

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

News & Notes

VOLUME 70 • SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2025





Society for the
Advancement of
Scandinavian Study

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scandinavianstudy.org



VOLUME 70 | SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2025

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Be a part of SASS!

EXISTING MEMBERS

Already have a membership that needs renewal? Not sure when your renewal date is? Sign into your SASS account at the link below!
If have not signed in before, you will need to select the "Request Password" button to create a log-in.

<https://scandinavianstudy.org/member-log-in/#myaccount>

NEW MEMBERS

Visit <https://scandinavianstudy.org/new-member-sign-up/#join> to join

MEMBERSHIP TIERS

Sponsor, Sustaining, and + memberships include a physical copy of *Scandinavian Studies*, our quarterly journal



- Sponsor.....\$400
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- Standard.....\$130
- Student+\$70
- Student\$50
- Limited Resource+\$100
- Limited Resource\$80

QUESTIONS? Email Kimberly at exec-director@scandinavianstudy.org



A Message from the President

Olivia Noble Gunn | president@scandinavianstudy.org

Greetings SASS members at the start of the new academic year. This is the first News & Notes message of my presidency. For those who don't know me, I am an associate professor of Scandinavian studies and the Sverre Arestad Endowed Chair in Norwegian studies at the University of Washington, Seattle. I want to thank former president, Scott A. Mellor, for his service and collaboration these past two years.

The University of Washington uses the quarter system, so I am currently in the midst of revising and refining syllabi for the start of autumn quarter. I wish the summer would go on, and I feel lucky to have another opportunity to read and discuss Nordic literature and culture with students this fall. I hope that you are finding pockets of inspiration and gratitude in the midst of the stresses, disappointments, and tragedies of this world. One place to look for inspiration is the capacious theme for 2026, Bridges, and the beautiful borough of Brooklyn. This year, the deadline for stream, paper and roundtable proposals is January 15, 2026. Please note that this deadline is later than usual. The organizers recognize that the weeks before the holidays are very busy, and we wanted to make sure we did not add extra pressure at that stressful time. That does mean that there will be no deadline extension for SASS 2026: Brooklyn.

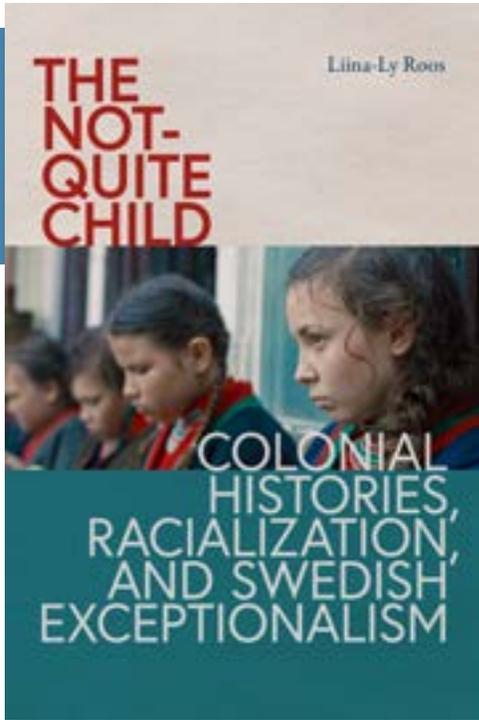
I have two initial goals for my presidency. First, I would like to focus on accessibility, creating a more welcoming conference and opportunities for us to better understand and apply measures for universal accessibility. I was inspired to take this focus by Todd Michelson-Ambelang, the subject specialist for Scandinavian Humanities and South Asia and the ADA Accessibility Liaison for the General Library System at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Todd came to me with concerns and ideas at the Minneapolis conference. He subsequently agreed to serve as the accessibility consult for the organizing committee for SASS 2026, Brooklyn. I am thankful to Todd for speaking up and supporting SASS in this way. If you have questions, concerns, or comments for Todd, you can reach out to him confidentially at accessibility@scandinavianstudy.org. Thanks are also due to the other members of the Brooklyn conference committee and to everyone who gives their time, labor, and care to SASS.

A second issue I'd like to focus on involves talking to SASS members about the possibility of including an online conference in our rotation, perhaps every three years. Online conferences can be both financially beneficial and more accessible. For those who hate this idea, rest assured that there is no immediate plan to implement such a change. I want to learn why members hate, love, or just tolerate online conferences. I want to think seriously and creatively about how can we make our society financially strong while protecting the essential networking and social intellectual aspects of in-person conferences.

Olivia

Olivia Noble Gunn | SASS President

BOOKTALK



November 20, 2025
10:00 AM - 11:30 AM CST

The Not-Quite Child: Colonial Histories, Racialization, and Swedish Exceptionalism

Join SASS President Olivia Noble Gunn for an in-depth conversation with scholar and author Liina-Ly Roos as they discuss her recent publication, *The Not-Quite Child: Colonial Histories, Racialization, and Swedish Exceptionalism*. This dialogue will explore the book's critical examination of Nordic identity, postcolonial theory, and the complexities of racialization in the Swedish context.



Liina-Ly Roos

Questions?

Email sassbooktalk@scandinavianstudy.org

This event is free for all SASS members.

