

INSIDE...

Letter from the President	2
Early Vision Documented	2
Calendar of Events	3
SCAN Courses	3
Lars Juel's Team Wins	4
A Profile of Mari Hatavara	4
A Profile of Peter Stendal	4
Recent Friends' Scholarship Recipients	5

FRIENDS OF SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES NEWSLETTER

14.3, Spring 2005

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

Friends Launch Fundraising Campaign for Endowed Language Instructor

Scandinavian languages, first offered at the University of Oregon in 1899, have been taught on a continuous basis since 1913. We now need to strengthen and continue this tradition. The Board of FSS has begun a major fundraising effort to establish a \$350,000 endowment for a Scandinavian Languages Instructor.

Interest from the endowment fund will be available to support a language instructor five years after the fund is established. A minimum of \$25,000 is needed to establish an account through the UO Foundation. The Board is submitting requests to national and international organizations to help raise funds for the endowment.

The immediate need is for \$25,000 to allow us to start the endowment account. The Board hopes that the FSS membership will contribute to this exciting first step. Of course any amount of donation toward this goal will be greatly appreciated. *Många bäckar små bildar stor å* (Many small streams build a might river)!

Lynn Wilkinson speaks at UO May 9th

Friends welcome Professor Lynn Wilkinson from the University of Texas at Austin for a guest lecture titled *Anatomy and Failure: Ibsen, Bordieu, and the Invention of the Intellectual*. The lecture will be held May 9th at 5:00 p.m. in the Gerlinger Lounge and is free and open to the public.

Pierre Bourdieu (1930-2002) was a public intellectual who spoke out on issues such as homelessness and globalization. Dr. Wilkinson proposes that his studies in sociology, focusing on the situation of intellectuals and the conditions that make their work possible, may have led to his own reinvention in the 1990s. In *The Rules of Art: Genesis and Structure of the Literary Field* (1992), Bourdieu suggests that intellectuals emerging in France at the turn of the 19th century were underwritten by the artistic works of Charles Baudelaire and Gustave Flaubert. Their insistence on the autonomy of art contributed to the struggle for symbolic rather than monetary capital.

Dr. Wilkinson's talk will use Bourdieu's gallocentric model to consider the Norwegian dramatist Henrik Ibsen (1826-1906) as a European intellectual whose autonomy rested on European literary developments in the late 19th century. Ibsen's play *An Enemy of the People* (1880) represents the plight of the individual who dares to speak out against the majority.

For more information, visit <http://scandinavian.uoregon.edu>

JOIN FRIENDS & VASA LODGE FOR A MIDSUMMER POTLUCK CELEBRATION

SATURDAY JUNE 18, 2005

3:00 - 6:00 PM

ALTON BAKER PARK





Nyhavn harbor, Copenhagen

Friends of Scandinavian Studies

Department of Germanic
Languages and Literatures

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

<http://scandinavian.uoregon.edu>

Board Members

Harriet Bagdade, *President*
Linda Gunn, *Vice President
and Secretary*
Kathie Lindlan, *Treasurer and
Webmaster*
Michael Stern, *Department
Representative*
Joel Cherrytree, *Member*
Tom Mills, *Member*
Michael Raymer, *Member*
Virpi Zuck, *Member*

Editor

Callie Gautreaux

Contributors

Harriet Bagdade
Kathie Lindlan
Virpi Zuck
Linda Gunn
Michael Stern
Michael Raymer

**Nominate FRIENDS
as 2005-06 Board
representatives. Elections
will be held at the Fall
General Meeting**

© 2005 Friends of Scandinavian
Studies. The UO is an equal-opportunity,
affirmative-action institution committed to
cultural diversity and compliance with the
Americans with Disabilities Act. This pub-
lication will be made available in accessible
formats upon request.

From the President's Desk

Dear Friends,

The Scandinavian Studies Program, while continuing a historic vision, is in a time of transition and positive change. In the 1970s the program hired Virpi Zuck, who has recently attained emerita status, as its first full-time professor. The program currently has two full-time tenure-track professors, Michael Stern and Ellen Rees.

Housed within the Department of Germanic Languages and Literatures, a de facto undergraduate Scandinavian major has existed for many years under the name "German with Scandinavian Focus." We are hopeful that a Scandinavian major, distinct from the German degree, will be approved. This new major would enable students to develop competence in critical thinking and communication skills in a Scandinavian language. It would also expose students to Scandinavian literature, film, art, cultural history, and contemporary issues.

