

# Social and cultural anthropological research in Norway

– An evaluation

Evaluation  
Division for Science





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## **To the Research Council of Norway**

The Research Council of Norway (RCN) makes systematic subject evaluations to assess the quality, effectiveness and relevance of Norwegian research in an international perspective. These evaluations provide an important source of input for the future strategy and for determining new areas of focus as well as new instruments.

In 2009 an international Panel was commissioned to evaluate research activities within social and cultural anthropology at Norwegian universities and relevant research institutes. The Panel was asked to evaluate scientific activities with respect to their quality, relevance, and international and national collaboration.

The Panel for evaluation of research in social and cultural anthropology in Norway hereby submits the following report. The Panel is unanimous in its assessments, conclusions and recommendations. None of the Panel members has declared any conflict of interest.

The Panel wants to thank the participating institutions for their careful preparations of the reading material and for the time spent both in preparatory meetings with the RCN and in meetings with the Panel. It has been a privilege to learn about anthropology in Norway from those who know best. Hopefully the report will be useful for the Institutions as well as for the RCN for the future strategy within the field of anthropology.

The Panel also wants to acknowledge the well-planned process and the support received from the RCN, and the significant contribution of the secretary Fredrik Niclas Piro (NIFU STEP), who made the quantitative analyses and functioned as general secretary for the Panel.

Copenhagen, November 2010

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## SUMMARY

The present evaluation of Social Anthropology in Norway was commissioned by the Norwegian Research Council in 2009 and was conducted in 2010 by an international panel. The evaluation concerns a total of nine anthropological units belonging to either the University or the Institute Sector. Within these units a total of 88 researchers submitted publications for evaluation. These were read and assessed by the Panel as an important qualitative supplement to the quantitative analyses of output and level of publications, as registered in the database on research publications in Norway. In addition, meetings were held with representatives from all units and with PhD students from across the institutional landscape.

The Panel concludes that, on the whole, the state of social anthropology in Norway is good, but suffers notable imbalances both between and within the units and generally with room for improvement. Social anthropology is a relatively young discipline in Norway, but notable legacies are conspicuous. The most profound legacy is a strong emphasis on original ethnographic research, which is still remarkable. Another strong feature is the high profile of Norwegian anthropology in the media and other public domains. On the less positive side, there seems to be a certain lack of ambition with respect to contributing to the international development of anthropological theory and methods.

In the University Sector, the departments fall into two sets; on the one hand, the two bigger departments are high profile and generally well performing, even though there is a rather striking differentiation in productivity within the departments. On the other hand, the two smaller departments seem less well functioning; they lag somewhat behind in terms of original research and publication, partly owing to a disproportionate teaching load in one case and a forced restructuring in the other, partly to a lack of a unified anthropological vision for the department.

In the Institute Sector, the units evaluated display a split between the research driven institutes, and the institutes devoted to applied anthropology. Generally, the latter seem to do less well within a general research paradigm. While this is somehow to be expected, there still seems to be an insufficient commitment to keep up with the general anthropological concerns. Generally, the sector needs to open up more towards the larger field.

The Panel finds that in spite of identified weaknesses in particular institutional settings and more generally within the field, the general state of Norwegian anthropology today provides a solid basis for new developments while keeping up with the best achievements of previous years. The international conjunctures and the global developments potentially make anthropology a leading discipline in years to come. The Panel suggests that to meet this expectation, anthropologists in Norway, who are (comparatively) well funded and have a high degree of professional security (once embraced by the research-system), should make new deliberate strategies for intellectual commitment and development, both *within* the units whose potential seems under-explored, and *between* the diverse units, which have so much to offer each other.



