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

Friends of Scandinavian Studies 🔊 NEWSLETTER 🖎

Outstanding **UO** Musicians

Two UO Music graduate students with strong interests in Scandinavian classical music, Holland Phillips and Helena Kopchick, have enriched the UO Scandinavian program lately. Holland's focus is the Danish composer Carl Nielsen, while Helena's is the Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg. These talented musicians will perform on violin and bassoon, respectively, at the Friends' spring meeting (see calendar).

his is Holland Phillip's story. Holland has been obsessed with the music of Nielsen since junior high school. Holland's father played a recording of Nielsen's 2nd symphony and Aladdin Suite (the Swedish Radio Chorus and Orchestra recording with Esa-Pekka Salonen conducting) for her, and she instantly fell in love with that recording. When he added that Nielsen had written a violin concerto, her "Nielsen quest" started.

Currently, Holland is pursuing a doctoral degree in violin performance with a secondary emphasis in musicology at the University of Oregon. Naturally, Nielsen's violin works will be the topic of her dissertation. She plays in the Eugene Symphony, Oregon Mozart Players and Oregon State University/ Corvallis Symphony. As the winner of the University of Oregon School of Music's annual concerto competition, she performed the first movement

from Carl Nielsen's Violin Concerto Op.33 with the University Symphony on April 20th, 2008. Holland is one of 48 finalists from around the world who will compete in the Carl Nielsen International Violin Competition that will be held in Odense, Denmark this May.

Holland's appreciation extends to music by other Scandinavians, including Sibelius and Grieg. She thinks that Niels Gade (1817-1890) has been done an injustice by history and that his music should be performed. She also really likes the Finnish folk/pop band Värttinä.

Holland Phillips has served as concertmaster of the New England Conservatory Chamber Orchestra, the Vanderbilt Orchestra, and the Killington Music Festival Chamber Orchestra. She has also performed at the Gewandhaus in Leipzig, Germany,





Holland Phillips will perform on violin at the Friends' spring meeting.

Jordan Hall in Boston, and the Town Hall in Leeds, England. Holland has held faculty positions at Gordon College in Wenham, MA and in the Milton Public Schools in Milton, MA.

Holland earned a Master of Music degree with honors and a Graduate Diploma from the New England Conservatory and her Bachelor of Music degree, summa cum laude, from Vanderbilt University. She won the Jean Keller Heard Prize for musical excellence twice while studying at Vanderbilt.





Friends' President Kathie Lindlan

Friends of Scandinavian Studies

 \ast Department of German and Scandinavian

 \ast 202 Friendly Hall 1250 University of Oregon Eugene, OR 97403-1250 (541) 346-4051 http://scandinavian.uoregon.edu/

\ast

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> \ast Layout: Knut-Einar Skjaer

Contributors: Sanna Ala-Kortesmaa, Kathie Lindlan, Ben Raymond Lode, Kim Mikkelsen, Holland Phillips, Ellen Rees, Anina Rosenbaum

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Friends,

Yes, this is our first 2008 newsletter. The Friends are indeed active, but experiencing difficulties in producing newsletters. We hope to have the situation resolved shortly.

2007 was a year of celebration for the UO Scandinavian program and the Friends. Last spring Dr. Michael Stern earned tenure and promotion to Associate Professor. For the first time in the history of the program, there are two tenured professors of Scandinavian. Dr. Stern and his colleague Dr. Ellen Rees specialize in Swedish and Norwegian literature, respectively. Both are excellent teachers and respected researchers in their fields.

Last fall the Friends established the Scandinavian Languages Instructional Endowment with the \$25,000 minimum that is required by the UO Foundation. The Barbro Osher pro Suecia Foundation then matched this, thereby doubling the endowment fund's value to \$50,000. A few \$500+ donations have increased the total further. We're still finding it hard to believe what we accomplished – with invaluable assistance from the UO Development Office, of course.

In January the Friends conducted an outreach effort to publicize the Scandinavian program within the regional Scandinavian-American community. We identified more than fifty related organizations - primarily in Oregon, some in Washington, and a couple in California - that received information packets on the UO Scandinavian program and opportunities for studying abroad in Scandinavia.

The Friends want to encourage greater participation in the programs that we sponsor. We could especially use new board members. If you would like to become more involved in our programs, please contact me at klindlan@earthlink.net.

Best wishes,

Kathie

Kathie Lindlan

p.s. Thank you to Whitey Lueck for his wonderful Swedish film series during winter term! Tackar så mycket!

