



Second Call for Papers:

## Historical Language and Literacy in the North Sea Area

Dear Colleagues,

We would like to invite proposals for papers for a conference on

### Historical Language and Literacy in the North Sea Area

at the University of Stavanger, Norway, 26-28 August 2009

The abstract deadline is extended to **22 February!**

The conference will focus on linguistic variation, change and contact, as well as text production and literacy, in the North Sea area. We would particularly like this conference to be a meeting ground for Anglicists (including Scots scholars) and Nordists, who share major concerns in these fields; however, scholars dealing with other languages with a North Sea connection are very welcome. We welcome papers dealing with all historical periods.

The North Sea area is defined broadly, to include all countries and language areas with geographical/cultural/commercial connections to the North Sea. We hope to attract papers from scholars dealing with areas such as: historical dialectology and sociolinguistics, manuscript studies, book history, the history of literacy, onomastics and historical corpus linguistics, as well as any areas with a related interest.

The following scholars have agreed to give plenary lectures:

Professor Michael Benskin, University of Oslo  
Professor Jan Ragnar Hagland, University of Trondheim  
Dr Carole Hough, University of Glasgow  
Professor Lister Matheson, University of Michigan  
Professor Terttu Nevalainen, University of Helsinki

The conference is arranged by the North Sea Language History research group at the [University of Stavanger](#). This group consists of Anglicists and Nordists. Its research commitments include the [Middle English Grammar Project](#), a long-term research project carried out in cooperation with colleagues in Britain (Glasgow and Oxford). The project is funded by the Norwegian Research Council, which is the main sponsor of the conference.

Stavanger is a city of 120,000 inhabitants in Southwest Norway, known for its beautiful and historic surroundings as well as its central role in the oil business. The conference venue will be the University of Stavanger, which lies just outside the city centre; a bus service will be provided, and there are also excellent connections by public transport. Stavanger has an international airport with direct flights to many major airports, including Copenhagen, Amsterdam and London. There is a good range of hotels, and prices for accommodation are at general West European levels. We have made pre-bookings, and a list is provided on the conference website.

Norway has a reputation for being an expensive country; while this is not entirely fair in all respects, eating and drinking out may be relatively costly. We have tried, as far as manageable, to minimize costs for delegates. The conference fee (€120) includes lunches each day, and there will be at least one sponsored evening reception.

Papers are allocated 20 minutes with 10 minutes for discussion. Proposals should reach us **by 22 February**, and we will send notification about acceptance in early March. Please send an abstract of ca 300 words to <[hllnsa2009@uis.no](mailto:hllnsa2009@uis.no)>. The language of the conference is English.

Further information is available on the conference website at [www.uis.no/hllnsa2009](http://www.uis.no/hllnsa2009)

The organising committee consists of: Arne Apelseth, Vibeke Jensen, Martti Mäkinen, Jeremy Smith (Glasgow), Merja Stenroos and Inge Særheim.

We very much hope to see you at Stavanger!