# 1. THE FRAMEWORK OF THE EVALUATION

The research Council of Norway (RCN) decided in April 2009 to conduct an evaluation of selected research groups carrying out social and cultural anthropological (hereafter anthropological) research in Norway. The Research Board of the Division of Science appointed on 02.10.2009 a panel to perform the evaluation. The Panel consisted of:

- Professor Kirsten Hastrup (chair), Department of Anthropology, University of Copenhagen
- Professor Christina Garsten, Department of Anthropology, University of Stockholm
- Professor Thomas Blom Hansen, Department of Anthropology, Stanford University
- Reader in social anthropology Jon P. Mitchell, Department of Anthropology, University of Sussex
- Professor Ulla M. Vuorela, Department of Social Research, University of Tampere

The Panel was given a deadline until November 2010 for submission of the evaluation report. Dr. Fredrik Niclas Piro at the research institute NIFU STEP has served as secretary to the Panel, and has also conducted the bibliometric analysis.

The objective of the evaluation has been to:

- Provide an overall assessment of the quality of the anthropological research being conducted by the selected groups in an international perspective.
- Facilitate learning and development within the research groups and offer insight into the strengths and weaknesses of the challenges facing anthropological research.
- Help to identify measures to increase quality.
- Enhance the knowledge base of the research groups, the Research Council and the ministries to further develop anthropological research.

In the mandate given to the Panel, it was stressed that quality was to be assessed in an international perspective, with due consideration given to national conditions and needs, as well as scientific objectives of the research groups and their access to resources, including funding and funding sources.

The evaluation should encompass the following four dimensions:

## *Quality and relevance:*

- ✓ Scientific merit and quality of the research community, as a whole and the individual researcher groups
- ✓ International standing of the research
- ✓ Strong and weak research areas
- ✓ Influence of the research activities and their relevance relative to 1) the international researcher community, and 2) Norwegian society, trade and industry, and working life

## *Organisation, cooperation and doctoral-level education:*

- ✓ Researcher groups and research institutes: 1) research management and research strategy, 2) balance between junior and senior-level researchers and between women and men

- ✓ National and international research cooperation: 1) cooperation and distribution of research tasks at the national level, 2) contact and cooperation at the international level
- ✓ Recruitment and renewal: 1) researcher mobility nationally and internationally, 2) capacity and quality of doctoral-level education, 3) recruitment of doctoral degree programmes, post-doctoral fellowship positions and permanent positions

*Publication and dissemination:*

- ✓ National and international publication channels
- ✓ Dissemination to students, users and the public at large

*Capacity and funding:*

- ✓ Overall volume of anthropological research in Norway
- ✓ Distribution and utilisation of research resources
- ✓ Funding structure
- ✓ Relationship between the funding channel and quality, including the role of RCN

The conclusions of the evaluation Panel were to be accompanied by recommendations targeted towards the research groups under evaluation and the top administration of the institutions, as well as national-level recommendations targeted toward the RCN and the ministries.

Otherwise, the Panel was free to address questions other than those set out in the mandate, should the need arise during the evaluation process.

## **1.1 Basis for assessment**

The evaluation Panel was requested to provide an overall assessment of the anthropological research being conducted in Norway and by the individual researcher groups on the basis of the following material:

### **1.1.1 Scientific production**

Scientific production should be assessed by:

- ✓ CVs and publication lists from all researchers encompassed by the evaluation
- ✓ Bibliometric analyses of publication data
- ✓ Selected scientific works from all researchers encompassed by the evaluation

To gain an overview of the entire scope of scientific activities, the evaluation Panel was asked to assess the overall scientific production of the research groups. The basis for the analysis of publication patterns and research production in the field was complete publication lists from the past five years for all researchers encompassed by the evaluation. Bibliometric analyses of publication data should also be performed. The evaluation Panel had to review the material with a view to assessing scientific breadth and renewal. This review should enable the Panel to identify sub-disciplines, theories, methods and thematic areas where Norwegian anthropological research is well developed in an international context, as well as ascertain whether there are gaps in important areas of the field. The Panel was also requested to assess the quality of the publication channels used by Norwegian anthropologists. Researchers encompassed by the evaluation had to submit *two scientific works* of outstanding quality (in their opinion). The term scientific works referred to articles and other contributions to scientific journals, anthologies, doctoral theses and monographs. Together with the complete publication lists, the selected scientific works formed the basis for assessment of scientific merit and production, also in an international perspective.

