



Introductory Note by the Editors-in-Chief

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This issue of *kritisk etnografi* – Swedish Journal of Anthropology addresses applied anthropology, or to be more precise the potentials and practices of ethnography in applied contexts. This is a theme at the heart of the journal with its motto “to foster responsible scholarship with global scope, local relevance and public engagement”. Guest editors coordinating this issue are Professor Maris Gillette and Professor Lisa Åkesson, both from the University of Gothenburg. Gillette and Åkesson have convened a collection of papers by scholars with experiences of working ethnographically in applied settings. The contributions illustrate a number of different cases and forms where anthropology has been part of quality improvement and problem solutions.

Viewed together, the papers reflect the different practices that are included in the broad umbrella of applied anthropology. However, one common theme that runs through all of them is that anthropologists do not bring the solutions. Instead, they always work in close cooperation with the people affected and it is through this interaction that ‘solutions’, or various ‘choices’ emerge and take shape. A specific example of this is in the BRICOLAGE section where we have included a report from Dr. Maria Padron on how anthropology may be put to use in settings fraught with conflicts, repression, and resistance.

There is also a growing interest, even demand, among students to build skills and competences that strengthen anthropology’s relevance on labour markets. Two recently established bachelor programs in Sweden – in Lund and Gothenburg – deliver applied anthropology as their thematic focus. Hopefully this issue of *kritisk etnografi* will feed into these programmes. An important recruitment to the Swedish Anthropology scene in this respect was the appointment of Steffen Jöhncke as Lecturer at the University of Gothenburg. Jöhncke is part of the editorial team of *kritisk etnografi* and has worked for a long time with Anthroanalysis at Copenhagen University. This unit specialises in the development and use of anthropological perspectives in practice.

Since the journal was launched in August 2018 with the inaugural issue that dealt with “*The Public Presence of Anthropology*” (Vol 1, No 1, 2018) and developed around Didier Fassin’s Vega Symposium in 2016, we have worked hard to consolidate the journal’s publication and dissemination. The second issue, which was also a double issue, was themed “*Comparative Municipal Ethnographies*” (Vol 2, No 1-2, 2019) focused on the anthropology of local politics across the world. The first issue of 2020 inquired into “*The Anthropology of Wellbeing in Troubled Times*” (Vol 3, No 1, 2020), and was developed around Paul Stoller’s 2013 Vega Symposium. The current issue focuses on ethnographic practices in applied

contexts. Two issues will be published in 2021. The first one is a *Varia* issue that welcomes any research paper irrespective of theme and focus. The second will explore “Anthropology and Water” with Professor Karsten Pearregaard and Professor Paula Uimonen as guest editors.

As Editors-in-Chief of *kritisk etnografi* – Swedish Journal of Anthropology we would like to emphasise that we welcome suggestions and proposals, papers and shorter pieces from colleagues at Swedish universities and beyond.

Spread the word! Aux plumes! Fatta pennan!

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On 15 June 2020, anthropologist Heidi Moksnes passed away, much too early. She held a PhD in Social Anthropology from the University of Gothenburg from 2003 with a thesis entitled *Mayan suffering, Mayan rights: Faith and citizenship among Catholic Tzotziles in Highland Chiapas, Mexico*. She worked for long time at Uppsala University, and in 2014 she became Senior Lecturer in Social Anthropology at Stockholm University.

Heidi was a dear friend to many of us, and a deeply engaged anthropologist who spent her academic life working for justice for Chiapas in Mexico and for indigenous rights at large. She was principled, energetic, professional and dedicated. Her fervent respect for and love of life made her a role model.

This special issue is dedicated to the memory of Heidi Moksnes.