

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

# News & Notes

VOLUME 53 • NOVEMBER 2021

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Image by Benjamin Zochell from Pixabay



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**VOLUME 53 | NOVEMBER 2021**

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## If not SASS members, who?

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Andrew K. Nestingen | [president@scandinavianstudy.org](mailto:president@scandinavianstudy.org)

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When SASS celebrated its one-hundredth anniversary in 2011, President Jason Lavery established a Centennial Fund to ensure SASS would have the resources it needs to grow.

SASS is growing institutionally and intellectually. Our meeting in Madison, 2019, included a prominent keynote, a large number of presenters, and strong grant support, thanks to our UW-Madison colleagues.

We were forced to cancel our 2020 meeting.

Our online meeting in 2021 attracted many participants and elevated important conversations, for instance how SASS can become a more inclusive society.

In 2022, our Puerto Rico meeting gives us the occasion to grow intellectually, advancing discussions of colonialism, race, and indigeneity.

Yet SASS's financial resources are not growing. Members' gifts to SASS in 2020 totaled \$205.00. The Centennial Fund remains less than \$40,000.

We work for institutional and intellectual growth. But if SASS members do not support the financial growth of the society, who will?

As president, I want every member to give to SASS. Your support will strengthen our society. It will help us look ahead strategically. It will help secure SASS's future.

Please help SASS flourish by giving now. Then, make another gift on Giving Tuesday -- Tuesday, November 30, 2021. Let us secure the society's future together.

With best fall greetings,

[Click to Donate](#)

# Updates from the Council

[newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org](mailto:newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org)

## nordics.info Survey

nordics.info wants to find out more about how people find information online and why research-based information often goes overlooked. How do you find information online? How do you gauge the credibility of different websites? Please fill in our online survey and let us know!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZJT65W5>

Everyone can take part in the survey, but we are particularly interested in hearing from journalists and students and teachers of Scandinavian Studies around the world. So, please click on the link below, it takes 5 to 10 minutes and your answers will be treated confidentially.

## Job Opening - ASF

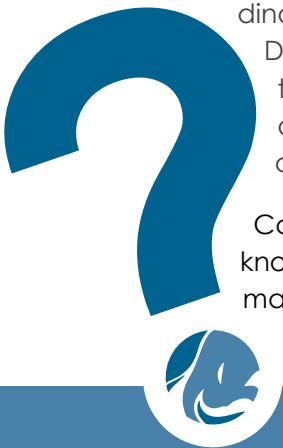
The American-Scandinavian Foundation seeks a Membership Coordinator to oversee all aspects of the membership program, including member relations and outreach, planning renewals and new memberships, preparing mailings, membership promotion and development, and assisting in developing content and editing the quarterly newsletter. The Membership Coordinator also works with the Director of Development in maximizing charitable giving from the membership, and carrying out special events for donors, trustees, and members.

Candidates should have an in-depth knowledge of Salesforce NPSP for data management, skills with Microsoft Of-

fice applications, and one-three years' membership or related experience. Strong written and oral communication skills, good organizational skills, the ability to work cooperatively and creatively with members and staff, and the ability to coordinate and attend periodic member events are also required. Knowledge of Scandinavia preferred, BA required.

Salary is commensurate with experience. Good benefit plan.

Interested applicants should email a cover letter with salary requirements and a resume, as a single PDF file to: [hr@amscan.org](mailto:hr@amscan.org) and put Membership Coordinator in the subject line.



## HAVE SOMETHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE?

Please send announcements and suggestions to [newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org](mailto: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](http://scandinavianstudy.org)





# Welcome to Puerto Rico!

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## ¡Bienvenidos en Puerto Rico!

**O**n behalf of the organizing team of SASS 2022, it is my pleasure to invite you to join us in Puerto Rico in April! Despite the ongoing insecurities and challenges of the pandemic situation, we very much hope that many will take the journey to the Caribbean and grasp this unique opportunity to learn more about colonial and postcolonial entanglements between the Caribbean, Scandinavia, and the United States (everyone else is welcome to join the conference online).

