



Newsletter from the research profile CHILD, based at Jönköping University

#2 2009



Monday September 14th

CHILD Agenda

September 17th
8am-4pm

Day of science
(Vetenskapsdag) at
School of Health sciences

September 29th, 1-3pm
Final seminar for Anne
Lillevist, Mälardalen University
in room U-184, Västerås

October 15th, 1pm
Part time for Stefan Nilsson
at School of Health Sciences,
Jönköping



Order CHILD reports

Don't miss out! You may still order our reports on [CHILD website](#).

Let's play! Multiple causes to children's every day functioning

Children are different but still share common characteristics. One characteristic that children share is that their every day functioning is dependent on several interdependent factors. A child that displays a high degree of engaged participation in everyday activities probably experience a high degree of well being. We have scarce knowledge about why children perceive a high degree of well-being but have rather extensive knowledge about why children feel ill and how we can prevent low health. CHILD research has a stronger focus on identifying factors that promote well-being and good health than on preventing ill health. Approximately 40 researchers in the CHILD research environment are involved in research aimed at identifying factors that promote well-being and participation in everyday activities in children and youth. Current projects within CHILD concern;

- Child characteristics and everyday functioning such as children's concepts of time and face recognition skills in youth's with asperger syndrome
- Children's living environments such as family interaction in families with children with profound multiple disabilities and the language environment of Swedish preschools or student participation in school activities
- Indirect influences on children's well-being and participation such as the impact on parental and child school engagement of supporting professionals in how to collaborate with parents and habilitation professionals active support of parent's coping strategies when children have disabilities and professional's support to students with Asperger syndrome in higher education.

As an overarching aim we try to integrate the results from all ongoing projects to discuss the answer to questions such as: What factors within children, children's living environments and the surrounding society are especially important to promote children's well-being and active participation in the everyday activities?



/Professor Mats Granlund, head of CHILD

Jenny Wilder's doctoral thesis awarded



Interested in a CHILD work-shop?

CHILD offers work-shops and conferences on a regular basis. Our latest conference was about the classification system ICF and ICF-CY, which has influenced the whole Swedish health care system. Are you interested in attending any work shop held by CHILD? Please contact mats.granlund@hhj.hj.se or ida.serneberg@hlk.hj.se.



Kickoff for SAFEWAY2SCHOOL



SAFEWAY2SCHOOL, a project in which Professor Torbjörn Falkmer is involved, started on September 1st. For more information, do not hesitate to [contact Torbjörn](#). You may also read [more about the project here](#).

Torbjörn Falkmer is professor



CHILD researcher Jenny Wilder's doctoral thesis *Proximal processes of children with profound multiple disabilities* was recently chosen to be the best doctoral thesis from 2008 at her institution, Department of Psychology at Stockholm University. [Download her Thesis here](#).

Margareta Adolfsson reports from Chapel Hill, North Carolina



Margareta Adolfsson, doctoral student in Disability Studies at School of Education and Communication is our own Guinea pig in the GEDS scholarship program. She reports from UNC Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Click on "[Läs](#)" to read about her adventure in the States.

[Läs](#) 

Berit Björkman at Röntgenveckan

in Occupation Therapy at School of Health Sciences. He is one out of CHILD's 5 Professors.



Läs 

Editorial information

In next CHILD Newsletter you will, among many other interesting news, find and article about Stefan Nilsson, doctoral student in Health Sciences at School of Health Sciences and pain nurse at Queen Silvia's Children's hospital.

Newsletter #3 will be release around October 15th. CHILD research co-ordinator Ida Serneberg will answer your inquiries if you email ida.serneberg@hkl.hj.se.

/Ida Serneberg, CHILD research coordinator




CHILD researcher Berit Björkman, doctoral student in Health Sciences at School of Health Sciences, recently presented her pilot study about children's experiences of radiological surveys at Röntgenveckan in Elmia, Jönköping. Listen to an interview with Berit Björkman in [Radio P4 Jönköping](#).

CHILD News

-  Helene Lidström, together with H. Hemmingsson and L. Nygård recently got their article "Use of Assistive Technology Devices in mainstream schools; students' perspective." accepted in *American Journal of Occupational Therapy* 63(4), 463-472.
-  Marie Golsäter will be giving a presentation at the 10th European Doctoral Conference in Nursing Science, which occurs in Graz, Austria between the 18th and 19th September.
-  Anne Lillvist has her final seminar at Mälardalen University, Västerås in room U-184 on September 29th at 1pm.
-  Stefan Nilsson has his part time at School of Health Sciences, Jönköping on October 15th at 1pm.
-  Tobias Edbom is defending his doctoral dissertation Child Psychiatry, Karolinska Institutet on November 13th.
-  Eva Björck-Åkesson, Mats Granlund and Gregor Maxwell will be participating in MURINET training course on ICF, Children and Education in Zurich, Switzerland on November 19th til November 22nd.
-  Mats Granlund, together with Rano Zakirova-Engstrand, recently got their article "The International classification of functioning, disability and health - children and youth (ICF-CY): testing its utility in classifying information from eco-cultural family interviews with ethnically diverse families with children with disabilities in Kyrgyzstan" published in *Disability & Rehabilitation*, 31:12, 1018 — 1030. [You find the article here.](#)
-  Torbjörn Falkmer, together with Anna Anund, Linda Renner and Nina Waara recently got their report "Smartare Säkrare Skolbuss: Ett pilotförsök i Kristianstad" published.
-  Torbjörn Falkmer, together with Anna Sjörs, Britt Larsson, Joakim Dahlman and Björn Gerdle recently got their article

"Physiological responses to low-force work and psychosocial stress in women with chronic trapezius myalgia." published in *BMC Musculoskeletal Disorders*.

