

DEPARTMENT OF

# Scandinavian Studies

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

## Message from the Chair

JAN SJÄVIK



Looking back on the 2012-2013 academic year, we have much to be grateful for and much to celebrate. Our enrollment numbers remain strong and the teaching across the curriculum continues to be exemplary. Faculty continue to produce scholarly productive research results and the department's service commitment is unequalled. We have remained strong through nearly five lean years of recession and budget cuts and continue to be one of the best programs in Nordic and Scandinavian studies serving at one of the world's best universities.

Two of our colleagues, Marianne Stecher and Andrew Nestingen, successfully went through the process of promotion to the rank of Full Professor. The process is demanding and entails a thorough review by both the Department and the College of Arts and Sciences, as well as outside evaluations by scholars in Scandinavia and the United States. Both professors published new books this year. Nestingen's book, *The Cinema of Aki Kaurismäki: Contrarian Stories*, is published by Columbia University Press while Stecher's new book, *The Creative Dialectic in Karen Blixen's Essays – On Gender, Nazi Germany, and Colonial Desire*, was published by The University of Copenhagen's press, Museum Tusculanum Press. A third book, *The Power of Song*, by Guntis Šmidchens, holder of the Kazickas Family Endowed Professorship in Baltic Studies, will be published later this year by the University of Washington Press. This speaks highly for the research activity in the department, as do the many articles and papers produced this past year by department faculty.

SUMMER 2013

W

We also take great pleasure in the successes of our past and recent graduates. Three Ph.D. graduates have received tenure-track appointments this year: Ellen Rees (Ph.D., 1995) has been appointed Associate Professor at the University of Oslo Centre for Ibsen Studies; Margareta Dancus (Ph.D., 2009), has obtained a position in Film Studies at the University of Agder, Kristiansand, Norway; and Rennesa Osterberg Jessup (Ph.D., 2012) has been appointed Assistant Professor at Mankato State University, Mankato, Minnesota.

Current graduate students are also making great strides forward, with four of our Ph.D. students being advanced to candidacy this past year. Maren Anderson Johnson is doing dissertation research in Norway, supported by the Kielland-Løvdaal Fellowship. Upon her return, she will assume a tenure-track position of Assistant Professor at Luther College, Decorah, Iowa. Anna Rühl will spend the next academic year working on her dissertation in Germany, supported partially with a grant from the Sverre Arestad Endowed Chair in Norwegian Studies. Timothy Warburton and Evan Wright will be spending the next year in Sweden and Finland, respectively, supported by grants from the American-Scandinavian Foundation. Three other students, Pamela Dearing, Kimberly Kraft and Katja Shaye, earned their M.A. degrees this year. Congratulations to all our graduate students for their hard work and great success.

More undergraduates took our courses during the past year than ever before in the history of the department, and this spring we graduated thirty-five majors and minors. More than twenty of our students were given some form of scholarship or fellowship support this past year. Our students come from the United States and many other countries, and it is gratifying to know that we are, quite literally, reaching a world-wide audience. Student evaluations also show that the quality of our teaching is very high.

None of this would be possible without the support that we have received both on campus and in the community. College of Arts and Sciences staff have been invaluable to us, especially as our departmental website has been completely redesigned. Our Department Administrator, Debbie Mercer, makes certain that our office runs smoothly and that we comply with all university rules and regulations. This year, she has been ably assisted by two highly competent student employees, Mariama Salia and Jessica Larsen. The Advisory Board, too, under the leadership of Andris Roganis, has continued to be a significant support for the department.

Ultimately, of course, it is the faculty who are on the frontlines in teaching and research. In addition to our permanent faculty, Lotta Gavel Adams, Christine Ingebritsen, Terje Leiren, Jan Sjøvik, Marianne Stecher, Andrew Nestingen, Guntis Šmidchens, and Ia Dūbois, we have had the assistance of six lecturers this year. Aušra Valančiauskienė has spent her first year with us as Visiting Lecturer of Lithuanian, while Iveta Grinberga returned to the department to serve as Visiting Lecturer of Latvian. Desiree Ohrbeck completed her third year as Visiting Lecturer of Danish and Taji Hämäläinen served her first year as Visiting Lecturer of Finnish. Lars Jenner served as Lecturer and offered courses in Scandinavian Mythology and Icelandic Sagas while new Ph.D. graduate, Kyle Korynta played a critical role in the Norwegian language program serving as the department's Teaching Assistant Coordinator while also teaching several Norwegian language courses. We thank you all for a successful academic year.

## FACULTY NEWS

### *Regular Faculty*



**Ia Dübois, Senior Lecturer.** This has been a full and exciting year in the department and in my office. I love teaching and my large-enrollment class, *Sexuality in Scandinavia: Myth and Reality*, with more than 200 students was a dinosaur to manage during Fall Quarter. However, it was also a wonderful challenge to stay current with the legislative and cultural changes in the realm of sexuality in the five Nordic countries. I also taught a second-year Swedish language and a third-year Swedish poetry course this year.

In addition to my teaching, I have enjoyed serving as undergraduate advisor to the 106 students who are official majors or minors in Scandinavian languages, Area Studies or Baltic Studies. We have a great group of excellent students and many of them will be able to spend this summer or a part of next year on a study abroad program at a Scandinavian university. That we are able to provide some financial support to many of them is the result of the generous contributions by our dedicated supporters and donors.

Apart from the office, I spend much time as Chair for the Swedish Women's Educational Association (SWEA), Seattle Chapter. It is a non-profit organization and, as a part of SWEA International, supports Swedish language and culture in all parts of the world. Together with nine regional chapters, we have created an Endowment for Excellence in Swedish Studies at the Department of Scandinavian Studies to support graduate students of Swedish. Now, I look forward to the summer break, a month in Sweden, and the beginning of preparations for another exciting year in the department.



