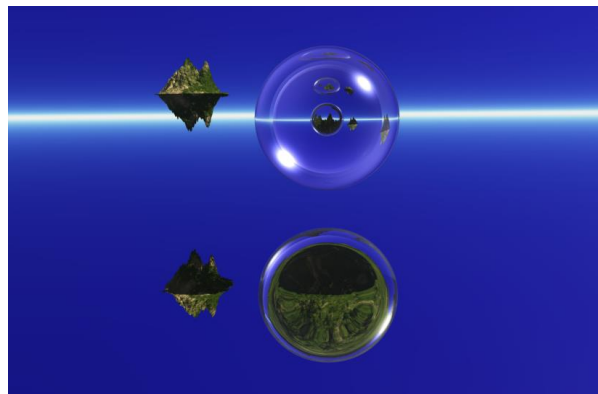




**News Forum Strömstad Interdisciplinary Academy  
Nr 6 2023  
International edition  
30 June 2023**



**Contents**

1. Editor's corner (Anders Gustavsson) .....	2
1. The Science Festival next year (Åsa Morberg) .....	3
2. Vice-Chancellor's report (Per Flensburg) .....	4
4. IT'S TIME AGAIN – grades in the schools (Åsa Morberg) .....	9
5. Our shared responsibility to market Strömstad Academy (Åsa Morberg) ..	11
6. Proposition for the set up of a digital archive (Åsa Morberg) .....	13
7. Which method is best? (Jens Allwood).....	15
8. On "Drug policy of the future" (Gudmund Bergqvist).....	18
10. Summary of activities in the Strömstad Academy Executive Committee/AU January - June 2023. (Marylou Wadenberg).....	20

## 1. Editor's corner (Anders Gustavsson)

Due to Per Flensburg becoming temporarily ill, the newsletter has this time received a different layout.

### Editor's corner

**Educator and Chairman of the Board Åsa Morberg** informs about news in Strömstad Academy.

**Vice-Chancellor and Information System Scientist Per Flensburg** informs about news in Strömstad Academy.

**Ethnologist and Pro-Vice-Chancellor Anders Gustavsson** has, in Open Journal of Social Sciences Vol. 11 no. 5 2023, published *Alcohol Misuse: Stories from the Early Industrialism in Sweden*.

<https://www.scirp.org/journal/paperinformation.aspx?paperid=125200>.

On 6 June 7.00 pm **Neuroscientist Elaine Bearer** gave a lecture online about "A quest for cognition".

I want to urge a previous call for all members to verify and complete their personal information on the Academy website. Also try to recruit new members to the Academy, not least young scholars. Please, send suggestions to Vice-Chancellor Per Flensburg [per.flensburg@stromstadakademi.se](mailto:per.flensburg@stromstadakademi.se)

I wish new contributions to the July issue of the Newsletter sent to my e-mail address with deadline on 27 July 2023: [anders.gustavsson@ikos.uio.no](mailto:anders.gustavsson@ikos.uio.no). Send short articles, opinion articles and/or reviews of new scientific literature.

Swedish contributions should have an English translation. Texts should be in Word- or Open Office format!

Please, also send contributions to the Academy's publication series Acta Academia Strömstadiensis, AAS, to [peter@wahrborg.se](mailto:peter@wahrborg.se), the video series SAV to: [gudmundbergqvist@hotmail.com](mailto:gudmundbergqvist@hotmail.com) and the Free Series to:

[per.flensburg@stromstadakademi.se](mailto:per.flensburg@stromstadakademi.se)

## 1. The Science Festival next year (Åsa Morberg)

The Science Festival next year, June's report by Åsa Morberg, Chairman

It is not that work is down this summer. There is always a lot to do for the Vice-Chancellor, Chairman and Treasurer. Summer break still means that things are ongoing and should be so.

We have sent out a request for views regarding the next year Science Festival and we received very good response. I have compiled everyone's views in a document that we will use in the planning work.

We will return to who can pitch in at the Science Festival. No one is mentioned and no one is forgotten either. We need to be quite a few to be able to successfully pull the Science Festival off. Thanks to those who offered to help.

We actually had a very good response to the first discussion about next year's Science Festival. Thanks for all the good ideas and above all kind advice. We all want next year's Science Festival to be a great success.