Registration required. Click here to register:

<https://form.jotform.com/252576067660160>



As a non-profit membership organization, SASS relies on the generosity of members and supporters whose contributions make our work possible. Guided by the SASS 2028 Strategic Plan, the Fundraising Committee has identified key goals and established dedicated funds to advance them. Together, we can make these initiatives a reality through the following funds:

THE ANNUAL FUND

Your gift to the Annual Fund keeps SASS strong. It sustains programs like book talks, connects members through *News & Notes*, and supports the publication of *Scandinavian Studies*. With a yearly goal of \$50,000, every contribution—no matter the size—helps us grow and serve our community.

GRADUATE STUDENT SUPPORT

Graduate students are the future of our field. Your gift helps reduce financial barriers by covering conference fees, accommodations, and awards like the *Aurora Borealis*. With a goal of raising \$100,000 by SASS 2028, every contribution brings us closer to ensuring lasting support for emerging scholars.

SASS 2026 BROOKLYN

The SASS annual conference is the highlight of our year—and we work hard to keep registration costs low. Your gift helps subsidize expenses, support new sponsorship opportunities, and grow our exhibitor hall. Contributions to SASS 2026: Brooklyn directly sustain this cornerstone event.

SUPPORT SASS VIA:

- **STRIPE:** [HTTPS://DONATE.STRIPE.COM/7SYDRAGGO7DD3JX9VK2VG00](https://donate.stripe.com/7SYDRAGGO7DD3JX9VK2VG00)
- **VENMO:** [HTTPS://ACCOUNT.VENMO.COM/U/SCANDSTUDY](https://account.venmo.com/u/SCANDSTUDY)
- **CHECK:** Contact Kimberly for details
exec-director@scandinavianstudy.org • (385)384-0371

Announcements

newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org



Society for the
Advancement of
Scandinavian Study

Seeking Book Talk Nominations

The Executive Council seeks nominations for upcoming books to highlight with our bi-annual book talk. Nominations should be new or upcoming releases in the field of Scandinavian Studies. The author will, ideally, be a member in good standing of SASS. Nominations will be accepted from any SASS

member, including the author themselves. Please email the author's name, contact information, book title, and a brief (200 word) description of the text to sassbooktalk@scandinavianstudy.org. Nominations will be accepted on a rolling basis.

Join us for our next Book Talk! See pages 5 for details!

For more information, visit: <https://scandinavianstudy.org/sass-book-talk>

To register: <https://form.jotform.com/252576067660160>

Norwegian Visiting Lectureship

Deadline: January 1, 2026

The American-Scandinavian Foundation (ASF) is pleased to announce its 26th annual competition for the Norwegian Visiting Lectureship. The award is for one semester and is open to disciplines with a contemporary focus on Public Policy, Conflict Resolution, Environmental Studies, Multiculturalism, or Healthcare.

The ASF Norwegian Visiting Lecturer receives a \$20,000 teaching and research stipend along with an additional \$5,000 travel stipend for lecture appearances outside the host institution.

For more information: For further information and to begin an online application, visit <https://www.amscan.org/fellowships-grants/visiting-lectureships>

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: Birgit Baldwin Fellowship

Deadline: December 1, 2025

The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study (SASS) is pleased to offer the Birgit Baldwin Fellowship in Scandinavian Studies, a grant to encourage the research and writing of dissertations for the PhD 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 \$30,000 payable in two installments for travel to and living expenses in the Nordic region during one academic year.

Applicants must be earning their degrees in North American universities and 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 fellowship year. After completion of the fellowship year, the Birgit Baldwin Fellow will be invited to give a short report at the next annual meeting of SASS.

See page 19 for more information.

For more information: <https://scandinavianstudy.org/awards-fellowships/baldwin-fellowship>

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: Einar and Eva Lund Haugen Fellowship

Deadline: December 1, 2025

The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study (SASS) is pleased to offer the Einar and Eva Lund Haugen Memorial Scholarship in support of graduate student research. Honoring the ground-breaking cultural and linguistic work of Einar and Eva Lund Haugen, this \$7,500 annual scholarship supports Ph.D. candidates as they conduct research and fieldwork about Nordic or Nordic-American top-

ics in the Social Sciences or History, broadly defined. We are especially excited to support applicants that demonstrate a need to travel to the Nordic region or areas in North America far from their home institutions to conduct research in archives, libraries, and museums or to pursue fieldwork or excavations.

See page 19 for more information.

For more information: <https://scandinavianstudy.org/awards-fellowships/haugen-scholarship>

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: Louis Janus Book Subvention

Deadline: Rolling

The first SASS book subvention award opens for applications on 1 April 2022. Junior and senior faculty, non-tenure track faculty, independent scholars and emeritus faculty who are members of SASS in good standing are eligible to apply. Up to four subventions of as much as \$3000 will be awarded in the 2022-3 round of funding (Apr. 1-Mar. 30). The goal of the subvention is to encourage publication of research monographs in Nordic studies by assisting publishers with production costs. Edited article collections are

not eligible for consideration. To receive the award, the author and press must agree to print on the title page of the funded book, "Supported by the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study." Merit of the proposal and the applicant's record of substantive service to SASS as an executive council member or executive officer will be taken into consideration in the assessment of each application.

See page 20 for more information.