SCANDINAVIAN LANGUAGE GTFs

In 2007-08 UO students of the Danish, Finnish and Norwegian languages have benefited from classes with four native language instructors -- Sanna Ala-Kortesmaa from Finland, Ben Raymond Lode from Norway, and Kim Mikkelsen and Anina Ritterband Rosenbaum from Denmark – of diverse backgrounds. Their UO teaching experiences have likewise benefited these GTFs. These instructors have enjoyed teaching their native languages and interacting with their students, and they appreciate the dedication of their students. They understand the difficulties that these students confront in learning a foreign language, yet are amazed at how much language they can acquire in a short period of time.



Sanna Ala-Kortesmaa, Finnish GTF

Originally from Espoo, the second largest city of Finland, Sanna Ala-Kortesmaa earned a Master of Arts and taught Finnish as a second language in Tampere. She is currently working on her PhD in Speech Communication Studies. While enrolled in the Communication & Society program of the UO School of Journalism & Communication, she is doing research about listening in legal and online contexts. After leaving Eugene, Sanna intends to complete her doctoral dissertation. She expects to continue teaching Finnish as a second language in Finland, but will consider other interesting challenges.

Sanna enjoys exploring different cultures and becoming acquainted with interesting people during her travels. Before her recent sightseeing along the US west coast, she traveled some in Southeast Asia. In the US she has visited many national and state parks, and hiked on the coast. She thinks that the nature in Oregon is amazing.

Sanna suggests that summer visitors to Finland should divide their time between interesting cities and beautiful countryside. The capital Helsinki provides sightseeing and nightlife, while the cities of Porvoo and Turku offer sites of historical interest. Travelers to Turku should take a cruise in the unique archipelago of Saaristomeri.

From left to right: Ben Raymond Lode, Sanna Ala-Kortesmaa, Anina Ritterband Rosenbaum, and Kim Mikkelsen.

The northern part of Finland, Lapland, is a great place to visit at any time. In early summer, the light of night-less summer nights is fascinating, whereas in winter, the polar night and aurora borealis are beautiful.

Ben Raymond Lode, Norwegian GTF

After high school and prior to his university studies, Ben Raymond Lode lived in Germany for 6 months, completed a year of compulsory army service in Norway, and spent two years working odd jobs to save money for travel. He then spent a year studying Physical Education in Stavanger, Norway, before earning a BA in Journalism

Scandinavian Events

Mark your calendars!

Wednesday, April 16 7:30 – 9:30 pm **Friends Spring Concert** Sons of Norway Lodge 1836 Alder Street, Eugene **Scandinavian Classical Music** with Helena Kopchick, Bassoon Holland Phillips, Violin Short business meeting **Refreshments!**

Sunday, June 22 12:00 – 4:00 pm **Midsummer Potluck Picnic** Shelter 1, Alton Baker Park Eugene **Scandinavian Folk Music** with Fossegrimen

- Bring a dish to share, special beverages, and your own place settings
- Coffee, tea, juice will be provided
- Bring musical instruments and wear ethnic costumes, if possible

Sponsored by the Friends, Sonja Lodge & Vasa Lodge

Any questions? Please email scan@uoregon.edu

Events are free and open to the public

\$50,000 in **Endowment Fund!**

s you undoubtedly know, the Friends established the UO Scandinavian Languages Instructional Endowment with \$25,000 last fall. The Barbro Osher pro Suecia Foundation then contributed another \$25,000 to the fund, increasing the total to \$50,000. Barbro Osher is Consul General of Sweden in San Francisco as well as the owner and publisher of Vestkusten, a Swedish-American newspaper. The Pro Suecia Foundation supports Swedish-related cultural and educational projects in North America and Sweden. Previously this Foundation donated \$14,000 to support a UO Scandinavian language instructor during the 2006/07 academic year.

Without our local and alumni contributors to the original \$25,000, we doubt that the Pro Suecia Foundation would have made another generous donation to the UO Scandinavian program. Three contributors deserve special recognition. We would like to thank Bard and Mary Grinnell Bunaes for their very generous \$5,000 donation. We would also like to thank Paul Holbo, former UO Vice Provost, for his successful fundraising efforts among his friends in the local Scandinavian-American community.

The Friends would also like to acknowledge the UO Development Office staff members - especially Paul Elstone, John Manotti, and Katrina Woods McGee - who helped facilitate contacts with our donors. They have been extremely generous with their time and expertise.

We're not done yet! The Friends' long-term goal is to raise at least \$350,000 so that the endowment fund can support at least one Scandinavian language instructor every year. Please consider making another tax-deductible donation to the endowment fund in 2008. Many thanks for your support!

