

Annual Highlights

On June 6-7, 2017 “Uses of Literature. The Social Dimensions of Literature” (UOL) hosted a visit by Prof. Toril Moi (Duke University), a leading scholar in literary theory, feminist theory, and the relationship between philosophy and literature. Moi gave a well-attended lecture on the topic “Must novels be fiction? Language and reality in Knausgård's *My Struggle (Min kamp)*”. She also led a seminar on her new book *Revolution of the Ordinary. Literary Studies after Wittgenstein, Austin, and Cavell* (Chicago UP, 2017).

In co-operation with NICE Welfare and NCoE Nordwel, UOL organized the “9th International Nordwell Summer School: State, Society, Culture & Citizen – Cross-Disciplinary Perspectives on Welfare State Development” for PhD students and Postdocs. The Summer School was held in Rome, 12-16 June, 2017, and 10 distinguished scholars from all over the world participated as teachers. In charge from UOL were Prof. Petersen, Prof. Simonsen and Prof. WSR Marx.

On Sept 21, 2017 the UOL group sponsored an international and interdisciplinary workshop on the theme “Actor-Network-Theory Across the Disciplines”. Eight distinguished speakers from the United States, the UK, Australia, France, and Denmark addressed the relations between the humanities and social sciences with specific reference to the work of Bruno Latour.



From left Prof. Emeritus D. B. Morris, Niels Bohr Prof. R. Felski, & Prof. R. Charon at SDU, Oct 2017

Prof. Mai, Prof. Simonsen, Associate Prof. Schwartz, and Assistant Prof. A. J. L. Rasmussen have organized a new programme on Narrative Medicine for BA's and MA's at the Faculty of Health Sciences (SDU). SDU is the first university in Denmark where a course in Narrative Medicine has become mandatory for the BA students at the The Medical School. Narrative Medicine is a part of an introductory course for medical students at SDU called “Mennesker først”. Furthermore, UOL has organized an

elective course at the MA programs for Health Studies. The program in Narrative Medicine at SDU has experienced an extensive press coverage.

A 3-day event in Oct 2017 on Narrative Medicine was sponsored by UOL and The Nordic Network for Narratives in Medicine: “Workshop on Writing Narratives and Medicine”, in cooperation with REHPA Videncenter for Rehabilitering og Palliation; “Public Conversation with Prof. Rita Charon (Columbia University), Niels Bohr Prof. Felski and Emeritus Prof. (SDU) and Writer David B. Morris (University of Virginia)” and “Seminar with Morris about his book *Eros and Illness* (Harvard UP, 2017)”.

Niels Bohr Prof. Felski's recent book *The Limits of Critique* was the topic of several different scholarly symposia: an eight-person response in *PMLA*, the leading journal of literary studies; a five-person response in the journal *Religion and Literature*; and an issue of *The American Book Review*.

On June 14, 2017 Prof. Mai gave the first “Einar Hansen-föreläsning” ever, “Om nordisk kvindelitteratur i de første tiår af det 21. århundrede”. The lecture was arranged by the Einar Hansens Allhemsstiftelse and Centre for Scandinavian Studies – Copenhagen-Lund (CSS). [Mai's lecture is accessible online](#)

On Dec 12, 2017 Prof. Mai was invited to give a talk about history of literature, at Kungl. Vitterhetsakademien's (The Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History and Antiquities) symposium about “Natur och Kulturs Litteraturhistoria” in Stockholm. Title of Mai's talk: “Reflektioner över litteraturhistorieskrivning”.

Prof. Mai has been appointed Chair for the Humanities at D-IAS (Danish Institute for Advanced Study).

Prof. Petersen has been appointed Professor 2 at The University of Oslo. Petersen is affiliated with the interdisciplinary research project Nordic Branding.