

**MINUTES, initial meeting for the Network of family and Kinship Studies
December 9, Uppsala University Centre for Gender Research**

Those who attended were:

Helena W. Henriksson Amerikansk litteratur/Genus UU
Jenny Björklund Litteraturvetenskap/Genus UU
Klara Goedecke Genus UU
Elina Nilsson MA Genus UU
Anna Williams Litteraturvetenskap UU
Margaretha Fahlgren Litteraturvetenskap UU (fm)
Katarina Westerlund Teologi UU (em)
Ingeborg Svensson Etnologi UU
Elisabet Näsman Sociologi UU
Linnea Bruno Sociologi UU
Fanny Ambjörnsson Antropologi/Genus SU
Gudrun Elvhage Socialt arbete SU
Daniela Cutas Filosofi UmU
Ulrika Dahl Antropologi/Genus SH
Liz Kella Engelska SH
Karin Borevi Statskunskap UU/SH
Roger Klinth Historia/Tema LiU
Maria Eriksson Socialt arbete MDH (fm)
Zlatana Knezevic Socialt arbete MDH
Ulrika Wernesjö MDH
Stina Ericsson Språkvetenskap Linnéuniversitetet
Ulla Björnberg Sociologi GU
Sara Eldén Sociologi LU
Terese Anving Sociologi LU
Maria M Berglund Litteraturvetenskap, Svenska Migrationscentret i Karlstad

At the meeting, we did a round of very brief presentations of researchers and projects. We discussed what we saw as central questions in ongoing research, but also gaps in the field(s). These discussions will not be summarized here. However, there is now a chance to publish brief introductions to researchers, as well as project descriptions on the website.

The meeting in December was a success in terms of the amount of interest it raised, and it does seem to have come at a time when several people in various locations in Sweden had started to work towards networks, as evidenced for example by the planned network for family studies in social work (Lars Plantin, Malmö), as well as the symposium at Umeå University in November, ongoing and planned projects, etcetera. About 50 people are currently on the email list for the Network; 25 attended the initial meeting.

LANGUAGE QUESTION

Minutes are written in English for the simple reason that, as was stated in the meeting, not all researchers in Sweden who work with family/kinship are fluent in Swedish.

Therefore, in the meeting, we settled that the Website will be in English. The meeting was in Swedish, but future meetings can of course be held in mixed languages (English/Scandinavian languages), as needed.

NATIONAL CONTEXT

The “Swedish Network...” should be read as denoting research done (at least partly) at Universities/other research institutions in Sweden. In the initial call sent out during the fall, I stated an express interest in mapping ongoing research in Sweden. Obviously, while many projects and so on do deal with the Swedish context, a more inclusive Network also allows for other national contexts, as well as international/transnational comparison, etcetera.

DECISIONS

We established that the Network should try to arrange one meeting/year REGARDLESS of external funding. The next meeting was suggested to take place in October 2015, probably at Södertörn (or Linköping), probably a two-day meeting, probably with a certain central focus/question, probably an opportunity for 10-minute research presentations, probably an opportunity to “workshop” around texts-in-progress.

We will apply for Network funding and Initieringsbidrag in 2015. The work group /styrgrupp for the applications are: Helena Henriksson, Daniela Cutas, Ulla Björnberg, Roger Klinth, Zlatana Knezevic.

We will set up a free webpage (Wordpress), which will be managed by Daniela Cutas and Helena Henriksson. The primary FUNCTIONS of the webpage are:

- facilitate contact with other researchers
- find relevant people for grading committees, peer review work, and more
- to make network/research visible to researchers, other stakeholders, and media
- post/share information concerning symposia, conferences, CFPs for anthologies, etc.

Email list for network is managed by Helena Henriksson (for 2015).

All who define their research as family and/or kinship studies are welcome to join the network, and should contact Helena Henriksson.

Thanks to all who came for making this an interesting and rewarding day!
/HWH