
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 regular issue is January 15, 2010. Please address all submissions to:

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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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In Memoriam

Professor Niels Ingwersen, age 74, passed away on Saturday, Nov. 14, 2009, in Fitchburg, Wisconsin. Professor Ingwersen served as President of SASS from 1969-1971. He co-edited with his wife, Faith, *Scandinavian Studies* from 1986-1991. Below is a slightly abridged version of the obituary that appeared in the *Wisconsin State Journal* on November 18, 2009:

Niels was born on May 18, 1935, in Horsens, Denmark, to Hans Henrik and Karen (Bach) Ingwersen. He studied Scandinavian literature at the University of Copenhagen, Stockholm University, and the University of Oslo, where he met an American student from Wyoming, Faith Boswell Sloniger, who was to be the love of his life. Faith and Niels were married in Tybjerg, Denmark in 1961. Together they moved to the United States to study at the University of Chicago, then to Madison, where Niels was appointed to the Scandinavian Studies faculty at the University of Wisconsin in 1965. For almost 40 years, Niels was a key faculty member at UW-Madison, serving several times as chair of Scandinavian Studies and Folklore as well as teaching thousands of students. He also served as visiting professor at the Universities of Odense and Aarhus in Denmark and at UCLA. Niels won several teaching awards for his popular courses on Scandinavian literature. A multimedia version of his class on Hans Christian Andersen had a record enrollment of more than 800 students and was one of the first to be offered through the University of Wisconsin Extension on public television. Niels was the author of several scholarly works on Danish literature. In addition, he co-authored two works with his wife, Faith, on Martin A. Hansen and Martin Andersen Nexø. His last book, released in 2008, was on narrative folklore. In 2009, *The Nordic Storyteller: Essays in Honor of Niels Ingwersen* was published in Cambridge, England. For his promotion of Danish literature and culture in the United States, Niels was knighted on February 7, 1997, with the Order of the Dannebrog, by Queen Margrethe II's representative.

Memorials may be gifted to the UW Foundation's "Faith and Niels Ingwersen Fund," U.S. Bank Lockbox 78807, Milwaukee, WI 53278. The Fund supports the Department of Scandinavian Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Asbjørn Kristen Aarseth (born 1935, died August 2009) was professor emeritus in Nordic Literature at the University of Bergen. He was the editor of *Edda* for many years. Among myriad writings, Aarseth's publications included *Lyriske strukturer* and *Episke strukturer*

He participated often in the Society's annual meetings. SASS mourns his passing.

Position Vacancies / Announcements

Editor of *Scandinavian Studies* Journal

As I am writing this, there are only a few days before the formal deadline (December 1) for applications for the position of editor of *Scandinavian Studies*. Applications will be taken after December 1, but I would encourage anyone interested in the position to send me (jason.lavery@okstate.edu) a letter of application and CV as soon as possible. I would also ask you all to encourage colleagues whom you consider suitable for the job to apply.

A committee has been formed to evaluate applications and, if necessary, recruit applicants. This committee reflects the consensus of the Executive Council meeting in Madison that the search committee consists of senior members of SASS as well as represents the organization's diversity as much as possible. I have added to this consensus a desire to avoid as much as possible placing people on the committee who already have time-consuming responsibilities to SASS outside of the Executive Council, as well as those on leave.

The search committee consists of President Jason Lavery, Vice President Mark Sandberg, former presidents Byron Nordstrom and Mary Kay Norseng, former *Scandinavian Studies* editor Carol Clover, and Jennifer Attebery, President of the Society of Historians of Scandinavia and Advisory Board member. Steven Sondrup will serve the committee in an advisory role.

The committee aims to submit a candidate or candidates to the Executive Council for consideration in time for the SASS 2010 meeting in Seattle. Please help in this endeavor.

Jason Lavery

New SASS-L electronic mailing list for members

In order to encourage timely communications among SASS members, we have established a listserv, called SASS-L. Only SASS members will be allowed to subscribe and post. The list is managed by Louis Janus, N&N editor and housed at the University of Minnesota. To subscribe or manage your subscription, you can use the following URL:

<http://lists.umn.edu/cgi-bin/wa?SUBED1=sass-l&A=1>

If you want to receive posting in digest form (once a day), click the *digest* box. You will be asked to confirm that you did subscribe in a separate email.

