



Kyllikki Rantala, lecturer in music education, the University of Tampere, animatedly discusses early childhood music education in Finland. Her lecture was presented at the UO on April 8.

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Friends of Scandinavian Studies

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FRIENDS OF SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES NEWSLETTER

11.2, Spring 2002

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

Newly elected President plans ambitious

Harriet Bagdade was elected the new President of the Friends of Scandinavian Studies at the general meeting on March 18. A native Swede who immigrated to America at the age of 30, Harriet has strong ties to both Scandinavia and the United States, and she plans to step up the activities of the Friends through several new and expanded projects.

Harriet has studied at the University of Göteborg and the University of Washington, and she has worked in such diverse arenas as the Swedish Trade Council in Chicago, the research department of her county in Sweden, and in the business she now runs with her husband, producing Domaine Meriwether wines.

Harriet's goals for the Friends over the next several months include strengthening existing ties with the University and with Scandinavian contacts, developing new relationships, expanding the Friends' membership, and working to shed new light on the connections between Scandinavia and the Pacific Northwest.

"At least in part, Oregon was built by people from Scandinavia," she notes. "So learning about Scandinavia is a natural addition to what we have here, something we can all take ownership of."

Already the newly elected Board is working: to create a Genealogy Project to help trace the genealogies of Friends members; to present an expanded series of Scandinavian cultural events next year (including lectures, musical programs, and a film series); to increase membership in the Friends; and to raise additional funds for various projects.

To contact Harriet Bagdade, send email to <bagcuvee@aol.com>.



Upcoming Scandinavian Events

• **Sat., June 29.** Danish organist Kristian Olesen performs organ works of the "North German Fathers" on the Brombaugh instrument at Central Lutheran Church. \$20 general admission. Sponsored in part by the Bach Festival. www.oregonbachfestival.com

• **Fall: date/place TBA.** Jakob Stougaard-Nielsen discusses Norwegian landscape painting. *Nordic Council Project* (see p. 2).

• **Tues., October 8.** Scandinavian Film Series: *Children of Nature* (Iceland, 1991), dir. by Fredrik Thor Fredriksson, 85 min., Icelandic/subtitles. 6:00 pm, International Lounge, EMU. Free.

• **Tues., October 22.** General Meeting; Lecture on archaeological excavations in Iceland, by UO anthropology professor Jon

Erland-son. 7:00 pm, Place TBA. Free.

• **Tues., November 12.** Scandinavian Film Series: *Expectations* (Sweden, 1997), dir. by Daniel Bergman, 95 min., Swedish/subtitles. 6:00 pm, International Lounge, EMU. Free.

• **Tues., December 10.** Scandinavian Film Series: *Hamsun* (Nordic co-production, 1996), dir. by Jan Troell, 154 min., multilingual/subtitles. 6:00 pm, International Lounge, EMU. Free.

Watch for these winter 2003 events:

• UO Scandinavian studies assistant professor Michael Stern lectures on the religious philosophies of Linnaeus and Swedenborg.

• Finland-Swedish author Kjell Westo reads from his work about growing up in Helsinki. Film based on the work will be screened in conjunction with the reading.

Understanding community

Sociology Ph.D. candidate Kari Norgaard spent the 2000-01 academic year in Norway on an American Scandinavian Foundation fellowship. She studied the various strategies used by Norwegians to retain a sense of local connection and community in an age of globalization and transnationalism.

Norgaard began her studies in Oslo in the summer of 2000, attending a crash-course in Norwegian and beginning her observations with the urban Norwegian culture. In the fall of 2000, she moved to a farmhouse just outside the small western town of Voss, which she used as a base for the remainder of her studies.

In all, Norgaard conducted interviews with about 50 Norwegians of varying ages, occupations, and backgrounds. These interviews occurred in casual spaces, such as cafes or pubs, and the interviewees spoke in several of Norway's regional dialects. In addition, Norgaard attended a variety of community events, such as Rotary meetings, political party functions, and meetings of a hiking club.

Norgaard notes that the cultural differences were more difficult for her and partner, Sam (who accompanied her to Norway), than they had anticipated. Even though they had been to Norway before, residing in a small, close-knit community there for nearly a year often left them feeling isolated.

The rural "neighborhood" in which they resided was not unfriendly, however. Landlady Siren Bryn, who lived in her farm's *nyttus*, rented out her family's old farmhouse to Kari and Sam for a very small sum (by Oregon standards). And on just their third day in Voss, the rural "neighborhood" invited them



to participate in a day-long traditional festival. The festivities? Collectively preparing and eating twenty-three sheep's heads! (Kari, a vegetarian, avoided troubling her hosts by feeding her sheep's head meat to Sam.)

Now, Norgaard highly recommends the experience. "Studying abroad should be required for everyone," she says. "It's important for understanding how differently people

Nordic Council Project

Nordic culture in the Northwest

The Nordic Council of Ministers has approved a three-year, multi-university project in Alaska, western Canada, and the Pacific Northwest, to run 2002-05. The purpose of the project is to increase the visibility of Scandinavia in northwestern North America.

The project, under the umbrella title "Modern Vikings," will focus on three major themes: Nature (2002-03), People (2003-04), and Images of Scandinavia (2004-05). One lecturer in the "Nature" series, Jakob Stougaard-Nielsen, will speak at the UO this coming fall.