Much has happened since we planned for SASS 2020 – not only on national or global scales, but also in terms of new acquaintances and additions to the program, and recent activities of our guests who will contribute to the conference's cultural and educational program.

Our keynote speakers, visual artists La Vaughn Belle (Christiansted, St. Croix) and Jeannette Ehlers (Copenhagen) have recently completed a successful crowdfunding campaign to support the creation of two more permanent versions of their much-noticed “I Am Queen Mary” public sculpture, to be installed in Copenhagen and St. Croix. While we wait for La Vaughn Belle and Jeannette Ehlers to share with the SASS audience their visions for a reconnection between Denmark and the Virgin Islands (the former Danish West Indies, now an unincorporated territory of the United States), you can see the video “I Am Queen Mary – Work in Progress,” produced for the recent exhibition “After the Silence – Women of Art Speak Out” at the National Gallery in Copenhagen.



During the time since we had to cancel the 2020 conference, we have strengthened our bonds to the small, but sharp and lively community of Scandinavianists and medievalists from the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras. Some of you will remember them from the thought-provoking preview panel at this year's SASS conference in May, “Puerto Rican-Scandinavian Connections.” As a new and very welcome addition to the program, Professor Maribeth Polhill (U Puerto Rico) and Assistant Professor Nahir Otaño Gracia (U New Mexico) will give a plenary lecture to start our excursion and education day (Friday, April 29), introducing us to Caribbean perspectives on Old Norse literature, and to the Puerto Rican present. What is more, students and graduate students who know the Icelandic sagas just as well as Puerto Rican contemporary culture will be among the guides for the tours offered that day (you can sign up at a later stage).

# Welcome to Puerto Rico!

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## ¡Bienvenidos en Puerto Rico!

We are very happy that the gallery :Pública in San Juan's vibrant Santurce neighborhood has endured the pandemic and is still committed to hosting an exhibition with recent work by La Vaughn Belle and Jeannette Ehlers. The opening will take place on Friday night, and the excursions to San Juan will end at the gallery, so conference participants will mingle with the community served by :Pública and the connected restaurant. We are very grateful for the support of the exhibition and opening reception by the Danish Arts Foundation and the American-Scandinavian Foundation.

Another collaboration partner, the Frederiksted-based agency CHANT: Crucian Heritage and Nature Tourism, is fortunately also still committed to hosting an excursion to St. Croix following the conference. St. Croix is only a very short flight away from Puerto Rico. The dates are Sunday to Wednesday, May 1-4, and more information will be published soon. We hope that many of you will again want to join us for a few days of learning about the traces and impact of Danish colonialism on the island and about the contemporary culture of the Virgin Islands—I cannot imagine a better partner for this than CHANT and its director Frandelle Gerard, who are very dedicated to community development on St. Croix. (A trip to the former Swedish colony and now French overseas territory St. Barthélemy can also be arranged, yet in a more self-organized form. Please get in touch with me if you're interested.)

Follow our social media pages as we post news on additional guests, recommended reading, and information about our destinations.



Not least, please [check out the wonderful streams](#) that our colleagues have come up with, some of them inspired by the conference theme, others about other highly relevant topics in our field.

We're very much looking forward to an inspiring and informative conference.

See you in Puerto Rico!

¡Nos vemos en Puerto Rico!

On behalf of the organizing committee,



AMERICAN-  
SCANDINAVIAN  
FOUNDATION

*Lill-Ann Körber*

For queries about the post-conference excursions and the cultural program: [lill-ann@cc.au.dk](mailto:lill-ann@cc.au.dk)

For general inquiries about the conference: [sass2022@scandinavianstudy.org](mailto:sass2022@scandinavianstudy.org)

# Call for Papers

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## SASS 2022: Puerto Rico



SASS 2022

April 27-30, 2022

### SUBMISSION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 01, 2021

Current and future members of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study are invited to propose papers or presentations for SASS 2022, the 112th annual meeting of the Society, to be held from 27-30 April 2022 in Rio Mar, Puerto Rico. This hybrid conference encourages scholars to deliver papers in person or virtually; the latter requires scholars to upload a pre-recorded talk but to be present virtually for the Q&A.

