Welcome to the first electronic edition of The Longboat, which we have introduced in our ongoing effort to develop more efficient, environmentally friendly, and cost effective methods to communicate with our constituents. We hope you will find this as informative and enjoyable as the print edition and will forward it to interested friends and colleagues.

It has been an enormously active year at the ASF and in spite of the very large challenges posed by the worldwide financial crisis and its effect on our own endowments, we have been able to maintain high levels of grant and fellowship funding.

2008-09 produced a very strong cohort of ASF Fellows. Fifty Scandinavian Fellows were awarded nearly $515,000 in funding by the ASF to carry out projects in fields as diverse as electrical engineering, journalism, music theory, neuroscience and education. Thirty five American scholars were awarded more than $286,000 in funding bringing the total of 2008-09 fellowships and grants to $801,000. American fellows carried out projects in fields such as fisheries biology in Norway, medieval studies in Iceland, conflict resolution in Sweden and Arctic landscape painting in Finland.

In addition, for the coming year the ASF has funded visiting lectureships at Wartburg College and the University of Arkansas. Additionally, we have funded grants to 38 institutions in the U.S. and Scandinavia to support public projects ranging from contemporary art exhibitions to dance performances.

In March 2009, the ASF held its Annual Gala in the presence of Crown Prince Frederik and Crown Princess Mary of Denmark. ASF Trustee Liv Ullmann served as Master of Ceremonies for the evening. In his remarks, Crown Prince Frederik commented that “for almost a century the Foundation has been a focal point for the Nordic community in the United States and a window for presenting our culture to the American public. Through a great variety of cultural events and scholarships to Scandinavians and Americans alike, the Foundation has helped strengthen the ties across the Atlantic and enhance the intercultural awareness between our two continents.”

Scandinavia House: The Nordic Center in America continues to present a wide range of cultural and educational programs. Of particular interest to our Fellows is the exhibition, Northern (L)attitudes, featuring a collection of photographs, paintings, videos and mixed media celebrating the works of nine provocative contemporary artists (four American, five Norwegian) all of whom have been American-Scandinavian Foundation Fellowship recipients: Eric Aho, Marion Belanger, Lene Berg, Sandra Binion, Kjell Bjorgeengen, Ole Martin Lund Bo, Unn Fahistrom, Nina Katchadourian, and Are Mokkelbost.

A transatlantic cross-pollination of concepts and mediums, Northern (L)attitudes explores how each country's geography, environment and culture informs the work of the artist. The exhibition highlights intersections of cultural exchange and how they occur. It will be on display September 8th to the 19th and we encourage all ASF alumni to stop by Scandinavia House to view the works of art.

-Edward P. Gallagher
ASF President
RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS BY ASF FELLOWS


Jay A. Clarke (2007 Fellow to Norway) served as curator for the highly acclaimed Becoming Edvard Munch: Influence, Anxiety, and Myth exhibition at the Art Institute of Chicago earlier this year. Dr. Clarke has recently been appointed Manton Curator of Prints, Drawings, and Photographs at the Sterling and Francine Clark Art Institute in Williamstown MA.

Gunnhildur Daðadóttir (2007 Fellow from Iceland) accepted a one-year position with the Iceland Symphony Orchestra.

Heidi Durrow (2007 Fellow to Denmark) will have her novel, The Girl Who Fell From the Sky, a coming-of-age story about the daughter of a Dane, published by Algonquin Books in February 2010. The book was awarded writer Barbara Kingsolver’s Bellwether Prize for Literature of Social Change.

Evelyn Scherabon Firchow (1993 Fellow to Iceland) published her book Wege und innwege der mittelalterlichen Textausgaben. ausgewählte Aufsätze (Stuttgart: Hirzel Verlag, 2007)

Peter Haarmark (2007 Fellow from Denmark) recently accepted the position of Vice-President of International Marketing at Campfire A/S.

Stephen Hilyard (2007 Fellow to Iceland) had a photo exhibit entitled The Beautiful Lie at Madison Museum of Contemporary Art, Madison, WI.

William Jacobs (1989 Fellow to Denmark) recently accepted the position of Director of the Exhibition Program at the Library of Congress.


Melissa Gjellstad (2006 Fellow to Norway) accepted the position of Assistant Professor of Norwegian at the University of North Dakota.

Lansing McLoskey (1993 Fellow to Denmark) released a CD on Albany Records entitled Sixth Sense, which includes a recording of “Solsange,” a setting of poems in Danish, written while living in Denmark as an ASF Fellow.

Emily Oken (2005 Fellow to Denmark) published an article in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition based on the study of associations of maternal prenatal fish intake and breastfeeding duration with child developmental milestones.

