

## UPS general meeting

You are welcome to join our general meeting where you have an opportunity to meet us, connect with us in person and you will learn more about the offices, and tasks. Most importantly, you can discuss with the existing office members how to manage responsibilities and the time investment required.

Date: Friday 9 May 2025  
Time: 16.00 -17.00  
Venue: [Zoom](#) (Passcode: 306241)

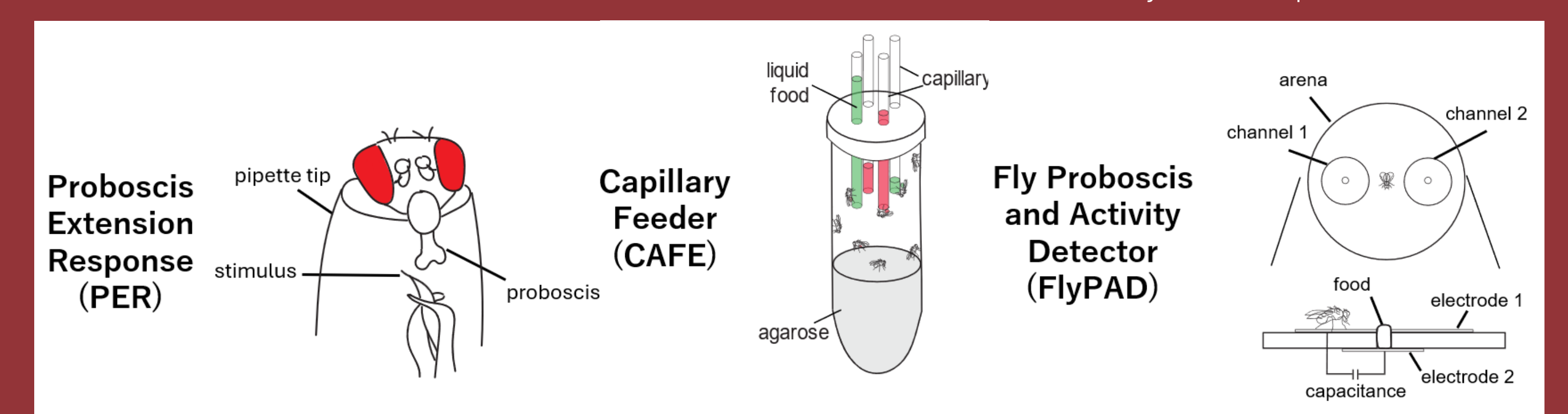


## Research highlight

'Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus', so goes the famous saying, portraying how much the male to female behaviour can differ. Decades of research have gone into understanding sexual dimorphisms in human food preferences, and yet the overwhelming influence of external factors on our behaviour has meant that still very little is known of the molecular basis behind why men purportedly prefer meat, but women prefer vegetables.

Enter *Drosophila*. Unlike us, these fruit flies are not likely to eat to please others, or with the goal of getting back into shape before summer. Meal decisions are rather made based on internal cues. Males maintain a lifelong preference for sugar, but females acquire a switch to protein-rich foods once mated.

In the Mattias Alenius lab, Najat and colleagues use *Drosophila* as a model to study how Hedgehog (Hh) – a developmental molecule also found in humans – differentially affects the sensory perceptiveness of males and females and thus facilitate the establishment of sex-specific eating patterns. Importantly, Hh is produced and secreted into systemic circulation by the gut itself in a way that is reactive to food composition, further evidence of its role as an agent of communication between the gut and the brain. The lab makes use of a variety of assays to assess food-centric behaviours – tools Najat likes to call 'living toys'. For example, PER directly shows how a fly would react to a stimulus. The CAFÉ assay is mainly used to measure consumption, but can also help ascertain preference or demonstrate competition during feeding. Meanwhile, the FlyPAD allows the eating habits of individual flies to be assessed down to a microstructural level. For Najat, this is what makes the work most exciting. There isn't a chance for it to feel mundane with experiments which are constantly evolving. It truly is great when work becomes interchangeable with play – especially if, by its end, we could better understand how the sexual dimorphisms brought about by internal factors such as Hh could make it seem as if men and women come from entirely different planets.



