



Mentor Program for SSPSD PhD Students

Mentoring is a way of getting input from an experienced person on new ideas and perspectives for your future profession development. We are now offering PhD students in the research school **Social Science Perspectives on Sustainable Development (SSPSD)** the possibility to participate in a mentor program. The aim of the program is to help students extend their network and come into contact with someone experienced in the professional field they will be entering. The mentor program will support PhD students in developing a relationship with a mentor who can be a dialog partner in discussions of professional and personal development.

Who is this program for?

This program is open to all PhD students who are participating in the research school Social Science Perspectives on Sustainable Development, and who want to find a discussion partner outside of SLU to talk about professional and personal career development issues.

Why should you have a mentor?

There are many reasons why one may want a mentor. Perhaps you're new in your PhD studies and want a better understanding of your industry/field. Or perhaps you want a mentor to facilitate/enable a good gateway to your future profession. The mentor can function as a guide in helping you to see how working life works.

Who can become a mentor?

A professional outside academia, with or without a PhD, who you find inspiring. It can be someone who holds a position you can envision having in the future, someone leading the type of organization you might seek employment with, or someone you find inspiring for the career they have developed.

Why would one become your mentor?

Mentors offer their time and experience for the chance to help and follow a person during his/her PhD training, participating in the development of a future professional colleague. As a mentor they will contribute to the development of the PhD in various ways, primarily as a dialog partner, but also giving advice and sharing his/her own experience, both the good and the less flattering.

Guide lines:

- *The participating PhD student is the primary responsible partner for seeing that a fruitful relationship is developed with a mentor.*
- *PhD students are encouraged to propose their own mentor, but may ask the SSPSD for assistance (Contact Nina.lind@slu.se).*
- *Mentors are expected to offer their time pro-bono, making reasonable effort to find time and place to meet with the PhD student, but are under no obligation to provide anything more than informed discussion.*
- *The mentor program will cover financial expenses for travel, accommodation and food as needed to facilitate meetings (not to exceed 2 000 SEK/student/year). Compensation is not available for salary/worktime. Receipts are required for all claimed expenses*.*

Contact for application and further information

Applications to the program should be sent to Nina Lind, Nina.Lind@slu.se, be written in English and include:

- name, SLU-department, full address, e-mail and phone number
- name and SLU-department of PhD supervisor
- short description of PhD project (0,5-1 page)
- name and contact information of mentor
- motivation for choice of mentor
- suggestion and outline for meeting

*Compensation

To receive compensation for expenses, send original receipt together with explanation by mail to Nina Lind, SLU Dept. of Economics, Box 7013, 750 07 Uppsala.