

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

News & Notes

VOLUME 65 • JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2024

- ▶▶ Register for SASS 2024: Seattle
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- ▶▶ Meet the Keynote!



Society for the
Advancement of
Scandinavian Study

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Join or Renew Today!

MEMBERSHIP EXPIRED?

You must be a member to present at SASS 2024: Seattle! If you have not yet registered for a Glueup account, you will have to do that to renew. Click on the link below to register and renew today!

RENEW NOW!

NOT A CURRENT MEMBER?

You must be a member to present at SASS 2024: Seattle! If you have never been a member or if your membership expired before 2023 use the link below to join today!

JOIN NOW!

JUST WANT TO VIEW YOUR MEMBER INFO?

If you have not yet registered for a Glueup account, you will have to do that to see your member info. Click on the link below to view or update your info!

SIGN IN

Scandinavian Studies 96.1

Dean Krouk, Editor | editor@scandinavianstudy.org

We are excited to announce the release of the latest issue of Scandinavian Studies! Volume 96, Issue 1 is the first issue to feature our redesigned cover as well as being the first issue published with our new partner, the University of Wisconsin Press!

SASS Member Access:

Paper Copies - Members who have opted to receive a paper copy of the journal should have received them around the last week in January.

Online Access - Current members received an email on or around 7 February from UW Press Journals with log-in instructions. Note: the link in that email is broken. Member access is available here: <https://sca.uwpress.org>

PUBLIC ACCESS:

Paper Copies

To order your own paper copy of a particular issue, contact the press here:

<https://uwpress.wisc.edu/journals/service.html>

Online Access

Project Muse - v83-v96

<https://muse.jhu.edu/journal/526>

JStor - v1-v3, v4-v16, v16-v92

<https://www.jstor.org/journal/publsociad-vascan>



If you believe your membership is current and you did not receive this email, reach out to Kimberly at membership@scandinavianstudy.org

Meet the Executive Council

info@scandinavianstudy.org

Verena Höfig (she/her/hers)

HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE (2020-24)

Professor of Scandinavian Studies

Institut für Nordische Philologie, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich, Germany

N&N: What brought you to the field of Scandinavian Studies?

VH: I initially studied History, Political Science and German in college, and soon became interested in the earliest history and written sources preserved in Northern Europe. Especially runic inscriptions caught my attention, as well as the pre-Christian religions of the people living north of the Alps. This brought me to studying Old Norse, Icelandic and Swedish, and to discovering "Scandinavian Studies" as an academic field.

N&N: In which Nordic languages are you proficient?

VH: Icelandic and Swedish are my main languages.

N&N: What is your primary area of research? Secondary?

VH: My research is centered around Old Norse literature and culture, especially texts from medieval Iceland, though I'm also working with textual and non-textual artifacts from elsewhere in Viking Age and Medieval Scandinavia. A second area of research is reception studies – here I'm particularly interested in the way cultural content from the Viking Age is re-used and appropriated by new religious movements and political groups. Though I have also been reading a lot of historical novels on the Viking Age lately, and been diving into the fascinating and at times absurd genre of self-help literature for men that is Viking-themed: think dietary advice and work-out routines that purport to have roots in pre-modern Scandinavia. Just google "Runic Yoga" or watch videos by the

"Liver King" if you are interested!

N&N: What are you working on right now?

VH: I just finished the draft of an article about obstetrics and birth medicine in the pre-Christian North, which focuses on small objects inscribed with runes, such as copper plates or wooden sticks or kefli. I understand these artifacts as textual amulets of sorts, which held a special meaning in the context of healing and magic and operated on the interesting and fine line between text and object.

N&N: Do you have any recent publications or works?

VH: I have a chapter on "reception" forthcoming in the Cambridge History of Old Norse-Icelandic Literature. I really enjoyed writing this piece, as it covers the time period from 1593 until the immediate present.



Meet the Executive Council cont...

info@scandinavianstudy.org

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N&N: How did you get involved with SASS?

VH: I joined as a graduate student in 2008, after I had moved to Berkeley to pursue my doctorate. At first, I was just a silent member, then regularly participating in the annual meetings. The longer I attended those, the more I became interested in how SASS is run as a scholarly organization, and what it does aside from putting on the annual conference.

N&N: How did you find yourself on the Executive Council?

VH: I was nominated after I became professor of Germanic Languages and Literatures at the University of Illinois. To my great surprise, I was also voted in.

N&N: What are your goals as a council member?

VH: I come from a non-academic background, and from outside the United States, and have found it to be an incredible gift and privilege to be able to pursue my dream and earn my living from teaching and researching. In serving this professional society, I hope to contribute to making sure that SASS continues to thrive and remain an organization that truly serves the needs of its membership. This includes communicating to our members what we actually do for them, how we responsibly handle the financial and institutional resources that SASS has accrued over the last decades, and have an ongoing conversation about how we best advance the study of Scandinavia in the U.S. and elsewhere, and encourage and enable a new generation of young scholars with exciting ideas to pursue research in our field.

