



Nyckelharpists in Sweden. Photo by Harriet Bagdade, summer 2002.

INSIDE...

<i>Nordic Council Project Brings Norden to the Northwest</i>	2
<i>Study Abroad: Aalborg Expands</i>	2
<i>Northern Exposures: Finland</i>	2
<i>Scandinavian Studies People</i>	3
<i>Scandinavian Course Offerings, Fall Term 2002</i>	3
<i>Membership Renewal Form</i>	4

Friends of Scandinavian Studies

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FRIENDS OF SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES NEWSLETTER

12.1, Fall 2002

Published fall, winter & spring for the Friends of Scandinavian Studies

From the President's Desk

Welcome to a New Year of the Friends

By: Harriet Bagdade, FSS President

Fall is in the air, and with this beautiful season we can enjoy the bounty of harvest and of new class offerings. Fall offers a fresh supply of possibilities.

Our new FSS board has been busily planning programs for fall and winter, and we are delighted with the outcome. Set aside the second Tuesday of each month for the film series. Come at 6:00 pm to hear introductory remarks about the movie from one of our professors.

Our general meeting on October 22 will begin with a brief business meeting and introduction of board members at 7:00 pm, followed by a lecture on archeological excavations in Iceland by

UO anthropology professor Jon Erlandson. This meeting will be held in the magnificent Willamette Hall.

New for this season is a greater use of UO campus facilities. We are aware of the difficulties with parking and will try to assess what we can do to help. A shuttle service is a possibility. Please let me know what you think.

We have at the UO a Scandinavian Studies Program worthy of pride, and we are all truly fortunate to be welcome to participate in many of its activities.

I look forward to seeing you soon!
(541) 345-5224 • bagcuvee@aol.com

Calendar of Scandinavian Events/Fall 2002

Tuesday, October 22 • 7:00 pm • 110 Willamette Hall (1371 E. 13th Ave.)

GENERAL MEETING, followed by a public lecture: "Sagas and Settlements in Southwest Iceland: The Mosfell Valley Archaeology Project," UO anthropology professor Dr. Jon Erlandson. Free. General Members Meeting open to all Friends members; lecture open to the public.

Tuesday, November 5 • 7:30 pm • Keithan Student Lounge (122 Pacific Hall)

Film Screening: *Ofelas*, (Norway, 1987), 88 min., Sami/subtitles. Part of the UO's Fall 2002 Foreign Film Series (theme: "Native Peoples"), *Ofelas* depicts violence between Sami and Nordic peoples in the year 1000. Free. (Some graphic scenes of violence.)

Friday, November 8 • 5:30 pm • 110 Willamette Hall (1371 E. 13th Ave.)

Nordic Council Project, First Year ("Nature") Lecture: "Scandinavian Visions of Landscapes: Identity, Culture, Environment," Jakob Stougaard-Nielsen, University of Washington. Free and open to all.

Folkdance Group Forming Soon

Twice-monthly meetings start soon! Watch this calendar and the Scandinavian website for more information.

Tuesday Conversation Groups:

Groups are free and open to everyone!
(Note: Groups do not meet on 11/12 or 12/10.)

Danish • 6:00 pm • Starbucks (13th & Alder)
Swedish • 7:00 pm • Daily Grind (Knight Library)

Fall 2002 Scandinavian Film Series Continues...

All films will be shown on the second Tuesday of the month, at 6:00 pm, in the International Resource Center, Erb Memorial Union (1222 E. 13th Ave.). Feel free to bring snacks. A short discussion will follow each film. Screenings are free and open to all.

Tuesday, November 12

Expectations (Sweden, 1997), dir. by Daniel Bergman, 95 min., Swedish/subtitles.



Tuesday, December 10

Hamsun (Nordic co-production, 1996), dir. by Jan Troell, 154 min., multilingual/subtitles.

