Activity Plan Nordic Summer University 2017
Nordic democracy in practice: Networks for Interdisciplinary Study and Research

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Description of NSU

NSU was formed in 1950 as an independent, non-profit organisation with the mission to support the development of cross-national networks and to nurture interdisciplinary research initiatives, ideas and cooperation in the Nordic region. Over the years, NSU has evolved to become an international, unique forum based on user-driven, democratic and innovative work that fosters scholarly networks in the Nordic-Baltic region and beyond. Through its seed funding and facilitation, NSU provides a Nordic arena in an internationalized world that (a) offers open access to scholarly activities and conversations that transcend institutional hierarchies and geographical borders, (b) strengthens topics that have not yet received sufficient attention or been institutionally targeted in the Nordic-Baltic regions, and (c) facilitates research experience for persons from different parts of society, including university scholars and students, artists, independent researchers, and other professionals. In NSU both students and junior researchers, as well as independent researchers, artists and other professionals, can participate on equal footing with senior researchers in scholarly enquiries.

NSU builds on the Nordic values of equality, inclusion, and sustainability. NSU strives to combine two traditions: the continental ideals of learning and cultivation of the self and the Nordic heritage of *folkbildning* and self-organization, with its investments in open-access education and active citizenship. NSU aims for a contemporary understanding of these values by providing infrastructures that further knowledge enquiries, cultural exchange, and community building. NSU contributes to expand the understanding of Nordic values in an international context.
Overview of the main activities in 2017

Symposia¹

The NSU plans to organize 19 symposia during 2017, in collaboration with the following institutions or networks:

The University of Iceland, (IS), The University of Gothenburg (SE), Ricklundgården, Saxnäs, Sâpmi (SE), The Art Collective Not Quite (SE); The World Culture Centre in Copenhagen (DK), Estonian Graduate School of Culture Studies and Arts (EE), Tallinn University (EE), Under and Tuglas Literature Centre of Estonian Academy of Sciences (EE), EUROM: European Observatory on Memories, University of Barcelona (SP), European Humanities University (LT). The University of Gdansk (PL), The Polish Psychoanalytical Society (PL), The University of Wrocław, (PL). Department of Northern European Studies at Humboldt University in Berlin (DE).

The symposia will take place in the following locations:

Reykjavik and Skálholt (IS), Gothenburg (SE), Saxnäs, Sâpmi (SE), Fengersfors (SE), Copenhagen (DK), Tallinn (EE), Gdansk (PL), Wrocław (PL), Saulkrasti (LV). Four parallel winter symposia of circle 1, 2, 5, and 8 will take place in Wrocław at the invitation of the University of Wrocław. 9 parallel symposia will take place in Saulkrasti (LV) during the annual week long NSU summer session.

We estimate that the symposia will be attended by a total of 350-400 people.

Following up on the evaluation

In 2017 NSU will follow up the external evaluation done in 2014 in the following areas:

- Strengthening our visibility
- Ensuring Nordic-Baltic cooperation and participation
- Outreach to peripheral areas in the Nordic region
- Enhancing transparency and the scholarly quality of the study program
- Developing NSU publishing activities
- Evidencing and increasing the extent of external contributions

● Strengthening our visibility

Web platform

The NSU web platform has three main pages: [http://nordic.university/](http://nordic.university/) which contains more general information for potential participants and other interested parties, [http://support.nsuweb.org/](http://support.nsuweb.org/) which functions as a support page for board members, coordinators and others with responsibilities for running the NSU activities and work, and finally a page for registration and payment for activities, used for the Summer Session and currently based on the DalPay payment gateway. In late Autumn 2016 we started the work to improve this registration system so that a similar system could be adapted for the Winter Symposia. In 2017 we are improving this payment system as well as the accounting system.

¹ For more detailed information about the symposia, see the appendix.
Social media
In 2016 NSU worked on developing a social media strategy, searched for operational solutions for maintaining our presence in social media, and ways to interconnect each circle’s activities to a shared page. In 2017 our aim is to bring this social media strategy into practice.

In 2017 we are also strengthening NSU’s web presence in existing platforms such as Accademia.edu, LinkedIn, Wikipedia and other relevant platforms.

Reorganization of communication tasks
After the new web platform was launched, NSU appointed a Board member and a deputy to be responsible for the activity concerning NSU Communication, including overseeing the content on our web platforms, newsletters, and creating a strategy plan for the use of social media. The priority here has been to update and synchronize the news flow about the various activities taking place within the NSU, for both internal and external audiences.

In 2017 we are implementing the work of NSU Communication by two Board members sharing the responsibility and aiming to find a service provider, who could maintain the daily updates of the website as a web-editor.

Outreach efforts: People-to-people meetings
Continuing the practice started in 2016, NSU will hold both open and more targeted meetings to inform about our activities at selected universities or host institutions in conjunction with our Board and Coordinator Meetings. In 2017 the Summer Session Keynote presentations and parts of the Cultural Program will be open to local audiences. This kind of outreach activity contributes to disseminating knowledge both about Norden, the Nordic region, and the activities of NSU.

NSU has also focused on developing documentation of the outcomes and spin-offs of our activities. In 2017 this will require a web-editor to keep track of all the outcomes and finding a platform for this information.

● Ensuring Nordic-Baltic cooperation and participation
As stated in our strategy plan for 2016 to 2019, NSU has had a special focus on the Baltic Sea States region. This orientation comes out of concerns regarding the new situation that has arisen regarding security, immigration, democracy and human rights: not least in the wake of recent developments in Russia, and our partnership agreement with the EHU in Vilnius, as well as the interest that our activities and objectives have been met within the area. Because of this policy, many of our activities in this period have been and will be located to the Baltic Sea State region, including Poland.

In 2017 NSU has made plans for arranging a large Winter Session, consisting of 4 parallel winter symposia, in Wroclaw in 2017 thanks to an invitation from Wroclaw University in Poland.

The board and coordinator meeting in September 2017 will be take place in Sopot, Poland, to further our connections with the university’s department for Scandinavian studies, which was initiated in 2016.
• **Outreach to peripheral areas in the Nordic region**

In the winter of 2016, NSU supported an Outreach Project to start a dialogue with scholars and students at the University of Greenland in Nuuk. This initiative resulted in NSU gaining the first two participants from Greenland, and an outline for a scholarship program between the University of Greenland and NSU was created. In 2017 two university students from Greenland will be attending the summer session as part of the scholarship program.

Moreover, NSU has started to reach out to the scholarly communities in Sàpmi. In 2017, one winter symposium will be organized at Ricknäsgården, Saxnäs, Sàpmi, (SE). NSU will look to further the connections to Sàpmi in the future.

• **Enhancing transparency and the scholarly quality of the study program**

NSU Study Circles are open for anyone to apply. All proposals are subjected to an independent peer-review process in which proposals are sent to experts in the relevant fields for assessment, after which the proponents are given the opportunity to make revisions on the basis of the review before submitting a final version by April.

The NSU Board has also developed a set of criteria for internal assessment and selection of study circles as well as proposals for ad hoc events. These are based on the overall objectives and values of NSU, i.e. our emphasis on supporting interdisciplinary research initiatives and ideas, developing and building cross-national networks, and contributing with an added value to the Nordic communities. NSU is striving to ensure and safeguard quality with respect to both our scholarly and societal objectives and values.

In 2016 this new policy improved not only the quality of the proposals but also attracted applicants that were new to the NSU. For Study Circles 2018-2020 the application period was moved even earlier, from 15 October to 1 December in 2016, due to the demands of the peer-review process. The number of proposals has increased after this change in the application process and has thus proved to be a success. In 2017 we are continuing the independent peer-review process and opening the call for proposal of Study Circles (2019-2021) from 15th of September to 1st of December 2017. We will also strive to disseminate the call further this year.

• **Developing NSU publishing activities**

In 2017 NSU will continue the renewal of its publishing strategies to develop and safeguard the scholarly quality of the published outcomes of our activities. These strategies include publishing with external publishers, as well as developing procedures within NSU Press.

In 2016 a managing editorial board for NSU Press, consisting of NSU Board member Johanna Sjöstedt (SE), Dr. Mogens Chrom Jacobsen (DK), and Research Fellow Raine Vasquez (FI/US), was appointed. In 2017 an advisory board for NSU Press will be presented.

All organisations working under the aegis of the Nordic Council of Ministers are subject to an Open Access mandate. In keeping with this requirement, NSU has established contact with NordPub, the NCM digital platform. In 2017, NSU plans to co-publish all publications within NSU Press on this platform, unless it entails excessive costs for NSU.