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

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: Baldwin Language Fellowship

Deadline: March 6, 2026

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

of a Nordic language, and many students have trouble accessing study opportunities. The scholarship provides up to \$9000 to support learning a Nordic language.

See page 19 for more information.

For more information: <https://scandinavianstudy.org/awards-fellowships/baldwin-language-fellowship>



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: Swedish American Historical Society

Established in 1969, the Olsson Research Fund provides modest grants to help defray expenses of original research in the field of Swedish-American history. Grant proposals should include a curriculum vitae, project description (2-4 pages) and itemized estimate of expenses.

Letters of application, together with the required documents, should be sent to:

Philip J. Anderson, Chair, Awards and Grants Committee
Swedish American Historical Society
3225 W. Foster Ave., Box 48
Chicago, IL 60625-4895.

For more information: <https://www.swedishamericanhist.org/research>

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: NAHA Archives Fellowship

Deadline: October 1, 2025

Archives Fellowship—Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, NAHA can offer an annual award of up to \$2,000 for a specific research project. This fellowship promotes exploration to achieve

new understandings of the Norwegian-American experience. Preference will be given to topics that are outlined in the association's research prospectus and rely heavily on collections in the NAHA archives.

For more information: <http://norwegianamericanhistory.org/fellowships-and-awards>



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: NAHA Publications Fellowship

Deadline: October 1, 2025

An annual award of up to \$2,500 is available for research in the field of Norwegian-American studies. While a candidate may propose any topic, priority will go to topics that meet the goals of our research prospectus. Applications will also be evaluated for their potential to produce work publishable by NAHA.

For more information: <http://norwegianamericanhistory.org/fellowships-and-awards>



Have something to share with the SASS members?

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



In the Next Issue

Happy Holidays! The November/December issue of News & Notes will give more info about SASS 2026, future book talks, and more!



Open Positions

newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org



ASF Fellows Engagement Manager

Title: Fellows Engagement Manager

Reports to: Director of Educational Exchange & Special Projects

The American-Scandinavian Foundation (ASF) seeks a creative and proactive Fellows Engagement Manager to assume community-building and strategic communications efforts within ASF's Fellowships & Grants Department. Reporting directly to the Director of Educational Exchange & Special Projects, the incumbent will foster a dy-

namic and supportive community among existing ASF Fellows and Grantees through meaningful engagement initiatives, including networking opportunities and programming at Scandinavia House. Additionally, the incumbent will manage external communication, promotion, and outreach to prospective grantees.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Create and foster a vibrant and supportive community among Fellows and grantees across all of ASF's cohorts and granting programs.
- Collaborate with Scandinavia House Program and Communications staff to create and manage public programs, both in-person and virtual, involving ASF Fellows.
- Maintain and nurture strong working relationships both internally and externally.
- Create a communication plan for ASF Fellowships & Grants, including an annual schedule for developing press releases, announcements, social media posts, and other outreach efforts across various platforms, such as web, print, email, and social media.
- Maintain a social media presence by promoting announcements, awards, publications, and grantees' achievements on ASF's Facebook page The Longboat, Instagram, and LinkedIn.
- Manage website links, winner lists, photos, and additional information as needed using WordPress and other website management software.
- Update mailing lists, tags, and accounts on Mailchimp and Marketing Cloud Account Engagement.
- Document communication procedures, outreach strategies, and engagement timelines.
- Adhere to copyright and image use protocols.
- Create and revise templates, copies, and final proofs for online or print publication (e.g., newsletters and flyers).
- Update Marketing Cloud Account Engagement training materials and standard operating procedures.

QUALIFICATIONS

- M.A. in the humanities and 1-2 years of foundation experience preferred.
- Proficiency with social media platforms (Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn).
- Proficiency in communication software such as Mailchimp and Marketing Cloud Account Engagement, WordPress, and CRMs (e.g. Salesforce).
- Excellent interpersonal, communication, and organizational skills.
- Familiarity with US higher education and outreach to university departments preferred
- Ability to handle multiple assignments, prioritize work accordingly, and maintain accuracy.
- Willingness to pitch in when needed, even if tasks are outside of job description.
- Familiarity with Nordic cultures and languages is a plus.

SALARY, BENEFITS & OTHER DETAILS

Salary will be commensurate with experience and qualifications with attractive benefits. The salary range for this position is USD 60,000 - 65,000.

ASF employees are expected to work in the office in New York City from Tuesday to Friday, with the option to work remotely on Monday. However, on occasion, they will be required to work in the office on Mondays or on weekends.

HOW TO APPLY

ASF is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourages candidates of all backgrounds to apply for this position. All employment decisions shall be made without regard to age, race, creed, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, disability status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, genetic information, marital status, citizenship status, or any other basis as protected by federal, state, or local law.

- A cover letter
- CV
- Details of contactable references

Please send these materials to hr@amscan.org

SASS Special Project Coordinator

Title: Special Project Coordinator

Reports to: Executive Director

SASS is hiring a part-time Special Project Coordinator with a focus on social media management and conference planning. The ideal candidate will be self-motivated, have a basic knowledge of the field of Scandinavian Studies, have experience managing social media, basic knowledge of Microsoft office, Wordpress, Google, and the willingness to learn other platforms.

Hours: Average 5-10 hours per week with hours increasing (to as many as you are willing to offer) as we approach the annual conference.

