDD in 1995 and received my PhD in 2000. My thesis focused on individual variations among reading disabled children, possible causes of the observed differences and the implications for educational interventions. My research interests lies primarily within the field of reading development and reading disabilities. In a new longitudinal study, two new computerized training programs for reading disabled children will be developed and the training effects on reading and spelling skills will be examined. Both programs will highlight the links between sounds, letters and words but one will have a phonological focus and the other a visual-orthographic focus. The long-term aim of this line of research is to develop effective interventions, targeted at the specific needs of different groups of reading disabled children.

Ursula Hass
Senior lecturer at the Department of Health and Society, Faculty of Health Sciences, Linköping University.

Thomas Karlsson
Senior lecturer, Department of Behavioural Sciences, Linköping University.

Birgitta Larsby
Associate professor in Technical Audiology at the department of Neuroscience and Locomotion (INR), faculty of Health Sciences, Linköping University, Linköping, Sweden. Research Interests: Psychoacoustic and electrophysiological test methods, effects of noise on communication and speech understanding in relation to individual cognitive ability, central auditory processing.

Lars-Olov Lundqvist
is the director of the Centre for Rehabilitation Research, Örebro County Council. Lars-Olov has a Ph.D. in psychology and his research interests are in emotion psychology. His published studies for the past 10 years have been in the area of emotional communication and his work at the Centre for Rehabilitation Research has focused on the applications in this area from a disability and rehabilitation perspective.

Thomas Lunner
Adjunct assistant professor (20%) in Technical Audiology, Department of Neuroscience and Locomotion, Linköping University. Performs technical audiological research and development concerning digital signal processing in hearing aids, methods for the fitting of hearing aids, methods to assess outcome of hearing aid fitting, methods to assess cognitive function and the cognition's relation to hearing aid use, methods to improve hearing aid user competence in relation to hearing aid fitting. Since 2000, researcher 80% at Oticon A/S research centre Eriksholm, Snekkersten, Denmark.

Björn Lyxell
PhD, Associate professor. I have been working at various positions at the Department of Education and Psychology/Department of Behavioural Sciences since 1986. I took my PhD degree at the Department of Psychology, University of Umeå, 1992 and was awarded the title of associate professor, 1994. Currently, I hold a position as a researcher at the Swedish Council for Social Research. My main research interest focuses on cognitive aspects of speech understanding in hearing-impaired and deaf adults and children. Specifically, I am interested in the involvement of cognitive factors in speech understanding by means of visual speechreading, tactile supported speechreading and speech understanding with cochlear implants. The purposes of the studies have been to (a) examine possible cognitive compensatory patterns in hearing-impaired and deafened adults to improve speech understanding, (b) to assess subsets of cognitive predictors critical for successful speech understanding, (c) to characterize the cognitive aspects of extreme skill levels in speech understanding, and (d) to conduct longitudinal, rehabilitation studies in order to examine how the individual’s cognitive capabilities interacts with level of improvement in speech understanding with tactile devices and cochlear implants.

Marie C. Nelson
Professor of Social History at the University of Linköping where she works primarily within the Department of History which is a part of the Department for Studies of Social Change and Culture. She is also involved in Tema Health and Society within IHS at the same university. Nelson is advisor for one of the doctoral candidates at IHV and together with Associate Professor Staffan Förhammar, she is responsible for the
historical perspective of the IHV programme. Her research interests include studies of famine in Sweden and of epidemics and health policy. Her most recent work involves Sweden's participation in international health work in the late 19th, early 20th century in relation to the development of Sweden's health policy.

**Lennart Nordenfelt**  
Professor at the Department of Health and Society at Linköping University. Nordenfelt, who has a PhD in theoretical philosophy, specializes in the philosophy of medicine and medical ethics. During the last 20 years he has published mainly in the philosophy of health, including the theory of disability. His focus lies on the analysis of the basic concepts of health care and care of the disabled. Nordenfelt's publications include around 30 monographs, half of which are with international publishers. His main publication on health is *On the Nature of Health*, Kluwer 1995. Nordenfelt is at present President of the European Society of Medicine and Health Care.

**Jerker Rönnberg**  
Jerker is born 1953, and became a full professor in psychology, especially disability research in 1997, at the Department of Behavioural Sciences, Linköping University. His research centers on cognition, communication and disability based on neuroscience and behavioral perspectives. The research is about memory and language processing in e.g. sign language users (brain imaging methods), picture recognition in persons with learning disabilities, cognitive and linguistic prerequisites for communication in persons with cerebral palsy, and communicative strategies in individuals with severe traumatic brain injury. In addition, Jerker has a long track record from many cognitive and communicative projects in the area of hearing and deafness (tactile aids, cochlear implants, and hearing aids). He has published around 110 papers in international journals, 40 book chapters and several books. He is also the research leader of the CCDD (Cognition, Communication, Development, and Disability) division at the department.

