

NORDIC WITTGENSTEIN SOCIETY

3rd Board Meeting of 2024

Venue: Zoom, 13 Nov 2024 at 16:00 CET.

The decision concerning the editor of *Nordic Wittgenstein Studies* was made in e-mail correspondence, which is considered a virtual continuation of the meeting.

Board members present:

Hanne Appelqvist (chair)

Lassi Jakola (secretary)

Alois Pichler (left at 16:30)

Gisela Bengtsson

Martin Gustafsson

Camilla Kronqvist (left at 16:55)

Anne-Marie Søndergaard Christensen

Bernt Österman

Viktor Johansson (not present)

Elinor Hållén

1§ Opening of the Meeting

- Meeting opened by Hanne Appelqvist at 16:00 CET.

2§ Declaration of a quorum

- The meeting is quorate.

3§ Approval of the agenda.

- The agenda was approved.

4§ *Nordic Wittgenstein Studies* publishing agreement with Springer (Anne-Marie)

The state of things: Anne-Marie Søndergaard Christensen had preliminarily agreed to become the new editor of *Nordic Wittgenstein Studies* in early 2024, replacing Niklas Forsberg. Due to changes in her professional life, she will not, however, accept the position. She has been offered a new editorial contract by Springer, but she will not sign it.

Concerning the relation of the series and NWS, Alois Pichler explained that, previously, the editor of the series has been suggested to Springer by Alois, on Springer's initiative. Alois and Anne-Marie emphasized that, presently, Springer takes it for granted that NWS suggests the series editor. The publishing contract has previously been signed by the series editor and the representatives of Springer. Presently, there is no active contract. As things stand, the board of NWS is not aware of the exact contents of the contract; allegedly the previous contract was between Niklas Forsberg and Springer.

The board discussed two interrelated issues: (i) The role of NWS in relation to the series, and (ii) the issue of the new editor.

Concerning (i), it was pointed out that, while the series is affiliated with NWS and this is also mentioned on Springer's website, the relation does not seem to be defined on formal level, as

the contract is signed between the editor and Springer. Hanne raised the worry that the present situation leaves the role of NWS open, e.g. regarding the accountability of the editor to the board of NWS and the procedure of choosing the editor. Who, eventually, has the rights to the series? – Hanne suggested that the present situation would allow us to rectify the situation by making sure that in the new contract to be signed the role and the rights of the society are mentioned formally in the contract. Lassi was in favour of this approach. Some members favoured that we proceed on the old lines, i.e. that the series editor signs the contract. This approach was supported by the argument that opening the discussion on the details of the contract with Springer might ultimately leave the book series in a less favourable position. Anne-Marie suggested that we adopt a practical approach: choose the editor first and let the chosen person take the responsibility for the publishing contract. The majority of board members were in favour of Anne-Marie’s proposal.

Concerning (ii), Alois suggested that the board of NWS should take a more active role in choosing the editor for *Nordic Wittgenstein Studies*. Concerning the new editor, no names of potential candidates were mentioned. Hanne summarised the discussion by pointing out that we have three alternatives: 1. The Board scouts and considers the candidates and decides on the next editor; 2. The Board asks the editorial board of the series for consultation and decides on the editor, and 3. The Board announces an open call for the position and decides among the applicants. Alternative 3 was not favoured, partly because the candidate should have some substantial connection to the Nordic countries. It was also pointed out that the person would ideally be a young and active scholar with editorial experience, preferably some footing in academic institutions, and that they should be actively in touch with the board – ideally as a board member.

No voting or definite decisions were made. It was agreed that Lassi and Hanne draft minutes of the discussion, which will be continued in email correspondence, and that board members suggest possible candidates by email. If needed, a new meeting will be organised in December; if not, the board may also vote online. (for a decision, see below §10)

5§ Conference plans for 2025, if any

- There are presently no plans for a conference in 2025. The board is open for proposals from its members. If no annual conference takes place, there is the fallback possibility of organising a NWS lecture.

6§ Update on the aftermath of the 2024 conference.

- The work is in progress on an edited volume on the basis of the 2024 conference. The volume will be edited by Hanne Appelqvist, Martin Gustafsson and Lassi Jakola.

7§ Other issues

- No further issues were raised.

8§ Next meeting

- The discussion will go on via email; a meeting will be called if needed.

9§ Closing of Meeting

- The zoom-meeting was closed at 17:10, but will be continued in email-format.

§10 The continuation of the meeting as e-mail correspondence. On 29.11.2024, Alois Pichler proposed to the board that Oskari Kuusela be invited as the new editor of *Nordic Wittgenstein Studies*. The members of the board agreed unanimously with Pichler's suggestion.

Chair: 
Hanne Appelqvist

Secretary: 
Lassi Jakola