

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

News & Notes

VOLUME 59 • SPECIAL ELECTION ISSUE



- ▶▶ Get to know the candidates
- ▶▶ Renew your membership
- ▶▶ Vote!

VOTE!



Society for the
Advancement of
Scandinavian Study

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VOLUME 59 | SPECIAL ELECTION ISSUE

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SASS 2023 Executive Council Elections

Direct all election related questions to: Scott Mellor | samellor@wisc.edu

INSTRUCTIONS

The election of new members for the SASS Executive Council is now open. Please vote by February 1, 2023. The Executive Council is empowered to make all decisions for the Society, unless otherwise designated in the SASS constitution and by-laws.

The SASS constitution states, "The candidates for executive office and the executive council shall be elected by the majority of votes from the membership of the Society which reach the Executive Director within sixty days of the distribution of electronic ballots." Those thus elected shall take office at the close of the annual meeting of the year in which they are elected.

The candidates have provided a biographical sketch and a brief statement outlining their vision, if elected to executive office or the SASS Executive Council. Please review these statements and follow the link below to cast your ballot. Remember, ballots must be submitted by February 1, 2023.

On the following pages you will find descriptions of the positions on the Executive Council, and their respective terms and duties. Follow News & Notes to get to know the sitting members of the Executive Council. If you are interested in serving on the Executive Council, reach out to Vice President Scott Mellor at samellor@wisc.edu

OBS! You MUST be a member in good standing to vote. If your membership has lapsed or if you are not yet a member, you will need to renew or join at the link below before the voting deadline in order to cast a ballot. Once you have renewed, you will need to email the Executive Director at exec-director@scandinavianstudy.org to get a code that will allow you to vote. If your membership is current at the time this issue was distributed, you should have automatically gotten that code via email. If you believe your membership is current but did not receive a code, email the ED at exec-director@scandinavianstudy.org

JOIN OR RENEW HERE:

https://www.press.uillinois.edu/journals/subscribe_now.php?id=ss

VOTE!

**Cast your ballot before February 1, 2023 at
<https://vote.electionrunner.com/election/tv9ri>**

Meet the Executive Council

Questions? | info@scandinavianstudy.org

Officers

PRESIDENT

The SASS President serves a six year term - two years as Vice President, two years as President, and two years as Financial Officer. During their two years as president they act as the leader of the Executive Council and the academic head of SASS. They also lead the Executive Committee.

VICE PRESIDENT

The Vice President serves a six year term - two years as Vice President, two years as President, and two years as Financial Officer. During their two years as Vice President they act as the head of the Baldwin Fellowship Committee, the Nominating Committee, and the Strategic Planning Committee. They serve as the recording secretary at Council Meetings and serve on the Executive Committee.

FINANCIAL OFFICER

The Financial Officer serves a six year term - two years as Vice President, two years as President, and two years as Financial Officer. During their two years as Financial Officer they provide oversight over SASS's finances and the financial duties of the Executive Director, They also serve as liason to the Conference Organizing Committee and serve on the Executive Council.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Executive Director is the only full-time SASS employee and is the only non-elected member of the Executive Council. The ED runs the day-to-day operations of the society, including financial oversight, IT, conference organization, communications, management of the Executive Council duties, and all the other tasks that keep the society running. They also serve as a member of the Executive Council.

Meet the Executive Council

Questions? | info@scandinavianstudy.org

Representatives

LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

There are four Language and Literature representatives serving on the council at any given time. L&L representatives serve a four year term, with a new member starting their term at every conference. During their time on the council, L&L representatives serve on the Aurora Borealis Committee, the Baldwin Committee and other organizational committees as needed. EC members are asked to attend four full council meetings per year - three virtual meetings and the in-person meeting that takes place at the annual conference.

HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE

There are four History and Social Science representatives serving on the council at any given time. HSS representatives serve a four year term, with a new member starting their term at every conference. During their time on the council, HSS representatives serve on the Aurora Borealis Committee, the Haugen Committee and other organizational committees as needed. EC members are asked to attend four full council meetings per year - three virtual meetings and the in-person meeting that takes place at the annual conference.

INDEPENDENT SCHOLAR/ INSTITUTIONAL MEMBER

There will be two Independent Scholar/Institutional Member Representatives on the Executive Council after this coming election. IS representatives serve a four year term, with a new member starting their term every two years. During their time on the council, IS representatives serve on organizational committees as needed. The council is in the process of standardizing the committee duties of IS representatives. Representatives are asked to attend four full council meetings per year - three virtual meetings and the in-person meeting that takes place at the annual conference.

