



Now it is time for the second ANSO bulletin. Hopefully, this means that we have managed to establish a tradition, and that from now on you will get this bulletin in your inbox every month.

August has been an eventful month for ANSO, being the main pride month here in the Nordic region. ANSO has been present at Stockholm Pride, Copenhagen Pride, and of course Faroe Pride, which you can read more about later in this newsletter.

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New member!

In August our friends in Skeivt Forum in Oslo finally became members of ANSO.



Skeivt Forum first became actively involved in ANSO when Arnt Vilsoni Arntsen and Jørgen Bollingmo participated in the Bergen conference in February this year. They have been quite active since then, and actually both Arnt and Jørgen are now in the ANSO board; Arnt for Norway, but Jørgen actually for Denmark, since his networking in Bergen led to him moving to Copenhagen this autumn.

Skeivt Forum is the LGBTI and Queer student group based at the University of Oslo, Norway. Their main activities are focused on study groups, seminars and debates. Like everyone else, Skeivt Forum is on Facebook, so that's the place to

debates. Like every one else, Skeivt Forum is on Facebook, so that's the place to join them!

ANSO has moved!



ANSO has now moved its main offices to Sweden, where it is now living with its biggest member, Sveriges Förenade Gay studenter.

The SFG office is now full of life and ANSO people, since the EVS volunteers, and ANSO board members, Ásta Ósk and Monika have both started working. Jonna, the vice president and Auður, the secretary of ANSO, can also be seen around the office a lot as well. Don't hesitate to stop by and talk to us!

Board Meeting in Stockholm

Since Stockholm is the place to be, a board meeting will be held there during the weekend 21st – 23rd of September. This is really the first meeting of the new board, and it will be a meeting where for example the activity plan of 2008 will be decided upon. The ANSO board meetings are in general not closed, so if you are interested in listening in, then please just contact us. We also plan on checking out the Stockholm queer scene a bit – so if you are in Stockholm during this weekend and want to join us, then don't hesitate to send us a message.

The webteam

The webteam is growing day by day and now consists of some very cool people! There is though still place for more people who would like to contribute approximately one article per month. The plan is that the team meets up next week, so please contact us as soon as possible to be in from the start!

The next annual conference



At our last annual conference in Stockholm, it was decided that the next annual conference would be hosted by FSS, and held in Iceland. Since we are already starting the fundraising we need to start talking about what will be done on that conference, who will be invited, and



that conference, who will be invited, and in general how it will be organized.

You are welcome to join the discussion [here](#).

ANSO in Göteborg Book Fair

FNUF - Föreningen Nordens Ungdomsförbund (Nordic Youth Association in Sweden) is arranging a mini-seminar about "Young and Gay in the Nordic Countries" at the Gothenburg Book Fair, Saturday the 29th of September. Representatives from ANSO and SFG, The Federation of Swedish LGBT Student Organizations, will discuss LGBT, Human Rights and Pride in the Faroe Islands together with Jens Rydström, PhD, Researcher at Stockholm University. See <http://www.bok-bibliotek.se/> for more information.

Success at Faroe Pride!

Like you have hopefully all heard, the Faroe Pride was a success. After some weeks of stress, everything fell into place. The festival formally started on Friday, with an opening in the Nordic house. Attending were for example the Danish Members of Parliament Troels Christensen, Mogens Jensen and Arne Toft, who had previously had lunch with the ANSO activists. After the opening we moved to the Faroese university, Fróðskaparsetrið. There we arranged a student panel, with student union representatives from Iceland, Sweden, Greenland and the Faroe Islands. The representatives talked about how they work with equality and human rights within their organizations and with LGBT issues in particular. The panel resulted with all the participants agreeing on the need to work more together to learn about how to fight heteronormativity in higher education.



Sara Nilsson (SFG), Alma Joensen (SHI - Student Council of the University of Iceland), Jákup

17.2.2009

ANSO's monthly Bulletin

Emil Hansen (MFS, Organization of Faroese Students), Aili Laue (Avalak - The Organization of Greenlandic Students in Denmark), Elin Rosenberg (SFS - The Swedish National Union of Students), Linda Elstad (SFG)

The day then ended with a screening of the short film "Beard and Blush" ("En värld av rouge och skägg"), with the main star of the movie, Sara Nilsson, present to answer questions about her everyday life filled with drag king performances and experimentations with gender expressions.

Saturday was the main day of the festival, and formal program started in the Nordic house at 13.00, with a panel called Nordic Solidarity.



Elin Rosenberg, Finnur Helmsdal,
Mogens Jensen, Johan Tiedemann and Ásta Ósk Hlöðversdóttir

Already during that panel, people were starting to gather at the Nordic house, waiting for the parade to start. Before parading, rainbow flags, which had been donated by Samtökin '78, were handed out to participants, which were of all ages. Shortly after 14.00, the parade started from the Nordic house, and when approaching the main square, Vaglið, there were more than 130 people marching with us. The atmosphere was very positive, every one we passed by smiled or waved at us, and there were no problems at all.



Around 15.00 a short program began, which was opened by Friðarbogin's Tina K. Jakobsen. Speakers at Vaglið were Johan Tiedemann the Swedish State Secretary for Nordic Cooperation, Finnur Helmsdal, parliamentarian in the Faroese Løgting and Marna K. Jakobsen. Finnur Helmsdal said in his speech that registered partnership should be legalised rather today than tomorrow in the Faroes. He also thanked ANSO for making the first pride in 2005 possible, since that event really started a discussion in Faroese society, which for example led to the addition of sexual orientation into the anti-discrimination paragraph in the penal code last December.

Watching the program at Vaglið were over 300 people, which is quite a lot, taking into account that only 19.000 people live in Tórshavn.



After a pride, there of course needs to be a pride party , and our very own DJ Pinktrol kept the party going at Cippo all night long.

The program wasn't over by then, since already at 10.00 on Sunday we gathered again at Fróðskaparsetrið. Grétar Einarsson, who is an Icelandic religious gay man, told us about his experience of working within the Icelandic church, and how his faith is important for him. He then led the group in a discussion about religion, which for example led to an interesting talk about the prejudices that religious people often face within the gay community .

After lunch, we started to talk about the future and what should happen next. We all agreed that the fight needed to be continued, and that a pride should be arranged again next summer, this time with more local participation in the preparation, for example by including organizations like Amnesty and MFS in the preparation team.

We hope that by organizing this event we managed to push things in the right direction in the Faroe Islands. ANSO will of course continue to support Friðarbogin and others actively in the future, and hopefully we will also have a strong representation at the next Faroe Pride.

Ásta Ósk Hlöðversdóttir

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