Pay: \$17/hr plus travel, hotel, per diem, and hourly pay at the conference.

To Apply: Send a CV and brief cover letter to exec-director@scandinavianstudy.org.

Application review will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled.



Call for Papers

newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org

Nordic Imaginary and New Aesthetic Horizons *The Cavaliers of Ekebù* by Riccardo Zandonai

Deadline: October 31, 2025

International Conference: May 7–8, 2026

Location: Rovereto (Italy)

On March 7, 1925, at Teatro La Scala in Milan, the drama *I Cavalieri di Ekebù* premiered under the direction of Arturo Toscanini, with music by Riccardo Zandonai and libretto by Arturo Rossato; the work was based on Selma Lagerlöf's novel *The Saga of Gösta Berling*.

Following *Giulietta e Romeo* (1922), Zandonai chose an unusual and “extreme” subject and character types (especially the protagonist), demonstrating his interest in exploring new paths toward a linguistic and dramaturgical renewal of Italian musical theatre, while still maintaining a personal balance between innovation and tradition.

As the culmination and synthesis of a research path focused on *I Cavalieri di Ekebù*, the Centro internazionale di Studi “Riccardo Zandonai” is organizing an International Conference, to be held in Rovereto (Italy) on May 7–8, 2026. The event is organized in collaboration with the Accademia Roveretana degli Agiati.

This conference continues the in-depth research on Riccardo Zandonai's work that the Centro Studi has been developing since 2010, with results published in the *Studi Zandonaiani* series, available in both print and online: <https://agiati.org/studi-zandonaiani>. The proceedings of this conference will be included in Volume VI of the series.

Most of the documentary material related to Zandonai is preserved at the Civic Library of Rovereto, including handwritten and printed scores, iconographic materials, critical essays, reviews, and correspondence. Part of this archive is already available in digital format, particularly the Riccardo Zandonai Epistolary: <https://zandonai.bibliotecacivica.rovereto.tn.it>.

THEMES

We invite scholars to submit proposals for papers to be presented at this conference. Submissions may address the following topics as well as topics related to the items listed below:

- Cultural (artistic and aesthetic context)
 - Italian artistic-musical scene in the post-World War I period
 - Nordic themes in early 20th-century Italian culture
 - Nordic subjects in early 20th-century Italian and European theatre
- Literary (the figure, works, and reception of Selma Lagerlöf)
 - Selma Lagerlöf: her life, works, and reception in Europe and Italy
 - *The Saga of Gösta Berling*: subject matter, psychological and social themes, characters
- Musicological (from subject selection to critical reception)
 - From *The Saga of Gösta Berling* to *I Cavalieri di Ekebù*
 - Arturo Rossato's libretto: dramaturgical and linguistic features
 - A new direction in Zandonai's stage works
 - The genesis of the opera

- Musical and linguistic characterization of settings and characters
- Dramaturgical transformations in the Italian version (cuts, shifts)
- Orchestration
- The Swedish version (libretto and music)
- The German version (libretto and music)
- Productions: staging and set design
- Performers
- Public and critical reception

LANGUAGES

The official languages of the conference will be Italian, English, and German.

Presentations should last approximately 20 minutes.

Notification of acceptance will be sent by November 30, 2025.

Participation is possible both in person and online.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Each proposal must include:

- Presenter's name and institutional affiliation
- Title of the presentation
- Abstract (max. 2,000 characters)
- Short CV (max. 1,500 characters)
- Contact information (email, phone number, mailing address)

DEADLINES

Proposals must be submitted in a text file (.doc or .docx) by October 31, 2025 to the following email address: info@centrostudizandonai.it.

Swedish American Studies

Deadline: October 1, 2025

Swedish-American Studies is welcoming article submissions for Volume 77 (2026). Submissions are due by 1 October 2025, with similar deadlines for future years. Swedish-American Studies is a peer-reviewed academic journal published once a year through the University of Minnesota Press. We invite submissions of article-length manuscripts (6,000-10,000 words) that advance the understanding of North American immigration history with emphasis on the exchange of people and ideas between Sweden and the United States, as well as the ongoing history of relations between Sweden and the United States. Comparative and interdisciplinary topics are welcome and encouraged.

Swedish-American Studies also includes book re-

views (800-1,200 words), and readers who know of a book they would like to see reviewed, or who would themselves like to write a book review, are also invited to contact associate editor Saniya Ghanoui.

Since 1950 the journal has been published quarterly by the Swedish-American Historical Society based at North Park University in Chicago. The society maintains its archives as part of the Swedish-American Archives of Greater Chicago, housed at the Paul and Bernice Brandel Library at North Park, under the direction of archivist Andy Meyer.

For more information: <https://www.upress.umn.edu/journals/swedish-american-studies>

New Publications

newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org

A Kaleidoscope of Stories

Title: A Kaleidoscope of Stories

Author: Selma Lagerlöf

Translators: Sarah Death, Peter Graves, Linda Schenck

This new addition to Norvik Press's well-established 'Lagerlöf in English' series turns the spotlight on the power of short stories. The volume contains a carefully chosen selection of Lagerlöf's most important stories covering a range of themes, genres and periods of her career, translated by our experienced and prize-winning trio of Lagerlöf translators, Linda Schenck, Peter Graves and Sarah Death.