### **1.1.2 Assessment of the research groups**

Research groups should be assessed by:

- ✓ Annual reports and other documentation of the activities of the institutions under evaluation
- ✓ Self-evaluations by the research groups under evaluation
- ✓ Meetings between the evaluation Panel and the research groups

The selected research groups were asked to prepare a *self-evaluation* using the template designed by the RCN administration. The objective of the self-evaluation was to highlight the strengths as well as the weaknesses of the research activities carried out by the research groups. The research activities therefore had to be reviewed critically in the self-evaluation. The evaluation Panel was also furnished with available *annual reports* and other documentation describing the strategies, plans and activities of the research groups being evaluated, including statistics on students and doctorates and descriptions of doctoral programmes.

In addition, *meetings between the evaluation Panel and the research groups* were arranged. The purpose of the meetings was to give the evaluation Panel with an opportunity to obtain more detailed information about the objectives, framework conditions and tasks of the research groups. The meetings were used to gain greater insight into research and publication activities, research management and research strategies, working conditions and the recruitment situation. Special attention was given to the relationship between research and teaching; that is, to the significance of the teaching and supervisory activities for research-related development. The meetings provided the opportunity to explore issues raised in the self-evaluation more closely. The evaluation Panel itself decided how the meetings were carried out, as well as their form and content.

### **1.1.3 Reference material**

The reference material utilized by the Panel included a presentation and description of the Norwegian R&D system in general and of Norwegian anthropological research in particular, carried out by NIFU STEP, including institutional and financial framework conditions, the recruitment situation and information about other relevant processes. NIFU STEP also provided the Panel with a memo describing how the RCN's funding instruments are utilised to fund anthropological research.

## **1.2 Selection of units for the evaluation**

The evaluation encompasses a selection of Norwegian anthropological research groups over a certain size and extends to all researchers associated with these groups who are formally qualified for employment at associate professor level. The research groups and researchers were selected on basis of criteria approved by the Research board of the Division for Science.

RCN actively tried to get the anthropological community involved in the process, i.e. getting them interested in participating. RCN started this dialogue in 2008, and the following process has been characterized by good dialogue. 40 institutions were invited to participate, and 14 of them participated at an early meeting. In the final selection of units for the evaluation, the following three criterions were the most important:

- *Size:* The units should not be too small, i.e. the units should have four or more researchers with PhD competence or similar in a permanent position (including post doctoral fellows).
- *Diversity:* The units should cover both university departments and the institute sector.
- *Interest:* The units wanted to participate.

In the process of identifying the units and researchers to be assessed, matters of delineation inevitably occurred. Thus, already before the work began, five researchers were removed from the evaluation, mainly due to their employment situation; they had only been part of the group in the period to be evaluated for a very limited time. Later, the two Bodø groups (Nordland Research Institute and Bodø University College) withdrew from the evaluation. The two groups were planned to be treated as one unit due to their small sizes and close cooperation. They wanted to withdraw because one of the five researchers who was part of the evaluation now longer was employed at NRI, and one of the remaining four researchers had permanently altered his position to 50% administration. This meant that there was almost no anthropological environment left in Bodø and further, that there would be no clear recipient for the Panel's evaluation and recommendations.

The net result was that the evaluation ended up with nine institutions/units comprising a total of 88 researchers. The institutions represent the three different categories: University anthropology departments, multidisciplinary university units with a strong anthropological approach, and independent research institutes outside the higher education sector (with a large group of anthropologists). The nine institutions are: Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Oslo, Department of Social Anthropology at NTNU, Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Bergen, Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Tromsø, Department of Ethnography at the Museum of Cultural History (University of Oslo), Section for Medical Anthropology at the Institute of Health and Society (University of Oslo), Centre for Development and the Environment (SUM) at the University of Oslo, Chr. Michelsens Institute (CMI) and Norwegian Social Research (NOVA).

### **1.3 Conducting the evaluation**

The Panel met for the first time at the RCN in Oslo in January 2010. They were then informed about the Norwegian research organization and funding system, as well as the overall financial situation of Norwegian Universities.

