



## SIREUS TEXAS INNOVATION TOUR

### FEBRUARY 5-9, 2024 IN TEXAS, USA

On February 5-9th SIREUS will host the SIREUS Innovation Tour in Texas. SIREUS, a collaboration project between The Swedish American Chambers of Commerce (SACC-USA), 11 Swedish universities, and the Swedish Embassy of Washington, D.C., focuses on knowledge exchange in innovation, science, and entrepreneurship, as well as talent mobility for students and researchers between Sweden and the U.S. The SIREUS Innovation Tour in Texas has a delegation of representatives from the Innovation Offices of 7 of the largest Swedish universities. As Texas has undergone an impressive transformation by recognizing the need to diversify its economy and explore new areas of innovation, it is the perfect place for SIREUS to reach its goal of identifying opportunities for knowledge exchange and joint projects between Sweden and Texas, nurturing international innovation partnerships.

The intended goal for the Innovation Tour is to meet up with universities in Texas and their innovation offices to learn more about how they work with the innovation process, and an introduction to how to take an idea to market, especially with research insights of a deep tech nature.

#### Representatives from Sweden

- [Marita Holst](#)

Marita Holst is the Head of Unit for the Collaboration and Innovation division at Luleå University of Technology. The unit supports the university's collaboration and innovation through a number of strategic initiatives, collaborative projects, and business consulting for students and employees. The unit is also responsible for Professional education and lifelong learning, student recruitment, career planning for students, and alumni relations.



- [Thomas Rundqvist](#)

Thomas Rundqvist is a Business Developer at Lund University Innovation with a background in running a company, both as a shareholder and employee. He has experience in sectors and industries including manufacturing, cleantech, plastic and composite materials, power electronics, construction, and real estate. As a Business Developer, Thomas works with ideas from all sorts of areas. Additionally, his tasks include finding the potential in early projects and bringing them toward the market in the best way possible, as well as having an early customer focus.



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- Sten Wigert

Sten Wigert works as an innovation adviser at the Mid Sweden University where he supports new ideas that grow from research. Sten has a background of running his own consulting firm where he has driven different business and innovation promoting services that range from prestudies and guidance to IPR. Innovation and entrepreneurship is a big area of interest for Sten which has led him to engage in topics about improving the possibilities for people to develop their ideas.



- Heini Karlström

Heini Karlström is Head of Innovation Office Idélab at Mälardalen University (MDU). Idélab is the innovation office of Mälardalen University. Idélab supports students, researchers, and employees at MDU who want to develop new ideas or create research impact. As the Head of this department, Heini is a part of supporting people wanting their ideas to develop.



- Ivo Todorov

Ivo Todorov is an innovations adviser at Stockholm University and works with providing support for researchers at Stockholm University who are in the development of innovative ideas and solutions that address societal challenges. With his academic background as an experimental cognitive psychologist, Ivo's primary focus is on the fields of social sciences and the humanities.



- Malin Graffner Nordeberg

Malin Graffner Nordeberg is the Head of Division at Uppsala University Innovation (UU Innovation). UU Innovation's mission is to help translate research-based knowledge into new, practical solutions that create value for people and society. UU Innovation provides support in all areas relevant to developing ideas or research results into new methods, services, or products that can solve current or future needs, and as the head of the department, she is a part of helping researchers work to reach society.



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- Christer Bergman

Christer Bergman is currently the program director for SIREUS and has been a member of the board of the International Biometrics and Identification Association (IBIA) for many years as well as a very active member of the board of the Swedish-American Chamber of Commerce, SACC-DC and SACC-USA. Christer is the founder of Novexus and has throughout his career held numerous executive positions in the high-tech industries in the U.S. and Europe.



### The Universities

- Luleå University of Technology

Luleå University of Technology is in strong growth with world-leading competence in several research areas. The university shapes the future through innovative education and ground-breaking research results, and based on the Arctic region they work on creating global social benefits. The university's scientific and artistic research and education are conducted in close collaboration with international, national and regional companies, public actors and leading universities.

- Lunds University

Lund University offers one of the broadest ranges of programs and courses in Scandinavia, based on cross-disciplinary and cutting-edge research. The unique disciplinary range encourages boundary-crossing collaborations both within academia and with society at large, creating excellent conditions for scientific breakthroughs and innovations. The University has a strong international profile, with partner universities in some 75 countries.

- Mid Sweden University

Mid Sweden University has a lot of competence, and motivated students, both from Sweden and from other countries. The university is one of the leading ones in Sweden in terms of distance education with cutting-edge research in several areas. Close collaboration with working life and extensive external relations help to stay dedicated and innovative. This is important for the university's development, both nationally and internationally. Mid Sweden's close cooperation with trade and industry and organizations provides students with education that has a connection to working life. It also generates new jobs as companies and organizations have access to new research and the opportunity to recruit the right competence.



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- Mälardalen University

At Mälardalen University research is carried out in many disciplinary domains to solve problems in society, whereby research in Future Energy and Embedded Systems is internationally prominent. Mälardalen University enjoys a close collaboration with the private and public sectors, which contributes towards the better health of people and a more sustainable planet. Mälardalen University's research is conducted in six research specializations that promote knowledge and development, for Swedish industry and peoples' welfare, but also for solving the many challenges facing society.

- Stockholm University

Stockholm University offers a wide range of education in close interaction with research. Collaboration helps make Stockholm University's expertise and results accessible and promotes quality in education and life-long learning. Stockholm University has a broad collaboration with the society. Through cooperation with other universities and collaborations with cultural, business and public institutions, Stockholm University contributes to the development of society. Collaboration also fosters new ideas in education and research.

- Uppsala University

Uppsala University's mission is to pursue top-quality research and education and to interact constructively with society, thus contributing to a better world. The university rests on the idea and fundamental belief that investments in education and research contribute to a better future. The ultimate goal is for research and education to make a difference in society in the long term.

Alongside its development goals, Uppsala University is actively seeking to advance the general conditions for education and research of the highest quality and relevance.



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