GRADUATE STUDENTS

There will be two Graduate Student Representatives on the Executive Council after this coming election. GS representatives serve a two year term, with a new member starting their term every year. During their time on the council, GS representatives serve on organizational committees as needed. The council is in the process of standardizing the committee duties of IS representatives. Representatives are asked to attend four full council meetings per year - three virtual meetings and the in-person meeting that takes place at the annual conference.

Executive Council Elections

EXECUTIVE OFFICER CANDIDATES



**OLIVIA NOBLE
GUNN**

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

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Olivia Noble Gunn (she/her/hers) is an Associate Professor and the Sverre Arestad Endowed Chair in Norwegian Studies in the Department of Scandinavian Studies at the University of Washington. Her research interests include Norwegian literature and culture after 1880, comparative literature, performance studies, feminism, critical race studies, and queer theory. She is motivated by big questions about innocence, propriety, and the limits of thinking and living. Olivia has published research on the dramas of Henrik Ibsen, figures of the child, and constructions of family, class, gender, and racialization in Norwegian literature and film. Her teaching interests range from the modernist Norwegian novel to representations of sexuality in the Nordic countries.

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The nominating committee of the SASS Executive Council has been unable to secure a second candidate for this position. With the official permission of the Executive Council, we are running Dr. Olivia Noble Gunn unopposed. You have the opportunity, on the ballot, to choose to select the write-in option. If you are interested in running for the Executive Council in the future, please reach out to the Vice President at or after the annual conference.

VOTE! Cast your ballot before February 1, 2023 at <https://vote.electionrunner.com/election/tv9ri>

Executive Council Elections

HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE CANDIDATES



ADAM HJORTÉN

UPPSALA UNIVERSITY

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Adam Hjorthén has a PhD in history from Stockholm University (2015), and is Senior Lecturer in American Studies at the Swedish Institute for North American Studies (SINAS) at Uppsala University, Sweden. His research focuses on cultural memory—including commemorations, monuments, museum exhibitions, public festivals, and the popular movement of genealogy—and Swedish-American relations in the 20th and 21st centuries. He is author of eighteen research articles and the monograph *Cross-Border Commemorations: Celebrating Swedish Settlement in America* (University of Massachusetts Press, 2018), and co-editor of *Swedish-American Borderlands: New Histories of Transatlantic Relations* (University of Minnesota Press, 2021). He is the former President of the Swedish Association for American Studies (SAAS), and is currently serving on the boards of the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, the Swedish-American Historical Society, and as Associate Editor of the *Swedish-American Historical Quarterly*. A native of Stockholm and the island of Gotland, he has previously taught at the Free University of Berlin, Germany, and been a visiting scholar at George Washington University and the University of Minnesota.



CARRIE DANIELSON

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

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Carrie Danielson is a Postdoctoral Fellow in Nordic Folklife in the Center for the Study of Upper Midwestern Cultures at University of Wisconsin-Madison. She holds a PhD in Musicology (Ethnomusicology) from Florida State University and conducts research in the areas of children's music and dance cultures, music and migration, care theory, and applied ethnomusicology. Her current projects focus on music making among young Syrian and Afghan refugees in Sweden, culturally inclusive pedagogies in Swedish kulturskolor, and Scandinavian-American youth cultures in the Upper Midwest. Carrie has been a member of SASS since 2019 and is committed to supporting emerging scholars and underrepresented voices within and beyond our Society.

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Executive Council Elections

LANGUAGE & LITERATURE CANDIDATES



**MATHIAS
NORDVIG**

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO

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Mathias holds a PhD in Old Norse mythology and has a general background in Nordic literature and languages including Old Norse, Danish, Norwegian, and Icelandic. He teaches Nordic and Arctic cultural studies at the University of Colorado-Boulder. Here, he offers courses on Old Norse mythology, the Viking Age, Scandinavian witchcraft, and Arctic cultures. He has a weekly podcast called the Nordic Mythology Podcast, which addresses all aspects of Nordic mythology and the Viking Age, both historical and contemporary. Mathias has authored the academic book *Volcanoes in Old Norse Mythology*, a popular book titled *Ásatrú for Beginners*, and the children's book *Norse Mythology for Kids*. He is currently working on the book *Ásatrú Music: The Sound of Nordic Antiquity* with assistant professor Ross Hagen of Utah Valley University. Mathias does freelance journalistic writing for, among others, CVLT NATION.