Joan Templeton (1987 and 1999 Fellow to Norway) gave a lecture at Scandinavia House in December 2008 in conjunction with the publication of her new book, Munch’s Ibsen: A Painter’s Visions of a Playwright.

Stephen Thomas (1996 Fellow to Denmark) performed Edvard Grieg’s Piano Concerto in A Minor with the Nordsjælland Symfoniorkester (Denmark) in a series of concerts in Denmark and Romania, in October 2007, under the direction of Klaus Munk-Nielsen.

Julia Staples (2008 Fellow to Iceland) had her first opening this year at Lost Horse Gallery in Iceland. She showed new works from a project about the Icelandic suburbs.

Julia Staples (2008 Fellow to Iceland) performed Edvard Grieg’s Piano Concerto in A Minor with the Nordsjælland Symfoniorkester (Denmark) in a series of concerts in Denmark and Romania, in October 2007, under the direction of Klaus Munk-Nielsen.

Joan Truckenbord (1994 Fellow to Denmark) appeared in the September 2007 issue of Sculpture Magazine. In 2005, her Portfolio Collection was published by Telos Art Publishing. She is currently a Board Member of The Chicago Sculpture International.

Jo Yarrington (2007 Fellow to Iceland) had her work in the Cryptoreal: Art & Myth exhibition at the Francis Lewis Gallery in Queens, NYC.
An ASF Fellow Reports...

Originally published in Grapevine (August 2008) alongside photos by ASF Fellow to Iceland Jula Staples.

The Book of Non-Icelanders: What defines an American expat living in Iceland by Colleen Kinder

"I've never heard thunder here," Jonas, an American living in Reykjavík, blurted out during our hike, as raindrops flecked our bare arms. "Really?" I checked. I'd been interviewing Americans living in Iceland for a month, for a book project about expatriates. Just over a thousand Americans live in Iceland, and the few dozen I contacted were willing to talk over tea or shark. I wanted know, first: what brought them to Iceland; next: how they felt about this second home.

My sources could handle the first question in a word: "WWII" for instance, or "Elmar." But part two required another cup of tea, a tangent, a brief rant on the rules of Icelandic grammar. Listening, I felt like I'd stumbled into an odd family reunion and taken refuge at the in-laws' table. Like me, these expats were outsiders. But unlike me, they knew all about the inside.

I have Iceland's expats to thank for coaching me through my first taste of shark, but also for nudging me out of the plane of first impressions. Every first-time traveler to Iceland begins by noticing the black fields of lava, then the quaint, corrugated homes, and finally, the spindly yellow cranes looming in every view. An expatriate, though, long ago looked past the features of the landscape, toward the landscape. He uses what he misses and, conversely, what he's glad to miss, to characterize his second home.

Iceland: where the busiest corner of the capital stations no beggar. Where no one starts her workday by shoving onto a hot subway car. Where grown men aren't hawking cheap souvenirs. Where little boys aren't washing the windshields of cars stuck in traffic. Where women aren't blighted for babies they didn't plan.

Where litter is rare. So are pimples, and catcalls and sirens and the faintest sense of danger. Where strangers at a party don't need to know where you work. Where parents don't need to know where their kids play. Where store clerks and waiters don't bother with those how-are-you pleasantries, instead just asking what it is you want.

Glenn misses grape jelly, variety in cold medicine, relatives that are his. Paul misses corned beef, Maryland crab cakes, criticism in the arts. Others miss diving on a glacier, that's not so conscious, drinking that's not so excessive, humidity, anonymity, washing machines that open up top.

Each time I read through these phantom grocery lists and non-phenomena, I wonder what they tell us about the American lives paused or deserted for Iceland.

What's In a Name

People warned me not to expect commonalities among expatriates in Iceland. Work and love—the most universal of all themes—accounted for the presence of Americans on this island. Sure enough, most Americans I spoke with had clear professional purposes. To lump these purposes together would make as much sense as forming a union of Volcanologists, Artists, Smelter Engineers & Baristas.

Rather than shove Americans under a thematic umbrella, I'll define them as they define Iceland: by contrasts. Around the globe, my fellow citizens are innovative for sticking out, and doing little to change that. Reykjavík, thank heavens, is not a depot of "ugly Americans." People tell me an outsider will never truly fit in on this island, but could one ever last here without trying?

I understand now why my interviewees resisted the term "expat," hinting that they identified more as non-Icelanders: defined not by where they came from, but where they did not. At this latitude, the challenge of expatriation is to claim whatever space remains in a society that might as well be called a family. And just as in-laws at a family reunion know to go along with the customs, the lingo, and the inside jokes, Iceland's expats eat the skate, even if it feels like a joke on the landscape.