In 2017, NSU will produce the following peer reviewed publications:

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Moreover, NSU will work on the following publication projects, which will be completed in 2018 or later on.

− Dialectics, deontology and Democracy: Politics emerging out of social critique. Asger Sørensen. Comment: Part of a four-volume project that constitutes the author’s doctoral “habilitation” (second doctorate) in philosophy. The publication is financed by external means, but printed by NSU Press.
− Feminist Utopias Feminist Philosophy, current circle 3, plans to publish an anthology together with the network “Feminist Philosophy: Transforming philosophy” at the University of Iceland. The anthology is projected to be published in 2019.

− Evidencing and increasing the extent of external contributions
Throughout 2016, NSU quantified and accounted for the large extent of external and in-kind contributions that supported our activities financially. Together with the income from participant fees, the fiscal value of these in-kind contributions amounted to more than a Krone in return for each Krone invested in NSU in 2016, i.e. 1,871,000 SEK in return for 1,529,000 SEK invested from NMRS. In 2017 NSU will continue to work on the quantification of the in-kind contributions, as well as to increase external funding.

NSU study circle 2: Appearances of the Political is engaged in a successful collaboration with an Italian partner who in 2016 received funding from the EU’s Horizon 2020 programme to develop a larger international research project (under “Culture, integration and European public space” – CULT-COOP-10-2017). The project has the title Appearances of the Political and will be developed in collaboration with partners from three Italian universities (Parma, Palermo and Roma), University of Southampton (UK), as well as Aalto University (FI) Design School Kolding (DK), and NSU, through our study circle 2: Appearances of the Political.

NSU study circle 3 Feminist Philosophy has entered a partnership with the University of Iceland, including economic support, as part of the organization of the circle’s winter symposium in 2017.
Appendices

1 Winter symposia and ad hoc symposia/projects

Winter Symposia
The winter symposia are three-day meetings arranged by each study circle and held in a Nordic or Baltic country between January and April. Participants make presentations related to the theme of the study circle.
NSU offers ECTS credits to students who participate or make a presentation at one of the symposia.

An invitation from Wroclaw University resulted in a joint Winter Session in 2017 with four parallel symposia, gathering NSU participants across study circle interests.

In 2017, the 8 Study Circles of the NSU will hold Winter Symposia in:
Wrocław, Poland (Study Circles 1, 2, 5 and 8)
Ricklundgården, Saxnäs, Sàpmi (Study Circle 7)
Fengersfors, Sweden (Study Circle 6)
Tallinn, Estonia (Study Circle 4)
Reykjavik and Skálholt, Iceland (Study Circle 3)

Study Circle 2: Appearances of the Political is also part of a collaboration with an Italian partner (Elisabetta Di Stefano from the Università degli Studi di Palermo), which has received support in 2017 from EU Horizon 2020 (the "Culture, Integration and European public space" - CULT-COOP-10-2017) to prepare a major international project application for a research group under the heading Appearances of the Political. This include plans to hold a seminar in late 2017 under the title "Appearances of the Political and Public Space".

The cooperation includes the following institutions and research units:
Dipartimento di scienze umanistiche (Università di Palermo)
Dipartimento di discipline umanistiche e delle imprese culturali (Università di Parma)
Dipartimento di storia, patrimonio culturale, formazione e società (Università “Tor vergata”, Roma)
Centro studi e archivio della comunicazione (Università di Parma)
School of Arts, Design and Architecture (Aalto University)
School of Art, Design and Fashion (Southampton Solent University)
Design School Kolding."
Study Circle 1 | Understanding Migration in Nordic and Baltic Countries

Symposium
Dates | 24–26 February, 2017
Place | Wroclaw, Poland
Local partner | University of Wroclaw

Theme | Justice Across Borders: Ethics and Human Movement

In light of increasing flows of immigrants and refugees into and through Europe, and the rising prominence of human movement in political and popular discourse, the winter 2017 symposium focuses on themes of ethics and justice.

The Nordic and Baltic states are characterized by different histories of immigration and varied understandings of social justice; yet all share in the contemporary challenge of determining how to welcome new minorities within their borders. Against this backdrop, the winter symposium confronts the paradoxical relationships between freedom and protection, justice and control, morality and punishment, ideal and choice, with a focus on situating lived experience.

How do immigrants and asylum seekers navigate the blurry legal boundaries that come to govern them, especially when national laws and international norms are in contradiction? What do we mean when we talk of access to justice for migrants who are never able to secure legal representation? What are the stakes of punitive practices within states that associate immigration with criminalization? Who is affected by marginality and illegality and how? What constitutes the legitimacy of states, borders and laws, and how is such legitimacy maintained and challenged? How are political landscapes changing and what are the human effects?

Expected number of participants: 16

Coordinators of the Study Circle:
Stéphanie Barillé
Bremen Donovan
Email: migration@nsuweb.org.

General information about Study Circle 1:
The focus of the study circle is to explore diverse theoretical and empirical perspectives around the broad theme of migration, in relation specifically to the Nordic and Baltic region. The winter 2017 symposium will be the first of six symposia, each of which will take place in a different Nordic or Baltic country, and focus on a particular set of issues within the overarching theme.
We invite scholars, students, journalists, social workers, filmmakers and researchers from all fields to take part in our study circle. Students and researchers from immigrant and refugee backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply. Those with presentations related to the broad theme of migration in Nordic and Baltic countries but not directly tied to the symposium sub-theme are also welcome to submit proposals.

For more information about this Study Circle and how to join the activity, see: http://nordic.university/study-circles/1-understanding-migration-in-nordic-and-baltic-countries/

Study Circle 2 |Appearances of the Political

Symposium

Dates | 24–26 February, 2017
Place | Wroclaw, Poland
Local Partner | University of Wroclaw

Theme | Aesthetics, Politics and Material Culture

What kind of objects (e.g. flags, megaphones) do we use in demonstrations and what is their actual role? What is the material culture of party politics – besides suits, microphones, soup kettles at marketplaces where politicians meet the people and the big black cars, which take the politicians from place to place? What is the material culture of administration, or has it all just become embedded in the computer screens?

What are the aesthetic orders and material resources of the human rights, human catastrophes and the warfare producing them - and how are these issues tackled in art? What is the future of the role of these orders and resources?

And how are Western democracies constructing physical answers to migration and refugees? When borders are made again visible, camps for refugees established and also different forms of personal appearances such as dress codes become battlefields for ideologies.

We invite scholars, students, artists and third sector agents to study together the forms, appearances and the aesthetic functions of the political. These can be discussed in social, artistic, aesthetic and cultural terms and with any method which is able to shine light on the problematics. We aspire to articulate the ideological forces underlying today’s political thinking. We also want to inaugurate a debate on the role of cultural approaches in political analysis. We wish to break new paths in connecting the cultural humanities and the political sciences and invite participants to bravely explore new ways of studying these issues. We believe that experimentation is crucial for rethinking the political.
Expected number of participants: 19

Coordinators of the study circle:
Dr. Carsten Friberg (DK)
Dr. Max Ryynänen (FIN)

General information about Study Circle 2:
The intention of Appearances of the Political is to create a platform for future collaborations and applications, and to exchange knowledge and share common interest. It is important for the group to consult a variety of fields as broad as possible including political theory, philosophy, communication, social sciences and cultural studies, and we hope that scholars from all areas of interest would join us.

The study circle provides a space for theoretical experimentation and the cross-fertilization of methodologies. It aims at developing insights that can be used in further research. We invite you for exchange and debates in an open environment of people with different backgrounds.

For more information about this Study Circle and how to join the activity, see http://nordic.university/study-circles/2-appearances-of-the-political/ and their blog: http://appearancesofthepolitical.blogspot.com

Study Circle 3 | Feminist Philosophy: Time, History and the Transformation of Thought

Symposium
Dates | 30 March–2 April, 2017
Place | Reykjavik and Skálholt, Iceland
Local partner | University of Iceland
Partner | Co-hosted by Feminist Philosophy: Transforming Philosophy at the University of Iceland

Theme | Feminist Utopias: Transforming the Present of Philosophy Historical and Contemporary Perspectives

The feminist utopias envisioned by feminist philosophers across traditional philosophical divides and cultures possess the potential for invigorating philosophy and bringing it back to basic questions of philosophy born out of wonder or frustration. Such utopias are not idealistic but represent our striving for a more realistic grasp of who we are and how we experience the world. The inherent tension between the particular and the universal, the private and the public, so strongly debated within feminist philosophy is a resource for disclosing new philosophical futures.
Over the course of four days we will explore these themes together. The first day will be spent at the University of Iceland in Reykjavík where we will listen to keynote speakers in an open conference. In the evening we leave for Skálholt which is a beautiful historic place in the south of Iceland, about an hour’s drive from Reykjavík. In Skálholt we will have a three-day workshop with paper presentations and discussion sessions.

