

# SVERIGES UNGA AKADEMI

## Mobility experience: Mia Liinason

- |           |                                                                                                                       |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2008/2009 | March and September, Visiting PhD student, Duke University, USA                                                       |
| 2009      | November, Visiting PhD student, Department of Media and Culture, Utrecht University, The Netherlands                  |
| 2011      | May, Visiting Researcher, Department of Transdisciplinary Gender Studies, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany     |
| 2014      | Research Fellow at the Gender Institute, London School of Economics and Political Science, UK                         |
| 2016      | April to September, Guest Professor, Göttingen Gender and Diversity Research Institute, Göttingen University, Germany |
| 2019      | December, Guest Professor, Research Unit Gender Studies, University of Vienna, Austria                                |

## Mobility experience: Philippe Tassin

2005-2009	PhD student, University of Brussels, Belgium
2008-2009	Visiting PhD student, Foundation for Research and Technology Hellas, Greece
2009-2011	Research Fellow, Iowa State University, USA
2011-2013	Postdoctoral Research Associate, Ames Laboratory (US Department of Energy), USA
2013-2022	Assistant/Associate Professor, Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden
2014-2017	Visiting Professor, University of Brussels, Belgium
2022-now	Professor, Chalmers University of Technology, Sweden

# A Beginner's Guide to Dutch Academia – de jonge akademie

- Visit of the Young Academy of Sweden to Amsterdam (November 2018)

