



UPS General Meeting

You are welcome to join our general meeting where you have an opportunity to meet us and connect with us in person. If you would like to get involved as an active member of UPS, then it is the perfect opportunity to learn more about the offices and tasks. **This shall be the final GM of the term.** Fika will be served!

Venue: Galaxen Sirius (Universum)
Date: Friday 22nd May
Time: 16:00 – 17:00



Social events by postdocs for postdocs

UPS organizes social events to enhance the work-life balance and help connect the postdoc community in Umeå.

Postdocs spotted outside, for the second time in as many months!
Here seen after the Spring Quiz Hike on 18th April, around Nydalasjön. Do not feed.



Regular programming

Come to
UPS SPRÅKCAFE
It's the support system you need

Date: Every Monday
Time: 16.00-17.00
Venue: KBC Café

No registrations necessary.
Contact keshi.chung@umu.se for more info.



Date: Thursday, 14th May
Time: 18.00 onwards
Venue: Lion Bar

Contact Katerina (+46 722267698) or via katerina.cervena@umu.se

Major Events

PINT OF SCIENCE

Science talks in your city



A pint is a traditional unit of volume from the English measurement system. It equals one-eighth of a gallon – about 5.7 dl.

Let's share a great glass of Science together!

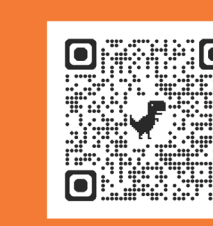
18 May **Tiny Worlds Big Impact** **RÖTT**
18:00 It's not just the drug, it's the bugs!
- Chinmay Dwivedi
18:30 Micronanoplastics - The Ecological Tower of Babel
- Nikola Zlatkov Kolev
19:00 Organ on chip and drug discovery
- Mohamed Ali

19 May **Invisible Forces** **LION BAR**
18:00 Taxes rule!
- Gauthier Lanot
18:30 From flames to photons - a structural journey
- Jeenu Jegy & Nils Skoglund
19:00 Magnetic Mischief in the Solar System
- Dany Waller

20 May **Of Trees and PhDs**
18:00 Even Plants Have Metabolites?!
- Madhuree Mitra
18:30 Ain't no flowers in my trees: A story of frustration and side quests
- Laura Garcia Romafach
19:00 PH.Linshe.D - Trust Your Crazy Ideas
- Dinesh Dhurvas Chandrasekaran



Free entry | Register at pintofscience.se



Do not litter!

@pintofscienceSE
#pint26 #pint26se

CONTACT: preeti.moar@umu.se, or follow the event via the [Pint of Science Umeå FB Pages](#)

Coming soon




Are you interested in:
Språkcafes?
Social events around town?
Becoming a member?

Come meet Vän i Umeå representatives at **KBC Glasburen** on **Thursday May 7th** kl 12 to kl 13

Light refreshments will be served.
Register your interest here: 





Beers for purchase!

Invites you to a new:
BOARD GAME NIGHT

Date: Friday, 22nd May (after our May GM)
Time: 18.30 onwards
Venue: UPSC Fika Room (next to KBC Café)


If you're a fan of board and card games, then this hang-out is for you! Come and join a group or bring along your favourite games to throw into the mix! Snacks also welcome.

Registration link to come.
For more info, contact Gio at giordano.ponce@umu.se

Postdoc Day & UPS General Assembly 2026

28th May Thursday
kl 0900 to kl 2000
NTK Origo Kårhuset
Program and Registration here!

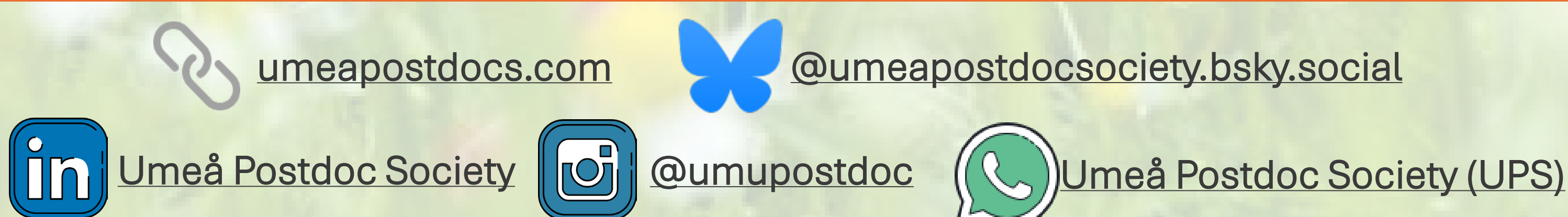


CONTACT: Najat (+467135719) at najat.dzaki@umu.se or Iryna at iryna.yakovenko@umu.se

More social events around town and where to find them

Visit Umeå Biljett Centrum Umeåregionens Bibliotek
Filmstaden Folkets Bio Norrland Opera

Social Media Links



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 channels.

Useful information for Umeå postdocs

If you are new to Umeå, visit our website for useful information [HERE](#). **However, the easy subscription box is BROKEN.** To get weekly Wednesday updates straight into your inbox, write a quick line to najat.dzaki@umu.se instead.

Digital map at campus – Find your way around the Umeå campus, the hospital area and the Arts Campus. Check out [MazeMap](#) on a browser or on your phone.

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](#)



Research highlights – Basia Walenkiewicz

Barbara ‘Basia’ Walenkiewicz is a PULSE SciLifeLab postdoctoral researcher working in Felipe Cava’s group in the Department of Molecular Biology and in Ulrika Westerlind’s group in the Chemistry Department.

