



Newsletter from the research area
CHILD, based at Jönköping University

#1 2010



Photo: Karin Enskär
Friday January 15th

CHILD Agenda

January 29th 1pm-3pm

Anne Lillvist is defending her doctoral thesis, lecture room Omega at Mälardalen University in Västerås

February 4th 1pm-3pm

Jönköping CHILD meeting, lecture room Ha208, School of Education and Communication

February 18th 1pm-3pm

Jönköping CHILD meeting, Lecture room Gc509, School of Health Sciences

February 26th

Mälardalen CHILD meeting

March 4th 1pm-3pm

Jönköping CHILD meeting, lecture room Ha208, School of Education and Communication

March 18th 1pm-3pm

Jönköping CHILD meeting, Lecture room Gc509, School of Health Sciences

March 26th

Mälardalen CHILD meeting

April 19th - 23rd

Barndagarna, Elmia

How can children receive the best possible support when encountering problems in school?

How can children receive the best possible support when encountering problems in school? Of course, there is no easy answer to this question. In school practice, the child is most often considered to be the locus of the problem (the so called deficiency approach). However, it might be fruitful to reconsider this traditional way to understand problems with learning and behavior in school. Maybe we should reframe the question and ask ourselves how we can avoid that children encounter problems in the first place? And if problems emerge, despite the best efforts to prevent them, maybe we should ask ourselves how the school could change its practices in order to support the child in the best way? In two large research projects a) In the margins of democracy – a project about children in problematic school situations (year 2006-2010) and b) Charter school's work with children in need of special support (2009-2012) (both financed by the Swedish Research Council) we are investigating how school problems are defined and handled at several levels of the educational system. Each project involve different studies involving a range of methods from large-scale questionnaires to analysis of child poems. We have been particularly interested in finding and analyzing challenges to the traditional deficiency approach which, according to prior research, is well-established in Swedish schools.



/Claes Nilholm

Claes Nilholm is one out of five professors within CHILD. He is based at School of Education and Communication in Jönköping. (Photo: Carl-Johan Svensson)

This was CHILD 2009

April 29th
Mälardalen CHILD meeting

April 29th 1pm-3pm
Jönköping CHILD meeting,
lecture room Ha208, School
of Education and
Communication



Tobias Edbom
has successfully
defended his
doctoral thesis



Photo from
www.skolporten.com

Tobias Edbom, CHILD
doctoral student, defended
his Doctoral Thesis with the
title "Self-esteem, sense of
coherence and attention
deficit hyperactivity disorder
: A longitudinal study from
childhood to adulthood" at
Karolinska Institutet on
Friday November 13th
2009.

[Download or order Tobias
Edbom's Doctoral thesis
here.](#)



The researchers in CHILD gathered in Vadstena in December 2009 to summarize the year and plan 2010. 2009 was a very productive year for CHILD. See the list below;

Published articles in international refereed journals: 28
Accepted articles in international refereed journals: 7
Scientific reports in Swedish: 5
Book chapters in edited international books: 3
Swedish books and book chapters: 2
Popular scientific: 6
Presentations: 31
Theses: 3
Part time seminars and final seminars: 6
Awards: 3

[Download the complete list as PDF here.](#)

Margareta Adolfsson reporting from UNC Chapel Hill - for the last time



Margareta Adolfsson is now back at School of Education and Communication after spending a semester as GEDS student at UNC Chapel Hill.

Click on "[Läs](#)" to read Margareta Adolfsson's last report from UNC Chapel Hill. It was written a few weeks ago and she is now back in Sweden.

UNC Chapel Hill has also acknowledged Margareta Adolfsson and the GED program in an article. Read the article [here](#).

Are you also interested in participating in the GEDS program. Don't hesitate to contact [Ida Serneberg](#).

[Läs](#)

Mats Granlund participated in IHV-dagen

You may also read an article about Tobias Edbom at Skolporten [here](#).

Anne Lillvist is defending her doctoral thesis



Anne Lillvist is defending her doctoral thesis in Psychology on January 29th at 1pm til 3 pm in lecture room Omega at Mälardalen University in Västerås. The title is "The applicability of a functional approach to social competence in preschool children in need of special support". Mikael Heimann, Professor, Linköpings universitet is opponent.