## Social events by postdocs for postdocs

Umeå Postdoc Society organizes social events to enhance the work/life balance and help to connect the postdoc community in Umeå. Check out below!



UMEÅ POSTDOC SOCIETY  
INVITES YOU TO  
**Spring Hike**  
in  
**Vindelforsalva**

Date: Saturday 3 May 2025  
Time: 11.00 – 17.30  
Meeting point: Umeå Östra  
Registration: [HERE](#)

CONTACT: Anton at [anton.kirch@umu.se](mailto:anton.kirch@umu.se) or (+46730646996)



UMEÅ POSTDOC SOCIETY (UPS)  
INVITES YOU TO A NEW  
**Pub Night**

THURSDAY, MAY 8, 18 HS  
REX UMEÅ BEER CELLAR  
RÅDHUSTORGET 1, 903 26, UMEÅ

PLEASE REGISTER [HERE](#):



UMEÅ POSTDOC SOCIETY & SLU POSTDOC ASSOCIATION PRESENTS  
**Postdoc Day 2025**

MAY  
FRIDAY 30 9:00 - 23:00  
2025

Kårhuset Origo  
09:00 - 23:00 Gösta Skoglunds väg 25,  
907 36 Umeå

See you there  
REGISTER [HERE](#)



UMEÅ POSTDOC SOCIETY  
INVITES YOU TO OUR  
**IMPROV CLUB**

DROP IN - OPEN TO ALL!

UNLEASH YOUR CREATIVITY    BECOME A MORE CONFIDENT SPEAKER    PRACTICE ACTIVE LISTENING

18HS    LINDELLHALLEN (NEXT TO CAFE LINDELL)    13 MAY 2025

Let's meet again after a pause that felt like forever!  
Contact: [Katerina.Katerina.cervena@umu.se](mailto:Katerina.Katerina.cervena@umu.se) or  
UPS ([info@umeapostdocs.com](mailto:info@umeapostdocs.com))



## Interesting events around uni

Explore a range of fascinating events and activities taking place at Umeå University throughout March. Don't miss out incredible opportunities to learn, connect, and enjoy!

## Digital map at campus

With the digital maps, it is easy to find your way around the Umeå campus, the hospital area and the Arts Campus. You can view the map in your computer's browser and in the app on your phone. Check out [MazeMap](#)



## Walpurgis on Campus

Don't miss Walpurgis on Campus, one of our finest traditions! With a spring choir of over 100 voices, dancing, crackling fires and our new principal Tora Holmberg gives a spring speech.

Date: Wednesday 30 April 2025  
Time: 12.10 – 12.50  
Venue: Outside of Lindellhalle

(In case of rain: The Teacher Education Building)  
You can also watch the live broadcast at [umu.se/live](http://umu.se/live)

## Understanding the Swedish labour market

If you consider pursuing a career in Sweden and wish to gain insights on the Swedish labour market, join this webinar that is organized by the University of Umeå in collaboration with EURES. University of Umeå is one of many EURAXESS Centres in Sweden.

### For 3rd Country Nationals

Date: Wednesday 7 May 2025  
Time: 14.00 – 15.00  
Venue: Team  
Registration [HERE](#)

### For EU/EEA nationals

Date: Thursday 8 May 2025  
Time: 14.00 – 15.30  
Venue: Team  
Registration [HERE](#)




**PINT OF SCIENCE**

Science talks in your local pub

Storgatan 55, 903 26 Umeå  
Vasagatan 11, 903 29 Umeå

19-21 May 2025

Pint is a measurement unit originated from English measurement system and used in the United States. In both of those systems, it is traditionally one-eighth of a gallon, which is about 5,7 dl.  
Let's then share a great glass of Science together!



