Call for papers: The social, cultural and economic impact of textiles and textile production in the Viking Age

38. Tværfaglige Vikingesymposium – 38th Interdisciplinary Viking Symposium 15 May 2020

Since the establishment in 2005 of the Danish National Research Foundation's Centre for Textile Research (CTR) at the Saxo Department, University of Copenhagen, a vast amount of research has shed light on the importance and scale of textile production and trade in the Viking Age, both regarding the production of clothes for everyday use in rural environments and the professionalised production of for example sails. The ongoing Velux-project Fashioning the Viking Age (based at the National Museum Denmark), underlines the current interest in the textile aspects of the Viking Age. New research clearly demonstrates that the need for and use of textiles increased in the Viking Age and recent excavations of contemporary pit-house settlements support a large scale, organised and specialised production. Additionally, the importance of textiles in the Viking Age networks of trade, travels and warfare, and the role of textile production in urban settlements or "Viking towns" has also been investigated and discussed by the Scandinavian network Cloth Culture in and beyond the Viking Age.

This symposium invites presentations that explore all aspects of the Viking Age with relation to textiles as a common denominator, hopefuly representing various disciplines: archaeology, history, philology etc. However, papers on other Viking-Age topics may also be taken into consideration.

The 38th Interdisciplinary Viking Symposium will be held on Friday 15th May 2020 at the University of Copenhagen's Southern Campus in Njalsgade. Specially invited guests as well as proposals submitted will focus on the most recent Viking Age discoveries in presentations of 20-30 minutes. Presentations are to be of 15-25 minutes in length and will be grouped into 3-paper sessions lasting one and a half hours. Please allow 3 to 5 minutes for questions and discussion. All presentations will be held in a room with audio-visual and computer equipment. Abstracts should be no more than 500 words. Papers should be in English.

Abstracts can be submitted until the 1 March 2020 by e-mail to the organisers at: lerche@hum.ku.dk. Please note that the deadline of 1 March is necessary to allow time for the reviewing process, and will not be extended. Proposals must be submitted as titles and abstracts. After being submitted, proposals will be evaluated "blindly" by members of the Interdisciplinary Viking Symposium Board. Decisions regarding which proposals are accepted will be announced by the end of March 2020.

Presentations will be published in peer-reviewed format in the Interdisciplinary Viking Symposium series. It should be noted that submissions for publication will also be subject to a strict deadline. Questions or problems relating to the submission of proposals may be directed to the organisers via: lerche@hum.ku.dk.

Kind regards,

Michael Lerche Nielsen (NorS Dept. KU, organizing committee), Eva Andersson Strand (CTR, Saxo Dept. KU)