

# SASS News & Notes

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SASS Membership News and Announcements	3
Announcements, Publications, and Position Vacancies	6
Grants, Prizes and Fellowships	11

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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 November 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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## SASS Membership News and Announcements

### Annual Meeting of The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study April 28-30, 2011

The Annual Meeting of SASS will be held in Chicago. Information about the conference is posted on the following webpage:

<http://www.northpark.edu/Centers/Center-for-Scandinavian-Studies/SASS-Conference>

The web page contains active links to the conference program, hotel information, and registration. The pages will be updated as additional information becomes available.

The conference will take place April 28-30, 2011, at the Holiday Inn Chicago Mart Plaza, located in the River North neighborhood of downtown Chicago, with beautiful views of the city and the Chicago River. The conference rate for rooms is \$179 plus tax. The group code for the discounted room rate is ADT. Please book these rooms on-line or by calling Holiday Inn. A limited number of rooms will be available for graduate students at \$129 plus tax. These rooms should be booked directly with the Center for Scandinavian Studies at North Park University. Up to four students may share a room with two double beds. Contact Karin Andersson, [kmandersson@northpark.edu](mailto:kmandersson@northpark.edu), to reserve graduate student rooms.

We expect that the conference fee will be less than \$150.

Independent scholars and graduate students may be eligible for travel support in the form of a President's Grant. Applications for support must include a brief description of proposed conference paper, a budget of expenses, and possible other sources of support. Please submit applications to Jason Lavery, SASS president [jason.lavery@okstate.edu](mailto:jason.lavery@okstate.edu) by December 15, 2010.

Please contact Charles Peterson at North Park University if you have questions about the conference. Any groups planning interest group lunches or pre-conference activity should contact Charles Peterson as soon as possible. [cpeterson@northpark.edu](mailto:cpeterson@northpark.edu).

The deadline for abstract submission is December 3, 2010.

We look forward to welcoming SASS members to Chicago in April.

## **Advisory Board Election Results**

The election for the SASS advisory board resulted in the selection of Mary Ehlander (Alaska Fairbanks) and Melissa Gjellstad (North Dakota) to the board. Welcome to the council! This means that Tanya Thresher and Charles Peterson officially roll off the council. Charles's service to SASS in many ways has just begun as we hurtle towards the 2011 conference in Chicago.

## **The Centennial Campaign for *Scandinavian Studies***

As we approach the centenary of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study, we have many reasons to celebrate the accomplishments of our scholarly society. However, *Scandinavian Studies* has not been untouched by the economic challenges facing academic publishing in recent years. The Centennial Campaign seeks to assure the future availability of similar academic opportunities for a new generation of scholars. It will be necessary to assemble a combination of gifts from major donors, matching grants from national agencies, and special donations from the SASS membership itself.

To make a donation online using a credit card, please use the website: [http://www.scandinavianstudy.org/site/index.php?option=com\\_dtdonate&Itemid=94](http://www.scandinavianstudy.org/site/index.php?option=com_dtdonate&Itemid=94)

To make a donation by check, please fill out the form at: [www.scandinavianstudy.org/files/sass\\_fundraising\\_letter.pdf](http://www.scandinavianstudy.org/files/sass_fundraising_letter.pdf) and send it to the enclosed address.

## **Ibsen Society of America Prize**

The Ibsen Society of America sponsors an annual prize given to the best conference paper on an Ibsen-related topic presented at SASS by a graduate student or independent scholar. The prize, which was originally funded by the ad hoc National Ibsen Committee of Norway, is now funded and administered by the ISA and is intended to promote Ibsen research among younger scholars.

As you consider topics to propose for SASS 2011, we encourage you to think of an Ibsen paper; comparative topics are also welcome. The value of the prize is \$500.

## **Birgit Baldwin Fellowship in Scandinavian Studies**

The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study is pleased to offer the Birgit Baldwin Fellowship in Scandinavian Studies, a grant to encourage the research and writing of dissertations for the PH.D. in topics concerned with Scandinavian (Nordic) literature or film that can most effectively be pursued in the archives and libraries of the Nordic countries. The stipend is \$20,000 pay-

able in two installments for travel to and living expenses in the Nordic region during one academic year.

The application deadline for receipt of application materials for the 2011 fellowship is November 1, 2010.