UMEÅ POSTDOC SOCIETY  
**Pint of Science**

19-21ST MAY | 18:00 - 20:00 | DOORS 17:30

OUR SPEAKERS

HUDSON PACE    ERIC CAPO & MEIFANG ZHONG    MAXIMILIANO ESTRAVIS BARCALA    TESSY HICK    CIARAN GILCHRIST    ANTON KIRCH

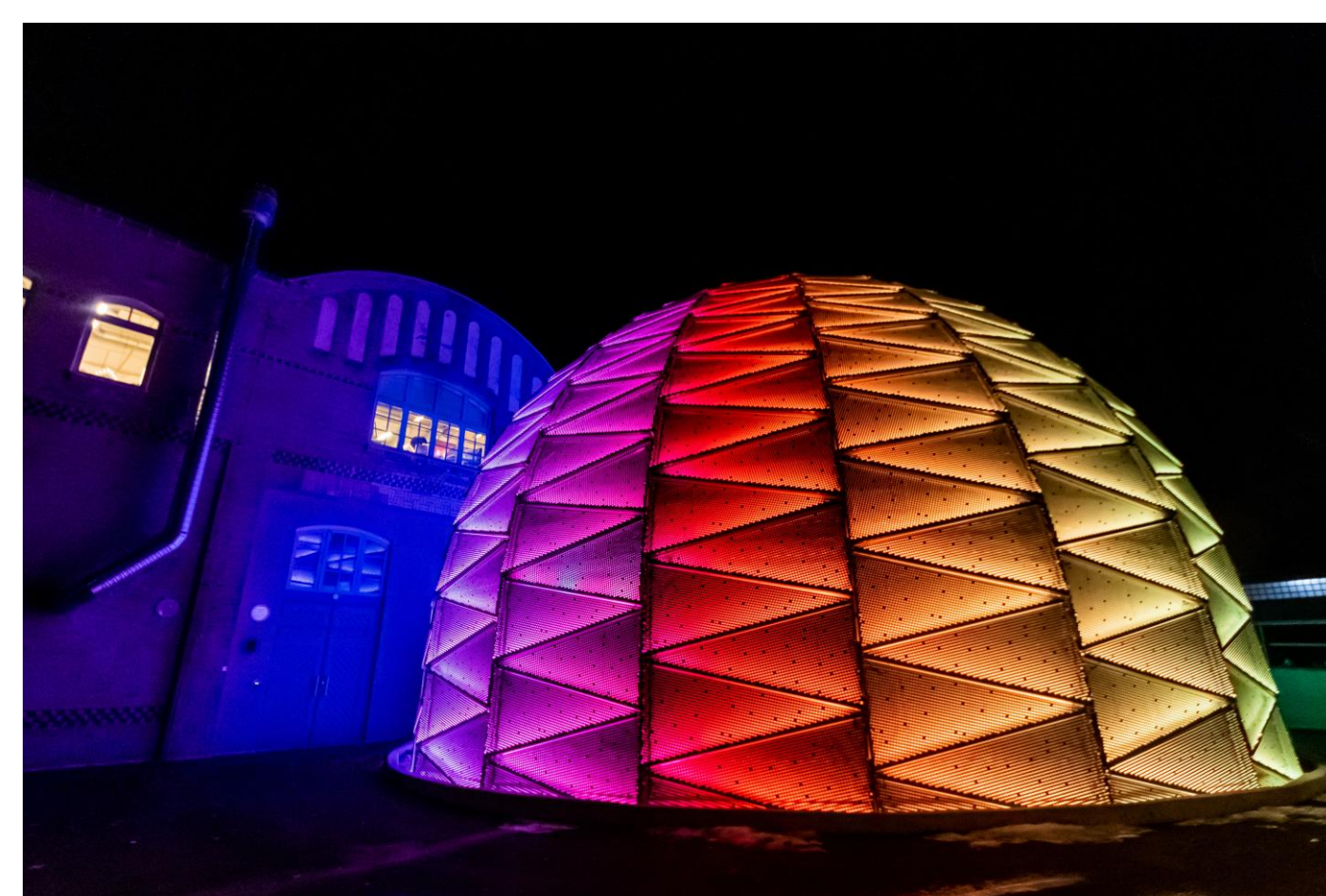
TEAM PINT  
MADHUSREE    PREETI    BARAA

BOOK YOUR FREE TICKETS NOW

19TH MAY    20TH MAY    21ST MAY

## Check Out the UPS Blog

Curious about what goes on behind the scenes at Umeå Postdoc Society (UPS)? From event planning and highlights to personal reflections and feedback—the UPS blog covers it all! Whether you're into academic life, community building, or just want a peek into the UPS journey, there's something for everyone. Dive in and stay connected with the pulse of the postdoc community in Umeå.