The conference fee should cover coffee, lunches and dinners. We received a lot of advice about the conference fee. It is an important social stance. The members of Strömstad Academy do not see each other very often physically, and then the Science Festival becomes extra important for the social gathering!

All members must absolutely be given the opportunity to present their research. Then it becomes important to participate. It seems that 20 minutes of lecture and 10 minutes of discussion is what we should go for. If themes are to be used, these themes must be pre-announced. Parallel seminars can be used if there are not enough spots.

We should think about the venues for the Science Festival. Skagerack is highlighted as a place for the Science Festival. But we need to weigh Skagerack against Fars Sal at the City hall. The City Hall is important to use because there we even have an office.

Coffee and mingling are important for a successful Science Festival. Coffee thermoses with some snacks and fruit should be available. We need to have a gala dinner. Wednesday evening: Strömstad Academy has been to Furholmen a few times and had their shrimp buffet; at least once as a "gala dinner" - this has

been much appreciated (and not too expensive). Might be something to think about. We should bring the welcome meeting on the first evening back.

The timing of the Science Festival is important. The National Day is not a good day to have the Science Festival. Maybe June 10 -13 is better. Of course, it may clash with school graduations and other things that happen in June, but we will have to discuss this further in the planning work.

If possible, we will help with the accommodation issue. There are large price differences for different forms of accommodation. There are, for example: SPA [www.stromstad.spa.se](http://www.stromstad.spa.se) and Capri Bostadsrättsförening. Laholmen's hotels are expensive. There are hostels and Bed and Breakfasts as well. Maybe we can ask the tourist office for help.

We are already looking forward to next year's Science Festival. Thanks for the commitment and all the good advice. We will circle back. The marketing of the Science Festival is important. Word of mouth is a good method. We can all apply this method - telling how interesting and nice these meetings are.

As soon as the time is decided, we will go out with announcements.

## 2. Vice-Chancellor's report (Per Flensburg)

It has been an ordeal that I've been through and it's far from over. Will stay in the hospital over Midsummer, but my wife got to go home today. I have seen that there has been some discussion about next year's Science Festival. I would suggest June 10-13, i.e. the week before Midsummer. Anders proposed the second week of June. But that's the time when students usually graduate and it might be stupid to mix them up.

Furthermore, I suggest that the annual meeting be held at a normal time, i.e. sometime in January/Feb 2024. Then the bank should not be so upset. We could meet in Father's hall, possibly have a hybrid meeting, but I think it is good to separate annual meeting and Science Festival.

We should have a group with clear areas of responsibility, I suggest that Anders and I be responsible for the program in much the same way as we did this year. There should be room for around 25 speakers and we will maintain a low price profile. There is no space for a concert next year. Perhaps you can think of an

alternative to Laholmen as where to hold the celebratory dinner.

Rosa is responsible for the coffee in collaboration with Svarte Daniel's café. At am seminar hours we pay for coffee ourselves. For the pm activities, we could order a thermos for SEK 200. We also need an organizational Chair, who takes care of all the practical arrangements and I can't think of anyone better than Peter Fritzell in that role.

As usual, we have the mingling activities in connection with the installations. Possibly even on Monday, we'll see how it goes.

In December, we have a Nobel party in collaboration with the Strömstad high school. It was me and Sveza who kept it going last time and it was a very successful event. Thought we could organize a day's worth of lectures related to the Nobel Prize.

Another thing I started was to set up a scientific journal. Covid 19 interrupted this process but it can be resumed. I don't have the text here, it is on my desktop computer in Tärby, so hopefully I will resume the work when getting back home.

### 3. **Reading crisis again and how it should now be solved,** seen through Åsa Morberg's glasses

By Åsa Morberg, PhD in Pedagogy, Associate Professor in Didactics,

A quick look at the results of the Pirls: OECD reading test. Pirls' tests have recently been carried out and the test compares the reading comprehension of 400,000 fourth graders in 65 countries. Swedish students got 544 points, slightly worse than in 2016 (555 points). Sweden belongs to a second best group with, among others, Norway, Denmark and Finland. Swedish students who perform at a high level have decreased, on the other hand, the percentage of students who perform below a low level has increased by a few percent. The difference between students in low-resource and high-resource schools has increased. The same applies to the difference between students from resource-poor and resource-rich homes. Most countries have done worse in 2021 than in 2016.

