

Nordic Wittgenstein Society Board Meeting

20 November, 2020, 1:15 P.M.

Attendees: Martin Gustafsson, Hanne Appelqvist, Alois Pichler, Bernt Österman, Camilla Kronqvist, Gisela Bengtsson, Viktor Johansson, Hugo Strandberg, Elinor Hållén

Discussion protocol

NWS Conferences

The conference 'Contextual Ethics II: Methods and Approaches', the eleventh annual NWS conference (2020), is planned to be held in Turku, Finland at the end of August 2021. It has been postponed twice due to the covid-19 situation.

The twelfth annual NWS conference (2021) 'The Tractatus after 100 Years', is planned to be held in Skjolden, Norway, 13-16 of May, 2021.

Other conferences and events

At the Royal Music Association Annual Music and Philosophy Conference in London 2021, special invited sessions are organized for which an institution or society is responsible. Hanne Appelqvist would like to organize a panel on Wittgenstein and music and has asked Martin Gustafsson if the NWS could be the society responsible for the panel; Martin has given his permission. The response from the board is positive; it is an interesting event and topic and these kinds of initiatives are the kind of outreach NWS should strive to take part in.

Invitation posed by Viktor Johansson with a question: Ingeborg Löfgren (Literature, Uppsala University and member of NWS) is initiator and organizer of the 'Ordinary language criticism seminar' that will have its first meeting the 18th of December 2020. It will, at least initially, be an online seminar and she invites people from NWS to participate. Viktor asks, could information be sent out to the NWS network? The response from the board is yes.

Discussion on how to use the NWS online platforms better and more

The question was raised if the NWS home page could be used more, for example to inform about events such as the ones that Appelqvist and Johansson informed about. It led to a conversation on whether the NWS home page should inform about events other than the events arranged by or in collaboration with NWS or if such events should be posted on the NWS Facebook page. The board leaned towards preferring to keep the NWS home page minimal but with links to Nordic Wittgenstein Studies, Nordic Wittgenstein Review and the NWS Facebook page, and to preferring to expand the use of the NWS Facebook page.

It was recognized that we need a good way of limiting and communicating what we announce on the Facebook page (eg. should it be a requirement that the event takes place in a Nordic country or is organized by one of the head members?) Do we, perhaps, need new statutes specifying what should be posted on the NWS home page and the NWS Facebook page respectively?

A group consisting of Viktor Johansson, Gisela Bengtsson and Elinor Hållén will look into the possibilities of using the NWS Facebook page more and how we best can deal with the increase in work and responsibility of an upgraded use. The result of the conversation will be presented at the next NWS board meeting.

The board also discussed if all the information about events organized in collaborations between NWS and a university, centre etc. should be posted on the NWS web page. It was agreed that it is acceptable that the host institution publish the conference program on their web page with a link to it on the NWS web page.

Nordic Wittgenstein Review

The NWR has seen a high increase of submitted articles since September.

Hanne Appelqvist raised the question why there is no review of the invited papers. Based on experience from editorial work for other journals, she proposed a different kind of review than for the proposed papers: an expert in the field would do the review and it would have the form of a conversation with the expert that could further improve the quality of the paper rather than a double-blind review which often results in rejections. It would benefit the authors of the invited papers as well since the paper would then count as having gone through review.

Gisela Bengtsson, representative of the NWR, found it an interesting suggestion to be considered by the NWR editorial team. The conversation about NWR then opened up to include other board members. One pointed out that transparency as regards what has gone through double-blind review and the proposed review for invited papers is important. Another that it is slightly odd to have book reviews under open review, as it is now.

The conversation attended to the pre-print publications on the NWR's web page. Good aspects were mentioned, the pre-print papers, also the invited papers, are open to review from any reader. Pre-print publication is also good for authors since they can point to their accepted paper in applications etc. Problems were also brought up. The commenting function on the web page, where corrections to the pre-printed articles can be suggested, is not working well. One can e-mail corrections to members of the editorial board but, apart from being a more complicated procedure, it does not allow one to stay completely anonymous as a commentator and that is a problem.

The anonymous commenting function on the NWR web page has been out of function for a while despite complaints to the web masters at University of Bergen. Alois Pichler will raise the issue at a formal meeting at the University of Bergen.

Date and time for the next meeting

26th of February 1.15 P.M. (Stockholm time)

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