

# FRIENDS OF SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES NEWSLETTER

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

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## Scandinavian Events

*Events are free and open to the public  
unless otherwise specified.*

**Fri.-Sun., December 1-3**

### ScanFair Holiday Festival and Market

Portland State University,  
Smith Memorial Center;  
Scandinavian Heritage  
Foundation. See

[www.scanheritage.org](http://www.scanheritage.org) for  
information and cost.

**Winter Term  
Swedish Film Series**  
Location TBA

**Conference: "Political  
Theology and the  
Question of the Limit"**  
Speaker Michael Stern,  
U Oregon  
Location TBA

**Winter, Spring Terms  
Scandinavian Folk  
Dancing**

Sons of Norway Lodge  
1836 Alder Street

**Spring Term  
Scandinavian Studies  
Work-in-Progress**

Speaker Ellen Rees,  
U Oregon  
Location TBA

## Our First Fundraising Success!!

The Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation has generously awarded \$14,000 to the Scandinavian Studies program for language instruction. This grant will be used to fund 2nd-year Norwegian as well as winter term of the new 3rd-year reading sequence in Swedish, Danish, and Norwegian during 2006/07. This grant allows the Scandinavian faculty – Ellen Rees, Michael Stern, and Virpi Zuck -- to teach courses in literature, culture, and the new 3rd-year reading sequence in Scandinavian languages. Of equal importance is the additional time faculty now have to pursue research.

The Honorable Barbro Osher is currently Consul General of Sweden in San Francisco. She is also the owner and publisher of *Vestkusen*, a Swedish-American newspaper that covers news in Sweden and the Swedish community in the U.S. Ms. Osher has been the recipient of numerous honors, including selection as the 2004 "Woman of the Year" by the Swedish Women's Educational Association in Stockholm.

We would like to thank Paul Elstone, the UO Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations, and Heidi Shuler, the UO Director of Development for Humanities, for their gracious assistance in procuring this grant. We would also like to thank FSS board members Harriet Bagdade, Kathie Lindlan, and Michael Raymer for their efforts in writing a successful grant proposal.

## Norway's "Noah's Arc" The Building of a Doomsday Seed Vault

The Norwegian government is constructing a Svalbard Global Seed Vault, also known as the Norwegian Seed Bank. The vault will serve as the "Noah's Arc" for the world's agriculture and flora life, ensuring the continuation of the world's plant life after a major global disaster.

Seeds from around the world will be frozen at -18 to -30 degree Celsius, preserving seeds for hundreds and in some cases thousands of years. The vault is on the island of Svalbard, located south of the Arctic and chosen for its subfreezing temperatures and remote location. It is being built into a mountainside with continuous permafrost. This will ensure the seeds remain frozen even if the refrigeration system in the vault were to ever fail.

All countries are invited to participate in storing seeds that are endemic to their region. Seeds will remain the property of the country they came from. The Global Crop Diversity Trust will be the official group that manages the vault and will assist developing countries that cannot financially afford to use the facility.



**Friends' President  
Kathie Lindlan**

**Friends of  
Scandinavian Studies**

Department of  
German and Scandinavian

202 Friendly Hall  
1250 University of Oregon  
Eugene, OR 97403-1250  
(541) 346-4051

<http://scandinavian.uoregon.edu/>

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- Virpi Zuck, *Member*
- Whitey Lueck, *Member*

**Editor**

Jenny Pearce

**Contributors**

- Ellen Rees
- Linda Gunn
- Kathie Lindlan
- Paul Quillen
- Tamasin Partridge

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## Meet Our Friends of Scandinavian Studies Scholarship Recipients

The Friends of Scandinavian Studies Award is offered every spring to two students who are seriously engaged in Scandinavian Studies. This year's winners were Tamasin Partridge and Paul Quillen.

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### Paul Quillen - Studying Finnish in Tampere, Finland



***"I would wake up early each morning and walk around alone photographing everything I could.***

***I think that one of my favorite things about Sweden is the sky and many flat fields and the lakes mixed together".***

*-Paul Quillen*

En route to Finland Paul spent the last few weeks of his summer traveling and photographing the illustrious landscapes and social centers of Sweden and Iceland. He is a 25 year old undergraduate student seeking a degree in Scandinavian Studies. You can read more about Paul's experiences and see some beautiful photos on his blog at <http://paulquillen.blogspot.com/>.



### Tamasin Partridge - Studying Danish in Lyon, France

Tamasin is a sophomore majoring in Scandinavian Studies at the University of Oregon. She is originally from San Francisco and came here specifically to study in the Department of German and Scandinavian.

Tamasin is currently enrolled in a yearlong program studying Danish in Lyon, France. Why France you ask? Naturally she planned to study in Copenhagen at the Koebenhavns Universitet but all the programs required her to be a 3rd or 4th year student. Tamasin has wanted to learn Danish since she was a little girl. Her mother is 3/4 Danish. After studying second year Danish her freshman year, she was eager to further her language studies abroad. The Lyon program provided her with this opportunity. After graduation she plans to live in Denmark to improve her fluency.