For subscription issues and question, please email LCTL@umn.edu

Umeå Universitet Masterprogrammet i Skandinavistik med inriktning mot nordliga studier

<http://www.sprak.umu.se/utbildning/program/skandinavistikprogrammet/>

Höstterminen 2010 startar ett nytt magister- och masterprogram i Skandinavistik med tydlig nordlig profil vid Umeå universitet. Programmet anknyter till universitetets prioriterade forskningsområde, Nordliga studier, och du som student har därför god tillgång till kompetenta lärare och handledare. De kan ge dig ett brett skandinaviskt perspektiv parallellt med särskilda fördjupningar inom det nordliga området, vilket ger dig en unik inriktning på dina studier i Skandinavistik.

Modern Icelandic Summer Course

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 (May 24—June 11, 2010) and then continues at the University of Iceland (June 14—July 2, 2010).

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

Please see more information and an application form, <http://gsd.umn.edu/language/icelandic.html> for more information or contact the Department of German, Scandinavian & Dutch at the University of Minnesota: (612)625-2080, e-mail: gsd@umn.edu.

UCLA Scandinavian Section

The UCLA Scandinavian Section is now accepting applications for graduate study. Fellowship support is available for highly competitive applicants.

Application deadline is December 15, 2009. See our website at: <http://www.humnet.ucla.edu/humnet/scandinavian/>

Please contact Professor Tim Tangherlini: tango@humnet.ucla.edu

New York and Los Angeles Consulates General

The Swedish Government has decided to close the Consulate General in New York in January 2010 and to open an honorary consulate general, which will

provide certain services to Swedish citizens and conduct commercial, cultural and public affairs.

The Consulate General of Sweden in Los Angeles closed on November 20, 2009. The Embassy of Sweden in Washington D.C. has taken over its functions

The 2010 Susan Sontag Prize for Translation

This \$5,000 grant will be awarded to a proposed work of literary translation from Swedish, Norwegian, Danish or Icelandic into English and is open to anyone under the age of 30. The translation must fall under the category of fiction or letters, and the applicant will propose his or her own translation project. The project should be manageable for a five-month period of work, as the grant will be awarded in May 2010, and the translation must be completed by October 2010.

Please download the official application online at www.susansontag.org.

Calls for Papers

SASS 2010

The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study (SASS) will hold its 100th annual meeting in Seattle, Washington, from April 22–24, 2010, hosted by the Department of Scandinavian Studies at the University of Washington, which is celebrating the centennial of its founding. The Association for the Advancement of Baltic Studies (AABS) will meet concurrently with SASS and some panel sessions will include presenters from both societies.

The organizers of the centennial conference invite paper proposals from scholars of Scandinavian and Baltic studies, including faculty, independent scholars and advanced graduate students. Presentations are not to exceed 20 minutes in length and may cover any topic relating to Scandinavian and/or Baltic studies. Proposals for panels are welcome. Advanced graduate students may submit paper proposals but such submissions must be accompanied by the written support of a faculty advisor.

Those interested in presenting a paper at the conference should send an abstract in the body of an email (no attachments) to Professor Lotta Gavel Adams at lotta@uw.edu by December 11, 2009. Paper submissions can be mailed to:

Professor Lotta Gavel Adams
Department of Scandinavian Studies
University of Washington
Box 353420
Seattle, WA 98195-3420

Conference website: www.sass2010.org

Date: April 22—24, 2010

Location: Crowne Plaza Hotel, 1113 Sixth Ave.,
Seattle, WA 98101

Note: Registration information will be available on the website. All presenters must be SASS or AABS members in good standing. (For SASS membership information, please contact: sass@byu.edu). Because graduate student papers may be eligible for the Aurora Borealis prize, a copy should be prepared to be submitted as read at the meeting. Independent scholars and graduate students may be eligible for travel support from the President's Grant. Contact Jason Lavery jason.lavery@okstate.edu to apply.

The International Strindberg / Strindberg Beyond the Borders of Sweden

Anna Westerstahl Stenport, The University of Illinois at
Urbana-Champaign
aws@illinois.edu

In commemoration of the centenary of August Strindberg's death in 1912, we are seeking contributions to an edited scholarly volume on the theme "The International Strindberg / Strindberg Beyond the Borders of Sweden." We are looking for innovative and theoretically informed approaches that investigate Strindberg's large and varied *œuvre*, including drama, narrative prose, photography, painting, and non-fiction, from its inception to today. Foci and approaches remain open at this stage, as we are seeking to represent Strindberg in an international context as comprehensively as possible.

The deadline for submission is January 15, 2010.

