

THE SWEDISH SCHOOL OF TEXTILES

THS



Master's degree student Tiarna Dame Ruth Sirait's pink body stockings with turgid breasts adorned with spangles and rounded bottoms do not claim to be fashionable but should be seen as an artistic installation.

A small Swedish city with a long textile tradition

No wonder the Swedish School of Textiles is regarded as one of Europe's leading seats of learning in the textiles industry. Despite the fact that we are situated in a city populated by only a 100.000 people in a small country far in the north, our school has become a natural meeting place to students, scientists, designers, and professors in the textile field from all over the world. Our research in textiles, apparel and design has gained much attention and won several prestigious prizes.

In this brochure we present our ideas and show how an interdisciplinary research in symbiosis with creativity and a "nothing is impossible" spirit has made us a seat of learning beyond the ordinary.

In her blog University College rector
Lena Nordholm writes about life
at the University College of
Borås. Each blog comes
with a picture taken
by her personally.



A JOURNEY

**A JOURNEY THROUGH THE SWEDISH SCHOOL OF TEXTILES.
THE PAST, THE PRESENT AND THE FUTURE**

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WHAT IS THE SWEDISH SCHOOL OF TEXTILES ALL ABOUT?

One of Europe's leading institute of research, development and education in the field of textiles

The Swedish School of Textiles (THS) is one of six departments at the University College of Borås. In total, the University College has 11.500 students. The University College of Borås strives to become the nation's first University of Professions. Research will then be conducted in close collaboration with the business community, the industry, and the commercial sector. This kind of collaboration has been the working method of the THS for many years.

THS is today Sweden's leading institution of research and development and education in the field of textiles. This has been achieved through a determined and concentrated initiative that began to take shape many years ago.

Expectations were very high – the aim was to become Europe's leading institute; an aim that has been realized today.

The field of textiles is extremely broad, as reflected in the activities of THS. Many of our professors, lecturers, and senior lecturers are internationally established scientists and well-known in their respective fields. Research and education is carried out in design and technology, handicraft and management and trade, geared towards the area of textiles. While maintaining their top research status, the research profiles are, at the same time, in the process of being integrated with one another.

The building that today houses
the Swedish School of Textiles
held 2000 seamstresses
sewing jeans in the 1960's.



SWEDISH TEXTILES BEAT EXPORT RECORD

Swedish export of textiles and fashion
totalled € 1,7 billions in 2006

When exports of Swedish textiles beats all time records the THS takes part of the credit. The school's obvious industry focus and the fact that the THS is the only school of its kind in the Nordic Countries carries with it responsibility for supplying the textile industry with skilled personnel.

Knowledge and inventiveness are ever more important

and companies view communication with scientists as essential.

Textiles play an important part in today's Swedish national economy. Textiles have grown in importance when it comes to technical applications in areas such as construction, automotive industry, soil and plant preservation and filters and medical applications.



**"Design is form and form is thought materialized.
Our shapes and forms are important parts of our lives.
They express our values and our ambitions.
This is what makes design so full of nuance."
Johan Huldt, professor in design theory/design methodology**

**Måste bytas till
högupplöst!**

TEXTILE TRADITIONS

- From actual production to development and design

Borås has a very long textile tradition and is naturally a centre of trade for fashion and textiles. The Swedish textile and clothing industry is based in the Borås area. Here one can find anything from clothing manufacturers, knitting and weaving mills to manufacturers of technical textiles. Since a great deal of the actual production of textiles today is outsourced to other countries, the textile companies have concentrated on product development and design. Borås has one of Europe's finest textile museums and is also home of the the State Testing Laboratory.

In the late 1980's the Institute of Textiles moved to the University College of Borås together with the Textile Engineer Programme from the Chalmers University of Technology and thus became the THS. The tradition of textile education dates back to 1866 when "Tekniska Väfskolan" (the Technical School of Weaving) was founded. Over the years, the educational system has been developed in response to increasing demands for skills and knowledge from the textile industry.



During the 1970's the textile industry in Borås flourished. This picture was taken outside the Algot's factory at the end of the working-day.

The background of the image is filled with a repeating pattern of red, pill-shaped capsules. The capsules are oriented diagonally, sloping downwards from left to right. They are arranged in a staggered grid, with each capsule slightly offset from the one above and to the left. The color is a solid, vibrant red.

RESEARCH



**Silence by
Margareta Zetterblom,
postgraduate student.**

“THE FUTURE IS NOT WHAT IT USED TO BE ...”

– Research at the Swedish School of Textiles

Research at the THS is carried out in the areas of textile materials, textile techniques, textile and apparel design; textile handicraft and textile and design management. Textile research is an area of research in which engineering science, design, finance and handicraft meet in collaboration. Today the THS has developed a multidisciplinary research environment where knowledge based on practical experience is combined with artistic development.

– The THS has never before been in such a favourable position as it is today. We are here thanks to our technical equipment but also thanks to the top research knowledge and skills among our scientists, postgraduate students and undergraduate students, says Ronald Pedersen, head of department at the THS.



Foto: Christer Månsson, Stucco Borås

“Textiles can be stronger than steel and as light as air. Fibres with entirely new qualities lead the way to exciting innovations and new designs. I see no limitations to what we can design within textiles and fashion. It is all about being able to express oneself.”

