

The Swedish Research School of Management and Information Technology

All former Ph.D. candidates from the Research School of Management and Information Technology (MIT) that have ended their participation at the research school with a licentiate or doctoral degree receive this bi-annual letter. The Alumni Letter offers information about MIT activities, alumni members, and other information related to the research school. Peter Ekman*, MIT Deputy Dean and Alumni Letter Editor, appreciates alumni information that can be of interest to its readership

Alumni Letter

2020:2

Christmas Greetings

This spring, Shruti Kashyap defended her thesis "Monsoon Paper Dragons: Transparency, Accountability, Risk, and Compliance in Banking Regulation and Practice" at Uppsala University.

Shruti, could you tell us a little but about your thesis, the 118th dissertation of the research school?

My thesis investigates the concepts of transparency and accountability in banking. More specifically, my dissertation addresses how these concepts arise and interact in the context of risk and compliance in banking regulation and practice. I focus on the European Union as the overall regulatory setting and the Swedish banking sector as a more specific case setting. The thesis looks at a few of the specific EU regulations that have been designed and implemented after the 2008 financial crisis and traces their impact on risk under-standings, identification, and mitigation strategies as related to regulatory impact and compliance efforts on part of banks. It's a compilation thesis, meaning that it consists of separate papers, in this case, four articles, and an overarching synthesis or "kappa." From a disciplinary perspective, it's a law and accounting thesis, with a healthy dose of economic theory included.

The papers and synthesis focus on specific aspects of financial accounting and reporting related to bank capital and liquidity, and also address more internal control and governance aspects – management and control aspects, if you will – of how banks account for their risk undertakings. I personally think it's a pretty interesting area of research and practice, but it can certainly sound a little dry when I try to explain it to other people. Don't take my word on it, read more on the topic, and then decide. I'm, of course, always happy to talk more about it!



Shruti Kashyap, Uppsala University.

What will you do next?

I'm currently involved in a two-year research project funded by Handelsbanken, which explores the interactions between technology, innovation, risk, and regulation in the financial sector. The one word description of the project could pretty much be "FinTech." It's an initiative that I, together with Einar Iveroth (one of my Ph.D. supervisors and the project lead) and two colleagues from Sweden, formulated. We are expanding beyond the work I did in my dissertation to explore new relevant areas in the regulationpractice nexus of banking. Other than that, I'm quite involved in course teaching and thesis supervision in finance and accounting at the Uppsala University Department of Business Studies. So, I guess research and teaching is what is next, at least in the short term. After that, I'd like to stay in academia if I can, so I'm, of course, in the process of seeking out new collaborations and synergies

I notice that you have two undergraduate degrees from the University of Maryland and a Juris Doctor from their Francis King Carey School of Law. What brought you to Uppsala?

Yes, I earned a Bachelor of Science in Financial Economics and a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy with a concentration in logic and ethics at the undergraduate level. I started out as a financial economist after undergrad and then migrated over to legal work after I read my Juris Doctor. I guess that makes the Ph.D. my second terminal degree. I was interested in conceptual understandings of transparency and accountability in the financial sector ever since my first job as a derivatives specialist in New York, and the interest only grew through my international trade law work in Switzerland. I moved to Uppsala pretty much just for the Ph.D. after that, since the project that recruited me sounded very much in line with my personal research interests. Strangely enough, Sweden is now the country that I have lived in for the longest consecutive period of time ever in my

Once again, welcome as one of our newest Alumni, and good luck with your continued work!

Thanks! And as I said, I am always on the lookout for collaborations and discussions with other researchers and participants in the field. Feel free to reach out if you would like to talk about any of these areas and their potential links to work that you or others may be interested in ...

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Host University

Associated Universities















An Alumni that stayed put
Hi Christina – you went from being the
national research school of management,
and IT's Alumni #9 to become its Dean.
What did the research school give you as a
Ph.D. student that made you want to
continue with such enthusiasm and
engagement?

The research school meant a lot to me and was a great support during my time as a Ph.D. student. I was employed at the department of informatics at Jönköping International Business School during that time. Compared to many other universities, this was a small research environment. The research school gave me opportunities of receiving feedback from senior researchers and Ph.D. students from other universities. It was also valuable to be able to learn more about the management side of management and IT. I had a master's degree with a major in informatics, and I highly appreciated the Ph.D. courses in management that the research school offered. Most important of all: The research school gave me a network of colleagues and friends, which is indispensable when pursuing a career in academia. I would like to encourage every Ph.D. student in the research school to build this kind of network.

Are there any specific episodes you remember from your time as a Ph.D. student that affected your way of being a supervisor?

Shortly after being enrolled in the research school and having attended the research school seminars, I realized that there are several ways of presenting and defending research work as a Ph.D. and several ways of delivering feedback. We are all different, and the time you spend being a Ph.D. student is also a socialization process into being a researcher in a specific research community. My experiences from the seminars of the research school made me aware of the importance of listening to what the Ph.D. student would like to convey, also behind the words spoken, and adapt my feedback accordingly.

You belong to the second year of Ph.D. students, and we will enroll the 20th year of candidates next year. What would you say is the major difference between then and now?

The main difference between then and now is that the Ph.D. students seem to be better prepared when they start their Ph.D. education and perform on a higher level. The knowledge about research methods and theories is higher, as well as academic writing skills. This makes it possible to publish articles in journals and high-ranked journals earlier in the Ph.D. education. Another significant difference is that we are more people involved in the research school today, which is very positive!

Finally, can you briefly describe the academic career after the defense besides engaging in the research school?

I defended my doctoral thesis at Linköping University in 2007. From 2008, I was employed as an assistant professor in informatics at Jönköping International Business School. During 2008-2011, I spent



a part-time post-doc period financed by the research school at Uppsala University, Department of informatics and media, and Karolinska Institutet, Centre of Medical Management. In 2012 I became an associate professor and in 2016 a professor in informatics at Jönköping International Business School. Since 2019 I work as a professor in informatics at Lund University School of Economics and Management. And most important of all – I became deputy dean of the research school in 2012 and dean in 2017!

Thanks for your time!

Thank you so much, Peter. It was a pleasure talking to you! ${\color{red}\blacksquare}$

Prior and forthcoming conferences
MITAC2020 took place online and it was hosted by
Uppsala University. Chelsey Jo Huisman from
Uppsala University presented the manuscript for her
forthcoming Ph.D. thesis. Frida Magnusdotter
Ivarsson, University of Gothenburg, received the
Best Reviewer Award for MITSC2020 and Emil
Akesson, LTH (Lund University's Faculty of
Engineering) received the Best Reviewer Award for
MITAC2020. The next conference, MITSC21, is
planned to take place at Linnaeus University's
campus in Kalmar, 18-20 May 2021

◆ Christina Keller, Lund University (Photo: Kenneth Ruona, Lund University)

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