## Social event at Curiosum

Twice a year, we invite new staff to a social event at Curiosum. This is an excellent opportunity to mingle and get to know new colleagues. The event kicks off with a light buffet and mingling, followed by a planetarium show at Curiosum's dome theater, where you will experience fascinating journeys through the world of science.

Date: Thursday 15 May 2025  
Time: 14.00 – 15.30  
Venue: Curiosum  
Read more and sign up [HERE](#)

### Lab fair and Life Science Pub

Umeå Biotech Incubator (UBI) organizes both a lab fair and Life Science Pub down at Cinco on Renmarkstorget. The lab fair gathers 20 companies that showcase their equipment.



**Umeå Lab Fair** **Life Science Pub**

**Umeå Lab Fair**  
Tvistevägen 48 • 11.00-14.00  
★ Norrland's premier lab fair with 20 exhibiting companies  
★ Open to everyone - free entry!

**Life Science Pub**  
Cinco • 16.00-22.00  
★ Mingle with life science professionals from academia, industry & region  
★ Participate in the Life Science Quiz!

#### Umeå Lab Fair

Date: Thursday 8 May 2025  
Time: 11:00-14:00  
Venue: Umeå Biotech Incubator, Tvistevägen 48  
**SIGN UP & MORE INFO**

#### Life Science Pub

Date: Thursday 8 May 2025  
Time: 16:00-22:00  
Venue: Cinco on Renmarkstorget  
**SIGN UP & MORE INFO**

### IceLab 15 year celebration

Celebrate 15 years of innovation and collaboration at IceLab! Join a special anniversary event featuring inspiring talks from leading researchers, interactive activities, and a retrospective look at our journey.

Date: Wednesday 21 May to Friday 23 May

Time: 8.00-9.00

Venue: Teacher Education Building, Floor 3

More information [HERE](#)



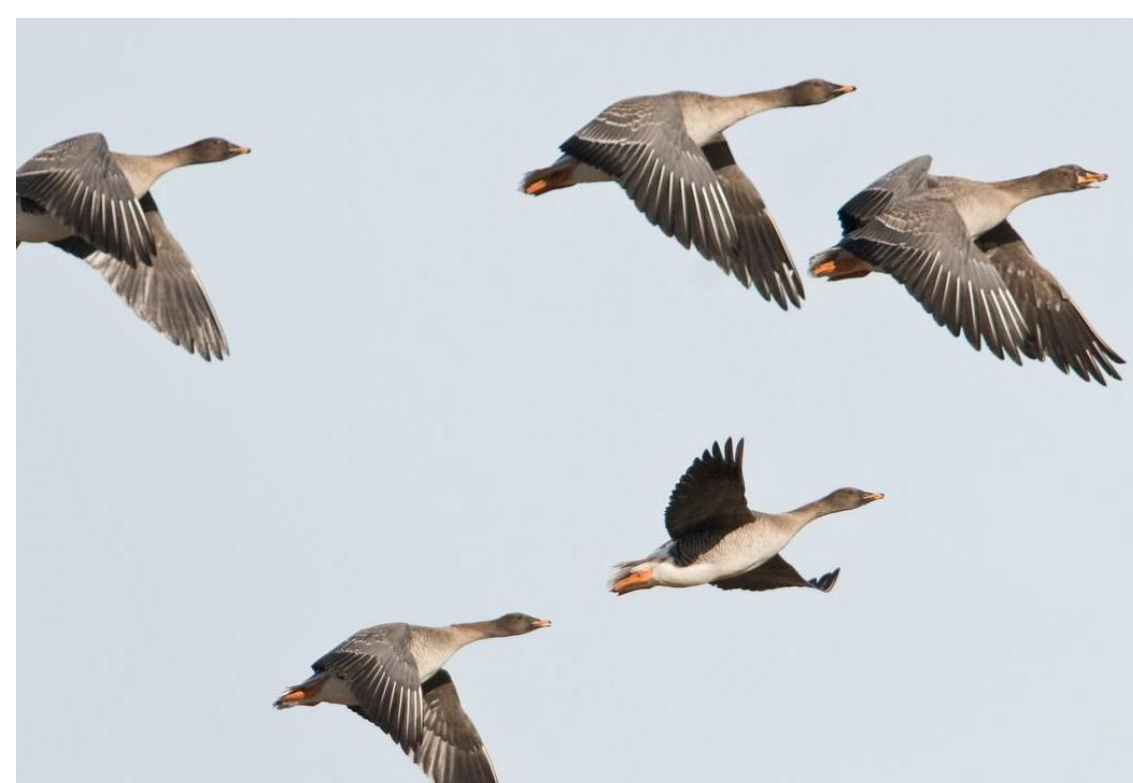
### Nature on campus: Meet the migratory birds on campus