N&N: What has been the greatest benefit you've gotten from your affiliation with SASS?

VH: Being part of a thriving and inspiring community of researchers and teachers with the same love of the North. I have also enjoyed reading the many inspiring and great fellowship applications, and learning about research projects with methodologies and in areas different from what I usually deal with. There is so much I have been learning from these. For all of you out there who are thinking about applying to one of our fellowships or have applied and not yet been awarded one – please feel encouraged to apply again! We often get several great applications, so not having been selected once should never be a deterrent to not try again!

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL?

Reach out to Vice President Olivia Noble Gunn at vice-president@scandinavianstudies.org to express your interest in serving!



Call for Papers:

The Future Library, Invisible Archive?

CLCS Nordic Forum Panel

MLA 2025, 9-12 January, New Orleans

2024 marks ten years since the creation of Future Library (2014-2114, Katie Paterson), a multisite artwork that comprises a forest in Norway, an anthology of literature by world renowned authors to be kept secret until its publication in 2114, and a reading room inside Deichman public library where the manuscripts are housed. In conjunction with the convention's presidential theme, "Visibility," this panel asks how and whether Future Library serves as an (in)visible planetary archive. We invite papers exploring the project's practices of visibility and invisibility, such as sealing the texts from view, granting digital access to its annual manuscript hand-off ceremony, and drawing attention to nature's materiality and poesis. While attention to the Nordic authors, origins, or context of the project is welcome, we also invite papers on how the work of participating authors from beyond the Nordic region—including Margaret Atwood, Elif Shafak, Han Kang, and Ocean Vuong—resonates with the methods and aims of the project.

**Please submit your 250-word abstracts by
1 March to Liina-Ly Roos (CLCS Nordic
Forum Chair): lroos3@wisc.edu**

GREEN ENERGY STUDY TOUR

Embark on an Unforgettable Journey of Learning and Exploration!
Join Our Exclusive Study Tour!

Are you ready for an immersive study tour that transcends traditional boundaries? We are thrilled to invite you to join our upcoming Study Tour— GREEN ENERGY STUDY TOUR 2024 – an extraordinary opportunity to broaden your horizons, connect with Danish companies and organizations in a green perspective, and a network that will be useful for you in the future.

Did you know that Denmark is leading worldwide on sustainability? And are you eager to learn about sustainability and green energy from the best? Sign up for more information at hc@rebildfesten.dk and we will keep you posted.

The program of the GREEN ENERGY STUDY TOUR '24 will be ready soon! We will keep you posted on the website and on our social media.

PROGRAM

SIGN UP

Call for Applications

newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org

BALDWIN LANGUAGE FELLOWSHIP

The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study invites applications for a summer language fellowship. The fellowship is made possible by the Birgit Baldwin Endowment. The recipient of the fellowship will be known as the Birgit Baldwin Language Fellow.

Entry into Scandinavian Studies requires strong knowledge of a Nordic language. Many students have trouble accessing study opportunities in the Nordic languages. The fellowship is intended to support a High-School or College student seeking to begin or develop language study in a Nordic language. Students acquiring a second language or undertaking advanced study are not prioritized. Students from underrepresented groups in SASS are especially encouraged to apply. The scholarship provides up to \$9000. Applicants may submit applications up to March 4. An announcement will be made by March 15.

ELIGIBLE SUMMER PROGRAMS

Wisconsin Intensive Summer Language Institute

<https://wisli.wisc.edu>

Indiana University Bloomington Language Workshop

<https://languageworkshop.indiana.edu/index.html>

University of North Dakota Enroll Anytime Courses

<https://und.edu/academics/online/enroll-anytime/index.html>

**** This is only a partial list. Applicants can suggest any program for consideration ****

Does your institution offer a summer or online course in a Nordic language?

Email info@scandinavianstudy.org to be listed as an option for Baldwin Language Fellowship applicants.



For more info: scandinavianstudy.org/awards-fellowships/baldwin-language-fellowship/

SASS BOOK SUBVENTION 2024

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS!

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Applications for the SASS Book Subvention are accepted on a rolling basis. The Executive Council will award one prize in 2024. Application received in 2024 after the prize has been awarded may be eligible for consideration for the 2025 prize, depending on the date of the book release. Visit our website at <https://scandinavianstudy.org/awards-fellowships/book-subvention/> for more details and to submit your application.

CLICK HERE TO APPLY

<https://scandinavianstudy.org/awards-fellowships/book-subvention/>

PAST RECIPIENTS

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2023 | *Visions and Victims: Art Melodrama in the Films of Carl Th. Dreyer* (Wisconsin 2024)
Amanda Doxtater

You can purchase the book here: <https://uwpress.wisc.edu/books/6071.htm>

2023 | *I Talk about It All the Time* (Wisconsin 2024)
Camara Lundestad Joof, translated by Olivia Noble Gunn

You can purchase the book here: <https://uwpress.wisc.edu/books/6239.htm>

SASS

SEATTLE

2024

MAY 9-11, 2024

RENAISSANCE SEATTLE HOTEL

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

STANDARD EARLY REGISTRATION: \$300

(\$350 after March 31)

STUDENT EARLY REGISTRATION: \$100

(\$150 after March 31)

Notification of abstract acceptance will be emailed in the next two weeks.

