
SASS News & Notes

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SASS News & Notes

The Official News Bulletin of the
Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study

Editor: Louis Janus

The deadline for submission of material for the next issue is January 15, 2009. Please address all submissions to:

Louis Janus, Editor, *News & Notes*

Center for Advanced Research

on Language Acquisition

University of Minnesota

140 University International Center

Minneapolis, MN 55414

phone (612) 624-9016

fax (612) 624-7514

e-mail LCTL@umn.edu

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Steven P. Sondrup, Editor, *Scandinavian Studies*, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT 84602-4538.

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From the SASS President

I would like to draw the attention of all SASS members to the important announcements in this *News & Notes*. Our 99th annual conference takes place in Madison, Wisconsin, April 30-May 2, 2009. The deadline for proposals for paper presentations and sessions is December 15, 2008. Graduate students who present at the conference should note the announcement of the Aurora Borealis Prize, which will be awarded to two students who present papers. In addition, the President's Grants encourage graduate students and independent scholars to present papers. The deadline for applying for a President's grant is February 15, 2009.

Susan Brantly, SASS President

Announcements

Modern Icelandic Summer Course May 26-July 3, 2009

The University of Minnesota and the Árni Magnússon Institute of Icelandic Studies offer a unique six-week beginning course in Icelandic for undergraduate and graduate students. The program begins at the University of Minnesota for three weeks (5/26-6/12) and then continues at the University of Iceland (6/15-7/3). The course is taught by Jón Gíslason, a teacher of Icelandic from the University of Iceland.

In both Minneapolis and Iceland, classroom instruction in conversation, reading, and grammar is combined with film showings and lectures on Icelandic culture and society from the Viking Age to the present. In Iceland, specialists guide excursions to historical sites, museums, and natural wonders.

Students have the option of taking an intermediate course in Icelandic after the end of the six-week program. This course is administered by the Sigurður Nordal Office of the Árni Magnússon Institute (www.nordals.hi.is/page/summer_course) and has separate requirements and deadlines. Students applying to the intermediate course must apply to the Modern Icelandic Summer Course by the priority deadline, February 17, 2009. Late applications may be considered, but none will be accepted after March 6, 2009.

For more information or for application forms, check out the program's webpage at www.gsd.umn.edu/article.php?id=125 or contact the Department of German, Scandinavian & Dutch (phone: (612) 625-2080, e-mail: gsd@umn.edu)

Directory of Icelandic Scholars

The Árni Magnússon Institute for Icelandic Studies is presently updating its directory of scholars. The inventory contains information on over 500 scholars of Icelandic studies throughout the world. Please fill in current information at www.hi.is/Apps/WebObjects/HI.woa/wa/dp?id=1011064

Calls for Papers

SASS 2009

The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study will hold its 99th annual meeting in Madison, Wisconsin from April 30 to May 2, 2009.

Those interested in presenting a paper at the conference should send an abstract in the body of an email to William Banks, wbanks@wisc.edu, by December 15, 2008, the extended deadline. Notification of acceptance will be emailed on December 20.

Paper submissions can be mailed to:

William Banks
Department of Scandinavian Study
1306 Van Hise Hall
1220 Linden Drive
Madison, WI 53706

If you are interested in organizing a panel or an entire section, please contact William Banks with your ideas before December 15, 2008.

Note the following:

All presenters, except for those invited from overseas, must be members in good standing. For membership information please contact the SASS offices at sass@byu.edu.

Graduate students are also welcome to submit proposals, which should include notes of support from their advisors. Since graduate students' papers may be eligible for the Aurora Borealis Prize, presenters should be prepared to submit a copy of their papers as read at the meeting. Conference staff at the registration table will collect the papers.

Conference information is accessible online
www.scandinavian.wisc.edu/sass.

History of the Eau Claire Scandinavian Retreat

The first Eau Claire retreat was organized in 1974 by the University of Wisconsin in Madison. The idea came from Orange Schroeder, a UW-Madison student. Held annually (usually mid-February) at a youth camp near Eau Claire, Wisconsin, one of the goals of the retreat is to allow Scandinavian Studies students to get ideas about future employment possibilities. Attended by students and faculty from numerous Scandinavian Studies programs in the upper Midwest, the retreat provides an informal setting in which graduate students in Scandinavian Studies can present thesis research to gain useful feedback. Each retreat has been organized by one of the participating institutions.

