



Halmstad May 9, 2012

Dear all,

This publication is about our workplace, Halmstad University, and about innovation. Halmstad University is associated with the characteristics of innovation and entrepreneurship in many contexts, and our creativity and wealth of innovation are sometimes spoken of as the *soul of the University*. For decades, the staff at Halmstad University has worked to create something new, unique, and beyond the traditional. This creative and forward-thinking mindset has become a hallmark of our institution.

I will meet with all staff, on various occasions throughout May and June, to provide information about the progress of our current profiling process. This publication, which is a part of that process, aims to enable us to come together for a dialogue on topics related to innovation and our university's future challenges.

This publication is primarily for all of us who work at Halmstad University. But it is also written with other audiences in mind – specifically, those interested in understanding how institutions today can capture and utilize their own stories in a profiling process where innovation is both the end and the means of an entire operation. The publication comprises three chapters covering three perspectives in time: past, present and future. The first chapter recounts the history of innovation at our university. The second chapter acquaints us with contemporary innovation systems that we can all learn from. And the final chapter gives us insight into how innovation can be perceived and described in order to meet future challenges.

My hope is that this publication will help give us insight into various perspectives on innovation. I am convinced that innovation relates to all of our areas of activity. This publication aims to encourage the discussion of different views and values related to innovation. The acceptance and encouragement of differing of views and approaches is fundamental to an innovative culture. And an innovative culture is in turn fundamental to supporting our claim as being the innovation-driven institution.

I look forward a rewarding dialogue together about our university's future development.

Mikael Alexandersson
Vice-Chancellor