



2023-03-08

# The Svedberg Prize 2023 to Simon Johannes Elsässer, Karolinska Institutet

# The Svedberg

The Svedberg (1884-1971, actually Theodor Svedberg) was a professor of physical chemistry at Uppsala University. His research focused on colloids and macromolecular compounds.

He received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1926 for the discoveries he made with the analytical ultracentrifuge he developed.

### **About The Svedberg Prize**

The prize is awarded to a successful biochemist or molecular biologist who is active in Sweden and who has a doctoral degree not older than 12 years counting from the 1<sup>st</sup> January of the year when the prize is awarded.

The Svedberg Prize is a scientific recognition awarded annually in connection with the Swedish Conference on Macromolecular Structure and Function (Sweprot<sup>1</sup>). In addition to a medal, the award also includes a prize of SEK 35,000. The Svedberg Prize is awarded by the Swedish National Committee for Molecular Biosciences within the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences (KVA<sup>2</sup>) together with the Swedish Society for Biochemistry, Biophysics and Molecular Biology (SFBBM<sup>3</sup>).

# The Svedberg Prize 2023 to Simon Johannes Elsässer, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm

The 2023 prize is awarded to Simon Johannes Elsässer, Karolinska Institutet (KI), for his contributions to our understanding of epigenetic gene regulation. His main research focuses on the plasticity of gene expression in pluripotent stem cells, for which he has applied a wide range of techniques ranging from structural biology and classical biochemistry to modern epigenomics and single cell methods. He has established a unique research program developing novel synthetic and chemical biology tools to perform "biochemistry in the living cell", with the aim of studying protein function in a mechanistic and quantitative manner, in the context of the complex cellular environment.

Simon holds a PhD from the David Rockefeller Graduate Program, Rockefeller University and joined KI in 2015, where he now holds the position of Associate Professor at the Department of Medical Biochemistry and Biophysics and Wallenberg Academy Fellow (2021).

More information about Simon and his research is available at: <u>https://elsaesserlab.wordpress.com/</u>

For questions, please contact: <u>agnes.rinaldo-matthis@kemisamfundet.se</u>



Credit: Gonzalo Irigoyen

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>https://sweprot.se/</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <u>https://www.kva.se/</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> <u>https://kemisamfundet.se/sektioner/biokemi-biofysik-och-molekylarbiologi/</u>





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# Additional information

#### **Previous prize winners**

2022 – Benjamin Murrell
2021 – Ville Kaila
2019 – Magda Bienko
2018 – Lynn Kamerlin
2017 – Elin Esbjörner
Winters
2016 – Rickard Sandberg

2015 – Ingemar André 2014 – David Drew 2013 – Martin Ott 2012 – Martin Högbom 2011 – Karin Lindkvist 2010 – Per Jemth 2009 – Per Hammarström 2008 – Thomas Helleday 2007 – Nico Dantuma 2006 – Piergiorgio Percipalle 2005 – Ruth Palmer 2004 – Claes Gustafsson 2003 – Johan Ericsson 2002 – Stefan Björklund 2001 – Mikael Oliveberg

#### **About SFBBM**

The Swedish Society for Biochemistry, Biophysics and Molecular Biology (SFBBM) is an association of Swedish biochemists, biophysicists, and molecular biologists, as well as anybody interested in these sciences. The association's tasks are to promote the development of biochemistry, biophysics and molecular biology. SFBBM is affiliated with the Swedish Chemical Society. The Swedish Chemical Society is a national non-profit association for anybody interested in chemistry and aims to promote the development of chemistry and its applications. SFBBM is also a member society of FEBS and EBSA. For more information see <a href="https://www.kemisamfundet.se">www.kemisamfundet.se</a>.

#### About the Swedish National Committee for Molecular Biosciences

The Swedish National Committee for Molecular Biosciences is one of 18 committees within the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences and represents Sweden in international scientific societies that are part of the ICSU (International Council for Science). The National Committees also have the task of promoting research and education in their subject area, working to strengthen the subject area's position in society, and being available as an advisory body to universities and other parts of the education system.