 Torbjörn Falkmer, together with Joakim Dahlman, Anna Sjörs, Johan Lindström och Torbjörn Ledin recently got their article "Performance and autonomic responses during motion sickness" published in *Human Factors*.

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Editor: [Ida Serneberg](#)

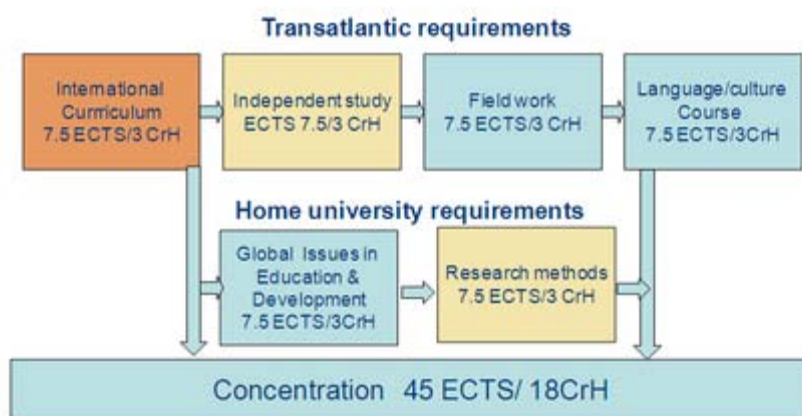


Newsletter from the research profile CHILD, based at Jönköping University

Margareta Adolfsson reports from UNC Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Hi!

This is my first report from “over here”, from my stay as a visiting scholar at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. I arrived 2 weeks ago and will stay all semester. This is part of a new program for graduate students created by the Transatlantic Consortium in Early Childhood Intervention: Concentration in Global Education and Developmental Studies (GEDS). The figure below offers you an idea of what the program is about. Universities included are the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Vanderbilt University in the United States, Jönköping University in Sweden, Porto University in Portugal, and Ludwig-Maximilians University in Munich, Germany. The coordinator for Europe is professor Eva Björck-Åkesson and for the US, it is professor Rune Simeonsson. During a period of four years, the program opens up for 24 students from Europe to go to the US and for 24 students to go the opposite way around. I am honored to be the guinea-pig in this program. I do my best to collect all possible experiences and make up lists to facilitate future students’ arrivals.



North Carolina, at the east coast, belongs to the southern states. It is a rural area, but also one of the nation’s most industrialized states with the Research Triangle area (Chapel Hill, Durham, and Raleigh). University of North Carolina has around 250,000 students on 17 separate campuses. Chapel Hill is the oldest campus (1819) with the most students (around 23,000) and more than 50 school buildings. You can imagine how crowded it is around campus when students are moving between classes! As a visiting scholar, you attend classes as an “auditor”, meaning that you do not need to sign up and you are not expected to report on homeworks. It is a great opportunity to get experience from the American classroom, but also to choose lectures out of your own interest. Special classes for international students are offered, e.g. writing or teaching. There are also opportunities to follow seminars in research methods and to discuss own results. On campus you find 18 libraries! The graduate library is located in a 8 floor building. Graduate students can reserve an own study room with a beautiful view. The bell tower at campus plays music every hour. At noon it takes me back to

“Sound of Music”, and in the evening I hear classical music. Sometimes a real person plays the piano up there! What do you think about that job? You will find information on www.unc.edu.



I am lucky to have two work offices. My primary office is at the School of Education, where professor Simeonsson works. I also work at Family Support Network of North Carolina (FSN-NC), where professor Irene Zipper is the director. The network offers support, free of charge, to families across the state who are caring for children with special needs. For example, “Parent-to-Parent peer support”, which means supporting other families in similar situations – families who have been there, who understand what a family is experiencing. For me, as a practitioner in addition to researcher, this is an interesting system to explore. You see in the figure above that field work is required. It means to go out “in reality” and experience what’s going on. People around are very helpful, and I understand there will be many opportunities for me to visit interesting places. You can find info on www.fsnn.org.



Both the campus area and the town are beautiful! Lots of green areas, huge trees, sidewalks, WiFi cafes, restaurants etc. Around 55.000 people live in Chapel Hill and 8-9 million in the state. All bus transits are free. Of course, the social life is very much influenced by the students. This weekend is prolonged, it is “Labour day” on Monday (~May 1). This means that people look forward to a holiday with football, basketball games, or visits at the big malls, where all stores offer sales. The weather is nice,

sometimes too warm. This morning it was only 15°, but some days it has been 35°. This is one of the expected differences compared to Sweden. However, products that I had not expected to reach easy, are nice bread, cheese, and coffee.



It was 10 years since I last visited the US, things change! You find info on www.ci.chapel-hill.nc.us.

Regards from the nice town of Chapel Hill

Margareta Adolfsson

PhD student in disability research at Jönköping University

 [Tillbaka](#)

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