I expected Americans to stand out from the Icelandic family when I opened the phonebook. Tipped off that native names rarely begin with the letter "c," I flipped right to the third letter of the alphabet and began cold-calling. Soon, I was talking to a bunch of British Catherine's and Christopher's, who sounded as confused as I felt. My criteria for an "American name" was proving flimsy, not to mention disturbingly anglophone. Names that looked too Latino or too Christmasy could be ruled out. I finally threw in the towel and asked what he would miss most about Iceland: what he misses and, conversely, what he's glad to miss, to characterize his second home.

Iceland: too many orbits away to hear thunder clapping. "Isn't that weird?" Jonas had asked. There was, in fact, a scientific explanation for Iceland's mute storms. But the point was to grant this fellow non-Icelander my whole-hearted agreement.

Afraid of the Light

I was in New York the day I sat down to finish this essay. Rain poured down in a sudden August deluge, and roughly 313,000 wet New Yorkers took cover in the same Starbucks as me. Perhaps because my mind was many orbits away, on a planet where light teaches you to miss darkness, where ease puts stress into relief, and vice versa, a violent bang overhead made me jump like a child. That was thunder. This was home.
Thomas Bak, to the University of California, Irvine, $14,600
Mr. Bak continued his research in Continental Philosophy. He plans to receive his MA in Philosophy from the University of Copenhagen in 2010.

Majken Bilsley-Jensen, to Baruch College, City University of New York, $10,600

Malthe Isbye Fabritius Falck, to Texas A&M University, $9,000
Mr. Falck spent a semester studying Finance and Accounting. He plans to receive his MA in Finance and Accounting from the Copenhagen Business School in 2009.

Signe Teuber Henriksen, to the University of Notre Dame, $10,600
Ms. Henriksen conducted Ph.D. research in Chemistry. Her research focused on medicinal chemistry and theoretical organic chemistry. She is currently a Ph.D. student at the Technical University of Denmark.

Martin Möller Sørensen, to the University of California, Berkeley, $10,600
Mr. Sørensen spent one semester taking courses in convex optimization, approximation, hybrid systems and intelligent control. He expects to receive his M.S. in Electronic & Electrical Engineering from Aalborg University in 2009.

Nicole Stokes-Dupass, from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, $4,000
Ms. Stokes-Dupass’s project empirically analyzed the intersections of racial/ethnic identity, nationalism, and citizenship on constructions of the Danish national identity.

FROM DENMARK

Mikael Thoustrup, to the University of North Carolina, $10,600
Mr. Thoustrup spent one year studying Economics. His focus was on Quantitative Finance.

TO DENMARK

Mark Busbee, from Florida Gulf Coast University, $3,700
Dr. Busbee’s research examined N.F.S Grundtvig's unpublished texts of the Old English poem Beowulf. He is currently an Assistant Professor of English.

Martin Chase, from Fordham University, $4,000
Dr. Chase’s research focused on Old Norse Christian Poetry at the end of the Middle Ages. He currently teaches at Fordham University.

Kensha Clark, from the University of California, Irvine, $16,000
Ms. Clark’s project involved using redox active ligands, which are ligands that can be oxidized or reduced, as electron reservoirs facilitating the syntheses of early metal nitrilo complexes.

FROM FINLAND

Thea Eck, from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, $11,500
Ms. Eck worked towards creating a body of work that re-imagines the archives at the Arctic Institute and investigates the complex historical relationship between Denmark, Greenland and the Arctic.

Nicole Stokes-Dupass, Fellow to Denmark

Cecilia Oinas, Fellow from Finland

TO FINLAND

Iben Falconer, from Yale University, $3,000
Ms. Falconer researched how architecture, design and infrastructure have been used to “brand” Denmark globally.

Anthony Stellaccio, consultant at the Lithuanian Art Museum, Vilnius Lithuania, $7,000
Mr. Stellaccio worked with experts & staff at the Petersen Tegl Brick Factory to design unique brick fixtures, pedestals, & platforms for ceramic sculptures. He was also in residence at the Aage Birck Studio.
Kimberly Scott, Fellow to Finland

TO ICELAND

Bjarni Thor Árnason, to Univ. of Southern California, $4,700
Mr. Árnason worked on a computer graphics project. He is pursuing a career creating video games or scientific visualization software. He will receive his B.S. from Reykjavik University.

Máni Arnarson, to Cornell University, $4,700
Mr. Arnarson worked towards an M.A. in Systems Engineering. His focus was on mechanical engineering and systematic design. He plans to receive his B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Iceland.

