

**SWESSE (SWEDISH SOCIETY FOR ENGLISH STUDIES)
NEWSLETTER, Autumn 2013**

Dear SWESSE Members

This is my first newsletter since taking up my role as SWESSE President, following the General Assembly election at the National Forum for English Studies 2013, Linnaeus University. Thanks again to the members of the SWESSE board for their vote of confidence in electing me as new President and a warm thanks to the outgoing President, Professor Karin Aijmer, Göteborg, for her contribution to the Association and her many years of faithful duty, and to the other outgoing SWESSE board members. The following members were also elected to the new Executive Committee: Professor Jean Hudson, Malmö University (Vice-President); Dr Anna Wårnsby, Malmö University (Treasurer); Dr Stuart Robertson, Uppsala University (Secretary); Dr Mats Deutschmann, Umeå University, (Webmaster); Dr Anna Swardh, Karlstad University; and Prof Magnus Ullén, Karlstad University.

One of the first aims of the new board was to draw up an updated list of members of the Association at the various Departments of English throughout Sweden, and to compile a mailing list for distribution of information and news relating to SWESSE. We are happy to say that many departments of English opt to pay a departmental membership for members of their staff and we thank our SWESSE board members Anna Swardh and Anna Wårnsby for helping to follow this up by contacting the various institutions in relation to payment of membership fees. The SWESSE fee is currently 250 SEK for a staff member and 125 SEK for a doctoral student. We also wish to raise the awareness of Association and its valuable contribution as a network in bringing together those engaged in teaching English language, literature, and civilization, at university level in Sweden, and in maintaining contacts with like-minded organizations in Europe and overseas. The distribution of this newsletter to all SWESSE members on the list is part of that endeavour.

SWESSE was founded in 2005 for the purpose of advancing research and teaching of the English language, literature and culture in Sweden. It serves as a forum co-operating with English departments in Sweden to organize conferences, symposia and workshops. We welcome information regarding forthcoming conferences, workshops, and other academic activities of interest for posting on the new SWESSE website: <http://swesse.se/>. Please send any info for posting on the SWESSE website to our webmaster, Mats Deutschmann, mats.deutschmann@engelska.umu.se. We also welcome new members, and all questions re membership should be addressed to our treasurer, Anna Wårnsby anna.warnsby@mah.se.

SWESSE members are automatically members of NAES (Nordic Association of English Studies) website <http://www.abo.fi/naes>, and also of ESSE (The European Society for the Study of English) website <http://www.essenglish.org/>.

NJES (The Nordic Journal of English Studies) is the scholarly journal associated with the NAES. *NJES* publishes articles two to three times a year on the English language and literatures in English.

Call for Papers: *NJES* is inviting scholars in the field of English Studies to submit articles for an upcoming general issue. All scholars working within the field of English literature and linguistics are welcome to make submissions. New PhDs and PhD candidates are particularly encouraged to submit their work. The journal has a review section where special attention is

drawn to works published in the Nordic countries. The journal is peer-reviewed and listed in the MLA, EBSCO, Elsevier, Cengage and ERIH databases. To submit your article, or for more information, please contact us by email at nordic.journal@sprak.gu.se. Deadline for submissions: March 2014.

EJES (The European Journal of English Studies) is the scholarly journal associated with ESSE. It is published in cooperation with Routledge. Contributions are welcomed from SWESSE members. The editors especially welcome contributions that advance the ambitions of the journal from the multidisciplinary and multicultural perspective that characterises English in Europe. For further info see <http://www.essenglish.org/ejes.html>.

All SWESSE members – through their membership of ESSE - receive [The European English Messenger](#) which is published twice a year, and SWESSE members are entitled to participate in the biennial conferences organized by ESSE. The next ESSE conference will be held in Košice, Slovakia, 29 Aug– Tues 2 Sept, 2014. (See below).

REPORT FROM ESSE BOARD MEETING, 2013

One of my first duties as President of SWESSE was to attend the ESSE (The European Society for the Study of English) Board Meeting, in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, 29-30 August, 2013. The meeting is held annually and attended by board members representing 33 national associations of English Studies throughout Europe. The meeting in Cluj was attended by representatives from the following countries: Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, and United Kingdom. It was a great pleasure for me as a new member of the board to meet the different representatives and to engage in over two days of lively discussion and exchange of ideas. The aims of the Society in endeavouring to reflect the cultural and geographical diversity of Europe in its institutions is certainly lived up to in the interesting diversity of its representatives.

Among the many items on the agenda was the approval of the report from the ESSE-11 conference organisers, Istanbul 2012; the ESSE-12 conference organisers, Košice 2014; and the ESSE-13 conference organisers, Galway 2016. The Board approved a list of 15 sub-plenary lectures, 6 round tables, 73 seminars and 2 special events, proposed by the APC, for the forthcoming Košice 2014 ESSE conference. The full list of sub-plenary lectures, together with abstracts, is published on the ESSE website (www.esse2014kosice.sk).

The Sub-plenary lecture nominated by SWESSE, “(Child)Reign of Terror: Dangerous Child Régimes,” by SWESSE member Dr Björn Sundmark, Malmö University, was among those approved by the Board, and the lecture will be presented in the Culture section at the Košice 2014 ESSE conference. We congratulate Björn Sundmark on this recognition, and SWESSE is pleased to sponsor his participation as an Honorary Presenter at the conference.

