A historical perspective on the co-operation of the Nordic journalism teachers

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TAMPERE MUTANTUR

Ett lyckobringande minne från nordiska journalistlärarseminariet 1982

Lilli Wen
Lars Fruwolff
Eno Teng

Lyn Wen
Beginning in the 1960s

• 1963 newly established schools from Denmark, Norway and Sweden as well as older one from Finland meet in Aarhus with Erik Reske-Nielsen at the Nordic centre for further education of journalists, “Nordic Course”

• 1965 they attend conference in Tampere and decide to set up “Rectors Committee”
  – see Ulla-Stina Westman’s report

• 1969 first teachers’ seminar takes place in Saltsjöbaden-Stockholm with a long list of topics for group discussion
  – see proposals by the Norwegian school:
• Interview
• News values
• Language and writing
• Graphical technique and layout
• Press ethics
• Reportage
• Telegram treatment
• Source criticism
• Mass communication research
• Political journalism
• Culture journalism
• Social journalism
• Foreign journalism
• Economic journalism
Seminars financed by Nordic Cultural Fund

• 1971 August: Oslo hosted by Norsk Journalistskole (director Jon Dörsjö)
• 1972 Summer: three seminars hosted by Journalisthöskolan i Göteborg (director Lars Alfvegren)
  – May Skagen “How to learn to write?”
  – June Kungälv “Training papers”
  – August Åland “Integration of social scientific and journalistic subjects in teaching”
• 1974 August: Aarhus hosted by Danmarks Journalisthøjskole (director Erik Reske-Nielsen)
  “Media in work”, “Media and reality”, “Media in society”, “Language in media”

• 1975 June: Biskops Arnö hosted by Journalisthögskolan i Stockholm (director Lars Furhoff)
  “Ethical codes and self regulation”, “Integrity”, “Criteria for good and bad journalism”

• 1976 June: Leangkollen hosted by Norsk Journalistskole (director Jon Dörsjö)
  “Integration of social science and journalism” “Professionalisation”
• 1978 June: Kungälv hosted by Journalisthögskolan i Göteborgs Universitet (director Lars Alfvegren)  
  “Journalism in local society”
• 1980 August: Borgå hosted by Svenska Social- och Kommunalhögskolan vid Helsingfors Universitet (director Ulla-Stina Westman)  
  “Possibilities to change journalistic practice”
• 1982 August: Murikka hosted by Department of Journalism and Mass Communication at University of Tampere (director Pertti Hemánus)  
  “Journalism under change”
• 1984 August: Oslo hosted by Norsk Journalisthögskole
New round 1996–2012

- No more seminars while Nordic financing stopped in 1985-95
- Yet Cooperation Committee continued to meet annually
- Teachers’ seminars restarted with financing of own schools:

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Oslo</td>
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<td>1998</td>
<td>Grenå</td>
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<td>2001</td>
<td>Biskops-Arnö</td>
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<td>2002</td>
<td>Eckerö</td>
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<td>Gilleleje</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>Lökeberg</td>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>Murikka</td>
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Lessons of history

• Nordic networking sought as soon as schools established
• Topics wide and eternal from the beginning
• Theory-practice division present but treated politely
• Social science-journalism question tackled proactively
• Journalism research/theory tackled with caution
• Release of monopoly and integration to universities proceeded slowly but surely: from isolated professional schools to academic education
• Nordic landscape typical of European average – see my conclusions in *European Journalism Education* (edited by Terzis, Bristol: Intellect 2009)
Thank you!

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