The symposium provides a space for theoretical experimentation and cross-fertilization of methodologies and ideas. It aims to develop insights that could be used for further research within philosophy, literature, history of ideas and related areas.

**Keynote speakers:**
Alison Jaggar (University of Colorado, Boulder)
Kristie Dotson (Michigan State University)
Ruth Hagengruber (University of Paderborn)
Nancy Bauer (Tufts University)
Willow Verkerk (Kingston University)

**Expected number of participants: 50**

**Coordinators of the Study Circle:**
Synne Myrebøe, Department of historical, philosophical and religious studies, Umeå University, Sweden
Valgerður Pálmadóttir, Department of historical, philosophical and religious studies at Umeå University, Sweden
Johanna Sjöstedt, Department of literature, history of ideas and religious studies, University of Gothenburg, Sweden.

Email: feministphilosophy@nsuweb.org
Facebook group: Feminist philosophy (NSU)

**General information about Study Circle 3:**
What is the relationship between feminism and philosophy today? Although feminist philosophy is now a recognized field in the institution of philosophy, a tension between the two terms still seems to persist. Compared to the status of feminism in other disciplines in the humanities and the social sciences, feminist philosophy is generally marginalized in departments for philosophy. Similarly, women compose a smaller portion of the student body and faculty in philosophy, in comparison to other disciplines. A great deal of work in feminist philosophy is undertaken in other disciplines, such as literary studies, the history of ideas, gender studies, and sociology.

Feminist Philosophy: Time, history, and the transformation of thought is a three year project within the Nordic Summer University. Beginning in 2017, it will organize six conferences in the Nordic and Baltic region on the theme of feminist philosophy in historical and contemporary perspectives.
For more information about this Study Circle and how to join the activity, see http://nordic.university/study-circles/3-feminist-philosophy-time-history-transformation-thought/

Study Circle 4 | Narrative and Memory: Ethics, Aesthetics, Politics

Symposium

Dates | 17–19 March, 2017
Place | Tallinn University, Estonia
Local partners | Estonian Graduate School of Culture Studies and Arts (supported by Tallinn University’s ASTRA project, TLÜ TEE [European Union, European Regional Development Fund])
Partners | Tallinn University; Under and Tuglas Literature Centre of Estonian Academy of Sciences; EUROM: European Observatory on Memories, University of Barcelona

Theme | Transcultural Memorial Forms: Contemporary Remembrance of War, Displacement and Political Rupture

The first symposium explores the role of transcultural memorial forms in the articulation of memories and contemporary experiences of war, displacement and political conflict.

This symposium is interested in the ways in which the narrative strategies and memorial forms developed primarily in the context of remembering the Holocaust and postwar migration have contributed to the representation of other histories of war and political conflict in the Nordic region and across Europe, but also how they have currently been used to make sense of contemporary experiences of war and displacement.

We invite reflections on the ethical and political questions related to the use and abuse of artistic, political, and intermedial storytelling practices that function as transcultural memorial forms and may facilitate but also hamper the articulation of regional differences and historical specificity of different conflicts. What gains and dangers are involved in adopting the narrative memories of others? Our hypothesis is that in contrast to the competing political discourses on twentieth-century totalitarianisms, the arts have developed more productive comparative approaches that negotiate national and regional differences and address the ethical complexity of narrating traumatic experiences of war, conflict, displacement, and political rupture. Important to the ethical potential of the artistic narrative practices is also the way in which they link memory to imagination in such a way that allows us to envision a future-oriented ethics of memory.

Keynote speakers:
Ann Rigney (Utrecht University)
Michael Rothberg (University of California, Los Angeles)

**Expected numbers of participants: 47**

**General information about the Study Circle:**
Narrative and Memory: Ethics, Aesthetics, Politics is a three-year international research initiative with the aim to investigate how different storytelling practices of literature, audiovisual arts, social media and oral testimonies address the legacies of twentieth-century European conflicts and how they travel across national borders. It is an interdisciplinary network that brings together scholars of narrative and memory from the Nordic and Baltic countries and Great Britain. The research circle aims to contribute to public debate on issues of memory, war, displacement and the future of Europe in the current political situation marked by the refugee crisis.

**Coordinators of the Study Circle:**
Assoc. Prof. Eneken Laanes (elaanes@tlu.ee) (EST)
Prof. Hanna Meretoja (hailme@utu.fi) (FIN)

*For more information about this Study Circle and how to join the activity, see:*
http://nordic.university/study-circles/4-narrative-memory/

**Study Circle 5 | International Relations and Human Rights**

**Symposium**

**Dates** | 24–26 February, 2017

**Place** | Wroclaw, Poland,

**Local Partner** | University of Wroclaw

**Partner** | The symposium is arranged as a joint venture between the European Humanities University (EHU), the Belarusian university in exile in Vilnius, Lithuania, and the Nordic Summer University (NSU).

European Humanities University (http://www.ehu.lt/en) is a private non-profit liberal arts Lithuanian University with unique origin and history. Founded in 1992, the university has been headquartered in Vilnius, Lithuania since authorities expelled it from Belarus in 2004. EHU is the only Belarusian University that has succeeded in maintaining its independence and commitment to academic freedom. EHU offers both high residence and low residence (distance learning) degree programs in the humanities and social sciences that fully accord with European standards and norms.

The EHU provides students from Belarus and the region with an education in the European liberal arts tradition in a free and democratic environment - an opportunity, unfortunately, not available in Belarus today.
Today’s world is profoundly characterised by migration throughout the globe. Yasemin Soysal believes that contemporary membership formations are thus faced with transformations which impose meanings beyond the boundaries of nations and nation-states. Existing citizenship has overcome the traditional dichotomy of the past century between the national citizen and the alien, by including populations that were previously defined as outside the national polity. Rights that once belonged exclusively to nationals are now extended to foreign populations. As Soysal notes, practices of citizenship became multi-connected, multi-referential and postnational.

Does this mean that we are a step closer to achieving membership based on humanity? Does it mean that everybody has a right to have rights by virtue of the indisputable attributes inherent to human dignity?

When analysing the right to have rights as humanity, Alison Kesby highlights essential question in this regard i.e. does transformation of contemporary citizenship also corrodes the “internal borders” within states, namely the practice of implementing human right according to person’s migration status or his/her ethnic background so that those whom a state has failed to exclude physically from its territory are nevertheless internally excluded. Do human rights have the power to challenge this exclusion? What does it take for diasporas to become full member in terms of right to have rights?

We would like to ask ourselves, how are diasporas and population movements contributing to transformations of modern citizenship. Are we getting closer to the notion of postnational citizenship based on common humanity or are diasporas in fact just a continuation of use of political and intellectual discourses about metaphors of roots, soil and kinship, while the right to ethnic/national identity is becoming more important among human rights?

Keynote speaker: Professor Marianna Muravyeva is a Professor of Law at the National Research University Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia and a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Social Research at the University of Tampere. Her research focuses on the human rights, legal history, gender studies, violence and ageing.

General information about the Study Circle:
Immanuel Kant observes that States feel a need to justify themselves, and this is still observable today, when we study various States reactions to human rights and the emergence of a global human rights oriented public system. We believe that this need for justification requires some further explanation, and this will be the overall theme of the circle. Why do human rights have any effect at all and how should we explain this influence? The focus will be on human rights and international relations. This should be done both in order to understand how they interact and how they can work together, and in doing so we will endeavour to establish a dialogue between theoretical and practical considerations verifying or sustaining the
one with the other. Presently the circle gathers scholars and human rights activists from the Nordic and Baltic countries and Eastern Europe.

