

# The Swedish Research School of Management and IT

[www.mit.uu.se](http://www.mit.uu.se)

## Annual Report for the Academic Year 2014/2015

### Background

*The Swedish Research School of Management and IT (MIT)* is a national research school launched by the Swedish Government in the year 2000 with Uppsala University as host institution. Today, MIT is a networked research school comprising management and IT related departments at 13 Swedish tertiary institutions: Blekinge Institute of Technology, Gothenburg University, Jönköping International Business School, the IT University in Gothenburg, Karlstad University, Linköping University, Linnaeus University, Lund University, Mälardalen University, Stockholm University, Umeå University, Uppsala University and Örebro University. Further details, including previous annual reports, can be found on the MIT website ([www.mit.uu.se](http://www.mit.uu.se)).

### Theses Presented During the Academic Year

Six doctoral theses and one licentiate thesis were presented during the academic year, bringing the number of Research School graduates to 74 doctors and 43 licentiates.

#### *Doctoral Theses*

69. Tavassoli, Sam (2014), *Determinants and Effects of Innovation: Context Matters*, Blekinge Institute of Technology, Doctoral Thesis No. 2014:10.
70. Högström, Claes (2014), *Fit In to Stand Out: An Experience Perspective on Value Creation*, Karlstad University, Doctoral Thesis.
71. Jansson, Tomas (2015), *Agila projektledningsmetoder och motivation: Varför man blir produktiv av att flytta lappar på en whiteboard*, Karlstads universitet, Doktorsavhandling.
72. Ryzhkova, Natalia (2015), *Web-Enabled Customer Involvement in Innovation Activities: A Firm's Perspective*, Blekinge Institute of Technology, Doctoral Thesis.
73. Sundberg, Klas (2015), *Strategisk utveckling och ekonomistyrning: Ett livscykelperspektiv*, Uppsala universitet, Doctoral Thesis No. 173.
74. Nylén, Daniel (2015), *Digital Innovation and Changing Identities: Investigating Organizational Implications of Digitalization*, Umeå University, Doctoral Thesis.

#### *Licentiate Thesis*

43. Williamsson, Ia (2014), *On the Possibility of Improving Software Quality: By Improving Software Maintenance*, Linnaeus University, Licentiate Thesis.

## Doctoral Candidates at the Research School

14 doctoral candidates were admitted to the Research School in 2014/2015 (eight male and six female). The School funds seven of these entirely or partly; the remaining seven are associated doctoral candidates with funding directly from sources other than MIT. The majority of these candidates began their studies for the academic year 2014/2015 at the official opening of the Research School in early September 2014.

The enrolment of the new candidates by institution is as follows:

Gothenburg University:	Amir Mohagheghzadeh, Asif Akram, Soumitra Chowdhury
Jönköping International Business School:	Anand Santhanam
Linköping University:	Emelie Eriksson
Linnaeus University:	Andreas Koczkas, Niki Chatzipanagiotou
Lund University:	Kajsa Ahlgren, Izabelle Bäckström
Mälardalen University:	Noushan Memar
Stockholm University:	Emma Stendahl
Umeå University:	Vasili Mankevich, Hosea Ayaba Ofe
Uppsala University:	Janina Hornbach

The total number of postgraduate students admitted to the Research School since its inauguration is 200 (as of June, 2015). In the spring of 2015 there were 80 doctoral candidates at the Research School. 55% of these were male and 45% female. 56% held doctoral positions funded entirely or partly by the Research School. All postgraduate students have prepared approved plans of study. 11 new doctoral candidates began their studies at the School in the autumn of 2015.

## Doctoral Courses

During the academic year four doctoral courses were held at Uppsala and Lund. A number of doctoral students not affiliated with MIT requested and obtained permission to enrol in particular courses. Each fully approved course accounts for 7.5 credits.

*Perspectives on Science and Research*  
In charge: Professor Lars Engwall  
Location: Uppsala  
Time: September 2014  
Number completing course: 27 doctoral candidates.

*Seminars and Thesis Work*  
In charge: Professor Pär Ågerfalk  
Location: Uppsala  
Time: October 2014  
Number completing course: 7 doctoral candidates.

*Research in Information Systems and Informatics*  
In charge: Professor Sven Carlsson  
Location: Lund  
Time: January – February 2015  
Number completing course: 10 doctoral candidates.

*Introduction to Multivariate Statistics*  
In charge: Professor James Sallis  
Location: Uppsala  
Time: February – March 2015  
Number completing course: 5 doctoral candidates.

## **Supervision and Seminars during the Academic Year**

Two seminars of three days each were held during the academic year with participation by the professors of the Executive Board and additional supervisors from the various institutions. The first seminar was held in Uppsala on September 29 – October 1, 2014. This seminar was modelled on the annual Information Systems Research in Scandinavia Seminar (IRIS) and consisted of working groups in which doctoral candidates presented and discussed their on-going work with senior faculty. A submission and peer-review process that allowed for feedback and preparation for the seminar preceded the event.

The second seminar was held in Linköping on March 25–27, 2015. At this seminar the work of the doctoral candidates was presented and discussed. Introductory presentations were followed by comments and questions from doctoral candidates, with concluding comments by professors and associate professors. There were also seminars conducted by guest speakers, all of which were well attended and appreciated.

In collaboration with the Department of Business Studies at Uppsala University, the Uppsala Lectures in Business 2014 were held on September 29–30. Prof. John Roberts, University of Sydney Business School, gave two lectures: “Accounting for Accountability”, and “Against Agency conceptions of Corporate Governance”.

Several doctoral candidates and senior faculty members attended international conferences published results of their research in various international journals during the academic year

## **MIT Grants for Postdoctoral Studies**

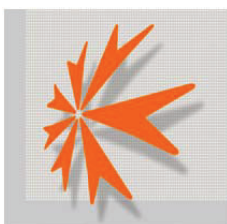
Doctoral graduates of MIT are eligible for grants from the Research School for continuing research. The principles governing these grants were established in 2008. Grants are to be provided on a nonrecurring basis; a second grant can be approved only in exceptional cases and under special circumstances. A grant constitutes a start-up funding and is expected to result in further work supported by other funding sources (research councils, foundations, companies, etc.). The amount of a grant is SEK 500 000. In keeping with the steering committee’s wish to prioritize PhD grants, no postdoc grants were awarded in the past academic year.

## **External and Internal Home Pages of the Research School**

In the spring of 2015, the Research School launched its new website ([www.mit.uu.se](http://www.mit.uu.se)). Carina Boson and Elisabeth Hallmén keep it current, aided by those responsible for the websites of the different participating institutions.

## **The MIT Alumni Association**

Under the leadership of Dr. Christina Keller, the MIT Alumni Association had 94 members by the end of June 2015. About twenty of the members regularly participate in the spring and autumn conferences of the research school.



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