**Lotta Gavel Adams, Professor. Barbro Osher Professor of Swedish Studies.** In the Fall of 2012, I taught the graduate seminar on Topics in Drama and Film. The focus of the seminar came naturally as the Culture Council of Sweden had designated 2012 to be the "Strindberg Centennial," commemorating August Strindberg's death in 1912. Naturally, the topic of the drama seminar was dedicated to the plays of Strindberg. In addition to our own Scandinavian graduate students, the seminar attracted students from Drama, Comparative Literature and Museology. The annual ASTRA (Association of Swedish Teachers and Researchers in America) conference, held at UC Berkeley in October, 2012, had the theme "Strindberg on Stage," with a number of prominent Strindberg scholars presenting. The Barbro Osher ProSuecia Foundation had sponsored the production of Strindberg's entire 5-play Chamber Play series at the Cutting Ball Theater in San Francisco. All UW Scandinavian drama seminar participants were able to fly down to San Francisco and attend both the "Strindberg on Stage" conference and a performance of *The Ghost Sonata* by the Cutting Ball Theater through the support of the Osher Professorship. A generous combination. *(continued on next page)*

## FACULTY NEWS (continued)

I also taught two Topics courses in Swedish Literature and Culture – in Swedish, one dedicated to translations from Swedish to English and the other entitled “Stat, Samhälle, Litteratur,” focusing on how literary works from three different time periods (1890, 1940, 2000), reflected the values and issues of the society in which they were written. Both very enjoyable courses with probably the best Swedish students I have ever had.

The annual Scandinavian Children’s Literature course keeps growing. This winter quarter, I was able to fill Gowan 201 to capacity with 106 students enrolled. Unfortunately, there were twenty more that wanted to enroll but had to be turned away. The children’s literature group projects are getting more imaginative and technically sophisticated every year. This year, the students included digital creations and artistic renderings and film clips. But, how do you grade a live rabbit? By cuteness?



**Christine Ingebritsen, Professor. Director of the Center for West European Studies; the Chair of European Studies and the Chair of the Hellenic Studies Program.** Christine is contributing to a volume dedicated to Professor Peter J. Katzenstein, Cornell University on RECONSTITUTING POWER IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. The chapter is entitled “Stieg Larsson and the New Globalism.” Christine continues to build resources to endow the Bergen Exchange Program, the UW’s longest standing global exchange. She recently received funds from the Rektor in Bergen to provide cost of living assistance to scholars in residence (100,000 kr).



**Terje Leiren, Professor. Sverre Arestad Endowed Chair in Norwegian Studies.** Terje taught his favorite course, The Vikings, twice this past academic year to 250 students, in addition to the Scandinavian history courses and contributions to Third-Year Norwegian. He chaired a session on “Teaching Scandinavian Area Studies,” at the annual meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study (SASS) in San Francisco and he attended the Norway Seminar in Houston, Texas, last Fall. He gave several invited public lectures, including traveling to the Daughters of Norway meeting in Chimum, Washington, on the Olympic Peninsula. He also spoke on cultural

aspects of arctic exploration at the Nordic Heritage Museum in connection with the Roald Amundsen photographic exhibit. The exhibit subsequently came to campus and was on display in the lobby of the Allen Library North. *(continued on next page)*

## FACULTY NEWS (continued)

As Co-General Editor (with Christine Ingebritsen) of the “New Directions in Scandinavian Studies” book series for the University of Washington Press, he worked to facilitate the publication of four new books in the series. Two were published this academic year, Julie Allen’s *Icons of Danish Modernity* and Timothy R. Tangherlini’s edited and translated *Danish Folktales, Legends, and Other Stories*. Two other books will be published in the coming academic year: Guntis Šmidchens’ *The Power of Song* which looks at the role of non-violence in the Baltic singing revolution of the late 20th century. Also scheduled for publication in early 2014, is Arne Hassing’s *Church Resistance to Nazism in Norway, 1940-1945*. Leiren continues his own research on the events of 1814 in Norway and has been invited to contribute a chapter for a Norwegian publication celebrating the bi-centennial of the historic events that led up to the establishment of the Norwegian constitution.



**Andrew Nestingen, Professor** (as of September 16, 2013). My theme for 2012-2013 has been... violence. In autumn 2012, I taught the course *Crime Scenes: Investigating the Cinema*, with Eric Ames of the Department of Germanics. The course included 200 students from Scandinavian Studies, Cinema Studies, and Germanics. Students learn to investigate films in a methodical way, just as in the films we view in class, investigators seek to resolve crimes. In Winter, 2013, I taught the undergraduate course on Scandinavian crime fiction and a graduate seminar on cultural theories of violence. Both are related to my new book project, “Violence and Crime

Fiction.” The book asks how violence is used in crime fiction to represent society, and the way violence invites readers to imagine one’s place in society. In March, I also had the chance to moderate two panel discussions on crime fiction at the Nordic Cool Festival held at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. The writers on the panels were Agnete Friis, Lene Kaaberbøl, Vidar Sundstøl, Jarkko Sipilä, and Johan Theorin. On another note, just released is my book, *The Cinema of Aki Kaurismäki: Contrarian Stories* published by the Columbia University Press. This has been an exciting year in some other ways, too. I was promoted to full professor. Many thanks to colleagues and students for their encouragement, helpful criticism, and support. Finally, I have begun an appointment as the review editor for *Scandinavian Studies*. Let me know if you should see a scholarly book on a topic in Scandinavian studies that you think just has to be reviewed in the journal. But don’t get violent.



**Jan Sjøvik, Professor and Department Chair.** Jan Sjøvik has now completed his third year as department chair and claims to be “beginning to feel like he is finding his sea legs.” During the 2012-2013 academic year, he taught no less than 529 students, including more than 500 in three different sections of his course SCAND 150: Introduction to Norwegian Literary and Cultural History. During the year he also attended the Norway Seminar in Houston, Texas, and the Annual Meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study in San Francisco. He is currently working on a project on Knut Hamsun’s novel *Sult*.



## FACULTY NEWS (continued)



**Guntis Šmidchens. Associate Professor. The Kazickas Family Endowed Professor in Baltic Studies.** This year Professor Šmidchens completed an exhaustive study, *The Power of Song: Nonviolent Culture in the Baltic Singing Revolution* which will be published by the University of Washington Press in December, 2013. According to the UW Press website “*The Power of Song* shows how the people of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania confronted a military superpower and achieved independence in the Baltic ‘singing revolution.’ When attacked by Soviet soldiers in public displays of violent force, singing Balts maintained faith in nonviolent political action. More than 110 choral, rock, and folk songs are translated and interpreted in poetic, cultural, and historical context.” Professor Šmidchens was appointed to be the first Kazickas Family Endowed Professor in Baltic Studies and serves as the Head of the Baltic Studies program at the University of Washington.



