Dr. Zega is Associate Professor in the Lunar and Planetary Laboratory and the Dept. of Materials Science and Engineering at the University of Arizona. He is the Scientific Director of the Kuiper Materials Imaging and Characterization Facility at the University of Arizona and the PI of the planetary-materials research group (PMRG) that focuses on those pieces of condensed matter that were leftover from the time that our solar system formed over 4.5 billion years ago. His efforts are focused on the origin of the circumstellar grains that formed in ancient stars, refractory inclusions that formed the first solar-system solids, primitive prebiotic organic compounds, and the development of analytical techniques for investigations of such materials. He uses ultrahigh-resolution ion- and electron-microscopy techniques including focused-ion-beam scanning-electron microscopy and transmission electron microscopy to determine the composition and structure of these materials at scales ranging from millimeters down to the atomic. Knowledge of these details of planetary materials provides incomparable insights into the origin of our solar system and ancient stars.

Welcome!

Reine Wallenberg\textsuperscript{1} and Birger Schmitz\textsuperscript{2}

\textsuperscript{1}National Center for High-Resolution Electron Microscopy and Center for Analysis and Synthesis, Chemistry Institution, Lund University.

\textsuperscript{2}Medicon Village - Astrogeobiology Laboratory, Division of Nuclear Physics, Lund University.