Excited as we are by the evolving status of the program, we are faced with new financial challenges. The Friends of Scandinavian Studies have decided to meet this challenge by securing permanent funding for a Scandinavian Studies language instructor. Our goal is to raise \$350,000!!!

Community members helped get the program started. Now it is time for us to help it grow to the next level. **Thank you for your continuing support.**

Wishing All a Happy Spring,
Harriet



*Friends' President
Harriet Bagdade*

An early vision of Scandinavian Studies documented

Digging into our archives recently, Professor Virpi Zuck found an intriguing document, *A PETITION for the Establishment of a Department of Scandinavian Languages of the University of Oregon*. Dated June 20, 1911, it was addressed to the Board of Regents and the Faculty of the UO and signed by over 400 Oregonians.

The graceful signatures come from all over Oregon and belong to people from various walks of life: farmers, fishermen, clergy, teachers, laborers, attorneys, foremen, housewives, mill hands, firemen, and a bank president. This diverse group had one wish in common: to establish an academic Scandinavian program at the state's university.

The wording of the document is in step with the times at the beginning of the century:

...Whereas, The mythology and poetry of the North can be favorably compared with the classic literature of Greece and Rome, and in every branch of literature are found Scandinavian writers, who would be an ornament to any country...

...Whereas, The Scandinavian languages and literatures have found a place in the curriculum of the following universities, to-wit: Harvard, Yale, Cornell, John Hopkins, Northwestern, and in the State Universities of Wisconsin, Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Illinois and Washington...

Although the ambitious goal of creating a separate department was not met, the petition did indeed have a significant result. In 1913 the first professor of Scandinavian Languages and Literature was appointed within the Germanic Department.

The petition in its entirety is available to anyone interested. Just contact Harriet Bagdade at bagcuvee@aol.com.

Calendar of Scandinavian Events

Vikings — A Life of the Mind Insight Seminar

Saturdays, April 30 - May 21 • 9:30 am - noon • Autzen Stadium Club Room

• A seminar led by UO professors. Njal's Saga is the epic story of Iceland's greatest lawyer, a man of peace in a culture of violence – an authentic and absorbing portrait of Viking life written in the 13th century. How do you break the vicious cycle of revenge, when it is the law? Register at <http://uoinsight.uoregon.edu/>. (\$75)

Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Studies (SASS) 95th Annual Meeting

Thursday-Saturday, May 5-7 • Portland State University

• Presentation topics will range from Nordic Cinema, to Scandinavian immigration and labor politics, to messages in art and architecture, to postmodern literature. Professor Ellen Rees, Professor Michael Stern, and Mari Hatavara from the UO will present papers. For more information, visit <http://www.byu.edu/sasslink/sass2005/>.

Autonomy and Failure: Ibsen, Bourdieu, and the Invention of the Intellectual

Monday, May 9 • 5:00 pm • Gerlinger Lounge

• A guest Lecture by Dr. Lynn Wilkinson of the University of Texas at Austin (see p. 1 for additional information).

Scandinavian Film Series: *Speak Up! It is so dark*

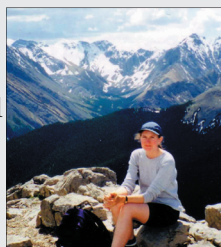
Tuesday, May 10 • 7:00 pm • International Resource Center, EMU

• A chilling vision of two radically different mindsets, this film follows the story of a young Swedish neo-Nazi who is severely beaten by his compatriots. Hiding from the group who attempted to do him in, he draws the attention of an older Jewish doctor, who heals his wounds and then talks the youth into psychiatric counseling sessions (dir. Suzanne Osten, 1992, 83 min., Swedish with English subtitles).

Modern Day Sagas of Exploration and Transformation: Personal Accounts by Female Pioneers in the Arctic North, the Svalbard Archipelago

Wednesday, May 11 • 4:00 pm • Lillis 112

• An illustrated lecture by Dr. Ingrid Urberg, President of NORTANA (Norwegian Researchers and Teachers' Association in North America) and former UO professor. Professor Urberg now teaches at the University of Alberta at Camrose. She will deliver a guest lecture about storytelling in the Svalbard Islands, where she has conducted research. The islands were first discovered by the Norwegians in the 12th century, then served as an international whaling base during the 17th and 18th centuries, and were later taken over by Norway.