The SASS conference in Puerto Rico wants to address the Caribbean present and other temporal and spatial dimensions of Euro-American entanglements. The program committee encourages papers and presentations related to the presidential theme "Postcolonial Entanglements" but welcomes all proposals from the broad field of Scandinavian Studies.

Scholars can submit their proposal to one of the pre-approved 7 streams, the general papers pool, or a self-organized panel. A panel must have an organizer and three or four confirmed speakers who all indicate their panel title at submission. View the pre-approved streams on the SASS 2022 website.

All scholars intending to present at SASS 2022 must submit an abstract by 01 December 2021, even if scholars included an abstract as part of the Call for Streams in September. Please use keywords to tag your paper proposal with the appropriate indexing so that the conference program committee can rapidly cluster papers into appropriate panels and streams.

The conference program committee will approve abstracts by 1 February. The stream chair(s) will receive those paper abstracts accepted to pre-approved streams in order to compile the stream schedule, while the conference program committee will compile and schedule all self-organized panels, roundtables, workshops, and those papers in the general pool.

**SUBMIT**

**For More Info, Visit the Website:**

<https://scandinavianstudy.org/annual-meeting/sass-2022-puerto-rico/>

# In Memoriam

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## Pierre Halleux | December 16, 1921 – December 7, 1972

Pierre Halleux was a distinguished scholar, professor of Scandinavian Studies at the University of Liège (Belgium). He specialized in Icelandic saga's and modern Swedish literature. He travelled and lectured extensively in the United States during the 60's. For the centennial of his birth (December 1921) and the fiftieth anniversary of his untimely death in December 1972, we reprint the In Memoriam published in News and Notes in 1973.

"Dr. Pierre Halleux, 50, Professor of Scandinavian Studies at the Université de Liege, Belgium, author of *Aspects littéraires de la Saga de Hrafnkel* (Paris, 1963), died in December, 1972 in a car accident. In 1965 he lectured on favorite Old Norse and Swedish themes at several universities in the United States of America and two of his essays appeared in SS: "Hrafnkel's Character Reinterpreted" (February 1966) and "Some Aspects of Style in Hrafnkels saga" (May, 1966). With Jean Clarence Lambert he translated Lagerkvist's *D'Angoisse et de Chaos* (P. Seghers, 1952), *La Tunnel* (in *La revue théâtrale*, 1952), and *L'Homme Libere* (in *Mercure de France*, 1952); thus he helped to introduce Lagerkvist to the French audience. Pierre Halleux was what the Old Icelanders called vinsaell, a charming person with eminent qualities as a teacher. Pierre Halleux learned Swedish in a way that amazed his professors. The techniques in learning Swedish as a foreign language - textbooks, etc. - as is well known, have been greatly advanced since 1946 when Pierre Halleux studied Swedish at Uppsala. I only got to know Pierre Halleux later, when he wanted to translate Laxness' short stories. But I was almost overwhelmed by Halleux's command of idiomatic Swedish. And this initial impression remained when I heard him discuss in Swedish at the International Scandinavian Study Conferences at Uppsala, Bergen and elsewhere. His range of vocabulary and his depth of knowledge in "ärans och

hjältarnas språk" was truly admirable. He will be sorely missed by friends and colleagues. The idea has been raised to honor Pierre Halleux's memory by an English- American edition of Hrafnkel's Saga as a textbook together with a reprinting of already available articles in Scandinavian Studies on Hrafnkel. Hans Bekker-Nielsen has suggested that a collection of essays be brought together as a memorial volume, dealing with the development of Scandinavian studies. "How would it be for instance to bring together a dozen essays, dealing in a sophisticated way with the development of Scandinavian studies (not only Germanistik, but also Neuskandinavistik) in Belgium (Bolckmans), France (Gravier), North America (Einar Haugen), Germany (Oberholzer), and other places outside Scandinavia and Iceland - not forgetting Merry England and Bonnie Scotland. It should not be information, but a well-balanced, sophisticated view of what has happened recently, say in this century. It would help all and everyone of us in the profession to make people realise what we are doing in our chosen fields."