We are looking for old retreat programs, pictures from past retreats, and whatever else you come up with. Please contact me (see below) if you have anything to offer. The goal is to put together as complete a history as possible. Photographs can be scanned and sent as JPGs or send them and we will scan them and return them. Please provide dates and any other info you have (such as names, weather conditions, attendance records, etc).

The materials we collect will be used to create a DVD, which will be submitted to all schools and organizations that have participated in the retreat. Prizes will be awarded for the best old and the best new photos.

Edith Matteson
emmatteson@charter.net
Phone: (636) 207-7256

NORTANA Essay Competition "Norway and Globalization"

The Norwegian Researchers and Teachers Association of North America (NORTANA) announces an essay competition about Norway's role in the globalization process.

Undergraduate students currently enrolled in any North American college or university are invited to submit essays on topics related to Norway and globalization. The essays may be factual and descriptive or polemical. Primary and secondary sources must be acknowledged.

The winning essay writer will receive a scholarship award of US\$500. The winning essay will be published in NORTANA's newsletter and posted on its website (<http://nortana.net>)

Essays should be approximately 1500 words long, and they should be written in English. To be considered, essays must be received by February 16, 2009. Send completed essays or questions to: Louis Janus at president@nortana.net. In order to be evaluated fairly, no indication of the writer's identity should be

included in the essay. A code will be assigned to each essay, so the judges will not know whose essays they are reading. Essays will be judged on quality, clarity, originality, and insights provided.

Send essays and questions to president@nortana.net or by mail to Louis Janus, c/o CARLA Office, 140 University International Center, 331 17th Avenue SE, Minneapolis, MN 55414. Phone: (612) 624-9016 fax: (612) 624-7514.

Programs, Symposia & Conferences Reports

**Northernness: Ideas and Images of the North in Visual Culture
June 25-27, 2009, Northumbria University, Newcastle upon Tyne**

Keynote Speakers

- Professor Peter Davidson, University of Aberdeen. "Snow Light and Evening: The Fall of Evening Light."
- Professor Mette Hjort, Lignan University, Hong Kong. "Shades of Illumination in Nordic Visual Culture: A Contribution to Environmental Aesthetics."
- Professor Dave Russell, Leeds Metropolitan University. "A Place Apart? The English North in Twentieth Century Cultural Life."

For more details, contact:

Dr Ysanne Holt,
Reader in Art History, School of Arts and Social Sciences,
Northumbria University,
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 8ST United Kingdom.
ysanne.holt@northumbria.ac.uk

The Commonwealth Theatre Company Award

The Commonwealth Theatre Company in Lanesboro, MN has received one of the first International Ibsen Scholarships awarded by Norwegian Ministry of Culture. These scholarships represent a desire of the Norwegian government to support models of artistic work that focus on issues of form and content in the spirit of one of the world's great playwrights, Henrik Ibsen.

The Award Committee, chaired by actress Liv Ullmann, welcomed Commonwealth's Artistic Director Hal Cropp and Ibsen Festival Coordinator Adrienne Sweeney to receive the award and participate in the International Ibsen Festival and conference in Oslo. While in Norway, they joined other scholarship recipients from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Norway and 2008 International Ibsen Award-Winner Peter Brook at an award ceremony hosted at Ibsenhuset in Skien, Ibsen's birthplace.

In March and April 2009, Commonweal will produce *Hedda Gabler* and tour the show to more than a half-dozen cities in Minnesota and Wisconsin before it officially opens for an eight week run in Lanesboro.

The Commonweal is a non-profit professional theatre with year-round main stage and educational programming located at 208 Parkway Avenue North in historic downtown Lanesboro. For more information, visit www.commonwealththeatre.org or call (800) 657-7025.

Grants and Fellowships

SASS President's Grants

There is a limited number of small grants available for graduate students and independent scholars wishing to present papers at the SASS Meeting in Madison in 2009. All applicants should send the following information to Susan Brantly, SASS President, at sbrantly@wisc.edu: name, contact information (including mailing address), paper title, estimated travel costs, estimated institutional support, if any. Graduate students should give their institutional affiliation, their year of study, and the name of their advisor. Graduate students should also ask their advisors to pen a brief email sent to the same address corroborating that they are graduate students in good standing, whose paper topic has been approved by their advisor. The deadline is February 15, 2009.

