



Dear Excellence Initiative Nano Researchers,

Summer is here and the weather do look promising for the approaching vacation. This spring has been challenging and different for all of us with online teaching and zoom meetings replacing physical ones. At the same time, I have a feeling that many of us have had more time to reflect on the science that we do, something that I believe will be beneficial for the future development of our research area.

EI Nano has had an annual community building activity in the end of August since 2011 and we had plans for a 10 years anniversary this autumn. Unfortunately, due to the unsecure situation with the pandemic, we have decided to cancel the meeting this year. This is not an easy decision to take but, as you all understand, we can't take either the personal or economic risk that a late cancelation would mean. We will instead look forward to an even greater event in 2021 and more information on this will follow.

As a small replacement for the community building activity we will offer a webinar presentation of current and planned activities in the EI Nano on Thursday, August 27 at 10 AM. At this occasion we will also announce the winner of the Arne Sjögren prize for the best PhD thesis in nanoscience at Chalmers 2019. The awardee will give a presentation of his/her PhD thesis. A week before the event we will send out invitations with Zoom-link but mark your calendars (10-12 AM) already now!

This year we will again arrange an Initiative Seminar in collaboration with the Molecular Frontiers Foundation on the topic of "Bionanotechnology". We have already secured a list of top-notch international speakers and the event is scheduled for December 3-4.

More information on this, funding opportunities and other news you can find on our webpage: <https://www.chalmers.se/en/research/strong/nano/Pages/default.aspx>. The webpage is currently being renewed with more in-depth information about the research groups active within EI Nano. In connection to the Initiative Seminar in December we will have a meeting with the research group leaders of the nanoarea at Chalmers to initiate a dialogue and discuss future activities of our research community.

Since my appointment as EI Nano leader ends at the end of the year, Vice President of Research and Research Education, Anders Palmqvist will initiate the search for a new leader shortly. Most likely, the new leadership will be appointed in time to participate in the December meeting.

With this short letter I like to thank you for the great contributions you make to the EI Nano and hope you will have a great summer with lots of relaxation and new inspiring experiences.

Take care!

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