Key autobiographical pieces, morality tales both dark and light, legends from several lands and folklore-inspired narratives combine to reveal the breadth and stylistic range of Lagerlöf's storytelling skills.

This is a collection of interest to general readers but also a useful teaching tool for Swedish and comparative literature courses around the world. The book includes a comprehensive and accessible introduction by Lagerlöf specialist Bjarne Thorup Thomsen (University of Edinburgh). The nine stories have been arranged into three thematic sections: Women, Work and Writing; Landscapes, Families and 'Others'; Epochs, Societies and Values.

For more information:

<https://norvikpress.com/product/a-kaleidoscope-of-stories>



In Memoriam

newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org



Jenny Jochens

1928-2025

Jenny Jochens, born 1928 in Copenhagen, Denmark, has died in Baltimore. She was an internationally renowned

historian of medieval Iceland, the author of two books on women in medieval Icelandic history, as well as many articles in journals and edited volumes. She was the widow of John W. Baldwin, the Charles Homer Haskins professor emeritus at Johns Hopkins University, who died in 2015.

Jenny held cand. mag. degree in medieval history from the University of Copenhagen and did her postgraduate work at Johns Hopkins. Jenny worked as a lecturer at the University of Michigan and Johns Hopkins, and as a Professor of History at Towson University in Maryland.

Her specialty was the history of medieval Iceland. The Icelandic sagas were written down in the 13th century, but purport to deal with events and people during the 9th and 10th centuries. Jenny's contribution to the extensive literature on the sagas was to focus on what they reveal about the role of women in Icelandic society. Her two books both dealt with this theme, *Women in Old Norse Society* (Cornell University Press 1995), and *Old Norse Images of Women* (University of Pennsylvania Press 1996).

Her work put her on the cutting edge of the then-burgeoning field of women's history, expand-

ing it into a territory where – despite plentiful sources in the sagas – the fruits of this approach had, as yet, gone unharvested. In parallel, Jenny helped found the Women's Studies Program at Towson, one of the earliest anywhere. She lectured widely, at institutions of higher learning in the US and Europe, including the College de France, Cambridge University, and the Library of Congress.

Icelandic history being an esoteric field, Jenny's scholarly library was specialized and unique. On her retirement from Towson, it was left to the Hopkins library, filling a gap in its collection opened up since the retirement of Professor Stefan Einarsson in 1962. She also endowed a book purchase fund at the Árni Magnússon Institute for Icelandic Studies in Reykjavik. And her family endowed a professorship in the Hopkins history department named after her and her husband. In October 2015, the history department at Towson University held a conference in her honor, entitled "Goddesses, Queens, Valkyries, and Other Women in the Viking Age." Here, colleagues from her former department and elsewhere and former students explored her work and its implications for the field.

Jenny's daughter, Birgit Baldwin, was tragically killed by a drunk driver in 1988 while completing her PhD at Yale University. At Jenny's request, and through the generous support of her family, SASS is able to award the Birgit Baldwin Fellowship and the Baldwin Language Grant. Jenny also served as President of SASS from 1997 to 1999.

In Memoriam

newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org



Mary Kay Norseng

1943-2025

Mary Kay Norseng (81) passed away in Monterey, California on May 24, 2025, after enduring a lengthy illness. Mary Kay was born in Chipewewa Falls, Wisconsin,

the daughter of Judge Marshall and Mary Norseng. She is survived by her husband Tom Williams, her siblings Charles Norseng (Christina), Susan Lasoff (Mark), and pre-deceased by brothers Jame and John.

Following a year at Northwestern, Mary Kay attended the University of Wisconsin, Madison, where she received her Ph.D. in Scandinavian Literature. In the early 1970's, she joined the faculty at UCLA as the first woman in the Department of Germanic Languages of which the Scandinavian Section was a part. At UCLA, she taught Norwegian, as well as courses on 19th, 20th, and 21st century Scandinavian literature and culture, including the course *Voices of Women*. She taught Ibsen to decades of undergraduates, and her inexhaustible patience and encouragement supported graduate students who now teach at universities and colleges around the world. Her mentorship and scholarship shaped a generation of academics, teachers, researchers, and writers. Mary Kay's scholarly interests included the *fin de siècle*, women artists and writers, the theater, and

Ibsen, which she viewed through the lens of feminist and psychoanalytical theory. She published books on two icons of the Norwegian 1890's, the poet Sigbjørn Obstfelder and the writer Dagny Juel Pryzbyszewska. Her book *Dagny: The Woman and the Myth* rewrote the narrative surrounding Pryzbyszewska, a central figure among the bohemian avant-garde in Berlin and Kraków. Until Mary Kay's intervention, Dagny was remembered only in terms of her proximity to male contemporaries, most often for figuring in Edvard Munch's paintings and inspiring Strindberg's misogynistic portrayals of women. Mary Kay's scholarship countered this oversimplification of a revolutionary woman's life. Her work centered the feminism within Dagny's plays, poetry, and letters while demonstrating the pivotal role she held as a liaison for Scandinavian artists across Europe. Dagny "tried to be everything," Mary Kay wrote, "artist, free woman, wife, mother, daughter, sister, friend, literally breaking the boundaries [within] which society restricted her." In so many ways, Mary Kay did the same.