That Swedish students' reading skills are worse now must have been expected? This cannot be news. Many voices have been heard confirming this. Why is that? The Minister of Education does not blame the teachers? She says that there is a relatively high proportion of competent teachers in Swedish as a second language and in Swedish, but she says that courses in beginner's Swedish are needed. She then refers to Läslyftet, i.e. to skills development.

- I am of a completely different opinion about the reasons. We will study the basic training for teachers and see what is actually done there. During the seminary period up until 1968, learning to read and reading training were the most important skills that future teachers would learn. When the teacher training college was introduced and teacher training was to be based on a scientific basis, the problems began. Practically good teachers were found both at the training school and at the seminary, and they remained in the system during the time of teacher training college up until 1977. When teacher training was incorporated into the college, concerns began with the practically gifted teachers.

These individuals should definitely be trained and become researchers. All reforms since 1977, and there have been many reforms, have reduced the vocational preparation elements and increased the scientific and the theoretical elements. We have just over 1,000 serving teachers in the school who have a doctorate, according to Statistics Sweden, and yet these elements take up the majority of the basic teacher training. How can that be possible?

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- Practitioners can no longer be employed in higher education. The teacher educator profession has been discontinued in Sweden, but certainly not internationally. We employ newly graduated researchers who have no experience in either preschool or school and absolutely no experience in training teachers. We have reduced the vocational elements and we have continuously reduced the areas in the education that deal with learning to read and reading development. How then can it be anything but a problem?

Then we quickly deploy special educators if reading is a bit difficult! And the education minister wants to increase investment in textbooks and reduce screen time, but also increase investment in special educators. She also wants to reduce the teaching groups, despite the fact that we have among the smallest teaching groups globally. She also links an investment in ability to study in a calm environment to this problem.

- 
- She suggests that there will be a new review of teacher training as well. Every new government with some self-respect always invests in a new teacher education. All politicians who have gone to school themselves know exactly how it should be. It is not good for universities to constantly change teacher training. They do not have time to gain experience from a reform before the next reform is launched.

Today, everyone is asking for more professional practical elements and less of the more theoretical elements. Teacher training should be research preparation and yet there are so few teachers with postgraduate training in preschool and school? Immediately reintroduce

the abolished teacher training profession. All those who train teachers must themselves be trained as teachers and they must have their own experience of training teachers. A proper increase in the quality requirements for those who are to train teachers is needed.

Increase the vocational elements that have to do with learning to read and reading development. The trend of children and young people reading fewer books can certainly be remedied. Staffed school libraries are really good. Special educators are certainly good, but it is extremely important not to label children and young people with simpler reading problems as special learners! Do not emphasize reading problems more than necessary.

The reading crisis can absolutely be resolved!



## 4. IT'S TIME AGAIN – grades in the schools (Åsa Morberg)

IT'S TIME AGAIN: New investigation is believed to stop grade inflation - degree exams can be introduced

By Åsa Morberg, Doctor of pedagogy and Associate Professor in Didactics

Now it's time again. The government wants to come to terms with satisfaction ratings and appoints a new investigation. They want to investigate how the grading system can be changed. Exams are a measure that must be investigated in particular. The Minister of Education believes that we have a problem with grading and cites as evidence a study from the School Inspectorate on the work of 30 principals to counteract high grades, so-called happy grades. The School of Economics is considering introducing entrance/admission exams due to the satisfaction ratings. An inquiry will now be appointed to change the grading system so that it better reflects the students' knowledge. The Minister of Education has great faith in grades as a selection instrument. I myself have little faith in grades as a selection instrument.

How can anyone believe that it is possible to set fair grades? Confidence in grades is a problem in Sweden. Grades always have a large amount of subjectivity attached to the process of grading itself. We will never ever get away from that. In Sweden, we step up trust in grades, while internationally trust is stepped down.

The Minister of Education believes that too many students get grades that are far too high in relation to their skills, and they favor those who apply for higher education. She thinks that is unfair. She doesn't blame the teachers. The ones who actually make the grades. She thinks it's a political issue? It's about expectations of high grades, she claims. She sees two reasons for happy ratings. Students and parents try to influence the grading and she sees that as one reason. The second reason she sees is the competition for students. High grades in a school benefit the school in terms of student attraction. Here, apparently, the politicians must step forward and change?

