The official news bulletin of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study

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Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study

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VOLUME 45 | JULY 2020

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Can We Increase Enrollment in Nordic Language Courses?

Andrew Nestingen | vice-president@scandinavianstudy.org

ccording to the MLA Enrollment Database on Languages Other than English (https://apps.mla.org/flsurvey_search) there were 1,789 students enrolled in Nordic language courses in 2016. MLA has conducted a census every 3-4 years since 1958 with the last census in fall 2016. Fall 2020 is expected to be an anomaly, and thus the planned Fall 2020 census will be delayed until 2021, according to Dennis Looney, Director of the MLA's Associated Departments of Foreign Language (ADFL).

The fall 2016 report noted that total language enrollments in all languages declined by 9.2 percent from 2013, and by 15.9 percent from 2009. There has been an overall downward trend in language enrollments since the 2008 'Great Recession.' Yet as the 2016 report points out, "Despite the overall drop, there were gains in nearly half of all language programs (45.5%) that mitigate somewhat the downward trend" (Looney and Lusin 2016, 1). While the Nordic languages did not see growth, the decline was only 2.3 percent from 2009. Indeed, enrollments in the Nordic languages have grown since the 1990s by some 12 percent. To be sure, there were higher enrollments in earlier decades but the overall trend shows growth.

The question for SASS is how to sustain and build enrollments in the undergraduate language courses we offer. What is working and what revisions might we strategically undertake?

At the University of Washington, we were able to grow the numbers in our first-year language courses by revising the first-year pedagogy to satisfy our College of Arts and Sciences' VLPA (Visual Literary Performing Arts) requirement. Because first-year language courses do not satisfy a requirement for most undergraduates, the language courses did not appear in the most common searches students conduct in the registration web application when registering for courses. We could fix this problem by enhancing the use of authentic literary, televisual and cinematic texts in our first-year pedagogy. This justified applying to the College of Arts and Sciences to have the courses recoded to satisfy the VLPA requirement. The change made the courses more visible in the student course registration application, subsequently increasing enrollment in

our first-year language sequence by twenty percent during 2019-20, and providing a clearer pathway into our majors.

Another possibility for the Nordic languages is what they have done at Augustana College. The Scandinavian Program has revised the curriculum to make second and third-year courses interchangeable and non-sequential. For many students of Nordic languages, the sequencing of courses is a barrier to enrollment. If they miss the first course in the fall, they are out of luck for the year. In a recent ADFL Bulletin issue, Patricia Calkins and Sharon Wilkinson explain how Simpson College did this same thing and the positive outcomes their curriculum revision achieved (2020).

Undergraduate language study continues to be a foundational element of Scandinavian Studies. How can we continue to attract undergraduates into our language classes, as downward trends in language-course enrollment are evident nationally? Curriculum revision may be a useful method to attract students. Sharing results about outcomes of curriculum change we undertake may generate some valuable ideas, which benefit the our departments and programs, and strengthen our foundation.



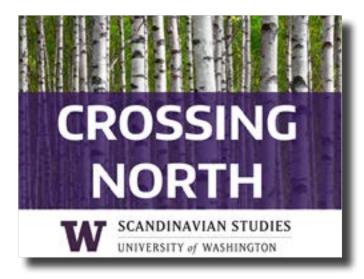
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Calkins, Patricia and Sharon Wilkinson (2020), "Redesigning the Curriculum for Student Persistence in Small Language Programs," ADFL Bulletin, 46,1: 9-24. https://www.adfl.mla.org/bulletin/issue/adfl.46.1

Looney, Dennis and Natalia Lusin (2016), "Enrollments in Languages Other Than English in United States Institutions of Higher Education, Summer 2016 and Fall 2016: Final Report," Modern Language Association, https://www.mla.org/content/download/110154/2406932/2016-Enrollments-Final-Report.pdf

Updates and Announcements

newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org



The University of Washington Department of Scandinavian Studies would like to let you know about our monthly podcast dedicated to Nordic and Baltic topics: Crossing North. The podcast features stories and interviews from students, faculty, and guests from the Nordic and Baltic countries, including artists, scholars, and ambassadors.