Ulla Eson Bodin, professor of textile and fashion design at the Swedish School of Textiles.

INTELLIGENCE AND INTERACTION IN TEXTILES

Today's textiles are customized materials with entirely new qualities. They can be formed, be combined with other materials and used in ways never imagined before. These intelligent textiles interact with the surroundings and can be combined with portable technology. Whole new areas in which textile research is involved more increasingly are in sports and leisure, arts and games and military equipment. Future designers will be challenged in new ways and at some point may have to leave traditional textile terminology behind.

“Smart textiles” are, as implied by their name, intelligent. They are products that in some senses of the word are “active” themselves when used. They can

be used in anything from curtains that sense the sun and change structure to clothes that adapt their function to extreme environments. Textile design is today a hightech area that demands a broad multidisciplinary research foundation; anything from material science, computer science, sensor technology and textile technology to development work and experiments in textile and fashion design.

– When we within the framework of Smart textiles work in experiments to combine computer technology and textile materials it is all about experimental design in the border between textile design and interactional design, says Lars Hallnäs, professor in interactiondesign.

A textile material that reacts and changes color at the signal from a cellphone. The bag has been manufactured as a multidisciplinary collaboration between Linda Worbin, postgraduate student, THS, and Hanna Landin, postgraduate student, Interaction Design Collegium, Chalmers University of Technology.



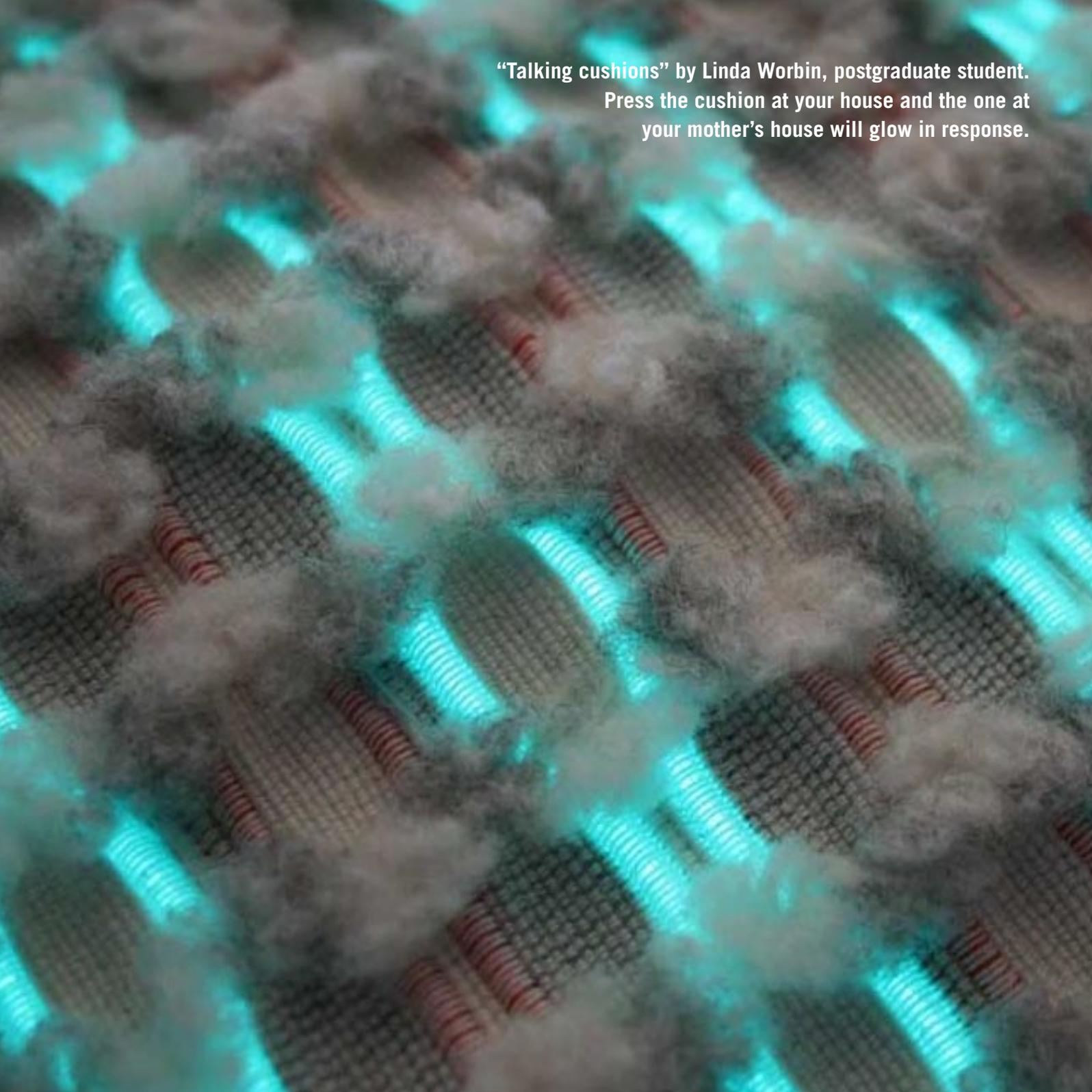
THE SWEDISH SCHOOL OF TEXTILES TAKES THE LEAD

in the design race initiated by the
minister of culture and education

In 2006 Leif Pagrotsky, the Swedish minister of culture and education, initiated a design relay race together with Svensk Form. Starting out was the minister's own choice Linda Worbin, textile designer and Postgraduate Student in Smart textiles and interactional design at the THS. Linda Worbin explores new meetings between textiles and IT. In her work with variable

textile patterns she has combined heat-conducting and luminous materials with textiles. One example is a curtain that turns into a lamp after sunset. Another example is her talking cushions, developed in collaboration with the Interactive Institute; press the cushion at your house and the one at your mother's house will glow in response.