Migratory birds from far away have now arrived also to Umeå and are singing to claim their territories. Come along on a morning walk, to see, hear, and learn some of the most common bird species on campus.

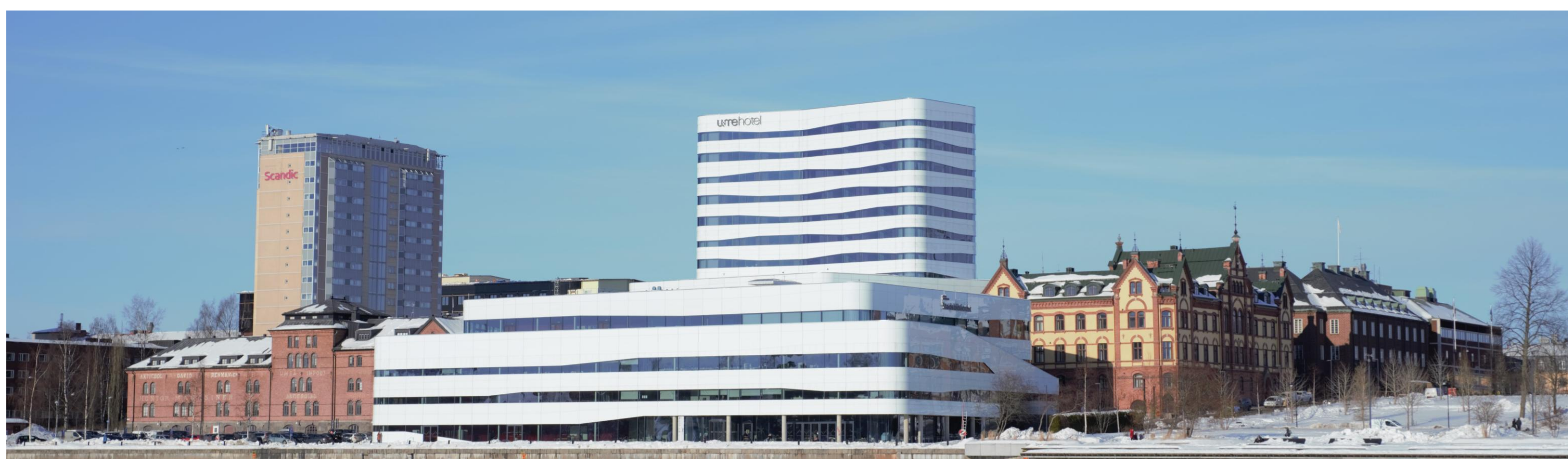
Date: Wednesday 21 May 2025

Time: 7.00-8.00

Venue: KBC Building, the main entrance

