

# MID SWEDEN UNIVERSITY

DEVELOPS AND  
FULFILLS OPPORTUNITIES



Mittuniversitetet  
MID SWEDEN UNIVERSITY



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# WE DISCOVER AND REALIZE NEW KNOWLEDGE

**Mid Sweden University is a place where people can meet, be inspired and think in new ways. Here, you will find teachers, researchers and motivated students who are a great asset for the surrounding world.**

Several of the study programmes and courses offered at Mid Sweden University are unique in Sweden and many of them have a great number of applicants. One of Mid Sweden University's characteristics is our focus on e-learning and distance education, which makes higher education a possibility for more people.

Research and collaboration with trade and industry and different organizations are important parts of our activities, as it provides our students with an education close to reality and valuable placements. At the same time, companies and organizations are provided with the latest research and are able to recruit highly qualified personnel.

Research at Mid Sweden University keeps developing positively. It shows when you look at the international standard of more and more of our research environments, the increasing share of external funding and the fact that we take up more and more space as a partner in different innovation environments. Active work within our research profile areas is natural to us – Forest as a resource, Industrial IT, Health, Sports science and Sports technology, and Tourism and adventure. In addition, research activities in other areas are developing in a positive way.

With a wide range of study programmes and courses and exciting research, we can and want to be a resource for the surrounding world. An important part of our success is our systematic quality work to create an activity based on proximity, benefits and curiosity. Here, a flow of new knowledge and new talents is created, giving the society opportunities to develop and people the opportunity to grow.

Mid Sweden University in April 2014  
*Anders Söderholm, Vice-Chancellor*



# A WIDE RANGE WITH A NUMBER OF COURSES AND PROGRAMMES IN ENGLISH

**Mid Sweden University offers programmes at both Bachelor's and Master's level, together with a large number of courses taught completely in English. In total, Mid Sweden University counts 15 000 students and nearly half of them are distance education students.**

## INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES

The international programmes in English offered at Mid Sweden University are both at Bachelor's and Master's level in the areas of Natural Sciences, IT and Media, Engineering and Social Sciences. A strong connection with the latest research makes it possible to continuously use the newest and most popular theories in the lessons. On top of that, the choice to study in Mid Sweden also gives you the opportunity to enjoy some of the best outdoor activities Europe has to offer. Students who are citizens of countries outside the European Union (EU), the European Economic Area (EEA) and Switzerland are required to pay a tuition fee for studies in Sweden.

## EXCHANGE STUDIES

Exchange studies are offered within the framework of an exchange agreement for a maximum of two semesters. The length of the exchange period is determined by the agreement between Mid Sweden University and the students' home university.

Exchange students are offered courses and programmes at Bachelor's and Master's level in all the fields of education at

Mid Sweden University, such as Humanities, Social Sciences, IT and Media, Engineering, Natural Sciences, Education and Health Sciences. Exchange students can choose to study a part of a Bachelor's or Master's programme, or choose from a number of single courses taught completely in English.

## OUR CAMPUSES

Campus Härnösand is the smallest of Mid Sweden University's campuses with about 1 700 students. By 2016, the education and research in Härnösand will be moved to Sundsvall. The fields of study in Härnösand are Teacher Education, Humanities, Behavioural and Natural Sciences and Archive and Information Sciences.

Härnösand is surrounded by beautiful scenery. The city offers a rich cultural and recreational life. Among other things, there is the large library "Sambiblioteket", which constitutes the centre of Campus Härnösand.

Natural Sciences, Technology and Media are the primary fields of study at Campus Sundsvall. Programmes and courses within Engineering, Social Sciences and Nursing are also given here. There are about 3 000 students at Campus Sundsvall. Sundsvall is a well-reputed student city, in which the municipality, the university and also trade and industry prioritize the students. No less than four times since year 2000, Sundsvall has been voted the most student-friendly municipality in Sweden.



