

**AASSC/ AAÉSC Annual General Meeting (AGM)**, During the CFHSS Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences at the University of Regina, Saskatchewan

Wednesday, May 30, 2018. Time: 1:35-2:45. Venue: College West 115

Present: Natalie Van Deusen, Christopher Crocker, Juliane Egerer, John Nilson, Thomas DuBois, Perry Mendoza, Ingrid Urberg, Matthew Etherington, Henning Howlid Wærp, Amy Poole, Laurie Prange, Christine Ekholst, Ian Giles, Katie Parsons, Kjersten Hordern, Dustin Geeraert

1. AASSC President, Natalie van Deusen, called the meeting to order at 1:35.
2. Approval of agenda moved by Laurie Prange and seconded by Christine Ekholst and accepted.
3. Approval of the Minutes of the AASSC Annual General Meeting at Ryerson University in Toronto, May 30, 2017 moved by Ian Giles, seconded by Christine Ekholst and accepted.
4. Matters arising from the Minutes. None.
5. President's Report, Natalie van Deusen
  - Natalie thanked the AASSC Executive Committee members for their contributions over the past year: a) Erin McGuire for her work on maintaining and updating the website, b) Christine Ekholst for organizing the conference, c) Helga Thorson for editing our journal, *Scandinavian-Canadian Studies*, d) John Nilson for keeping track of our finances and membership list, e) Guðrún Björk Guðsteinsdóttir for taking and distributing notes at our 2017 meetings, and f) Ingrid Urberg for providing assistance as past president.
  - Program highlights for this year's conference include Tom Dubois' keynote address "Sacrality and the Landscape in the Nordic Middle Ages" held as one of four joint sessions with the Canadian Society for Medievalists, and the banquet hosted by John and Linda Nilson to be held at their home on May 30. A special thanks to John and Linda for their hospitality throughout our conference.
  - Thanks to CINS, the Canadian Initiative for Nordic Studies, for their generous support to AASSC. This includes monetary support for graduate students attending our annual conference and for our keynote speaker as well. Contributions from CINS are paramount to our work.
  - AASSC activities this year included planning the annual meeting in Regina, distributing \$4500 to support unfunded and partly funded presenters to attend Congress (students, independent scholars and unfunded faculty) and promoting the AASSC Graduate and Undergraduate Publication Awards.
  - The 2018 AASSC Gurli Asgaard Woods Undergraduate Publication Award was awarded to Alison Wolf of the University of Manitoba for her paper "the Liminality of Loki." Her work was nominated by Christopher Crocker, and it was one of three nominations. This year there were no submissions for The AASSC Marna Feldt Graduate Publication Award, and AASSC members are encouraged to consider nominating their students' work for both of these awards in the future. Ideas as to how to publicize these awards are welcome.

- Another ongoing activity of AASSC is the publication of our journal, *Scandinavian-Canadian Studies*. Volume 24 was published online in 2017. The guest editor of volume 25—*Migration, Exile and Diaspora in the Nordic Region*—is Marit Barkve, and Dustin Geeraert is the guest editor of volume 26—*The Modern Reception of the Medieval Fóstbrædra Saga*.
- Future priorities of AASSC are to: a) continue to collaborate with other associations and groups, b) develop strategies for increasing our membership and encourage students to join, c) overhaul our website, d) develop strategies for promoting our publication awards.

Acceptance of the President's Report was moved by Natalie van Deusen and seconded by John Nilson and passed.

#### 6. Program Chair's Report, Christine Ekholst

- Christine noted that there are 19 people registered for the AASSC conference this year. The participants are from Iceland, Germany, Scotland, Sweden, Canada and the USA. The group and their contributions are diverse, and presenters include undergraduate and graduate students. This diversity demonstrates a strength of our organization.
- There have been some room glitches this year, but things have generally gone very smoothly.
- The joint sessions with The Canadian Society for Medievalists (CSM) have been successful, and Tom Dubois' talk was well received by both groups. CSM is interested in collaborating with AASSC in the future.
- A big thanks to John and Linda Nilson for their assistance and hospitality.

#### 7. Treasurer's Report, John Nilson

- John Nilson presented overviews of AASSC's accounts and he has now accessed the information required to confirm that everything is in order. The balance in the operating account on May 24, 2017 was 8857.53. Revenues for May 24, 2017-May 28, 2018 were CINS income (\$4500), memberships (\$460), Marna Feldt Fund income (\$1500) for a total of \$6460. Total assets for the reporting period were \$15317.53. Total Expenditures were \$9985.95: *Scandinavian Canadian Studies* 2017 (\$1000), CINS travel stipends (\$4500), keynote speaker travel (\$2028.56), banquet student subsidy for 2017 (\$388), CFHSS membership 2018 (\$1250.91), Congress costs 2017 (\$773.48), and bank fees (\$45). The balance in the Bank Operating Account on May 28, 2018 was \$5331.58, and the balance in our PayPal Account on May 28, 2018 was \$1543.12. Total Cash on Hand, \$6874.70.
- John also provided a report on the AASSC Marna Feldt Incentive Unfunded Presenters' Fund from May 24, 2017-May 28, 2018. The bank balance as of May 28, 2018 was \$3944.17.
- We are still awaiting the CFHSS conference support for 2018, and the 2018 payment of \$1000 to our journal (*Scandinavian-Canadian Studies*) is still to be paid out. Keynote expenses are still being determined.

