

# **PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND THE NORDIC WELFARE STATE – THE CHANGING ROLE OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES**

**NORSLIS course on public library research Uppsala September 29–October 3, 2008**

All activities will take place at the Dept of ALM, Campus Engelska Parken, Thunbergsvägen 3H in Uppsala. Lunch will be served Tuesday–Friday at 12 in the campus restaurant “Matikum”. Coffee will be served every day in the morning and in the afternoon.

## **Monday 29<sup>th</sup> of September**

*Room: 2/0022 (will be open from 12.30).*

13.00–13.15. Introduction and some practical information.

13.15–15.15 Keynote-lecture by Michael Buckland.

15.15–15.30 Coffee

15.30–16.00 Presentation and discussion of the Nordic-Baltic research programme Public libraries and the Nordic welfare states (Ragnar Audunson).

16.00–18.00 PhD-students present their individual dissertation topics and form project groups.

18.30– Dinner at the department’s lunch room and time for more informal conversation and discussions.

## **Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> of September**

*Morning session in room 2/0024.*

8.30–11.00 “The Nordic Public Library Model: Historical perspectives”. Responsible: Illka Mäkinen.

11.00–12.00 Time for project work discussions.

*Afternoon session in room 2/0022.*

13.00–15.45: “Public libraries and the public enlightenment (folkeopplysning/folkbildning). Public libraries and the gender perspective”. Responsible: Kerstin Rydbeck.

16.00– Guided tour in the university library Carolina Rediviva. Responsible: librarian Christer Östlund.

### **Wednesday first of October**

*Morning session in room 2/0076.*

9.00–12.00: “The Nordic Public Library Model: The Library as a Meeting Place for Democracy and Community Building”. Responsible: Ragnar Audunson.

*Afternoon session in room 6/K1031.*

13.30–16: Virtual lecture by Frank Huysmans on the Dutch public library research project that recently has been concluded, followed by a discussion.

16–18: Time for project work discussions.

### **Thursday second of October**

*Morning session in room 2/0024.*

9.00–12.00 “The Nordic Public Library Model: The social capital perspective”. Responsible: Andreas Vårheim.

*Afternoon session in room 2/0077.*

13.00–16.00: “Discourse analytical perspectives on public library research”. Responsible Laura Skouvig.

16–18: Time for project work discussions.

19– Dinner at Kerstin’s home (Runstensgatan 3 in Uppsala).

### **Friday third of October**

*Room 6/K1031.*

8.30–11.00 “Measuring the value and impact of public libraries”. Responsible: Svanhild Aabø

11.00–12.00 Summing up of the course and discussion about project work and examination.

*Room 2/0024.*

13.15–15 Åse Hedemark presents a preliminary version of her PHD-thesis *De offentliga samtalens bibliotek. Om mediedebatter och föreställningar kring folkbibliotek*. Specially invited reader: Laura Skouvig. Since this text is written in Swedish the seminar will be held in “Scandinavian” and is therefore not an official part of the Norslis-course. But you are all

welcome to join the seminar! After wine and snacks will be served at the department. Please contact Åse directly if you want a copy of her text ([ase.hedemark@abm.uu.se](mailto:ase.hedemark@abm.uu.se)).

Uppsala University

Dept. of ALM

NORSLIS course, September 29<sup>th</sup> – October 3<sup>rd</sup> 2008

Public libraries and the Nordic welfare state – the changing role of public libraries

## Participants

### Senior researchers

Professor Ragnar Audunson, Faculty of Journalism, Library and Information Science, Oslo University College; Norway. (Mon–Fri?) [Ragnar.Audunson@jbi.hio.no](mailto:Ragnar.Audunson@jbi.hio.no)

Professor emeritus Michael Buckland, School of Information, Berkely University, California. (Mon–Fri) [buckland@ischool.berkeley.edu](mailto:buckland@ischool.berkeley.edu)

Professor Frank Huysmans, senior researcher on media use and cultural participation at the Netherlands Institute for Social Research. (will hold a virtual lecture on Wednesday from Holland) [f.huysmans@scp.nl](mailto:f.huysmans@scp.nl)