The investigator will now be an economist, Magnus Herkson. It comes like a letter in the mail that it is an economist. Economists have extensively debated the ratings. I believe that it should have been a skilled educator who was given the assignment. There are many possible individuals who can better represent

the school system than a national economist. When the national economists' training is to be reviewed, we hope that it will be a pedagogue! It will be interesting and very revitalizing.

Magnus Herkson, who comes from the area of private schools, says that the grading system is not objective. He says that the criteria are unclear and then the performances cannot be assessed equally! Consequently, if the criteria become clearer, he believes that the grades will become more objective. I do not think so. He believes in entrance/admission exams, or parts of the system of entrance/admission exams that he intends to modernize.

Time again in 2025 to change the grading system. In the end, it's actually about sorting out students. We used to have a school for everyone. Now we have a school for some. Change in the grading system is a prescription from the Department of Education, but the subjectivity of grades remains and will of course continue to add to it.

## 5. Our shared responsibility to market Strömstad Academy (Åsa Morberg)

By Åsa Morberg, Ph.D. in Pedagogy, Associate Professor of Didactics and Chairman of the Board of Strömstad Academy

We have had all possible investments in marketing Strömstad Academy. The need for marketing is still great. This is a joint responsibility for all members, even if we give special assignments to some members. We all get to roll up our sleeves and talk about how interesting and nice it is to be a member of Strömstad Academy in different ways and in different media. Word of mouth is effective and cheap!

Marketing can of course be many different things, but marketing can also be defined as a process where the Academy creates value for potential members and builds strong relationships to capture the interest of members and future members.

Writing articles in the press is usually a good way to market both Strömstad Academy and individual projects within the Academy. It's not just about writing an article and submitting it and thinking it will be published immediately, it's about being persistent and assertive. Contact the newspaper or magazine and take note of the editors' points of view. It is usually good to talk to editors-in-chief beforehand. It is important to follow the author instructions given online or directly in the current magazine. So a certain persistence is required to be able to publish. We can think about which newspapers and magazines have a good impact for us at Strömstad Academy. There is a college journal, an online journal, which could be a good forum for scholarly articles. If you write an article that is not accepted in the journal you wrote for, you don't put it in the drawer, but then you revise it for a new forum.

We plan to visit the Department and the Minister of Education this fall. We are working to find a very good and attractive starting point that will make the Minister of Education actually accept a visit from us in the Strömstad Academy. It's not just writing a letter and asking for a meeting. We have to find something to make the minister happy about our visit. We are working on

finding a starting point for our courtship request. It is about the Minister of Education thinking that it is worth the trouble to meet us and that he gets a payoff from the meeting.

In addition, we have a YouTube channel for Strömstad Academy where we post parts of the presentations in SAV. The idea is that by setting a catchy headline, you could attract visitors. The headings are of utmost importance. Most of the time, you are not allowed to put them yourself when you submit articles. It can get incredibly crazy sometimes. You have to be prepared for that.

We therefore invite all members of and sympathizers with Strömstad Academy to come up with proposals for both texts and activities we can initiate to market Strömstad Academy. What do you as a member want to highlight? What image/impression can we create of the Academy? What can you take responsibility for? We need to help each other!

A colleague from the University of Gävle has submitted his application for membership in Strömstad Academy. Another colleague is on his way to us.

## 6. Proposition for the set up of a digital archive (Åsa Morberg)

By Åsa Morberg, Ph.D. in Pedagogy, Associate Professor of Didactics and Chairman of the Board of Strömstad Academy

I propose that we set up a digital archive for Strömstad Academy. As Chairman, I cannot keep track of all documents securely. There are far too many documents of various kinds. I want the digital archive to be open to board members and other functionaries in the association who need access to the association's documents. These are, for example, accountants, nominating planners, etc. I know how I want to use the archive, but I cannot create a digital archive like this. On the other hand, I have long experience of using a digital archive in, for example, the literary society of which I am also chairman.

