

Foreword

The last decades have witnessed a growing interest and increased research activity in the field of science studies in the Nordic countries. For example, the *Finnish Society for Science Studies*, established in the mid-1980's, has about 150 members representing a variety of disciplines in the natural and social sciences as well as in the humanities. The *Society* decided that the time has come to establish a journal in order to disseminate information to an international public about research and ongoing discussions in science studies in Finland and in the other Nordic countries. This issue of *Science Studies* represents the first step in that direction. The aim is to eventually institutionalize the journal as a joint Scandinavian publication. As such, our goals are to stimulate and strengthen science studies in the Nordic countries, to intensify contacts and exchange of ideas among scholars working in this field, and to inform the wider international scientific community about science studies carried out in the Nordic environment. To this end, contributions are invited primarily from scientists who are active in the Nordic countries or whose articles include a Nordic perspective. The future of the journal will course depend on the active participation of our colleagues from all the Nordic countries. We are looking forward to contributions of articles, book reviews and other relevant material as well as any suggestions on how the journal can further advance Scandinavian science studies.

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