**Marianne Stecher, Professor** (as of September 16, 2013). Forthcoming in November 2013 is Marianne Stecher’s new book, *The Creative Dialectic in Karen Blixen’s Essays*, published by Museum Tusculanum in Copenhagen. She has also begun a new study on Hans Christian Andersen, the Child, and the Fairy Tale and another research project on violence studies in literature, the topic of a graduate seminar in Scandinavian Prose during Winter quarter 2013. Her busy academic year also involved teaching a cross-listed course (with International Studies) on literature of the WW II period in the Nordic region, a large lecture course on H.C. Andersen, a cross-listed course (with Women Studies) on Karen Blixen, supervising undergraduate senior essays, and serving on six Ph.D. Committees, including supervising two Ph.D. dissertations in Scandinavian literature.

Professor Stecher traveled to a number of conferences and meetings during the academic year. At the November 2012 biannual meeting of Danish Lecturers hosted by UC Berkeley, Marianne was elected the inaugural president of the newly founded DANA (Danish Academic Network in America), a sister organization of SASS. In late January, she met with other members of the American Scandinavian Foundation grants and Fellowships Committee in New York City for the annual review of application. In early March, she served as an invited panel moderator for the “Nordic Cool Festival” at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. where she moderated a literary forum on “Family – Secrets and Truths” which featured three contemporary Nordic writers speaking about their recent works: Morten Brask of Denmark, Hallgrímur Helgason of Iceland, and Anne Svärd of Sweden. In May Marianne attended the SASS conference in San Francisco and presented a paper on violence in contemporary Nordic prose as well as moderating a Danish panel on the state of literature.

In collaboration with the Danish community in the Pacific Northwest, Marianne organized and hosted a reception with sixty guests on April 16 at the UW Club to celebrate the 73rd birthday of HM Queen Margrethe II of Denmark. In late June, she spoke at the annual Danish Cultural Conference in Oregon, about the topic of her forthcoming book on Karen Blixen.

## FACULTY NEWS (continued)



**Désirée Ohrbeck, Visiting Lecturer of Danish.** During the academic year 2012-2013, Désirée taught first and second year Danish as well as an undergraduate course on Danish Literary History and Culture. With financial help from the Danish government, two contemporary writers, Henriette E. Møller and Morten Brask, visited the UW and the University of British Columbia, this year. Presentations and a panel discussion on the topic "Literary Contemporary Danish Literature – New Roles and Broken Rules" was attended by 70 guests.

Désirée attended the November 2012 biannual meeting of Danish Lecturers at UC Berkeley where she became a charter member of DANA, the Danish Academic Network in America. She was appointed to the Advisory Board and serves as the organization's "Language Consultant." In May, she returned to the bay area where she attended the annual meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Study (SASS). She presented a paper titled: "Women Soldiers: Trauma and Violence in Contemporary War Fiction" and she served as moderator for a panel on the Norwegian writer, Amalie Skram.

Désirée has also been involved in activities with the students in the Danish program, such as Danish breakfast and Danish *julefrokost*. She attended Europe Day, the FIUTS Danish dinner, a LEGO competition event, and prepared her Danish students to sing "*I Danmark er jeg født*" at the department event to celebrate the end of the school year.

**Adjunct and Affiliate Faculty**

*(Adjunct faculty have an academic appointment in another department at the UW. Affiliate faculty have their place of employment somewhere other than the UW.)*



**Peter Cohen, Adjunct Associate Professor.** As an Associate Professor in the Department of Architecture, Cohen taught a master graduate design studio with Danish architect Dorte Mandrup this past Spring quarter. This is the third year Cohen has brought a well-known Danish architect to teach a design studio and it is the second time Dorte has been here.

**Katherine Hanson, Affiliate Associate Professor.** I was delighted to be back on campus Spring Quarter teaching Norwegian 203 to a dozen enthusiastic and talented students. About half of the class had taken Beginning Norwegian from me last year and it was wonderful to see how much they had learned and how proficient they had become. Three members of the class are attending the International Summer School in Oslo this summer and a fourth will study at the University of Oslo in the fall. I was also privileged to work with an advanced student on an independent study in translation, from *nynorsk* to English; he graduated this Spring and has already returned to Norway to continue his translation studies. *(continued on next page)*

## FACULTY NEWS (continued)

Over the past two years, I have taught a number of mini-courses on Scandinavian literature for the Creative Retirement Institute in Edmonds, a truly stimulating teaching-learning experience. I have been fortunate to be able to continue my collaboration with Judith Messick on Norwegian author Amalie Skram and in autumn 2013, our translation of Skram's novel *Fru Inéz* will be published by Norvik Press.

**Aldis Purs, Affiliate Assistant Professor.** An active scholar of Baltic history and culture, Aldis Purs published a new book this academic year, *Baltic Facades: Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania since 1945*, in which he argues that the concept of a single Baltic identity is largely a myth. In addition, he contributed a chapter on Latvian deportation memoirs to an edited volume published in Vilnius and an article on tourism in the Baltic region. Two invited lectures took him to Vilnius in the Fall and to Yale University in the Spring where he spoke on "Do the Baltic States Exist? Reevaluations of Europe and the Post-Cold War World."



**Lizette Gradén, Affiliate Associate Professor.** Lizette Gradén is chief curator at the Nordic Heritage Museum in Seattle and Affiliate Associate Professor. She was involved with the department in several ways, including co-teaching a section of Immigrant and Ethnic Folklore with Professor Guntis Šmidchens. As part of the course, the museum and the department presented the "Nordic American Voices Symposium," which centered on recent Nordic immigration and the effect these immigrants have had on King County, Washington. Gradén also served on two graduate thesis committees in the Department of Museology, presented two lectures at the Barry Onouye Distinguished Chair Design Studio.

