

TRAINING PROGRAM

During the fiscal year 2000–01, the Foundation sponsored 333 young Scandinavians for on-the-job training in the United States in a wide range of professional fields common to both the U.S. and the Nordic countries. Fields represented included business, engineering, commerce, and agriculture. The greatest number of trainees—165—came from Sweden, followed by 112 from Denmark and 43 from Finland.

Each participant in this exchange program receives the unique opportunity to gain an American perspective in his or her professional field while making American friends and participating in daily life in the U.S. The host trainer might be a Fortune 500 corporation or a small family business, a cutting-edge R&D laboratory or a social service center. Trainees were located in 36 states, with the greatest numbers in New York (88), California (55), Florida (28), and Minnesota (18).

Reciprocity is a cornerstone of the program, and the ASF, with the assistance of its Nordic cooperating offices, sent 22 Americans to Scandinavia for on-the-job placements. The Foundation is grateful to The Center for International Mobility in Finland for its successful efforts to locate positions for the ASF's American trainees in engineering and education; 8 Americans were enriched by their training assignments in Finland with Finnish firms and universities. The Swedish Employment Offices assisted 13 Americans to obtain their work permits to train in Sweden.

The Foundation is grateful to the many firms, both in the U.S. and Scandinavia, that have welcomed trainees and provided them with this valuable international experience. The ASF's host trainers have demonstrated their support of international understanding and exchange in this very meaningful way.

The Foundation is fortunate to cooperate on this program with dedicated colleagues at The Denmark-America Foundation, The Center for International Mobility, The Icelandic-American Society, The Norway-America Association, The Sweden-America Foundation, and The Swedish Employment Office.

Exchange Programs 2000–2001*							AMERICANS TO SCANDINAVIA		
SCANDINAVIANS IN THE UNITED STATES	Denmark	Finland	Iceland	Norway	Sweden	Total 2000–01	2000–01	1912–2001	
Fellows	8	9	24	33	23	97	Fellows	43	1339
Hon. Fell.	—	—	—	2	2	4	Hon. Fellows	—	241
Trainees	191	92	3	17	321	624	Trainees	32	1594
TOTAL	199	191	27	50	344	721	Student/Other	—	1256
TOTAL 1912–2001	9588	1,643	836	2,981	7,762	22,810	TOTAL	75	4430

*Covers the period of January 1, 2000–June 30, 2001. Fellow totals include grants made for the 2000–01 and 2001–02 academic years

"Our trainee has a first-class professional attitude. ASF's program is extremely efficient, highly effective and should be a model for other countries who promote exchange programs for their young scholars."

Jeanie Johnston Company,
New York.
Trainee Nargis Jensen of Denmark



Claus Walsted of Denmark, trainee in boatbuilding at William Cannell Boatbuilding Co., Inc., Camden, ME



Marianne Løken of Norway, trainee in publishing at Ten Speed Press, Berkeley, CA



Jessica Berlin of Sweden, trainee in environmental technology at Akzo Nobel Surface Chemistry LLC, Morris IL



Robert Garrett from Auburn University, trainee in industrial engineering at VTT Automation, Tampere, Finland

Maria Isotupa of Finland, trainee in arts administration at Finnish Foundation for the Visual Arts Inc., New York, NY



"Previous to this internship, I lacked any hands-on experience in the field of broadcasting so I feel that I have learned so much. . . I was impressed with the opportunities that CNN and World Report gave to their trainees to learn and participate in the daily operations of the company."

Finnish trainee Kirsi Hantula. Trained at CNN, Atlanta