Associate professor Ilkka Mäkinen, Department of Information Studies, Tampere University, Finland. (Tue–Thu) [Ilkka.Makinen@uta.fi](mailto:Ilkka.Makinen@uta.fi)

Associate professor Kerstin Rydbeck, Department of ALM, Uppsala University, Sweden. (Mon–Fri) [kerstin.rydbeck@abm.uu.se](mailto:kerstin.rydbeck@abm.uu.se)

Associate professor Laura HC Skouvig, Royal School of Library and Information Science, Copenhagen, Denmark. (We–Fri) [ls@db.dk](mailto:ls@db.dk)

Associate professor Andreas Vårheim, Faculty of Journalism, Library and Information Science Oslo University College/Tromsø University, Norway. (Mon–Fri) [andreas.varheim@hum.uit.no](mailto:andreas.varheim@hum.uit.no)

Associate professor Svanhild Aabø, Faculty of Journalism, Library and Information Science, Oslo University College, Norway. (We–Fri) [svanhild.aabo@jbi.hio.no](mailto:svanhild.aabo@jbi.hio.no)

### Phd-students

Sunniva Evjen, Faculty of Journalism, Library and Information Science, Oslo University College. (Mon–Fri) [Sunniva.Evjen@jbi.hio.no](mailto:Sunniva.Evjen@jbi.hio.no)

Tove Faber Frandsen, Royal School of Library and Information Science, Copenhagen, Denmark. (Tue–Fri) [tff@db.dk](mailto:tff@db.dk)

Åse Hedemark, Department of ALM, Uppsala University, Sweden. (Mon–Fri) [ase.hedemark@abm.uu.se](mailto:ase.hedemark@abm.uu.se)

Jane Kawalya, Swedish School of Library and Information Science, University College of Borås, Sweden. (Mon–Fri) [Jane.Kawalya@hb.se](mailto:Jane.Kawalya@hb.se)

Maria Kronqvist-Berg, Department of Information Studies, Åbo Akademi University, Finland. (Mon–Fri) [maria.kronqvist-berg@abo.fi](mailto:maria.kronqvist-berg@abo.fi)

Linnéa Lindsköld, Swedish School of Library and Information Science, University College of Borås, Sweden. (Mon–Fri) [linnea.lindskold@gmail.com](mailto:linnea.lindskold@gmail.com)

Outi Nivakoski, Department of Information Studies, Åbo Akademi University, Finland. (Mon–Fri) [outi.nivakoski@abo.fi](mailto:outi.nivakoski@abo.fi)

Maria Ryman, Department of ALM, Uppsala University, Sweden. (Mon–Fri) [maria.ryman@abm.uu.se](mailto:maria.ryman@abm.uu.se)

Jonas Söderholm, Swedish School of Library and Information Science, University College of Borås, Sweden. (Mon–Fri) [jonas.soderholm@hb.se](mailto:jonas.soderholm@hb.se)

Asko Tamme, Institute of Information Studies, Tallinn University, Estonia. (Mon–Fri) [asko.tamme@luts.ee](mailto:asko.tamme@luts.ee), [tamme.asko@gmail.com](mailto:tamme.asko@gmail.com)

## **Externals**

Anette Eliasson, Head of Halland Regional Library, Halmstad, Sweden. (Mon–Fri) [Anette.eliasson@regionhalland.se](mailto:Anette.eliasson@regionhalland.se)

Malin Ögland, library adviser at the Stockholm County Library, Sweden. (Mon–Fri) [malin.ogland@kultur.stockholm.se](mailto:malin.ogland@kultur.stockholm.se)

## Postal addresses to the participants

Oslo University College  
Faculty of Journalism, Library and Information Science  
Pilestredet 52  
N-0167 Oslo  
NORWAY

The Royal School of Library and Information Science  
6 Birketinget  
DK-2300 Copenhagen S.  
DENMARK

University of Tampere  
Department of Information Studies  
P.O. Box 607  
33101 Tampere  
FINLAND

