

# Let's meet in Helsinki!



We have decided to have a pre- conference to the Nordic Association of Schools of Social Work (NASSW) and FORSA conference in Helsinki in **November 19-20, 2018**. A committee, consisting of Tarja Orjasniemi, (Lapland, Finland), Doug Durst (Regina, Canada) and Asgeir Solstad (Bodo, Norway), is organizing the conference. We have also decided about topics for the conference:

1. Environmental change and their consequences for people in the Arctic
2. The challenges for Indigenous people.

We agreed to keep a further section of the conference open to other topics, and we plan for a section for educational matters and cooperation between institutions.

As we did in 2012, we seek a cooperation with "Journal of Comparative Social Work" to offer presented papers a possibility for publication after the conference.

We know this conference will give further development in research and research cooperation across the Arctic on topics important for social work in our part of the world. As we also think educational matters are important, the conference will offer an arena for people to share their experiences and investigate possibilities for bilateral or network based cooperation. As coordinators of TNSWUA we really look forward to November 2018, and the chance to connect with involved social work teachers and researchers.

## University of Lapland offers summer school on social work

University of Lapland in Rovaniemi offers their 21. Summer school for undergraduate students in Social Work May 23<sup>rd</sup> May to June 6<sup>th</sup> 2018. The topic will be "Social Work from a Global Perspective". On their web site they inform us that: "Participants are expected to have a sufficient background in social work or the human services (such as University level course work and work experience) that will enable them to participate actively in the program. This is not an introductory course." Applicants must send their application before April 12<sup>th</sup> 2018. As a network we appreciate this summer school and recommend colleagues to support students in applying for participation, and advise them on how to make it possible to go there. You can read more about this summer school at: <https://www.ulapland.fi/EN/Webpages/International-Summer-School-2018>



*1 Rovaniemi: Also home of Santa Claus - they say..*

## The possibilities of the network:

### More focus on placements

In the last meeting in our committee we discussed the situation that there are very few students that do their placement studies in



other places in the Arctic. We think this is sad, as we think that such exchange can influence both their learning process, and give important experiences for their future work. We are considering developing a campaign that can focus on these possibilities and show the true attractiveness of such experiences in the Arctic. In our network, we have facilitated the administrative framework necessary. Now students – hopefully – acknowledge the possibilities this represent.

## Latest news:

We've just got confirmed that the dates of the conference in Helsinki by NASSW will be 21-23 November 2018. This means that we can have our conference in Helsinki November 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>!