Mary Kay served as head of the Scandinavian Studies Section at UCLA and as president of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study national organization. She was a member of the Norwegian Academy of Arts and Sciences. Mary Kay was a bright point of light to all who knew her. Takk for alt, Mary Kay. You are greatly missed.

In Memoriam

newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org



Ross Shideler

1936-2025

Ross Shideler, a noted American scholar of Swedish and comparative literature, who helped introduce and promote Swedish post-symbolist poetry

and especially the work of Per Olov Enqvist to the English-speaking world, died in Paris on May 26th. He was 89.

A native of Oakland, California, Shideler received his M.A. in Nordisk litteraturhistoria from the University of Stockholm and his Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from the University of California, Berkeley before a long and storied tenure as a professor at the University of California, Los Angeles.

Professor Shideler distinguished himself early on for his translation of Per Olov Enqvist's *The Night of the Tribades* before emerging as a versatile scholar of poetry, literature and literary theory with publications such as *Voices Under the Ground: Themes and Images in the Poetry of Gunnar Ekelöf*, *Per Olov Enqvist: A Critical Study*, and *Questioning the Father: From Darwin to Zola, Ibsen, Strindberg and Hardy*. At UCLA, Shideler served as Associate

Dean of the Graduate Division, Head of the Scandinavian Section in addition to his many leadership roles at the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Studies, the Scandinavian Discussion Group of the Modern Language Association, and the Executive Committee of the American Comparative Literature Association.

Shideler was perhaps most proud of being one of three founders of UCLA's Department of Comparative Literature. Beginning in 1969, the new department, born of an interdepartmental program, blazed trails in interdisciplinary transnational research and the expansion of linguistic and cultural diversity in literary theory at UCLA. Shideler would identify first and foremost as a comparatist throughout his career.

As a beloved educator and recipient of a Distinguished Teaching Award at UCLA, Professor Shideler had a smiling and receptive audience from generations of students who found his conviviality and passion for literature to be infectious. In retirement, Shideler was able to enjoy travel, fly fishing and keeping up with old friends up until his passing. Shideler is survived by his wife Kathy Komar, a fellow UCLA professor of comparative literature.

Call for Applications

newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org

UNDERGRADUATE AURORA BOREALIS PRIZE

The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study is happy to accept nominations for the Undergraduate Aurora Borealis prize. SASS will award a \$500 prize for one outstanding undergraduate paper submitted for their coursework in the calendar year preceding the nomination deadline (January 1). Students are welcome to revise their papers, provided submissions are received by the January 1 deadline. Undergraduate papers may be in any field as long as the topic is relevant to the field of Scandinavian Studies. Papers will be evaluated on the following criteria: clarity of argument; rigor of scholarship and appropriateness of sources cited; interest and engagement with the field of Scandinavian Studies.

The nomination link is always open. The committee will review all nominations for the previous calendar year in January and February. Prize winners will be notified in March.

Faculty and Teaching Assistants are strongly encouraged to nominate outstanding student work using the link below.



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 February 15. An announcement will be made by March 15th.

FOR MORE INFO VISIT: scandinavianstudy.org/awards-fellowships

Call for Applications

newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org



LOUIS JANUS BOOK SUBVENTION

The SASS book subvention award is open for submissions Junior and senior faculty, non-tenure track faculty, independent scholars and emeritus faculty who are members of SASS in good standing are eligible to apply. Up to four subventions of as much as \$3000 will be awarded in the 2022-3 round of funding (Apr. 1-Mar. 30). The goal of the subvention is to encourage publication of research monographs in Nordic studies by assisting publishers with production costs. Edited article collections are not

eligible for consideration. To receive the award, the author and press must agree to print on the title page of the funded book, "Supported by the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study." Merit of the proposal and the applicant's record of substantive service to SASS as an executive council member or executive officer will be taken into consideration in the assessment of each application.

AWARD CATEGORIES

PRE-TENURE, NON-TENURE TRACK, AND INDEPENDENT SCHOLARS

Up to three subventions in this category will be awarded annually. Applicants must be current members of the society, and have been a member in good standing for two full calendar years previous to the year of application. The applicant must have a publishing contract with a university press or other prominent academic publisher. If an applicant receives a subvention award, the award will be paid when the author delivers galley proofs and the press's most up-to-date statement of expected publication date to SASS. For tenure-track applicants, the application must be submitted to SASS before a final decision on promotion to associate professor by the board of regents or equivalent at the applicant's home institution has been made.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS, PROFESSORS, AND EMERITUS FACULTY

Up to three subventions will be awarded in this category annually. The applicant must be a current

member of the society, and have been a member in good standing for five full calendar years previous to the year of application. Applicants must have a publishing contract with a university press or other prominent academic publisher. If an applicant receives a subvention award, the award will be paid when the author delivers galley proofs and the press's most up-to-date statement of expected publication date to SASS.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Applicants should submit a letter of application (two pages or less) describing the manuscript and requesting a subvention amount. The application should also include a copy of the press contract, and a letter/email from a representative of the press stating the expected date of publication, the need for the subvention, and the amount requested. The applicant should also include an updated copy of the curriculum vitae. These documents should be submitted as a single PDF via the application link below.