We have sixteen episodes to binge, and you can read more about the podcast in a recent UW News article that spotlights the show. Listen to Crossing North on our department website, or on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, or wherever you get your podcasts. You can find a complete list of our episodes, tagged with keywords, below.

- CN16: "On Wednesdays, I'll Go Dance."
 Keywords: Sweden, folk dance, student life
- CN15: "In A World That's Ever-Changing." Keywords: Finland, literature, eco-dystopia, coronavirus
- CN14: "Soviet Milk." Keywords: Latvia, literature, Soviet Union, trauma, memory

- CN13: "Don't Just Leave Footprints." Keywords: Greenland, Denmark, climate change, sustainability
- CN12: "Searching for Utopia." Keywords: Denmark, African-American, African diaspora
- CN11: "It's Illegal to be Native." Keywords: Sápmi, sustainability, green colonialism, ethnoscience
- CN10: "Myth & Fairytale in Frozen 2." Keywords: Norway, Finland, Iceland, film, Disney
- CN9: "See the Woman." Keywords: Sápmi, Indigenous, pop music, joik
- CN8: "The Nordic Languages of Middle Earth (part 2)."
 Keywords: medievalism, critical race theory, Tolkien
- CN7: "The Nordic Languages of Middle Earth (part 1)."
 Keywords: linguistic stereotypes, Tolkien
- CN6: "Sex and SKAM." Keywords: Norway, sexuality, sex-ed, public television, post-television
- CN5: "An Army of One." Keywords: Estonia, national defense, cyber security, democracy
- CN4: "Good Day, Ax Shaft." Keywords: Sweden, translation, literature, #metoo
- CN3: "Bermuda Triangle of Music." Keywords: Iceland, folk music, folklore, fakelore
- CN2: "There's No PTA in Finland." Keywords: Finland, education, parenting, welfare state
- CN1: "Werewolves on Campus." Keywords: Latvia, folk music, Soviet Union, Singing Revolution

Updates and Announcements

newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org

SAVE THE DATES! 16 - 17 OCTOBER

Sweden Symposium 2020 Jenny Lind 200 Years: Diva and Cultural Icon

The Association of Swedish Teachers and Researchers' (ASTRA) annual Sweden Symposium will be held as an online conference on October 16 and 17, with most events scheduled between 10 am and 3 pm (Central Time, USA). Stay tuned for more details!

AMONG THIS YEAR'S LECTURERS:

Hélène Olsson – PhD student in theater science, Stockholm University, actress, director and author

Anita Olson Gustafson – professor of history, Mercer University, Georgia, and author of the book Swedish Chicago

The symposium will also offer time for discussion of best practices in teaching Swedish during the corona pandemic, as well as the timely topic of the use of digital humanities and historical collections in Swedish research and instruction, featuring representatives from Swedish American Museum (Chicago), the Swedish American Archives of Greater Chicago (Chicago) and the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center (Rock Island).

The Sweden Symposium is sponsored this year by the Swedish programs in Illinois: Augustana College in Rock Island, the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign, and North Park University in Chicago.

The symposium is geared toward teachers and researchers in Swedish

and Scandinavian Studies in North America and encourages the active engagement of participants in the exchange of their experiences and new ideas.

For questions, feedback or suggestions regarding the program, please contact the Program Committee members, Mark Safstrom (marksafstrom@ augustana.edu), Verena Höfig (verena@illinois. edu), and Anne Marie Andreasson-Hogg (aandreasson@northpark.edu).



Kyngervi is looking for a new Book Reviews Editor!

Kyngervi is an open-access student peer-reviewed journal, with a focus on queer and gender studies in Old Norse Studies, from an interdisciplinary, intersectional perspective. We also welcome approaches that centre other marginal and marginalized figures, such as disability studies, race studies, and human/ animal studies.

We're looking for someone to join the team as our book reviews editor in time for our third issue.

