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# FRIENDS OF SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES NEWSLETTER

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

## Ingrid Weatherhead Continues to Seek Challenges

Ingrid Weatherhead is enjoying her seventeenth year of retirement from a long and distinguished career in the Scandinavian Studies Program at the University of Oregon. In 1969 Ingrid began to assume responsibility for Norwegian courses formerly taught by Dr. Astrid Williams, who was preparing for retirement. Three years later Scandinavian Studies was placed on the list of small, campus programs that the Hearing Panel on University Priorities (H-PUP) had recommended for elimination. By this time Ingrid was a part-time Instructor and the sole faculty member in Scandinavian Studies, whose future looked very bleak indeed. However, thanks to her efforts and the help from colleagues, students and the community, the Scandinavian Program was removed from the list and allowed to continue. Chris Stehr, who later became a professor at Oregon State, was particularly resourceful in helping Ingrid accomplish this feat. Years later, Dr. Harold Ness, Chair of the Norwegian Department at the University of Wisconsin, rightly recognized Ingrid for her leading role in saving the program.

Not only did Scandinavian Studies survive, but it began to flourish. In 1974 Ingrid was influential in hiring Virpi Zuck, the first full-time Swedish professor since 1928. The mid 1970's brought a revival of interest in cultural heritage, which was reflected in increased annual enrollments of over 400 students, including as many as 70 students in First Year Norwegian. By 1979 Ingrid was employed full-time and in 1985 became a tenured Senior Instructor. She credits her colleagues, the late Dr. Wolfgang Leppmann and

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## Calendar of Scandinavian Events

Tuesdays, April 4 - May 16 • 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Sons of Norway Lodge, 1836 Alder

### Scandinavian Folk Dancing

April 4	Instruction will focus on the basic dances of waltz,
April 11	schottisch, hambo, and pols, with some easy mixers
April 18	interspersed. Everyone is welcome, no partner is
April 25	necessary, leather-soled shoes are recommended.
May 2	Parking is available behind the Lodge. Suggested
May 9	donation is \$4. Please contact Linda Gunn at
May 16	lindagunn@rio.com if you have any questions.

Tuesday, April 11 • 4:00 pm • International Lounge, EMU

### Scandinavian Studies Lecture: Professor Pirjo Vaittinen "The Nordic Council and Contemporary Scandinavian Literature"

Dr. Vaittinen is the 2005-06 Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence at Finlandia University in Hancock, Michigan. She has been studying and teaching Finnish language and culture for more than 30 years, and is particularly interested in interdisciplinary theories of teaching Finnish as a foreign language. Her expertise includes Finnish culture, especially contemporary literature, theatre and film.



Sunday, June 25 • 1:00 - 4:00 pm

### Midsummer Potluck Picnic • Alton Baker Park Shelter 1



The Friends & Vasa Lodge invite everyone with an interest in Scandinavia to a potluck picnic. Bring a dish to share, special beverages, and your own place settings. FSS will provide coffee, tea, juices, and hot water. Bring musical instruments and wear ethnic costumes, if possible. Linda Gunn will lead some easy folk dancing. If you have any questions, please email Harriet Bagdade at bagcuvee@aol.com.

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

## From the President's Desk



**Friends' President  
Kathie Lindlan**

### Friends of Scandinavian Studies

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Dear Friends,

We really appreciated Whitey Lueck's considerable efforts in organizing the delightful Swedish film series during winter term. Whitey and Paul Quillen, two new board members, provided interesting insights into the films, the film directors, and Sweden before each showing. After this highly successful series, the Friends are taking a break from Scandinavian films spring term. (Professor Ellen Rees, however, is offering a course in Scandinavian film that you are certainly welcome to enroll in.)

The Scandinavian folk dancing workshops have been extended into spring term. Please join us Tuesday evenings at the Sons of Norway Lodge for a little exercise and lots of fun. Linda Gunn and Ed Gunderson will continue to work with us as we learn the waltz, schottisch, pols, hambo, and many more. David Elliker-Vaagsberg will accompany us on the Hardanger fiddle and nyckleharpa. Newcomers are welcome.

Planning is already underway for the Midsummer Picnic at Alton Baker Park. This picnic is a celebration for the entire local Scandinavian community. Please invite your friends and family. Members of the Danish Brotherhood, the Swedish Vasa Lodge, or the Sons of Norway Lodge are also welcome participants.

See you at the Midsummer Picnic!  
Kathie



## FSS Welcomes Student Representative Paul Quillen



As the student representative on the FSS Board, Paul Quillen possesses the genuine intellectual engagement and curiosity that the Friends support within the UO community.

Paul's interest in Scandinavia stems from his year in Finland as a high school exchange student. He fell in love with an ethic and an ideology that were difficult to pinpoint. He was intrigued with a culture so resourceful and socially progressive. Paul had found his secret wonderland.

