

# EDITOR'S NOTE

I am delighted to present another issue of *Suomen Antropologi: Journal of the Finnish Anthropological Society*. This issue completes the 45<sup>th</sup> volume of the journal, which roughly coincides with the calendar year 2020. Its publication also roughly coincides with the end of the academic year in Finland, so I will take this as an appropriate occasion to provide an update on some recent goings-on from the Finnish Anthropological Society.

First of all, the society now has a new Board that is possibly more representative than ever with board members from the universities of Helsinki, Tampere, Jyväskylä, Oulu, and Turku. This might not cover all of Finland's universities, but shows the FAS' continued commitment towards bridging the different, traditionally somewhat insular anthropology departments and study programmes in Finland.

In my previous Editor's note (see issue 3/2021) I already wrote about the problems that anthropology in particular faces as the Finnish universities are claiming ownership of all research data produced by their employees. The Finnish Anthropological Society issued a position statement on the matter at the end of May. While the question itself remains unresolved for the time being, an unexpected side-effect of the position statement appears to be a call to involve Finnish learned societies in policy making more generally, as made by the head of The Federation of Finnish Learned Societies in the *Helsingin Sanomat* newspaper. The role of learned societies has traditionally been quite strong within the Finnish academia; most Finnish learned societies have, for example, remained independent publishers of their own journals while corresponding publications overseas have been annexed by multinational publishing enterprises. The idea to utilise the expertise of these organisations in public decision making would be a most welcome one.

On a more festive note, the FAS' Anthropological Act of the Year 2020 award was given to Tutkijaliitto and Anna Tuomikoski for publishing a Finnish translation of Annan Tsing's *Mushroom at the End of the World*. The FAS' Master's thesis of the Year award was presented to Anna Rikama for her fieldwork-based study of the Twelve Tribes religious community in the state of New York. Congratulations to both!

And then onto the issue at hand. This issue begins with Anastasios Panagiotopoulos' (NOVA University Lisbon) article 'Possessed by a Slave, Not Slavery'. The article presents a three-stage analysis of spirit possession in Cuba, highlighting the imaginaries relating to the figure of the slave, rather than analysing spirit possession as such. Weaving an analytical path amidst the historical dialectics and reversals that the idea of slavery has been subject to, Panagiotopoulos presents slavery as a multi-faceted

idea that has, from the outset, contained its opposite. The second article, 'Instrumental Touch: A Foucauldian Analysis of Women's Fitness' by Dominika Czarnecka (Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw) looks into touching as a disciplinary technique in group Pilates classes. Czarnecka applies Foucault's notion of anatomo-political power to discuss the ways in which instructors apply the instrumental touch and the ways they justify it and negotiate the use of instructive touching with their clients.

This issue ends with two book reviews. Andy Graan (University of Helsinki) reviews Vincent Ialenti's *Deep Time Reckoning: How Future Thinking Can Help Earth Now*, and Toomas Gross (University of Helsinki) provides a double-review of *The Anthropology of Sport: Bodies, Borders, Biopolitics* by Niko Besnier, Susan Brownell, and Thomas Carter, and *Sport, Migration, and Gender in the Neoliberal Age*, edited by Niko Besnier, Domenica Gisella Calabrò, and Daniel Guinness.

I would like to thank all the editors, authors, and reviewers, whose contributions allow the publication of this journal in the first place.

Thank you!

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Editor-in-Chief