

Main news since last October is the expansion of WASP into the field of AI with an additional 1 billion Swedish kronor granted by the Knut and Alice Wallenberg foundation. The initiative will follow two main pathways: one will venture into machine learning and next generation AI. The second path will work on the mathematical principles underlying AI, to truly understand them and to progress AI further. With this additional funding WASP will frontline the research and development of AI in Sweden. The grant will also enable development of new graduate schools, recruitment of senior researchers, and the building of a computer and calculation infrastructure that will benefit the whole field of AI in Sweden.

Other developments within the program are that WASP has opened the door to the security area, where a cluster for security research has been formed. The software area has been further strengthened, and the work ahead in spring is to formulate how the AI-expansion will influence the research areas of WASP.

Lars Nielsen,  
Program Director

#### Upcoming Events: AI4X - Conference Series

AI4X is a series of conferences organized by WASP on the theme of artificial intelligence, its development and application in different sectors in Sweden. The aim of the one day conferences is to bring together people from companies, universities and the public sector, to collect ideas and identify challenges for future AI research in Sweden. The conferences are held in Stockholm, [read more and register here](#).

#### Additional Billion Swedish Kronor from KAW to Extend WASP into Artificial Intelligence

The Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation has granted an additional billion Swedish kronor to extend the Wallenberg Autonomous Systems and Software Program (WASP), with a broad investment into artificial intelligence. [Read the pressrelease and an interview with Danica Kragic](#).

Danica Kragic in Svenska Dagbladet's economy studio on the challenges and opportunities for [AI research in Sweden \(in Swedish\)](#).

#### Gunnar Bark to Head WASP Research Arenas

Meet Gunnar Bark, manager of research activities at Ericsson in Linköping, who is [the new director of the WASP Research Arenas](#).

#### Carl-Johan Seger New WASP Professor at Chalmers

Chalmers has recruited Carl-Johan Seger as Professor in Computer Science, working on verification tools. [Read the full interview](#).

#### Kick off for New Graduate Students and the WASP Winterconference

The welcoming and kick-off for the newly accepted PhD students, and the Winterconference took place in Lund on the 8-9 of January. The [new graduate students were introduced to WASP](#), and during the Winterconference updates on program activities and [project course results were presented](#).