- John noted that AASSC needs more memberships and that the organization welcomes donations for The Marna Feldt Incentive Unfunded Presenters' Fund. Marna Feldt contributed generously to this fund in 2017 and 2018.
- The group applauded John for all of his work over the past two years sorting out the accounts. Acceptance of the Treasurer's Report was moved by Laurie Prange and seconded by Ian Giles.

8. Report from the Editors of *Scandinavian-Canadian Studies*, Helga Thorson and Natalie van Deusen

- Natalie van Deusen presented on behalf of herself and Helga Thorson who was unable to be in attendance.
- Thanks to the Editorial Board of the Journal.
- Volume 24 was published last year, and it contains three editions of texts in translation. Please consider the journal as a venue for translations.
- The next two volumes, 25 and 26, will be special thematic issues. (See President's Report for titles.)
- Articles and reviews are up on the AASSC as open source materials once they have been accepted for publication. Older issues of the journal, currently volumes 1-14, are archived there. The scanning and proofing work was paid for by the journal and Helga Thorson's work study budget.
- Thanks to Helga Thorson, John Tucker and Ingrid Urberg for serving on the publication prize committee. There were three undergraduate nominations this year. Alison Wolf, this year's recipient of the 2018 AASSC Gurli Aasgaard Woods Undergraduate Publication Award, was invited to attend this year's conference, but she was unable to do so. Her paper will be published in volume 27 of *Scandinavian-Canadian Studies*.
- There were no nominations for the Marna Feldt Graduate Publication award this year.
- Acceptance of the Editors' Report was moved by John Nilson and seconded by Christine Ekholst and passed.

9. There was no report from the AASSC Webmaster and Newsletter Editor, Erin McGuire. AASSC members are encouraged to send prize, grants, book and other announcements to Erin.

10. Report from CINS—Canadian Initiative for Nordic Studies, Natalie van Deusen

- The current president of CINS is Antti Arppe (Univ. of Alberta faculty member) and Natalie van Deusen is serving as the AASSC representative on the CINS Board which held its annual general meeting in April, 2018 on the University of Alberta North Campus.
- CINS received 3 graduate scholarship applications by the October 15th deadline: 1 at the MA/M.Sc. level and 2 at the Ph.D level. The two scholarship recipients were:

Ph.D level: Cate Little (PhD candidate, Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador Acadia University): Pheromone and chemical ecology research at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) in Alnarp, Sweden. M.Sc. level: Alex Coley (Bachelor of Science with Distinction: Combined Honours in Environment, Society and Sustainability, and Biology, Dalhousie): Blekinge Institute of Technology's Master's in Strategic Leadership towards Sustainability (MSLS) in Karlskrona, Sweden (award conditional upon acceptance, accepted in April 2018).

- CINS received 3 complete applications for the undergraduate bursary by the March 15th, 2018, deadline. CINS awarded 2 scholarships: Cybil Chea (UBC, to study in Lund in winter 2018) and Sabrina Frenette (U of A Augustana, to attend UiO Summer School in 2018).
- Natalie noted that the criteria for the distribution of the graduate awards have become more open, while the criteria for the undergraduate awards have become more restrictive. They are being given to students who are working in Scandinavian Studies.
- AASSC received \$4500 in conference support for our 2018 meetings. Natalie has conveyed our deep thanks for this support.
- Acceptance of the CINS Report was moved by Laurie Prange and seconded by Ian Giles and passed.

11. Plans for the 2019 AASSC meeting at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver (Point Grey Campus) were discussed. The dates for Congress are June 1-7, and AASSC's tentative, requested dates are June 3-6. Information about Congress can be found at [www.congress2019.ca](http://www.congress2019.ca). The Congress theme is "Circles of Conversation" and unconventional presentation styles and methods are encouraged. AASSC members are asked to think about both this theme and presentation styles as they suggest keynote speakers and submit paper proposals. There will be plenty of on-campus housing available. The following suggestions were made:

- Possible collaboration with ILSA-the Indigenous Literary Studies Association, CATS—The Canadian Association for Translation Studies and/or the Finno-Ugric Studies Association of Canada (if they are meeting)
- Arranging a film, art installation or some type of performance open to other Congress attendees, the general public and local heritage communities
- Arranging a post-conference excursion
- Visiting the Scandinavian House/Community Centre in Burnaby, and considering this as a banquet venue
- Inviting the ambassadors and representatives from the Nordic Embassies (as has been our past practice), and inviting local Nordic consuls (Natalie offered to follow up on this.)
- Reaching out to faculty and graduate students at the University of Washington in Seattle, Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, UBC and the University of Victoria

The 2020 Congress will be held at Western University in London, Ontario and the 2021 Congress may be held at the University of Alberta in Edmonton.

12. Meeting adjourned at 2:45, moved by Laurie Pranger and seconded by Christine Ekholst and accepted.

Respectfully submitted by Ingrid Urberg.