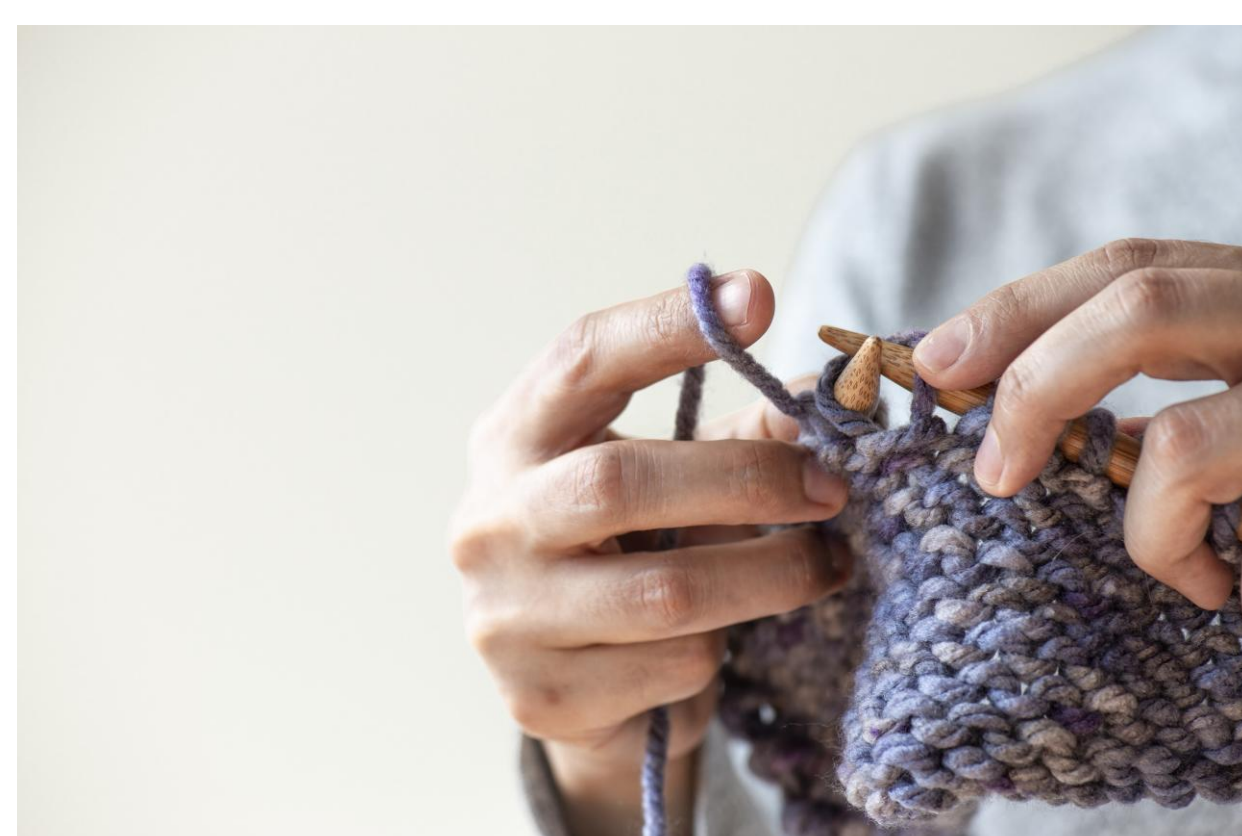


Many more events around Uni check [HERE](#)



## Events in Umeå

Living in Umeå, you can experience a variety of vibrant festivals and exciting events, ranging from music and theatre to dance and sports. Here we gathered some events in Umeå in March that you may be interested.