As part of Seattle Design Week, she presented the Nordic Heritage Museum at the Department of Built Environment's symposium: "Seattle's Museums: Built Environment and Built Communities. She also co-curated the touring exhibition "Dressing Swedish: From Hazelius to Salander," which opened at the House of Sweden in Washington, D.C., and arrives in Seattle in the Fall.



**Tiina Nunnally, Affiliate Faculty.** A renowned and prize-winning translator of Scandinavian literature, Tiina Nunnally was knighted as a member of the Royal Norwegian Order of Merit by King Harald V of Norway. Among her most recent books is the translation of A.J. Kazinski's *The Last Good Man* (2013) published by Simon & Schuster. A.J. Kazinski is the pseudonym of Anders Rønnow Klarlund and Jacob Weinreich.



## GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

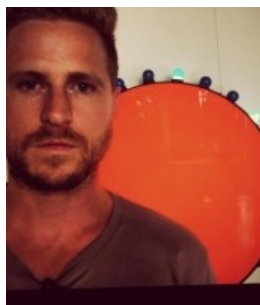
### GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS



**Kim Kraft.** Kim reached her goal this year. After years of teaching a class on goal-setting as an advisor for community college students and using the completion of a graduate degree in Scandinavian studies as her model example on how to create a strategic plan, Kim Kraft practiced what she preached. This Spring, she reached her goal by earning a Masters Degree in Scandinavian Languages and Literature with emphasis on Swedish. In her studies, Kraft focused on gender studies, masculinities, and emotions in Swedish literature and film while juggling family life and teaching 20 hours per week. She plans to continue to work in the field of student services.



**Katja Shaye.** Katja loves teaching languages and entered the graduate program as a teacher of English as a second language. Along with her studies in the department, Katja took several classes in the non-profit management program in the Evans School of Public Affairs. Shaye earned the M.A. degree in Scandinavian Languages and Literature with research that focused largely on novels that critique the way the low-income Swedish suburbs are portrayed in the Swedish media. She is active in the Swedish community, having served two years as director of advertising for the local SWEA chapter, and she will continue to satisfy her interest in the study of Sweden as a multicultural society.



**Tim Warburton.** Tim was advanced to candidacy for the Ph.D. this Spring and will be spending the next academic year in Sweden researching his dissertation: "Cultural Amnesia: Male Homosexuality in Swedish Literature." With the help of an American Scandinavian Foundation Dissertation Research Fellowship, he will be a guest scholar at the Uppsala University Centre for Gender Research during the 2013-2014 academic year. Tim has completed an article, "Jag är hiv-positiv": Andreas Lundstedt and Confession," which will be published in *New Dimensions of Diversity* (Cambridge Scholars, 2014).

## SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES JOINS ARCTIC STUDIES

### The Arctic Imagined:

Film and the Nordic Far Far North

Lecture by Associate Professor Anna Westerståhl Stenport  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



May 9, 2013

4:00pm

Thomson Hall  
Room 101

Anna W. Stenport is Director of the Scandinavian Program & Associate Professor of Germanic Languages and Literatures at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Adjunct in the Departments of Comparative and World Literature, Media and Cinema Studies, Theatre, Gender and Women's Studies, Criticism and Interpretive Theory, and LAS Global Studies. She is also faculty liaison INSPIRE <<http://www.inspire.uiowa.edu>>. Illinois-Sweden Program in Educational and Research Exchange

On May 13, Professor Anna Stenport, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, presented a lecture on “The Arctic Imagined: Film and the Nordic Far Far North.” The lecture was sponsored by the Barbro Osher Professorship in Swedish Studies and European Studies.

In conjunction with Professor Stenport’s lecture, Swedish Honorary Consul Lars Jonsson and Laurie MacDonald Jonsson sponsored a dinner cruise aboard their yacht, The Golden Eagle.

Lotta Gavel Adams (Barbro Osher Endowed Professor), Christine Ingebritsen (Scandinavian and European Studies), and Anna Stenport (Professor and Guest Lecturer, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana)



Ia Dübois (Scandinavian Studies), Laurie McDonald Jonsson (Consulate of Sweden), and Lotta Gavel Adams (Scandinavian Studies)

Lotta Gavel Adams (Scandinavian Studies), Ia Dübois (Scandinavian Studies), Lizette Graden (Nordic Heritage Museum), Lena Powers (Swedish American Chamber of Commerce), and Barbro Osher (Osher ProSuecia Foundation)

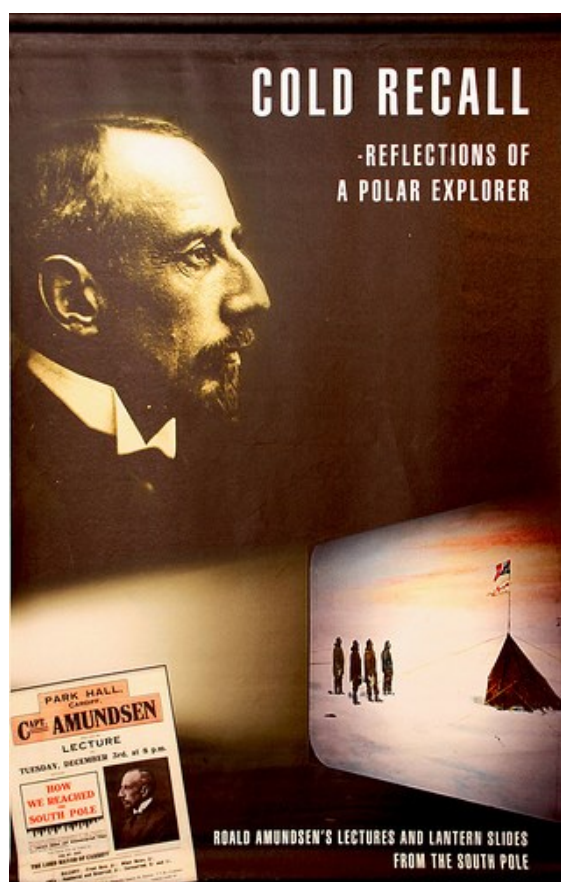


## SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES JOINS ARCTIC STUDIES (continued)

### New Graduate Seminar in the Fall: “The Arctic as an Emerging Global Region”

In Fall quarter 2013, faculty from the natural and social sciences and the humanities will team up to teach an interdisciplinary graduate seminar on “The Arctic as an Emerging Global Region,” which will be open to graduate students from across the campus. Professor Christine Ingebritsen, Scandinavian Studies and the Center for West European Studies, will co-lead the seminar together with faculty from Canadian Studies, Aquatic and Fisheries Sciences, Anthropology, and Oceanography. Participants in the seminar may apply for a \$5,000 Graduate Research Fellowship. The Barbro Osher Endowed Professorship of Swedish Studies and the Sverre Arestad Endowed Chair in Norwegian Studies have pledged funds towards the Fellowship.