The project "**Språk och förskola**" now **blogging**



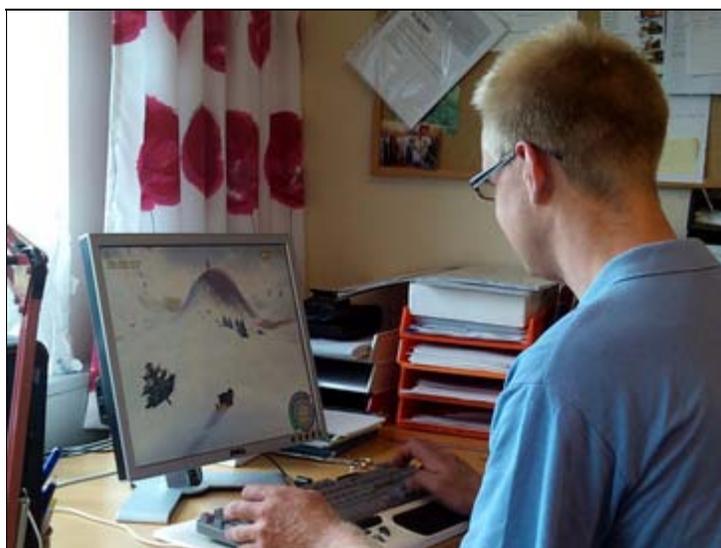
The researchers in the project "Språk och förskola" are now blogging. [Click on the link to follow their project.](#)

Planning work is



Mats Granlund gave an introduction to CHILD and its research at *IHV-dagen* at Linköping University in November 2009. To download all the presentations, including Mats's from this day, follow the link to [Linköping University webpage](#).

Stefan Nilsson is half way through his Ph.D.



Stefan Nilsson recently went through his part time. His research project focuses on how pain, distress, anxiety and fear can be reduced within procedures in child and youth care. Nilsson has studied non-pharmalogical methods, such as Virtual Reality and music. These cheap, simple methods, which have been little used and poorly evaluated.

Within his project one article has been published and two have been accepted: "The use of Virtual Reality for needle-related procedural pain and distress in children and adolescents in a paediatric oncology unit" was published in *European Journal of Oncology Nursing*, 13(2), "School-aged children's experiences of postoperative music medicine on pain, distress and anxiety." was accepted in *Pediatric Anesthesia* and "Music therapy to reduce

important for students with Aspergers



Marita Falkmer, CHILD doctoral student at School of Education and Communication, has recently published a chapter in a new report from the Swedish National Agency for Education (*Skolverket*).

[Read more about the report on Swedish National Agency for Education webpage](#)

Margareta's advice



[Click here to find a link to External Writing Resources from the Writing Center at UNC-CH.](#)

You will find a series of handouts on a variety of writing issues, for example conclusions, quotations, abstracts, and writing for specific fields.

In the 6th edition of the APA Manual there are errors. [Therefore a detailed corrections](#)

Tell Us If You Have Pain



pain and anxiety in children with cancer undergoing lumbar puncture – a randomised clinical trial.", was recently accepted in *Journal of Pediatric Oncology Nursing*.

Newly accepted and published articles within CHILD

- Jenny Wilder recently finished her publication "*Barnperspektiv i LSS-handläggning: en förstudie med fokus på arbetssätt och utvecklingsbehov. Artikelnummer: 2009-12-26*" at National board of health and welfare (*Socialstyrelsen*). [You can download the publication as PDF here.](#)
- Gunnel Janeslätt, Mats Granlund, Anders Kottorp and Lena Almqvist recently got their article "Patterns of Time Processing Ability in Children with and without Developmental Disabilities" published in *Journal of Applied Research in Intellectual Disabilities* 2009. [You can download the article as PDF here.](#)
- Elisabeth Ericsson has got her article "Validering av OSA-18 på en svensk barnpopulation" published in *Svensk ÖNH-Tidskrift*, 16(4), 16-19
- There was an article in "*Vi föräldrar*" about Gunnel Janeslätt and her research. [You can read the article here.](#)
- Anette Sandberg, Martina Norling and Anne Lillvist recently got their article "Teachers? View of Educational Support to Children in Need of Special Support" published in *Teachers' view of educational support*, 102. [You can download the article as PDF here.](#)
- Agentia Luttrupp and Mats Grandlund have got their article "Interaction - it depends - A comparative study of interaction in preschools between children with intellectual disability and children with typical development" accepted in *Scandinavian Journal of Disability Research (SJDR)*.
- Elisabeth Ericsson, I Lundeborg and E Hultcrantz have got their article "Child Behavior and Quality of Life Before and After Tonsillotomy versus Tonsillectomy" published in *International Journal of Pediatric Otorhinolaryngology* 73(9)1254-1262
- I Lundeborg I, A McAllister, Samuelsson, Elisabeth Ericsson, J Graf and E Hultcrantz have got their artciler "Phonological Development in Children with Obstructive Sleep Disordered Breathing" published in *Clinical Linguistics & Phonetics*.oct 23(10):751-61
- I Lundeborg I, A McAllister, J Graf, Elisabeth Ericsson, E Hultcrantz have got their article "Oral Motor Dysfunction in

summary has been produced, which you may find if you click here.