- Leif Sjöberg

Comments and memories from former colleagues or students and enquiries about his activities are welcome. They may be sent to p.halleux@gmail.com. His family will respond.





# INDIGENOUS STUDIES AND THE NORDICS

November is Native American Heritage Month in the United States. In recognition of this, SASS wanted to highlight the work being done in our field on topics that include Native American, First Nations, and Native Alaskan Studies as well as the study of Native Greenlanders, the Sami, and other Indigenous groups across the globe. We recognize that the work referenced on these two pages is far from a comprehensive overview of the work being done by our members and colleagues, nor does it touch on all native peoples or only those indigenous to North America. We hope that by highlighting these ongoing projects in this month's issue of News and Notes, we will draw attention to this important work and encourage all of you to explore these areas of inquiry, and to reach out to our colleagues for insight and guidance. For an in-depth discussion of topics related to the colonial past and present of the Nordics, join us at our Puerto Rico conference in April 2022 - either in person or virtually.



President Rebecca Bergman of Gustavus has appointed Ursula Lindquist faculty co-chair of her inaugural President's Council on Indigenous Relations (PCIR), which convenes for the first time this month.

Glenn Kranking served on the Linnaeus Arboretum Deliberation Circle, which studied the extent to which Linnaeus' writings and legacy have been used in support of racist ideas, and submitted a report to the board of trustees, which ultimately decided to rename the Arboretum. It is now The Arboretum at Gustavus Adolphus College.

Kjerstin Moody was a charter member of the Indigenous Relations Working Group at Gustavus.

Ursula Lindquist has been doing archival settler history work to translate documents related to the college's founding on Dakota ancestral lands.

Photo: <https://gustavus.edu/gimli/w1200/arboretum/concertFiles/media/ArbPrairie-Summer2011.webp?oext=jpgmeno>

Benjamin Grignon is a teacher of traditional Menominee arts, he represents the Menominee Nation and approaches culturally-responsive education by using Menominee Language, Culture, and art to promote and preserve tribal history as a pathway for future generations and positively influence the education of the youth in his community. His current dissertation project is a study of the cultural geography of the Upper Midwest that will include a discussion of the Swedish connection with the



Menomonee in Upper Michigan. To facilitate this research, he was awarded the Dagmar & Nils William Olsson Visiting Scholar Award from the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center at Augustana in 2021. He is also the 2019 Wisconsin High School Teacher of the Year and the recipient of the 2020 National Education Association's Leo Reano Memorial Human and Civil Rights Award.

Photo: <https://news.uwgb.edu/phlash/news/07/22/menominee-teacher-ben-grignon-wins-national-award-post-crescent/>

## INDIGENOUS STUDIES AND THE NORDICS CONT...

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**D**r. Sven D. Haakanson is a leader in the documentation, preservation, and revival of indigenous culture, including his own native Alaskan Sugpiaq traditions. He joined the University of Washington as an associate professor of Anthropology and curator of Native American collections at the Burke Museum in 2013. He played a central role in the design of the new Burke "Culture is Living" Gallery (2016-19). Dr. Haakanson engages communities in cultural revitalization using material reconstruction as a form of scholarship and teaching. With a Nordic-American background himself, Dr. Haakanson has long been interested in the intersection of communities, traditions, and material cultures in Alaska and elsewhere.

Visit our YouTube page to watch (or re-watch) Dr Sven Haakanson's 2021 Keynote Address

<https://youtu.be/lavNinMy-c8>

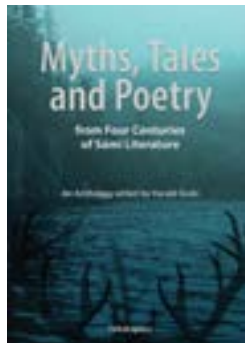


In 2015, Tom DuBois, Marcus Cederstrom, Tim Frandy and Colin Connors worked with a group of students at the Lac du Flambeau Public School in Northern Wisconsin. Watch the video Birchbark Canoes and Wild Rice here: <https://vimeo.com/170565548> and follow this link: <https://csumc.wisc.edu> for details about the work being done at the Center for the Study of Upper Midwestern Cultures at the University of Wisconsin.