The seminar will explore the Arctic as an emerging region in the 21st century from a variety of perspectives – climate and ocean change, human rights, indigenous concepts of Arctic territory, fisheries management and economics, community security (education, health, housing and food), global geopolitics, environmental ethics, and the interactions between the Arctic indigenous peoples and state entities in the policy dialogue.



### COLD RECALL-Reflections of a Polar Explorer

Professor Terje Leiren lectured on cultural aspects of arctic exploration at the Nordic Heritage Museum in connection with the Roald Amundsen photographic exhibit (April 1-30, 2013). The exhibit subsequently came to campus and was on display in the lobby of the Allen Library North.

## ENDOWED SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES FELLOWSHIPS



### **Nadia Christensen Scholar in Nordic Studies: Maren A. Johnson**

The Nadia Christensen Endowment for Excellence in Nordic Studies was established through a generous gift from the Hognander Family Foundation of Minneapolis, Minnesota, in honor of Dr. Nadia Christensen, a doctoral graduate in Comparative Literature with an emphasis on Scandinavian Languages and Literature of the University of Washington. The purpose of the endowment is to recognize and reward outstanding academic performance and/or scholarship by an advanced graduate student in the Department of Scandinavian Studies. In

making its decision, the selection committee considers: academic performance and scholarship; classroom and teaching performance; and service to the department, effective collegiality and professionalism. For the academic year 2013-2014, the department selected Maren Anderson Johnson to be the Nadia Christensen Scholar in Nordic Studies. Maren plans to spend the year conducting dissertation research in Norway and begins a tenure track appointment at Luther College, Decorah, Iowa, in the Fall 2014.



### **Ruth Kielland-Leif and Sophie Løvdaal Fellowship: Maren A. Johnson**

The Ruth Kielland-Leif and Sophie Løvdaal Exchange Fund supports the department's most prestigious award, the Ruth Kielland-Leif and Sophie Løvdaal Fellowship. It is awarded annually to an advanced graduate student in Norwegian (or Swedish) studies who has completed the M.A. degree, has successfully passed the Ph.D. qualifying exam, and seeks to conduct dissertation research in Norway or Sweden.

The endowment was established in memory of and with profound gratitude to Ruth Hæegh Kielland, Sophie Kielland Løvdaal and Leif Løvdaal who took into their homes and hearts a young American student during the difficult years of post-WWII Oslo. That student anonymously established the Exchange Fund in order that new generations of graduate students from the University of Washington, Department of Scandinavian Studies, can do extended dissertation research in Norwegian or Swedish studies.

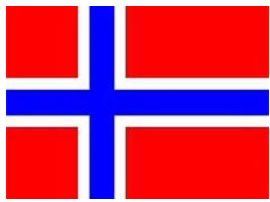
The Kielland-Løvdaal Fellowship for 2013-2014 was awarded to Maren Anderson Johnson, a Ph.D. candidate in Norwegian studies. She will spend the academic year as a guest scholar at the Ibsen Center of the University of Oslo where she will investigate the role of literary genius in Norwegian literature.



**ENDOWED SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES FELLOWSHIPS** (continued)**New Endowed Fund in Old Icelandic, Old Norse and Faroese Studies Honors Patricia Conroy.**

The Patricia L. Conroy Endowed Fund for Old Icelandic, Old Norse and Faroese Studies has been established to promote a greater understanding of, and appreciation for, their languages, literatures and related cultures. The endowment was created in the memory of Patricia L. Conroy, a distinguished scholar and faculty member of the Department of Scandinavian Studies for forty years before her

untimely death from complications from cancer in 2012.

**The John Philip Morgridge Visiting Lectureship in Norwegian Studies**

As a result of a generous and extremely special gift to the Department of Scandinavian Studies in honor of American businessman and entrepreneur John Philip Morgridge, the department will host the John Philip Morgridge Visiting Lecturer in Norwegian Studies during Spring quarter 2014. Teachers

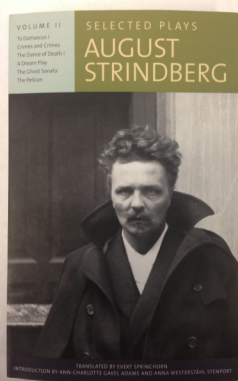
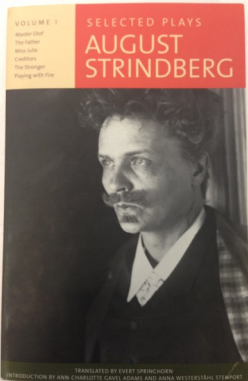
and scholars of Norwegian studies in the humanities and social sciences were eligible to apply to teach a 10-week long course of their own design on Norway, its life and culture. The announcement of the Morgridge Visiting Lecturer in Norwegian Studies will be announced on the department website later in 2013.

**Check out our Department's website!**

[www.scandinavian.washington.edu](http://www.scandinavian.washington.edu)



## PUBLICATIONS



### SELECTED PLAYS AUGUST STRINDBERG VOLUMES I & II

Gavel Adams, Anne-Charlotte and Anna Stenport: Introduction to *August Strindberg Selected Plays Volumes I & II*. Translated by Evert Sprinchorn.

Sprinchorn, Evert and Ann-Charlotte Gavel Adams and Anna Westerstaal Stenport. *August Strindberg Selected Plays Volumes I&II*. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press. 2012.



### PERFORMING NORDIC HERITAGE: EVERYDAY PRACTICES AND INSTITUTIONAL CULTURE

Edited by Peter Aronsson and Lizette Gradén.