Uppsala University  
Department of ALM  
Box 625  
SE-751 26 Uppsala  
SWEDEN

University College of Borås  
Swedish School of Library and Information Science  
SE-501 90 Borås  
SWEDEN

Tallinn University  
Institute of Information Studies  
27 Narva Road  
10120 Tallinn  
ESTONIA

Åbo Akademi University  
Department of Information Studies  
Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences  
Tavastgatan 13  
FIN-20500 Åbo  
FINLAND

Regionbibliotek Stockholm (Stockholm County Library)  
Odengatan 63  
SE-113 80 Stockholm  
SWEDEN

University of California, Berkeley  
School of Information  
102 South Hall  
Berkeley, CA 94720-4600

Region Halland  
Box 538  
SE-301 80 Halmstad  
Sweden

# **PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND THE NORDIC WELFARE STATE – THE CHANGING ROLE OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES**

**NORSLIS course on public library research Uppsala September 29–October 3, 2008**

As a back ground to the research on popular libraries in the Nordic countries, please take a short look at Johannsen, C.G. & Kajberg, L. (eds.). *New frontiers in public library research*. The book was the result of a seminar held in 2001 in Copenhagen about public library research in the Nordic countries. See also *Public libraries and the Nordic welfare states Platform paper for a Nordic-Baltic research programme* (May 2008). (Included as a pdf-file)

## *Michael Buckland*

Buckland, Michael K. (2007). “The heritage of public librarianship”. In: Johannsen, C. G. & Kajberg, L. (eds.). *New frontiers in public library research*. Scarecrow Press, Lanham, Maryland, Toronto, Oxford: 329–336.

Buckland, Michael (2007). “Reference Library Service in the Digital Environment”. *Library & Information Science Research* vol 30, no 2, pp 81-85. Can be downloaded from: <http://people.ischool.berkeley.edu/~buckland/lisr08ref.pdf>

Buckland, Michael, ppt-presentation from the recent ISKO Conference in Montreal (2008): Can be downloaded from: <http://metadata.sims.berkeley.edu/isko08.ppt>

Buckland, Michael (1982) “Concepts of library goodness”. *Canadian Library Journal* 39, no 2 (April 1982): 63–66, from: <http://people.ischool.berkeley.edu/~buckland/libgood.html>

## *Ilkka Mäkinen*

Mäkinen, Ilkka, “Public libraries and the welfare state: the case of Finland”, 30 pp. (**Included as a pdf-file**)

Black, Alistair (2000). *The public library in Britain 1914–2000*. London: The British Library. Especially the parts from p. 111–

Pekkarinen, Toumas, Uusitalo, Roope & Pekkala, Sari (2006). *Education Policy and Intergenerational Income Mobility: Evidence from the Finnish Comprehensive School Reform*. Can be downloaded from: <http://ideas.repec.org/p/iza/izadps/dp2204.html>

Jõgi, Margit (2006). ”Development of Estonian public libraries during the last decade (1994–2004)” In: Colderup Flaten, T. (ed.) *Management, Marketing and Promotion of Library Services Based on Statistics, Analyses and Evaluation*. IFLA-publication 120/121. München: KG Sauer, s. 153–160.