**Expected number of participants: 18**

**Coordinators:**
Dr. Olga Bresky (BY/LT)
Dr. Mogens Chrom Jacobsen (DK)

**For more information about this Study Circle and how to join the activity, see:**
http://nordic.university/study-circles/5-international-relations-and-human-rights/

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**Study Circle 6 | Appropriating Science and Technology for Societal Change**

**Symposium**
**Date |** 3–5 March, 2017
**Place |** Fengersfors, Sweden
**Local Partner |** The Art Collective Not Quite

**Theme |** The Digital Public Sphere in Question: From Counter- to Crypto-Publics

Democracy presupposes a public sphere where citizens can debate their differences and reach mutually binding agreements. The emergence of the public sphere has often been linked to the surge of books and newspapers. Today, however, printed media is in crisis. The advertising revenues of publishing houses are siphoned off by Google and Facebook, while the habit of reading printed media is in steady decline. As a consequence, the journalistic profession is withering away too. It is much disputed whether this counts as a threat to free speech and public debate, or, on the contrary, is a promise to set them free. In different words, can digital media shoulder the same civic responsibilities as conventional media is said to have done in the past? Many are alarmed by a rise in incivility in public debates, often linked to the anonymity of the computer screen. The graphic interface is said to invite trolling. A related concern is that the search engines are programmed to reinforce pre-existing search patterns. Algorithms create “filter bubbles” that undermine the possibility of developing an informed opinion. Others stress the upside. From the lukewarm promises about e-governance in the 1990s to the pie-in-the-sky visions of liquid democracy today, proposals are not lacking for how citizenship could be reinvigorated thanks to digital media. Other examples are of a more confrontational nature, such as the possibility of anonymous leaks and the surge of crypto-publics in the darknet. The ambiguity of the role of new media reflects a deeper ambiguity in the word ”people” itself. Since 1789, the p-word has interchangeably stood for, on the one hand, equality and democracy; and, on the other, for passion, violence and irrationality.
Keynote speaker: Richard Barbrook

General information about the Study Circle:
The circle aims to explore political subjects that arise from new technology and emergent scientific fields. Emphasis is placed on technologies and scientific practices that can be appropriated to achieve other (better) ends than those originally intended.

Coordinators:
Dr. Johan Söderberg (SE)
Gustav Eek (SE)

Expected number of participants: 15

For more information about this Study Circle and how to join the activity, see: http://nordic.university/study-circles/appropriating-science-and-technology-for-societal-change/

Study Circle 7 | Practicing Communities: Transformative Societal Strategies of Artistic Research

Symposium
Date | 9–12 March, 2017
Place | Ricklundgården, Saxnäs, Sàpmi

Local partner | This year we have been invited by the Chairwoman of the board at Ricklundgården, Gerd Sjöblom Ulander, to create the opportunity to also offer 4 participants a 2–week residency that will follow directly after the symposium, 12–26 March.

Theme | LEGACY: How and why should artistic research create a legacy?

In this winter symposium, Study Circle 7 invites researchers and artists from all fields to take part in exploring themes of LEGACY: How and why should artistic research create a legacy?

Things to consider may include examining:
- Legacy, connecting through contribution, endowment, gifting and heritage
- How might we (re)think the notion of legacy?
- Can and should artistic research make a contribution to the environment and be part of its history?
- The extent to which artists/makers/performers/academics contribute to the heritage and history of their environment
- The extent to which the local environment, culture and history contributes to artists/makers/performers and academics
- How artistic research and practices should consider the past and ancestry
● Ways to reciprocate and connect with the history and heritage of the local environment
● Issues of respectfulness and responsibility to legacy, history, culture of the local
● Consider artist/researcher’s position of privilege
● How might legacy affect/impact on artistic research, non-artists and environments?

Proposals for the residency MUST also consider the following:
● Ways to develop innovative and experimental forms of artistic research and practices that will involve participation and embedding of the artistic/research project within the local space and environment.
● The extent to which this will impact/affect/integrate/connect on or with the locality and its history and heritage.
● The extent to which this will impact/affect/integrate/connect on or with your research and practice.
● A concept/plan/object/experience that will remain as a legacy

We will prioritise proposals that are specific to the community and the environment and seek to connect with Sápmi and in particular to Saxnäs.

**General information about the Study Circle:**
The focus of Practicing Communities is on building generative communities through the interweaving of localities, practices and strategies. The circle aims to explore and create transformative societal strategies within a space where diversity is welcomed and fostered. The study circle provides a space for theoretical and artistic experimentation and the cross-fertilization of methodologies. It aims to develop insights that could be used in further research.

We invite scholars and artists from all fields to take part in our Practicing Communities study circle, a migratory non-hierarchical group of international artistic researchers. Since its inception, the primary aim has been to provide a forum for experimentation and cross-disciplinary collaboration welcoming members both from within and outside of universities and art institutions.

**Expected number of participants:** 40

**Coordinators:**
Dr. Lucy Lyons (IR/UK)
Ami Skånberg Dahlstedt (SE)

**For more information about this Study Circle and how to join the activity, see:**
http://nordic.university/study-circles/7-practicing-communities-transformative-societal-strategies-of-artistic-research/

Practicing Communities FB group: https://www.facebook.com/groups/artistic.research/
Study Circle 8 | Comparative Futurologies

Symposium
Dates | 24–26 February, 2017
Place | Wroclaw, Poland,
Local Partner | University of Wroclaw

Theme | Beyond the Utopia/Dystopia Dichotomy

In this study circle we want to investigate and discuss different perspectives on the future. These perspectives include understandings of scientific futures, cultural imaginations of futures, and artistic productions of future. We believe that comparing these different perspectives will unearth original, cross-disciplinary approaches to future thinking. For this to succeed, multiple scholarly backgrounds are desirable (from cultural studies, natural sciences, engineering, biotech etc. in addition to artistic productions of future such as e.g. sci-fi).

Our focus on the term ‘futurologies’ is due to the plurality of the possible, probable, and preferable futures we may experience. We want to investigate the nuances of these distinct paths both with the existing research tools and methods and by working towards creating our own set of ideas and practices in this space. Thus, when we use the plural ‘futurologies’, we are not only opening the field towards the subject of futurology itself, but are destabilising the categories and making it accessible to several methods and theories.

Expected number of participants: 7

General information about the Study Circle:
Comparative Futurologies is a study circle that investigates and discusses different perspectives on the future. The perspectives include understandings of scientific futures, cultural imaginations of futures, and artistic productions of future. The group aims to develop original, cross-disciplinary approaches to future thinking.

Coordinators:
Lars Ylander (DK)
Anssi Hynynen (FIN)

For more information about this Study Circle and how to join the activity, see:
http://nordic.university/study-circles/8-comparative-futurologies/

Comparative Futurologies Facebook group:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/1502210620052933/
Ad Hoc Program
The ad hoc program for 2017 focuses on two areas: symposia to prepare proposals for new study circles, and projects to establish new networks or collaborations with institutions within the Nordic-Baltic region.

Ad Hoc 1 | Learning and Bildung in the Time of Globalization

Symposium
Dates | 24–26 February, 2017
Place | Copenhagen, Denmark
Local Partner | The World Culture Centre in Copenhagen

Theme | Learning and Bildung in a Time of Globalization – a need for interphilosophical thinking from a Nordic perspective

The aim of the symposium is to discuss education, learning, edification and cosmopolitics in light of globalization, cultural diversity, world citizenship, alterity, heterological thinking and new concepts of peace and cultural sustainability, both from western and non-western perspectives. Below are five major themes, which will be used as starting points.

Theme 1. Global/world citizenship and intercultural and transcultural education
Theme 2. Otherness, plurality and difference: educational models of alterity
Theme 3. Dialogue with non-western thinkers, ideas, thought, developing heterological thinking
Theme 4. Creation of alternative, cultural sustainable and peaceful educational orders
Theme 5. Institutional transformations of educational institutions, organizations, and structures

Coordinators:
Michael Paulsen, Associate professor, Department for the Study of Culture, University of Southern Denmark.
Jesper Garsdal, Associate professor, Department of Learning and Philosophy Aalborg University Denmark.

For more information about this Ad Hoc seminar and how to join the activity, see:
http://nordic.university/study-circles/Ad-hoc-learning-bildung-time-globalization/
Ad Hoc 2 | Psychoanalysis in Our Time

Symposium
Date | 7–9 April 2017
Place | Sopot, Poland
Local partners | Conference Centre, Sopot; The University of Gdansk; The Polish Psychoanalytical Society
Theme | Psychoanalysis and the Symptom

Building on our expansion into the Baltic sea area in 2016 – which is a significant aspect of the NSU’s stated aims in the coming years – we will be collaborating on this proposed Ad Hoc event with the Conference Centre in Sopot and Gdansk University.

The proposed theme for this symposium will be “the symptom”: perhaps the vital concept around which psychoanalysis is articulated both as a clinical practice and as a body thought relevant to culture and society. And if one indication of the symptom in psychoanalysis is that which is missed out, passed over, or must remain unsaid, then a significant aspect of our focus will be on the symptomatic status of psychoanalysis today: a potential absence in discourses on mental health, for example, as well as in theoretical and philosophical paradigms.