# Oslo Summer Research: Contemporary Norwegian Cinema

by Ellen Rees,  
Associate Professor,  
Department of German and Scandinavian

During the summer I was lucky enough to have a University of Oregon Summer Research Award, which paid for eight weeks of uninterrupted time to focus on a new book on contemporary Norwegian cinema that I'm working on—or so I thought! The summer started out great, and it was wonderful to be back at our house on Nesodden, only a 25-minute ferry ride from the center of Oslo. The staff at the Norwegian Film Institute were wonderfully helpful, allowing me to use their archives even during the weeks when they were refinishing the floors in their film library. I got to see a number of films from the period 1993-2003, read through document archives for films, and see some great still photos from films as well.

The Film Institute did shut down for a few weeks of the Norwegian “fellesferie” (the common vacation period from late July to early August, when nearly everything is closed) but by then I had enough material gathered to work from home. Perhaps the strangest thing I came across in the archives was still photographs from a 1941 American film version of Henrik Ibsen's *Peer Gynt*, starring none other than 17-year-old Charlton Heston, filmed on location near his hometown of Evanston, Illinois. I've yet to see the film itself, but based on the photographs it's probably unintentionally hilarious!

Unfortunately, my research was cut off rather abruptly when my husband had the misfortune to break an ankle during soccer practice. He was whisked off the field, transported to a hospital in Oslo by ambulance boat and ready for surgery within two hours of the break. I got to see the Norwegian universal healthcare system at its absolute best, and was mightily impressed. Because of his injury I had to withdraw from a meeting of the International Association of Scandinavian Studies that I had planned to attend in Turku, Finland, but I was still able to participate in the 11th annual International Ibsen Conference that was held in Oslo. It was truly an international experience, with presenters from Africa, the Americas, Asia and Europe, demonstrating that the conference theme “The Living Ibsen” was indeed appropriate, even in the year that marked the 100th anniversary of his death.



Ellen Rees, Knut Einar & Eivind

## SCAN Courses

### 2006-07

First-year Finnish and Swedish, second-year Danish and Norwegian and third-year combined SCAN languages courses are offered. The literature and culture courses listed below are taught in English and available to the public through the UO Community Education Program (<http://cep.uoregon.edu/>).

### FALL 2006

SCAN 250

“Masks and Ecstatic Experience” (Michael Stern)

SCAN 353

“Scandinavian Women Writers” (Ellen Rees)

SCAN 351

“World War II Scandinavia” (Virpi Zuck)

### WINTER 2007

SCAN 259

“The Saga and Hybrid Culture” (Michael Stern)

SCAN 352

“Scandinavian Crime Fiction” (Virpi Zuck)

### SPRING 2007

SCAN 315

“Scandinavian Cinema” (Ellen Rees)

SCAN 354

“Philosophical Fiction” (Michael Stern)

### GET UPDATED!

IF YOU WISH TO RECEIVE OCCASIONAL FSS REMINDERS AND CALENDAR UPDATES, PLEASE

SEND YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS TO

SCAN@UOREGON.EDU.

FSS WILL NOT SHARE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS WITH ANYONE.

# FRIENDS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

**USE THIS FORM**  
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**FRIENDS OF SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES**  
**Department of German & Scandinavian**  
**1250 University of Oregon**  
**Eugene, OR 97403-1250**

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October 15, 2006

Dear Friends,

**The Faculty and Friends of Scandinavian Studies are thrilled with our recent fundraising success.** The \$14,000 Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation grant supports the recently established Bachelor of Arts degree in Scandinavian. The grant funds *Second-Year Norwegian* and one term of the new *Third-Year Scandinavian Languages* sequence. The Faculty can now focus on research and expand their course offerings. Professor Michael Stern will teach new courses in *The Saga and Hybrid Culture* and *Philosophical Fiction* as well as his popular *Masks and Ecstatic Experience*. Professor Ellen Rees will teach *Scandinavian Women Writers* and *Scandinavian Cinema*. In her final year of teaching at UO, Professor Emerita Virpi Zuck offers courses on *World War II Scandinavia* and *Scandinavian Crime Fiction*.

**During 2006/07 the Friends must continue their fundraising efforts for the Scandinavian Languages Instructor Endowment.** The \$14,000 grant from the Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation provides funding for the current academic year only. The Scandinavian Studies program needs a sustainable source of funding for language instruction. Barbro Osher is willing to consider additional support, but she does not want to be the sole contributor to the \$350,000 endowment. Consequently, we are continuing to pursue grants from other foundations.

**With your financial support, we can establish the Scandinavian Languages Instructor Endowment now.** A minimum of \$25,000 is needed to establish the Endowment. We have a prior donation of \$15,000 and a pledge of \$1,000 from within the Friends. It is the hope of every FSS board member and the Scandinavian Faculty that we can raise the remaining \$9,000 by the end of 2006. Potential donors such as the Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation have requested proof of our commitment to the Endowment. Please contribute as generously as you can to this fund at this crucial time. If you are considering a large gift, I encourage you to email or call me. Please mail your contribution with the accompanying form to the address given below. **Your gift is extremely important to the survival and strength of the UO Scandinavian Studies program!**

Many thanks!  
Kathie Lindlan, FSS President  
klindlan@earthlink.net  
(541) 344-6834

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## SCANDINAVIAN LANGUAGES INSTRUCTOR ENDOWMENT

Please select donation amount:  \$1000  \$500  \$250  \$100  other

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