For more information on the Baldwin fellowship and how to apply, please visit the information page on the SASS website

[http://scandinavianstudy.org/site/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=57&Itemid=62](http://scandinavianstudy.org/site/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=57&Itemid=62)

or download the PDF application:

<http://www.scandinavianstudy.org/files/application.pdf>

### **The Einar and Eva Lund Haugen Memorial Scholarship**

The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study is pleased to offer the Einar and Eva Lund Haugen Memorial Scholarship. The scholarship is intended to support outstanding graduate students whose doctoral dissertation examines a Scandinavian or Scandinavian-American topic in History and the Social Sciences. Scandinavia is defined as the five countries of the Nordic region: Norway, Sweden, Finland, Denmark, and Iceland. The grant can be used for all aspects of dissertation work. Preference will be given to those who need to conduct research in archives and libraries or fieldwork in places remote from their home institutions. The stipend for use during the period June 1, 2011-May 31, 2012 is \$4,000.

Applicants must be enrolled in a doctoral program in North America. They must be members in good standing of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study, both during the year in which they submit applications and in the year of funding. A successful applicant must prove completion of course work and preliminary requirements for a doctoral degree before receiving the grant. After completion of the period funded by the scholarship, a recipient will be invited to give a short report at the next annual meeting of SASS. The application deadline for receipt of application materials for the 2011-2012 scholarship is November 15, 2010.

For more information on the Haugen scholarship and how to apply, please visit the information page on the SASS website:

[www.scandinavianstudy.org/site/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=88](http://www.scandinavianstudy.org/site/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=88)

## **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.

As of September 1, 2010, there were 46 subscribers.

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 postings in digest form (once a day), click the digest box. You will be asked to confirm that you did indeed subscribe in a separate email. For subscription issues and question, please email [LCTL@umn.edu](mailto:LCTL@umn.edu)

## **Announcements, Publications, and Position Vacancies**

### **University of Oregon**

#### **Tenure Track Assistant Professor of Scandinavian**

The Department of German and Scandinavian at the University of Oregon is seeking a tenure-track Assistant Professor to begin on September 16, 2011. Preference will be given to a scholar of Scandinavian literature and culture with a strong interdisciplinary emphasis. This interdisciplinary purchase should dovetail with one or more of the existing interests in our department. Applicants must provide evidence of an existing research agenda and excellence in teaching.

Candidates should have a PH.D. in hand by the time of appointment. Near-native fluency in one main Scandinavian language, and strong knowledge of the other two principal Scandinavian languages, are required as the candidate will be expected to teach a third year language sequence that combines all three.

Responsibilities include active engagement in research, undergraduate teaching in literature and language courses with a strong appeal for a general university population, potential for teaching graduate seminars, advising within the context of departmental programs, supervision of graduate teaching fellows and instructors in Scandinavian languages, study abroad advising, and appropriate departmental and university service. Applicants should submit the following: a letter of application, dossier including a current C.V., three recent letters of recommendation and a sample of scholarly writing. For full consideration, application files must be complete by November 15, 2010. The position will remain open until filled.

Apply online at [www.academicjobsonline.org](http://www.academicjobsonline.org) For further information contact Michael Stern: [mjstern@uoregon.edu](mailto:mjstern@uoregon.edu)

### **Association for Swedish Teachers and Researchers in America.**

At the 2009 SASS meeting in Seattle, WA, the Swedish Studies community founded ASTRA, the *Association for Swedish Teachers and Researchers in America*. The first ASTRA conference is taking place at the House of Sweden in Washington, D.C. October 14-16, 2010. The conference theme is *Environmental Sustainability*. Conference attendance, meals, and hotel accommodation in shared double rooms are free for Swedish Studies educators. To register, please email [ann-marie.brisbois@foreign.ministry.se](mailto:ann-marie.brisbois@foreign.ministry.se), by September 13, including any accommodating preferences. The Swedish Institute and the Embassy of Sweden are sponsoring the conference. For the complete ASTRA 2010 conference program and further information on ASTRA, see <http://tinyurl.com/astratemp/>.

### **NORTANA Pedagogy Workshop October 7, 2010, Indiana University**

The Norwegian Teachers and Researchers Association of North America will sponsor a day-long workshop and discussion focusing on teaching intermediate Norwegian, learning outcomes, ACTFL standards, materials, and plans to establish a national pool of exams.

### **International Vinland Seminar**

We are pleased to announce the International Vinland Seminar in Chicago, a three day event dedicated to the Norse discovery of America and Scandinavian Viking Culture, October 15–17, 2010. This is an excellent opportunity for anyone with an interest in the topic to learn from some of the top researchers in the field from the U.S., Norway, Iceland, and Canada. Seminar participants will also have the opportunity to meet the Norwegian artist Jarle Rosseland, whose artwork will be exhibited.