## *Laura Skouvig*

- Black, Alistair (2005). "The Library as a Clinic: A Foucauldian Interpretation of British Public Library Attitudes to Social and Physical Disease, ca. 1850–1950". *Libraries and Culture*, 40 (3): 416–434.
- Foucault, Michel (1984). "Nietzsche, Genealogy, History". I Rabinow, P. (ed.), *The Foucault Reader*. New York: Pantheon Books: 76–101.
- Foucault, Michel (1984). "What Is Enlightenment?" I Rabinow, P. (ed.), *The Foucault Reader*. New York: Pantheon Books: 35–51.
- Foucault, Michel (2001). *The Archaeology of Knowledge*. London: Routledge: 3–30.
- Foucault, Michel (2003). Introduction. In: *The Birth of the Clinic. An Archaeology of Medical Perception*. London, New York: Routledge: ix–xxii.
- Frohmann, Bernd (1992). "The Power of Images: A Discourse Analysis of the Cognitive Viewpoint". *Journal of Documentation*, 48 (4): 365–386.
- Radford, G. P. (1998). Flaubert, Foucault, and the Bibliotheque Fantastique: Toward a postmodern epistemology for library science. *Library Trends*. 46 (4): 616–634.
- Radford, G. P. (2003). Trapped in our own discursive formations: toward an archaeology of Library and information science. *Library Quarterly*. 73 (1): 1–18.
- Skouvig, L. (2005). Institution, modernity and discourse: Three perspectives on public library history. In: Johannsen, C. G. & Kajberg, L. (eds.). *New frontiers in public library research*. Scarecrow Press, Lanham, Maryland, Toronto, Oxford: 249–269.
- Skouvig, L. (2007). The construction of the working-class user: Danish free public libraries and the working classes 1880-1920. *Library History*, 23 (3): 223–239.

#### *Svanhild Aabø*

- Aabø, Svanhild (2005). *The Value of Public Libraries*. - Oslo: Department of Media and Communication, University of Oslo. (Unipubavhandlinger Acta humaniora ; no. 222). Read: Introduction, pp.15–88. 74 pp. (**Included as a pdf-file**).
- Castells, Manuel (2002). *The information age: Economy, society and culture*. Vol. 1: The rise of the network society. 2nd ed. Oxford: Blackwell. Read: Chapter. 2: The information economy and the process of globalization, pp. 76–162.
- Imholz, S. and Arns, J.W. 2007. *Worth their weight: An assessment of the evolving field of library valuation*. New York: Americans for Libraries Council. Read: Pages 1–34. Can be downloaded from: <http://www.actforlibraries.org/pdf/WorthTheirWeight.pdf>
- Saracevic, Tefko & Kantor, Paul B. (1997). Studying the value of library and information services. Part I. Establishing a theoretical framework. In: *Journal of the American Society for Information Science*, 48 (6): 527–542.

#### *Andreas Vårheim*

- Caidi, N., & Allard, D. (2005). Social inclusion of newcomers to Canada: An information problem? *Library & Information Science Research*, 27(3), 302–324.
- Hillenbrand, C. (2005). A place for all: social capital at the Mount Barker Community library, South Australia. *Australasian Public Libraries and Information Services*, 18(2), 41–58.



- Elbeshausen, H., & Skov, P. (2004). Public libraries in a multicultural space: A case study of integration processes in local communities. *New Library World*, 105(3/4), 131–141.
- Putnam, R. D. (2007). E Pluribus Unum: Diversity and community in the twenty-first century. The 2006 Johan Skytte Prize Lecture. *Scandinavian Political Studies*, 30(2), 137–174.
- Putnam, R. D., Feldstein, L. M., & Cohen, D. (2003). *Better together: Restoring the American community*. New York: Simon & Schuster. Read the chapter about the Chicago library
- Vårheim, A. (2007). Social capital and public libraries: The need for research. *Library & Information Science Research*, 29(3), 416–428.
- Vårheim, A., Steinmo, S., & Ide, E. (2008). Do Libraries matter? Public libraries and the creation of social capital. *Journal of Documentation*, 64(6).

#### *Ragnar Audunson*

- Audunson, Ragnar (2005). The Public Library as a Meeting Place in a Multicultural and Digital Context: the Necessity of Low Intensive Meeting Places. *Journal of Documentation*, vol.61 (3), pp. 429–441.
- Buschman, John E and Gloria Leckie, eds. (2006). *The Library as Place: History, Community and Culture*. Westport, Conn, Libraries Unlimited. Compulsory Reading: Introductory chapter on the concepts of place and space, Fisher, Edwards, Saxton & Mai's chapter on Seattle Public Library.
- Goulding, A. (2005), "A community forum: UK public libraries as meeting spaces", *Librarianship in the information age: proceedings from the 13th BOBCATSSS-symposium*, Oslo, Høgskolen i Oslo, pp 349–358.
- Leckie, G.J and Hopkins (2002) "The public place of central libraries : findings from Toronto and Vancouver", *Library Quarterly*, vol. 72, No. 3, pp 326–372.
- Given, L. M. And G.J.Leckie. (2003), "Sweeping the library: Mapping the social activity space of the public library", *Library & Information Science Research*, vol. 25. pp 326–372.
- Audunson, Ragnar (2005). "Norwegian Libraries: An Institution Caught between Differing Social Conflicts and Opinions". In: *Knowledge and Culture: Norwegian Libraries in Perspective*. Oslo, National Library of Norway and Norwegian Library and Museum Authority. pp 33–54.

