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Editorial

International Recognition of *FormAkademisk*

Early this year I was invited to represent *FormAkademisk* at the Design Journal Editors' Meeting at the College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning (DAAP), University of Cincinnati in late October, as the only design research journal from the Nordic region. The meeting was organized in connection with the International Association of Societies of Design Research (IASDR) 2017 conference in Cincinnati.

Liv Merete Nielsen, who initiated the creation of *FormAkademisk* and has been a Section Editor since the start-up and I, who have been the Editor-in-Chief for the entire period, participated at the meeting.

FormAkademisk was in good company - among the others invited, we can mention the American *Design Issues* and the British *Design Studies*, both of which are at Level 2 of the Norwegian Science Index - NVI. Other reputable journals invited were the *International Journal of Design* from Taiwan, *She Ji - The Journal of Design, Economics, and Innovation* from Tongji University in Shanghai, China, *Design and Culture* from the United States, *Co-Design* from the United Kingdom, *Information Design Journal* published in the Netherlands with an international editorial board, *Journal of Design, Business & Society* with an international editorial board, the French *Sciences du Design* and *Visible Language* published at the University of Cincinnati, USA who hosted the meeting. Ken Friedman, Chair Professor of Design Innovation Studies and Editor-in-Chief of *She Ji - The Journal of Design, Economics, and Innovation* published at the Tongji University, Shanghai, Kina and Mike Zender at the College of Design, Architecture, Art, and Planning (DAAP), University of Cincinnati and editor at the journal *Visible Language* initiated the meeting.

After a brief presentation each journal's editorial profile was described. For *FormAkademisk* we emphasized that we have two equal focuses – research in design, but also research in design education for the general public. This combination seems to be unique internationally.

Common issues we discussed further were challenges with the quality of submitted articles and obtaining qualified peer reviewers. We also discussed whether we would agree on a common understanding of what it means to be included as an author of an article. Based on the discussions, *FormAkademisk* comes well compared to the other internationally leading design research journals.

After the meeting in Cincinnati, there have been lively discussions on email between those invited to the Design Journal Editors' Meeting in Cincinnati in October. We look forward to the next meeting to discuss common challenges for research journals in design and design education, especially in connection with the largest international design research conferences.

We also want workshops in peer review and article writing. A common issue for the journals is finding good peer reviewers who can review the articles. We therefore encourage anyone who is asked to say yes. Keep in mind that for each article you submit for review, there are two peer reviewers who stand up for you!

Articles in this issue

Ida Engholm, Associate Professor at The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts, School of Design mentions in the article *Reflecting Contemporary Design Research* that in recent years, design research has been the object of growing attention in universities and academies throughout the world. The article addresses the heterogeneous character of design research and the current need for reflection on the various approaches and interests. For this purpose, the paper follows two steps. First, it proposes a categorization of the field in the form of a position model. The underlying assumption is that design research as a discipline exists in many different forms that cannot necessarily be brought together under one common academic research tradition; instead it is necessary to attempt to define the field in order to initiate discussions about what constitutes the various research bases for design. Second, the article discusses the implication for future design research when it is an interdisciplinary field that involves many disciplines, mindsets and methodological practices.

Sebastian Peters, Scientific Assistant at the Faculty of Landscape and Society, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Norwegian University of Life Sciences writes in the article, *The domestication of planning ideas – the case of Shared Space* that new planning ideas of diverse types, ranging from new design concepts to large-scale development policies, are inherently challenging because they involve changes to prevailing thought and practice. As they are passed on, though, they are subjected to translation, adjusting them to discourses prevailing in different contexts, and often resulting in conceptual distortion. This article seeks to contribute to the theorization of the translation of planning ideas, by proposing the concept of domestication as a means of understanding such distortion. An analysis of one such challenging idea - Shared Space - serves to illustrate this concept and assess its usefulness.

Solveig Toft, Assistant Professor in Art and Crafts at Østfold University College, Faculty of Education and **Kari Holte**, Assistant Professor in Art and Crafts at the University College of Southeast Norway, Faculty of Humanities, Sports and Educational Science addresses the actual experience of the creative process, the non-measurable qualities, related to the subject Art and Crafts. The intention is to bring in awareness and a perspective regarding the organization of creative activities in school. The non-measurable qualities are areas that need special consideration at a time when public school documents mostly focus on conditions that can be measured. This is a qualitative study based on different types of data collection with emphasis on participatory observation and qualitative interview related to one particular type of painting task: painting with music as inspiration. The participants were divided into three groups of different ages and experiences. The study exemplifies what experiences may occur in some selected creative processes: joy, presence and deep concentration. The results are discussed in light of Csikszentmihalyi's flow theory and Hans-Georg Gadamer's hermeneutical theory, and further it is reflected on the term creative space.

Book review

Peter Næss, professor at the Faculty of Landscape and Society, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Norwegian University of Life Sciences has reviewed Sociologist Joar Skrede's book *Kritisk diskursanalyse [Critical Discourse Analysis]*. The reviewer notes that there are not many books written by Nordic writers about discourse analysis, despite the great interest of discourse perspectives and discourse theoretical concepts among researchers and students in social studies. This is one of the few recent contributions. The book is about a specific direction within the discourse analytical landscape. Næss concludes by mentioning the book's two chapters as an introduction to multimodal and three-dimensional critical discourse analysis, illustrated with rich image material. The reviewer welcomes Skrede's book on critical discourse analysis as a contribution to literature in this field. The linguistic ability is very good,

without unnecessary jargon and without long, complicated sentences. Special academic concepts are explained as they appear, and the author shows a significant educational talent in the way the theme is disposed of and explained. The book is therefore understandable also for readers without extensive prior knowledge. It fits well with the goal of illustrating how power relations in society can be reproduced through certain ways of writing on and through visual forms. The book also provides a number of tools, concepts and examples that enable the reader to perform critical discourse analysis himself. Such a "recipe book" has long been in short supply, not only in Norway, but also in an international context. Næss concludes by recommending the book for both fresh students and more experienced graduates.

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