

NAISS information week 46 2024

Dear colleagues,

Here comes an update about the work of NAISS, the National Academic Infrastructure for Supercomputing in Sweden. The present newsletter aims mainly at people that work in NAISS-related fields and roles within Swedish academia. It is complemented with a dedicated users newsletter sent to all NAISS users and a letter from NAISS chairman Jan-Eric Sundgren sent to university leaderships.

NAISS new Director: Professor Erik Lindahl

LiU Vice-Chancellor Jan-Ingvar Jönsson has today, 12 November, appointed Professor Erik Lindahl as NAISS Director, starting 1 Jan 2025. Erik has been involved in NAISS from its start as deputy chair in the Steering committee. He is a leading scientist in the field of biophysics and has a long experience within Swedish and International HPC-infrastructures.

Björn Alling, will continue as acting director until the end of the year and then to work for NAISS in a supportive role to Erik, as deputy director, from 1 Jan 2025.

NAISS and EuroHPC's coming system Arrhenius

NAISS and EuroHPC has agreed on the technical specifications of the procurement of Arrhenius and the request for proposals is now out with the vendors. Deadline is set to Jan 31. The CPU-and storage-part of Arrhenius, including sensitive data, is planned for be brought online during the fall of 2025. The GPU-part, due to a very high demand, is expected to be delivered a few months later.

NAISS is having a dialogue with our partner universities about the possibility for them to let NAISS host local systems with the same hardware and software as the Arrhenius system, for full cost coverage.

NAISS partners and branches

Linné University entered at July 1 as NAISS 12th partner university. Previously Luleå Technical University entered at 1 Jan 2024 while the original ten partner universities has been on board since the start of NAISS in 2023.

Branch agreements for a NAISS-branches at KTH, Lund University, Linköping University and Umeå University has now been signed. Chalmers and NAISS are practically in agreement while some more negotiations will be held with Uppsala University. There has been signals from one of the entry-level partners, SLU, that they consider to level up and start a NAISS branch in the near future.

NAISS strategic plan 2025-2029

NAISS steering committee has decided on a suggestion for strategic plan for NAISS 2025-2029. This suggestion is attached in the newsletter. The plan will be complemented with a investment plan, a plan for Active Measures to prevent discrimination and promote diversity, equity and inclusion, and a communication plan. NAISS welcomes comments and suggestions on the strategic plan to info@naiss.se until December 4. The plan will be decided by the Steering committee on December 11. It will then be revisited annually.

NAISS User Forum and NAISS all-hands meeting 1-3 October in Uppsala

The second NAISS User Forum meeting was held in Uppsala 1-2 October. An all-hands meeting for staff followed 2-3 October in the same venue. The focus was on Life-Science and sensitive data as well as AI and its influence on academic HPC. Around 130 people participated in the NUF meeting, most of them on-site, and we had good discussions between users and NAISS staff.

The all-hands meeting discussed the development of NAISS with focus on its support organization and how to work together as one national organization.

The NAISS User Forum of 2025 will be held in Göteborg during the fall.

Collaborative working tools for NAISS staff and associated staff

NAISS has launched a set of collaborative working tools to facilitate NAISS staff to work as one organization in an efficient manner. They include NAISS-email, chat, file sharing, etc.

NAISS-account for all staff in branches and all people working on agreement for NAISS is under arrangement. NAISS will contact all partner organizations to get updated lists on all staff to be included in the system.

News about NAISS on LinkedIn

NAISS is sharing news and updates about us at LinkedIn. Have a look! https://www.linkedin.com/company/naiss-se/

Linköping 12 November 2024

Björn Alling Acting Director, NAISS