**Thomas Skogh**  
Professor of rheumatology at the Department of Molecular and Clinical Medicine, Faculty of Health Sciences, Linköping University, and rheumatologist at Linköping University Hospital. The research projects are clinical and experimental and mainly concern rheumatoid arthritis (RA) and systemic lupus erythematosus. An ongoing prospective cohort ("the TIRA project") is carried out in co-operation between 10 rheumatology units in southeast Sweden. In the TIRA project, the susceptibility to RA and its course in women and men is studied from a broad perspective including correlations to immunological and genetical markers, exposures and life style factors, functional ability/disability, health economy, etc.

**Håkan Thorsén**  
Lecturer at the Department of Caring Sciences, Örebro University.

**Toomas Timpka**  
Professor at the Department of Health and Society, Linköping University.

**Mikael Thyberg**  
MD, Chief physician, Department of Neuroscience and Locomotion, Linköping University.
Publications

Original articles in scientific journals

A


20 - The Institute for Disability Research


CBT for mild to moderate depression via the Internet. Predicting outcome at 6-months follow-up. Verhaltenstherapi.


**Lyxell, B., Andersson, U., Borg, E., Ohlsson, IS.** (2003). Working memory capacity and phonological processing in deafened adults and individuals with a severe hearing impairment. *Int J Audiol 42, S86-S89*


Dag Lemming, D., Sörensen, J., Graven-Nielsen, T., Arendt-Nielsen, L. & and Gerdle, B. (In press). The responses to pharmacological challenges and


J


L


M


Hermansson, A-C., Timpka, T & Thyberg, M. (2003). The long-term impact of torture on the

**Original articles in other journals**

**A**


**B**


Cederborg, A-C. Barnombudsmannen (2004). *Att samtale med barn.* Informationsfolder utgiven av Barnombudsmannen. Underlag för skriven är mina referenser: Barnintervjuer (Liber); Migrationsverkets utredningsamtal med asylsökande barn; samt en ettårig utbildning i barnintervjuer på Migrationsverket.

**D**


**N**


**R**


**S**


**Books**

**A**


B


C


D


G


**External reports**

Abrandt Dahlgren, M. National comparison of Freshmen and Senior Students Project Students as Journeymen between communities of Higher education and work. European Commission project HPSE CT 2001-00068, April 2003.


Papers, abstracts and posters presented at national and international conferences

K


Internal reports

G


R

Rydberg, E. "Kartläggningsrapport om hörselvården i Värmland och Västmanlands läns landsting våren 2001 och hösten 2003"

A


Andersson, G., Holmström, A., Spalthan, L., Furmark, T. & Carlbring, P. Treatment of social phobia via the Internet. Results from a RCT and
some clinical observations. European Psychiatry.19 (Suppl. 1), 109, 2004:


B


C


D


Danemark, B. ”Brotssoffer och funktionshinder” ÖU. Arrangör. 2 april, 2003.
Larsby, B., Hällgren, M. Effects of different background noises on cognition and perceived effort in speech processing tasks. 6th European Federation of Audiology Congress, Kreta, 28 maj-1 juni, 2003.


Lyxell, B. Sound environment, cognitive skills and speech understanding. Inviterat paper på ”the 25 th International Congress of Psychology”, Beijing, China.


Rönnberg, J. (invited lectures), Mo görd and Härnösand Folk High Schools (with sign language interpretation), 2003.


Skogh T. 1 oral presentation + moderator vid Scandinavian Congress of Rheumatology, Göteborg 2004.


Skogh T. 1 muntlig presentation + moderatorskap vid ”Immunologidagarna”, Stockholm/Globen 2004


Strandberg, T., Barn på institution i Lettland. Presentation på konferensen ”Baltikumveckan” i Stockholm, 19-23 april 2004. Arr. SIDA


Workshops


Lyxell, B. Områdesgruppen i kognition och beslutsfattandes möte (i Linköping, cirka 30 deltagare), 2004.


Other activities of the participants in the institute

Andersson, Gerhard
• Editor in Chief Cognitive Behaviour Therapy

Arlinger, Stig
• Chairman, Scientific Committee of the International Society of Audiology 2000–.