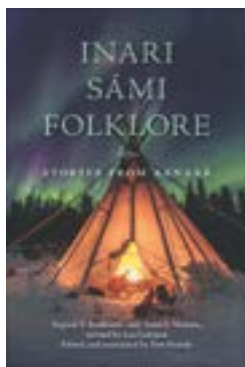


## INDIGENOUS STUDIES AND THE NORDICS CONT...

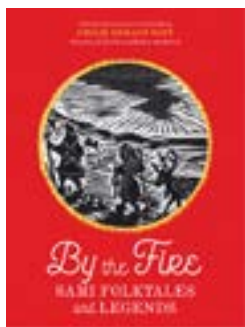
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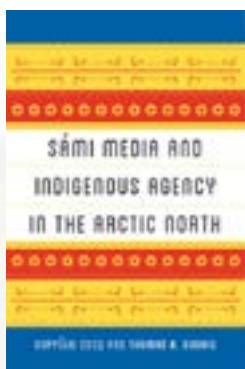
This anthology presents Sámi oral and written texts from the last four hundred years – Sámi narratives and poetry relating creation of the world, the inhabitation of Sápmi, and vivid accounts of how the Sámi have fought against colonization and assimilation. Beginning with the two seventeenth-century yoik poems that became renowned in Europe and inspired famous authors like Goethe, and continuing to prose and poetry of recent decades, the anthology highlights an enduring and distinctive Sámi voice in the world of literature.



A rich multivoiced anthology of folktales, legends, joik songs, proverbs, riddles, and other verbal art, this is the most comprehensive collection of Sámi oral tradition available in English to date. Collected by August V. Koskimies and Toivo I. Itkonen in the 1880s from nearly two dozen storytellers from the arctic Aanaar (Inari) region of northeast Finland, the material reveals a complex web of social relations that existed both inside and far beyond the community.



These stories, collected by the Danish artist and ethnographer Emilie Demant Hatt (1873–1958) during her travels in the early twentieth century among the nomadic Sami in Swedish Sápmi, grant entry to a fascinating world of wonder and peril, of nature imbued with spirits, and strangers to be outwitted with gumption and craft. This first English publication of *By the Fire* is at once a significant contribution to the canon of world literature, a unique glimpse into Sami culture, and a testament to the enduring art of storytelling.

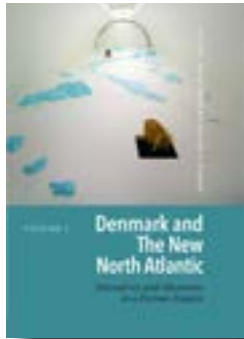


Digital media—GIFs, films, TED Talks, tweets, and more—have become integral to daily life and, unsurprisingly, to Indigenous people's strategies for addressing the historical and ongoing effects of colonization. In *Sámi Media and Indigenous Agency in the Arctic North*, Thomas DuBois and Coppélie Cocq examine how Sámi people of Norway, Finland, and Sweden use media to advance a social, cultural, and political agenda anchored in notions of cultural continuity and self-determination. Beginning in the 1970s, Sámi have used Sámi-language media—including commercially produced musical recordings, feature and documentary films, books of literature and poetry, and magazines—to communicate a sense of identity both within the Sámi community and within broader Nordic and international arenas.

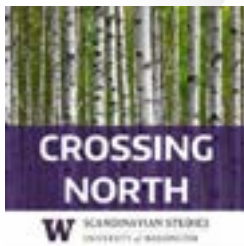


# INDIGENOUS STUDIES AND THE NORDICS CONT...

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This book investigates how the emergence of the Arctic as a new geopolitical arena affects and reshapes the area known as the North Atlantic: Greenland, Iceland, the Faroe Islands and coastal Norway. The relationship between the center of the former Danish empire and its subordinates have rested on (varying degrees of) asymmetric power relations, that are intertwined with political as well as emotional bonds.