“Talking cushions” by Linda Worbin, postgraduate student.
Press the cushion at your house and the one at
your mother’s house will glow in response.



MILLIONS GOING TO SMART TEXTILES

The vision of the Borås area developing into a centre for smart textile is close to realization. Together with five other applicants the University College of Borås advances to the next step in the proclamation called "Win-grow". For the coming two years the THS receives €200.000 for development of the new ideas. No more than two of the five will be granted prolonged financial funds for the period 2008-2016. These funds amount to €600.000 each year for a period of ten years.



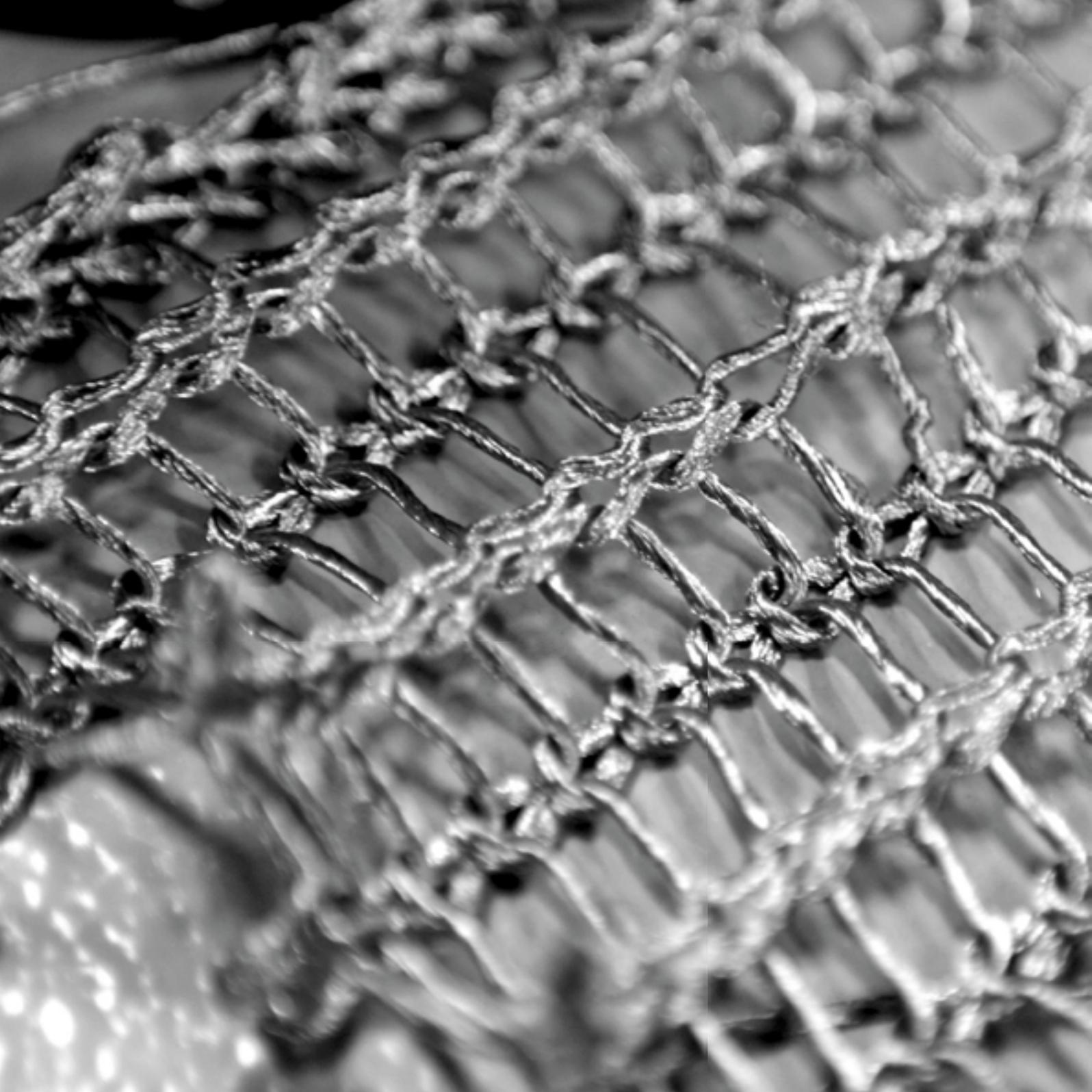
CAN YOU SAVE SOMEONE'S LIFE BY KNITTING?

