

MEET

BIRGITTA EVENGÅRD!

Migration in Harmony

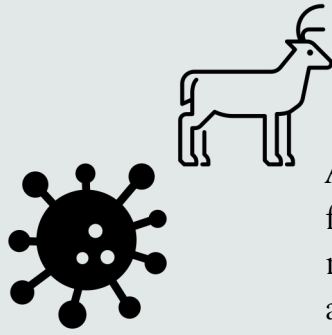
Research Coordination Network





MEET BIRGITTA
EVENGÅRD, SENIOR
PROFESSOR AT UMEÅ
UNIVERSITY

Birgitta Evengård is a specialist in infectious diseases and has worked as a senior consultant for many years. She became professor in Clinical Parasitology at Karolinska Institute in 2006 and the first female professor with a chair in infectious diseases in Sweden at Umeå University in 2007. Since 2007 the main focus for her research has been Climate change and transition of infectious diseases in the North. In 2016 she received funding as a lead from the Nordic Council of Ministers for a Nordic centre of Excellence, a six-year project involving all Nordic countries, England and Russia, www.clinf.org. She is at present a member of the Lancet Commission for Health in the Arctic, the Executive board EU Polar-Net 2 and an AMAP/SDWG Health group in the Arctic Council. She is the author of 11 books, 22 bookchapters and more than 160 publications in peer-reviewed journals, citations more than 10.500, h-index 38.



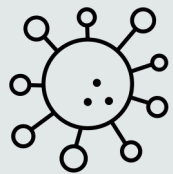
As an MD and clinician (infectious diseases) I observed long term fatigue after several infections, especially viral infections and I spent many years studying and caring for patients with chronic fatigue with a number of scientific publications.

TELL US ABOUT A CURRENT OR PAST RESEARCH PROJECT THAT EXCITES YOU:

It was a straining task for many reasons but so current today with the post-covid situation, a condition that for some reasons seem to have a slightly higher "status" than CFS/ME. I started out with tropical medicine which is still close to my heart as the unequal possibilities for people is so striking.

My PhD was on schistosomiasis and a large group of my patients then were guerilla soldiers from Eritrea who had fled to Sweden. I have spent a lot of time and energy on working for equal opportunities for women in the medical world but also for adequate care in health care for women and men, girls and boys. I was even invited to Bruxelles to talk about this in EU. Gender-equal healthcare!

Since 2007 I have been focused on climate change and the transition of infectious diseases in the Arctic and in 2016 I received funding with colleagues for a Nordic Center of Excellence to work for 6 years on Climate change and the impacts on human and animal health and societies.



WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT YOUR PROFESSION OR FIELD OF STUDY?

“To work with the right colleagues, who are spread out over the globe, to share the same value ground and to recognize the curiosity in their minds.”

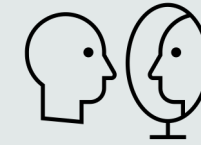




WHO INSPIRES YOU AND WHY?



- Scientists like Alexander von Humboldt and Leonardo da Vinci
- Composers like Mahler
- Jazz singers
- Philosophers like Martin Buber
- Authors like Selma Lagerlöf
- Politicians like the women working for the right to vote
- Brave journalists



- Stay true to yourself and your values
- Be persistent
- Take care of body and soul
- Spend time on cultural activities and stay happy
- Prioritize family and/or friends if it has to be a choice

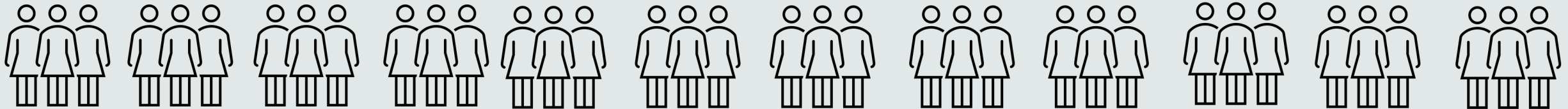
WHAT ADVICE
WOULD YOU GIVE
TO SOMEONE
WHO WANTS TO
ENTER YOUR
FIELD?



FROM EARLY CAREER TO SENIOR RESEARCHER, WE
ARE ALL LIFE-LONG LEARNERS!

WHAT'S ONE THING, PROFESSIONAL OR PERSONAL,
THAT YOU LEARNED IN THE LAST MONTH?

“Reinforced my appreciation and fondness of young female students, their sparkling, intelligent eyes even if the rest is hidden behind a bhurka as in Riyadh on a conference on Life sciences the other month.”



LEARN MORE ABOUT DR. BIRGITTA EVENGÅRD'S WORK!



www.clinf.org

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