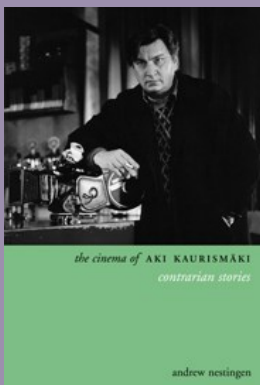
Aronsson, Peter and Lizette Gradén. Eds. *Performing Nordic Heritage: Everyday Practices and Institutional Culture*. London: Ashgate. 2013.



### GRAVEYARD WANDERERS: THE WISE ONES AND THE DEAD IN SWEDEN

By Tom Johnson

Johnson, Tom. *Graveyard Wanderers: The wise ones and the dead in Sweden*. Burbage, Hinckley, Leicestershire: Society of Esoteric Endeavor. 2012.



### THE CINEMA OF AKI KAURISMÄKI: CONTRARIAN STORIES

By Andrew Nestingen

Nesting, Andrew. *The Cinema of Aki Kaurismäki: Contrarian Stories*. London: Columbia University Press. 2013.

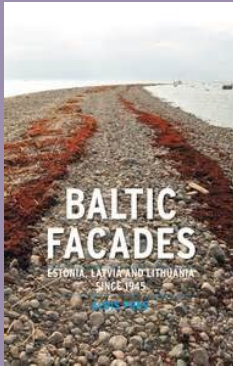
## PUBLICATIONS (continued)

**THE LAST GOOD MAN**

By A. J. Kazinski (pseudonym of Anders Rønnow Klarlund and Jacob Weinreich)

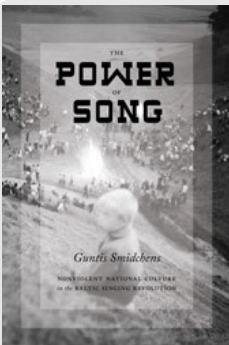
Translated by Tiina Nunnally

Kazinski, A.J. and Tiina Nunnally. *The Last Good Man*. New York: Scribner. 2010.

**BALTIC FACADES: ESTONIA, LATVIA, AND LITHUANIA SINCE 1945**

By Aldis Purs

Purs, Aldis. *Baltic Facades: Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania since 1945*. London: Reaktion Books Ltd. 2012.

**THE POWER OF SONG**

By Guntis Šmidchens

Šmidchens, Guntis. *The Power of Song: Nonviolent Culture in the Baltic Singing Revolution*. Seattle: University of Washington Press. 2013.

In autumn 2013, University of Washington Press will publish a book by Guntis Šmidchens, Kazickas Family Endowed Professor in Baltic Studies.

*The Power of Song: Nonviolent national culture in the Baltic Singing Revolution* shows how the people of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania confronted a military superpower and achieved independence. When attacked by Soviet soldiers in public displays of violent force, singing Balts maintained faith in nonviolent political action. More than 110 choral, rock, and folk songs are translated and interpreted in poetic, cultural, and historical context. Pre-publication reviews have been enthusiastic. Peter Ackerman, founding chair of the International Center on Nonviolent Conflict and co-author of two fundamental books on civil resistance, writes, “*The Power of Song* serves not only as the quintessential study of what constitutes the heart of the remarkable and inspiring movements of the Baltic people, it will stand as a distinct contribution to the study of civil resistance movements overall.”

## PUBLICATIONS (continued)

**New Book on Karen Blixen's Essays**

*The Creative Dialectic in Karen Blixen's Essays –  
On Gender, Nazi Germany, and Colonial Desire.*  
Copenhagen: Museum Tusculanum Press, 2013  
By Marianne T. Stecher



Professor Marianne Stecher has just published a new book on famous Danish writer Karen Blixen (Isak Dinesen) that addresses her provocative essays on three significant challenges of the twentieth century: Feminism, nazism and Colonialism.

Karen Blixen (1885-1962) contributed to topical debates in Denmark, particularly during the 1950s when her distinct voice on Danish radio became familiar to a nation of listeners. Some of her lectures, radio addresses, and newspaper chronicles were later published as essays and now constitute a distinct genre with her work. In this study, Blixen's most important essays are critically examined for the first time.

Marianne Stecher's book demonstrates that a "creative dialectic" informs these essays, an interplay of complementary opposites that Blixen sees as fundamental to human life and artistic creativity. Whether exploring questions of gender and the status of the feminist movement at mid-century, or the reign of National Socialism in Hitler's Germany, or colonial race relations under British rule in East Africa, Blixen's observations are insightful, witty, and surprisingly progressive for an author notable for aristocratic sensibilities. Blixen's essays are also framed by a "dialectic method," which develops an idea by drawing on opposing viewpoints in order to arrive at an original vantage point. The *Creative Dialectic* builds on archival research, historical study, literary criticism and theory, as well as bi-lingual reading of Blixen's renowned literary work. For the first time in an English translation, Karen Blixen's essay "Blacks and Whites in Africa," (1938), translated by award-winning translator Tiina Nunnally, appears in this publication.

"A very illuminating book which traces the pattern of the 'creative dialectic' into Karen Blixen's essays on three significant currents of the 20th century: Feminism, Nazism, and Colonialism. This study elucidates Blixen's originality in dealing with these precarious issues."

-- Lasse Horne Kjældgaard, Danish Society of Language and Literature

## NOTABLE EVENTS FROM THE 2012-2013 SCHOOL YEAR

### The Queen's Birthday Party

Reception to celebrate the 73rd  
birthday of Her Majesty Queen  
Margrethe II of Denmark



### Pasi Sahlberg Lecture

Finnish Lessons: What can the  
United States learn from  
Educational Change in Finland?



SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES | SUMMER 2013

### The Scandinavian Studies Summer Celebration

Celebrating Summer with Food and Song!



### Scandinavian Valborg

Celebrating Spring with the toss  
of a cap!





