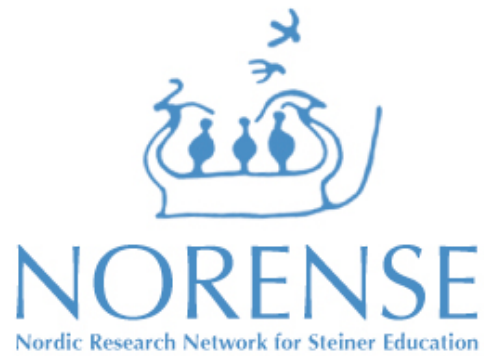




Annual Report 2021

NORENSE Council

Draft 13/4 CB

Rudolf Steiner University College, Oslo

Waldorf University College, Stockholm

Snellman College, Helsinki

Contents

Foreword	3
NORENSE 2021 An overview	5
Members of the NORENSE Council in 2021	5
NORENSE Council meetings in 2021.....	5
12 th of February 2021	6
6 th of May 2021.....	6
22 nd of November 2021	6
Funded research projects.....	6
Research projects funded by NORENSE in 2021.....	6
Research project obligations fully or partly fulfilled in 2020.....	6
NORENSE funding from 2010 – 2019.....	7
Projects in progress.....	7
Reflections due to the special circumstances related to the pandemic.....	7
Economy and Budget	8
Accounts 2014–2021	9
Legal status of NORENSE.....	10
Short historical background.....	10
New legal body and statutes	10
NORENSE web pages updated	13
Research on Steiner Education (RoSE)	13
Further information	14

Foreword

NORENSE has since its foundation in 2008 promoted and supported research on Waldorf Steiner education, and sought to contribute to the knowledge base and legitimacy of the Nordic Waldorf Steiner higher educational institutions. Today's schools and educational practices are more and more informed by research. Still, very little research has until now been directed towards Waldorf Steiner education, and there is a strong need for all kinds of educational research; enquiring, evaluating, deepening and communicating the various aspects of Waldorf Steiner education.

Research can aid and initiate developments and new knowledge on all levels from kindergartens and schools to higher education and social therapeutic institutions. NORENSE aims at supporting qualified research that in its turn will provide insights and impulses for development to the different aspects of Waldorf Steiner education. The higher educational institutions are key factors here since they both disseminate relevant research to future and current practitioners, and also conduct research as part of their institutional policy and responsibility.

NORENSE is founded on the idea that education has an important role to play in achieving individual, cultural and ecological sustainability. NORENSE wants to take its share of the responsibility for an education in need of change and to promote an education of tomorrow that takes active part in developing sustainable knowledge, skills and life conditions. Waldorf Steiner education represents such an ethical attitude towards what it means to educate today's children and youth for their future. By promoting research and the Nordic Waldorf Steiner higher educational institutions, NORENSE want to take part in the further development of Waldorf Steiner education.

NORENSE is supporting individual and group research projects, as well as PhD and master students. In addition, NORENSE hosts a yearly seminar open to the public where supported projects and other relevant research topics are presented. By hosting yearly open seminars about research on Waldorf Steiner education, NORENSE aims at sharing research insights to a broader public. Publishing supported research projects both in popular and scholarly media belongs to the NORENSE strategy of making research-based insights more relevant and accessible.

NORENSE receives its funding resources mainly from the Waldorf school and kindergarten federations in the Nordic countries. The NORENSE Council decides on the yearly funding and are responsible for the yearly seminars and network meetings. The council consists of representatives from the Nordic Waldorf Steiner higher educational institutions; Rudolf Steiner University College (RSUC), Waldorf University College (WLH) and Snellman College

(SC), representatives from the parent, kindergarten and school federations and representatives from three Nordic universities. NORENSE is an ideal association.

An important legal change took place in 2018. NORENSE is since 2018 an ideal association. New statutes were decided upon in April 2018. The aims for the NORENSE are the same as before.

In the Annual Report for 2021, there is a presentation of NORENSE activities this year, an overview of research projects funded, a presentation of the accounts and a summary of the most important issues that were dealt with on the NORENSE Council meetings.

NORENSE Council wishes to thank all financial contributors for the grants made to NORENSE in 2021.

21st of April 2022

Dagny Ringheim

Rudolf Steiner University College
Steinerhøgskolen
Norway

Caroline Bratt

Waldorf University College
Waldorflärahögskolan
Sweden

Markku Niniivirta

Snellman College
Snellman-korkeakoulu
Finland

NORENSE 2021 An overview

Since 2018 NORENSE is an ideal association with its legal base in Norway. We have consolidated the new legal frame and the slightly new group.

