

**ANNUAL REPORT FOR *NORDIC STUDIES*
IN EDUCATION, VOLUME 33** (as of Feb 27, 2013)

The present volume of our journal is the fourth one as *Nordic Studies in Education*, previously *Tidskrift för Nordisk Förening för Pedagogisk Forskning* (1980–1985) and *Nordisk Pedagogik* (1986–2009). The co-operation with Universitetsforlaget (our publisher since 1988) has during this year again run smoothly. 2013 is the first year when the journal has been produced almost entirely digitally. As in previous years, the Editorial Board has been identical with the Board of NERA. In Spring 2013, editorial and referee responsibilities were transferred from Biörn Hasselgren and Kasper Kofod to Fritjof Sahlström and Tuuli From.

The Editorial Board has met twice during 2012; in Reykjavik in March 2013, and in Lillehammer in August 2013.

72 (Denmark 8, last year 18; Finland 4, last year 3; Iceland, 1; Norway 29, last year 33; Sweden 29, last year 19, and 1 from Estonia) manuscripts have been submitted to the *Forum*-section (last year 74) of which 50 were forwarded for review, 10 have been accepted for publishing (including 'minor changes' and one interview that has not been peer reviewed but checked by two specialists), 19 been labelled as “major revisions needed” (of which 2 have been accepted for publication after a new evaluation of a revised manuscript, others remain under process) 9 have been refused after review, and 7 manuscripts remain to be reviewed (3 withdrawn). In addition, six manuscripts were submitted for and published in the NordCrit Special Issue (4-2013, 1 manuscript from Finland, 2 from Norway, and 3 from Sweden). The editors did not coordinate the review process for this issue.

In tables 1-6, core figures for NSE have been compiled.

Table 1. *Submitted manuscripts (excluding the NordCrit special issue) and country of origin.*

| | Denmark | Finland | Iceland | Norway | Sweden | Estonia | Total |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|---------|-------|
| Prior to 2013 | 18 | 3 | 0 | 33 | 19 | 0 | 74 |
| Jan-Dec 2013 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 29 | 29 | 1 | 72 |

As shown in table 1, the majority of the manuscripts are submitted from Norway and Sweden. The Danish submissions have dropped considerably in 2013.

Table 2. *Review process overview (excluding the NordCrit special issue for 2013, which was not coordinated by the editors).*

| | Submitted manuscripts | Editorial rejection | Forwarded for review | Major revision | Accepted (including minor revision) | Post-review rejection | Withdrawn | Still in review |
|---------------|-----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Prior to 2013 | 74 | 29 | 45 | Not available | 6 | 9 | 1 | 28 |
| Jan-Dec 2013 | 72 | 28 | 44 | 17 | 6 | 11 | 3 | 7 |

As shown in table 2, the number of submitted manuscripts and the editorial rejection rate have remained stable. Please note that in the column “still in review”, the data for submissions prior to 2013 also includes articles in major revision.

Table 3. *Length of review process of the 44 submissions forwarded for review during 2013 (from submission date until review process outcome decision sent to author), excluding the NordCrit Special Issue, which was not coordinated by the editors.*

| | 1-3 months | 4-6 months | 6 months and longer | Under process | Withdrawn before decision made |
|--------------|------------|------------|---------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|
| Jan-Dec 2013 | 7 | 21 | 7 | 7 | 2 |

As shown in table 3, approximately two thirds of the manuscripts have received a decision in less than six months from the date of submission. The average review process duration is four months.

In addition to the submissions received during 2013, the editorial team has managed nine manuscripts from the previous editor. In four cases the review process was considerably delayed but finally finished. In five cases we had to restart the review process from the beginning, due to the lack of communication with the reviewers.

12 volumes (2002 – 2013) of *Nordic Studies in Education* are now fully accessible on the web, through Universitetsforlaget’s database www.idunn.no. Through libraries, universities etc. idunn.no has helped readers to electronically check articles 20 344 times (13 149 last year). Thor Arnfinn Kleven's "Validity and validation in qualitative and quantitative research" in *NSE* no. 3/2008 is still the most “popular” article in *Nordic Studies in Education*, with 2387 downloads on idunn.no.

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The journal has published four separate issues, 343 pages, 28 contributions (16 in English). The *Forum*-section has during the year contained 21 articles and *Current Educational Research* 1 article. 23 women and 14 men have contributed to the content of the journal. The distribution of authors over countries is shown in Table 1 below.

Table 4. *Distribution of published pages 2003–2013, over countries (percent; according to the first author, including editorials).*

| | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | avr |
|-------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|
| DK | 41 | 13 | 39 | 13 | 9 | 42 | 13 | 13 | 12 | 15 | 21 |
| FI | 0 | 0 | 12 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 12 | 8 | 6 | 5 |
| IS | 0 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| NO | 30 | 40 | 29 | 48 | 45 | 24 | 39 | 39 | 63 | 25 | 38 |
| SE | 24 | 29 | 21 | 27 | 42 | 25 | 40 | 28 | 12 | 35 | 28 |
| other | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 19 | 5 |

Economy

From the Joint Committee for Nordic Research Councils for the Humanities and the Social Sciences (NOS-HS) *Nordic Studies in Education* has received NOK 77.000 for 2013. (NOS-HS has also accepted our application for support for 2014; outcome NOK 77.000 per year. A new application, for the period 2015-2017, will be directed to NOP-HS in 2014.)

Below numbers of subscriptions accounted for regarding countries (table 5) and categories of subscriptions (table 6).

Table 5. *Number of subscriptions 2006–2013, distributed over countries.*

| | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 |
|-------|-------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| DK | 186 | 184 | 159 | 145 | 110 | 71 | 107 | 61 |
| FI | 69 | 81 | 60 | 60 | 52 | 69 | 57 | 62 |
| FÆR | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 6 |
| IS | 12 | 13 | 16 | 16 | 11 | 7 | 17 | 40 |
| NL | 3 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 |
| NO | 342 | 324 | 318 | 320 | 251 | 250 | 228 | 279 |
| SE | 544 | 425 | 397 | 387 | 295 | 239 | 262 | 287 |
| USA | 4 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 3 |
| other | 12 | 9 | 8 | 26 | 12 | 14 | 26 | 18 |
| S:a | 1.164 | 1.017 | 979 | 962 | 738 | 658 | 723 | 757 |

Table 6. *Number of subscriptions 2005–2013 distributed over types of subscriptions.*

| | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 |
|------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Institution (ordinary) | 172 | 193 | 178 | 136 | 120 | 111 | 88 | 73 |
| Institution (member) | 18 | 17 | 17 | 20 | 16 | 15 | 16 | 11 |
| Private (ordinary) | 29 | 28 | 26 | 29 | 29 | 33 | 26 | 19 |
| Private (member) | 641 | 541 | 516 | 442 | 364 | 318 | 463 | 515 |
| Student (ordinary) | 7 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 0 |
| Student (member) | 255 | 188 | 185 | 149 | 160 | 132 | 107 | 140 |
| S:a | 1124 | 974 | 924 | 779 | 693 | 624 | 702 | 758 |

After an evident downturn for a number of years, the number of subscriptions is again steadily turning upwards. This is most probably related to the annual and well-attended NERA-congresses, as the rise in numbers is limited to private and student members of NERA. Ordinary (non-member) subscriptions continue to diminish.

Special thanks

Special thanks are directed to the former editor Biörn Hasselgren and the former review coordinator Kasper Kofod for their helpful assistance. Special thanks are also directed to the large number of referees who have scrutinized and commented upon the manuscripts sent to be published.

Helsinki, 2014-02-27

Fritjof Sahlström and Tuuli From