He traveled to Sweden during his year as an exchange student. When he returned to the States and found himself living with two Swedes in San Francisco, he decided to learn Swedish. His current plans for the summer include a visit to Sweden.

As a college junior, Paul delves into Scandinavian studies to determine from a matured perspective, "is it really a

secret wonderland?" He believes that working with Friends will contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of Scandinavian culture. In addition to Scandinavian Studies, Paul's academic interests lie in comparative literature and journalism. He also works at the Eugene Public Library.

Contemplating career plans, he says "being told that you can do whatever you want is terrible." No doubt his intellectual efforts will lead to professional success.

### GET UPDATED!

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AND CALENDAR UPDATES,  
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FSS WILL NOT SHARE YOUR  
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## 2006-07 SCAN Courses

The following Scandinavian Studies courses are taught in English and available to the public through the UO Community Education Program (visit <http://cep.uoregon.edu/>). In addition, first-year courses in Finnish and Swedish, and second-year courses in Danish and Norwegian will be offered.

### FALL 2006

SCAN 250

“Scandinavian Fantasies: Masks and Ecstatic Experiences” (Michael Stern)

SCAN 353

“Scandinavian Women Writers” (Ellen Rees)

SCAN 351

“Periods in Scandinavian Literature” (Virpi Zuck)

### WINTER 2007

SCAN 259

“Vikings Through the Icelandic Sagas” (Michael Stern)

SCAN 352

“Topics in Scandinavian Literature: Crime Fiction” (Virpi Zuck)

### SPRING 2007

SCAN 315

“Cinematic Traditions in Scandinavia” (Ellen Rees)

SCAN 354

“Genres in Scandinavian Literature: Philosophy and Fiction” (Michael Stern)

*(continued from p.1)*

## Ingrid Weatherhead Active in Retirement



Dr. Peter Gontrum, for their strong support of the Scandinavian Studies Program. They were particularly helpful during their

years as Department Chairs. To further ensure the growth and well-being of Scandinavian Studies, Ingrid helped found a community based support group, known today as the Friends of Scandinavian Studies.

Through the years Ingrid Weatherhead has been honored by students and faculty for her delightful teaching skills. Her genuine sense of purpose, compassion and humor certainly made her a favorite among her students. In 1985 she was chosen to receive the Burlington Northern Foundation Faculty Achievement Award.

Her publications include an annotated student edition of Henrik Ibsen's *En Folkefiende* (Enemy of the People) and articles for professional journals. She also co-authored articles on Arnulf Øverland and Nordahl Grieg with her husband, Kingsley.

Surely Professor Weatherhead's greatest honor came at the end of her teaching career in 1990 when she was presented with the prestigious St. Olav Medal at the Norwegian Researchers and Teachers Association of North America

(NORTANA) Convention in Edmonton, Canada. This award was established by King Haakon VII in order to recognize those who have made outstanding contributions in the promotion of Norwegian language and culture abroad. It was a gala event, and a wonderful conclusion to her years of work at the University of Oregon.

A native of Bergen, Norway, Ingrid first arrived in this country with a scholarship for undergraduate study at the University of Puget Sound. Upon arrival she was somewhat hesitant when it came to using practical, everyday English. On the bus trip from Washington, D.C. to Washington State she recalled, “When we made a stop for food, I heard some women order “grilledhamandcheeseonrye.” So for my order I just mimicked them and that was what I ate at every stop on the entire trip!”

Ingrid met her husband, Kingsley, now a retired UO professor of English, while a student at the University of Puget Sound. After she completed her M.A. in Philology, the couple moved to New Orleans for two years. From there they returned to the Northwest to settle in Eugene, where they raised their three children.

Since retirement Ingrid has traveled widely, both nationally and internationally. She also has remained active in the community as a violinist in the Riverside Chamber Orchestra and as a member of the Fortnightly Club, the oldest women's study group west of the Mississippi. She continues to seek out challenges and make a positive difference in the many lives she touches.

## The Department Welcomes Finnish Instructor Mika Tukiainen

The Department of German and Scandinavian welcomes Mika Tukiainen as the 2006-07 Finnish instructor. Mika already holds B.S. and M.A. degrees and plans to return to his Ph.D. program in education at the University of Tampere. Although he teaches Finnish at the UO, Mika will teach English when he returns to Finland in July.

With his research interests in the little-understood area of language acquisition and expression, Mika enjoys observing his UO students throughout the process of acquiring language skills. He intends to write his dissertation about the effect of language acquisition on an individual's avenues of expression. In the meantime, Mika and his wife Kati's children will continue to provide him with three fascinating research subjects.

During the last few months, Mika has enjoyed the friendly atmosphere in Eugene. Whereas Finns are inclined to greet passersby only out on the ski trails, Mika has adopted the warm Eugene custom of greeting people he encounters walking, bicycling, or working in the garden.



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