Job Description:

- You must stay aware of relevant publications in the field
- Request recently-published books from publishers and liaise the terms of this
- Find reviewers and make sure the books are sent to them
- Copyedit the reviews
- Keep up to date with general admin

Personal Qualifications:

- You need to be between final year of a BA to three years post-PhD
- You must be actively involved in the field of Old Norse studies, with a good understanding of the journal's scope
- Flexibility and initiative are important to the role

The role is for two years in the first instance, with the option of extension. The work will be remote and involves very few meetings. This role is voluntary (i.e. unpaid), and is estimated to take around 3-4 hours per review, with 3-4 reviews per issue.

If you're interested, please send your academic CV and a short cover letter (max. 1 page) to kyngervi@ gmail.com by 31 August 2020. Feel free to get in touch if you have any questions about the role!

Is there anything you would like to share with the SASS membership?

Please send announcements and suggestions to newsandnotes@ scandinavianstudy.org. If approved before the last day of the month, announcements will appear in the next month's issue. Please indicate if you would also like your announcement to appear on scandinavianstudy.org

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In the Next Issue

Online teaching resources to help adapt to the COVID classroom.

Organization Spotlight: Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center

www.augustana.edu/swenson | lisahuntsha@augustana.edu

S ASS members may be interested in learning more about the Swenson Center's library and archival collections, lectures and special events for use in your teaching and scholarship.

The Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center (located at Augustana College in Rock Island, IL) is a national research center, library and archives for the study of Swedish-American history and relations. The Center collects, preserves and makes available archival and library materials, promotes and initiates research and is a leader in Swedish-American genealogy.

In the past, the Swenson Center has focused its collections and research on the Swedish mass migration to North America. While this remains an emphasis, we have now expanded our mission to include Swedish-American relations, such as the ways people and ideas flowed across the Atlantic and how the countries interact today.



We're here to help!

- Looking to conduct research on a Swedish-American topic? We may have collections to assist you.
- Looking to fund your trip to the Center? We offer an annual visiting scholar award.
- Have you published work on a Swedish-American topic? We'd love a copy for our collections.
- Interested in our lectures and events? Sign up for our email newsletter to stay informed. View past lectures on our YouTube channel.
- Teaching a lesson on Swedish-American history? We're available for a virtual visit (see Instructio section).

The Swenson Center is a nonprofit organization, and we depend entirely on the generosity of our donors and members. For a limited time (until August 1), we're offering SASS members a reduced Swenson Center associate membership, just \$25 for new members. Members receive our Swedish American Genealogist quarterly journal online or in print (online only for oversees subscribers at this rate), as well as discounts on our local events and research & translation services.

For assistance with any of these topics and more, contact Archivist/Librarian Lisa Huntsha or visit our website.

Call for Streams

SASS 2021 IN SEATTLE DEADLINE: SEPT 15, 2020

n anticipation of the general call for papers for the 110th Annual Meeting of the Society of the Advancement of Scandinavian Study in Seattle, May 6-8, 2021, the SASS 2021 organizing committee invites proposals for thematic streams that contribute to the conference theme: Ecologies and Economies. We hope the meeting might help us to see overlooked features of our past and to reimagine ecologies and economies for post-pandemic times. The organizing committee is interested in broadly conceptualized stream proposals that speak to contemporary as well as historical areas of concern and intellectual inquiry in the Nordic Region and Nordic America. Proposed streams might include, for example, "Economies of Global Health"; "Indigenous Voices"; "Legacies of Civil Disobedience and Public Protest": "Memorials and Public Memory of Colonialism and Conquest"; or "Pandemic, Plague and Climate Catastrophes."

A thematic stream consists of a series of panels, tied together by a common topic, offered sequentially within the overall conference framework. Streams provide a greater degree of cohesion than might occur in a single conference panel. They are well suited for finding international and interdisciplinary colleagues working on similar topics. The list of thematic streams will be published together with the general call for papers on October 1, 2020, at which point the stream chair(s) can aid the program committee in recruiting, reviewing, and organizing the stream.

