



LIME student news

No 1, May 2024

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Finally Summer!

It has been a long winter, but now we have reached the end of the semester, and you are about to enjoy some well-deserved time off. For those of you who will graduate, CONGRATULATIONS! We are immensely proud to have had you here at LIME for two exciting and challenging years. We hope you'll



stay in touch with KI in some way or another in the future.

Summer signifies leisure time, and in this newsletter, you'll discover some book recommendations from the Department of Bioentrepreneurship and an intriguing interview with one of our teachers and researchers, **George Keel**.

Lastly, we extend warm wishes for a joyful and relaxing summer. To our first-year students, we eagerly await your return on September 2nd!

Mia von Knorring and Madelen Lek

Departmental Head of Education and Assistant Departmental Head of Education (and PD for MBE)

[Link](#)



Before you leave - check out our checklist

Before you leave KI, please check out our



What happens to your student account?

check list what to do before leaving Sweden. Make sure to check with your accommodation as well.

You have access to your student e-mail, Canvas and other systems two semesters after you have finished your studies.

Checklist

Your Student Account



Upcoming events and dates

May 30, HI Conversations "Navigating the CE Marking Pathway"

May 30, Graduation Ceremony

June 13, HI Conversations "Procurement in healthcare settings"

September 2, Autumn semester start

Meet George Keel

Assistant Professor, Researcher in Health Economics and Course Leader for three of the courses in Health Economics, Policy and Management

Hey George, you are the course responsible and teacher for the courses in Economic Evaluation of Health Care Programmes, Health Economics - Financing Health and Medical Care, and Advanced Course In Health Economics. How did your interest in Health Economics begin?

And what is your specialization?

I actually started my professional career as a research assistant at LIME, and was recruited to that position as I was wrapping up my master's thesis within the HEPM program – the program in which I teach today!

During the program I became interested in the overlapping principals and frameworks surrounding "value" in both health economics and management sciences. I began working as a research assistant in projects exploring the management-side of these ideas within the new (at the time) ideas emerging within value-based health care. I had also been historically drawn to the puzzle-solving nature of decision analytic modelling within health economics, and I was consistently trying to find opportunities for working with these kinds of analytics.

I was later recruited to IMS Health (now IQVIA) to work as a consultant in health economic modelling, where I specialized in economic model adaptation and development within market access.

The future of health economics – what kind of possibilities and challenges do you see?

As with many industries, I am curious about the magnitude of disruption we can expect from recent and ongoing developments with large-language models like ChatGPT. This has potentially massive implications for the industry of model development, report writing, problem solving, and decision analysis. Anyone entering into the field of health economics should have a close eye on this.

There are many possibilities in and challenges currently, but they are perhaps a bit difficult



to describe outside of the field. Particularly, the QALY is very much under the microscope as an outcome measure but is still very much the key outcome of effectiveness in health economics. Its shortcomings are often discussed, and I am curious to see what alternatives emerge (if any) that may shake things up a bit. Further, the standard-operating-procedures for how we make decisions around which medical technologies and treatments we approve based on the current Net-Monetary-Benefit approach has some negative consequences when one looks at the wider perspective of society as a whole – if we consistently purchase expensive therapies that are "affordable" considering an established willingness-to-pay for outcomes, this will have consequences for the budget and these resources need to come from somewhere, and may simply affect our ability to pay for treatments in the future (sinking our willingness-to-pay). These are just a few of the many challenges I see in our field right now.

Without a doubt, you have received extraordinary positive feedback from our students in the course evaluations. Why do you think students appreciate your courses so much? Do you use a special methodology or pedagogy?

Thank you for the kind words. I am not sure if my approaches are ideal or not for many reasons, and they come with a high workload. But I can say that perhaps the most important thing is to establish a relationship with the people (students) you are working with.

Demonstrate that you are interested in what they think – get their opinions and preferences regarding how content is delivered, or how things should be done differently. And do so on a regular basis. Then implement those changes that you can as soon as possible, and make clear why you cannot implement changes that you can't. This way students feel heard, and valued.

A second thing is to consistently have their futures in mind – make sure they know that priority number 1 is their learning, and that this learning is centered around skills and concepts that will help propel them into the modern workplace. Be clear with them that this is the goal. Provide examples and emphasis for concepts and ideas that are used in the workforce today – how, when, where, and why they are used. This helps students feel the value of the content they are learning – they feel it is something they will likely need to apply and understand in practice.

Finally, I think humility is important. Make students aware you are not perfect and that you make mistakes. Be up front about your shortcomings and weaknesses so that they know what to expect and the context from which your instructions, content, and opinions are coming. They can then decide for themselves how they want to internalize what you are saying, while considering the source.

Besides being a teacher, what else do you do?

I am a research manager at the Swedish Institute for Health Economics, where I essentially work as a research consultant with a specialization in costing and health economic modelling. I work with clients in start-ups, pharma, med-tech, academia, and others to help gather information, generate evidence, and support decision making using established and occasionally innovative methods. It's a lot of fun, and it's good to apply what I teach/learn in practice – it feels good to do something that generates results in the short(ish) term.

Last - what do you do in your sparetime?

I like to hike, camp, pick mushrooms/berries, and picnic with my wife and my kids. I also like to work with my hands on my in-laws' farm. I've had to set aside some of my special talents as I am the father of a 3-year-old. But I very much enjoy brewing beer (not exactly the most public-health friendly hobby, but you gotta live a little I guess), bouldering, kayaking, and riding horses in fields and forests.



Apply for your degree

Remember to apply for your degree when the last grade is reported. You apply through Ladok. Students in the MBE and HEPM programmes apply through KI's Ladok and HIC students through SU's Ladok.



Do you want to read our previous Students News from LIME?

Check out our previous Newsletters in the link below. You will find interviews with our PDs,

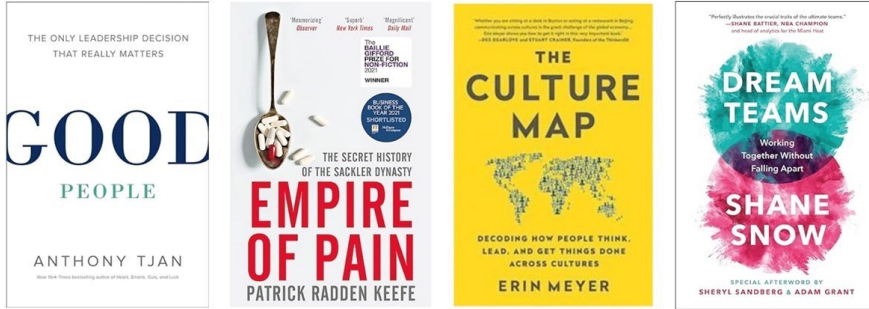
students and other useful stuff. Enjoy!



CHECK OUT OUR PREVIOUS NEWS LETTERS HERE

Book recommendations for the summer

Summertime usually means more time to read. The Unit of Bioentrepreneurship has selected four books they think could be interesting for you to read during your summer holidays.



Did you find this newsletter useful?



LIME student news is a newsletter for all master students at the department of LIME.

If you have any tips on or suggestion for content, please send an email to: malin.sandell@ki.se.

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