New materials can measure ECG

Thanks to funds granted by the Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation, the THS was recently able to acquire two specially made circular knitting and flat knitting machines which are capable of knitting in rigid materials such as copper. Among other things, the new machines have been very valuable in the development of medical textiles, an area that scientist Lena Berglin has specialized in. Her development of materials that measures ECG is excellent to the fire department's firefighters with smoke helmets. Using wireless equipment the signals can be transferred to personnel monitoring the firefighters lifesigns on the outside. Today there is

no good way to monitor the firefighters' health status during operations. Despite this obvious breakthrough Lena Berglin believes that her research will do most good in the health care sector.

– We could easily keep track of the health status of elderly people by monitoring their lifesigns from a distance. This would save a lot of money and improve health care and safety of the elderly since they may be able to live in their own homes longer. Also, clothing may be used to monitor muscle activity in professions that perform monotonous tasks in order to avoid damage due to wear.



KNITTED SOUND- ABSORBERS

The big secret is out

Finally, after a great deal of secrecy professor Ulla Bodin and senior lecturer Folke Sandvik of the THS risks showing the world their knitted sound-absorbers. Recently they submitted their own and the UCB's first patent application to the Swedish Patent and Registration Office. Now they are faced with the challenge of finding business partners and interesting them in producing their innovations. After three years work developing their idea they presented it publicly for the first time at the 2006 Furniture Fair in Milano. The patents are based on the idea that a room may be furnished with the three-dimensional sound-absorbers and thus adapted to different sound textures.

Silence by changing shapes

Already as a Master's degree student Margaretha Zetterblom saw the need for sound-absorbing textiles in public areas. That is why she has decided to explore the subject further as a doctoral student. Right now she develops knitted and milled/fulled absorbents that varies their shape when sound levels in the room go up. – The Swedish textile industry will have to compete for market shares with development and specialized skills, she says.



FASHION IN FUSION

Researching fashion design

The University College of Borås hope to be the first university in the world to create a consequently carried out design methodology in fashion design.

Scientists Lars Hallnäs, Johan Huldt and Clemens Thornqvist are the men behind a three-year project that begins in 2006 and is funded by the Knowledge Foundation. From the results of the project they hope to be able to develop design methodologies in order to allow fashion designers and corporations to review their decisions to find out for example what went right and what went wrong in the development of a new collection.

– Fashion design is different from other kinds of de-

sign because many products are created in a very short period of time. So far no design methodology adapted specifically for fashion design has existed, says Clemens Thornqvist.

Fashion design is also different from other kinds of design due to the fact that most people take more interest in what they wear than what their vacuum cleaners or alarm clocks look like.

– It is all about what the clothes express, what they feel like when worn and how others perceive the person wearing a particular article of clothing, Lars Hallnäs states.

“The Dark Room Fashion Show” was an experimental work on the border between experimental fashion design and sonic art.



Creative leadership

One notices the THS research platform growing ever stronger in many ways but mainly through the growing number of doctor's dissertations. Clemens Thornqvist defended his doctoral thesis in the fall of 2005. He holds a degree in fashion design and one in textile management and his area of research lies somewhere between Design Management and Fashion Methodology. In his thesis he presents an entirely new perspective in the field of creative leadership. Clemens Thornqvist is one of five researchers in the field of Textile Management at THS.



All in all 1500 photographs was taken by Clemens Thornqvist during his research. Some of them became important parts of his doctoral thesis and he presented them at an exhibition connected to the disputation.

Street fashion

Postgraduate student, Kajsa G Eriksson, is both an artist and a fashion designer. In her coming thesis in fashion design she proceeds from questions centred on the meaning and aesthetics of fashion. What does fashion represent and why does it look the way it does? Kajsa G Eriksson has studied the street fashions which fashion designers observe and are inspired by in their work. Her research consists mainly in the creation of settings using models and clothing in city public spaces.

Remodelled suits

Through his research postgraduate student Marcus Bergman wants to remodel men's suits, making them once again an article of clothing that will last for generations. The primary task is to simplify the suit's design in order to lower the total number of man-hours put into the making of each suit. Or, he would like to improve on materials by replacing today's wool materials with new kinds of intelligent textiles.



IN PASSING: The street, fashion and creation of meaning in public space. The 2002 "T-poncho project" was carried out by Kajsa G Eriksson together with Karin Landahl. The project was performed and presented at Art-Genda, Hamburg.

WOOL, COTTON, FLAX AND RUBBER

Let's go deeper into polymeric materials

In order to strengthen technical research the THS brought in Hans Bertilsson, professor in fiber technology. So far research in the field is in a build-up phase. However, in the fall of 2006 Hans Bertilsson is given a longed-for contribution in the shape of a doctoral student specialized in carbon nano tubes. Carbon nano technology is an expansive field of research that has the future before it. Carbon nano tubes may prove to be important materials during the 21st century. The potential uses are plenty.

What the scientists at the THS will primarily look into is how strength and rigidity of fibers and coatings of textile materials may be improved with carbon nano tubes. They possess great properties when it comes to reinforcing fibers.