ESSE BOOK AWARDS 2014

The Board Meeting approved the appointment of the Book Awards Committees for 2014, and three members were appointed as adjudicators in each category. The awards are in the following categories:

- ESSE Book Award (Category A): A book prize of 1500 euro will be awarded by ESSE in 2014, for books first published in 2012 or 2013 in each of the following fields: a) English

language and linguistics; b) Literatures in the English language; c) Cultural studies in English.

- ESSE Book Award for Junior Scholars (Category B): A book prize of 500 euro will be awarded by ESSE in 2014 to a junior scholar for a first research book published in English in each of the three fields mentioned above, provided that publication was in 2012 or 2013. The deadline for submission of books is 1 February 2014. The winners will be announced at the ESSE-12 conference in Košice.

SWESSE members are encouraged to submit entries for the book awards. Please pass the word on to any new scholars, or doctoral students, who may have published a first book in 2012 or 2013. See following link for further info: <http://www.essenglish.org/bookaward.html>.

WORKSHOPS

Essay Writing Workshop, Högskolan Dalarna, Falun, Mon 16 Sept

Högskolan Dalarna hosted a well-attended essay writing workshop where participants from 11 different universities and högskolor met to discuss essay supervision practices and policies at their institutions. Professor Heidi Hansson, Umeå University, member of the HSV (UK-Ämbetet) Evaluation Committee, introduced a session focusing on essay grading criteria and learning outcomes, followed by a discussion. It was agreed to establish an essay-writing network where members would act as external evaluators for examined theses at each other's institutions. The participants expressed the wish to meet regularly, and we are delighted to confirm that the next essay-writing workshop will be held at Linnaeus University in Spring 2014. If you are interested in being included in the mailing list for the Essay Writing Workshop, please send me an email at ign@du.se.

Workshop on University Didactics and English Literature, Halmstad Högskolan, October 4, 2013

Following on from some of the issues raised at the Dalarna meeting, Halmstad Högskolan had a day's workshop on didactics and creating a didactics network. Some of the questions discussed were: Post-HSV evaluation: how are we defining our discipline? What are its objectives? A 20-minute video presentation on didactic best practices, by Professor Maryellen Weimar, Penn State Professor Emeritus of Teaching and Learning, was used as a starting point, followed by a general discussion on Teaching theory.

CONFERENCES

NAES 12th Nordic Conference of English Studies, Uppsala University, October 10 – 13, 2013

Professor Robert Appelbaum, Uppsala University, recently hosted a very enjoyable NAES conference on the theme of "Places and Non-places of English," at the Clarion Gillet Hotel, Uppsala. Plenary speakers included: Mark Doty Rutgers University; Andrew Hadfield, Sussex University; Marianne Hundt, University of Zurich; Bruce Robbins, Columbia University; and Christopher Schaberg, Loyola University.

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

Transcultural Identity Constructions in a Changing World, Dalarna, April 2-4, 2014

Högskolan Dalarna will host an international conference on the theme of transculturality, in April, 2014. The following plenary speakers are confirmed: Kamal Abu-Deeb, Emeritus Professor of Arabic and Comparative Literature, London University, and Guest Professor, Dalarna University; Miguel Vale de Almeida, Professor in Social-Anthropology, ISCTE -

Instituto Universitário de Lisboa, and LGBT activist; Marianne Franklin, Reader in Global Media & Transnational Communications, Goldsmiths University, London; Alan Grossman, Director, Centre for Transcultural Research and Media Practice, (CTMP), College of Arts and Tourism, Dublin Institute of Technology; and Dany Laferrière, Haitian and Canadian novelist and journalist. Further information is available on the conference website: www.du.se/transcult. Welcome to Dalarna!

NISN 2014, Ireland and the Popular, Aalborg University, Denmark, May 7-9, 2014

The 9th biennial Nordic Irish Studies Network conference will be hosted by Aalborg University, Denmark, in May 2014. The theme of the conference is “Ireland and the Popular.” The conference seeks to explore the contested ground of ‘the popular’ in an Irish context: The popular vs. the folk; high art vs. folk art; mass culture vs. elite culture. Papers on all manifestations of the popular in Irish culture, literature, arts, society and history are welcome. Abstracts of no more than 300 words should be sent by email to Bent Sørensen at the following address: bent@cgs.aau.dk.

ESSE CONFERENCE

12th ESSE Conference, Košice, Slovakia, Fri 29 August– Tues 2 September, 2014

The Department of British and American Studies, Faculty of Arts and SKASE (The Slovak Association for the Study of English) will host the forthcoming ESSE conference. The following plenary speakers are confirmed: Professor Fiona Robertson MA, MPhil, DPhil (Oxon), St Mary’s University College; Professor Dr. Martin Montgomery, Universidade de Macau, China; and the Scottish writer, James Robertson, author of several short story and poetry collections, and novels. Deadline for abstracts of individual papers at seminar sessions and PhD students’ sessions and posters is 28 February 2014. We look forward to seeing as many SWESSE members as possible there. Please pass the word to your doctoral students, who are also encouraged to participate and to make a brief presentation of their work-in-progress at one of three doctoral sessions in the fields of English Language, Literatures in English, and Cultural and Area Studies. (Further details available at www.esse2014kosice.sk).

NATIONAL FORUM FOR ENGLISH STUDIES

The next National Forum for English Studies will be held in 2015. The venue for the Forum will be announced shortly.

I look forward to meeting you at some of these SWESSE related gatherings in due course!

Kind regards

Irene Gilsenan Nordin
SWESSE President