Ólafur Guðmundsson, to Stanford University, $4,700
Mr. Guðmundsson pursued an M.S. in Electrical Engineering, focusing on signal processing and control theory. His project involved the use of adaptive filtering techniques to predict movement of cancerous tumors.

Sigrún Gunhildardóttir, to Columbia University, NY, $4,700
Ms. Gunhildardóttir spent four months studying Operations Research. She studied quantitative decision problems concerning the allocation and control of limited resources. She expects to receive an M.S. in Operations Research from Columbia and an M.S. in Engineering Management from the University of Iceland.

FROM NORWAY

Mari Kristine Aasgaard, to New York University, $13,000
Ms. Aasgaard earned a Master’s degree in International Affairs. Her Master’s thesis focused on the changing nature of peace-keeping operations in Africa.

Lars Stenberg Berg, to Monterey Institute of International Studies, $20,000
Mr. Berg worked towards a MBA. His future plans are focused on business consulting & entrepreneurship in technology fields.

Sturla Lynngnes Fjesme, to Cornell University, $5,000
Mr. Fjesme conducted Ph.D. research in financial economics. His dissertation looked at reasons some investors are favored over others in Norwegian Initial Public Offerings allocations.

Eirik Forus, to New York University, $17,000
Mr. Forus continued in the Master’s program in Film at NYU, which he began in 2007. He focused on writing his manuscript about a Gestapo agent hunting Norwegian saboteurs in occupied Norway during WWII.

Espen Hammer, Temple University and the University of Pennsylvania, $10,000
Dr. Hammer spent four months as a researcher, focusing on the relationship between time and modernity. Dr. Hammer is a philosophy professor at the University of Oslo and an associate professor at the University of Essex.

Dag Hovdhaugen, to Harvard University, $19,000
Mr. Hovdhaugen studied public management theories, as well as leadership and strategy in the public sector.

Karsten Tenne Huitfeldt, to Southern California Institute of Architecture, $9,000
Mr. Huitfeldt earned a Master’s degree in Architecture, focusing on the use of computers in the design and production process.

TO ICELAND

Tenley Banik, from Vanderbilt University, $7,000
Ms. Banik investigated ancient glacio-volcanic features and their modern analogues in order to understand potentially dangerous landscapes in Iceland and other parts of the world.

FROM ICELAND

Sigríður Hardardóttir, to Brandeis University, $4,700
Ms. Hardardóttir pursued an M.A. in Economics. She majored in International Economics and Finance. She will receive her B.S. in Economics from the University of Iceland.

Hörður Kristinn Heiðarsson, to the University of Southern California, $4,700
Mr. Heiðarsson began a Ph.D. program in Electrical Engineering. His research focused on Controls and Robotics, particularly in relation to aquatic sensor networks.

Prándur Helgason, to the University of Massachusetts, $4,700
Mr. Helgason conducted Ph.D.-directed research in Food Science, developing a novel colloidal delivery system based on mini-emulsions and micro-emulsions, allowing the food industry to develop bioactive-carrying foods. He is a currently Ph.D. candidate at the University of Iceland.

Ólafur Ari Jónsson, to Harvard Law School, $4,700
Mr. Jónsson began LLM-directed studies, focusing on the similarities in the civil rights principles applied and strategies involved in dealing with authorities in charge of different subjects.

Andri Klausen, to Pratt Institute, NY, $4,700
Mr. Klausen began a three-year Masters of Architecture program, examining the importance of architectural design concepts in relation to historic and contemporary issues in an evolving culture.

Benedikt Skúlason, to Columbia University, NY, $4,700
Mr. Skúlason pursued an M.S. in Industrial Engineering, studying methods of manufacturing, production planning, scheduling and financing of entrepreneurship.

Mr. Burawa spent 3 months in Iceland researching material on the relationships between family, cultural and societal history to write a book of poems and creative non-fiction. He used his own Icelandic family’s history to study how the macrocosms of national history have played out through the microcosms of those who helped build Iceland into a modern nation.

Christopher Burawa, Fellow to Iceland

Colleen Kinder, Fellow to Iceland

Julia Staples, Fellow to Iceland

Christopher Burawa, Literature Director, Arizona Commission on the Arts, $7,000
Mr. Burawa spent 3 months in Iceland researching material on the relationships between family, cultural and societal history to write a book of poems and creative non-fiction. He used his own Icelandic family’s history to study how the macrocosms of national history have played out through the microcosms of those who helped build Iceland into a modern nation.