**MID SWEDEN UNIVERSITY OFFERS STUDY PROGRAMMES  
AND COURSES IN THE FIELDS OF**

- Behavioural sciences
- Engineering and Sustainable Development
- Health Sciences
- Humanities
- Information Technology and Media
- Natural Sciences, Engineering and Mathematics
- Social Sciences
- Teacher education

Campus Östersund is characterized primarily by study programmes and courses in Social Sciences, Natural Sciences and Technology. Programmes and courses are offered in for example Tourism, Psychology, Business, Ecotechnology, Nursing and Sports. There are about 3 000 students at Campus Östersund.

Östersund is Sweden's most prominent "winter city". The short distance to the mountains and the country's most famous downhill centre, Åre, are the reason why many students choose Campus Östersund.

### MANY DISTANCE EDUCATION STUDENTS

Nearly 50 per cent of our Swedish students are distance education students. With the help of new technology and pedagogical development, Mid Sweden University has the ambition to be Sweden's top university within e-learning. International students usually study at one of our three campuses. Learning Resource Centre, LRC, offers support for both e-learning and campus-based education.

### EDUCATION IN CLOSE COLLABORATION WITH WORKING LIFE

Mid Sweden University's aim is to provide education with a close connection to working life. This is made possible with the help from guest lecturers, mentors from different companies, internships and in-house degree projects. In addition, we work with so-called competence agreements (Swedish: Kompetenskontraktet), a method for developing long-term and strategic cooperation partners for degree projects, internships and work. There are currently 30 signed competence agreements. There will be more signed agreements in the near future.

## KEY RATIOS FIRST-CYCLE EDUCATION

Volume	2011	2012	2013
Total number of FTE*	8 492	7 743	7 082
Total number of APE**	6 547	6 088	5 899
Percentage of FTE, programmes	60%	64%	69%
<b>International student exchange, number of persons</b>			
Outgoing students	101	104	104
Incoming students	955	639	520
<b>Throughput</b>			
Education at campus	89%	89%	93%
Distance education	65%	68%	72%
Total	77%	79%	83%
<b>Students</b>			
Number of enrolled students	19 594	17 836	15 009
Proportion of men %, total	38%	37%	38%
<b>Age distribution, percentage of FTE</b>			
–24 years	41%	43%	43%
25–34 years	39%	38%	39%
35 years–	20%	19%	18%

\* Full-time equivalent, FTE: The number of students enrolled in a course multiplied by the course's point total during a certain period divided by 60, i.e. the number of students if they all studied full-time.

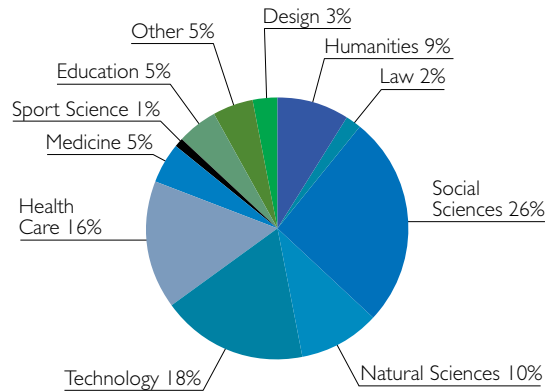
\*\* Annual performance equivalent, APE: Total accumulated points from a course/sub-course during a certain period divided by 60.

## NUMBER OF FULL-TIME STUDENTS (FTE) PER CAMPUS AND PERCENTAGE OF FTE WHO WERE DISTANCE STUDENTS 2013

	Total number of FTE* 2012	Of which distance students	Percentage of FTE who were distance students 2013
Härnösand	1 621	1 511	93%
Sundsvall	2 562	899	35%
Östersund	2 717	907	33%
Other locations	181	24	13%
	<b>7 082</b>	<b>3 341*</b>	
Distance students		47%	

\* of which 1 917 FTE were completely web-based courses

## FULL-TIME STUDENTS BY SUBJECT AREA 2013



Mid Sweden University offers a wide range of international programmes. This way, international students can study, meet new inspiring people and experience a different culture and environment at the same time, all within a short distance from our forests and mountains.



# BENEFIT FROM HIGH QUALITY RESEARCH

## **Proximity, benefit and curiosity are the most relevant keywords for the research at Mid Sweden University.**

The driving force of our research is curiosity – to develop new knowledge and to solve complicated problems. Our starting point is that all research should be of excellent scientific quality. In addition, we want the society to benefit from our research, which should be accessible and close to the surrounding world.