Aurora Borealis Prize

Each year, the Society honors graduate student contributions to our conference by awarding two student presenters the Aurora Borealis Prize for the best presentations, one in the field of Language and Literature, and one in Area Studies. Nominations for the prizes will be accepted from members of the Society who are either faculty or independent scholars/artists. Because the prize is specifically designed to recognize excellence in presentation as well as writing and research, nominations must be made selectively and only by those who actually hear the delivery of the paper. Attendees of graduate student presentations should make an effort to nominate worthy papers. Self-nominated presentations will be accepted on rare occasions at the discretion of the President of SASS.

To facilitate the selection process, nominators should complete the form available at the conference's registration desk. They should inform the nominees so that their papers can be left at the registration desk. Papers must be submitted as presented at the conference.

Recent Publications

Annfinnur í Skála and Jonhard Mikkelsen, comp, eds. Sprotin: Vestmanna, Faroe Islands, 2007 *Enskt-føroyskt orðabók* (English-Faroese Dictionary) 2nd. rev. and enlg. ed. :ISBN -9789991844855. *Føroyskt-enskt* (Faroese-English Dictionary- ISBN 978-9991844862, DKK 1,900 for both volumes. www.sprotin.fo

Ardelius, Gunnar. *I Need You More Than I Love You and I Love You to Bits*. Trans. Tara Chace. Asheville, NC: Front Street, 2008. \$16.95. ISBN 1590784723.

Arter, David. *Scandinavian Politics Today*. 2nd ed. Manchester, UK: Manchester University Press, 2008. \$39.95. ISBN 9780719078538

Barton, H. Arnold. *Essays on Scandinavian History*. Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 2009. \$45.00 ISBN 9780809328864

DuBois, Thomas A, ed. *Sanctity in the North: saints, lives, and cults in Medieval Scandinavia*. Toronto Old Norse and Icelandic studies. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2008.\$35. ISBN 9780802091307

Fastrup, Karen. *Beloved of My 27 Senses*. Trans. Tara Chace. Toronto, ON: BookThug, 2008. \$25. ISBN 1897388209.

Ingwersen, Niels. *The Scandinavian Magic Tale and Narrative Folklore: A Study in Genres, Themes and Sources*. Lewiston, NY: The Edwin Mellen Press, 2008. \$109.95. ISBN 9780773449831.

Jones, Michael and Kenneth Olwig, eds. *Nordic Landscapes: Region and Belonging on the Northern Edge of Europe*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2008 \$35.00. ISBN 9780816639144.

Miller, William Ian. *Audun and the Polar Bear: Luck, Law, and Largesse in a Medieval Tale of Risky Business*. Medieval law and its practice, v. 1. Leiden: Brill, 2008.\$142.00. ISBN 9789004168114.

Mundal, Else and Jonas Wellendorf. *Oral Art Forms and Their Passage into Writing*. Copenhagen: Museum Tusulanum Press, University of Copenhagen, 2008. \$60.00 ISBN 9788763505048.

Nestingen, Andrew K. *Crime and Fantasy in Scandinavia: Fiction, Film, and Social Change*. New directions in Scandinavian studies. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2008. \$30.00. ISBN 9780295988030.

Nordström. Lars, comp., ed. *Swedish Oregon*. Portland, OR: Swedish Roots in Oregon Press, 2008. \$22. ISBN 9781607021445

Robinson, Michael, comp., ed. *An International Annotated Bibliography of Strindberg Studies 1870–2005*. 3 vols. London: MHRA Bibliographies Series, 2008. \$65.00 ISBN 9780947623814; 9780947623821; 9780947623838.

San Martin, Macarena. *Scandinavian Homes*. Singapore: Page One, Loft Publications. 2008. £7.99. ISBN 9789812456465

Stamnes, Eli, ed. *Peace Support Operations: Nordic Perspectives*. London: Routledge, 2008. \$150.00. ISBN 9780415449267/.

Svensson, Eva and Emma Bentz. *The Medieval Household: Daily Life in Castles and Farmsteads: Scandinavian Examples in Their European Context. The Medieval Countryside, 2*. Turnhout, Belgium: Brepols, 2008. \$116.00. ISBN 9782503525907.

Templeton, Joan. *Munch's Ibsen: A Painter's Visions of a Playwright*. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2008. \$35.00. ISBN 9780295987767.

Weinstein, Arnold L. *Northern Arts: The Breakthrough of Scandinavian Literature and Art, from Ibsen to Bergman*. Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2008. \$35.00. ISBN 9780691125442.