

9 May 2024

Dear all,

With the end of the spring term in sight, I'd like to share some updates and information from SWESSE.

The SWESSE Board Meeting and AI activity

The board held their annual meeting on 8 March 2024 (minutes are available on the SWESSE website, <https://swesse.se/about-swesse/swesse-documents/>). Highlights from the meeting include deciding to arrange an open-invitation Zoom-discussion on AI and what it means for us as teachers. The discussion was led by Joe Trotta (GU) who has been experimenting, analyzing, and researching AI and already completed some fascinating studies. There were no easy solutions to some of the particular challenges we face, but there were many helpful ideas and tips exchanged. The main message was that AI will get more sophisticated, so the time is now to get involved, informed, and experienced. Many thanks to Joe and to everyone who participated!

The 2025 National Forum for English Studies

The 2025 National Forum for English Studies will be held 9-11 April at Lund University! Mark your calendars now; more information will be shared in the fall.

SWESSE Board Elections: new member needed!

SWESSE will hold a General Assembly (GA) at the next National Forum, during which there will be an election for a new board member. If you are interested in being nominated (or nominating someone else) for board membership, please contact Maria Freij (maria.freij@hkr.se), who is on the Election Committee.

Election Committee member needed!

The Election Committee is tasked with finding candidates for board membership. Please consider contributing to SWESSE in this way by joining the Election Committee. Contact kristy.beers.fagersten@sh.se for more information.

Auditor needed!

During the GA, the SWESSE budget reports are presented by the Treasurer for the prior two years, each of which must be audited. SWESSE has adopted the routine used by ESSE for auditing, namely, having a main auditor and an assistant auditor, each auditing two times. The main auditor teaches the assistant auditor, then the assistant auditor becomes the main auditor and teaches the next assistant. For 2025, the main auditor, Dusan Stamenkovic (SH), needs to be supported by an assistant auditor. Please consider contributing to SWESSE in this way by

volunteering to be an assistant auditor for 2025 (and, ideally, main auditor for 2027). Contact kristy.beers.fagersten@sh.se for more information.

The SWESSE Bachelor Thesis Award

The 2024-2025 Bachelor Thesis Awards will be announced at the 2025 National Forum for English Studies. Please consider submitting (to the chair of the respective committee) any excellent essays from VT23-HT23-VT24-HT24 in one of three categories: English Literature and Culture, English Linguistics, English Education. The awards committees are as follows:

English Literature and Culture

Giles Whiteley, Chair (SU), Annika Lindskog (LU), and Virginia Langum (UmU)

English Linguistics

Josep Soler, Chair (SU), Jonathan White (DU), Timothy Roberts (GU)

English Education

BethAnne Paulsrud, Chair (DU), Martin Shaw (MiUn), Denise Bergström (LtU)

ESSE 2024

The next ESSE conference will take place at the University of Lausanne, Switzerland, 26-30 August 2024 (<https://wp.unil.ch/esse2024/>). SWESSE members Roberto del Valle Alcalá (SH) and Andrea Schalley (KaU) will be representing SWESSE as parallel lecturers with their presentations, "From utopia to hegemony: English social fiction and the political imagination" (Roberto) and "From events to concepts: Using experiments to model word meaning" (Andrea). Good luck to both!

I will be attending the ESSE Board meeting in Lausanne, not only as representative of SWESSE but also as a member of the elections committee. Current President Andreas Jucker is stepping down, so the elections committee has been tasked with finding candidates for this position.

Summer? 🙌

If you blinked, you probably missed spring this year. Fingers crossed that we instead get a proper summer season. Good luck with your end-of-term work, and I hope you manage to be exactly as productive or lazy as you wish during the summer holidays.

Best,
Kristy Beers Fägersten, SWESSE President