

Symposium for Early Career Researchers Working with Indigenous Issues

August 26-27 2025

Gaskeuniversiteete (Mid Sweden University), Campus Staare (Östersund).

Program

The symposium takes place to present the university's work in Saami research and teaching, to learn about the research conducted by the symposium participants, to provide a forum for discussion and exchange, to meet representatives of Saami civil society in Östersund, and to explore possibilities for future collaboration. 15 early career researchers from all over Saepmie and beyond will participate in the symposium's activities.

In addition to the traditional university setting, the participants will visit the *Jamtli museum*, where they will learn about local history and the Saami perspective of the region. On the second day, half of the time will be spent at *Gaaltije - the Saami museum -* where participants will learn about work done in collaboration with the Saami community in the region.

Finally, representatives from the grants office will join the symposium to share information about possible funding opportunities for various activities.

The overall aim of the symposium is to discuss how those of us located at different universities can further develop research in Indigenous issues, taking into account that Indigenous research is a small field where researchers cooperate closely despite being based at different institutions.

The symposium participants will be divided into two groups to work on relevant tasks, and at the end of the second day, we will conclude by summarizing the most important outcomes developed during the event.

The symposium is organized in connection with the 20th anniversary of Gaskeuniversiteete, with financial support from the university and the Riksbankens Jubileumsfond.

All events at the university take place in room B312.

August 26	
9.00-9.15	Presentation of the symposium organizers Ekaterina Zmyvalova, post doc (discipline of law, EJT) Presentation of the symposium participants
9.15-09.45	Gaskeuniversiteete - a university in Saepmie Camilla Olofsson Båatas Administrative Officer for Saami Matters, The Vice-Chancellor's Office, Gaskeuniversiteete
09.45-10.15	On Obtaining Forum Status for the Research Group on Indigenous Matters at Gaskeuniversiteete Angelika Sjöstedt, Professor, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
10.15-10.30	Questions and answers
10.30-11.00	Fika
11.00-11.50	Presentation of the projects of participants (10 min per presentation; 5 persons)
11.50-12.00	Questions and answers
12.00-12.45	Group discussion and presentation: How can higher education institutions support research and education on Indigenous issues?
12.45-14.00	Lunch
14.00-14.30	Grants office of Gaskeuniversiteete: How can the Gaskeuniversiteete Grants Office support researchers with applications for external funding? Torbjörn Westerlund & Katrin Lindbäck, Research Advisors, Grants office
14.30-14.45	Reflections on the first day of symposium
14.45-15.15	Walk to Jamtli museum
15.15-16.30	Excision in Jamtli
18.00	Dinner at Gamla Teatern

August 27	
9.00-10.30	Visit of Gaaltije-samiskt museum Gaaltije-Saemien Museume in contemporary Saepmie Presentation of Jerker Bexelius, CEO
10.30-11.30	Presentation of the projects of participants (10 min per presentation; 6 persons)
11.30-11.45	Walk to the University
11.45-13.00	Lunch
13.00-13.40	Presentation of the projects of participants (10 min per presentation; 4 persons)
13.40-14.00	Questions and answers
14.00-14.45	Group work and presentation: what have we learned from Gaskeuniversiteete's approach to working with Indigenous issues, and how can we further develop cooperation?
14. 45- 15.00	Closing remarks

After the symposium, we plan to publish information about it on the university's web page as well as disseminate information via other platforms. If you want to contribute to preparing the text for publication, you are welcome to do so.