Mr. Stenberg Berg is a professor at the University of Oslo and a researcher, focusing on the relationship between time and modernity. Dr. Hammer is a philosophy professor at the University of Oslo and an associate professor at the University of Essex. Dr. Hammer spent four months as a researcher, focusing on the relationship between time and modernity. Dr. Hammer is a philosophy professor at the University of Oslo and an associate professor at the University of Essex. Dr. Hammer is a philosophy professor at the University of Oslo and an associate professor at the University of Essex.
Ingibjørg Kristin Jonsdottir, to St. John's University, $18,000
Ms. Jonsdottir earned a Ph.D. in Education. Her research will examine the learning styles of minority students in Norway and how to respond to their needs.

Sara Elisabeth Sellevold Orning, to University of California, Santa Cruz, $5,000

Hans Augun Parmann, to University of Pennsylvania, $18,000
Mr. Parmann’s studies focused on international law. His thesis topic was on the Kyoto Protocol and the United Nations’ Framework Convention on Climate Change and their impact on Norwegian Law.

Joakim Parslow, to the University of Washington, $9,000
Mr. Parslow continued his Ph.D. in Middle Eastern Studies. His dissertation research focused on identifying the conditions that have made Turkey’s political development different from other Muslim nations.

Lars Rosvoll, to the University of Arizona, $20,000
Mr. Rosvoll continued his Ph.D. research in the Musical Arts. His dissertation research focused on performance and theory.

Saleh, Maria Gilani, to Columbia University, $20,000
Ms. Saleh earned an MA in International Relations.

Tina Skouen, to the University of California, Berkeley, $10,000
Ms. Skouen conducted literary research which focused on complaints by early modern English writers about their perpetual shortage of time.

Håkon March Stene, Fellow from Norway

Joakim Parslow, Fellow from Norway

Lars Rosvoll, Fellow from Norway

Sales, Maria Gilani, Fellow from Norway

Vegard Holsen Sarby, Fellow from Norway

Johan Tingulstad, Fellow from Norway

Erlend Kibsgaard Vested, Fellow to Norway

Zachary Berman, Fellow to Norway

Knut Christianson, from Pennsylvania State University, $4,000
Mr. Christianson conducted a case study on the relationship between glacier-bed seismicity and surface motion on mountain glaciers in Engabreen, Norway. This was the first empirical verification of hypothesized relationships between surface motion and basal slip.

Patti-Belle Hastings, Fellow to Norway

Yuen-Ting Kwong, Fellow to Norway

TO NORWAY

Zachary Berman, from CUNY Graduate Center, $3,800
Mr. Berman conducted dissertation research on the slave-dealing merchant-king Zubayr Pasha of Sudan.

Ms. Kwong will pursue a PhD in Spring 2010.

Mr. Christianson conducted a case study on the relationship between glacier-bed seismicity and surface motion on mountain glaciers in Engabreen, Norway. This was the first empirical verification of hypothesized relationships between surface motion and basal slip.
Shale Rose, Fellow to Norway

Shale Rosen, Fisheries Research Manager, Gulf of Maine Research Institute, $10,634
Mr. Rosen researched the shifting of commercial fishing efforts to reduce seabed impact from bottom trawling, hoping to result in the development of a mid-water trawl to replace bottom trawls currently in use.

Don Sheriff, from the University of Iowa, $4,000
Dr. Sheriff applied Doppler ultrasound techniques, developed at the University of Oslo, to his study of the circulatory system in humans during head-down tilting followed by head-up tilting. He hopes to unravel the contribution of central and peripheral regulatory mechanisms to the dizziness and fainting associated with upright posture.

Tanya Thresher, from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, $4,000
Dr. Thresher examined Henrik Ibsen’s use of melodramatic mode and genre, hoping to outline the relationship between theatrical convention, gender and modernity and its relevance to the continued popularity of the Norwegian dramatist.

Brooke Wilkerson, from the University of Vermont, Burlington, $10,334
Ms. Wilkerson’s research studied the effect of forest policy on forest biodiversity and its potential applications on both sides of the Atlantic, utilizing long term monitoring data from Norway’s National Forest Inventory.

FROM SWEDEN

Oscar Ax, to the University of Virginia, $10,000
Mr. Ax conducted research on theories of identity and collective memory to prepare for his future dissertation dealing with German national identity in the aftermath of the Holocaust and the Third Reich.

Emma Ekdahl, to the University of Denver, $10,000
Ms. Ekdahl’s studies focused on the interaction of norm diffusion and human rights NGO’s in EU countries.

Martin Guss, to C.W. Post College Long Island University, $20,000
Mr. Guss’ graduate studies focused on immunology and hematology.

Sofia Näsström, to Columbia University, $20,000
Dr. Näsström conducted research on the possibility of taking representative democracy beyond the confines of the nation-state.