#### *Frank Huysmans*

- Huysmans, Frank & Hillebrink, Carien (2008). *The future of the Dutch publiclibrary: ten years on*. The Hague: Netherlands Institute for Social Research. Can be downloaded from: [http://www.scp.nl/english/publications/books/9789037703801/Future\\_of\\_Dutch\\_public\\_library.pdf](http://www.scp.nl/english/publications/books/9789037703801/Future_of_Dutch_public_library.pdf)

#### *Kerstin Rydbeck*

- Tøsse, Sigvart (2007). "Popular Adult Education: A world-wide mapping of conceptual meanings". (*Included as a pdf-file*)
- Williams, Christine L. (1995). *Still a man's world. Men who do "women's work"*. Berkeley and Los Angeles: University of California Press. pp 1–49.

Rothbauer, Paulette (2007). "Locating the library as a place among lesbian, gay, bisexual and queer patrons". In: *The Library as a Place. History, Community, and Culture*. Westport CT: Libraries Unlimited. pp. 101–115.

Torstensson, Magnus (2008). "Workers and Libraries – A Question of Class in Public Library Development in Sweden". Conferens paper from BOBCATSSS 2008. Can be downloaded from: <http://edoc.hu-berlin.de/conferences/bobcatsss2008/>

# **PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND THE NORDIC WELFARE STATE – THE CHANGING ROLE OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES**

**NORSLIS course on public library research Uppsala September 29–October 3, 2008**

## **Examination task – Research project application**

The examination task is to write a fictive application for a new research project about public libraries. We suggest that you work in groups of two, but if you rather prefer to work alone that is also OK. You are expected to start working on your applications directly, during this week. Use the opportunity to ask questions and to discuss your ideas with the senior researchers in Uppsala, in connection to their sessions. But there is also special time reserved for this project work when you are supposed to give progress reports and we will have a short briefing on Friday. Hopefully the mayor part of the work could be done already before you leave Uppsala.

### *Instructions:*

➔ The specific research topic of your application has to connect to one of the main themes presented in the platform paper *Public libraries and the Nordic welfare states*: 1. Public libraries, the welfare state and current social challenges, 2. Public libraries as information literacy educators, 3. Digitization.

➔ The application must give references to the course literature.

➔ You cannot use your own phd-dissertation topic for this fictive application!

➔ In your application you have to:

1. present the purpose of this new research project and discuss relevant research questions.
2. make an outline of the existing research within this specific field and discuss important results, with references to important works.
3. give a detailed presentation of how to accomplish this project, which includes a close discussion about theoretical framework and methodology.
4. Justify the importance of this research project.

➔ The text has to be written in English and must cover approximately 8 pages including references.

Please send your application to [Kerstin.Rydbeck@abm.uu.se](mailto:Kerstin.Rydbeck@abm.uu.se) not later than the first of November. However, a first short outline (1 page) must be sent in already before the 10<sup>th</sup> of October.

Important criteria in our judgments of your proposed research projects will be:

1. The quality of the project. How feasible, reliable, and affordable would it be – or: how good is it?
2. The value of the project. How effective would the impact of the research be in relation to the concerns in the Platform paper – or: what good would it do?

When you are about to write research applications it is always a good idea to have a look at applications written by other researchers with more experience. Sometimes research financers publish approved applications on their websites, for example the Swedish Research Council (unfortunately in Swedish only): <http://vrproj.vr.se/default.asp?funk=ax>