One of the key aims of the Psychoanalysis in Our Time group is the interrogation of politics, culture, science and art in the Nordic-Baltic context, and one of the central ways in which we orient our investigations is to consider the place of psychoanalysis itself in this Nordic-Baltic context, and to bring psychoanalytic inquiry into new areas in the region. We have, for example, previously collaborated with the Estonian-Latvian Psychoanalytic Society in Tallinn, where we hosted a session on the difficult history of psychoanalysis in Estonia during and after the Soviet era, and where we were also able to invite the eminent Estonian-American psychoanalyst and academic, Prof. Maire Jaanus of Columbia University, to give her very first keynote speech at the University.

In the context of this Ad Hoc event, we have found that there is indeed a small psychoanalytic association based in Warsaw, Poland, with whom we intend to collaborate on this event on the Baltic coast, but this will be the first event of its kind to be held in Sopot – and so we will, once again, be breaking new ground both the for NSU and for psychoanalytic studies more generally. We aim to include in the programme for Sopot a session in which colleagues from across the Nordic-Baltic region will be invited to reflect upon the place of psychoanalysis and their experiences of encountering (and indeed, not encountering) it within their own cultures.

Keynotes: Prof. Elizabeth Cowie (University of Kent) and Adrian R. Price (Lacanian psychoanalyst)

Coordinators: Dr Agnieszka Piotrowska (Bedfordshire) and Dr Ben Tyrer (Exeter)

For more information about this Ad hoc seminar and how to join the activity, see:
Ad Hoc 3 | What is Critique?

Symposium
Date | 23–24 February 2017
Place | Gothenburg at Gothenburg University, Department of Literature, History of Ideas and Religion
Local partner | Nordiska Sociologförbundet and the Swedish peer review journal Lychnos

We invite practitioners, scholars, artists as well as students interested in the topic to propose papers on any aspect of the concept of critique and criticism. A selection of the papers will be published in the peer-review journal Lychnos.

The aim of the symposium is to discuss education, learning, edification and cosmopolitics in light of globalization, cultural diversity, world citizenship, alterity, heterological thinking and new concepts of peace and cultural sustainability, both from western and non-western perspectives. Below are some major themes, which will be used as starting points.

Theme 1. Global/world citizenship and intercultural and transcultural education
Theme 2. Otherness, plurality and difference: educational models of alterity

Background:
When the humanities and the social sciences are pressed with demands as to the purpose of their fields of study, criticism is often the answer. Be it social criticism, critique of texts, or even critique as counter culture and practice, criticism has become a major buzzword everywhere from research councils to university boards. The Swedish Research Council (Vetenskapsrådet) writes for example in their overview of the state of the humanities and social sciences: “In the multicultural society of today, in a global economy where reality is invariably changing and in a world full of flows of information, research is needed that helps us to see wholes and to think critically.” (Vetenskapsrådet, Forskningens framtid! Ämnesöversikt 2014 Humaniora och samhällsvetenskap, Vetenskapsrådets rapporter, Stockholm, 2015, p. 11) Likewise, there are new master programmes in critical thinking in several universities in Europe, including the Nordic countries, (for example at Gothenburg University, at Goldsmiths University London and at Central Saint Martins London), as well as a large academic network gathering universities that define themselves as critical universities. (See: Critical Edge Alliance (http://criticaledgealliance.com).)

Themes and Purpose:
Criticism has become one important self-definition of the humanities and the social sciences. But what does critique mean when put together with such different things as critical thinking, literary criticism, critical theory and critical social practices? The Nordic and Baltic countries have, due to their different histories, different traditions of critique. What are these differen-
ces and how large are they? The purpose of the symposium is two-fold. 1) It will gather researchers and practitioners from different fields of the criticism spectre in order to discuss what criticism is, can and should be. 2) On the basis of that discussion the symposium will lead to an application for a new study circle within Nordic Summer University and a network with the working name ‘Practices and theory of Critique.’

The symposium will gather participants from four different critical fields of study:
- Literary criticism
- Critical theory (defined broadly from the Frankfurt school to postcolonial studies)
- Critical potential of new media and technique
- Social criticism and critical practices.

The aim of the symposium is to get a broad range of views on what academic criticism as well as critical social practices could be, particularly in the Nordic and Baltic countries, and how they fit together.

Invited guests are Magnus William-Olsson, poet, essayist and leader of Kritiklabbet, and Rasmus Willig, a sociologist who has written extensively on the concept of critique, as well as studied it empirically in relation to the work-market. Both will hold keynote lectures during the workshop.

**Coordinators:**
Peter Aagaard, Associate professor, Department of Social Sciences and Business, University of Roskilde.
Karolina Enquist Källgren, Associate professor, Department of Literature, History of Ideas and Religion, and Co-Director of Studies, Centre for European Studies, University of Gothenburg.
Anders Ramsay, Ph.D. in sociology.

**Ad Hoc 4 | NSU Outreach Project for Academics in the Micro-Universities in the West-Nordic Region**

The Outreach Project is organised as people-to-people meetings with scholars and students, and in contrast to a conventional ad hoc seminar, it is instead realized through a series of meetings with interested parties in person as well as through social media.

The Outreach Project focuses on the current situation and outlook in the West-Nordic periphery through collaborating with West-Nordic micro-universities. The aim is both to support the developing research-environments and networks in the region, and expand the understanding of the Nordic through engaging with the local and situated knowledge of scholars and students as well as artists and other professionals in these young nations.
The Outreach Project builds on the experiences that led to the partnership agreement between the NSU and the EHU in Lithuania in 2015, which came out of the collaboration that started in 2013. This process showed that mutual trust and shared interest in network and partnership could only be established through people to people contact; through exchange of information and invitations to participate in activities and dialogue over time.

During 2016 the program created contact with the University of Nuuk and invited two Greenlandic students to the NSU Summer Session in Orivesi.

In 2017 the outreach project is governed directly under the NSU Board and will continue the outreach in the West-Nordic area, focusing in the Faroes and in Kautokeino (NO).

**Program responsibilities:**
NSU Board 2017
Disa Kamula (Finland) Chair of the Board

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**2 Summer Session**

**Date** | 26 July – 2 August 2017  
**Place** | Saulkrasti, Latvia

The week-long summer session is the yearly culmination of NSU’s activities. Here all study circles hold their symposia at a shared location. The session takes place at a location in the Nordic or Baltic countryside, usually at the end of July. This year we are holding the summer session for the first time in Latvia.

Study circles work during the day and in the evening, numerous social and cultural events take place. Excursions are made to local cultural attractions at the site of the summer session, and guests are invited to give new perspectives on the hosting country. Two international keynote speakers are invited to the summer session to make a total of four presentations that are also open to the local public. The keynotes integrate into the NSU as a whole by taking part in the study circles throughout the week.

NSU offers ECTS credits to students who participate or make a presentation at one of the symposia.

A key value of NSU is that families with children can participate at the summer sessions. NSU therefore provide what we call a “children’s circle” for participants who are between three and thirteen years old.
Keynotes 2017:

Prof. Sigridur Thorgeirsdottir is Professor of Philosophy at the University of Iceland. She specializes in the philosophy of Nietzsche, feminist philosophy and philosophy of nature and embodiment. Sigridur Thorgeirsdottir is one of the founders of the United Nations University GEST—Gender Equality Studies and Training Programme, a joint project of the United Nations University, University of Iceland and the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Among her publications are Dagbók 2016 - Árið með heimspekingum (A Calendar of Women Philosophers), University of Iceland Press, 2015 (co-authored with Erla Karlsdóttir, Eyja M. Brynjarsdóttir and Nanna Hlín Halldórsdóttir) and Birth, Death, and Femininity: Philosophies of Embodiment (with R.M. Schott (ed.), V. Songe-Möller, S. Heinämaa), Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2010. More information of her research and publications is found from her website: http://uni.hi.is/sigrthor/

The second keynote will be Cecilia Malmström Olsson, who received her doctorate in Lund, 1993 in Literature, with special focus on Dance Studies. She is a freelance dance researcher, writer, lecturer, and has been active in dance, culture, and education over the last thirty years in Sweden, Scandinavia, Europe and the US. Her focus has been and is dance and aesthetics, dance and politics from different perspectives, such as identity, gender, race, and power relations.

Expected number of participants: 100-150

The Summer Session will include 9 symposia:

Study Circle 1 | Understanding Migration in Nordic and Baltic Countries
Study Circle 2 | Appearances of the Political
Study Circle 3 | Feminist Philosophy: Time, History and the Transformation of Thought
Study Circle 4 | Narrative and Memory: Ethics, Aesthetics, Politics
Study Circle 5 | International Relations and Human Rights
Study Circle 6 | Appropriating Science and Technology for Societal Change
Study Circle 7 | Practicing Communities: Transformative Societal Strategies of Artistic Research
Study Circle 8 | Comparative Futurologies
Study Circle Y | Visiting circle from Humboldt University, lead by Prof. Stephanie von Schnurbein.
Study Circle X | This is a space for other participants, who don’t belong to any of the existing circles. Representatives from new study circle proposals and Ad Hoc symposia, guests or other interested participants can apply to be part of Circle X. Coordinated by the Board.