The seminar is organized by Saga Publishers International and Center for Scandinavian Studies, and is hosted by North Park University. In addition to the academic symposium held in Hamming Hall at North Park University on Chicago's North Side, there will also be a sight-seeing to important Scandinavian-American landmarks with special lectures and an opening speech by Gary T. Johnson, president of the Chicago History Museum. The International Vinland Seminar in Chicago aims to bring together all the Scandinavian communities in Chicago and beyond for a unique celebration of our common heritage. [www.vinlandseminar.com](http://www.vinlandseminar.com).

**Scandinavian Grand Tour:  
The Far North from the South-European Point of View  
November 19-20, 2010  
University of Bergen**

South-European culture has often pictured Scandinavia as an exotic place, a mixture of myth, legend and cultural stereotypes. From the Middle Ages and onwards many writers and travelers while exploring the far North—such as Pietro Querini (15th century), Giuseppe Acerbi (1773-1846) or Umberto Nobile (1885-1978)—have contributed to the strengthening of this myth in their accounts of fantastic adventures. This workshop is planned as a first step to create a platform for discussing and sharing examples of South-European travel descriptions of Scandinavia, under literary and linguistic point of view, including travel guides.

Conference fees: €50 (students €20).

**Journal of Northern Studies**

The *Journal of Northern Studies* is a peer-reviewed academic publication issued twice a year. The journal has a specific focus on human activity in northern spaces, and articles concentrate on people as cultural beings, people in society, and the interaction between people and the northern environment. In many cases the contributions represent exciting interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary approaches. Apart from scholarly articles, the journal contains a review section, a section with reports from conferences, launched research projects etc. and information about upcoming events relevant for Northern Studies.

The journal is published by Umeå University and the Royal Skyttean Society. No. 2, 2009 of *Journal of Northern Studies* is the most recent. It contains articles and reports on quite varied fields of research and topics—from economics to philology, from geopolitics to experiences of the deceased—all, in one way or another, touching upon questions of the north. Apart from the six articles, there is a substantial *miscellanea*-section as well as a considerable number of reviews.

On the journal's web-site, <http://www.jns.org.umu.se>, you can find more information about the contents (including abstracts) of all the issues of the journal, as well as details on how to subscribe. The subscription fee is SEK 400 (currently US\$55 or €40) a year.

If you are interested in receiving a free copy of *Journal of Northern Studies*, please visit our home page and choose an issue. Then notify us by sending your address to [info@jns.org.umu.se](mailto:info@jns.org.umu.se).

## ***Viking and Medieval Scandinavia***

*Viking and Medieval Scandinavia* is a multidisciplinary journal devoted to the study of Medieval Scandinavia, stretching geographically from Russia to North America and chronologically from the Viking Age to the end of the medieval period.

Brepols Publishers is delighted to offer members of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study an exclusive discounted subscription rate to VMS, along with other associated offers. This is to be a long-term continuing arrangement with the society that adds further benefits to society membership. The normal annual subscription to VMS is currently € 84 (plus shipping).

Members of sass are invited to subscribe at a 20% discount for € 63 (plus shipping) Further information about the journal, including submission guidelines, is available from: <http://vms.asnc.cam.ac.uk>.

Editors: Stefan Brink, John Hines, Carolyne Larrington and Judy Quinn

### **Conference on Multilingualism in the Nordic Countries Language Policy Challenges of the Future Call for Papers August 22–24, 2011**

The conference “Four or more languages for all: Language policy challenges of the future” will take place in the Nordic House in Tórshavn, the Faroe Islands. The conference organizer is the Research Center for Social Development, [www.socdev.fo](http://www.socdev.fo), the University of the Faroe Islands

The main aims of the conference are:

- To provide an interdisciplinary forum by bringing together scholars and practitioners from diverse disciplines such as sociolinguistics, sociology, history, linguistics, literature studies, political science and law
- To compare Nordic experiences in the field
- To draw attention to and focus on language policy experiences and particular challenges in the self-governing areas
- To draw attention to and focus on immigrants’ diverse situations and language rights

The conference is based on a broad understanding of multilingualism and language policy.