IASS 2010

Translation - Adaptation, Interpretation, Transformation

International Association of Scandinavian Studies (IASS) will hold its 28th Study Conference August 3-7 2010, at the Centre for Languages and Literature, Lund University, Sweden. The theme of the conference will be Translation - Adaptation, Interpretation, Transformation. International scholars of Scandinavian Studies and related disciplines are hereby cordially invited. Registration can be made from October 26 2009 until January 1, 2010 via a special registration form on the website:

<http://conference.sol.lu.se/en/iass-2010>

Abstracts may be submitted between October 26, 2009 and January 15, 2010. Scholars who want to present papers at the conference will be asked to provide a final version of their abstracts by March 1, 2010. The final abstracts will be printed in the conference program. Conference languages will be Danish, Norwegian, Swedish, and English. On the conference website you will also find more extensive information about the conference theme. Information

about accommodation, conference fee, excursions, and the conference banquet will also soon be available at the website.

Questions concerning paper topics and practical matters should be addressed to the organizing committee by e-mail:

Per Erik Ljung (Per_Erik.Ljung@litt.lu.se),

Claes-Göran Holmberg (Claes-Goran.Holmberg@litt.lu.se)

Grants and Fellowships

Aurora Borealis Prize, 2010

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 the Society.

The 2010 Aurora Borealis Prize Committee is adopting a paperless submission process. Nominating SASS members may submit their nominations via e-mail to the committee chair, Dr. Anna W. Stenport, aws@illinois.edu. Nominees may submit their papers, with any accompanying audio-visual materials, to the same address via attachment. Nominations and submissions will be accepted through June 1, 2010. Submissions must represent the paper as delivered at the conference.

Society of Historians of Scandinavia Graduate Prize

The Society of Historians of Scandinavia offers a Graduate Student Prize for the best graduate student paper presented in the field of history at the annual SASS conference. We define history broadly to include art history and historically-oriented folklore and cultural studies. Papers must be submitted as presented at the conference. Audiovisual materials used at the conference should also be submitted with the paper. At the 2010 conference the paper competition will shift to electronic submission. Papers should be sent as e-mail attachments to society president, Jennifer Eastman Attebery, by June 1, 2010: attejenn@isu.edu. Submission should include a physical contact address. Winners of the prize receive a cash award and a ticket for the Historians' Luncheon at the 2011 conference in Chicago.

Publications, Conferences, Colloquia

Recent Publications

The editor of News & Notes respectfully requests members of the Society to submit information on their recent publications for inclusion here.

Bunch, Mads: *Samtidsbilleder—realismen i yngre dansk litteratur 1994-2008*, ISBN 978877996367, Dansk lærerforeningens Forlag, Copenhagen. Denmark, 2009. www.dansklf.dk/page.dsp?trade=1&area=5&c=1148.

Grettir's Saga. Trans. Jesse Byock, Oxford World Classics, Oxford University Press. ISBN 978-0-19-280152-4.

An epic about the Viking Age and early Iceland, *Grettir's Saga* follows the life of the outlaw Grettir the Strong as he battles against sorcery, bad luck, and the vengefulness of his enemies. He roams the countryside, ridding Iceland and Norway of berserker warriors, trolls, and the walking dead. This new translation is designed for today's teaching with extensive maps, genealogies, illustrations, chronology, glossary, notes, up-to-date bibliography, and a thorough introduction exploring the saga in the context of other Icelandic and medieval literature. Grettir's poems are specially translated by Russell Poole, specialist in Old Norse skaldic poetry.

Høidal, Oddvar. *Trotsky i Norge: Et sår som aldri gror*. Oslo: Spartacus forlag, 2009. ISBN 9788243004542.

Trass i stor motstand fra borgerlig side ga den norske regjeringen Trotsky asyl i Norge i 1935. Lenge levde han relativt fredelig og fritt på Hønefoss. Men situasjonen ble dramatisk annerledes da Stalins Moskva-prosesser startet og Trotsky sto anklaget for å ha organisert terroristaktivitet mot kommunistpartiet. Russerne utøvde kraftig diplomatisk press mot den norske regjeringen. Trotsky ble internert på Sundby i Hurum og senere deportert til Mexico.

Lagerlöf, Selma and Paul R. Norlén (trans) George C. Schoolfield (intro). *The Saga of Gösta Berling*. New York: Penguin Books, 2009. ISBN 9780143105909.

Žagar, Monica. *Knut Hamsun: The Dark Side of Literary Brilliance*. University of Washington Press, October 2009. ISBN 9780295989464.

Awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1920, Knut Hamsun (1859-1952) was a towering figure of Norwegian letters. He was also a Nazi sympathizer and supporter of the German occupation of Norway during the Second World War. In 1943, Hamsun sent his Nobel medal to Third-Reich propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels as a token of his admiration and authored a reverential obituary for Hitler in May 1945. For decades, scholars have wrestled with the dichotomy between Hamsun's merits as a writer and his infamous ties to Nazism.