Specified themes of the Symposia will be announced by March 1st 2017. Coordinators are responsible for uploading CfP to the Summer Session (SS) on NSU webpage. It will be announced in NSU’s Newsletter #2.
**New in the year 2017 at the Summer Session:**
**Circle Y | Moving Humanities, Exploring Academic Practices. AEG through NSU**

Circle Y at NSU’s summer session 2017 is presented by AEG (Arbeitskreis Experiment Geisteswissenschaft), a network for alternative academic practices, centred at the Department of Northern European Studies, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin. In our circle, we wish to investigate the academic practices of the humanities, and explore the potential for new, creative practices.

We understand the humanities as a multi-dimensional academic field that always moves, crosses borders, connects spaces and ideas, questions existing structures. We ourselves as teachers and researchers can and should move the humanities through our practices in order to enable them to fulfil a constructive and critical role in changing societies. We are moved by the humanities, and it is this powerful affective dimension which needs to be critically investigated as well as used in responsible, engaged ways.

In this circle, we wish to explore this multidimensional mobility through scrutinizing the practices of academic work: teaching, learning, research, governance and administration. And we wish to address precisely those dimensions of these practices that are rarely thematised or indeed even acknowledged, such as bodily and affective dimensions of our day to day work.

We invite students, scholars and practitioners in related fields to a joint investigation into the joyful and valuable potential of the humanities. We want to test them in experiential and experimental ways to explore their potential and thus facilitate change in and beyond the academy. The general format of Circle Y will be that of an on-going Open Space Conference.

An Open Space session draws on the spontaneous curiosity of the participants. It provides a simultaneously solid and subtle framework in space and time which allows the participants to develop ideas, concepts and formats freely, without the constraints of a pre-set agenda, pre-formulated papers or prescribed tasks. It assumes that the knowledge is there in and between the people invited, it trusts that they have been working on their topics and questions thoroughly, and that their knowledge and practices will communicate and make themselves available through and within this framework.

A morning plenary meeting is used to jointly develop an agenda. Here, both prepared and spontaneous ideas for workshops, discussion rounds, and activities can be presented to all the participants. The proposals are structured into the available time slots and spaces. This still allows for spontaneously arising groups and topics, for shifts and changes within the agenda and the participants and for cross-pollination between the individual work groups. Documentation within the groups (where appropriate and meaningful) and a plenary meeting in the evening gather experiences and preliminary results. These can form the basis for the next day's agenda or for further collaborative endeavours.

Each day will be centred around one dimension of academic practices: Moving Space: Exploring bodily and territorial practices; Moving Time: Exploring temporal practices; Moving Aesthetics: Exploring creative practices; Moving Media: Exploring representational practices; Moving Emotion: Exploring affective practices.
Children's Circle:
A key value of NSU is that families with children can participate in the summer sessions. NSU therefore provides what we call a Children’s Circle for participants who are between three and thirteen years old. During the summer session children are engaged in a range of fun local activities while their parents contribute to their own study circles.

The children are attended to according to age and interests, and are also taken on exciting, regionally based excursions. Since NSU’s participants come from all of the Nordic and Baltic countries and beyond, a range of languages are spoken in the children’s circle.

One very important quality to the children’s circle is that opposed being run by professional pedagogues, it is in fact NSU children’s circle alumni who organize and structure the program. There is also a parental support person always present at the children’s circle.

3 Board activities and responsibilities

Board meetings (altogether five meetings live and preparatory meetings through Skype)

Pre-SM1-2017 SKYPE meeting

SM1-2017
Place: Saulkrasti; Latvia. Time: Thursday 9 to Monday 13 February.
The Board will arrive on Thursday evening and depart on Monday morning. The Board meeting will start on Fri. at 9:00 and end on Sunday evening at 18:00.
ARRKOM 2017 will join the meeting on Fri. evening (or Sat. morning) and the meeting starts on Saturday at 9:00 and ends at Sunday at 14:00.

Main tasks:
Finalizing the framework of the Summer Session with the local organizing committee, called the Arrangement Committee (Arrkom)

Pre-SM2-2017 SKYPE meeting
Time: 1 June at 9-11PM (Helsinki time), TBC.

SM2-2017
Place: FNF, Copenhagen, DK. Time: from Thursday 8 to Monday 12 June.
(Arrival day Thursday afternoon or evening, leaving Sunday after 18,00 or day Monday morning).

Main tasks:
Assessing the self-evaluations of the Study Program 2017, finalizing the proposals for the budget and Study Program 2018, preparing the launching of the plans for the Summer Session 2018, and deciding upon the location for the Summer Session 2019.

Pre-SM3-2017 SKYPE meeting
(Needs to be decided, when the SS2017 is confirmed)
Time: Yday Xth July at Z PM (Helsinki time), TBC.

SM3-2017
Place: Saulkrasti, Latvia. Time: from 26 July to 2 August.
The Board will arrive on Thursday afternoon/evening at the latest Friday morning by 9,00 and depart on Sunday morning.

Main tasks:
Setting the program for the two Coordinator Meetings, which respectively are held prior to and at the end of the Summer Session, preparing items for the General Assembly, and making plans for the autumn and winter program.

Pre-SM4-2017 SKYPE meeting
Time: 7 September at 9-11 PM (Helsinki time), TBC.

SM4-2017
Place: Sopot, Poland, TBD. Time: from Thursday 14th to Monday 18th September.
The Board will arrive on Thursday afternoon/evening and depart on Monday morning (or Sunday evening).

Main tasks:
Facilitating the upcoming activities of the Study Program 2017 and planning the program for the third Coordinator Meeting.

Other meetings on behalf of NSU
The Chair together with one or two other board members will arrange other meetings over the year on behalf of NSU. For example with our service providers (FNF and OWS), with our funders (NMRS), including the annual institutional seminar at NMRS, and with other institutional partners and collaborators, like the Scandinavian Institute at Gdansk University etc.

Coordinator meetings (altogether 3 meetings for the board and the coordinators of the eight study circles)
First meeting FM-1  
Place: Saulkrasti, Latvia.  

Participants:  
Board and all coordinators responsible for the program of the study circles at the Summer Session.

Main tasks:  
To evaluate the winter activities and then discuss plans and current issues related to the running of the study program with a special focus on the upcoming Summer Session, as well as the proposal for revision of the statutes.

Second meeting FM-2  
Place: Saulkrasti, Latvia.  

Participants:  
Board, deputies, and all coordinators responsible for study circles, both outbound in 2016 and incoming in 2017.

Main tasks:  
Evaluation of the summer session and announcements of deadlines and objectives for Autumn 2016 and Winter 2017.

Third meeting FM-3  
Place: Sopot, Poland.  

Participants:  
(Outgoing and incoming) Board and (incoming) Deputies and coordinators responsible for the study circles included in NSU Study Program for 2017.

Main tasks:  
Transfer of knowledge on managerial tasks as well as the scholarly work and development in the study circles, particularly related to organizing the Winter Symposia in 2017.

General Assembly meeting  
Place: Saulkrasti, Latvia.  

Participants:  
The representatives of the General Assembly (with voting rights) are elected at the start of the
Summer Session by the participants, partly in the study circles (which each elect three representatives) and partly in the seven regional meetings (which each elect two representatives). In this way both scholarly and geographical representation are ensured. The regional meetings are organized in the following groups: Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland (including Åland), West Nordic (including Iceland, Greenland and the Faeroes), the Baltics and the International group.

**Main tasks:**
The General Assembly is the highest authority of the NSU, which can amend the NSU statutes and lay down general guidelines for the organization, approve the accounting, control the Board’s work, and decide upon the budget and the Study Program as well as elect the executive Board for the upcoming calendar year.

**Support**
NSU is registered as a Swedish non-profit organization and has currently no employees.

**Service providers**
NSU support functions are purchased from the following service providers:

- Web and Support – by Set Lönnett Humanities & Technology and various other providers in the field, like Wasabi ([wasabiweb.se](http://wasabiweb.se)).
- Accounting – by the Association of Nordic Associations (FNF) and their accountant Susanne Farre. FNF has since 2008 been NSU’s service provider for the economy functions.
- Auditing – PwC Statsautoriserte Revisionspartnerselskab, Strandvejen 44, 2900 Hellerup, Denmark.

