

## SIREUS Affiliation of Companies

**SIREUS (Students, Innovators, Researchers and Entrepreneurs between the US and Sweden)**, is a collaboration project between The Swedish American Chambers of Commerce (SACC-USA) and currently 13 Swedish universities, focused on knowledge exchange in innovation, science, and entrepreneurship, as well as talent mobility for students and researchers between Sweden and the U.S.

With increased global competition and an accelerating pace of innovation, it is valuable to stay close to and exchange knowledge and insights of the latest research within key technology areas. Attracting skilled talent is fundamental to securing long-term economic growth. Conversely, the lack of relevant skills is one of the biggest obstacles to growth. A skilled workforce can be achieved through domestic education, by attracting foreign talent, or by individuals having studied abroad or gained knowledge through internships or other exchange programs in other companies and countries.

The SIREUS project is supported by the Embassy of Sweden in Washington, DC and the Swedish Institute. It builds on SACC-USA's bilateral business and talent network and addresses needs identified in collaboration with the Swedish universities.

As SIREUS has gained notability within academic circles, the collaboration is now aiming further and is launching the SIREUS Affiliation of Companies program.

In the context of SIREUS, the SIREUS Affiliation of Companies refers to a strategic network of companies that are interested in participating and collaborating in high-end research collaborations and offering internships to Swedish students and researchers. The aim of the SIREUS Affiliation of Companies program is to build strategic industry partnerships between academia and industry within the advanced research landscape and foster increased talent mobility between Sweden and the U.S.

Overall, the SIREUS Affiliation of Companies program acts as a catalyst, bringing together companies and Swedish universities to foster knowledge exchange, talent mobility, and innovation. It creates a win-win situation for all parties involved and promotes a dynamic ecosystem of academic-industry collaboration between Sweden and the U.S.

SIREUS facilitates collaborative partnerships with a carefully selected group of companies. These companies are aligned with SIREUS' objectives and have a keen interest in engaging with Swedish universities for knowledge exchange and talent development. To leverage the SACC network, the targeted companies for the SIREUS Affiliation of Companies will primarily be SACC members.

As affiliated companies, members will have the opportunity to participate in strategic academic initiatives primarily with Swedish universities as well as members of the SIREUS Affiliation of American Universities.

The initiative can potentially evolve multiple partnerships between Sweden, the U.S., and EU projects. The members will get first-hand information about, and the possibility of participating in programs, events, and initiatives with Swedish academia. There will be opportunities for members to participate in workshops and academic delegations in the U.S. and in Sweden. Members are encouraged to engage in bilateral cooperation agreements and activities with Swedish universities.

Companies desiring to work with the SIREUS University Members and SIREUS Affiliation of American Universities are eligible to apply for membership in the affiliation. To qualify for membership the company should be willing and able to:

- explore possibilities of internships and research exchange.
- potentially host a workshop for Swedish universities exploring mutual beneficial opportunities.
- explore possibilities of exchange of research management best practices and foster lessons learned.
- give lectures at universities about applied research and gained experiences in research projects.
- be engaged in and supportive of the overall SIREUS project objectives.

Membership of the SIREUS Affiliation of Companies is free of charge and is governed by a Memorandum of Understanding between SIREUS and the company.

The value proposition for membership is:

- Opportunity to gain access to cutting-edge research initiatives within academia.
- Opportunity for joint research projects, access specialized resources, and benefit from exchange of research management best practices and foster lessons learned.
- Opportunity to be identified as an attractive employer for young professionals and can offer internships and first employment positions to high-performing students in their early careers.
- Possibility to partake in an ecosystem which fosters research, innovation, entrepreneurship and new ideas, leading to potential commercialization of research outcome and startup initiatives.
- Exposure to cultural exchange of knowledge, ideas, and best practices to enhance the diversity of perspectives and approaches in research and business innovation.

The Affiliates will consist of designated representatives of every affiliated member of the company and shall meet in virtual session at least twice a year.

The members of the Affiliates agree to:

- Attend the twice-yearly virtual meetings.
- Facilitate active participation by their organization and representatives in supporting SIREUS' overall objectives and activities in which they believe they can make a positive contribution to collective success.
- Pursue transparency and sharing of experience that will facilitate progress toward common goals and promulgation of best practices for collective knowledge and research success.
- Be prepared to enter formal, written affiliation and program agreements with a Swedish University and/or American University for internships, mutual research projects and/or professional development activities detailing the specific commitments and obligations of each party.
- Explore the possibilities of certain subject matter experts to give lectures to the other party.
- Comply with any applicable United States export control laws and regulations.

The Affiliates in conjunction with the SIREUS University Members and the SIREUS Affiliation of American Universities may establish such other working groups, committees, or task forces as mutually agreed.

The SIREUS Program Director will be responsible for assisting the affiliated members in the facilitation of the work of the Affiliation.

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The Swedish participating universities are Chalmers University of Technology, University of Gothenburg, Jönköping University, Karolinska Institute, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Linköping University, Linnaeus University, Lund University, Luleå University of Technology, Mid Sweden University, Mälardalen University, and Uppsala University. The project is spearheaded by the Swedish-American Chambers of Commerce of the USA with 20 offices: 2,500 members, 200 events annually, partnerships, and talent networks across the US.

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