Stream Proposals must include a 250 word abstract of the stream, describing the directions the stream might take and its relation to Scandinavian Studies. Please send the proposal to sass2021@scandinavianstudy.org no later than September 15, 2020. Email any questions to the SASS program committee at the same address. Approved streams will be communicated to chairs and published on October 1, 2020 on the conference website (https://scandinavianstudy. org/annual-meeting/sass-2021-seattle/). Proposals for all papers, panels, roundtables and workshops will be due on December 15, 2020.





Call for Nominations

Aurora Borealis Nomination Form

Aurora Borealis 2020

Each year the Society honors graduate student contributions to our conference by awarding two student presenters the Aurora Borealis Prize for the best oral paper presentations, one in the category of History and Social Science, and one in Arts and Humanities. Typically only those who attend the delivery of a paper are eligible to nominate individuals for this prize, criteria we are not able to uphold due to the Coronavirus pandemic, which compelled the Society to cancel its 2020 annual meeting. Happily, the Aurora Borealis Prize Committee is still planning to award a 2020 prize and consequently, is adjusting the nomination process to accommodate the situation.

We invite faculty and instructors working with graduate students who have written worthy papers to nominate individuals for the 2020 prize. Self-nominated papers will be accepted on rare occasions at the discretion of the President of SASS.

As in recent years, the 2020 Aurora Borealis Prize Committee will operate a paperless submission process. Nominating faculty and instructors may submit their nominations via e-mail to the awards committee, auroraborealis@scandinavianstudy.org, and should inform the nominee of his/her/their nomination. Nominees may then submit their papers, along with any pertinent materials (audio-visual or other), to the same address via attachment. Please put Aurora Borealis in the subject line. Papers must adhere to professional citation standards and include a bibliography. Nominations and submissions will be accepted until December 1, 2020.

Aurora Borealis Nomination Form

New Publications



Human Rights and Oppressed Peoples: Collected Essays and Speeches | Georg Brandes Edited and translated by William Banks

Georg Brandes was known as the "Father of the Modern Breakthrough" for his influence on Scandinavian writers in the late nineteenth century. A prominent writer, thinker, and speaker, he often examined intellectual topics beyond the literary criticism he was best known for. In this collection, William Banks has translated a number of Brandes's pieces that engage in the concerns of oppressed peoples. By collecting, annotating, and contextualizing these works, Banks reintroduces Brandes as a major progenitor of thinking about the rights of national minorities and the colonized.

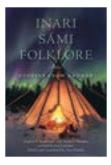
For more information, visit: https://uwpress.wisc.edu/books/5770.htm



Songs of the Finnish Migration: A Bilingual Anthology | Simo Westerholm Translated with additional notes by Thomas A. DuBois and Marcus Cederström

Songs of the Finnish Migration presents music, lyrics, and chords for more than eighty Finnish-language immigrant songs, alongside singable English translations and detailed notes on Finnish migration history and music making in the New World. At times boisterous and confident, wry and irreverent, or impassioned and sorrowful, Finnish immigrant songs provide a vivid and imaginative portrayal of the momentous process of migration that forever changed Finnish and Finnish American society.

For more information, visit: https://uwpress.wisc.edu/books/5661.htm



Inari Sámi Folklore: Stories from Aanaar | August V. Koskimies and Toivo I. Itkonen Revised by Lea Laitinen | Edited and translated by Tim Frandy

First published in 1918 only in the Aanaar Sámi language and in Finnish, this anthology is now available in a centennial English-language edition for a global readership. Translator Tim Frandy has added biographies of the storytellers, maps and period photos, annotations, and a glossary. In headnotes that contextualize the stories, he explains such underlying themes as Aanaar conflicts with neighboring Sámi and Finnish communities, the collapse of the wild reindeer populations less than a century before, and the pre-Christian past in Aanaar. He introduces us to the bawdy humor of Antti Kitti, the didacticism of lisakki Mannermaa, and the feminist leanings of Juho Petteri Lusmaniemi, emphasizing that folktales and proverbs are rooted in the experiences of individuals who are links in a living tradition.