**Archives**
NSU has a physical archive in Aarhus, partially stored in the National Library of Denmark in Aarhus. This archive contains old archival documents, previously released books, records and other important documents from NSU’s formation in 1950 until early 2000. In addition to these physical documents, there are also electronically stored archive materials from the early 2000 to 2016, mainly stored on hard-disks provided by Set Lönnett Humanities & Technology. This includes information about previous activities and the management of NSU, such as minutes from meetings, etc. Today the documents of the daily operation of NSU are mainly stored online.
4 Preliminary Expanded Activity Plan 2018

In 2018 Nordic Summer University (NSU) would continue to operate as a generator of ideas that seeks to develop scholarly and innovative initiatives by building international networks and communities engaged in cross-disciplinary research enquiries and critical thinking. NSU gives priority to topical areas of study that are not already established at the universities. Through its activities NSU stimulates research development and offers open access to new knowledge in a non-hierarchical environment for established academics as well as independent and emerging researchers, artists and other professionals. All aspects of NSU are democratically organized by its participants and therefore NSU stands as an exemplar of Nordic democracy in practice.

NSU is comprised principally of eight study circles that investigate a variety of topics over the course of a three-year cycle. The research carried out by these groups addresses a number of the central concerns and aims of the Nordic prime ministers and the Nordic Council of Ministers. For instance, the work of “Understanding Migration in Nordic and Baltic Countries” (Study Circle 1) to explore diverse theoretical and empirical perspectives around the broad theme of migration, in relation specifically to the Nordic and Baltic region, focuses on exchanging experiences and developing new knowledge around the Nordic programme for the integration of refugees and immigrants in the region. The circles also address the main areas of the “Nordic solutions to global societal challenges” initiative. The work of “Feminist Philosophy: Time, History and the Transformation of Thought” (Study Circle 3) to investigate the contributions of Nordic women in the fields of literary studies, the history of ideas, gender studies, and sociology, and the relative underrepresentation of women in academic disciplines such as philosophy, addresses questions of equality and labour pertaining to the “The Nordic Deal – Gender, Business, and Work” project. The work of “Appropriating Technology and Science for Societal Change” (Study Circle 6) to consider the new political subjects that may arise from new technology and emergent scientific fields is in dialogue with the concerns of the “Nordic Climate and Energy Solutions” project. The research of a recently completed study cycle, “Transformations in Welfare in the Nordic countries”, speaks directly to the focus of the “Nordic Welfare Solutions” project, and resulted in the publication of an anthology study, Rights of Children in the Nordic Welfare States: Conceptual and Empirical Enquiries (eds. Jeanette Åkerström & Gro Hellesdatter-Jacobsen, NSU Press, 2015).

NSU was asked by the Nordic Council of Ministers to respond to the following questions: What would happen if NSU were granted less funding and what would happen if NSU were granted more funding in 2018?

1) What would happen if NSU were granted less funding?
Any cut in NSU funding in 2018 would stop the long running, trust-based Nordic-Baltic co-operative network from functioning.

Less money relates directly to fewer activities and participants. It would:
- reduce the basis for voluntary work to a point where the organisation would collapse
- undermine plurality in terms of participant demographics
- undermine the quality of work produced and limit the amount
- significantly reduce impact on the Nordic research community as it will threaten the network profile of NSU, limiting to a few selected activities

If our funding is cut, it would directly cut into the activities that we organize. It would mean no travelling within the Nordic-Baltic region, no support for precarious academics, no support for Phd students and MA students to participate in the activities, no support for single parents and families, no support of Nordic peripheral areas, such as the West-Nordic region, no scholarships for Greenlandic students to attend the summer session. It would also mean losing the NSU children’s circle.

2) What could happen if NSU were granted more financial support in 2018? What could NSU offer?

We could help the Nordic Council of Ministers achieve the goals that they have envisioned for Nordic collaboration in the future in their “New Norden 2.0” reform package, especially in the field of civil society and scholarly domain.

**Freedom of movement**

A) NSU's position gives it a unique possibility of **crossing borders between traditional universities**, younger research institutions and centers, researchers in other fields, artists, social/cultural workers, journalists etc. The cross-disciplinary character of NSU which was experimental in the beginning of NSU's existence in 1950’s is today becoming cross-institutional, which proves to be very difficult today due to the specificity of funding and regulations. NSU can encourage people who work independently and/or differently outside of big institutions to join.

B) NSU can offer platforms for early career researchers (i.e. after the PhD) where they need to develop their career by creating projects and networks for future research activities. We could develop existing activities AND outreach to new areas and forms of academic work (two directions: inter-Nordic-Baltic and Nordic in the world) and give more grants and scholarships to people in need to attend the activities.

**Innovation**
C) Establishing more collaboration with civil society such as groups working with developing e.g. alternative living (social, age-related, sustainable), organic/alternative food production, and development of local communities to prevent concentration around the biggest cities. The need for research connections for such initiatives can be answered by NSU. This requires money for travelling, inviting relevant people, to make seminars with partners and to integrate in projects and support publication (research as well as also reports etc.). It also requires long term agreements; NSU must have a secure funding for at least three-year periods to be able to make serious partnerships.

D) Development of new research projects (projektmodning) that work on applications for specific research projects. NSU can play an important role as fertilising larger project by supporting the build-up phase. Here money is needed for meetings and inviting/visiting keypersons. We could also fund more study circles: having more NSU circles but yet keeping the quality of the activities (it is very important). We could offer more opportunities: for example, more Ad Hoc symposia as we are already doing (giving more money for the applicants) and expanding the scope of a study circle and the outreach program.

**Visibility**

E) Make it possible to have more continuity for activities like funding for one-day discussions and presentations in different settings across different countries. This will make the work in the circles more consistent and improve the quality (more critical dialogue) and visible (the outcome becomes the outcome of the circle rather than the circle is contributing to research done in other context where NSU plays only the role of one or two annual presentations). It will also increase the visibility of NSU and make it easier to find people who fit the theme of the circles and encourage them to come. We could create a 3rd season for NSU activities for the autumn and have more complementary activities in order to attract more participants (like satellite events such as the one organized by circle 7).

F) Make NSU known and make the recruitment process easier. Currently the work in NSU is all voluntarily. This is crucial for the democratic and inclusive structure of NSU. However, the more funding the more participants and visibility. More participants will also give resources to create and maintain platforms such as web, publications and communication including contacting institutions and people to invite them to NSU. This also means more in-kind contributions from the individuals that contribute their support for NSU as coordinators of the study circles, as editors of NSU Press, as members of the arrangement committee and as members of the board, who are also responsible for the functioning of the whole organization. By the increase of the working hours, we could establish a honorarium system as a recognition of the voluntary work done in the previous year by the Arrkom, Coordinators and Board in NSU. In case the receiver feels strongly that they are not in the need of honorarium
from NSU and they want to support NSU’s activities in the future, the honorarium can also be donated back to NSU (optional).

G) We are currently drowning in information about activities and it takes many hours of work to directly address relevant partners. Buying services from a web-editor would be needed to maintain the modern and “up to beat” website database and to keep updated of the modern communication tools and for swift use of those tools. We could advertise more the activities of NSU in the different Universities, research centers, embassies, art and other organizations. We could also create a fund-raising campaign for individual donors to secure our long term activities of NSU.

H) We could archive 70 years of history of Nordic collaboration in NSU. NSU is a unique organisation, which can teach us a lot about the history of the Nordic countries post WWII. The aim is to deposit the old physical documents that remain in the custody of Aarhus University to the National Library in Aarhus, or alternatively at the Swedish National Archive, so that the historical material can be secured for the future. The Swedish National Archive is willing to receive the material, but require that it is professionally sorted and organised. We need resources to make the NSU archive digital and thereby accessible to academics all over the Nordic and Baltic countries. This operation has a cost that requires external funding. The Board aims to resolve this problem, secure this cultural heritage of early Nordic collaboration for future researchers before our 70th Anniversary in 2020.

**International engagement**

I) A platform for activities with institutions outside the dominant universities. NSU can create small scale and flexible partnerships in between study-circles and institutions that bring in contacts from the other Nordic/Baltic institutions and Scandinavian language centres. The costs of travelling and accommodation are a hindrance for such activities today – relations crossing over from Baltic to the West Nordic requires substantial more funding. We could also contact the embassies of Nordic and Baltic Countries and collaborate with them for open meetings about the activities.