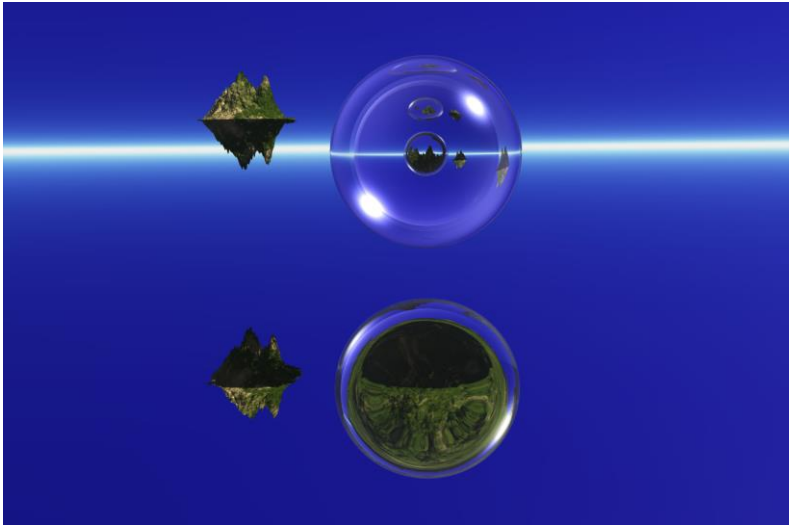
I want approximately the following structure on the digital archive. But leaves it up to whoever creates the archive to decide the structure. If there are views on the structure from other members, they are welcome!

### Proposal for structure of digital archive

1. The association's organizational number, account number etc.
2. The association's statutes/by-laws
3. The association's board
4. Notices to board meetings and annual meetings
5. Minutes taken of board meetings
6. Minutes taken at annual meetings
7. The association's members
8. Finances, annual reports, balance sheets, budget
9. Audit reports
10. The nominating committee
11. Business reports
12. Business plans
13. Agreements and deals
14. Projects that require a board decision
15. Other projects

16. The association's archive for other documents to save
17. The association in the press
18. Publications
19. Images
20. Videos
21. The memorial fund (Opportunity to donate money in memory of the deceased, etc.)
22. Miscellaneous

## 7. Which method is best? (Jens Allwood)



Which method is best?

### Interdisciplinary dialogues on method

Jens Allwood (ed)

STRÖMSTAD ACADEMY

There are many terms today for research collaboration across disciplinary boundaries. Perhaps it is a sign that a dear child has many names. Two of these are in Swedish "multi-disciplinary" and "cross-disciplinary". In Swedish, we can also say "multidisciplinary" in addition to "multidisciplinary" and in addition to "interdisciplinary" we can say "interdisciplinary" and possibly "transdisciplinary". The basic form can be said to be "multidisciplinary", where several sciences are coordinated, in the sense that they strive towards a common goal, but can actually do their work in separate tracks and the coordination of results is left to a project management. You get several different perspectives, theories and methods. It is sufficient that the coordinators are competent in their own disciplines.

If we increase the intensity and move from coordination to collaboration and cooperation, from multi-discipline to the various variants of interdisciplinary, it is increasingly required that one understands each other's perspectives, theories and methods. Sometimes it is also required to be competent in several disciplines, both regarding understanding of theories and use of methods. Although such interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary competence sometimes occurs, it turns out in reality that it is not that common.

The present volume is an attempt to empirically illustrate the degree of

understanding across disciplinary boundaries for different methods.

Representatives of different scientific orientations have been invited to describe their favorite method or their view of scientific method based on their own preferences, possibly shaped by their disciplinary affiliation(s). Each author's contribution has then been read by the others, who have been asked to comment and write critical questions about what they read. These questions were then sent to the authors of each contribution who were asked to answer the questions.

The following 9 researchers representing 7-8 disciplines participate in the book:

- Elisabeth Ahlsén - Neurolinguistics - Activity-based analysis of communication disorders
- Jens Allwood - Linguistics, communication and cognitive science - Why concept definition and concept analysis?
- Leif Bloch-Rasmussen - Informatics - Informatics and Pragmatism
- Per Flensburg - Informatics - About describing reality
- Anders Gustavsson - Ethnology - Fieldwork on sensitive (emotional) themes
- Subjective experiences and reflections
- KG Hammarlund - History - What does (good) historical method look like?
- Ulf Persson - Mathematics - What is a mathematical method?
- Claes Uggla - Theoretical physics - Methods in natural sciences
- Peter Währborg – Medicine - Methods in the medical sciences

Although many of the contributors weave much of their understanding of philosophy of science into their discussion of method, one gets a fairly good idea of the differences between the different disciplines' ways of approaching method. However, it is important to remember that the 9 authors primarily represent themselves. Differences in perception of method can sometimes be as great or even greater within a discipline than between disciplines.