# Scandinavian Studies 2013 Graduation Reception

SCANDINAVIAN STUDIES | SUMMER 2013



*Some of the 2013 graduates in the Department of Scandinavian Studies.*



*Professor la Dübois sending the graduates off.*



*Professor and Chair Jan Sjøvik speaking to the graduates and their guests.*



## Candidate for Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.C.)

**Maren Anderson Johnson, Ph.C.** (*Professor Andrew Nestingen*)

**Anna Rühl, Ph.C.** (*Professor Jan Sjøvik*)

**Timothy Warburton, Ph.C.** (*Professor Lotta Gavel Adams*)

**Evan Wright, Ph.C.** (*Professor Andrew Nestingen*)

## Masters of Arts

**Pamela Dearing, M.A.**, “Extreme Norwegians: Black Metal as the Good Norwegian's Evil Twin” (*Professor Terje Leiren*)

**Kim Kraft, M.A.** (*Professor Lotta Gavel Adams*)

**Katja Shaye, M.A.** (*Professor Lotta Gavel Adams*)

## Bachelor of Arts

**Mika Arnold**, Finnish, Chemistry, “Recent History of Jews in Finland” (*Aija Elg*)

**Axel Bjornsson**, Area Studies, “British Occupation in Iceland: The Effects of an Ally Invasion” (*Professor Terje Leiren*)

**Jesse Bratt**, Norwegian, German, “Almenningen sin undergang i Kulturen” (*Professor Christine Ingebritsen*)

**Michael Brown**, Finnish, International Studies, “The Honest Broker: Finland’s Role in Promoting Arctic Cooperation” (*Lecturer Taija Hämäläinen*)

**Erika Currier**, Area Studies, “Singing Through Oppression” (*Lecturer Iveta Grinberga*)

**Peder Digre**, Area Studies, Biology, College/Dept. Honors, “A Time in Transition: The Role of Development Aid in Shaping Norwegian Equity” (*Professor Andrew Nestingen*)

**Marie Eberlein**, Swedish, Bioengineering, Dept. Honors, “The Political and Religious Roles of the Church of Sweden” (*Professor Ia Dübois*)

**Paige Gehrke**, Swedish, “A Comparison of Swedish and American Primary Education” (*Professor Ia Dübois*)

**Anna Guthrie**, Swedish, European Studies, “Immigrants, the Others in Swedish Film” (*Professor Ia Dübois*)

**Kathleen Renee Huffman**, Danish, “Branding Danish Modern: The Transformation of the Industry and Business Model.” (*Professor Marianne Stecher*)

**Annika Juhlin**, Swedish, Bioengineering, Dept. Honors, “A comparative study of social factors and their role in the increase of infertility in the US and Sweden” (*Professor Ia Dübois*)

**Sarah Kantonen**, Area Studies, International Studies, “The Danish Welfare State: Growing Poor?” (*Professor Marianne Stecher*)

## Bachelor of Arts

(continued)

**Christopher Morris**, Finnish, Area Studies, “The Development of Finnish American Design Identity or Eero Saarinen in the Mid-Twentieth Century America” (Lecturer Taija Hämäläinen)

**Kelsey Parker**, Finnish, “Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma: What It Means to Finland and the United States” (Lecturer Taija Hämäläinen)

**Bailey Rahn**, Norwegian, English, “From Forest to Flatlands: Transplanting Norwegian Roots in Immigrant and Homesteading Literature” (Professor Jan Sjøvik)

**Hope Reilly**, Swedish, Area Studies, History, “Rethinking Nordic Colonialism: The Emergence of Nordic Post-Colonialism in Recent Scholarship” (Professor Marianne Stecher)

**Katherine Snyder**, Norwegian, Area Studies “Women’s Portrayal in Norwegian Film” (Lecturer Kyle Korynta)

## Graduates with Department Minors

**Hanna Broback**, Norwegian

**Thomas Burns**, Area Studies

**Peder Digre**, Norwegian

**Katharina Foote**, Area Studies

**Lillian Grosz**, Danish

**Erik Herberg**, Norwegian

**Rahma Jama**, Norwegian

**Sten Karlholm**, Swedish

**Jessica Larsen**, Norwegian

**Kelsey Parker**, Swedish

**Jamie Pell**, Norwegian

**Morgan Randall**, Swedish

**Kayla Rash**, Area Studies

**Samuel Reed**, Norwegian

**Erin Smith**, Finnish

**Tia Smith**, Swedish

**Samuel Stearns**, Swedish

**Tricia Webb**, Swedish

## Phi Beta Kappa

**Molly Andrus**

**Zackary McMacken**

**Steven Swanson**

## Teaching Assistant Award

**Evan Wright**

**2013-2014 Scholarship Recipients****Alf Kristian Aulie/Simrad****Scholarship***Austen Beard***Ann-Marie and Gunnar Gavel****Scholarship***Tia Smith***Consul Paul O. Nielsen Scholarship***Kirstine Kastbjerg**Melissa Lucas***Dr. Werner and Mrs. Margit Weingarten Endowed Fund***Denise Leland***Gertrude D. Holdal Scholarship***David Gulsrud***Kalevala Scholarship***Michael Brown**Julia Viherlahti***Kathe and Ragnar Steene****Scholarship***Pétur Valsson***Norwegian-American Community Scholarship***Jesse Bratt***Peterson Family Scholarship***Cassandra Williams**Nicholas Johnson**Alexandra Wennstig***Scott Nelskog Endowed****Scholarship***Vi Thuc Nguyen***Swedish Club Scholarship***Michael Johnson***Synnøve Lien Fielding Scholarship***Maren Anderson Johnson**Kjersti Kravik***The Totoraitis/Roberts Endowed Fund for  
Baltic Studies Travel***Aleksandr Melnik***Tetri Endowed Fund Scholarship***Michael Brown**Julia Viherlahti*

## FACULTY

### **Ia Dubois**, *Senior Lecturer*

Ph.D., 1991, University of Washington; Swedish language and literature, Scandinavian Poetry, Sexuality in Scandinavia

### **Lotta Gavel Adams**, *Professor*

Ph.D., 1990, University of Washington; Swedish language and literature, Strindberg, Scandinavian Women's writers, Scandinavian Children's Literature

### **Iveta Grinberga**, *Visiting Lecturer*

Mag. Philol., 2000, University of Latvia; Latvian language and literature, Latvian Culture