Due to the covid 19 situation we have unfortunately not been able to meet as usual during two years. We have had digital meetings. Our meetings have been shorter, we have not had open seminars or social events as before. The continuity among the delegates has also been slightly affected.

Members of the NORENSE Council in 2021

Leadership: Caroline Bratt (WLH) and Henrik Holm (RSUC).

Representatives from the three Nordic Steiner Waldorf higher educational institutions:

RSUC: Henrik Holm (resigns in 2022)
Morten Stene (resigns in 2022)
WLH: Caroline Bratt
Leif Tjærnstig
SC: Oliver Ifill
Markku Niinivirta

Representatives from the federations:

Astrid Sundt, Norway
Cia Edsberger, Sweden
Johanna Leppänen, Finland

External academic representatives:

Dag Øystein Nome, University of Agder, Norway
Vacancy, Sweden
Jan Erik Mansikka, University of Helsinki, Finland

NORENSE Council meetings in 2021

The NORENSE Council meetings in 2021 were held digitally on 12th of February, 6th of May and 22nd of November. The meetings were shorter than usual. We did not arrange open conferences in connection with the council meetings. We did not initiate any own projects.

12th of February 2021

The meeting was short and aimed at giving an update on scholarships handed out last year and simply seeing each other. We also heard shortly about the situations in our respective institutions and working conditions. This extra meeting took place because the ordinary November meeting in 2020 had been cancelled due to the covid situation.

6th of May 2021

The annual meeting took place. A second meeting in connection with the annual meeting dealt with the applications. We received six applications which were evaluated. Three applications were fully granted. Two applicants got the possibility to rework and complete their applications and one was rejected.

22nd of November 2021

We followed up the applications we decided upon in May 2021. Two applicants had, in May, been offered to rewrite their applications. One decided to postpone her project, the other one sent her renewed application too late.

Funded research projects

In this part projects funded in 2021, projects fulfilled in 2021 and projects in progress are listed.

Research projects funded by NORENSE in 2021

Dag Nome received a grant of 50000 NOK for an empirical project that can become a contribution to research on Waldorf pedagogy. The academic level is guaranteed.

Kirsi Neuvonen. Her PhD-project was supported with 50 000 NOK.

Helena Selsfors received a grant of 50000 SEK for her continuing PhD work at the University of Plymouth.

Renate Østergaard and **Ingvild Thurmann-Nielsen Skeie** were both offered 20000 NOK each for developing and rewriting their projects and applications.

Research project obligations fully or partly fulfilled in 2020

For links go to our web page.

Markus Lindholm, his book *Nysgjerrighetens pedagogikk – Dybdelæring i informasjonssamfunnet* (about curiosity) was published in the spring of 2021.

Leif Tjärnstig received a grant of totally 25000 SEK for writing an article to be admitted to NoAD; Nordisk Tidskrift för Allmändidaktik. The article has been accepted by NoAD, but not yet published.

Henrik Holm received a grant of 50 000 NOK for editing and writing in the special edition on Steiner education which was published in RoSE in 2021.

[NORENSE funding from 2010 – 2019](#)

For projects fully fulfilled before and after 2019, see the web page.

[Projects in progress](#)

Helena Selsfors is following planned progression in her Phd-work.

[Reflections due to the special circumstances related to the pandemic](#)

Due to the covid 19 situation we have unfortunately not been able to meet as usual for two years. We have had digital meetings. Our meetings have been shorter, we have not had open seminars or social events as before. The continuity among the delegates has also been slightly affected.

All this has led to a situation in which it has been difficult for the members of the council to get to know one another, it has difficult to take initiatives within NORENSE and to connect with colleagues outside the council.

We have noted a lower number of applications during the pandemic.

There is now a need to consolidate the group and make some kind of restart when the covid situation hopefully is more stable in the autumn of 2022. It will also hopefully be possible to have a steadier group of delegates and no vacancies.

Since Henrik Holm, who has shared the leadership with Caroline Bratt resigned in the beginning of 2022, the council will also have to look upon the question of leadership. This will have to be done in November 2022.

We still see that NORENSE contributes to fulfil needs of our institutions and of Waldorf pedagogy. But the council must now together see how we wish to work onwards. This also includes lifting and making NORENSE more visible within our respective institutions.

Economy and Budget

NORENSE is made possible due to donations from the Waldorf Steiner school and kindergarten federations in the Nordic countries and donations from the Ahtola foundation in Finland. In addition to the donations from the federations and Ahtola, which have been used to support research projects, none of the participants in the NORENSE Council receives any payments for the work done. RSUC, WLH and Snellman cover travel expenses for their representatives.