THE YOUNG ACADEMY

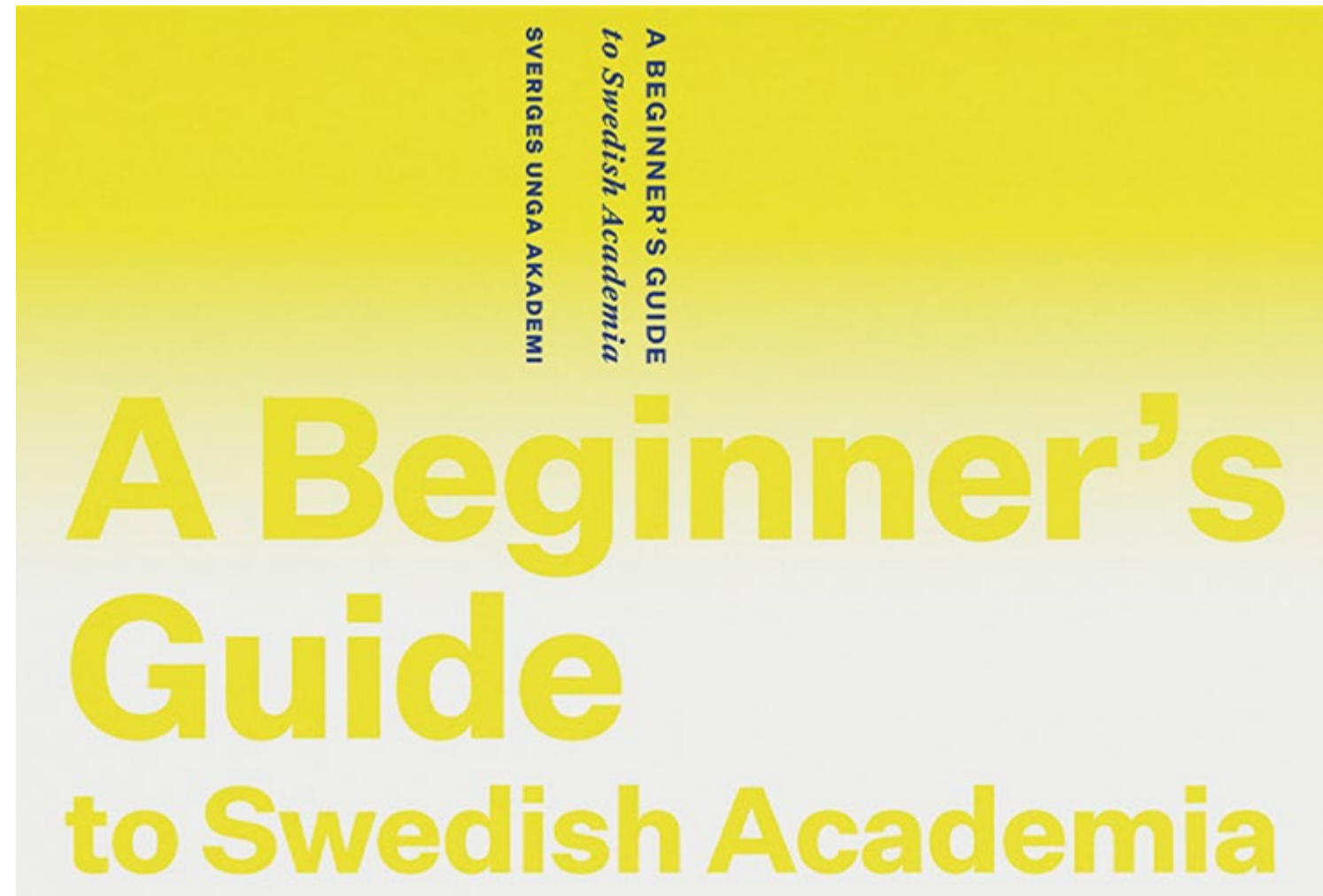


A BEGINNER'S GUIDE  
TO DUTCH ACADEMIA



# A Beginner's Guide to Swedish Academia

- Aimed towards senior postdocs and tenure-track faculty, but lots of useful information for everyone!
- What is specific to Sweden...
- But not specific to a particular university?



Download at: [www.sverigesungaakademi.se/beginnersguide](http://www.sverigesungaakademi.se/beginnersguide)

# Chapter 1: Swedish Academia in a Nutshell

- Overview of universities
- Universities and university colleges



# Chapter 1: Academic positions in Sweden

- Academic positions

- Tenured, tenure-track, and temporary positions

- Funding?

ACADEMIC POSITION	INTERNATIONAL EQUIVALENT
Professor	Full professor
Lektor or universitetslektor	Associate professor (US) or senior lecturer (UK)
Biträdande (universitets)lektor (BUL)	Assistant professor (US) or lecturer (UK)

- Statutory positions

- Positions derived from collective bargaining agreements

- Other positions – Employment protection act

- Universities define recruitment process

## Chapter 2: Governance of higher education and research

- Swedish parliament and government exert a lot of power in the governance of higher education and research
  - Higher education act
  - Higher education ordinance
  - Appropriation directions
- Nearly all universities are government agencies (except Chalmers, Jönköping, Handelshögskolan)



## Chapter 2: Funding for research

- Research:  
≈ 70% at companies
- Diversity of funding:
  - Government funding
    - Base grants
    - Research councils
  - Foundations founded with public capital
  - Private foundations
  - Companies