3-Year Project to Bring Nordic Culture to the Pacific Northwest

The Nordic Council of Ministers in Copenhagen is funding a three-year, multi-university project in Alaska, British Columbia, Oregon, and Washington, to run from the current academic year (2002-03) to the 2004-05 session. The purposes of the project are to increase the visibility of Scandinavia in the northwestern region of North America, to promote the study of Scandinavian cultures, and to increase and strengthen the collaboration of the academic institutions in the region—especially their Scandinavian studies departments.

The project, under the umbrella title “Modern Vikings,” will focus on three themes that address, respectively, the natural environment, people, and images of Scandinavia. Each theme will be emphasized in one particular year of the Project, and a separate steering committee will coordinate each of these themed years. In addition, each year of the Project will include a sub-theme as follows: immigration (to and from Scandinavia); sex and society in Scandinavia; and medical ethics.

The UO will be a major participant in the Project, hosting guest speakers and events throughout its three-year duration and coordinating the program on medical ethics.

The Oregon Health Plan and Oregon’s legalization of physician-assisted suicide have put the state on the world’s map of healthcare leaders. Related issues have also been a major topic of debate recently in Scandinavian countries. Iceland, for example, has recently made news for its bold genetic research project piloted by Dr. Kari Stefansson in his Reykjavík-based firm, deCode. DeCode will be patenting Iceland’s uniquely homogenous gene pool in

an effort to study Icelanders’ genetic history and, in the process, learn about genetic illnesses and how to treat them.

When the Swiss drug manufacturer Roche Holding of Basel paid \$200 million for access to deCode’s research, questions of ethics arose—even though the profits fund free healthcare for all Icelanders (in a system much like that proposed in the Healthcare for All Oregon Initiative on next month’s state ballot). The committee planning the “medical ethics” program hopes to invite some of the individuals behind these debates (Dr. Stefansson among them) to join a panel of Oregon representatives in a series of events addressing these issues.

The first Nordic Council Project event in Eugene will be Dr. Jakob Stougaard-Nielsen’s lecture on Scandinavian landscapes next month (see the calendar on page 1).

Study Abroad News

Aalborg Program Expands Offer-

For the past five years, UO students have been participating in an exchange program at Aalborg University in Aalborg, Denmark. Aalborg is Denmark’s alternative university, where small seminars grouped under project themes culminate in an intensive, month-long project in which a small group of students applies their newly gained knowledge to practical, real-world problems.

Beginning this fall, Aalborg’s offerings for UO students expanded from three existing programs (international cultural studies, European integration studies, and a graduate program in transnational studies) to include two new areas: Danish welfare state studies and development studies. In addition, Aalborg is earmarking some scholarship funds for UO students. The program is strong and is expected to grow over the next few years.

Northern Exposures

This new column in the Friends newsletter will feature short vignettes of the experiences of UO students currently studying at one of the UO’s six overseas programs in Scandinavia. We initiate this new regular section of the newsletter with a few words from Tampere, Finland:

**Jeramie Brown (senior, journalism major)
University of Tampere (Tampere, Finland)
September 12, 2002**

Although at first sight the people in Finland seem as cold as their winters, they really are a very kind and hospitable people. It’s already clear, though, that this sort of relationship takes time.

I was lucky and got to experience this kindness and hospitality firsthand upon my arrival in Helsinki. My tutor, who had been assigned to me by the university to help

me through my first several days in Tampere, was staying with her family in Helsinki at the time of my arrival. I was invited to stay with them for the weekend.

The idea of getting to stay with a Finnish family was enough, but I got an even bigger treat when I was invited to join the family in a visit to the sauna.

It’s hard to describe the feelings of openness, non-judgment, and peace that are found in a Finnish sauna—you would be hard-pressed to find these feelings anywhere in America. But then, I guess that experiences like this are why I am studying in Finland.

Scandinavian Studies People

Faculty

Louise Wallenberg

Dr. Wallenberg is a visiting Fulbright Scholar from Sweden who will teach and conduct research at the UO this year.