“My research background is in chemistry, with a particular interest in applying chemical tools to study biological targets. My current research focuses on developing fluorescent tools to study LD-transpeptidases – fairly understudied cell wall enzymes involved in bacterial cell wall remodelling. Gaining a better understanding of peptidoglycan crosslinking and remodeling, especially in bacteria that are highly resistant to antibiotics, may provide valuable insights for future antimicrobial strategies. My project aims to bridge bioinformatics and computational studies with organic chemistry and molecular biology, both to design more efficient and sustainable fluorescent tools and to establish a high-throughput pipeline for studying biological targets. I am currently conducting docking studies on candidate probes and synthesizing the most promising hits for evaluation in biological systems.”



Postdoc voices matter

We are gathering more data as a part of our initiative to better understand the challenges experienced by students, researchers, and staff within our university.

As part of this effort, we are collecting anonymous real-life experiences from members of our university community. These stories will serve two key purposes:

- To inform a panel discussion featuring individuals in positions of responsibility, where these experiences will be thoughtfully addressed.
- To be transformed into illustrated narrative storytelling pieces that raise awareness and encourage meaningful dialogue across campus.

This initiative builds on ongoing conversations around inequality, power, and responsibility in academia. All submissions will remain completely anonymous.

You can submit your response using the form [HERE](#).

CONTACT: Madhusree Mitra madhusree.mitra@slu.se or info@umeapostdocs.com



International Hub UmU

The university’s HR Office has initiated and invites all international staff to post on the Teams’ page [International Hub UmU](#). As well as regular updates on cultural events and occasions that make Sweden *Sverige*, you may create your own posts on the Connect, Share and Discuss sub-page.

What contributions can be made? Why not write about your postdoc experience, [much like this](#), or let others know of something you think would interest your peers too, [like this](#). Don’t be shy! All are not only welcome but encouraged to share 🤔

Events by Umeå Biotech Incubator

Umeå Lab Fair

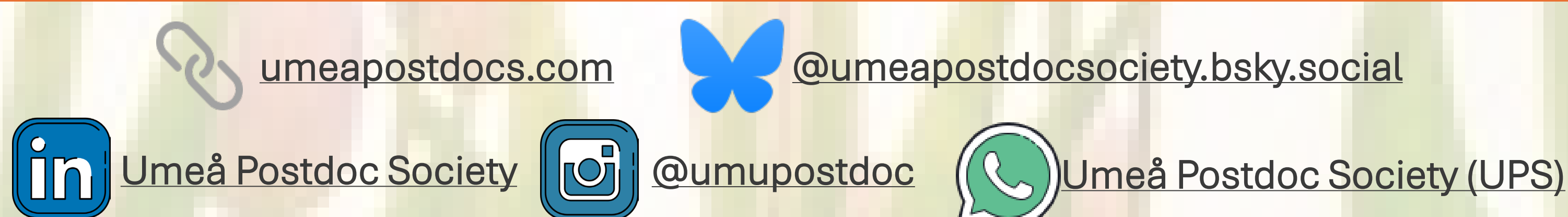
- 📍 Tvistevägen 48A • 11.00-14.00
- ★ Norrland’s premier lab fair with 20 exhibiting companies
- ★ Open to everyone - free entry!

Life Science Pub

- 📍 Cinco • 16.00-21.00
- ★ Mingle with life science professionals from academia, industry & region
- ★ Participate in the Life Science Quiz!

All happening May 7th. Register for either event [here](#).

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Seminars and Events by UmU

Archaeology Seminar

Tor 7 MAJ
🕒 Torsdag 7 maj, 2026
kl. 13:00 - 15:00
📍 HUM.H.119

Friends of UPS, Postdocs Anne Christine Mirich and Ana Catarina Vital present their joint work on Archaeology and Environmental Archaeology.

A whole day event aimed at introducing discoveries in research methodology, the sharing of knowledge across fields, and for networking among researchers in Umeå.

SciLifeLab Infrastructure Day

Mån 11 MAJ
🕒 Måndag 11 maj, 2026
kl. 08:30 - 16:00
📍 Rotundan

EC2U Science Contest 2026

Ons 20 MAJ
🕒 Onsdag 20 maj, 2026
kl. 15:00 - 17:00
📍 Åbo universitet, Finland

The contest is [broadcasted live on YouTube from Åbo](#), where participants (including UmU students) answer and debate science questions impromptu. Tune in to be a part of the audience and therefore, the judging panel!

Christina Storm Mienna and Kristina Sehlin Macneil speak on ‘Decolonial perspectives in Indigenous research and introduction to Vårduo’ as breakfast is served.

Frukostseminarium

Fre 22 MAJ
🕒 Fredag 22 maj, 2026
kl. 08:00 - 09:00
📍 Lärarutbildningshuset, Plan 3



Events in Umeå

Umeå is a multicultural city – there is something to do for everyone, ranging from music, food, theatre, art, dance to sports and hikes. Here are some events that you may find interesting:



Street Food Scandinavia



The largest street food festival in Scandinavia comes to Umeå for the very first time from the **30th April to 3rd of May** at Skeppsbron. Food trucks selling all sorts of cuisine open their doors (or rather windows) to the crowd from **12pm till 8pm**.

Check out the [website](#) for more information.

Art Friday at Bildmuseet

Art Friday showcases the **artwork** of this year’s graduating class of the **Masters of Arts program** of UmU’s world-renowned **Konsthögskolan**.

FRE 22 MAJ
🕒 FREDAG 22 MAJ, 2026
KL. 17:00 - 23:59
📍 BILDMUSEET



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