TO APPLY VISIT: scandinavianstudy.org/awards-fellowships/

Call for Applications

newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org

BIRGIT BALDWIN FELLOWSHIP

The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study (SASS) is pleased to offer the Birgit Baldwin Fellowship in Scandinavian Studies, a grant to encourage the research and writing of dissertations for the PhD 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 \$30,000 payable in two installments for travel to and living expenses in the Nordic region during one academic year. The application deadline is 1 December of the preceding year.



the subject, the need to work in Scandinavia (the Nordic region), and the feasibility of accomplishing the objectives of the research plans. The fellowship committee encourages a realistic assessment from both applicants and referees of the applicants' reading and oral/aural skills, taking into consideration that in many cases reading may be more important than oral facility to the efficient completion of the project at hand. Although the need for some further specialized language training will not disqualify anyone from consideration for this fellowship, applicants should not expect to spend significant amounts of time during the fellowship year on language acquisition.

Applicants must be earning their degrees in North American universities and 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 fellowship year. After completion of the fellowship year, the Birgit Baldwin Fellow will be invited to give a short report at the next annual meeting of SASS.

Important Dates

- **Award Period:** June 1, 2026 - May 31, 2027
- **Application Deadline:** December 1, 2026
- **Candidates Notified:** February 28, 2026
- **Recipient Announced:** March 15, 2026



Applicants should submit a dissertation proposal that includes research plans and evidence of competency (including linguistic competency) to

carry them out, supported by letters from two scholars. The successful applicant will demonstrate the significance of

FOR MORE INFO VISIT: scandinavianstudy.org/awards-fellowships

Call for Applications

newsandnotes@scandinavianstudy.org

EINAR AND EVA LUND HAUGEN

The Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study (SASS) is pleased to offer the Einar and Eva Lund Haugen Memorial Scholarship in support of graduate student research. Honoring the ground-breaking cultural and linguistic work of Einar and Eva Lund Haugen, this \$7,500 annual scholarship supports Ph.D. candidates as they conduct research and fieldwork about Nordic or Nordic-American topics in the Social Sciences or History, broadly defined. We are especially excit-

ed to support applicants that demonstrate a need to travel to the Nordic region or areas in North America far from their home institutions to conduct research in archives, libraries, and museums or to pursue fieldwork or excavations.

To apply, you must be:

- An enrolled Ph.D. candidate in North America by the time you receive funding (a successful applicant must prove completion of course work and preliminary requirements for a doctoral degree before receiving the grant)
- A member in good standing of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study, both during the year in which you submit your application and in the year of funding
- Conducting research or fieldwork about the Nordic region or Nordic America (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sápmi, Sweden, as well as the Nordic-immigrant communities found through North America)
- Researching in the social sciences or history (we encourage you to think broadly about these fields, which can include archaeology, art history, folklore, linguistics, media studies, oral history, philology, etc.)



Important Dates

- Award Period: June 1, 2026 - May 31, 2027
- Application Deadline: December 1, 2025
- Candidates Notified: February 28, 2026
- Recipient Announced: March 15, 2026

FOR MORE INFO VISIT: scandinavianstudy.org/awards-fellowships



BROOKLYN

SASS 26

The 2026 SASS conference will take place in Brooklyn, New York at the Marriott Brooklyn Bridge Hotel. This year's presidential theme is BRIDGES.

As metaphor and monument, a bridge establishes a link that would otherwise not exist. As physical structures, both natural and constructed, bridges appear all across the world, in the smallest of villages and in bustling metropolises. They can represent progress and development as well as regress and deterioration. They have been sites of joy and protest, tragedy and celebration. Some exist hidden or unnoticed, where others have become iconic symbols – the Brooklyn Bridge, for instance, has been exalted in poems by the likes of Walt Whitman and Hart Crane. Bridges appear in phrases such as “building bridges” and “burning bridges”; in concepts such “bridge translation” and “bridging visa”; in slogans such as “build bridges, not walls”; and in idioms like “a bridge too far,” “bridge the gap,” “water under the bridge,” “to sell the Brooklyn Bridge,” and more. Even the very word metaphor is a bridge, etymologically meaning “carrying over.” Bridges are also essential to artistic creation, formally (as in the bridge of a song) or thematically (for instance, Faroese musician Eivør's 2015 album *Bridges* or the Danish-Swedish crime show *Bron*). Suffice it to say, bridges are everywhere.

The organizing committee encourages submissions that explore bridges of all sorts—and, by extension, other forms of transit, traffic, movement, and dis/connection—in Nordic culture, film, history, language, and/or literature. Other topics and approaches are also welcome.

CALL FOR STREAMS



In preparation for the 114th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study, the conference program committee invites proposals for thematic streams.

While proposals related to the overall conference theme, "Bridges", are especially encouraged, submissions from across the broad field of Scandinavian Studies are welcome.

Please submit your stream proposals via the link below no later than October 15, 2025. Approved streams will be communicated to organizers, published on the SASS website, and shared via the SASS mailing list in advance of the opening of the abstract submission portal on October 20, 2025.

Proposal Requirements

- All proposals must include:
- An abstract of no more than 250 words
- The name(s) of the stream organizer

Stream organizer(s) are responsible for:

- Reviewing submissions to their stream
- Scheduling panels within the stream
- Sourcing chairs for stream panels
- Communicating with presenters
- Coordinating with the program committee

Stream Submissions

Submit your stream proposal before 15 October:
<https://app.oxfordabstracts.com/events/74957/symposia/create>

Need help?