In Winter 2003, Dr. Wallenberg will offer two courses: "Screened Bodies" will be offered by the Comparative Literature Program and will examine how sex, gender and sexuality are produced and communicated in and through film. All of the films to be screened in the course are Scandinavian. The course will be open to both graduate and undergraduate students. "Twentieth Century Gender Politics" will be offered by the Scandinavian Studies Program and will only be open to undergraduates.

Virpi Zuck

Dr. Zuck had a very industrious summer. She attended a week-long workshop on Finnish language, literature, and culture in Jyväskylä, Finland, in August. She also spent a week in the Royal Library in Stockholm, researching the writings of Ada Nilsson (1912-1951), one of Sweden's first female physicians, who wrote about sexuality, sex education, and women's health; was active in politics; and published the feminist newspaper *Tidevarvet* from 1923 to 1936. Dr. Zuck is preparing for participation in the Nordic Council Project's second year (2003-04), "Sex and Society in Scandinavia."

Most of Professor Zuck's summer was spent on a more intensive project, however. She revised and updated the article "Scandinavian Literature" for the *Encyclopedia Britannica*, incorporating a discussion of Finnish literature. The article addresses all six Scandinavian literatures (including Faroese literature). Dr. Zuck notes that the job was time-consuming and included reading the recently published three-volume history of Finnish literature.

This term, Dr. Zuck is teaching third-year Swedish and a course on the

Graduate Students

Roger Adkins

Adkins, a doctoral student in comparative literature and the Scandinavian Studies GTF, was awarded the 2002 Bruce M. Abrams Graduate Prize in June. The prize recognizes the best essay or project in lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender studies created by a graduate student at the University of Oregon. Adkins was honored for his essay "To Cut or Not to Cut: That Is Not the (Only) Question," a chapter from his master's thesis on medical policies surrounding intersexual (hermaphroditic) births.

Adkins continues to work as the Scandinavian Studies GTF during the current academic year. His position is shared by Scandinavian studies and the Office of International Programs (OIP). His duties include: administering five study-abroad programs in Scandinavia, advising Fulbright applicants, editing OIP publications, and promoting Scandinavian Studies courses and programs.

The Threads of Culture

For those of you interested in Norwegian textiles, especially weaving, you might consider joining the Norwegian Textile Guild. For \$10 per year, you will receive quarterly newsletters, including articles like "The Story of the Norwegian Bunad," "Two Double-Sided Weavings from the Middle Ages: A Technical Analysis," and "Norwegian Textile Folk Arts Today."

In addition, the Guild and the Vesterheim Norwegian-American Museum in Decorah, Iowa, are offering a textile study tour to Norway next summer. Registration is open first to Guild members.

To join the Guild, send \$10 to:

Betty Johannesen
51577 Bridgewater Ct.
South Bend IN 46637

More info: call (219) 272-9806 or email <bettydon51@aol.com>.



The "Falster-pipe," reconstructed from an 11th-century fragment found at an archaeological site in Falster, Denmark. (Photo by the Viking Network)

Fall 2002 Courses in Scandinavian Studies

Scandinavian Language Courses

DANE 101	1st Year Danish	MTuWF 10:00-10:50	(No Prerequisite)
DANE 399	Intermediate Danish	TuTh 2:00-2:50	Prereq: 203/equiv.
FINN 101	1st Year Finnish	MTuWF 10:00-10:50	(No Prerequisite)
NORW 201	2nd Year Norwegian	MTuWF 11:00-11:50	Prereq: 103/equiv.
SWED 101	1st Year Swedish	MTuWF 10:00-10:50	(No Prerequisite)
SWED 301	3rd Year Swedish	TuTh 2:00-3:20	Prereq: 203/equiv.

Scandinavian Studies Courses

SCAN 199	Scandinavian Conversation (Info: Virpi Zuck, 346-4081)		
SCAN 250	Scandinavian Fantasies: Mythology (L. Gunn)	MW 2:00-3:20	
SCAN 315	A Century of Danish Film (V. Zuck)	M 6:00-8:50 PM	

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FRIENDS OF SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

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