Prof. Ingrid Urberg

Midsummer Potluck Celebration with Vasa Lodge

Saturday, June 18 • 3:00 - 6:00 pm • Alton Baker Park, Shelter No. 2

• Bring food, family and friends for live music, folk dancing, and wreath-making.

Events are free and open to the public unless otherwise specified. Check updates at (<http://scandinavian.uoregon.edu>).

Spring & Fall Courses

The following Scandinavian literature classes are offered spring term:

SCAN 259 - Vikings Through the Icelandic Sagas (Prof. Zuck)

Students view the the Vikings at home and abroad in their cultural and historical context through translations of 13th Century Icelandic Sagas.

These sagas have been called a world treasure comparable to the Homeric epics, Dante's Divina Commedia and the plays of Shakespeare.

SCAN 352 - Topics in Scandinavian Literature: Idiots, Madmen and Geniuses (Asst. Prof. Ellen Rees)

The course explores literary and filmic representations of the extremes of the human mind.

SCAN 408 Language Retreat

April 29th & 30th, students get away from English overnight at a rustic lodge. Activities include a potluck, Scandinavian folkdances, a short hike, and a sing-along in Scandinavian Languages

The following Scandinavian literature classes are offered fall term:

SCAN 250: Masks and Ecstatic Experience (Prof. Michael Stern)

This class prompts an interrogation of mere appearances by exploring texts and films that highlight the difficulty of interpretation. Through these works that use masks and tell tales of ecstatic experiences (traumatic events, religious passion, sexual desire, and the like), the class develops critical thinking skills to more accurately read our experiences and our environments.

SCAN 325: Autobiography and Other Fictions (Prof. Michael Stern)

We arrive at our notions of self by approaching an intersection of many narratives. We will investigate the relationship between narrative and the crafting of identity. The interaction between the stories we inherit and those that we create is of

Our GTF Instructors:

A Professional, Academic, Linguistic, and Cultural Asset

Lars Juel's team wins business competition!

Lars Juel, who has taught Danish at the UO for almost two years, is finishing his MBA degree with prestigious awards under his belt. As part of the UO's "Perpetua" team, Lars has recently won several business plan competitions.

The team developed a business plan around the Perpetua Harvester, a battery substitute that lasts forever. The Harvester generates electricity using naturally occurring differences in temperature and offers a long-life power source for small devices. Perpetua focused its business plan on markets such as wireless sensors, in which the total cost of batteries is extremely high.

Perpetua began its success in December by winning the UO "Quest for AdVenture" MBA business plan contest. In February, the team won the CinCom Spirit of Enterprise competition at the University of Cincinnati, which earned them \$10,000 in prize money. At Asia Moot 2005 in Bangkok, the team took second and Lars won us an honorable mention in the 60-second



Representing the UO at Asia Moot 2005

and pitch session. At the New Venture Challenge, Perpetua won third place overall and a first place in the 60-second pitch. Their total winnings are now up to \$24,000. Perpetua looks forward to competing with the top business schools in the world at Moot Corp in May at the University of Texas.

Perpetua's success and hard work supports *US News and World Report's* ranking of UO's Lundquist Center for Entrepreneurship as the 16th-best entrepreneurship centers in the nation. *Entrepreneur* magazine also ranked the Center in the top four percent among more than 800 entrepreneurship programs and number one in alumni satisfaction.

A Profile of Mari Hatavara

Mari's love of literature and language has brought her to the UO as this year's Finnish instructor from the University of Tampere. Her life passion may be no surprise to those who saw her reading 10 books per week as a child growing up in Tampere and Helsinki.

Mari studied Finnish language and philosophy as an undergraduate. As part of her masters degree (1999) and her licentiate in Finnish literature (2003), Mari defended a thesis about Fredrika Runeberg and Zacharias Topelius. Mari will present a paper in May titled "Fredrika Runeberg's Strategies in Writing the History of Finnish Women" at the SASS (Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Studies) conference.

Mari teaches the first-year Finnish course here at the UO. She especially enjoys seeing students with minimal background in linguistic grammar suddenly become aware of language. One of her fall students was intrigued by the language enough to spontaneously pursue studies in Finland this year.

After this year at UO, Mari will return to Tampere to defend her dissertation on Runeberg and Topelius, and eventually teach literature in Europe.

A Profile of Peter Stendal

While academia and teaching are not new to Peter Stendal, Eugene is quite a distinct environment from his native Copenhagen. This year, Peter is both a Fulbright scholar and our Danish GTF instructor.