### Stick & Drink

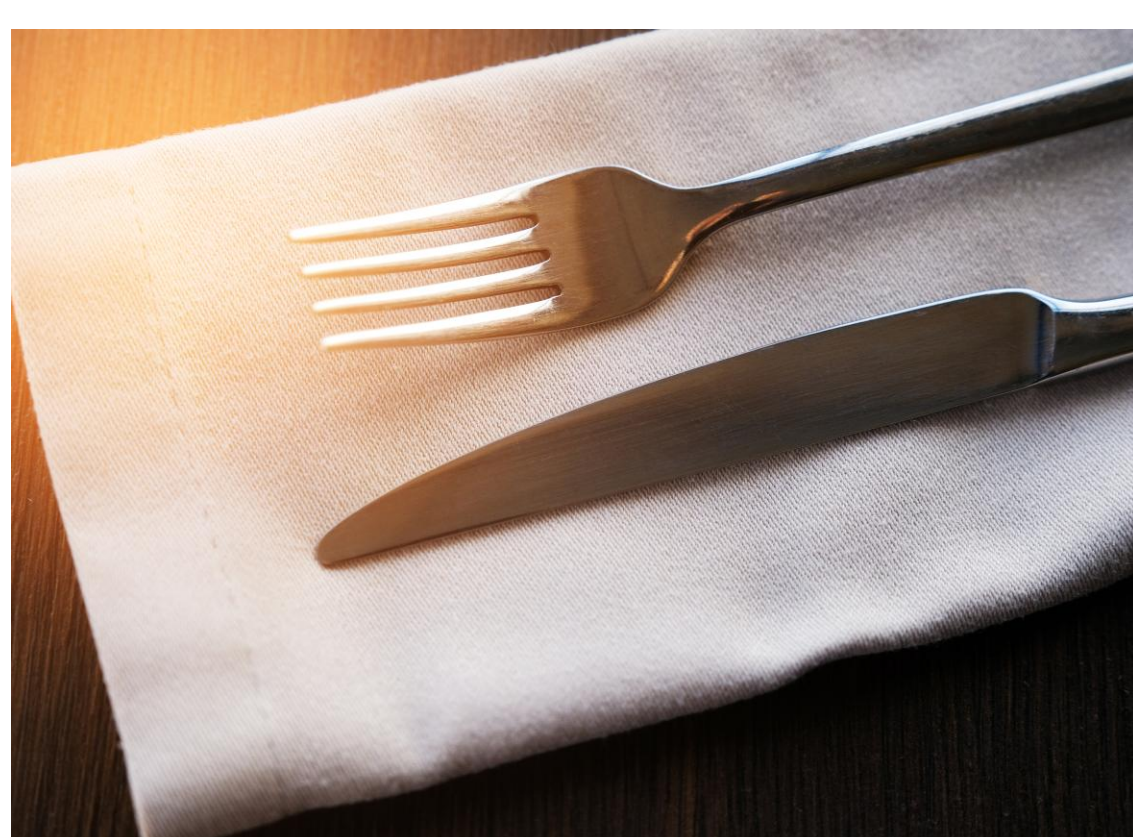
Are you into knitting or crocheting? Bring your own project or come to learn! Here is the free monthly social hub where you can grab something good to eat or drink while you, for example, knit, crochet or perhaps embroider?

Date: Thursday 1 May 2025

Time: 16.00-20.00

Venue: Clarion Hotel Umeå

Check for more [HERE](#)



### Social Taste Dinner in Umeå

A social tasting dinner with the theme Västerbotten. Three different restaurants in one evening, each creating a dish inspired by Västerbotten, with a main ingredient sourced from the region. Visit Harlequin, Köksbaren, and Tapas Bar Deli.

Date: Thursday 8 May 2025

Time: 18.00-20.00

Venue: Umeå center

Check for more [HERE](#)

### Umeå Beer Festival

The event will be dedicated to breweries from across the region, bringing together expertise and creativity for a weekend of beer.

Date: Friday 9 May 2025

Time: 16.00

Venue: Umeå Folkets Hus

Get the tickets [HERE](#)



### Saturday Night Show – Attitudes

Saturday Night Show presented by Attitudes – a shared premiere night where you get to experience Europe's hottest street dance.

Date: Saturday 10 May 2025

Time: 16.00

Venue: Norrlandsoperan

Get the tickets [HERE](#)

### Picnic Palooza

Picnic with nice music? On May 17, Vänortsparken, with its lush trees, babbling brooks and soft grassy slopes, will be transformed into a living oasis with live music and picnics in the spring sun. Expect a colorful local lineup with everything from indie and alternative rock to more experimental music

Date: Saturday 17 May 2025

Time: 13.00-19.00

Venue: Vänortsparken, Umeå

More information [HERE](#)