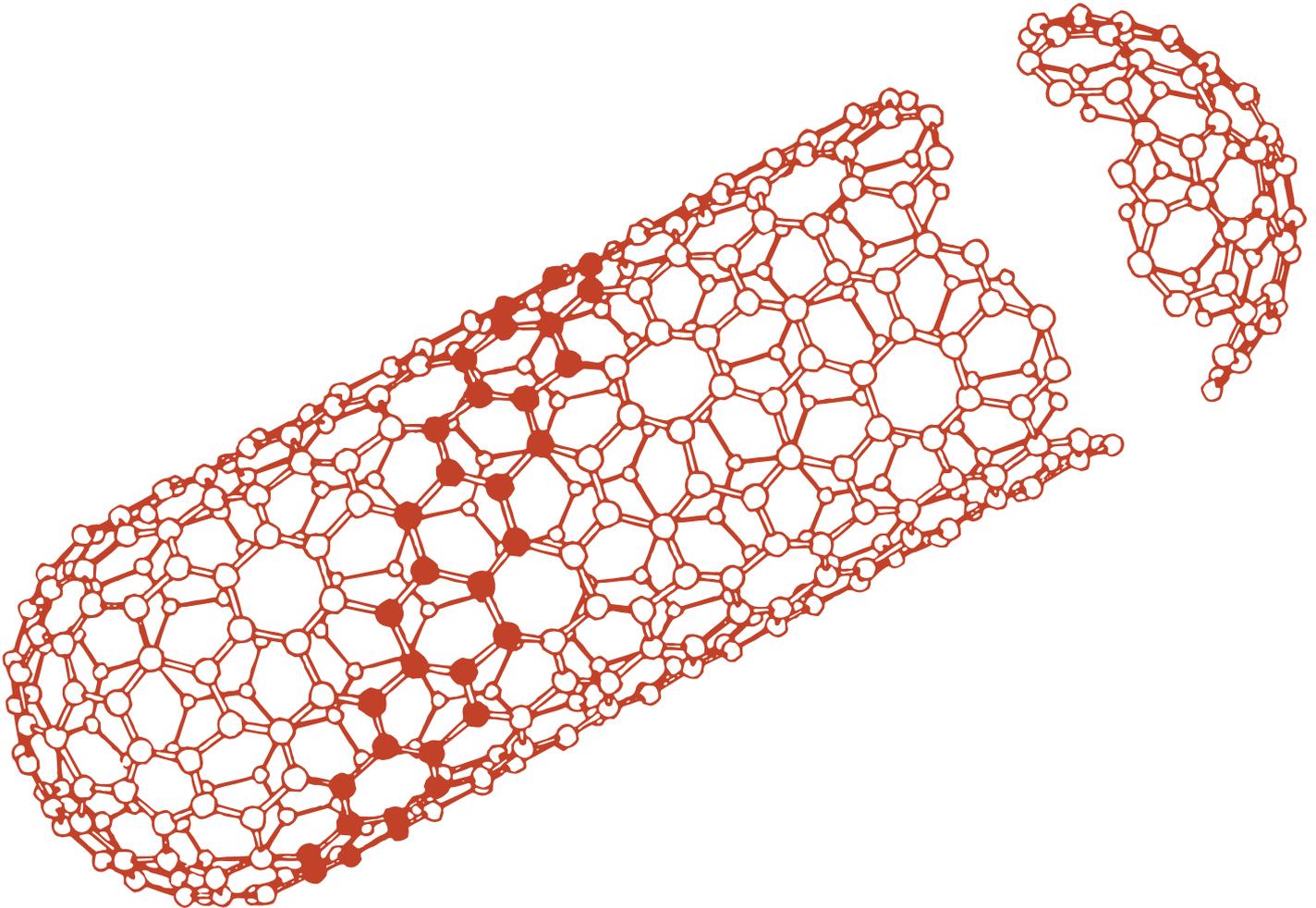
– If we are able to reinforce the fiber we have come a long way. I have many ideas. Another advantage of the carbon nano tubes is their property as electric conductors.

– In this respect the carbon nano tubes are far superior and this may help invent many new smart textiles. Hans Bertilsson is of the opinion that a deeper insight into polymeric materials is of great importance. Polymeric materials are all around us already; natural polymeric materials are wool, cotton, flax and other polymeric materials include plastics, rubber, polyester and nylon. Research in the field did not begin until the 1920's.

– Textile technology is a broad subject. It is very important to the textile industry that the technical skill is both increased and broadened.

“My task has been to implement material technology focused on polymeric materials in instruction and research.”

Hans Bertilsson, professor in polymeric technology.



A Carbon nano tube has a diameter of 1-10 nm and is about 10-100 μm long. Its structure is the same as graphite, i.e. a six-ring structure that gives it an incredible strength.



EDUCATION



INDUSTRIAL FULL-SCALE ENVIRONMENT

Visitors to the THS are impressed by the advanced machinery. The department itself is housed in a building that maintains fine old textile traditions; as late as the 1970's coats and shirts were manufactured in the very same building. In 10.000 m² of offices and traditional classrooms there are sandwiched together studios, student workrooms, clothing halls, colour laboratories, computer rooms and huge halls for tricot and weaving machines. The entire building is a melting pot for a number of textile organizations and textile operations such as the Textile Industry Research Institute and a branch of IFP Research. Since our undergraduate students, doctoral students and researchers have continual access to this unique array of modern and computerized industrial machinery for knitting, weaving and preparation, continual development is possible.