Email us at: sass2026@scandinavianstudy.org

CALL FOR PAPERS



While the semantic reach of “bridges” stretches as far as actual bridges span the globe, SASS 2026 focuses on their essential function as a means of connection. As Scandinavian Studies grows evermore interdisciplinary, we encourage papers that consider both which connections lie at the core of the field, as well as which connections expand in it in new disciplinary directions. Likewise, we welcome papers that draw attention to the international dimensions of Scandinavian Studies, both diachronically and synchronically, as a geographical region, cultural context, or discipline with varying scholarly traditions emerging from different historical, institutional, political, cultural or more contexts. Bridges abound!

SASS 2026 will emphasize roundtables. In line with this year’s theme, we encourage roundtable proposals that extend beyond a particular subfield or national tradition, in other words, that explore a through-line across ostensibly disparate case studies or contexts. Attendees may both present one paper and participate in one roundtable.

Individuals or groups interested in submitting streams can do so by selecting the stream option on the submission form. Please note, stream organizers must also submit a proposal for their own papers.

For more details about the theme, go to page [xx].

Papers and panels that do not explicitly engage with the presidential theme are, naturally and as always at SASS, also welcome.

Submissions

Abstract, panel, and roundtable submissions open 20 October: <https://app.oxfordabstracts.com/stages/78059/submitter>

Need help?

Email us at: sass2026@scandinavianstudy.org



BROOKLYN
SASS 26

ACCOMODATIONS

SASS 2026: Brooklyn will be held at the **New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge.**

Single Rooms: \$289 per night

Double Rooms: \$289 per night

Special Rate Deadline: April 1, 2026

Make your reservation by April 1, 2026 to get the SASS rate. SASS rates available for stays from April 21-26, 2026

<https://book.passkey.com/go/SASSConference2026>

Come early and enjoy New York City and SASS-sponsored pre-conference events (see page 28)

HOTEL INFO

Minutes from amazing attractions, the New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge is one of the most exciting hotels in Brooklyn, New York. Situated close to Prospect Park, our hotel near the Brooklyn Bridge provides guests with an inspired vantage point to work, play and relax. Thoughtfully designed, our guest rooms and suites boast amenities like plush bedding, flat-panel TVs and high-speed Wi-Fi; some accommodations feature private terraces with stunning views of the downtown skyline. Honey and honeycomb is sold in the Great Room. Dine at the Great Room Restaurant and Bar, where locally sourced cuisine take center stage. along with banquet options. Reboot our fitness center, which features Peloton Bikes. With a premier events venue in downtown Brooklyn, it features over 39,000 square feet of adaptable space and impeccable planning services. Stay with your four-legged friend at our pet-friendly hotel in brooklyn near Dumbo, NYC. Come chart your own adventure at New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge.

Find more info about the conference hotel here:

<https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/nycbk-new-york-marriott-at-the-brooklyn-bridge/overview>

OPENING RECEPTION



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

This year's keynote speech will be given by Dr Monica Miller (Barnard College) and held at Scandinavia House, followed by the opening reception.

About Dr Miller:

Monica L. Miller is Chair and Professor of Africana Studies at Barnard College, Columbia University. A specialist in contemporary African American and Afro-diasporic literature and cultural studies, she is

the author of the book *Slaves to Fashion: Black Dandyism and the Styling of Black Diasporic Identity*, which inspired *Superfine: Tailoring Black Style*, the 2025 Costume Institute exhibition at The Met. A frequent commentator in the media and arts worlds, she teaches and writes about Black literature, art, and performance, fashion cultures, and contemporary Black European culture and politics. She is currently at work on a book project, *Blackness Swedish Style: Race and the Rhizomatics of Being* which considers cultural production by the emerging black community in Sweden and its connection to Black European identity formation and cultural/political movements.

monicamiller.com



SCANDINAVIA
HOUSE

ABOUT THE VENUE

Located in the heart of midtown Manhattan at 58 Park Avenue. *Scandinavia House: The Nordic Center in America* is the leading center for Nordic culture in the United States, offering a wide range of programs that illuminate the culture and vitality of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden.

scandinaviahouse.org



PRIVATE SASS TOUR OF THE MORGAN LIBRARY

Join SASS Executive Council Member Troy Wellington Smith and other SASS members on a private visit to the Morgan Library. SASS attendees will be given a preview of the Morgan's upcoming exhibit on Johan Tobias Sergel as well as a special look at their collection of Norwegian and Danish Golden Age art. Space will be limited to 25 attendees. Pre-registration will open in January.

Date: Thursday April 23, 2026

Time: 10:00-11:00am

Location: The Morgan Library
225 Madison Ave
New York, NY 10016

Learn more about the Morgan here:
<https://www.themorgan.org>

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DROP-IN AT SCANDINAVIA HOUSE

Graduate students and early-career scholars - visit with professionals who have followed a non-traditional path post-graduate school as well as meeting with SASS academic career mentors for tips and tricks for pursuing your post-graduate plans. More details to come!

Date: Thursday April 23, 2026

Time: TBA

Location: Scandinavia House
58 Park Ave
New York, NY 10016

