

Goodbye from the Editors

You have clicked on the last issue of NWR edited by Martin Gustafsson (Åbo Akademi University, Finland) and Anne-Marie Søndergaard Christensen (University of Southern Denmark). NWR has a principle of circulation of editors in the Nordic countries and we welcome the new editors 2018-2019: Gisela Bengtsson and Tove Österman (Uppsala University, Sweden). Another change ahead is the change of editor-in-chief. Yrsa Neuman (Åbo Akademi University, Finland) will hand over the wand to Simo Säätelä (Bergen University, Norway), who was one of the editors of NWR during its first years. The editor-in-chief's visit at the Kirchberg conference this year was heart-warming: she met supporters of NWR there and they made her think that the work she has put into the journal is worthwhile, and that she can now hand it over, after five years of service. Not everything is in flux: Martin Gustafsson continues as the book review editor and Alois Pichler as the editor of the section called "From the Archives". Further continuity is supplied by the editorial board's knowledgeable and experienced members, whose reflections and advice have been and will continue to be of invaluable importance to the journal.

Scholars who edit journals gain a lot of valuable insights not only into editing practices, but also into the workings of the scholarly communication system as a whole. What does it take to keep up a fair and constructive peer review-system? How is expertise on particular Wittgenstein-related areas of study distributed over the globe? What characterises constructive reviews, and who writes those? How does one engage the community of researchers in the publishing endeavour - what principles should guide this inclusion? What does proper editing mean and what skills does it require? How does one find help for judging a paper that lies so far beyond one's expertise that it's literally impossible to say if there's anything to it?

NWR is one of the most thoroughly investigated journals in the world. We're not thinking about the tax office, but of scientific endeavours. During this year, a case study on NWR was carried out

by Mikael Laakso (Hanken School of Economics, Helsinki, Finland) together with the editor-in-chief of the journal whose research interests include Open Access publishing. The study concerns sustainability issues in going full Open Access. Among other things, we investigated the workload that the peer review system entails. It's enormous, and without all the community service and goodwill, it would not be possible to publish this journal.

For the case study, Laakso and Neuman also carried out an online questionnaire survey to philosophers about Open Access publishing in philosophy. Many of the diagnostic questions asked there pointed in the direction of NWR being on the right track. For instance, over 90 of the 140 respondents thought that journal independence from a professional publisher is valuable and worth maintaining. You will hear more about the interesting survey results in the near future.

For this issue, Lars Hertzberg, Alois Pichler and Simo Säätelä have contributed as article editors, to ensure the copy-editing quality of selected papers.

As always, thanks are due to all of those who have supported NWR with reviews, papers, cheers and advice.

Åbo/Odense/Stockholm, December 16, 2016

The editors

Yrsa Neuman, Anne-Marie Søndergaard Christensen & Martin Gustafsson