The art of solving problems and creating personal expression at the same time

The networks of lecturers and scientists are vital to the THS. Through educational visits, workshops, projects and examination papers both students and scientists are provided with informal contacts with industry organisations and companies. Students are not only learning to adapt their work to the industry but they also learn to view this process as a challenge. Solving the problem at hand is at the heart of being a designer, combined with the need to infuse a personal touch or expression in the product. All the students on the design programmes attend a foundation course in art and textiles before choosing to specialize in their chosen area of knowledge and skills.

In order to ensure quality in the practical items of education and research large investments have been made in equipment and machines. The THS house is a full-scale environment of textile industrial equipment that is unique internationally, including workshops and laboratories in design and manufacture. This picture shows the weaving mill.



A LIBRARY OUT OF THE ORDINARY

The University College of Borås hosts Sweden's leading educational courses in information science and librarianship, which is why students and lecturers are offered a library out of the ordinary. The new library was opened in 2004 and has already become a focal point of the University College of Borås; Library and teacher resources offer modern equipment and houses valuable and unique collections in fashion and textiles. Our vision is to combine a flexible way of working with a high level of service when it comes to information retrieval.

FACTS

Number of Volumes: more than 150.000

Number of seating spaces: 817

Total area: 6.000 m²

Number of study rooms: 32

In addition to the above there are a number of computer rooms, study rooms and open study areas.



b i b l i o t e k

EXHIBITIONS AND FASHION SHOWS

From Borås to Alexandria, to Milan,
to Minsk, to...

The THS and its students often participate in exciting projects and display their talents. In 2006 the theme "Body & Space" put smart textiles in focus and both Master's degree students and doctoral students displayed their new ideas. The exhibition attracted a lot of attention both in Svenska Möbelmässan and in Milano. Other fairs and exhibitions where Postgraduate Students of the THS participated were the international display "Tough Fabrics – Advanced Fabrics Exhibition" in San Antonio, Texas, USA, German Avantex Materio in Paris, Futurotextiles in Lille, Designers week in Prag and Eindhoven.



**“Electric beauty”
by Therese Södervall,
master’s degree student.**

TUTANKHAMUN'S WARDROBE

**An exhibition that caught the
world's attention**

Students attending the Manual Weaving programme have participated in a variety of national and international projects. One unique project that has attracted a lot of attention all over the world is the exhibition "Tutankhamun's Wardrobe" which started out at the Textile History Museum of Borås in 1999. In 2006 the world famous exhibition finally returned home to Egypt. For three months the exhibition was on display in the library of Alexandria. Christina Rinaldo of the THS is the woman behind all the unique reproductions.

Another historical project that has been examined closer by some of the second year students at the manual weaving programme in 2006 was the clothes of the Dannike woman, found in 1942 during peat-harvesting. Few common articles of clothing from 17th century Sweden have been preserved. The students have analyzed pictures of the textile remains and from that reconstructed materials.

CRAFTMANSHIP FUSIONS WITH THE ACADEMIC ENVIRONMENT

– As an archeologist I find it immensely fruitful to be able to collaborate with skilled craftsmen. They possess valuable and fundamental knowledge that fall outside the traditional scientific sphere. Views on this kind of knowledge are changing right now. There is a growing acceptance for craftsmanship as knowledge in the academic environment which makes it equal to other knowledge, says Lise Bender Jørgensen, professor in textile science specialized towards manual weaving and archeologist at Teknisknaturvetenskapliga universitet in Trondheim, Norway.

– Manual weaving and textile science are multidisciplinary subjects. I see cooperative projects between all cultural fields. There really are no limitations.



**After an eight year long
tour paved by successes
of museums all over the
world the Thutankhamun
exhibition returned
to the Textile History
Museum of Borås
in 2006-2007.**

FROM RUSSIA, WITH LOVE

International fashion week in Minsk

This year for the first time ever fashion design students from the THS were present at the fashion week in Minsk, Belarus.

The THS hosted a fashion show together with a number of European fashion schools from e.g. Paris, Barcelona, Milano and Moscow.



From Weronica Hagerling's collection
"Scorched countries green May".

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IN FASHION

The world's first metalconstruction
to win fashion award

The THS student Maria Nordström's creation was awarded Best Swedish Entry in the 2005 Fashion WC. Her daring metal construction attracted wide attention and was elected Best Swedish Entry out of a total of 160 creations displayed on the catwalk.



**Maria Nordström's creation was
awarded Best Swedish Entry
in the 2005 Fashion WC.**

PRESTIGIOUS NORDIC TEXTILE AWARD GOES TO FORMER BORÅS STUDENT

In 2006 former Borås student Kazuyo Nomura was awarded 250.000 SEK, the single largest prize sum handed out in the Nordic countries. Today she is a textile artist residing in Gothenburg and is awarded for her creativity, skill in the craft and her ability to expand frontiers.

The jury unanimously voted for Kazuyo Nomura as winner of the award.

– She displays a vast breadth and depth and that is why she is awarded the prize, says Rolf Danielsson, head of Textile History Museum of Borås.

In addition to weaving Kazuyo Nomura experiments with several textile techniques and she is not afraid to try out new kinds of materials in her work.



KAPPAHL DESIGN AWARD

a competition that encourages

KappAhl Design Award is a fashion show and designer contest organized by fashion design students in connection to the annual Stockholm fashion week and is sponsored by KappAhl. The purpose of the contest is to present young designers with an opportunity to independently carry out a creative project to find their personal way of expressing themselves through design. The winner of the 2006 KappAhl Design Award was Elin Svensson with her collection "Jahve".

