Dear ProNova Friends,

With this newsletter, we are happy to bring you some news from the ProNova Centre! The ProNova Centre is currently in Stage 3, which is a three-year period (2012-04-01 – 2015-03-31). Stage 3 comes with a new Main Centre Agreement and Operational Plan, a new Centre research program (organized in three Program Areas), an industry partner of Stage 1 returning to the Centre, and stronger links to the Science for Life Laboratory in Solna.

**STAGE 3 RESEARCH PROGRAM**

The research program of Stage 3 is largely based on results and platforms developed earlier within Centre, but it also explores brand new project ideas. The program is organized in three Program Areas, with projects in the following areas of research:

1. **Affinity Tools and Protein Engineering** (Director: Assist. Prof. John Löfblom)
2. **Array Technologies** (Director: Prof. Peter Nilsson)
3. **Microfluidics** (Director: Prof. Helene Andersson Svahn)

The Stage 3 research program was created after discussions between the academic researchers and the industrial partners of the Centre and we believe that it contains many exciting activities that will hopefully lead to results of value to the different parties involved.

The Program Area Directors are part of the Centre Management team, and work closely with the Centre Director and Vice Centre Director on different Centre issues. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome John Löfblom (right) as new Program Area Director of the Centre. John Löfblom is Assistant Professor at the Division of Molecular Biotechnology, KTH School of Biotechnology, and his research is focused on protein engineering and bacterial display technologies.

**STAGE 3 INDUSTRIAL PARTNERS**


We are particularly happy to welcome Swedish Orphan Biovitrum (Sobi), which was a partner of the Centre during Stage 1, back to the ProNova Centre! Sobi is an active participant in Program Area 2: Array Technologies.

All industrial partners of Stage 2 remain as partners during the current stage, with the exception of the US-based company Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics, which became part of the ProNova Centre through the acquisition of Amic AB. The company later found it difficult to participate in the Centre activities and it resigned during Stage 2.

**STAGE 3 CENTRE BOARD**

To better represent the wishes of the different Centre parties, the Centre Board of Stage 3 has been expanded from seven to nine members. The new Centre Board was formally selected at the ProNova General Meeting on October 3rd, 2012, where all the present Centre parties were represented (see photo on the next page). The General Meeting was chaired by Prof. Björn Birgisson, appointed by the President of KTH. The new Centre Board is composed of the following individuals:

- **Prof. Björn O. Nilsson**, President of the Royal Swedish Academy for Engineering Sciences (IVA)
• **Dr. Maris Hartmanis**, Chief Executive Officer of Medivir AB
• **Dr. Cristina Glad**, Executive Vice President of BioInvent International AB
• **Prof. Maria Anvret**, Senior Advisor at the University of Gothenburg, The Sahlgrenska Academy
• **Dr. Åke Danielsson**, Staff Scientist at GE Healthcare Bio-Sciences AB
• **Lisa Ericsson**, Chief Executive Officer of KTH Holding AB
• **Prof. Björn Birgisson**, Vice President for Research, KTH
• **Dr. Marianne Hansson**, Chief Executive Officer of Atlas Antibodies AB
• **Dr. Hugh Salter**, Head of AstraZeneca Translation Science Center

*(Right) ProNova General Meeting on October 3rd, 2012.*

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**ANNUAL CENTRE DAY 2012**

The ProNova Annual Centre Day 2012 will be organized on **December 6th, 2012**, and it will take place in the Gard lecture hall at SMI (Smittskyddsinstitutet), just next to the Science for Life Laboratory in Solna. On the Centre Day, all industrial and academic partners of the Centre are invited to listen to presentations of the Centre activities and to discuss the progress of the research program. There will hopefully also be opportunities to visit the ProNova-related laboratories at SciLifeLab Stockholm, for those interested.

We will get back to you later with details on how to register for the Centre Day, but please mark your calendars already today for this exciting event!

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**SCI LIFE LAB STOCKHOLM**

It was recently announced that the Science for Life Laboratory will receive additional governmental funding and the ProNova Centre is proud to be part of this large investment in Swedish life science research.

In addition to the Centre research groups already located at SciLifeLab Stockholm, the Nanobiotechnology group, headed by Prof. Helene Andersson Svahn, will move to SciLifeLab in the beginning of 2013.

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**INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY BOARD**

The ProNova International Scientific Advisory Board (ISAB) will have their first meeting of Stage 3 in connection with the Annual Centre Day in December, 2012. In addition to attending the Annual Centre Day, the ISAB will be given the opportunity to meet the project leaders separately to discuss the details of the research projects and to give advice on the new research program for Stage 3.

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**PRONova PhD AND LICENTIATe THESES**

During the last year, one PhD thesis and two licentiate theses based on ProNova Centre research have been successfully defended:


Please contact the Centre Management if you are interested in a copy of any of the theses!

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With greetings from the ProNova Centre,
Amelie Eriksson Karlstöm, Centre Director
Per-Åke Nygren, Vice Centre Director
Mathias Uhién, Program Director