### Cityloppis & Röjarloppis

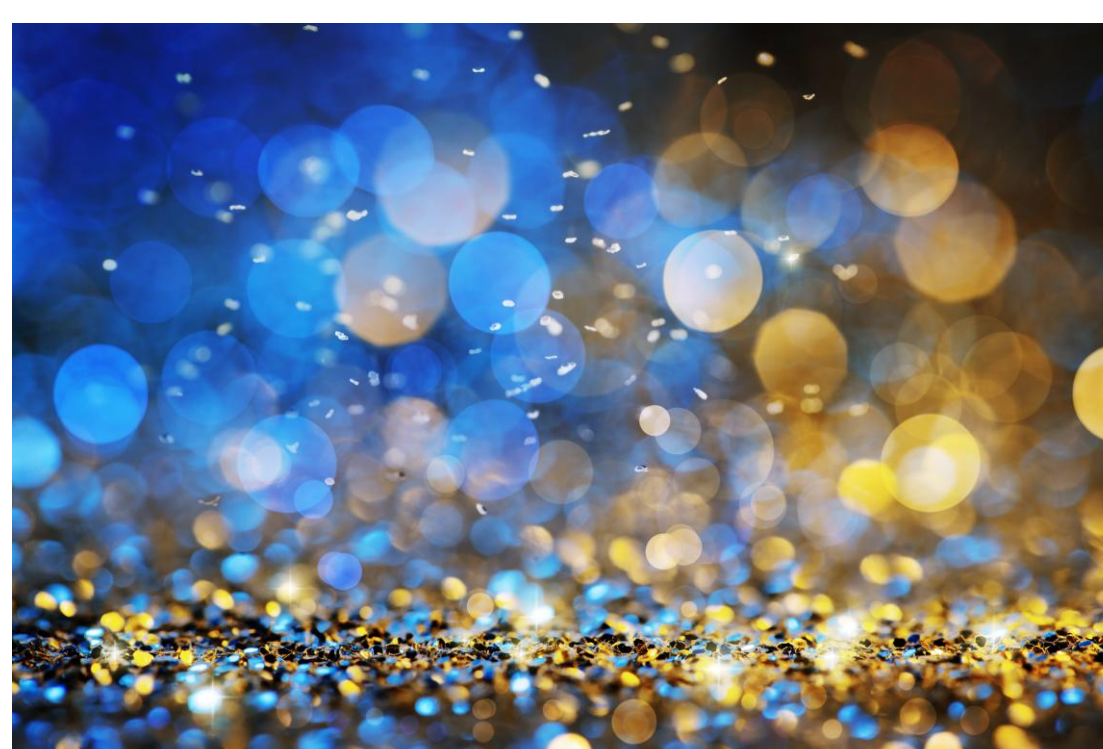
The joy you get from hunting things at the flea markets are compared by scientists to our ancient hunting experience. Go check large CITY Flea Market at -1 floor of MVG shop center on May 17<sup>th</sup>

Date: Saturday 17 May 2025

Time: 10.00-17.00

Venue: MVG UMEÅ

More information [HERE](#)



### Drag Circus

Are you up for something spicy and glittery? Join our ringleader Misty May as she introduces spectacularly diverse entertainment for a one of a kind circus experience.

Date: Saturday 24 May 2025

Time: 10.00-17.00

Venue: MVG UMEÅ

Get your tickets [HERE](#)



### Blodomloppet Umeå

Running event around Sweden to raise awareness and demonstrate the need for blood donation and to promote a healthy lifestyle.

Date: Tuesday 27 May 2025

Time: 17.00

Venue: Skeppsbron

Register to the event [HERE](#)

### Brännbollsyrän

Northern Scandinavia's largest music festival features well-known artists. The Rounders Cup is an annual event in Umeå, the tournament is held on the campus area with over 3000 players.

#### Brännbollsyrän - Skeppsbron

Date: Wednesday 28 - Thursday 29 May 2025

Time: 20.00 - 02.00

Venue: Skeppsbron

#### Brännbollsyrän - Hedlundadungen

Date: Friday 30 - Saturday 31 May 2025

Time: 20.00 - 02.00

Venue: Hedlundadungen

#### CUPEN – Mariehemsångarna

Date: Thursday 29 - Saturday 31 May 2025

Time: 20.00 - 02.00

Venue: Skeppsbron

Check events and get tickets [HERE](#)



More events around Umeå check [HERE](#)

## Useful information for Umeå postdocs

If you are new to Umeå. Visit our website for useful information [HERE](#)

## Recruitment

We are always looking for active members in the society! If you want to be involved in the organisation of events, conferences, social events or in the functioning of the society, contact us via any of our channel.

## Follow us

[umeapostdocs.com](https://umeapostdocs.com)

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[Umeå Postdoc Society](https://www.linkedin.com/company/umeapostdocsociety)

[@umupostdoc](https://www.instagram.com/umupostdoc)

[Umeå Postdoc Society \(UPS\)](https://www.whatsapp.com/channel/01234567890123456789)

Do you have any suggestions for content for Umeå Postdoc News?

The content of the newsletter is intended to facilitate and support Postdocs at UME and SLU by focusing on relevant activities. If you have any suggestions, let us know at our [website](#)