J) Developing the publishing activities of NSU Press. With more resources we could establish an online platform, pay for editorial work, and pay for language review. We would like to publish the keynote presentations held at the summer session. Number of renowned keynotes have previous publications in NSU talks, by Alenka Zupancic and Hartmut Rosa, which have had high demand and been reprinted several times. Developing NSU Press would also serve as outreach to the world outside Nordic-Baltic area - and make Nordic visible in the world through publications. The publishing focus of NSU Press could remain in nordic-baltic collaboration and nordic-baltic issues and languages.
NSU Budget for 2017

See separate document NSU Budget 2017.
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<tr>
<th>Projekt nr</th>
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| In-kind contribution coordinators/ koordinatorer | 47,249 | 47,249 |
| Other costs/ övriga utgifter | 84 | 84 |

| SM3 Board meeting (July)/ Styrelsemöte (Juli) | 10,011 | 16,011 |
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| In-kind contribution coordinators/ koordinatorer | 47,249 | 47,249 |
| Other costs/ övriga utgifter | 84 | 84 |

<p>| SM4 Board meeting (September)/ Styrelsemöte (Sept) | 10,011 | 16,011 |
| Travel/ resor | 2,501 | 7,012 |
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| In-kind contribution coordinators/ koordinatorer | 47,249 | 47,249 |
| Other costs/ övriga utgifter | 84 | 84 |</p>
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**COST / KOSTNADER, TOTAL**

|  | 2,734,629 | 3,487,000 | 3,418,000 |

**INCOME / INKOMSTER**

|  | 2,986,414 | 3,487,000 | 3,418,000 |

**RESULT / Resultat**

|  | 251,785 |

**NOTES:**

1) See calculation for in-kind contributions in Appendix 1.
2) See calculation for in-kind contributions in Appendix 1.
3) External funding in P3 equals "Excursions under INCOME".
4) Cost for excursions in P3.3 equals "Excursions under INCOME".
5) OWS means "Office of Web and Support".
6) See separate budget for NSU Press in Appendix 2.
8) Based on the auditors invoice from 2014, 30 000 DKK (31 000 SEK).
9) The estimate of the NMR support for 2017 is 1,203,000 DKK. The last year with Nordforsk was 2015.
### Appendix 1

**In-kind contributions to NSU 2017 (in SEK)**

**Notes:**

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<th>SM3</th>
<th>SM4</th>
<th>pr. person</th>
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**Value of the work**

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<td></td>
<td>172,463</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTES:**
1) Frivilligt arbejde er værdiansat til en værdi af SEK 315 pr. time i overensstemmelse med Dansk Magisterforenings vejledende konsulenthonorar, der er beskrevet her; http://www.dm.dk/LoenOgAnsættelse/LoenOgIndkomst/HonorarOgTimeloen/Konsulentaarbejde.
2) All the amounts are in SEK and rounded up/down to the nearest thousand in column BUDGET VALUE.
3) Estimation of In-Kind contribution of the Board is based on the actual working days of the NSU Board in 2016.
4) Estimation of In-Kind contribution of the Coordinators is based on the tasks required of them, as specified in the document the Year in NSU, see: http://support.nsuweb.org/the-year-in-nsu/
5) Estimation of In-Kind contribution of the ARRKOM is based on the tasks required of them, as specified in the document, see: http://support.nsuweb.org/arrkom/manual/
6) Estimation of In-Kind contribution of the NSU PRESS is based on the calculations made in the Budget Sheet: APP2 NSU PRESS.
7) Y = total number of working days. This number varies depending on the number of anthologies and the number of chapters in each anthology. Please see APP2 NSU PRESS for a specification of this year's numbers.
8) The highlighted cells correspond to the respective values for each post in the budget-sheet.
Appendix 2

In-kind contributions to NSU PRESS 2016 (in SEK)

ESTIMATION OF WORK PER ANTOLOGY:

1 publication: 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work tasks</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Practicalities</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working days pr chapter by editors, x=nr of chapters</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(2x)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total working days for each anthology = 2X+3

ESTIMATION OF IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS TO NSU PRESS 2016:

In 2016 the NSU's study circle activities will have produced a total of 4 anthologies and one journal issue, 3 anthologies directly financed and published by NSU Press, 1 anthology and 1 journal issue published via external publishers, Psychoanalysis in Our Time by Routledge and Exploring affect in LIR.journal, University of Gothenburg.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Editors</th>
<th>(Circle)</th>
<th>No. of Chapter</th>
<th>Total work days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Ethics, Democracy, and Markets: Nordic Perspectives on World Problems, NSU Press</td>
<td>G. Baruchello, J. Dahl Rendtorff, A. Sørensen</td>
<td>circle 3</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>(2x13)+3=29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Experiencing the Everyday, NSU Press</td>
<td>C. Friberg, R. Vasquez</td>
<td>circle 2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>(2x10)+3=23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Psychoanalysis and the Unrepresentable: From culture to the clinic, Routledge</td>
<td>A. Piotrowska and B. Tyrer</td>
<td>circle 4</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>(2x17)+3=37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Exploring affect, LIR.journal, University of Gothenburg</td>
<td>J. Sjöstedt and J. Lindbo</td>
<td>circle 8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>(2x7)+3=17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total working days = 106 **

NOTES:

* Total working days equals ((2x)+3) for each anthology  
** This is the total number of editor's working days that is referred to as Y in APP1

The economic value of the working days: see sheet App1 In-Kind Contribution
### Appendix 3

#### NSU Press Budget and Status 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project nr</th>
<th>Project: NAME of the book</th>
<th>Grant€</th>
<th>Grant SEK</th>
<th>Decision</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Editors/Authors</th>
<th>Circle nr</th>
<th>Comments</th>
<th>Status</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Rights of Children in the Nordic Welfare States: - Conceptual and Empirical Enquiries</td>
<td>2700</td>
<td>24883</td>
<td>SM-4-2012</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jeanette Åkerström, Gro Hellesdatter-Jacobse</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>200</td>
<td></td>
<td>SM-2-2015</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13.6.2015: extra 200€ granted, 210€ themsel</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Political Normativity</td>
<td>2700</td>
<td></td>
<td>SM-2-2012</td>
<td></td>
<td>Olivia Pontoppidan and Gorm Harste</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Withdrawn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Indføring i arkekturologi</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>SM-2-2013</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Dag Petersson, Henrik Owig</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Why Psychoanalysis?: Three Interventions (1st Reprint) 2nd Reprint (500 copies)</td>
<td>1300</td>
<td>11980.93</td>
<td>SM-2-2013</td>
<td></td>
<td>Alenka Zupancic</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Published by NSU Press - Funded externally</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1300</td>
<td>11980.93</td>
<td>SM-2-2014</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sum. talk</td>
<td>1. Reprint</td>
<td></td>
<td>Paid &amp; published 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Hartmut Rosa: Reprint 500 copies</td>
<td>1700</td>
<td>15667</td>
<td>SM-2-2014</td>
<td></td>
<td>Hartmut Rosa</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Paid &amp; published 2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Ethics, Democracy, and Markets: Nordic Perspectives on World Problem</td>
<td>2700</td>
<td>24883</td>
<td>SM-4-2014</td>
<td></td>
<td>Baruchello, Dahl Rendtorff, Sørensen</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Paid &amp; published 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Being Here: Exploring the local through artistic research</td>
<td>3700</td>
<td>34100</td>
<td>SM-2-2015</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Greenfield, Abrantes, Trustram</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td>Peer review fall 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Experiencing the Everyday.</td>
<td>2700</td>
<td>24883</td>
<td>SM-2-2015</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Carsten Friberg, Raine Vasquez</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>147704.06</td>
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<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>Dialectics, Deontology, Democracy I-III</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>SM-1-2016</td>
<td></td>
<td>Asger Sørensen</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ext. funding</td>
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</table>

**EXTERNAL PUBLICATIONS OF THE WORK OF THE NSU STUDY CIRCLES**

**EXP-1** Psychoanalysis and the Unrepresentable: From culture to the clinic, 3rd edition

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project nr</th>
<th>Project: NAME of the book</th>
<th>Grant€</th>
<th>Grant SEK</th>
<th>Decision</th>
<th>Notes</th>
<th>Editors/Authors</th>
<th>Circle nr</th>
<th>Comments</th>
<th>Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Agnieszka Piotrowska and Ben Tyer</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>Published Sep. 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXP-2</strong> Exploring affect - special issue of LIR.journal, University of Gothenburg</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Johanna Sjöstedt and Johanna Lindbo</td>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>Published August 2016</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Income

|           | Salg af bøger - E. Brunnström 21.08.2015 | 2301   |

### Result of the year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>€</th>
<th>SEK</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>19100</td>
<td>149301</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Balance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**

1. Granted amount is based on a book with 200 pages.
2. Granted amount is based on budget with extra costs.
3. Income for 2016 will be known by the end of the year.