Prior to coming to the UO, Peter finished undergraduate studies and two years of graduate studies in Copenhagen, taught Danish to international students, and worked in the business sector. Here, Peter teaches four Danish language classes per week and also takes courses toward his M.A. in Danish language and literature with a minor in philosophy.

In the UO's comparative literature department, Peter applies his philosophy background with his focus on rivaling theories of textual interpretation: pragmatism, deconstructionism, and hermeneutics.

Peter is also a unique linguistic addition to the comparative literature department as a speaker of Danish, English, German, Swedish, and Norwegian.

Despite his busy schedule, Eugene offers Peter a slower pace than Copenhagen's urban landscape. He seizes opportunities to hike, see the coast, and enjoy Oregon's natural landscape. Peter also blends quite naturally in the Eugene landscape since he is a runner and occasionally watches movies at the Bijou.

After completing graduate studies, Peter will likely take his work in the humanities back to the business sector. From his previous work experience, he sees how the humanities can make a valuable contribution to business communication.

Friends' Scholarship Supports Stars of Scandinavian Studies



Marcus (right) with friends before going to the gasques in Uppsala

"After my semester of study abroad in Uppsala I returned to Sweden in the summer. I worked in Helsingborg for a car parts company called *Micro*. I was a sales representative in the store and also worked as a translator in their offices. I translated safety warnings, labels, and manuals from English to Swedish. The translating was hard work, but I learned a lot. It was an incredible experience and one which I will always remember. I will be completing my Scandinavian Studies minor this spring term by taking a Scandinavian Literature class called "Idiots, Madmen and Geniuses."

– **Marcus Cederström, 2004-05 Recipient**
Business Administration

"Receiving the scholarship from the Friends of Scandinavia Studies was definitely an honor. Currently I am living in Uppsala, Sweden attending Uppsala University ... (T)his scholarship was much-needed help in pursuing my Swedish education, which began back in 1999 in Stockholm where I was a high school exchange student for a year. My mastery of the Swedish language has improved since I've returned and it is, of course, wonderful to be able to be back here visiting my friends that I made back in high school. I plan to travel Europe once the weather over here improves and am hoping to graduate from the UO in December of 2005."

– **Rachael Hansen, 2004-05 Recipient**
International Studies

Roger Adkins, 2003-04 Recipient
Comparative Literature

Roger Adkins is a doctoral student in comparative literature, studying postmodern epic narrative (especially: metafiction, science fiction, fantasy and speculative fiction) in the Scandinavian, English, and North American traditions, in relation to their medieval and Romantic predecessors, and their cultural contexts. He has studied Norwegian at the UO, and he participated in the summer Icelandic language and culture course at the University of Iceland in 2003. In addition, Roger also works as an overseas program coordinator in the UO Office of International Programs, where he manages and recruits U.S. students to participate in, among others, six programs in Scandinavia: Oslo and Bergen in Norway, Uppsala in Sweden, Tampere in Finland, and Aalborg and the Copenhagen Business School in Denmark. Roger has served on the Friends of Scandinavian Studies Board as well as the UO Scandinavian Studies Committee.



Hallgrim's Church with the statue of Leif Eiriksson (a gift to the Icelandic people from the U.S. in 1930).



FRIENDS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Membership Renewal

Please continue your support of Scandinavian Studies at the UO. *Nonprofit contributions are tax-deductible.*

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: Home _____ Work _____

E-mail _____

☐ **\$1000 BENEFACTOR** (lifetime membership)

☐ **\$100 SPONSOR**

☐ **\$30 FAMILY/INDIVIDUAL**

☐ **\$50 PATRON**

☐ **\$5 STUDENT**

Check enclosed. Amount: \$ _____

**Payable to: UO Foundation—Friends
of Scandinavian Studies**

Please charge my: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ Amer. Express

Card #: _____ Exp. Date: ____/____/____

Amount: \$ _____ Signature: _____

For a Friend: A Gift of Membership

Purchase a membership in your friend's name, and we'll send them a notification and a copy of this newsletter.

Date _____

Friend's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

For additional gift membership(s), please enclose your friends' address(es) on a separate piece of paper.

GIFT MEMBERSHIP(S) @ \$25 each = _____
(Feel free to duplicate this form.)

Return to: University of Oregon Foundation, PO Box 3346, Eugene OR 97403-0346



FRIENDS OF SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES
Department of Germanic Languages & Literatures
1250 University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97403-1250