RSUC, is reimbursed for administration services. The Finance Manager at RSUC, Steinar Døhlen, manages the economy for NORENSE.

We have not received contributions from the the Ahtola foundation and have therefore not transferred any contributions to the research journal Research on Steiner Education (RoSE). We will have to look over our possibility to do so next year.

The Norwegian federation decided that from 2017 a sum of 350 000 NOK of the Norwegian contribution (totally 590000 NOK in 2018) to NORENSE in the future is to be earmarked for development of academic competence at RSUC. The sum is to be transferred yearly by NORENSE.

We are very grateful for the donations from the federations.

Accounts 2014–2021

Accounts NORENSÉ

	2021 budget	2021 year to date	2020 whole year	2019 whole year	2018 whole year	2017 whole year	2016 whole year	2015 whole year	2014 whole year
Contributions	710 000,00	875 868,20	1 392 663,50	492 353,00	745 766,02	1 322 954,43	223 886,00	783 150,50	839 804,38
Bank interest	-	103,35	157,33	69,13	147,63	165,98	206,45	4 300,71	6 889,93
Total Income	710 000,00	875 971,55	1 392 820,83	492 422,13	745 913,65	1 323 120,41	224 092,45	787 451,21	846 694,31
Scholarships, new	150 000,00	-	-	-	-	100 000,00	210 900,00	432 943,45	282 739,26
Scholarships, committed	150 000,00	85 000,00	11 900,00	355 565,81	203 140,00	242 818,95	188 600,00	-	-
Fixed contribution SH	350 000,00	350 000,00	350 000,00	350 000,00	350 000,00	350 000,00	-	-	-
Network seminar, net	-	-	-	-	-	-	21 465,00	-	-
RoSE	-	-	-	-	-	50 000,00	-	43 893,83	-
Travel /Meeting Costs	20 000,00	-	-	12 782,69	8 429,92	3 600,00	19 741,38	30 425,57	17 604,00
Fees, Web Costs	40 000,00	9 673,13	96 731,25	9 609,38	61 156,25	43 750,00	-	11 848,01	49 452,33
RSUC Admin Costs	93 750,00	93 750,00	93 750,00	75 000,00	75 000,00	75 000,00	75 000,00	-	157 890,39
Research Director	-	-	-	-	70 000,00	70 000,00	70 000,00	-	140 000,00
Bank charges	500,00	297,00	28,00	493,00	106,00	688,00	447,00	715,00	646,52
Total Expenditure	804 250,00	538 720,13	552 409,25	803 450,88	767 832,17	935 856,95	586 153,38	519 825,86	648 332,50
Net Profit	-94 250,00	337 251,42	840 411,58	-311 028,75	-21 918,52	387 263,46	-362 060,93	267 625,35	198 361,81
Bank 1									
Bank 2									
Total bank									
Bank 1									
Bank2									
Total bank									
Change bank									

Legal status of NORENSE

Short historical background

In March 2008 representatives from RSUC, WLH and Snellman college signed a letter of intent. The three institutions recognized a need to develop a Nordic research culture connected to Waldorf education and that this aim should be worked upon within a Nordic collaboration and network. Such a collaboration also aimed at through such work support sustainable institutions within waldorf education. The institutions considered it vital that the pre-schools and schools were included in the work via the federations.

In February 2009, the first NORENSE network-meeting took place in Stockholm. In 2010 the NORENSE council was formally established and with that more formalized statutes and criteria for the work were decided upon. We had a construction in which RSUC hosted NORENSE within its organisation. It was also in 2010 that we could grant the first scholarships.

The council consisted, from the beginning, of representatives from the three institutions and federations. After a few years we decided to invite external academic delegates in the council.

New legal body and statutes

In 2016 it became clear that NORENSE must find a new legal organisation and status. New statutes were written, and they became finally decided upon in April 2018. Although this was done in 2018 we have included the new statutes in this report. NORENSE is from now an ideal association. RSUC is currently the business executive, which means that the administration is handled by RSUC and financed by NORENSE. The members appoint one or two leaders amongst them. Since November 2018 Henrik Holm and Caroline Bratt have shared leadership.