Siri Ohman, to New York University, $14,000
Ms. Ohman completed an LL.M. degree focused on corporate law.

Celine Ruben-Salama, to Columbia University, $10,000
Ms. Ruben-Salama pursued a Master of Environmental Science and Policy Management. She is planning a career focused on formulating and carrying out corporate strategies that integrate environmental stewardship.

Mårí Sällström, to University of Wisconsin, Madison, $20,000
Ms. Sällström’s research concentrated on developing sustainable soil and water management practices, hoping to alleviate the degradation and pollution of these resources.

Kennedi Samuels, to Fordham University, $2,000
Mr. Samuels worked towards an LLM at Fordham University in New York, specializing in international corporate and business law. He is currently employed as an associate at Advokatfirma Linhds DLA Nordic in Stockholm.

Carin Tillman, to University of Colorado, $20,000
Ms. Tillman spent a year researching the relationship between short-term memory and complex cognition.

Fredrik Tunvall, to Columbia University, $18,000
Mr. Tunvall was enrolled in a Master of Science program. His research focused on the possibilities and limitations of a child’s memory and cognition.

TO SWEDEN

Cayelan Carey, from Cornell University, $4,000
Ms. Carey’s project studied the factors that influence gloeotrichia echinulata development and growth and its impacts on lake ecosystems. She expects to earn her doctoral degree in Ecology in 2012.

Hyunok Choi, from the Harvard School of Public Health, $10,000
Dr. Choi’s project examined prenatal and childhood exposure to household chemicals and subsequent development of reproductive anomalies, asthma and allergies, and neurodevelopmental syndromes.

Kate Leonard, from Colorado College, $4,000
Ms. Leonard spent seven weeks in Bohuslän, Sweden developing an archive of preparatory imagery for a new body of paintings exploring coastal landscapes that will be exhibited in Gothenburg, Sweden and Colorado.

Samantha Lipscomb, Instructor, Chicago Hot Glass, $19,000
Ms. Lipscomb studied glassblowing techniques at The National School for Glass in Orrefors. Afterwards, she worked with Ingelena and Ragnar Klennell in their private studio in Sunne.

Jennifer Mack, from Harvard University, $20,000
Ms. Mack’s research examined how soccer reshapes the relationship between society and territory in Södertälje, Sweden. She will complete her doctoral degree from Harvard University in 2011.

Paula Patterson, from University of Washington, Seattle, $20,000
Ms. Patterson’s project examined the sacred architecture of Swedish architect Sigurd Lewerentz using site work and archival research.

Susan Szmania, from University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, $7,000
Dr. Szmania studied the formal and informal conflict resolution methods used by the Swedish government and the Iraqi immigrant population to manage the process of integrating a traditional Muslim population into the secular and highly egalitarian Swedish society. She is currently an Assistant Professor with the University of Wisconsin.

TO MULTI-COUNTRIES

Katherine Larson, from the University of Washington, $3,100
Ms. Larson examined technical factors which may have contributed to the warp-weighted loom’s suitability for weaving reversible double-weave bedcovers.

Ursula Lindqvist, from the University of Colorado, $4,000
Dr. Lindqvist spent time in Denmark and Sweden doing research to complete a book entitled Nordic by Design: Nationalism and the Imperial Imagination in Sweden, Denmark and the Caribbean. She is currently an Instructor of Nordic Studies at the University of Colorado.

Suzanne Martin, from the University of California, Berkeley, $19,900
Ms. Martin spent time in Norway and Sweden analyzing the works of three non-Sami writers to determine how their rewritings of Sami history align with or differ from both Sami and non-Sami representations of Sami history. She plans to complete her doctoral degree in 2010.

Carrie Roy, from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, $4,000
Ms. Roy conducted a survey of Viking period artifacts with a prominent motif known as the “gripping beast.” The work is part of a larger effort to better understand the world view of pagan agrarian Scandinavian societies through material culture.
Anthony Stellaccio, 2008 US Fellow to Denmark

In May of 2008, with a Creative Arts Fellowship from The American-Scandinavian Foundation, I began a three-month residency at the Petersen Tegl brick factory in Broager, a Danish town in south Jutland. In operation since 1791, Petersen Tegl was once one of many Danish brick factories surrounding the picturesque Flensburg fjord. Now, Petersen Tegl is one of the last family owned brick factories in the region. It is also one of the most famous.

What has made Petersen Tegl famous is the entrepreneurial vision of the factory's current owner, Christian Petersen. With his guidance, Petersen Tegl has, in a relatively short time, risen from standard production and a handful of employees to a position where the factory employs more than one hundred persons who produce some of the world's highest quality and most specialized, avant-garde bricks.

