



Maria Strømme: Founder and Board Member, Disruptive Materials

Maria Strømme, head of the research group “Nanotechnology and Functional Materials” (NFM), Uppsala University, was leading the team that discovered Upsalite®, a mesoporous magnesium carbonate. She subsequently co-founded Disruptive Materials and now sits on the Board.

A synopsis of Marias achievements

Maria is a Norwegian-born physicist now living in Sweden. When she joined Uppsala University, Sweden, as a professor of nanotechnology in 2004, she was the youngest teaching professor ever in a technical subject.

Maria graduated as a Master of Science in applied physics in 1997, from Uppsala University, and subsequently received a research service from the then Scientific Research Council. From 2002-2007 she worked as an academic researcher, appointed by the Royal Academy of Sciences, in pharmaceutical materials science. She holds a number of board positions in various technology companies as well as in national and international research councils and universities. In addition to being one of the team that discovered Upsalite and founded Disruptive Materials, Maria is one of the inventors behind the so-called Algae battery.

Maria has been elected to be member of a number of prestigious science academies. In 2010 she was elected to the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences in Uppsala, in 2011 to The Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences (IVA), in 2013 to The Royal Academy of Sciences (KVA), and in 2016 to The Norwegian Technical Academy of Sciences (NTVA). During the period January 2015 to December 2017, Maria served as vice president of the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences.

Maria also has received a number of awards, has been a popular speaker at events and has appeared on Swedish TV and radio. In 2012 she received “The Royal Academy of Engineering Gold Medal” for her “essential and applied research efforts in nanotechnology and for her extensive entrepreneurship in physics and medicine”. Later that year she also received the Uppsala municipality’s honorary medal. In 2015 she was a “summer presenter” in an immensely popular radio program on Swedish radio channel P1, and has appeared on the popular Swedish / Norwegian television talk show Skavlan in both 2009 and 2016. In 2016 Maria was granted four awards. She was named “Swedish Women of the Year” by SWEA International, named as “The Honored Citizen of the Region Uppland”, and received two awards from Uppsala University; the Innovation Award “Believing is a Must”, and the Learning Ladder Prize.

(Source: Wikipedia, translated to English)

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