STATUTES FOR THE NORENSE Council

NORENSE Council – Nordic Research Network for Steiner Education

17th April 2018

1. *Vision and purpose*

NORENSE Council is an ideal association established by the three Steiner Waldorf higher educational institutions; Steinerhøgskolen (Rudolf Steiner University College, RSUC) in Norway, Waldorflärarhögskolan (Waldorf University College in Sweden), and Snellman Korkeakoulu (Snellman-College) in Finland. NORENSE Council serves the development of a research culture in Steiner Waldorf education within the Nordic countries. The purpose is to develop and stimulate research, and to raise and distribute research funding. NORENSE Council aims at contributing to the development of the participating higher educational institutions by promoting relevant research, development projects, and academic collaboration. The general task of NORENSE Council is to serve this vision and purpose. This task includes:

- support research, research collaboration and research publications relevant to Steiner Waldorf education in the Nordic countries,
- raise funds for research and development work in Steiner Waldorf Education,
- allocate research funds and give financial support to research and development projects,
- report on supported research and development projects,
- contribute to developing connections between research and educational practice within Nordic Steiner Waldorf education,
- contribute to the academic development of and collaboration between the participating institutions,
- support PhD students connected to the participating institutions, and
- administer the NORENSE webpage.

2. *Legal framework*

NORENSE Council is managed by a business executive in accordance with the decision of the annual meeting. The business executive is currently Rudolf Steiner University College Norway.

To ensure independence, NORENSE Council shall lead separate accounts and keep their funds separate from the RSUC. All donations to NORENSE Council shall be placed on a separate account.

3. *Members and voting rights*

Members in the NORENSE Council are:

- two representatives from each of the participating institutions,
- in addition, the principal of RSUC,
- one representative from each of the Steiner Waldorf federations in Norway, Sweden and Finland,
- and three external members from other academic institutions, ideally one from each of the three countries. Each of the participating institutions appoint one of the external members,
- the three institutions and the three federations should appoint one deputy member each.

Each participating institution, each participating federation and each external member has one vote.

The representatives appoint the NORENSE Council leadership among themselves.

The representatives' board of office is four years.

4. Annual meeting

The first meeting of the calendar year constitutes the annual meeting. The annual meeting, is the highest authority of the NORENSE Council.

5. Voting at the annual meeting

Amendments to the statutes of NORENSE Council, requires a 2/3 majority. Decisions regarding funding and other reconciliations require simple majority.

6. The annual meeting's tasks

The annual meeting's tasks consist of deciding on budget and going through current accounts, deciding on funding and awarding scholarships in addition to other tasks mentioned in the meeting notice.

7. Extraordinary Council meetings

Extraordinary NORENSE Council meetings are held when a member demands it. Extraordinary NORENSE Council meetings is convened with at least 14 day's notice.

8. Accountant

The NORENSE Council shall have a certified public accountant selected by the annual meeting. To ensure independence, the accountant shall be replaced at least every eight years.

9. Funding

Funding shall be made as provided in *NORENSE Aims and criteria for funding*. Payments of NORENSE funding can only be made via an invoice from institutions or registered firms.

10. Resolution

Resolution of the NORENSE Council can only be processed at the annual meeting and require at least 2/3 majority. The decision must be repeated on an extraordinary Council meeting 3 months later.

In the event of a resolution, the funds of the Council shall be shared equally among the three founding institutions, Steinerhøyskolen (Rudolf Steiner University College, RSUC) in Norway, Waldorflärarhögskolan (Waldorf University College in Sweden), and Snellman Korkeakoulu (Snellman-College) in Finland.

NORENSE web pages updated

The NORENSE web pages were thoroughly updated in 2015 with new text on almost all its categories and was kept updated in 2017. Due to technical problems a new site and web address was created in March 2019. The home page reflects the present status of NORENSE and gives a good introduction to both applicants and visitors seeking information and recent publications. Here you can also find aims and criteria for funding. Arve Mathisen continues to take care of the NORENSE web site at no cost. Have a look at the updated NORENSE home page here: <http://norense.com/index.php>



Research on Steiner Education (RoSE)

The journal Research on Steiner Education (RoSE) is an online, bilingual (English and German) peer-reviewed academic journal with the purpose of serving the theoretical and practical development of Steiner Waldorf education in ways that are relevant to the contemporary globalised world. RoSE wishes to establish links and dialogues between Waldorf Steiner Education and other alternative as well as mainstream educational discourses and practices. The journal publishes articles based on empirical as well as on theoretical or philosophical research. NORENSE has supported RoSE financially and has also given scholarships for writing articles published in RoSE. RoSE web site: <http://www.rosejournal.com/index.php/rose>

Further information

For further Information about NORENSE, the annual Reports 2010 – 2020, an overview over funded projects, events, publications, relevant links, etc., go to the NORENSE website:

<http://noreense.com/index.php>

This report was written by Caroline Bratt.