### **Taija Hämäläinen**, *Visiting Lecturer*

M.A., 2003, University of Helsinki; Finnish

### **Christine Ingebritsen**, *Professor*

Ph.D., 1993, Cornell University; International relations, comparative politics, European Studies, Eco-Capitalism

### **Lars Jenner**, *Part Time Lecturer*

Ph.D., 1999, University of Pennsylvania; Folklore and Folklife, Scandinavian languages, literature, and folklore

### **Kyle Korynta**, *Visiting Lecturer*

Ph.D., 2012, University of Washington; Norwegian language and literature

### **Terje Leiren**, *Professor*

Ph.D., 1978, University of North Texas; Scandinavian history, immigration, area studies, Norwegian Language, Vikings

### **Andrew Nestingen**, *Professor*

Ph.D., 2001, University of Washington; Finnish language and literature, Cultural theory, Globalization studies, Nordic (Scandinavian) Cinema

### **Desiree Ohrbeck**, *Visiting Lecturer*

M.A., 2005, University of Copenhagen, Danish, Scandinavian Literature and Culture

### **Jan Sjøvik**, *Professor, Chair*

Ph.D., 1979, Harvard University; Norwegian language and literature, prose fiction, literary theory

### **Guntis Smidchens**, *Associate Professor*

Ph.D., 1996, Folklore Institute/Indiana University; Baltic language and literature, culture, and history (Estonian, Latvian, Lithuanian), folklore

### **Marianne Stecher**, *Professor*

Ph.D., 1990, University of California, Berkeley; Danish language and literature, historical narrative, H.C. Andersen, Isak Dinesen

### **Aušra Valančiauskienė**, *Visiting Lecturer*

M.A., 1992, Vilnius University, Lithuanian language and Literature

## EMERITUS FACULTY

### **A. Gerald Anderson**, *Instructor*

### **Henning Sehmsdorf**, *Associate Professor*

### **Birgitta Steene**, *Professor*

## ADJUNCT/AFFILIATE FACULTY

### **Klaus Brandl**, *Adjunct Assistant Professor (German)*

### **Sarah Bryant-Bertail**, *Adjunct Associate Professor Emerita (Drama)*

### **Peter Cohan**, *Adjunct Associate Professor (Architecture)*

### **Lizette Gradén**, *Affiliate Associate Professor*

### **Katherine Jane Hanson**, *Affiliate Associate Professor (Scandinavian)*

### **Mette Hjort**, *Affiliate Professor (Visual Studies, Lingnan University)*

### **Violeta Kelertas**, *Affiliate Professor*

### **Jens Lund**, *Affiliate Assistant Professor*

### **Brian Magnusson**, *Affiliate Assistant Professor (Scandinavian, University of Jyväskylä, Finland)*

### **Paul R. Norlen**, *Affiliate Assistant Professor*

### **Tiina Nunnally**, *Affiliate Faculty (Scandinavian)*

### **Steve Pfaff**, *Adjunct Professor (Sociology)*

### **Aldis Purs**, *Affiliate Assistant Professor*

### **Marianne Stølen**, *Affiliate Assistant Professor*

## STAFF

### **Debbie Mercer**, *Department Administrator*

### **Jessica Larsen**, *Student Office Assistant*

### **Mariam Salia**, *Student Office Assistant*

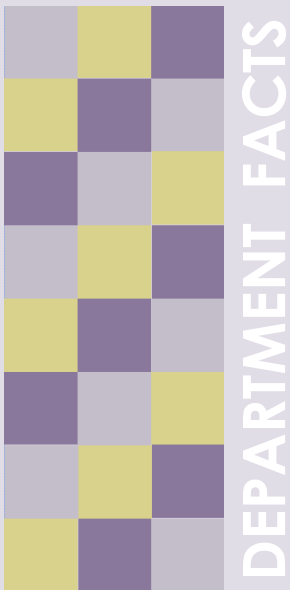
### **Cecile Kummerer**, *Senior Computing Specialist*

### **Michael Biggins**, *Baltic Studies Librarian*

### **Dan Mandeville**, *Nordic Studies Librarian/Assistant Instruction Coordinator*

## NEWSLETTER EDITORS:

**Terje Leiren, Lotta Gavel Adams, Jess Larsen, and Debbie Mercer**



- 6** Professors
- 1** Associate Professor
- 5** Visiting Lecturers
- 3** Emeritus Lecturers
- 23** Scholarships Offered
- 106** Undergraduate Majors and Minors
- 16** Graduate Students

**Connect with us!**



## Scandinavian Studies Advisory Board

Randi Aulie	Erik D. Laursen
Irena Blekys	Lars Matthiesen
Pirkko Borland	Barbara G. Morgridge
Dale Carlson	Kim Nesselquist
Esther Christoffersen	Daniel Nye
Gunnar Damström	Elvi Olsson
David Endicott	Vaira Pelekis
Syrene Forsman	Rick Peterson
Anni Fuller	Erik Pihl
Kristiina Huikka	Katre Raidna
John Marvin Jonsson	Paul Raidna
Lars Jonsson	Andris Rogainis
Victor Lapatinskas	Erik Sundholm
Willard Larson	Matti Suokko

## About the Department

The Department of Scandinavian Studies at the University of Washington was established in 1909 by a special act of the Washington State Legislature. During its history, the Department has grown from a one-person institution to comprise a teaching staff of twelve full-time faculty in Scandinavian and Baltic Studies. Adjunct faculty whose appointments are in other Departments make their expertise available in a variety of courses with considerable Scandinavian content. Affiliate faculty, likewise, occasionally teach and serve as valuable resources to our students. With a total enrollment of approximately 40,000 students at the University of Washington, the Department enrolls 1,600 undergraduates annually in its many courses.

The Scandinavian Department began offering an M.A. program in 1948 and has offered a Ph.D. program since 1967. Graduates from the Department have established careers in business, the professions and education. Graduate seminars are offered in Scandinavian literary genres, medieval literature, mythology, folklore, drama, film, politics, history, Old Icelandic and linguistics. On the undergraduate level, the Department offers majors in Danish, Norwegian, Swedish and Scandinavian Area Studies as well as minors in Danish, Norwegian, Finnish, Swedish, and Scandinavian Area Studies.