Mid Sweden University conducts and utilizes a great part of this research in direct collaboration with external, regional, national and international partners. The connection to the first-cycle education and research is important in order to be able to offer programmes and courses based on current scientific discoveries and issues.

Both subject research and profile area research are conducted at Mid Sweden University. During 2013, all research was assessed for the very first time by international expert panels. The assessment shows that several research environments are of a high standard and it also illustrates research results.

## **FOUR STRONG RESEARCH AREAS**

Research within our profile areas is often interdisciplinary, with researchers from different subjects and areas working together, often in cooperation with leading external partners. This often leads to groundbreaking results that contribute to development and growth.

The core of the research at Mid Sweden University is four strong profile areas. A research centre is linked to each profile area.

- Forest as a Resource (research centre FSCN)
- Industrial Information Technology and Digital Services (research centre STC)
- Health, Sports Science and Sports Technology (research centre SWSRC)
- Tourism and Adventure (research centre ETOUR)

## **FIVE ADDITIONAL CENTRAL RESEARCH AREAS**

Mid Sweden University has got five additional high-quality research areas where different subjects collaborate. There are research centres linked to some of them.

- Banks, Insurances, Pension (research centre CER)
- Media and Communication (research centre DEMICOM)
- Crisis and Risk (research centre RCR)
- Learning, Education and Cultural Heritage
- Entrepreneurship and Business Development

Mid Sweden University also conducts broad, high-quality subject research. This is the basis for both education and profile area research. It is also a condition for competence development and provision, and for developing new knowledge.



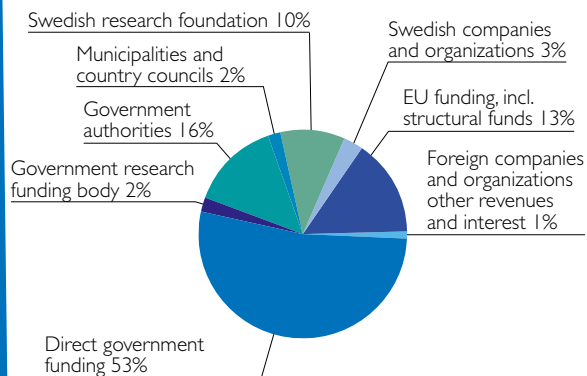
## KEY RATIOS RESEARCH AND DOCTORAL STUDIES

	2011	2012	2013
Professors (person years)	70	72	75
Percentage of teachers awarded PhDs	57%	58%	60%
Number of PhD students	242	243	216

### Degrees

Awarded doctorates	24	14	39
Awarded licentiates	17	21	15

## FUNDING RESEARCH IN 2013 PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL REVENUE OF 371 SEK MILLION



### MID SWEDEN UNIVERSITY OFFERS THIRD-CYCLE PROGRAMMES AND COURSES IN THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS :

Biology	History
Business Administration	Mathematics
Chemistry	Media and Communication Science
Chemical Engineering	Nursing Sciences
Computer and System Sciences	Political Science
Ecotechnology and Environmental Science	Psychology
Education	Social Work
Electronics	Sociology
Engineering Physics	Sports and Quality Technology
English	Subject Didactics
Health Science	Tourism Studies



# RESEARCH CENTRES – HIGH QUALITY RESEARCH

**The research centres are the centres for high quality research in the profile areas and some other research areas, but they also serve as a platform for collaboration with financiers and other interested parties. At present, there are seven research centres at Mid Sweden University.**

## **FIBRE SCIENCE AND COMMUNICATION NETWORK, FSCN**

FSCN organizes research at Mid Sweden University connected to developing value within the forest industry and related industries. The research is used more and more within other areas to reduce the environmental effect and to develop new fibre materials, natural polymers and biomass fuels. A new main research area is research for augmented functionality in new sustainable products and services. The research integrates paper technology with chemistry, material physics, design and electronics in cooperation with STC. The research focuses on renewable energy systems and composites with extended functionalities and results in many spin-off companies which contribute to the regional industrial ecosystem.