A draft schedule will be posted in the March/April News & Notes

REGISTER NOW!

SASS 2024: Seattle Keynote

NATIONAL NORDIC MUSEUM

MAY 9, 2024

6:30-7:45PM

Ethelene Whitmire

Nordic Utopias? African Americans in the 20th Century



Ethelene is a professor at the University of Wisconsin–Madison affiliated with the departments of African American Studies, German, Nordic, and Slavic, and Gender & Women’s Studies. She received an American-Scandinavian Foundation fellowship and a Lois Roth Endowment grant to support this project. She was also a 2016-2017 Fulbright Scholar and visiting professor at the University of Copenhagen’s Center for Transnational American Studies.

Her co-curated exhibit *Nordic Utopia? African Americans in the 20th Century* will be on display at the National Nordic Museum from March 23 - July 21, 2024

TRANSPORTATION FROM THE CONFERENCE HOTEL TO THE NATIONAL NORDIC MUSEUM PROVIDED

This event is sponsored by:



REGISTER NOW!

Excursions and Events

VARIOUS LOCATIONS AROUND SEATTLE

MAY 9, 2024

2:30-4:30PM

Northwest Trolls: Way of the Bird King



Environmental artist Thomas Dambo installed several trolls made of recycled material in the Puget Sound Region. The excursion provides coach transportation to view Seattle's iconic Fremont Troll (1990), along with two of Dambo's six trolls in the *Northwest Trolls: Way of the Bird King* exhibition--Bruun Idun in West Seattle and Frankie Feetsplinters at the National Nordic Museum.

Meet the bus in the conference hotel lobby

PURCHASE YOUR TICKET AS AN ADD-ON TO YOUR REGISTRATION: \$20

Tour begins in the hotel lobby and concludes at the National Nordic Museum

This event is sponsored by:

W UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON



Advancing Danish-American Relations

REGISTER NOW!

SAHS LUNCH AND LECTURE

THE SWEDISH CLUB OF SEATTLE

MAY 9, 2024

11:00AM-2:00PM



STORIES OF THE PAST: HOW SWEDISH AMERICANS SHAPE THEIR HERITAGE

In writing histories of their own communities, Swedish Americans draw on historical legends that distill a sense of ethnic identity and heritage. Jennifer Eastman Attebery shares examples from her book *As Legend Has It* (University of Wisconsin Press, 2023), reflecting how immigrants and their descendants used legendary materials to claim a place in American history. Attebery is Professor Emerita at Idaho State University. Her previous books focus on Swedish American summer holidays and vernacular letter writing.

PURCHASE YOUR TICKET AS AN ADD-ON TO YOUR REGISTRATION: \$50

Ticket includes lunch and transportation to and from the Swedish Club. Cash bar available.

The bus will return to the hotel in time for you to join the troll tour, if you choose.

This event is sponsored by:



REGISTER NOW!

Indigenous Walking Tour

MEET AT THE BURKE MUSEUM

MAY 9, 2024

9:30-11:00AM



Join Owen L. Oliver (Quinalt/Isleta Pueblo), UW alum and expert in local history, for an indigenous walking tour of campus. Stops include the Burke Museum, wəṭəbʔaltx (Intellectual House), Indigenous artworks, the Medicinal Herb Garden, the Ethnic Cultural Center, the Husky Union Building (HUB), and Union Bay Natural Area.

Visit the tour website for more information: <https://owenloliver.com/indigenous-walking-tour>

No transportation to campus provided,

Visit the [King County Metro Trip Planner](#) for public transit options.

THIS IS A FREE EVENT.

ALL DONATIONS MADE WITH REGISTRATION GO
TOWARDS TOUR GUIDE GRATUITY

This event is sponsored by:



REGISTER NOW!

Book your room now!

RENAISSANCE SEATTLE HOTEL

SASS 2024 will be held at the Renaissance Seattle Hotel. This beautiful hotel in the heart of downtown provides easy access to all things SASS 2024 and everything else that Seattle has to offer ... at a great pre-COVID rate! The caveat is...there are only so many rooms available in our block so **book early to ensure that you can take advantage of this unbeatable rate!**

1 block from the iconic Seattle Public Library, 1/2 mile to the Bainbridge Island Ferry Terminal, the Seattle Art Museum, the Frye Art Museum, and less than 1 mile to Pike Place Market, the Seattle Aquarium, and at least 15 coffee shops.

Book your room today!

SASS rate available May 7-11, 2024

Single: \$179

Double: \$179



To Book: <https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1685659831201&key=GRP&app=resvlink>