The 2nd SCAS Wittrock Lecture

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Life in the Digital Time Machine

Tuesday, 25 February 2020, 10:15 a.m.

Humanistiska teatern, Campus Engelska Parken
Thunbergsvägen 3c, Uppsala

Please contact rsvp@swedishcollegium.se no later than 1 February 2020 to register for the event.
The number of seats is limited and seats will be distributed on a first come, first served basis.

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ABSTRACT

It is a truism, albeit an urgent one, that humanity faces unprecedented global challenges. At last, we have discovered the spatial finiteness and vulnerability of the planet, our only habitat so far. Our temporal bearings are also shifting. We cannot escape the present which increases in density, acceleration and openness towards past and future, filled with ever more information from the past and expectations from a future that is already here, but unequally distributed. With access to a huge amount of data, unprecedented computational power and clever algorithms we are constructing a digital niche. The predictive power of algorithms enables us to see further ahead, opening new opportunities for prevention and shaping the future. Does it also risk a return to a more deterministc worldview once we start to align with the predictive power of the digital time machine?