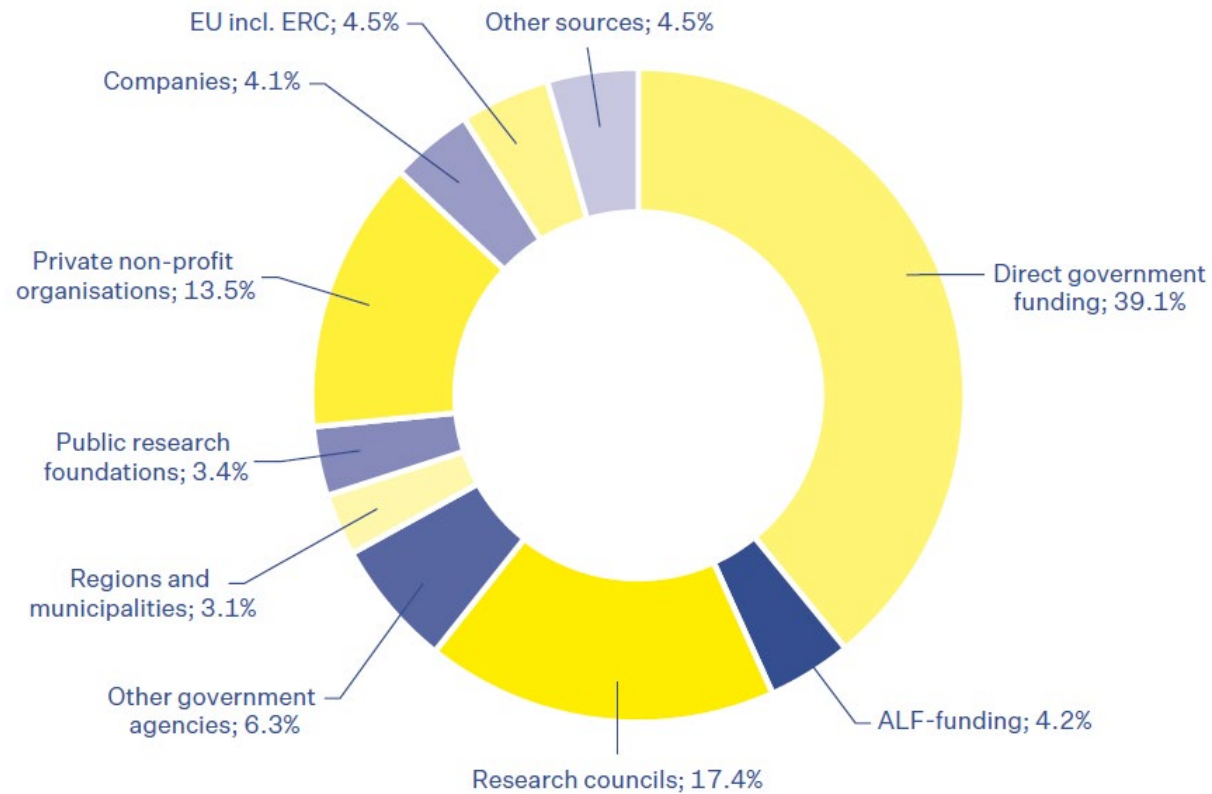


Figure 3: R&D revenues in the higher-education sector 2019, by source of funding. Source: The Swedish Research Barometer 2021, Swedish Research Council.

There are plenty of funding sources available, the tricky part is finding them.



## Chapter 3: Teaching and degrees

- Admission to university based on high-school grades or national exam
- 1<sup>st</sup> cycle: 120 credits (högskoleexamen, 2 years) or 180 credits (kandidatexamen, 3 years).
- 2<sup>nd</sup> cycle: 60 credits (magisterexamen, 1 year) or 120 credits (masterexamen, 2 years)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> cycle: 120 credits (licentiate degree) or 240 credits (PhD degree)
- PhD studies: funding, requirements, and teaching

## Chapter 3: Teaching from the instructor's perspective

- Different grading systems are in use
- Teaching experience and pedagogical qualifications often required for promotion
- Ask about teaching assignments!
- Application packages must often contain extensive information on teaching experience, something that is hard for international candidates to understand

Don't forget to invest time  
in pedagogical training  
and teaching!



# A Beginner's Guide to Swedish Academia

## Chapter 4-6

<b>4. Carrying out research projects</b>	<b>28</b>
<i>Funding agencies and grant schemes</i>	29
<i>Indirect costs</i>	33
<i>Ethical review</i>	33
<i>Intellectual property rights of academic staff</i>	34
<i>Practical information</i>	34
<b>5. Rights, benefits and practical information</b>	<b>36</b>
<i>The circle of bureaucracy</i>	38
<i>Visas and residence permits</i>	38
<i>Swedish personal identity number, identification and bank accounts</i>	39
<i>Salary</i>	40
<i>Social security</i>	40
VACATION	41
PENSION	41
HEALTHCARE	41
SICKNESS BENEFIT	42
HEALTH PROMOTION BENEFITS	42
UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS	42
<i>Living in Sweden with children</i>	42
PREGNANCY AND CHILDBIRTH	42
PARENTAL LEAVE	43
TEMPORARY PARENTAL BENEFIT TO CARE FOR A SICK CHILD	43
HEALTHCARE FOR CHILDREN	43
CHILDCARE AND THE SWEDISH SCHOOL SYSTEM	44
<i>Home insurance</i>	45
<i>Trade unions</i>	45
<i>Gender equality, equal treatment, and diversity in Swedish academia</i>	46
<b>6. Language</b>	<b>48</b>
<i>The use of Swedish at universities</i>	49
<i>Learning Swedish</i>	49
STRATEGIES TO UNDERSTAND SWEDISH ACADEMIA	50
<b>Glossary of Swedish words and abbreviations</b>	<b>51</b>

## Chapter 4: External funding

- Funding agencies and grant schemes
- Budget issues and indirect costs
- Ethical review
- Some practical information and advice



*Sweden has a diverse landscape of public and private funders, which provides a lot of different opportunities, but might also be difficult for newcomers to navigate. It is a good idea to map out the variety of grant schemes early in the process, don't forget to consult with the department head, and let other researchers comment on your proposal.*


## Chapter 5: Rights, benefits and practical information

An overview of employee rights and benefits in Swedish academia, such as:

- salary
- social insurance
- family support
- and gender equality
- and some practical information

Also:

- Visa and residence permits
- Personal identity number
- E-identification and bank account



Get hold of the  
'magic number'  
as soon as possible.

## Chapter 6: Language

This chapter discusses issues such as:

- The use of Swedish at universities
- How to learn Swedish

And shares some strategies to understand Swedish academia, for example:

”I learned a lot in the kitchen”



# Thank you!

Philippe Tassin & Mia Liinason  
info@sverigesungaakademi.se

<https://sverigesungaakademi.se>  
Twitter: @Ungaakademin