KappAhl is one of the biggest fashion retail companies in Sweden.



The fashion collection "Jahve" by Elin Svensson won the 2006 KappAhl Design Award for its suggestive choice of topic and element of surprise. The idea was carried out consequently and focussing on skilled craftsmanship and contemporary materials.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES

Students of the THS come from all over Sweden to study design, management, technology, techniques, handicraft and trade in the field of textiles. Many of the students add to their Swedish education through university studies abroad. Every year a number of students come as exchange students to the THS and Borås. The THS have cooperative agreements with several world leading universities and university colleges.

BACHELORS PROGRAMME:

BSC IN FASHION DESIGN, 180 ECTS

In this programme creativity is combined with technical knowledge. In the selection process applicants' merits both from samples of previous work and former education are taken together. After that a number of applicants are summoned for a trial day. The main subject is Fashion design.

BSC IN TEXTILE DESIGN, 180 ECTS

In this programme the artistic ability is developed to create textiles for the future. In the selection process applicants' merits both from samples of previous work and former education are taken together. After that a number of applicants are summoned for a trial day. The main subject is Textile design.

BSC IN TEXTILE MANAGEMENT, 180 ECTS

This programme is the only of its kind in Sweden and provides broad knowledge about in textile production process and deep insight in financial management and purchase.

BSC TEXTILE ENGINEER, 180 ECTS

This is the only programme of its kind in the country and provides students with the skills that the business will require from future textile engineers.

**BSC IN TEXTILES WITH SPECIALISATION
IN HANDLOOM WEAVING, 180 ECTS**

This programme combines the handicraft of manual weaving with artistic and technical development.

**BUSINESS AND PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT
IN TEXTILE, 120 ECTS**

This education will improve your ability to independently develop product and business ideas for the field of textiles.

**RETAIL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME,
TEXTILE AND APPAREL, 120 ECTS**

This programme has been built up by the THS in collaboration with the business to meet the demands of the future.

**DESIGN TECHNICIAN PROGRAMME WITH
SPECIALISATION IN INTERNATIONAL
MANUFACTURING, 120 ECTS**

This programme provides students with professionally relevant knowledge about the process from design to manufacturing and delivery.

MASTERS PROGRAMME:

**MSC OF FINE ARTS IN FASHION AND TEXTILE
DESIGN – WITH SPECIALISATION IN FASHION
DESIGN OR TEXTILE DESIGN, 120 ECTS**

MSC IN TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY, 60 ECTS

MSC IN TEXTILE MANAGEMENT, 60 ECTS

MSC IN APPLIED TEXTILE MANAGEMENT, 60 ECTS

**BUSINESS
COMMUNITY
RELATIONS**





COLLABORATION TO STRENGTHEN SWEDISH DESIGN

Companies and scientists work together to develop exciting new products and to strengthen Swedish design. It has always been a characteristic of the THS to combine theory and practice. Working together with the business and industry is a central aspect of the school in everything from basic education to advanced research. Our goal is to continue developing in order to meet the demands for the development of knowledge and skills from the textile and fashion industry in particular and society in general.



Textile research is an area of research in which engineering science, design, finance, and handicraft meet in collaboration. Here are some of the scientists working in Borås: Linda Worbin, postgraduate student, Lars Hallnäs, professor, PhD Clemens Thornqvist, lecture of fashion design and Ulla Eson Bodin, professor of textile and fashion design.

INVESTMENTS FROM THE INDUSTRY

A win-win situation

The THS close cooperation with industry creates great opportunities to share equipment and the latest technology. As Swedish manufacturers increasingly outsource production to other countries it is becoming more and more important for personnel and students to have access to testing equipment. One such example is the THS development laboratory which has a multitasking machine for wet preparation. Only a few years ago The Swedish Textile and Clothing Industries' Association invested €0,5 million worth of equipment for the laboratory. Today, the equipment is used by stu-

dents, scientists and corporations. This cooperation has meant that large investments have been shared among several partners while at the same time creating opportunities for the academic and corporate worlds to interact.

– Our machine park is not as large as the ones in the manufacturing industry, which makes it easier to run different kinds of tests. Companies often come here to run their tests in order to avoid shutting down their own plants, says Maria Stawåsen, technician at the development laboratory.

Third year textile engineer students learn more about chemical baths. Here, they are preparing cloth to be crease-resistant.



THE TEXTILE RESEARCH CENTER

CTF, the Textile Research Center, is an international meeting place for the advancement of and discussion about ongoing textile research. From the very outset in 1998 the CTF has held a central position in the development of research and artistic development at the THS. Over the years the agenda has been seminars,

conferences, publishing of journals and the formation of researcher networks of many kinds. In the future CTF's role as the arena and infrastructure for research and artistic development is to be strengthened further. This ambition involves not only the THS' own research but also other actors in the field of textiles.



CTF publishes the Nordic Textile Journal; ambitions include developing the journal over time into a widely recognized scientific journal in the field.

TEXTILE INNOVATION & COMPETENCE CENTER, TIC

The starting point of the Textile Innovation & Competence center, TIC, is partnership. The centre is to function as a meeting place, a knowledge and skills centre and a forum for inquiry; a highly flexible organization where different kinds of skills and knowledge are brought in from both the THS and the industry through four development areas.