Hard to publish articles?



Photo: Karin Enskär

Click on the link to get some advice when publishing an article...

CHILD's forskare i fokus now updated

The page "[CHILD's forskare i fokus](#)" is now updated. You will now find lots of interesting links about some of our researchers.

I am a curious person, Adolfsson says



UNC Chapel Hill, where Margareta Adolfsson was based during fall semester 2009 has acknowledged the GEDS program. [Read the whole article about Margareta Adolfsson and GEDS at UNC webpage.](#)

Editorial information

External Newsletter #2 will be release around February 18th. Please send your

Children with Obstructive Sleep-Disordered Breathing: Effects of Two Types of Surgery" published in Logopedics Phoniatrics Vocology jun 28:1-6

- Claes Nilholm have got his debate article "*Specialpedagogik - på gott och ont?*" published in *Att undervisa: specialpedagogisk tidskrift*, ISSN 0345-0384.
-

New fundings and awards received within CHILD

- Karin Enskär was recently awarded 400 000 SEK a year for 2 years for her project "Health in children (1-6 years of age) with cancer." from barncancerfonden.
 - Karin Enskär and Marianne Jarfelt was recently awarded 300 000 SEK a year for 2 years for their project "Teenagers and young adults (15-25) with cancer diagnose - cancer care evaluation in Sweden.
 - Jenny Wilder and her doctoral thesis has been mentioned in Skolporten's book about important theses from 2008.
 - Elisabeth Ericsson has received 200 000 SEK from FORSS for her project "*Kan föräldrar och personals kommunikationsmönster påverka barns stressbeteende och medverkan vid narkos?*"
 - Mats Granlund has received 99 500 SEK from SIDA for his project "Using the ICF-CY for planning, implementing and evaluating benefits from aid projects for children.
 - Mats Granlund and J Bornman have received totally 900 000 SEK for a three year cooperation between Jönköping University and University of Pretoria. The project title is "ICF-CY: A common language for understanding a multidimensional construct disability in childhood".
-

CHILD appearance at international conferences

- Ylva Ståhl participated in Conference on Advances in Health Care Science Research at Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm on November 18th until 19th of 2009 with the poster: "Documenting children's health, linking health terms to ICF-CY codes." The poster was also nominated to one of the ten best.
- Anna-Lena Almqvist, Anette Sandberg and Lars Dahlgren recently got their paper "Parental leave in Sweden – Motives, perceptions and gender equality among parents" accepted for presentation at the international Sociological Association's (ISA) World Congress of Sociology to be held in Gothenburg from July 11 to 17, 2010.
- Anna Ullenhag participated in Conference on Advances in Health Care Science Research at Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm on November 18th until 19th of 2009 with the poster: "Culture validation of an assessment instrument of children's participation in leisure activities."
- Anna Ullenhag had her abstract accepted for oral

contributions by the latest
on February 15th to [Ida
Serneberg](#).



presentation at World Federation Of Occupational Therapists
(WFOT), The 15th WFOT World Congress focuses on
contemporary perspectives in occupational therapy, a world
congress in en Santiago de Chile on May 4th until 7th in 2010.

CHILD NEWSLETTER #1 2010
This newsletter was issued by School of Education and Communication, Jönköping University.
Editor: [Ida Serneberg](#)



Newsletter from the research area
CHILD, based at Jönköping University

Margareta Adolfsson reporting from UNC Chapel Hill - for the last time

Hello,

There are now only three weeks left of my period as a visiting scholar at the University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill. This has been an experience I wish everyone could have. A ten year old dream was fulfilled when I came here in August. I came without specific expectations but with hopes and specific plans for my own research. The plans worked out well and I start to sum up what this scholarship has meant for my doctoral education. The answer is short and simple: LOTS!

It was first hard to understand the academic system. For example the credit levels compared with European points and the distinction between college and university.

A course giving 7,5 European credits (Ects) is to be compared with 3 US credit hours (CrH). These "points" are based on how many hours/week the student spend in the classroom with the professor, and they are expected to attend all sessions. Fulltime studies are 9 CrH/semester but many programs requires more classes. Courses are graded from A to F, not only Pass or Fail. More than 2 unexcused absences may be grounds for failing the course.