NATE KRAMER

BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY

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My name is Nate Kramer. I'm an associate professor at Brigham Young University in the Department of Comparative Arts and Letters and am also currently serving as the director of the Scandinavian Studies program at BYU. My research interests include 19th-century Danish literature and philosophy, namely Søren Kierkegaard and H.C. Andersen, as well as trauma and memory studies. I have been a member of SASS for over three decades now and believe very much in the value and importance of SASS as an academic institution and its mission to facilitate academic research and interest in Nordic languages and literatures. In the past, I have worked on the Scandinavian Studies journal, participated regularly in the annual meetings, co-hosted one of the annual meetings, and hosted streams. I'm happy to stand for election and look forward to being of further service to the society. My hope would be to continue the already important efforts that have gone into shoring up and making the society what it is today while also looking forward and meeting future challenges that come our way.

VOTE!

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Executive Council Elections

INSTITUTIONAL & INDEPENDENT SCHOLAR CANDIDATES



LISA HUNTSHA

SWENSON SWEDISH IMMIGRATION RESEARCH CENTER

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Lisa Huntsha is the Assistant Director & Head of Collections for the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center (Swenson Center) at Augustana College. She has been the manager of collections and preservation activities at the Swenson Center since 2012, when she started at Archivist/Librarian. She holds an M.A. in Museum Studies from Syracuse University and a B.A. in Scandinavian Studies from Augustana College.

At the Swenson Center, she promotes access to library and archival collections through cataloging, archival processing, and digital projects. She assists researchers of all types by answering reference questions and assisting visiting scholars. She is also dedicated to promoting the activities and services of the Swenson Center through presentations, outreach programs, exhibits, and strategic communications.

Lisa also teaches instruction sessions to Augustana students that focus on primary source literacy skills using hands-on activities and serves as an Assistant Professor teaching courses on museum studies.

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The nominating committee of the SASS Executive Council has been unable to secure a second candidate for this position. With the official permission of the Executive Council, we are running Lisa Huntsha unopposed. You have the opportunity, on the ballot, to choose to select the write-in option. If you are interested in running for the Executive Council in the future, please reach out to the Vice President at or after the annual conference.

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Executive Council Elections

GRADUATE STUDENT CANDIDATES



DAVID SMITH

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN

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David M. Smith is a PhD student in Scandinavian Studies at UW-Madison, where he focuses on modern Norwegian literature. Prior to UW, he obtained an MFA in Literary Translation from the University of Iowa and continues to translate Norwegian authors such as Tarjei Vesaas on the side. He teaches Norwegian at UW and is an active member of NORTANA (Norwegian Teachers Association of North America). He is an avid user of Nynorsk and an advocate for the wider use and acceptance of the language standard.



KARIN FILIPSSON

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

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Karin Filipsson is a PhD student in the Department for Scandinavian Studies at the University of Washington and where she teaches Swedish. She was recently awarded the Nadia Christensen Prize for Excellence in Nordic Studies for the academic year 2022-2023. Karin Filipsson's PhD project investigates the representation of postmigrant, transcultural identity in contemporary Swedish literature from a postcolonial perspective and analyzes how manifestation of inbetweenness relate to the contemporary discourse on migration as well as to the cultural memory of WWII and the understanding of Swedishness as whiteness. The dissertation investigates how postmigrant, transcultural writers and adoptee authors confront and challenge cultural identity in contemporary Swedish society and how these writers situate themselves in relation to previous generations of migrant writers, in particular writers from the postwar era. In addition to her PhD project, Karin Filipsson recently published the article "Shadows and Silences in Göran Rosenberg's Memoir: Jewish Postmemory in the Swedish Welfare State" in *Scandinavian-Canadian Studies*, as well as her translation of Margit Silberstein's *Children of the Holocaust* in *Swedish Book Review*, and she also completed the Graduate Certificate in Feminist Studies with GWSS. She has been awarded the Marja Feldt Publication Award 2022, the Aurora Borealis Prize 2021, and the Joff Hanauer Fellowship for Excellence in Western Civilization 2021-2022.

VOTE!

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