Intradisciplinary variation can be greater than interdisciplinary variation.

The differences between the authors can be seen, among other things, in their attitude to certain overarching methodological issues, which are often of a scientific-philosophical nature. Some of the questions or themes that the authors have or imply different views on are: Generic methods, Truth and knowledge, Explanations and understanding and the relationship between natural sciences and humanities-social sciences, Subjective versus objective, Methodological reductionism or holistic systems theory? What kind of information can be obtained from concept analysis?, The role of ethics in research, Misunderstandings and lack of understanding across disciplinary boundaries.



As a whole, the contributions, the questions and the authors' answers show many of the differences that exist between scientific disciplines and many of the challenges that exist in scientific collaboration. Hopefully, reading the book can be a contribution to finding solutions when interdisciplinary problems arise.

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Discount for members 50% reduced price (approx. SEK 300) + postage

The book is sent when it is printed against an invoice from Strömstad akademi

The order is sent to Jens Allwood: [jens@allwood.se](mailto:jens@allwood.se)

## 8. On "Drug policy of the future" (Gudmund Bergqvist)

Points from a web conference in Stockholm 23-05-31-23-0601  
Drug policy of the future; A conference during the Swedish rotating presidency of the EU.

Here is a brief presentation of some of the conference high lights

### **By Gudmund Bergqvist**

#### **Bertha Madras: Consequences of Marijuana Use and Legalization - Lessons from North America**

She talks about how the added THC in huge amounts affects our own cannabinoid system. Warns especially about vaping.

In legalized states' higher use of highly potent THC preparations increases the risk of addiction. Warns against cannabis in pregnant women. The experiences from Colorado terrifying.

#### **Sara Heine: Early detection and early interventions - how do we close the gaps in the system?**

She emphasizes the value of prevention. Points out that the cost of prevention yields a 10x outcome. Mentions a good TUTT project in Trollhättan between the municipality and University West.

#### **Peter Allebeck: Cannabis what does the research say?**

He reviews research on increased risk of developing schizophrenia. Especially increased risk of injuries and traffic accidents.

#### **Linda Montanari: An overview of the drug situation in Europe**

She has extra focus on women in drug addiction. There are differences in use in women and men both regarding preparations and other things.

#### **Rissa Seidou: About work as a district police officer in Rinkeby**

#### **Stig Erik Sörheim: Summary of policy around cannabis in the EU.**

He talks about social cannabis clubs and rules around these. Around the legalization debate in Germany which ended in a very watered down proposal in the EU due to resistance above all from the Christian Democrats and a lack of enthusiasm from the Social Democrats. Delayed legalization in the EU by 10 years. "Kill legalization with 1000 stabs" (the ancient Chinese method).

### **Staffan Hubinette**

He talks about the cannabis industry, which does not only consist of cannabis sales, but everyone who benefits from it in the form of companies all around that provide different services from finance, transport etc!!! How to work to influence politicians. Refers to the report Cannabis industry strategies and methods published at the Narcotics Policy Center,

### **Bertha Madras: What have we learned from the introduction of new drugs?**

How ketamine is launched in the form of clubs, and completely outside the control of psychiatry, now the risk of psilocybin and other substances that cause hallucinations, for example LSD, goes the same way. We make the same mistake all the time by trivializing and turning a blind eye to the facts. The law comes later and special financial interests rule.

## 10. Summary of activities in the Strömstad Academy Executive Committee/AU January - June 2023. (Marylou Wadenberg).

*The Executive Committee/AU consists, as of January 1<sup>st</sup> 2023, of Per Flensburg - Vice-Chancellor, Åsa Morberg - Chairman of the Board, Anders Gustavsson – Pro-Vice-Chancellor, and Jens Allwood – Deputy Chair. Marie-Louise/Marylou Wadenberg serves as Secretary of the Board and of AU. The Academy treasurer John Fletcher also attends the AU meetings on a regular basis. AU runs digital meetings (jitsi) generally once a month.*

The AU work has during these 6 months been guided by the new Chairman of the Board, Åsa Morberg. This, and the fact that this spring has been defined by the planning of the Academy Annual Meeting and Science Festival, has dominated the agenda items for the meetings.