The quality of Petersen Tegl's production has attracted some of Scandinavia's most famous artists and architects, and the factory has learned much from the resulting collaborations. Particularly important for Petersen Tegl was its collaboration with Swedish ceramic artist Ulla Viotti. Truly inspired and inspiring, Petersen Tegl has, with its handmade production, its hundred or so trained specialists, its willingness to experiment, and its belief that they can do anything, become a living, breathing, creative organism. Petersen Tegl sees art not only what other people make from their bricks, they also see the bricks and the business of making them as art. I too see bricks as art and Petersen Tegl cherishes its relationship with artists who bring new ideas and new possibilities to their factory. During my residency we, naturally, got along quite splendidly.

Installed in the handmade production division known as Tivoli, I was given all the materials, knowledge, and technology that I needed to make my own specialized production of miniature coal fired bricks. From these bricks I made small-scale ceramic sculptures that mimicked the forms and motifs of architectural monuments. I also learned how to produce full-size bricks in the age-old fashion, with wooden molds and a little elbow grease. These bricks then became modular sculptural elements, which I carved, glazed, stacked, cut, and drilled. There also was a third dimension to my creative activities. After creating a number of sculptures from small and large bricks, I spent one month at the studio of Danish ceramic artists Heidi and Aage Birck where I lived, learned, and worked in porcelain. The porcelain objects were then incorporated into a number of brick compositions, often being combined with current samples of the ever-changing production at Petersen Tegl.

These three types of work, miniature brick sculptures, full-size brick sculptures, and brick/porcelain combines, were developed at Petersen Tegl over three months of inspired 12-18 hour workdays and are now deeply ingrained in a newly formed artistic vocabulary. That vocabulary will live on in my work, as will my newfound knowledge of brick-making and masonry, my impressions of the Danish people - most importantly my friends at Petersen Tegl, the Danish landscape, and Denmark's rich tradition of ceramic art.

Sæunn Þorsteinsdóttir, 2007 Fellow from Iceland.

My name is Sæunn Þorsteinsdóttir and I was a 2007 Fellow through the Thor Thors Memorial Fund in my last year of study in the Master of Music program at The Juilliard School in New York City. As a classical trained cellist, alongside a performing career, I am also a teaching-artist as a fellow of The Academy, a new program at Carnegie Hall (www.acjw.org), performing chamber music in venues across the city and bringing classical music into the New York City Public Schools. As a component of my work, I regularly teach both general music classes and string classes at P.S. 28 in Brooklyn. One of the inevitable questions that the students ask me is "Where do you come from?" and I am always eager to tell them about Iceland and show them on the map the tiny island in the middle of the North Atlantic.

Additionally, in my collaboration with American musicians, I always try to draw attention to Icelandic music and culture. Recently, I have tried to shed a little light on the economic downturn that the country has taken and to clear up some misconceptions clouding the situation and its causes. Of major concern is the future of artistic funding in Iceland and the extent to which musical life has been affected and although I can only speak from my personal experience and knowledge, I am sorry to report that cancellations are plenty and future plans uncertain. Even the Icelandic Symphony has postponed all international tours for this coming season and the Icelandic National Opera has postponed its staging of L’elixir d’amore until the fall of 2009. In an effort to do my part, I constantly look for opportunities to play Scandinavian works, new and old. Recently I have commissioned a piece for cello by fellow Icelander Daniel Bjarnason, have performed it in concert in New York City, and plans are being made to record it on CD on an Icelandic label which is set to debut worldwide in the fall of 2009. I hope that this piece can show, even if in a small way, the true wealth that lives in the Icelandic nation’s artistry.

In my beginning career, the support from The American-Scandinavian Foundation has been essential, for which I am very appreciative. The crowning event of my fellowship year was a concert as part of the Young Musicians series in Victor Borge Hall last spring where I was able to share my art with other fellows and friends of ASF. To continue in this vein, I hope that ASF can help to facilitate collaborations between Scandinavian musicians and artists in projects that will highlight the artistic potential of our countries.