For more information, visit: https://uwpress.wisc.edu/books/5591.htm



an Open Access Journal by MDPI

The Faces of Swedish Modernity: Social Realism, Decadence, Modernism, Postmodernism

Guest Editor:

Message from the Guest Editor

Prof. Susan Brantly

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sbrantly@wisc.edu

Deadline for manuscript submissions: 31 December 2020 That modernity should possess multiple faces is a useful metaphor put forward by Matei Calinescu. Over the years, faces change, as does our understanding of various literary movements. Moreover, the variety of faces may change depending on where one is, so it is possible that different countries will have different perspectives on modernity and the responses it provokes. This Special Issue argues that in the case of Sweden, the faces of modernity include social realism, decadence, modernism, and postmodernism. This claim is not undisputed. Seldom is social realism included as a facet of modernity in studies oriented towards the Western world, but in Scandinavia and Sweden in particular, the Nordic Modern Breakthrough of the late 19th Century has left a strong legacy of socially engaged literature that continues into the present. Moreover, postmodernism is viewed with distrust in some Swedish critical circles, primarily because of its perceived lack of social engagement. This volume is intended to explore these terms, their relationship to each other and the Swedish context, as well as their individual manifestations.







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Editor-in-Chief

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Albrecht Classen

Department of German Studies, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721, USA We welcome contributions that address fundamental issues in the Humanities from any meaningful perspective, combining past and present concerns in order to blaze a path toward the future. Interdisciplinary approaches are particularly welcome. All submissions will be critically reviewed by peers, aiming for the highest possible scholarly level. Being an online journal, the published papers will reach their desired audiences faster, more reliably, and much more easily than traditional print versions, while upholding the same, if not even higher, scholarly standards.

Author Benefits

Open Access: free for readers, with article processing charges (APC) paid by authors or their institutions.

High Visibility: Indexed in ERIH Plus.

Rapid Publication: manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision provided to authors approximately 31.2 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 5.3 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2019).

Contact Us

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General Call for Special Symposium Issues

The Journal of Muslim Philanthropy & Civil Society

The Journal of Muslim Philanthropy & Civil Society (JMPCS), is a bi-annual, peer reviewed, open access journal published by the Center on Muslim Philanthropy and Indiana University Press in partnership with the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, Catholic Theological Union, International Institute of Islamic Thought, and the World Congress of Muslim Philanthropists.

JMPCS seeks original academic research examining the broad scope of Muslim philanthropy and civil society. By "Muslim" philanthropy, we mean philanthropic activity of any kind which involves self-identifying Muslim individuals, institutions, communities, and societies as key agents in shaping the context and content of this activity. Given the extent to which any construction of Muslim identity necessarily entails the influence of other faiths as well as various expressions of secular culture, the Journal's scope is intentionally broad. Our definition of "philanthropy" is similarly broad and encompasses any intentional act of generosity. As such, "philanthropy" includes practices of generosity ranging from the activity of discrete individuals of all socio-economic backgrounds to that of not-for-profit organizations, social movements, and a variety of other forms of civic engagement. We seek to draw articles by researchers from across disciplines (Anthropology, Art, History, Political Science, Religious Studies, Sociology, Public Affairs, Nonprofit Management, Business, Philanthropy, etc.) in this emerging field.

The special issues can build upon academic conference panels to continue important collaborations.

Along with standard Research Papers (8,000 words) and Book Reviews (1,500 words), JMPCS also welcomes Commentaries (short articles commenting in a significant way on, or supplementing arguments and evidence in, a Research Article or a Review Article) of up to 2,500 words. Authors are welcome to submit original Research Papers, Book Reviews, and Commentaries dealing with themes relating to the mission of the journal.