During the "People" series (2003-04), the UO will be the main site for a symposium on medical ethics in Scandinavia and the U.S., coinciding with the 90th year of Scandinavian studies at the university. Watch for more details in the fall newsletter.

Friends' Genealogy Project underway

The Friends of Scandinavian Studies is currently building a database of information sources for tracing Scandinavian genealogical heritage. To suggest potential sources of genealogical information, or to get more information about the Project, please contact Connie Berglund at (541) 344-9885.

Your help is greatly needed....

...to preserve Danish language instruction next year.



One of the two Danish graduate teaching fellow (GTF) positions at the UO is generously funded by the Danish Fulbright Commission, which selects a Danish graduate student to pursue graduate studies and to teach Danish courses at the UO. Thanks to this program, the UO has been able to offer two levels (for example, first- and second-year Danish) each year.

Unfortunately, though, the Fulbright funding for this position (paid in Danish crowns) has not kept up with the strong American dollar and the GTF union contract, which governs the stipends and benefits for graduate students who teach at the university. Due to these changes, the 2002-03 funding for the GTF to teach first-year Danish is about \$1500 short. However, after a recent \$500 gift from the Office of International Programs, the amount that the Friends **now need to raise** is **\$1000**.

The UO's Scandinavian Studies Program has been the pride of Oregon's Scandinavian American community and other Oregon supporters of Scandinavian studies since 1913. Please help us keep this 90-year tradition alive! Fill in your Membership Form (page 4), and send in your tax-deductible contribution. Thank you for any support you can give.

Scandinavian Studies People

Faculty

Linda Gunn

Dr. Gunn has been teaching first-year Norwegian language this year. The sequence has been very popular and still has 19 students in the spring term. Three of these students will study in Norway this fall in the UO's exchange program with the University of Bergen. Dr. Gunn also enjoyed teaching "Scandinavian Immigrant and Ethnic Folklore" in the fall of 2001. Next year, she hopes to teach the second-year Norwegian sequence and a section of "Scandinavian Fantasies" in the fall.

Dr. Gunn also assisted Dr. Helmut Plant, of the German department, with the International Language Retreat in April, and they are planning a Scandinavian Language Retreat for next spring, which may be required for students in Scandinavian language courses.

Dr. Gunn presented at the UO's annual Foreign Language and International Studies (FLIS) Day. The program, "Scandinavian Music and Dance," also featured Davis Elliker-Vaagsberg on the Hardanger fiddle and Nyckelharpa, Hardanger fiddlemaker Lynn Berg, and folkdancer Ed Gunderson.

This summer, Dr. Gunn will attend a five-day accordian camp near Silver Falls and the Norsk Folkedans Stemme north of Seattle, where she notes "it will be a rare treat to have Karin Brennesvik and Eivind Bakken from Telemark teach the halling and bygdedanser from Telemark and Numedal." In July, Dr. Gunn will travel to Seljord, Norway, with her daughter, to visit relatives and study Telemark dance, music, art, and architecture, and then journey to the Bergen area for a family reunion and a sailboat trip to the family farm of Risnes on the Masfjord.

Graduate Students

Kerry Bannister

Bannister, a Ph.D. student in linguistics (and former editor of this newsletter) has been teaching second-year Swedish



Norwegian instructor Linda Gunn (left), and Finnish instructor Hanna-Marika Mitrunen (right), participated in this year's Foreign Language and International Studies (FLIS) Day on April 26. Dr. Gunn, who helped present a workshop on Scandinavian music and folkdance, wears a bunad she made herself. Mitrunen, who presented on Finnish language and culture, is wearing a traditional Finnish costume from eastern Finland. In all, four different workshops on Scandinavian languages and cultures were presented for the audience of university and high school students.

this year. She was recently awarded the Bakony Professional Development Grant in the sum of \$1000. Bannister will use the funds to create a multimedia library and curricular framework for the Swedish language program at the UO.

Karina Frederiksen

Frederiksen, an MBA student from Denmark and this year's Danish language instructor at the UO, was recently

recognized with a Friendship Foundation for International Students Award. The awards are given to international students in recognition of their service to the university and community.

During her two years in the UO's MBA program, Frederiksen has taught Danish language courses, organized Danish-themed extracurricular activities, devised marketing plans for local businesses, and helped to enhance the profile of Scandinavian studies at the UO.

Hanna-Marika Mitrunen

Mitrunen, who has taught second-year Finnish this year, will return home to Finland at the end of June. She is currently working on her master's thesis for the University of Tampere, a socio-linguistic study of the variation and change of spoken Finnish in Tampere.

In April, Mitrunen attended the 13th conference of the Finno-Ugric Studies Association of Canada, held in Vancouver, British Columbia. There she presented a paper, "The Variation and Change in Spoken Tampere Finnish Possessive Forms."

Picture This!

A new website is being created for Scandinavian interests at the UO, including both the Scandinavian Studies Program and the Friends of Scandinavian Studies. The site will feature information and images about Scandinavia and Scandinavian studies. If you have any photographic images that you would like to share with the website (they must belong to you), either as regular prints (which we will scan and return) or as digital files, please contact Roger Adkins at (541) 346-0518 or

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	Norse Mythology (Staff)	MW 2:00-3:20
SCAN 315	A Century of Danish Film (V. Zuck)	M 6:00-8:50 PM

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