After high school, students go to college. There they can choose level of education, they can go straight out in work, they can continue with their master/doctoral degree at a university immediately, or they can work some years and do a higher education later. Teachers, for example, used to start teaching after college. These days, several states require a master before teaching children by their own. During the four years in college, students advance from Freshman(year 1) to Sophomore, Junior and Senior (year 4). They might start college as young as 17 years since they start school at different ages (4-6)

dependent on month of birth. Children in the US have 13 compulsory years in kindergarten, elementary school, middle school, and high school,. During 1st and 2nd year at college, students have classes in all fields: history, math, English, social sciences, art, science. Everyone has to take one foreign language. Spanish is most frequent. Year 3-4 they take at least 8 classes (24 CrH, "minor", which does not qualify for university) or 36 CrH to graduate as a "major". Depending on which education they will apply to at university, they choose both the amount of classes and the focus. During college, there is a lot of competing. Every point is important to get high grades. To be able to entry a popular education at university (e.g. physical therapy, PT) they also need practice, volunteer hours (e.g. visit a family with a child with disability 3 hours/week), shadowing a professional (e.g. follow a PT, help at practice such as cleaning, bringing water to parents, participate in walking training, through balls to patients), involvement in clubs (e.g. PT/OT club, sport clubs), or leaderships positions. At the end of fourth year, they do a graduate test. Some students graduate with two majors. They then need to take an extra year and study at summer sessions.



In the classroom, it is obvious, that students are trained from early ages to tell their opinion. They are self-confident and get lots of feed back from teachers and peers (applauds for example).

The master and doctoral programs at the university are often parallel during the two first years. To be for example a physical therapist (PT), they go directly to master or doctoral studies after college. Before PTs start working, they have to take a test. This has to be repeated every 3rd year to prove that the PT develops and goes on with in-service training or other courses. This is the same for all professional areas where a certification is needed, for example psychologists.

Students' lodging use to change during years. During college years, they use to live at campus in dormitories during the freshman year. Parents put money on student id-card qualifying for meals at the dormitory or student restaurants at campus. Different "mealplans" are offered. 2nd -3rd year, they may live at fraternity (boys) or sorority (girls). These are group homes , cheaper than dormitories. Students have their own rooms, a "house-mum", a cook, and a cleaner. They clean their own rooms, eat together, plan and perform social events, like cocktail parties. They conduct common activities for charity. It has to be quiet around 11 p.m. Boys can stay at a girl's room until midnight. They are not allowed to drink in the house. Overall, they are not allowed to drink alcohol before they are 21 years (! Do you think this is a "holy rule"?). During 4th year they use to move to a place by their own or together with some friend. At university level, the students most often pay for their daily living themselves but the parents pay tuition. For students from the same state, tuition is around \$7-8,000/year at a public university. If you come from

another state, it is MUCH more expensive and private universities, such as Duke in this area, are VERY expensive. It can be up to \$100.00/year! Books may cost another \$1.000 but here is a wide spread system with selling "used books" in the stores and at the web. Graduate students are often employed as teaching assistants (TA), research assistants, or office assistants. A TA is kind of middle person in the educational institution. TAs lack the status of the faculty member, who engages primarily in research and teaching activity. Their responsibility ranges from supervised, quasi-clerical assistance for a professor to completely autonomous instructional decision making for a large undergraduate class. There are different kinds of student loans available. A barrier for education is that a student cannot ask for a loan without information about parent's finances, not even if they have no contact at all! For poor students, there are other kinds of financial assistance available. Students and parents apply for FAFSA-form (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), including information about both student's and parent's finances. This might be controversial: poor and rich people can afford education. For middle class families, it is more difficult to send their children to college and university.



The initial impression of a welcoming atmosphere and almost endless possibilities here at the UNC-CH has lasted. I found lots of unexpected supportive resources at this huge university. For example the Odum Institute for Research in Social Science (<http://www.irss.unc.edu/odum/jsp/home.jsp>). For future GEDS students, my recommendation is to bring a list with methodological ideas. As a start attend some short, free courses at the Odum Institute in order to pick up general information about quantitative or qualitative method including software. Then make appointments with some nice and helpful expert at the institute to discuss a specific research area, analyze method or program. Another recommendation is NOT to participate in too many courses. Even if a visiting scholar can attend as an auditor, it takes time. Try to find courses possible to integrate in the doctoral education, ask the professor at the home university if it fits in the program and how to be examined, and then engage in the course 100%. (Classes can be found at www.unc.edu – Academics – Courses – Directory of classes. You get a list. GRAD means advanced courses. To find a description of the courses, pick up the course number, go back to the Academics page, choose search in the menu and search on the number.)

I attend an outstanding training program Communicating in the American Classroom for non-native speaking graduate students focusing on teaching under graduate students. In the same course, I get language training, cultural experiences and teaching practice. Maybe, you have noticed in the Newsletter this fall tips about English learning, listening, grammar, or information about Holidays in the U.S.? All this information is

from this course.

There are lots to say about a semester at another university, but as a summary: It gives new experiences of many, and sometimes unexpected, kinds. Carpe diem!

Regards from me, soon back in Sweden

Margareta

 [Tillbaka](#)

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Editor: [Ida Serneberg](#)