

SWESSE: The Swedish Society for the Study of English

Agenda for General Assembly

Friday 11 April 2025, 11:35-12:30

Lund University, SOL:H104 Auditorium

34 members in attendance (46 including non-members)

1. Appointment of Chair

Kristy Beers Fägersten was appointed chair for the meeting.

2. Opening

Kristy Beers Fägersten opened the meeting and welcomed everyone in attendance.

3. Confirmation of Agenda

The agenda was approved.

4. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

The previous minutes from 27 April 2023 were approved.

5. Report from the President

Kristy Beers Fägersten reported on the board's activities for the past two years. Kristy has attended the ESSE board meetings and served as a co-convenor for the doctoral symposium in linguistics. The next ESSE board meeting is in September 2025; the next ESSE conference is in August 2026. SWESSE arranged an online workshop on AI with Joe Trotta in spring 2024. The board has also supported the organising committee for the National Forum. Marie Nordlund stepped down as an ordinary member.

6. Report from the Treasurer

Anna Swärdh reported on the budget.

7. Auditors' Report

The auditors' report was presented and approved by the assembly.

8. Election of Board members

Denise Bergström presented the Election Committee's nominations.

Current Board membership: Kristy Beers Fägersten (president), Annika Denke (vice-president), Anna Swärdh (treasurer), Tim Roberts (secretary), Parvin Gheitasi (ordinary member), Linda Eriksson (ordinary member).

All current board members were reelected. Virginia Langum was elected as a new ordinary member.

9. SWESSE BA Thesis Awards

The prize for the best essay in English linguistics is awarded to Maya Nalani Carlsson for her essay, '*Polites of society. I forgot. Dissonance and impoliteness theory in*

neurodivergent coded characters.

The prize for the best essay in English literature and culture is awarded to Tobias Vestermark for his essay, *If they say you rode astride a cannon*.

No prize is awarded for the category English education.

Discussion: Essays in English education are often advanced-level essays which may be the reason why the committee for the category received no nominations for the BA thesis award. The assembly approved opening up the award to advanced-level essays.

10. Nordic Journal of English Studies

Virginia Langum has served as the editor for the Nordic Journal of English Studies together with Terry Walker for the last several years but will be stepping down later this year. She encouraged all in attendance to submit their work to the journal.

11. Amendments to the Constitution (see addendum)

The current constitution stipulates the following:

2. Purpose and Activities of the Association

(i) The purpose of the Association shall be:

- (a) to advance research and study in Sweden of English language, literature, and civilization;
- (b) To maintain contacts with like-minded organizations in Europe and overseas.

(ii) The purpose of the Association shall be carried out by:

- (a) arranging conferences of English studies;
- (b) arranging meetings and symposia;
- (c) any other appropriate means as may be decided by the Association.

(iii) The necessary funds shall be derived primarily from:

- (a) membership fees
- (b) proceeds from conferences and of other events.

The board proposes the following amendments:

2. Purpose and Activities of the Association

(i) The purpose of the Association shall be:

- (a) to advance research and study in Sweden of English language, literature, **culture, and education**;

(b) To maintain contacts with like-minded organizations in Europe and overseas.

(ii) The purpose of the Association shall be carried out by:

- (a) **promoting national and international conferences, workshops, and seminars related to English studies**;

(b) **supporting the National Forum for English studies**

(c) any other appropriate means as may be decided by the Association.

(iii) The necessary funds shall be derived primarily from:

- (a) membership fees

The proposed amendments were approved.

12. National Forum Venue 2027

Institutions which are interested in hosting the National Forum in 2027 should contact Kristy Beers Fägersten.

13. Any other business

14. Next meeting

The next general assembly will be held in conjunction with the National Forum for English studies in 2027.

15. Closing

Meeting closed at 12.11.

Linda Eriksson
Note-taker

Kristy Beers Fägersten
President

Annika Denke
Vice-president