### **The agenda for the meetings has, among others, focused on the following items:**

Review of written Memo from previous meeting  
Economy  
The Science Festival in May  
The Annual Meeting in May  
Academy by-laws – changes  
The website – maintenance  
Local chapters  
Members – recruitment/fee  
Interimistic Ethics working group  
Discussion forum – use of  
Additional items

### **General Information:**

AU works between Annual Meetings, the highest decision-making authority, with a mandate from the Board, and regularly executes decisions made by the Annual Meeting and the Board. Meetings (via the jitsi platform) start with a brief review of previous written memo. Then items on the agenda are reviewed and discussed concerning what has happened since last meeting and how to proceed. Some decisions can only be made at a Board meeting. In those cases AU works on/prepares these matters for the next upcoming Board meeting. Occasionally joint positions/decisions may be carried out per capsulam by means of a memo from AU addressed/sent to the Board for a decision, or via

the Board itself if there was not enough time to discuss this matter at the ordinary Board meeting.

Responsibility, for and being in charge of the different main items on the agenda, is distributed between the individuals being part of AU as follows:

- Per Flensburg holds, together with the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (and in some cases the Chair), the overall responsibility for: planning of the Academic Ceremony, the Annual meeting and the Science Festival in Strömstad; he is also responsible for the website maintenance and layout of the newsletter, and to some extent keeping in touch with the Strömstad Municipality and the Strömstad Highschool. Per also handles certain records (such as the list of members).
- Anders Gustavsson holds the overall responsibility for: planning of the Academic Ceremony, the Annual meeting and the Science Festival in Strömstad (together with Per Flensburg), for lectures, and, within the framework of the Editorial Board, for writing series/anthologies, and for the Newsletter.
- Treasurer John Fletcher is responsible for overall economic issues.
- Deputy Chair Jens Allwood holds, together with the Chair, responsibility for Board meetings; and, together with the Vice-Chancellor and Pro-Vice-Chancellor, for Annual meetings. Former Deputy Chair Mariana Back stays on running the Google Drive place with the Academy's documents, and works on the recruitment of members for chronicle writing in 'Strömstads Tidning'.
- Chairman of the Board Åsa Morberg, AU Chair and convenor, holds responsibility for Board meetings; and together with the Vice-Chancellor, Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Chair, also for Annual meetings. She also keeps a close oversight over the regular agenda items at AU meetings (please see above).

Working Groups (ordinary) in some cases have someone in charge that is not part of AU. These individuals then most often report to Åsa Morberg and Anders Gustavsson.

The local chapters, Gothenburg and Falun currently being the most active ones, arrange and send invitations to meetings and webinars on various topics. Video records are posted on the Academy website (<http://stromstadakademi.se/wp2/>) and when appropriate also published in the video series (SAV) and on the Academy youtube-channel.

### **Important results during these first 6 months:**

**In summary:** In addition to regular issues, the most important issues for AU so far have primarily been:

To prepare issues/items and motions for the Board meetings on Jan 11, April 19, and May 15, 2023.

A deputy Secretary. Elisabeth Ahlsén, has also been tied to AU/the Board  
The Secretary Marylou Wadenberg has accepted to assist Per Flensburg in the maintenance of the website. She will receive some compensation for this work (Decision).

As convenor for the interimistic Ethics group, Sten Philipson has been keeping AU posted on the work in the group as well as the final document created as a result of this work. Sten Ph presented this work at the Annual meeting. No decision so far though.

The Vice-Chancellor, Per Flensburg, has been working on a draft for some changes in the Academy by-laws. The draft was presented at the Annual meeting. No decision so far though.

Finally, there have been discussions about:

- the website maintenance
- activity in the local chapters
- recruitment of new members; membership fee issues
- how members see the future of the Academy – proposed strategies.
- economy in general; funding for establishing an office, marketing etc

#### **Additional issues**

1. Members are active providing contributions/chronicles for 'Strömstads Tidning'; presentations posted on social media (Youtube) are also ongoing.
2. Members, for example Rune Wigblad, are active participating in media debates.
3. A number of projects/working groups are active – some of them presented their work at the Science Festival.
4. Local chapters are active.

AU has in the spring of 2023 had meetings via jitsi-meet:

On Feb 14, March 13, April 11 and May 3.

Marylou has been keeping written memos during the AU meetings. These have been revised by Åsa Morberg and then e-mailed out to the AU members, and to the Treasurer John Fletcher.

Marylou Wadenberg  
Secretary

Åsa Morberg  
revision