## **SENSIBLE THINGS THAT COMMUNICATE, STC**

Sensible Things that Communicate develops sensor-based systems and services within electronics and computer technology, focusing on industrial IT. This means innovative research that ranges from the development of new sensors to streamline

industrial processes to sensor-based services to establish new customer relations. All of STC's research is conducted in cooperation with companies. Large companies with their own research budget turn to STC for help, but also smaller companies with specific wishes or problems that need to be solved.

## **SWEDISH WINTER SPORTS RESEARCH CENTRE, SWSRC**

The Swedish Winter Sports Research Centre is a multidisciplinary Sports science research centre with extensive international R&D cooperation as well as close collaboration with leading actors of the sport and outdoor sector. Within SWSRC, there are two main research areas: high performance sports, where SWSRC is world-leading today in the field of cross-country skiing research, as well as the area of physical activity and health promotion. The development work is performed in close collaboration with the Swedish Olympic Committee and various sports associations. One of SWSRC's aims is to use the gained knowledge of high performance sports also in the health area. SWSRC is a national Olympic platform for education and testing. Within the framework of SWSRC, there is also a developing unit for the prevention and rehabilitation of sports injuries.

## **EUROPEAN TOURISM RESEARCH INSTITUTE, ETOUR**

The tourism research institute, ETOUR, develops and communicates scientific knowledge about tourism. Research is conducted



within several, strategically prioritized areas that are based on the demand for knowledge in society as well as trade and industry. One area is *nature-based tourism*, which focuses on outdoor life and sustainable tourism development. Other areas are *digital destinations*, which focuses on the challenges of the information society, opportunities and effects for the tourism industry from a management and marketing perspective, and *destination development*, which focuses on the development of locations and regions to be attractive tourist destinations. There is also research on events, working life within the field of tourism and popular culture tourism at ETOUR.

### **CENTRE FOR STUDIES OF DEMOCRACY AND COMMUNICATION, DEMICOM**

The research of DEMICOM in the field of Media and communication science includes several areas. The research is conducted in research networks and within three fields: Media development, Communication within organizations and Political communication. The three fields are united by their focus on relationships between democracy and communication and their conditions in a changing society.

### **CENTRE FOR RESEARCH ON ECONOMIC RELATIONS, CER**

CER conducts research on the economic long-term relations of companies and individuals, publishes the results, initiates meeting points and arranges conferences for professionals, researchers and students. The areas banks, property, insurances, pension and audit, together with their suppliers and customers, make up the core of the activities. An important part of the activities take place within a network with representatives from all five areas and the university.

### **RISK AND CRISIS RESEARCH CENTRE, RCR**

The Risk and Crisis Research Centre gathers researchers from nine different disciplines that develop and communicate knowledge of risk, crisis and security. The centre's activities include research, education and collaboration. Through RCR, you have a unique opportunity to access research results on how risk is perceived and assessed and how crises are managed, all for the benefit of society.



# PROXIMITY TO NEW KNOWLEDGE THROUGH EXTERNAL RELATIONS

**To cooperate with trade and industry is a way of developing the programmes, courses and research of the university. The aim of the university is to create external relations from which both society and individuals can benefit.**

External relations contribute to a two-way knowledge transfer. An increased knowledge among parties outside of the university about ongoing projects and research activities is a good basis for further cooperation. An important part of the collaboration is increased labour market links in our study programmes, a prioritized area in the Mid Sweden University education strategy. This creates opportunities for placements, degree projects and summer jobs for students.

Mid Sweden University cooperates with the surrounding world in many different ways and on different levels within the organization, in education and research, on an overall level and in single courses or research groups.

In the case of education, there is collaboration by means of support groups for the programmes, field studies, study visits, placements, individual projects or degree projects. Teachers and students take part in networks and conferences together with representatives from companies and organizations.

Most of the research projects are carried out in collaboration with trade and industry, authorities and organizations. The research centres are a concrete example of platforms for collaboration.