It is my pleasure and honor to be a connection for many people to a small nation, putting a face to a country that has been in the spotlight of international media in the past months. I hope that through my performances, teaching, and informal meetings that happen on a daily basis I can show a creative and strong side to the Icelandic people in these difficult times.
ASF Awards 2008 Translation Prize

The Board of Trustees of The American-Scandinavian Foundation announced that Patrick Phillips from Brooklyn, New York, has been awarded the 29th annual ASF Translation Prize for his translation of selected poems of Cathedral (Katedral) by the Danish author Henrik Nordbrandt (b. 1945). The ASF jury said, “it is rare to find a translation that eliminates all thoughts that it is a translation and one that reads as beautifully as the original work. This selection of poems entitled Cathedral evinces in every line the translator’s great sensitivity to both the sound and the imagery of Henrik Nordbrandt’s poetry. Containing poems from the author’s most recent collections, it makes Nordbrandt’s evolving poetic voice available to an English-language audience, who will find its themes both timely and striking. The translator captures the sense of loneliness and isolation that pervades Nordbrandt’s poems and the fierce resistance his persona raises in defense. The translator attends to the cadence and word choice of the original and reproduces them with competence and sensitivity in his English renderings. Idiomatic yet entirely accurate, these translations are certain to make Henrik Nordbrandt better known in the English speaking world."

As the winner, Mr. Phillips has received a $2,000 honorarium and a commemorative bronze medallion. An excerpt of his translation appeared in the Spring 2009 issue of Scandinavian Review, the journal published by The American-Scandinavian Foundation.

ASF Visiting Lecturer

From Norway:
College of St. Benedict/St. John's University, St. Joseph, MN
Eugene J. McCarthy Center for Public Policy and Civic Engagement, Department of History in support of hosting Professor Chris Butters (University of Oslo), Spring Semester 2009.

Prof. Butters, who is a professor at the University of Oslo, spent the spring 2009 semester affiliated with the Department of History, Environmental Studies Program, at the College of St. Benedict/St. John's University. Professor Butters holds a postgraduate diploma in Energy Planning from the University of Oslo (1979) and a Bachelor of Architecture from Montpellier, France (1978). He is currently a course leader at the University of Oslo. He also works as an architect for GAIA Oslo AS and as a consultant for GAIA International. At the College of St. Benedict/St. John's University, he taught courses on Sustainable Community Development. Professor Butters participated in two conferences during his stay, Renewing our Global Community: The Path to Energy Self-Sufficiency, An International Symposium at the University of Minnesota and A Critical Examination of Preservation and Sustainability at Goucher College. He was also invited to offer a series of seminars in association with The Eugene McCarthy Center for Public Policy and Civic Engagement’s Alumni Chapter in Twin Cities, as well as programs in association with the Immigration Research Center at the University of Minnesota and Minnesota Historical Society.

Cooperating Offices

The ASF’s Fellowship and Grant Program is made possible through the assistance of its sister organizations in Scandinavia. These organizations direct the Scandinavian application process and nominate candidates for awards funded by the ASF. The Foundation acknowledges with gratitude its long-standing affiliation with these organizations.

The Denmark-America Foundation
Fiolstræde 24, 3. sal 1171 Copenhagen K, Denmark
www.daf-fulb.dk

The League of Finnish-American Societies
Mechelininkatu 10 A 001 00 Helsinki, Finland
www.sayf.fi

The Icelandic-American Society
Raudarárstigur 25 150 Reykjavik, Iceland
www.iceam.is

The Norway-America Association
Rådhusgaten 23B 0158 Oslo, Norway
www.noram.no

The Sweden-America Foundation
Box 5280 102 46 Stockholm, Sweden
www.sweamfo.se
From the Director of Fellowship & Grants

The past year at the ASF has been a wonderful learning experience. I’ve enjoyed getting to know more about Scandinavian studies and cultural exchange. I made my first trip to Scandinavia last September when I had the opportunity to visit several American Fellows while they were in-country conducting their projects. I look forward to getting to know each of you so please don’t hesitate to contact me if you ever need anything, or just want to say hello. Also, stay in touch with updates of the ASF’s grant and fellowship programs with the new electronic version of The Longboat by sending us your current email address. Emails can be sent to grants@amscan.org or by calling 212 979 9779. We will of course mail printed copies of the Longboat to anyone who requests one, but we encourage you to use the electronic version from now on.

Valerie Hymas
Director, Fellowship & Grants

Contribute to the ASF

The American-Scandinavian Foundation depends on its supporters and donors to make the difference! Financial contributions from donors like you help the ASF continue its work to promote international understanding through educational and cultural exchange between the United States and the Nordic countries: Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden. Gifts to the ASF help ensure that we remain strong for the future and that we are able to continue and expand our programming at Scandinavia House and around the country.

For more information on how to support The American-Scandinavian Foundation, please contact the ASF Development Department at (212) 879-9779 or dev@amscan.org or visit our website http://www.scandinavia-house.org/support.html

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*Friends are listed in the Bi-Annual Report.
Donors over $500 are listed in Scandinavian Review and the Bi-Annual Report.

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