

## Welcome to Master's Programme in Sustainable Product-Service System Innovation

Congratulations! You have been accepted to participate in our unique master's programme *Sustainable Product-Service System Innovation (MSPI)* at Blekinge Institute of Technology (BTH), in Karlskrona, Sweden. We appreciate your interest and your concern for a sustainable society.

A product's socio-ecological impacts are largely determined by decisions made during the early phases of the innovation process. These decisions can have positive and negative effects on society through the product's life cycle. Companies will gain competitive advantages in the evolving sustainability-driven market by building competence in innovation for sustainability. Product production often contributes to global sustainability problems such as climate change, landfill waste and inhumane work environments during manufacturing. These are some of the challenges that you as graduate will be prepare to meet. You will find that the title of the programme "sustainable product-service system innovation" is appropriate for its content, which speaks directly to these needs.

The Blekinge Institute of Technology (BTH) in Sweden is now offering a comprehensive master's programme to train innovators in sustainable product development. The programme is an invitation to students from around the world to share experiences and build understanding and ability to act as sustainability innovators.

Below you will find additional information about planning to study in Sweden. Please make sure to check out our website (www.bth.se/mspi) for what to expect from the upcoming academic year and information relevant to the incoming class.

We look forward to welcoming you to Karlskrona in August 2012.

Med vänliga hälsningar (with kind regards),

Prof. Tobias Larsson Programme Director tlr@bth.se

## Welcome Information for MSPI Class of 2012/13

To make your journey to Karlskrona as comfortable as possible we, the MSPI programme team, offer the following advice.

## Review our website (www.bth.se/mspi) for what to expect from the academic year.

The upcoming academic year(s) promises to be an exciting period and we will collaborate through courses with themes that focus on things like "Strategic Management" and "Product Development". This means that you will get some outstanding lectures from internationally recognised experts and collaboration with our network partners in Sweden, experiential group learning, and much more. As the programme is offered full-time you should expect your course work-load to be comparable to that of a standard 40-hour work week. Please see our website for more information on course content.

**Accept your offer of admission**. After reviewing the website, please confirm your offer online as per the instructions on the attached admissions letter.

**Apply for your visa** <u>as soon as possible</u>. If you require a visa to study in Sweden you should apply for it immediately. Be aware that the Swedish immigration office, along with many other services in Sweden, will be closed or offering reduced services during the summer holiday period (mid-June through early August).

You should aim to arrive in time for orientation week commencing the week of August 28, 2012. This week will be an opportunity to get settled (housing, furniture, jet-lag, etc.), begin getting to know your colleagues, and prepare for classes. More information on scheduled activities during orientation week will be posted on our website closer to the time. Scheduled classes will begin on September 3, 2012 and will run until June 7, 2013, with a graduation ceremony typically within a week of end of the semester. Additionally, in past years, students from other programmes have found they wish to stay in Sweden for some weeks after the programme concludes and you may wish to consider this when applying for your visa and planning your travels.

**Review the Arrival Guide on our website.** As you look forward to August, you will no doubt have many things to consider in your preparations. There you will find an arrival guide tested by the past the previous MSPI class (http://www.bth.se/mspi).

We are looking forward to welcoming you to Karlskrona. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at <u>mspi@bth.se</u>. We will be updating our website with additional information as we respond to your questions.