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Newsletter from the research profile CHILD, based at Jönköping University

March 2013

Children's Rights in an International Perspective

One of the basic prerequisites for children having a good life is the fulfillment of children's rights. The UNCR focus on three areas of rights, being protected from harm, being provided with necessary goods and services and having opportunities to participate.

This newsletter has children's rights in an international perspective as its main theme. Two representatives from collaborating partners professors Juan Bornman, University of Pretoria, South Africa and Elinor Brunnberg, Mälardalen University, Sweden, and Frida Lygnegård from CHILD have written short commentaries on this theme.

These commentaries are one of the products generated from a research project about how ICF-CY can be used as a common language in surveying the fulfillment of children's rights for children with disabilities in low and middle income countries. Professor Brunnberg's contribution illustrate that children's rights is an important topic also from a Swedish perspective. [Full story](#)

Professor [Mats Granlund](#), CHILD



Researchers on Children's Rights



A'fika and reflections on ICF-CY

The collaboration SIDA-project between Sweden and South Africa is coming to an end. *Professor Juan Bornman* reflects on the project [ICF-CY: A common language for understanding the multidimensional construct of disability in childhood](#).

Photo: Swedish-SouthAfrican meet in February 2013.

Special Support in Low Income Countries

As a part of the collaboration between CHILD and CAAC in South Africa, [a systematic review of the needs of children with disabilities](#) have been undertaken. Soon to be a CHILD PhD-student, *Frida Lygnegård* states: "The objective was to systematically review the needs of children with disabilities living in poverty settings in low and middle-income countries".

European children in vulnerable situations

The children in the Speak-up project included children from eight European countries living in the most vulnerable situations. Professor *Elinor Brunnberg* and researcher *Mieke Schurmann* [developed a card game to be used in discussion with children on children's rights](#).



Bulletin Board

Academic Achievements



Marita Falkmer defended her doctoral thesis on how to enhance participation of students with

autism in mainstream schools, on January 23rd, 2013.

"Although schools are important social environments for these students, little is known about what is needed to enhance their participation", explains Marita Falkmer. "That is what my thesis is about." [Full story](#)



Anne-Sofie Strand successfully passed her final seminar on February 7th, 2013. "I'm [studying young people's experience](#) of

school absence among several groups of nine graders where the pupils have turned away from school and played truant".



Anna Niia successfully passed her parttime on February 22nd, 2013.

"[The aim of my thesis](#) is to examine the connection between children's participation in school activities and their educational achievement in relation to parents' involvement in their children's school."

47 Peer-reviewed articles

The CHILD-research group published [47 articles](#) in peer reviewed journals during 2012.

CHILD-professor Keynote Speaker in Kentucky



Roland S Persson is appointed Keynote Speaker at the [World Council for Gifted and Talented Children](#) 2013 in Kentucky, USA.

New PhD-student on exchange to Vanderbilt



In March 2013, CHILD-PhD student *Madeleine Sjöman* goes to Vanderbilt in Nashville for four months of research studies.

"I will write my first scientific article and also study observational methods - which I will all put into practice when I get back to Sweden to continue my research project with observations in pre-schools." [Full story](#)

Madeleine Sjöman is one of CHILD's [GEDS-scholars](#) in 2013.

Later this semester PhD-students *Laura Darcy* and *Christina Peterson* will go to University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for research and cultural studies. Jönköping University will during the same time period welcome four students on advanced level from Vanderbilt.

CHILD-professor granted scholarship to Singapore



"This experience will mean a lot to me, to my research, and also to our Swedish research environment CHILD", says

Professor in Nursing Science *Karin Enskär*.

The Swedish Foundation for International Cooperation in Research and Higher Education, STINT, has granted Karin Enskär a six month scholarship to take part in the programme *Excellence in Teaching* with placement at National University of Singapore.

[Full story](#)

Received Funding



PhD-student *Anna-Karin Axelsson* received 475 000 SEK from Stiftelsen Sävstaholm for her project "[Barn med betydande](#)

[funktionshinder](#)".



Professor *Torbjörn Falkmer* has recieved funding from the Australian government for

leading a program within a large scale Australian project on Autism Spectrum Disorders. [Full story](#)

CHILD is a research environment at Jönköping University in Sweden. Our primary research focus is on interventions, participation, learning, health and everyday functioning in children with special needs, but also in typically developing children.

For more information, contact CHILD's research coordinator [Cecilia Allegrind](#), +46 36 10 13 76.

[CHILD's webpage](#)



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