## INNOVATION SUPPORT

MIUN Innovation supports students and researchers in starting their own businesses and making contact with trade and industry. Since the beginning in 2009, MIUN Innovation has helped developing and starting up more than 70 businesses. A far greater number of persons have been coached and almost 5 000 persons have taken part in different activities. In addition to the coaching activities, MIUN Innovation also develops methods for enterprise learning to be used in the courses and programmes at Mid Sweden University.

MIUN Innovation also coordinates Mid Sweden Innovation Network, which is a cooperation between around fifteen innovation partners with the aim to support students, researchers and other citizens in starting and developing business. In addition, together with Karlstad University, Linnaeus University and Örebro University, Mid Sweden University forms the innovation office Fyrklövern.

Fyrklövern is also responsible for the Mid Sweden University idea bank, a bank to facilitate the utilization of the research results of the researchers. The idea bank uses Easy Access IP and through this method, a researcher who does not want to commercialize his or her research results can transfer them by means of a specific process and simple license agreements.

The Mid Sweden University holding company, MIUN Holding AB, increases the possibilities for our researchers to commercialize their research results by offering them financial support.



# THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY – THE HUB OF THE CAMPUS

**Mid Sweden University has its own library in Sundsvall and Östersund. In Härnösand, the University Library is a part of the library Sambiblioteket together with the municipality of Härnösand and the Library of the County of Västernorrland until 2016. The libraries of the university offer service both to students, employees and the public.**

The use of the campus libraries is still frequent and the libraries are the hubs of the campuses. The use of digital media has increased significantly, which corresponds to the efforts of the university to develop the digital range and to stimulate teachers and students to use e-media.

The library uses PDA, Patron Driven Acquisition. This method gives the users of the library greater influence. A large number of e-books are made available to the users. Books are bought and incorporated into the collections when certain criteria are met, for instance when they have been borrowed at least three times. PDA is an economically effective way to be able to offer a larger media range than what would otherwise be possible.

The libraries offer education and workshops for students on a regular basis with the aim to provide the students with enough information competence to be able to complete their independent projects.

An important development area to the library is supporting the increasing area of research. This means support regarding matters such as contributing to the registration of a publication with bibliographical completeness and performing bibliometric analyses and analysing its frequency of publication and its impact. The library also works for and supports methods of publishing allowing open access.

## **LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE SUPPORTS TEACHERS AND STUDENTS**

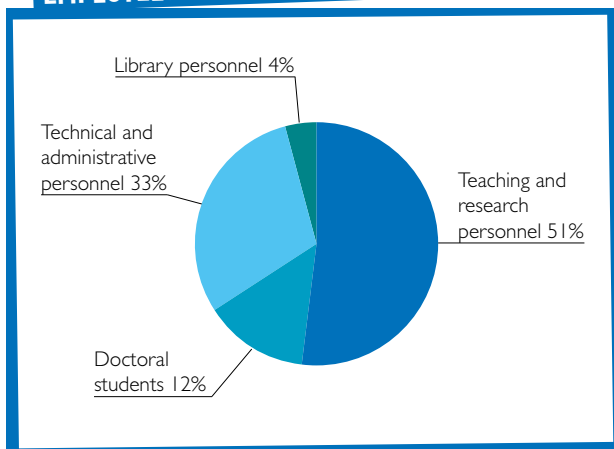
Learning Resource Centre, LRC, is organized as a unit of the University Library. LRC's assignment is to coordinate and develop the support for teachers and students of the university and LRC does this by improving the use of new media and new technology within the field of e-learning. The activities of the LRC are coordinated in line with the university's overall education strategy for e-learning.

Each campus has an LRC coordinator. In addition, there are also student mentors who help the students with simpler IT matters and with the use of different software. The aim is to relieve the pressure on the teachers and help the students perform better.





**EMPLOYEES IN 2013 BY POSITION**



**FINANCES AND PERSONNEL**

	2011	2012	2013
<b>Finances</b>			
Balance sheet total, SEK million	909	927	932
of which undergraduate education	558	556	561
of which research	352	371	371
<b>Personnel</b>			
Number of employees (persons)	1 125	1 070	1 063
of which women	54%	54%	54%





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