**Anglo-Nordic connections in turn-of-the-century feminism**

Intellectual Women: Dissatisfied Modernities

Madrid 13-14 November 2014

Both before and after the turn of the century, Norwegian women participated in the larger European discourses on modernity and femininity. Norwegian readers and writers were influenced by foreign women. The great early feminist names of the nineteenth century – for instance novelists Camilla Collett and Amalie Skram – saw themselves in a larger European context, as did the next generation. *The Norwegian Association for Women’s Rights* was established in 1884 and *The Association for Women’s Vote* in 1885. Key female figures fought for decades before all women got the right to vote in 1913, as the fourth country in the world. This is the context for this paper, which will focus mainly on the period after concepts such as ‘feminists’ and ‘suffragettes’ were making their appearance at the turn of the century, and until the first world war resulted in a new world for professional women. The paper will give examples of connections between Anglophone and Norwegian women at this time. Writers such as Clementina Black, Mary Dunne, Beatrice Harraden, Annie Besant were received in Norway, and these receptions are symptoms of a shared interest in the issues of modern femininity. The period 1890-1914 is also the last time window of the ongoing HERA collaborative research project *Travelling TexTs*, and this paper will present preliminary results from that project.

**Travelling texts around 1850: British women embraced in the North**

Norden/The North: Anglo-Nordic exchanges 1700-1850

St Mary’s University College, London, 28-30 November 2014

Historiographies of eighteenth-century and Romantic literary culture have often had a blind spot for the contributions of women. British women writers were active in different genres like fiction, drama, poetry and essay, and they were read and received in their own world. How many of them were also received in the North? The focus in this paper will be on texts from around 1800 translated and commented in Norway until the 1850s. The mid-century marks the start of a new wave of imported literature in Norwegian newspapers and for the book-market. Although the main emphasis was on contemporary writers, some of the famous names of the Romantic period were among the early choices for translation: Frances Burney, Hannah More and Grace Kennedy. Also the reception of Jane Austen will be considered in this context. This kind of Anglo-Nordic exchange also forms part of the on-going research project ‘Travelling TexTs 1790-1914’, funded by the EU FP7 through the HERA programme, see http://www.hivolda.no/nyn/hivolda/forsking-og-utvikling/forskingsprosjekt/hera-travelling-texts\_-1790-1914-\_eu-fp7\_ As Principal Investigator for Norway, with a particular responsibility for the Norwegian reception of British authors, I would be happy to contribute preliminary results from this project to the conference on Anglo-Nordic exchanges.

**Irony and idyll in the modern film reception of Jane Austen**

Ljubljana City Library, 3 September 2014

We are in the middle of bicentenary celebrations of Jane Austen’s novels, originally published between 1811 and 1817. Since that time, her authorship has gone from anonymity to world fame, not least due to the many film and television adaptations since 1939. So, what kind of an author is she perceived to be by film-makers? In a new book published this year, Marie N. Sørbø studies seven screen versions of the two novels Pride and Prejudice and Mansfield Park, and finds that there is a peculiar blend of irony and idyll in their rendering of her stories. Striking filmic interpretations of Austen’s ironic narrative voice alternate with an equally strong urge for nostalgia and romance. In this lecture, Dr Sørbø will present some examples of film receptions of Austen’s characters and events, and consider what they reveal of our perception of the author.