

## Editorial

Five years have passed and five volumes have been produced since we started the revitalisation of the *Danish Journal of Archaeology*. Establishing new journals and perhaps even more so revitalising old ones is no mean feat. Yet, with the present volume, we have again witnessed a noticeable rise in the number of downloads. Especially the second quarter of 2016, which peaked at almost 4500 individual downloads, made a significant impact in the statistics. For this reason, already by the end of July, we had had our best year so far. We surely hope to continue on these very promising numbers and perhaps again improve the scope of our outreach for the coming volumes.

Besides retaining a solid flow of incoming articles with a very high scientific standard, we also plan to expand on the portfolio of the journal by introducing Special Issues in the coming volumes. As of yet, we cannot reveal too much of the exact content of these volumes, but we expect to be able to present a Special Issue, which relies heavily on cross-disciplinary studies of a subject area which readers of archaeological research only rarely see published in combination, but very often see cited within their own separate domains. Furthermore, the issue will fall into a (pre)historical period which we have only touched upon briefly in earlier volumes, so we surely hope to expand the range of submitted manuscripts, as well as attract a group of readers, which find attractive the Special Issues initiative and the opening up of a relatively quiescent subject area.

The year 2016 was also the last year where the *Danish Journal of Archaeology* operated under the auspices of the Agency of Culture and Palaces. During the last 6 years, we have been able to bring the journal into the highest level in the bibliometric classification (level 2) in Denmark and with a high quantity of international writers, reviewers as well as readers. Still, we find ourselves in the midst of a series of fundamental changes within the publishing world; in several countries, publishing under the Open Access flag has been introduced as a prerequisite when being funded by the government, and this situation will inevitably make an impact on the journal. However, with *Danish Journal of Archaeology*, we believe to have made a strong case for the

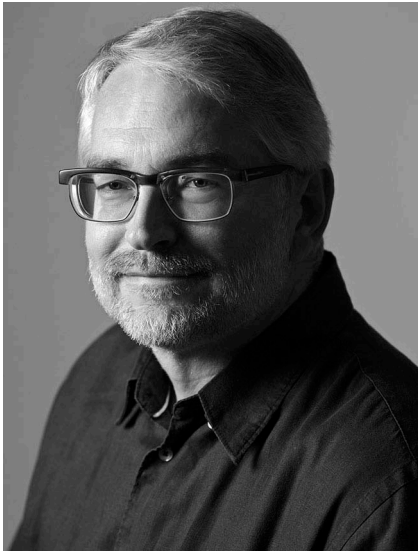
continuation of ‘traditional’ methods of publishing and are quite confident that the journal will find its place in a changed publication landscape.

Another fundamental change will also characterise the coming volumes, and we here refer to change in the editorial group. Already, in early 2017, the representative from both of the involved Universities will see a change. From the School of Culture and Society at Aarhus University, Felix Riede will be replaced by Mette Svart Kristiansen. Besides her position as associate professor and teaching in medieval archaeology, she is well versed in the methodological development of archaeological fieldwork and has extensive experience as the head of excavation at several key sites in Denmark. She has specialized in the rural world of Medieval Scandinavia, in particular, the housing culture of the period – a subject matter on which she has published extensively. Furthermore, she is no novice to the quirks of editorial work and has been involved in the editing of several books and journal special issues.

At the SAXO-Institute at the Copenhagen University, Eva Andersson Strand will be replaced by Rune Iversen. He is currently employed as assistant professor at the institute where he focusses on Neolithic studies and in particular the Pitted Ware culture and the sociocultural development of the period. Also Rune is an experienced excavator and has been involved in field projects as diverse as princely burials from the Late Roman Iron Age to the Late Epipalaeolithic of Jordan. More recently, he has entered into cross-disciplinary research and especially the field of archaeolinguistics and the spreading of Indo-European languages during the Neolithic.

Replacing the members of the editorial group has been a stated objective from the beginning of our collaboration. The reason behind being that by presenting new members, we also change the personal network of the editorial group and thus hope to encourage a dynamic atmosphere between the involved persons and the institutions. This is also the reason why Mette and Rune specifically have been introduced to the group, as they have extensive networks in the areas of Medieval and Neolithic research, respectively – both

areas in which the current editorial team members are only partly knowledgeable. In combination, we hope to boost these two research areas in the journal and that the coming articles to a larger extent will benefit from Mette and Runes competences and network. Both we and the new editors are very enthusiastic about the replacement in the editorial team and look forward to a further expansion of the article contents and consolidation of the journal's scientific position.



Professor Lars Jørgensen  
(Foto: Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters)

One of the former editors of the journal, Lars Jørgensen, and part of the current reference group initiating the revitalisation of the journal sadly passed away in early September. His tireless endeavour to promote and present Danish archaeology and research on the international scene is one of the underlying reasons why we could relaunch the journal back in 2011. He was a knowledgeable and trusted colleague and will be greatly missed. We sincerely hope that he would approve of the new journal and dedicate this volume to his memory.

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