JMPCS is seeking proposals for three separate special issues. Each special issue will consist of:

- 3-4 peer reviewed articles that have undergone double-blind peer review1
- Editorial commentary
- 2-3 book reviews

To further this research, JMPCS will provide up to \$5,000 in matching funds for each special issue's guest editor to host a research convening at their academic institution. The papers presented at this symposium are to be submitted for review for publication in the respective special issue. Funds can be used for travel, honoraria, and/or meals provided at the research symposium. Travel is not required, as the symposium may be held virtually. A small portion of the funds can be used for copy-editing for the symposium issue. The hosting academic institution must demonstrate financial commitment to be eligible to receive the matching funds. Research symposiums are required to take place any time between Award notification and August 1, 2021.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

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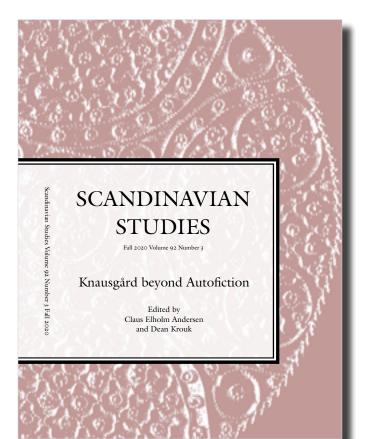
- A symposium may include 6-8 research scholars of which up to 2-3 may be graduate students 3-4 on a particular topic, including a review article on that topic.
- Please address the following questions in your proposal for a symposium:
 - 1. What is the topic of the symposium?
 - 2. Why does this topic occasion/warrant a symposium in JMPCS? How will it advance the field?
 - 3. Who is the sponsor of the symposium? Please provide a CV of the convenor as well as information about the hosting institution.
 - 4. How will the symposium be funded (including a proposed budget)?
 - 5. Who is the guest editor(s) of the symposium?
 - 6. What audiences will be specifically interested in the symposium?
 - 7. What is the time line for the call for papers, preparation, production, and publication of the symposium?
 - 8. What paper topics and/or scholars may be included in the symposium?
 - 9. What actions can/will the guest editors take to raise the distribution and impact of the special issue?

Should guest editors also seek to submit an article that article would undergo double blind peer review under the supervision of the Editors-in-Chief Up to three grants will be awarded.

Deadline for proposals: August 1, 2020 Award notification deadline: September 1, 2020 Research Symposium: January 1 – May 1, 2021

GUIDELINES FOR THE SYMPOSIUM:

- The guest editor(s) of the symposium is responsible for the editorial process, including issuing and publicizing a call for papers, selecting the 4-6 papers to be considered for publication in the symposium, and organizing the peerreview process.
- The guest editor(s) will use the JMPCS Open Journal Systems portal (https://scholarworks.iu.edu/iupjournals/ index.php/muslimphilanthropy/about/ submission s) for the peer-review process. All manuscripts submitted for the symposium must adhere to the JMPCS submission guidelines and must be double blind peer-reviewed.
- The final decision on acceptance of manuscripts for publication will be made by the JMPCS Editors-in-Chief in consultation with the guest editor(s).
- 4. Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, the proposal can suggest a virtual or online symposium.
- 5. Undergraduate students may also be included in the symposium but should be in addition to the 6-8 research scholars
- 6. All articles that successfully go through blind review will be published.
- The guest editor(s) must make certain that the symposium has (at least) one major literature review article that is likely to be cited in the coming years when people write about this topic.
- 8. Please submit your proposals via email to the Managing Editor Rafia Khader at rkhader@iu.edu.



Scandinavian Studies

Dean Krouk, Reviews Editor | krouk@wisc.edu

The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study has been publishing an academic journal since 1911. Originally conceived as a report of work presented at the annual meeting, the publication quickly became one of the foremost peer-reviewed journals in the field and has remained a top-rated journal internationally for several decades. A copy of the journal, in print or digital format is included in your membership to the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study.

SASS would like to thank Susan Brantly and Tom DuBois for their work as the most recent editors of Scandinavian Studies. Dr. DuBois's term as co-editor will be expiring this year and Dr. Brantly's term will be expiring in 2022. Anyone interested in contributing to the growth of the field by stepping into the editor role should contact SASS Vice-President Andy Nestingen at akn@uw.edu for more information.

Anyone interested contributing book reviews to Scandinavian Studies should contact Dean Krouk, Reviews Editor at krouk@wisc.edu to express their interest in this opportunity.

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