

Editorial I

# New multimodal template for FormAkademisk

– now with an emphasis on universal design

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In the spring of 2021, the research group EMAL-digital at the University of Southeast Norway (USN) contacted me about their wish to publish a special issue with multimodal articles. This started a long process of developing a new multimodal template for FormAkademisk (2024). It also meant being able to publish online in HTML where videos could be integrated into the articles, so that you don't have to go in and out of different programs, as you have to with publishing as PDF. At the same time, it was designed to meet the requirements for universal design. The special issue has now been published with articles formatted in our new template, which will henceforth be a mandatory template for everyone who publishes in FormAkademisk.

The leadership of the research group *EMAL-digital*, headed by Lovise Søyland (Søyland et al., 2024), has worked closely with me, as Editor-in-chief for FormAkademisk, and Eirik Hanssen, responsible for the Open Journal Systems at OsloMet - OsloMetropolitan University. Several members of the *EMAL-digital* research group has tried out the new template and made suggestions for improvements along the way. The same applies to the routines for uploading videos that are integrated into the articles, which also involve visual interpretation for universal design. Videos in articles will now be uploaded to OsloMet's portal FilMet, in collaboration with Eirik Hanssen. A resource group from the Editorial Team, with Liv Merete Nielsen, Arild Skarsfjord Berg and Ingvill Gjerdrum Maus, have also actively cheated in the process.

FormAkademisk integrated video into the articles already in 2010, in the special issue Vol 3 no. 1 (2010): *Research by Design*, edited by Andrew Morrison, Birger Sevaldson (2010) at the Oslo School of Architecture and Design (AHO), but then the videos were stored on Vimeo or YouTube. The problem then is that some of the videos have been deleted afterwards and are no longer available. Therefore, from now on we store the videos on FilMet at OsloMet, so that we have control over their availability.

We have kept parts of the graphic profile that former Journal manager Tore Andre Ringvold developed in 2020, but adapted it to the requirements for universal design and multimodal publishing. In the new template, everything must therefore be formatted in line with the instructions in the new template. This is the basis for the article to be converted to HTML and published in online format, in addition to PDF.

It is a pleasure to now be able to celebrate the result of the good collaboration with the publication of the multimodal issue from the research group EMAL-digital at USN!

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*Janne Beate Reitan*

Editor-in-chief FormAkademisk

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