Upcoming classes

SPRING 2008

SCAN 315 Nordic Cinema Tues & Thurs 4:00-5:20 (Rees)

SCAN 259 Vikings Through **Icelandic Sagas** Tues & Thurs 12:00-1:50 (Rees)

FALL 2008

SCAN 251 Text and Interpretation Tues & Thurs 4:00-5:20 (Stern)

SCAN 407/507 Space & Place in Literature Mon Wed 4:00-5:20 (Rees)

NEW LANGUAGE COURSES STARTING FALL 2008

SWEDISH 101 Mon Tues Wed Fri 10:00-10:50

SWEDISH 301 & SCAN 399 Mon Wed Fri 12:00-12:50

NORWEGIAN 201 Mon Tues Wed Fri 10:00-10:50

FINNISH 101 Mon Tues Wed Fri 11:00-11:50

DANISH 201 Mon Tues Wed Fri 11:00-11:50

Scandinavian Language GTFs continued ...

from the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia, in 2002. Ben is currently working on a Master's degree in the Communication & Society program of the UO School of Journalism & Communication. He is interested in media representation, international communication, the political economy of communication, cultural studies and many other things broadly related to the study of mediated communication in society. Ben's research for his Master's thesis focuses on a case study of a Pacific Northwest sustainability project that involves removing woody biomass from public forestlands. He is primarily concerned with various aspects of communication related to carrying out such a project.

During his stay in Eugene, Ben has loved mountain biking in Oakridge, running in Alton Baker Park, and surfing on the Oregon Coast. He and his wife have purchased a house in this area and plan to remain a few more years at least. Before leaving Oregon, he hopes to do some fly-fishing in eastern Oregon.

Ben is from a small town about an hour south of Stavanger, Norway. He recommends that visitors to southwest Norway spend time along the coastline. Painters and artists appreciate this part of Norway because of the special light conditions caused by the sun's reflection in the ocean. Tourists should also visit Stavanger, a gateway to the southern fjords with an interesting maritime history, a 1000-year-old church, and a modern oil museum that chronicles the Norwegian oil adventure of the last 40 years.

Kim Mikkelsen, Danish GTF

Kim Mikkelsen earned a Bachelor's Currently, Kim is studying Politi-This experienced traveler recom-

degree in Political Science from the University of Aarhus. Outside of school, he has played on club soccer teams since the age of five. He has also competed in marathons, and participated in other sports such as tennis, handball, badminton and cycling. Kim has traveled extensively – in South Africa, Nepal, Southeast Asia, and all regions of the European continent including Turkey and Eastern Europe. cal Science as a Fulbright scholar. This academic year at the University of Oregon is the first year of his Danish Master's degree in Political Science. During his spare time here he has enjoyed hiking and snowboarding in the beautiful state of Oregon. mends that tourists of Denmark explore Copenhagen, visit ancient Viking sites, explore the beautiful countryside on a bicycle, and visit

Legoland.

Danish GTF

New combined undergraduate & graduate course Fall 2008!

The Scandinavian Studies Program recently received approval to offer its first official graduate level literature course. Ellen Rees will be teaching SCAN 407/507 "Space and Place in Literature" during Fall 2008. The course will focus on the central role that landscape, cityscape, and interior play in classics of Norwegian literature by writers such as Knut Hamsun, Henrik Ibsen, Per Petterson, Dag Solstad, and Tarjei Vesaas. We will examine these texts through the lens of philosophical, geographical, and literary theories of space and place.

Anina Ritterband Rosenbaum,

Anina Ritterband Rosenbaum earned her Bachelor's degree in Human Physiology from the University of Copenhagen and started graduate study there in the same field in fall 2006. Her interest in human physiology no doubt stems from her extra-curricular ballet studies. She loves dancing as well as teaching a variety of dancing styles - to students of all ages.

As a UO student, Anina is taking classes in Human Physiology and collecting interesting data for her Master's thesis. While living in Eugene, she has appreciated riding her bicycle everywhere and having student discounts for so many activities. After returning to Denmark in June 2008, Anina intends to complete her Master's thesis within six months. "And then the world will be open to all kind of ideas and projects I want to put my heart into after I graduate."

Anina's "hometown" of Copenhagen is an old, but very beautiful and charming city located near the sea. Architecture enthusiasts should visit the town hall, churches, Rundetårn (the round tower) and other beautiful buildings while walking through the old part of Copenhagen. Museumgoers have plenty of opportunities in central Copenhagen to saturate their "art spirits" with the wonderful images in museums. On weekend evenings, the nightlife is especially active. For outdoor enthusiasts, Denmark has forests, where it is possible to go mountain biking, running or simply walking to get some fresh air.