

CHAIRMAN'S AND PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

The years 2000–2001 were a unique and historic time for The American-Scandinavian Foundation. Our 90th year was distinguished by the opening of **Scandinavia House: The Nordic Center in America** and a renewed commitment to building and strengthening the cultural and educational bonds between the United States and Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden.

The following pages cover the activities of The American-Scandinavian Foundation over the 18-month period starting January 1, 2000 and concluding June 30, 2001. This report includes two fiscal periods—the first six months of 2000 (abbreviated by the Trustees' decision to change the fiscal year to commence July 1) and the following 12 months, July 1, 2000—June 30, 2001.

On October 11, 2000, **Scandinavia House: The Nordic Center in America** was dedicated, marking the realization of a dream long cherished by all of us at the ASF. The culmination of more than ten years of planning and made possible by the dedication and generosity of Trustees and friends on both sides of the Atlantic, Scandinavia House is a vital center for cultural programs and exchange between the United States and the five Nordic countries on a rich multiplicity of levels. In the eight months following its opening, more than 100 cultural and educational programs were presented at Scandinavia House, including art exhibitions, concerts, lectures, language courses, film series, storytelling, and children's programs.

During the 18-month period covered by this report, over 140 fellowships and grants were awarded by the ASF to scholars, artists, and distinguished professionals, enabling them to pursue research and creative endeavors abroad. More than 85 cultural and educational institutions in the U.S. and abroad received program and project grants totaling \$300,000. And, in the course of the same period, the ASF's Training Program made it possible for more than 500 young professionals and students to receive important on-the-job experience.

All of these accomplishments have been made possible by the hard work and commitment of the ASF staff and by the leadership and support of our Trustees, as well as the interest, participation, and generosity of our many friends. We extend warm thanks to all.

KRISTJÁN T. RAGNARSSON, M.D.
CHAIRMAN

EDWARD P. GALLAGHER
PRESIDENT