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Words from the Director Trevor Forsyth

Autumn is here and as the leaves fall and the temperature drops it is inevitable that people reflect on the year and on plans for the future. For LINXS it has been an extremely busy period with a large expansion of activity compared to previous years including a diverse range of thematic activities, schools, guest seminars, visiting researchers, Young Researchers' events and outreach events. The three new Themes have started with kickoff meetings for *Environment and Climate*, *Heritage Science*, and *Chemistry of Life*, with extensive planning and discussions for the work ahead.



We are also delighted that we can formally announce the *AMBER project for Advanced Multiscale Biological Imaging, coordinated by LINXS*. The contract for this was recently signed with the European Commission with funding from the Marie Skłodowska-Curie (MSCA) COFUND scheme. The total value of the project is over €12M and will fund the recruitment of 47 postdoctoral research fellows who will work across European large scale research infrastructures and research centres. The first cohort of postdocs will start work in autumn 2024.

Between now and Christmas, there is a lot of activity planned, including the *LINXS Digital Town Hall meeting on 20th November*, *a guest lecture for the Integrated Pharmacology and Drug Discovery (IPDD) Theme on structural characterization of mRNA-LNPs (Federica Sebastiani, University of Copenhagen) on 21 November*, the *LINXS Christmas open house event on 29th November*. On the *29th November* there will

also be a mini-symposium on the structure, function and dynamics of macromolecular complexes with the Chemistry of Life Theme. December starts with a webinar on taste, texture and health within the Northern Lights on Food Theme on 4th December. This is followed by a symposium and hackathon on biomedical imaging within the IPDD Theme, and an antibodies webinar on CG Simulations with Harold "Wick" Hatch from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), USA - both on the 6th December. On the 8th, LINXS will host the third SAS-clinic where users can bring their already acquired small angle scattering data to get analysis support.

In this newsletter, we share interviews and articles of some of the thematic activities that have taken place at LINXS. We hope that they will shed light on some of the important work that is undertaken by our themes, and that they will inspire other people to get involved!

Take care and stay safe!



LINXS to coordinate postdoc programme with 47 positions connected to biological imaging

LINXS has been awarded major funding from the EU Marie Skłodowska-Curie



Northern Lights on Food theme makes collaborative research on oats possible

This is a story about oats – and research to make oats more nutritious,

(MSCA) COFUND scheme. The AMBER project will fund a five-year postdoctoral programme for 47 postdoctoral researchers to address key needs for biological imaging of fundamental importance to human health. This was the only award made to Sweden in the latest MSCA COFUND call and was one of the largest funded. The total value of the project is over €12 million, of which €6 million will come from the European Commission.

[Read an article about the new postdoctoral programme](#)

resilient and versatile. It is also a story about what lies at the heart of all scientific discoveries – passion, curiosity, hard work and collaboration, all made possible by the Northern Lights on Food theme at LINXS, and support from Tillväxtverket.

The aim of the collaboration has been to find out as much as possible about the composition of different oat seeds, in particular the 3D distribution of beta glucan, which is the most soluble fibre of oat.

[Read an article about the collaboration](#)

Q&A with Elizabeth Blackburn about running a theme at LINXS

LINXS national and international theme call 2023 is currently open. To support researchers interested in making a theme application, we share reflections from New Materials theme leader, Elizabeth Blackburn. She highlights the benefits of running a theme at LINXS and gives some tips on how to write a good theme application.

[Read an interview with Elizabeth Blackburn](#) and watch the video below.



Symposium and course on FBLD within the IPDD theme hit all the right marks

The recent symposium and course on structure-based drug discovery with focus on fragment-based lead discovery (FBLD) in September aimed to provide an overview of what is happening within the field, current challenges and future perspectives. Organiser Raminta Venskutonyte is happy with the turn-out and the varied scientific discussions.

– We had a nice line up of speakers, and people seemed to really enjoy the presentations. It shows that LINXS is a good platform for different people to meet, says Raminta Venskutonyte, Assistant researcher at Medical Structural Biology, Lund University, and working group leader for the Structure-Based Drug Design working group.

[Read an interview with Raminta Venskutonyte about the FBLD symposium](#)



On the wishlist from the symposium on soft matter!

The Young Researchers' Symposium on Soft Matter in October gathered 40 PhD students and postdocs, all working on research related to soft matter. The aim of the day was to bring young researchers from the soft matter field together and promote networking between users of X-rays and neutrons in different groups.

– The symposium was a nice experience. We had many questions for the speakers and there were ongoing discussions during the breaks and poster presentation, says LINXS postdoctoral researcher Sebastian Köhler, who was part of organising the event.

[Read an interview with Sebastian Köhler about the symposium](#)



The Heritage Science theme is off to a great start!

Theme leader Mikael Fauvelle is extremely pleased with the recent kick-off of the Heritage Science theme. Scholars from different universities, the private sector and many master students were in attendance during the two days at LINXS, MAX IV and ESS, 5-6 October.

– It was great to see such a diverse audience. It shows that the focus of the theme is hitting the right marks in terms of relevance and timeliness, says Mikael Fauvelle, theme leader and researcher at the Department of Archaeology and Ancient History, Lund University.

[Read an interview with Mikael Fauvelle about the theme kick-off](#)



Key takeaways from Northern Lights on Food theme Masterclass on Food

The fourth Masterclass on Food Structure Studies within the Northern Lights on Food theme was held at LINXS in late August. Milena Corredig, core group member of the theme, reflects on the development and evolution of this initiative.

– Over the years, participants have successfully developed and improved their science, asking increasingly more fundamental research questions. This is also reflected in the need to keep up with the development and management of the course, says Milena Corredig, Professor in Food Design and Technology at Aarhus University, and core group member of the Northern Lights on Food theme.

[Read an interview with Milena Corredig about the Masterclass on Food](#)

Calendar

See all our thematic events and activities.

20

Nov

LINXS Digital Town Hall meeting

[Register](#)

21

Nov

IPDD theme

- LINXS Guest Webinar: Structural characterization of mRNA-LNPs with Federica Sebastiani

[Register](#)

23-**26**

Nov

LINXS related event

- 3rd International Conference on Gastronomy

[Register](#)

29

Nov

LINXS related event

- Workshop on a New Imaging Beamline for Materials Science

[Register](#)

29

Nov

LINXS Christmas open house

[More information](#)

29

Nov

Chemistry of Life theme

- Mini symposium: Structure, function and dynamics of macro-molecular complexes

[Register](#)

4

Northern Lights on Food theme

Dec

- Taste, texture, health - the food 2.0;
webinar

[Register](#)

6

Dec

Antibodies in Solution: a LINXS - NIST
Webinar Series

- Multiscale Modeling of Monoclonal
Antibodies in High Concentration
Formulations" with Harold "Wick" Hatch,
NIST, USA

[Register](#)

6

Dec

IPDD theme

- 3D histology with synchrotron micro-
tomography: Symposium and hackathon

[Register](#)

8

Dec

LINXS Small Angle Scattering Data Clinic III

[Register](#)

MORE EVENTS



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