[Crossing North Episode 13: Don't Just Leave Footprints](#) discusses how global warming affecting Greenlanders and what responsibilities climate-scientists have to the peoples of the Arctic. UW seniors Lela Cooper and Katie Hearther discuss how a course in Greenland about climate change inspired them to study new languages and integrate the humanities into the sciences they love.

While you're there, check out [Episodes 11: It's Illegal to Be Native](#) and [Episode 9: See the Woman](#)

## Scandinavian Studies

- Volume 93, Issue 2

["My Hard-Earned \(Sámi\) Identity": The Hard Work of Uncomfortable Reading](#)

by Lydia Kokkola and Elina Siltanen

- Volume 92, Issue 1

[Indigenous Place-Names in \(Post\)colonial Contexts: The Case of Ubmeje in Northern Sweden](#)

by Daniel Andersson

- Volume 91, Issue 1 -2

[Nordic Colonialisms](#)

- Volume 85, Issue 4

[Assimilation of the Sámi: Its Unforeseen Effects on the Majority Populations of Scandinavia](#)

by John Weinstock



# Call for Submissions

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## HAUGEN SCHOLARSHIP

\$7,500 ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP TO SUPPORT RESEARCH ACTIVITIES FOR PH.D. CANDIDATES

**APPLICATIONS DUE DECEMBER 1, 2021**

Honoring the ground-breaking cultural and linguistic work of Einar and Eva Lund Haugen, SASS is pleased to again call for submissions to this \$7,500 annual scholarship in support of research and fieldwork activities of Ph.D. candidates.

Qualified Applicants:

- must be enrolled at an academic institution in North America
- prove completion of course work and preliminary requirements for a doctoral degree
- demonstrate a need to travel to the Nordic region or areas in North America far from their home institutions
- be members in good standing of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study

Timeline:

1 December 2021

Applications due

31 January 2022

Decisions announced

30 April 2022

Award recipient honored at SASS annual banquet

1 June 2022 – 31 May 2023

Award period (funds must be used by 31 May 2023)

Contact information:

[haugen@scandinavianstudy.org](mailto:haugen@scandinavianstudy.org)

*Click here to apply!*



**APPLY**

**Apply for the 2022 Haugen Scholarship at  
<https://form.jotform.com/201333872658055>**

# Call for Submissions

## BIRGIT BALDWIN FELLOWSHIP

\$30,000 ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP TO SUPPORT RESEARCH ACTIVITIES FOR PH.D. CANDIDATES

**APPLICATIONS DUE DECEMBER 1, 2021**

**B**irgit Baldwin's family has established the Birget Baldwin Fellowship to honor her name and an incipient career that most certainly would have been a stellar one. In that spirit, the Birgit Baldwin Fellowship seeks to encourage doctoral research focusing on Scandinavian (Nordic) literature and film conducted in the Nordic region.

Detailed application instructions can be found at <https://scandinavianstudy.org/awards-fellowships/baldwin-fellowship/>

### Qualified Applicants:

- must be enrolled at an academic institution in North America
- submit a dissertation proposal that includes research plans and evidence of competency (including linguistic competency) to carry them out
- provide letters of recommendation from two supporting scholars
- demonstrate a need to travel to the Nordic region or areas in North America far from their home institutions
- be members in good standing of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study

### Timeline:

1 December 2021	Applications due
31 January 2022	Decisions announced
30 April 2022	Award recipient honored at SASS annual banquet
1 June 2022 – 31 May 2023	Award period (funds must be used by 31 May 2023)

### Contact information:

[baldwin@scandinavianstudy.org](mailto:baldwin@scandinavianstudy.org)

*Click here to apply!*

**APPLY**

**Apply for the 2022 Birgit Baldwin Fellowship at  
<https://form.jotform.com/201344330153036>**

# Scandinavian Studies

Susan Brantly, Editor | [sbrantly@wisc.edu](mailto:sbrantly@wisc.edu)

