

News Summary

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Four questions to Uta Klement

[080229] By: Ann-Kristine Nordin

The Swedish partner in the EU network WomenInNano. On March 6-7, 2008 a concluding workshop will be held at the Leibniz Institute for Solid State and Materials Research in Dresden. Uta Klement is Professor of Materials Science, specialising in electron microscopy, at the Department of Materials and Manufacturing Technology at Chalmers.

What is WomenInNano?

"It is an EU-funded project, known as a Specific Support Action, and is entitled "Strengthening the role of women scientists in nanoscience".

WomenInNano is purely an acronym.

Why was the network set up?

"I was contacted by a former colleague in Dresden who asked me if I wanted to be involved in the project. I said yes immediately as we are all well aware that there are too few women in science and engineering. I wanted to contribute to raising the level of interest in materials science. The number of project partners grew rapidly as everyone knew someone somewhere who also said they wanted to be involved. In the end we had 11 project partners from nine countries: Germany, Sweden, Romania, Slovenia, Bulgaria, France, Spain, the United Kingdom and Italy.

"We felt that it was good to focus on the nano-field as everyone was involved in working with nanomaterials in one form or another. It is also a relatively new area of research that is developing rapidly and attracting a great deal of interest from the whole of the international community.

What have you achieved?

"The project is made up of a number of activities in the form of work packages. We began by conducting an institutional and individual investigation of where women in the nano area could be found, what they were working on and how they acquired their positions. We are constantly attempting to attract media attention and among other things we took part in "Girls Days" and "Long Night of Sciences" and we organised special meetings in conjunction with conferences. We have also arranged a summer school at Coma-ruga, near Barcelona, with over 100 participants from more than 20 countries. Two weeks ago we organised a winter school at Kranjska Gora in Slovenia with around 70 participants. Further information about our activities is available on the website: www.womeninnano.de



Uta Klement. Photo: Jan-Olof Yxell

News Summary

Do you speak visualization?

INITIATIVE
 CHALMERS: Welcome to the next exciting Chalmers Initiative Seminar and Visual Forum on April 22-23. Learn how visualization is being used to..
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Chalmers adopts new overall vision

Chalmers has formulated a vision that will act as an operational focal point: "Chalmers - for a sustainable future". The process that to..
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Invitation to international guests: Science Festival 15th April

Are you an international researcher at the University of Gothenburg or at Chalmers? Welcome to a get-together mingle during the International Science ..
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April 1st - Invitation to international guests: Reception at City Hall

Invitation to an International Reception For International Visiting Researchers and Teachers
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New method captures optical signals at record speed

Researchers at Chalmers University of Technology in Sweden, in collaboration with the company PicoSolve Inc., have demonstrated a novel measurement me..

"Generally, the work takes place within the project dealing with acting as a good role model for young women and an ambassador for the "women in science" group.

"In the autumn we also ran a non-scientific workshop here at Chalmers with 45 participants. There were lots of interesting presentations focusing on gender aspects in research and technology. As the organiser I was extremely pleased with everyone who contributed. We listened, for example, to Tatiana Butovitsch-Temm, who spoke about the Volvo concept car, where all the decisions were reached by women; Christine Wennerås spoke about the discoveries she made and the article she co-wrote with Agnes Wold, both of whom subsequently received honorary doctorates from Chalmers; Ilse Gebeshuber, Vienna University of Technology, gave an very inspiring talk on how important it is to have a network and how women are bad at making use of their networks. And of course there was Johanna Almer who presented the new Chalmers equality strategy."

How does this benefit your work at Chalmers?

"My scientific work has not been affected directly by the project, which is not scientifically oriented, but I have learnt a great deal. My view has probably been changed and intensified. I have become more aware and interested in this area. Lena Gustafsson, professor at Chalmers and now vice president of VINNOVA, described the workshop very succinctly. She said that it is a theme that affects us all and is important for our future, our success and our welfare. I would therefore also like to be involved in a new EU project where on a higher level we can compare and improve equality at materials science research institutions (Improving gender diversity management in materials research institutions). I hope that the project application will be approved.

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Four questions to Owe Orwar

Owe Orwar is Professor of Biophysical Chemistry at the Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering. He is also founder of and scientific adviser..

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New Professor in Human Machine Interaction

Stig Franzén has been appointed Adjunct Professor in the area of Human Machine Interaction.

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Ten million US dollars for research into bio-inspired nanotechnology

Professor Bengt Nordén at Chalmers University of Technology will receive, as one of twelve researchers in the world, funding from the King Abdullah Un..

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Photonic technology boosts microwave signals

Researchers at Chalmers University of Technology have investigated the possibility of using fibre optic technology to generate and distribute microwav..

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Honorary doctorates 2008

The Chalmers honorary doctorates for 2008 will be awarded to Ingrid Skogsmo, Kathleen Eisenhardt, Bruno Scrosati and Mateo Valero. Their respective fi..

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**March 4th - Old
DNS and NTP
servers will close**

If you operate or are responsible for computers at Chalmers, you should read this. The computers may need reconfiguration.
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**Network for
Swedish nano
research
receives further
boost**

The Swedish Micro and Nano Fabrication Network, MyFab, has now been strengthened through a grant of SEK 75 million from the Knut and Alice Wallenberg ..
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**Energetic
nanoparticles
swing sunlight
into electricity**

The electrons in nanoparticles of noble metal oscillate together apace with the frequency of the light. This phenomenon can be exploited to produce be..
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**Chalmers and
General Motors
in sustainable
partnership**

More than 200 engineers from General Motors (GM) have taken web-based master courses at Chalmers since 2002. In May 2008, a paper on this unique c..
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