Deadline for submission of 200-300 word abstracts is January 15, 2011

## ***Encyclopaedia of Contemporary Nordic Culture***

The *Encyclopaedia of Contemporary Nordic Culture* will offer a comprehensive guide to the recent culture, history, society and politics of the entire Nordic region. The encyclopaedia will include over 1000 entries, ranging from short 150 'stubs' to longer overviews, on Nordic 'culture' understood in its broadest sense, including not only film, literature, music, art, architecture and design, but also history, politics, society and everyday life. Chronologically the encyclopaedia will cover the period since 1945, but the emphasis will be on more recent years. The Encyclopaedia will include information on all five Nordic countries. It is intended to be an essential resource for all those interested in studying, teaching or simply finding out more about the Nordic region; reliable for fact-checking and a first source for further exploration of particular topics. The Encyclopaedia will be published in book form first, but it is hoped that it will be also possible to publish it in an interactive electronic format in due course.

The project was first launched in 2002, but has been postponed by a long series of unavoidable delays. A grant from Nordisk Kulturfond means that it is now possible to revive this project, and the editors hope to sign a contract very soon with a London-based publisher. They would like to thank all who have contributed so far for their patience, and are very keen to involve new contributors as the encyclopaedia is prepared for publication by 2012 at the latest.

The editors are Helena Forsås-Scott, Mary Hilson, and Titus Hjelm.

Current details can be found on this website:

<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/scandinavian-studies/encyclopaedia/>

### ***Thoughts On Civil Liberty: Tankar om borgerliga friheten***

Two hundred and fifty years ago, the Swedish scholar Peter Forsskål published a pamphlet demanding human rights. The publication, *Thoughts on Civil Liberty*, was immediately banned and those who were found to have a copy in their homes had to pay a fine.

Nevertheless, the text did circulate and contributed to the freedom of the printing press which was established some years later in Sweden. Forsskål's pamphlet is now published for the very first time in an English translation, together with the original version of the Swedish text, without the censor's changes.

The English version has been rendered by a group of experts: David Goldberg, Gunilla Jonsson, Helena Jäderblom, Gunnar Persson and Thomas von Vegesack, under the leadership of David Goldberg. David Shaw polished the final version of the translation. The work is introduced and commented upon by David Goldberg, Gunilla Jonsson and Thomas von Vegesack.

Stockholm: Atlantis, 2009. ISBN: 9789173533607 9173533602  
<http://www.atlantisbok.se/bok.asp?id=7532>  
SEK 150 :-

## Grants, Prizes and Fellowships

### The Snorri Sturluson Icelandic Fellowships

The Snorri Sturluson Icelandic Fellowships are granted to writers, translators and scholars (not students) in the field of humanities from outside Iceland, to enable them to stay in Iceland for a period of at least three months, in order to improve their knowledge of the Icelandic language, culture and society.

The amount of the Fellowships is based in principle on travel expenses to and from Iceland, plus living expenses while in the country. Should two equally-qualified candidates be under consideration, preference will, as a rule, be given to a candidate from Eastern or Southern Europe, Asia, Africa, Latin America or Oceania.

The Árni Magnússon Institute for Icelandic Studies advertises the Fellowships, handles applications, and assists Fellows during their stay in Iceland, at the conclusion of which Fellows are expected to submit a report to the Institute on how the grant was spent.

The Snorri Sturluson Fellowships are awarded once a year. The deadline for applications for the Snorri Sturluson Fellowships in 2011 is October 31, 2010. There are no special application forms for the Fellowships. Applicants should submit a brief but thorough account of the purpose of their stay in Iceland, specifying period of stay, as well as details of education and publications. Applications should be sent to the Árni Magnússon Institute for Icelandic Studies, Sigurður Nordals Office, P.O. Box 1220, 121 Reykjavík, by ordinary mail (no e-mail applications).

## University of Aberdeen Scholarships

Medieval Scandinavian Studies at the Centre for Scandinavian Studies at University of Aberdeen is pleased to be able to offer up to four PHD studentships in Early Scandinavian culture and society, covering areas such as Nordic medieval law and policy, Old Norse sagas and poetry, the pre-Christian religion and mythology of Scandinavia, Christianization of Scandinavia, Viking studies, early landscape studies or related fields.

Aberdeen now has the largest concentration of experts on early Scandinavia in the British Isles, including: Stefan Brink, Michael H. Gelting, Neil Price, Andrew Newby, Ralph O'Connor, Frederik Pedersen, Karen Milek, Tarrin Wills, Karen Bek-Pedersen, Lisa A. Fraser, David N. Dumville among others. The purpose of the Centre is to bring together these experts to coordinate research projects, provide research facilities and supervision, teaching for Undergraduate and Postgraduate programs and to promote Scandinavian Studies generally.

See [www.abdn.ac.uk/cass/graduate/funding/research/scandinavian/](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/cass/graduate/funding/research/scandinavian/) and [www.abdn.ac.uk/cfss/](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/cfss/) for details.