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### Institutions:

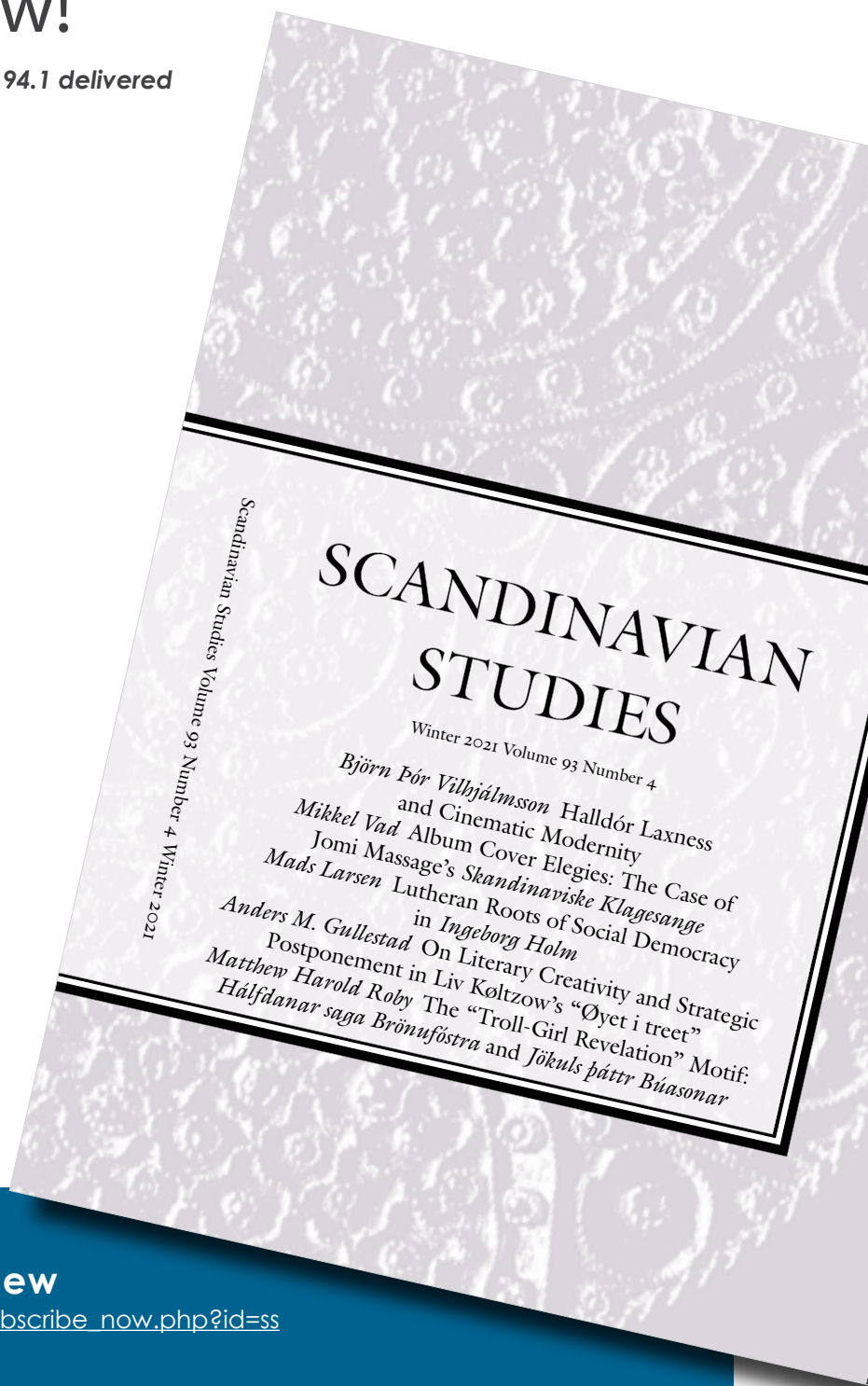
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