In line with the idea of the University College of Borås as a vocational university the THS has started up a cen-

tre for cooperation in the textile field together with corporations and branch organisations. The name of this centre is the TIC.

– Seen both from a regional and national perspective, the textile industry is important and widespread. Also, global competition poses the industry with new challenges. That is why it is important that scientists and corporations cooperate, explains Erik Bresky, director of TIC.



TIC is an innovation, knowledge and skills centre for textiles with business ventures in areas such as design, handicraft, technology, fashion logistics and management.

THE KNITTING ACADEMY ASSUMES A MORE DEFINED FORM

An experimental workshop that brought
new possibilities to the Swedish
tricot industry

Thanks to the Knitting Academy there are a number of possibilities open to the Swedish tricot industry today – both in design and technology. In 1998 the THS founded the Knitting Academy, which in the beginning consisted only of an experimental workshop in Sätilla. 2001 saw the beginning of a collaboration with Swedish manufacturers of tricot and the academy moved to Gällstad. The purpose of this was to create an arena for tricot where design students and designers would be able to develop their ideas together. Today, applicants come from design education courses all over

the country. Furthermore business ventures have grown since over one hundred projects have been initiated so far. Tricot clothing is no longer the only object of research; there is just as much work done on exciting textile innovations and textile materials for use in health care or sound-absorbing textiles for interior decoration. Many of the products are today manufactured by the industry and are available on the market. More unusual and personal textile ideas and exclusive products have found their niche.



KNIT-ON-DEMAND

Design your own clothes and have them manufactured on the spot

First the dyeing business developed color-on-demand followed by the printing business' print-on-demand. Soon knit-on-demand will be reality to the textile business. 2006 saw the beginning of an exciting project that is a cooperation between the THS, Ivanhoe, Gällstad Ylle and Total Logistik. In a store in Gällstad customers are able to design their own knitted articles of clothing and have it manufactured on the spot – a complete manufacturing facility that satisfies the customer's demands for instant delivery. The technology was in fact available already ten years ago with the invention of a machine that knits seamlessly.

– The technology has been used in the wrong way. Peo-

ple have been thinking along the same old lines and used the machine in traditional manufacturing. One has to think out of the box, says Joel Peterson, doctoral student at the THS.

There is every indication that we are in the process of leaving mass production and mass market behind and are moving to a custom-made and customer driven manufacturing situation based on marketing by relationships. The customer may even have his/her own design label on the clothes.

This research project is supervised by professor Håkan Torstensson and financed by KK-stiftelsen.

The customers are able to design their own knitted articles and have them manufactured on the spot – a complete manufacturing facility that satisfies the customer's demand for instant delivery.



FUTURE CHALLENGES

Ethics, ecology and technology

Design for a better world and a better consumption. These are the starting points of Simonetta Carbonaro, professor in textile and design management. She is one of several internationally recognized professors who have reinforced research at the THS.

– I was attracted to Borås and Sweden by the new thoughts and ideas that thrive here. It is exciting to participate in building up a new research center.

Simonetta Carbonaros force the research in humanistic marketing. She emphasizes the importance of having a free zone and space to think.

– Design is not only an activity to give form to something but also a commitment to society and economy.

– **We Westerners have everything we need and all that we may wish for. The market has reached saturation point. At this stage products must be meaningful if people are ready to consume.** The managements must listen to what is going on in society and be sensitive to trends and attitudes, says Simonetta Carbonaro. To attract attention to the trademarks of different countries she initiated a series of seminars called "Made in" where trade people, scientists and students were given opportunity to meet representatives from a variety of countries. First in the line of trademarks was the American, followed by Italy, Spain and Sweden.



In what ways does dyeing and preparation of textiles affect the environment? What materials are good for what purpose? Different kinds of projects at the THS are on a continuous basis bringing focus to environmental issues and increase knowledge in the area. Often students from the many educational programmes work together over boundaries – just like they will in working life.

THE DESIGN OF PROSPERITY

In November 2006 The Swedish School of Textiles and the Göteborg University School of Business, Economics and Law brought together a unique panel of world class experts with a wide range of backgrounds (Science, Technology, Humanities, Design and Arts) to take part in The Design of Prosperity Summit, a groundbreaking event. Through a trans-disciplinary discussion of the driving forces that affect our economies, our societies and our cultures they will attempt to come up with a profile of our “present future”. The Design of Prosperity

conference represents a unique opportunity of understanding the dynamics of change and innovation in our fast moving world.

All these extraordinary speakers gathering together at The Design of Prosperity Summit in Borås certainly have different attitudes, different approaches, and perhaps different goals, but their particular brand of optimism or provocation can bring issues into focus, and this is what the world, but also the productive strands of society are certainly in need of.

**THE DESIGN OF PROSPERITY
THE DRIVING FORCES OF OUR
PRESENT FUTURE**

**THE BORÅS SUMMIT
ON THE DESIGN OF CHANGE & INNOVATION**

CONFERENCE 7 NOVEMBER 06 ÅHAGA BORÅS SWEDEN



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Human Cloning
– by Syelvia Syelvia,
Master student.

TEXT

Annie Andréasson, Communications Office at University College of Borås

Translation: Enodios

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