Dahlström, Örjan
• Member of the SIDR Board (2004–).

Danermark, Berth
• Member of the Faculty Board at the Faculty of Medicine, Science and Technology, Örebro University (-2003).
• Chairman of the Board of Readers in Medicine, Science and Technology, Örebro University (-2003).
• Member of the Board of the Swedish Institute for Special Needs Education.
• Member of the Board of “Mogård AB” (Centre for the Deaf and Blind).

• Executive group, the National Network for Disability Research, responsible for doctoral studies.
• NorFa, Swedish representative of a Nordic workgroup on Nordic graduate schools
• Member of the Electoral Assembly of FAS - The Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research.

Ferreira, Janna
• PhD student representative on the Ethical Committee, Linköping University
• Member of ISAAC – International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication.
• Member of the National Autism Society.

Gunnarsson, Johan
• Chairman of the PhD student council at the Department of Behavioural Sciences

Lyxell, Björn
• Appointed member as scientific advisor on questions of disability and behavioural sciences on the National Board of Health and Welfare (2003 – 2008, 2 – 5 cases a year).
• Member of the Swedish Research Council’s preparatory group in psychology (2004 – 2006).
• Head of a FAS-financed interdisciplinary research network on children and cochlear implants (12 members).
• Member of the Faculty Board, Faculty of Arts & Sciences, Linköping University

Möller, Kerstin
• The European Thematic Network on Genetic Deafness, the psychosocial group.
• Part of DHOPP (Network for graduate and post-graduate students within the field of deafness, hearing and education
• One of two Swedish representatives at NUD (Nordisk Uddannelsescenter för Dövblindepersonale) concerning a Nordic definition of deafblindness.
• Part of the Swedish Association of Rare Disorders’ project “Focus on everyday life - a member survey”.
• Expert assistance in distance education, course 35, ICF - a new way to describe
disability - Course for deafblind people and teams working with these people. Swedish Institute for Special Needs Education (SIT).

- Contributed in "To be a part on one's own life – an inquiry of the dimension of participation at ICF".

**Nelson, Marie C.**

- Co-program chair (with Connie A. Shemo, Princeton University, USA) Health History Network, Social Science History Association, 2004-.
- Member of the Scientific Board of the European Association for the History of Medicine and Health (2003-).
- Member of the Board of the Demographic Data Base, Umeå University, (2002-).
- Co-program chair (with P. Sarasin, Zurich), Health section (14 sessions) European Social Science History Conference, Berlin, Germany, March 2004.
- Secretary of The International Network for the History of Public Health since 1995. Within the organization I am primarily responsible for the entire organization and its operation, the dispersion of information, our newsletter, the contents of the homepage, etc.
- Member of the Regional Board of Ethics - Humanities and Social Sciences (2003-).

**Rudner, Mary**

- 2003, PhD student representative on the University Board (Linköping University).
- 2003, Member of the PhD student council at the Department of Behavioural Sciences, Linköping University.

**Rönnberg, Jerker**

- In committe for "welfare and social relations" at the Swedish Council for Working Life and Social Research.
- Adm. responsible for SIDR since 2004-01-01.

**Strandberg, Thomas**

- PhD student representative on the department board, Department of Caring Sciences, Örebro University, (2002-).
- PhD student representative on the Saco-board at Örebro University, (2002-).
- Board member of "Letthjälpen" (1999-).

**Thyberg, Ingrid**

- Member of the Board of the Swedish Society for Rheumatology's Swedish RA-register.

**Rydberg, Emelie**

- Member of the SIDR board (2004-).
- Member of the Swedish Network for Disability Research (2003-).
- Member of the network for graduate and post-graduate students within the field of deafness, hearing and education. (DHOPP), (2004-).
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION,  
PLEASE CONTACT:

<table>
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|                                   |                           | www.ihv.se             |
| Postal address                    |                           | Linköpings universitet  
|                                   |                           | The Swedish Institute for Disability Research  
|                                   |                           | Department of Behavioural Sciences  
|                                   |                           | SE-581 83 Linköping  
|                                   |                           | Sweden               |
| Visiting address                  |                           | Department of Behavioural Sciences  
|                                   |                           | Block Ingvar, Campus Valla  
|                                   |                           | Linköpings universitet  
|                                   |                           | Linköping, Sweden       |
| Chairman of the Board             | Bengt Westerberg          |
| Head of Graduate Programme        | Professor Berth Danemark  
|                                   | Örebro University         |
| Head of Research                  | Professor Jerker Rönnberg  
|                                   | Linköpings universitet    |