At this first meeting, the Panel also discussed how to distribute the submitted publications between the Panel members, and agreed on a random assignment. First of all, the Panel did not want to pre-empt the question of subfields by assigning particular publications to Panel members with each their special profiles. The Panel also wanted all researchers to be read by two members of the Panel, and to make sure that all members read at least one paper from each institution. The random distribution was only slightly 'edited' by the fact that one member of the Panel was only assigned publications written in English. See below (chapter 5), for more information on the qualitative assessment procedures.

At the first meeting the Panel considered the following questions related to the overall mandate:

*The evaluation should focus on both the national and the international level.* The Panel stressed the importance of the national level itself, and agreed that there should be a balanced focus on national

and international aspects in the evaluation. This would imply an attention to the scope and perceived audience of the submitted works, to the relative quality of research output from the different institutions within Norway, and the general level in relation to international anthropological research.

*The evaluation should focus on institutions rather than research groups.* The Panel agreed to focus on analyzing the university departments as ‘one whole unit’, i.e. not as different research groups (at least not at first). The Panel did not want to pre-empt the issue of the organization of research within the larger field. With respect to the anthropologists working within interdisciplinary environments, they had, of course, to be dealt with as research groups from the outset, even if they might not prove to pursue clearly identifiable common goals.

*The evaluation should define relevance both in reference to public anthropology and to theoretical anthropology.* The Panel discussed different types of relevance at its first meeting, and how to measure relevance of anthropology research. The Panel discussed how some projects might be related to specific strategic or political goals, thereby being considered useful or relevant to society (i.e. interest groups, specific departments, or the public as a whole). It was considered important to keep an open mind about what one should mean by relevance, however, as different institutions may be measured by different terms of relevance, e.g. the more applied nature of the multidisciplinary research institutions compared to the more theoretically based research performed at the university departments. In general, the Panel considered the question of relevance to be much broader than is customary in other sciences, where it is sometimes used as synonymous with providing a solution to a predefined problem. In anthropology, where both the subjects and objects of any study are social agents, the most precious contribution to society is to open up worlds for others to see. In the process, anthropology shows how the taken-for-granted is culturally or historically contingent. In sum, ‘relevance’ is a measure of relative success in providing new ground for understanding and action – both for policy-makers and no less for people themselves to take.

*The evaluation should focus on teaching’s contribution to research,* i.e. whether it contributes to development of research or whether it blocks research? The Panel found this discussion to be appropriate to focus on in the meetings with the institutions, especially as far as the PhD education goes. It also made the Panel keep an open eye at the greatly varying teaching loads befalling researchers at different institutions.

*The second Panel meeting* took place over two days in late March, where the submitted publications were discussed and assessed on the basis of the Panel’s readings. *The third meeting* took place over three days in June. It was mainly a meeting with representatives from the participating institutions, and with a group of PhD students from all of them. *A final meeting* was held in September, where the Panel discussed a draft report prepared by the Panel Chair and the Secretary over summer, and which the Panel had had the opportunity to read and supplement also in an earlier draft a few weeks previously.

After that a draft circulated for final approval, before it was sent to the participating institutions for approval of factual content.





## 2. NORWEGIAN SOCIAL ANTHROPOLOGY – A BRIEF HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION

This chapter aims, first, at giving a brief historical introduction to social anthropology in Norway. The idea is to provide some background information for the general position of the discipline within the academic landscape of Norway on the one hand, and to trace some of the possible sources of notable institutional differences on the other. Second, it gives a brief presentation of the individual institutions participating in the evaluation.

Anthropology is and has always been a discipline in the making. As the world changes so does anthropology. This does not prevent distinctive traditions from emerging, but it does raise an important and ever pertinent question of what constitutes anthropology as a discipline that is recognizable both to its practitioners and to its diverse publics. In the material presented to the Panel, nobody seems to question the unity of the discipline, even if approached and practiced in different ways, and in different environments, be they mono- or multidisciplinary. This is an important starting point for the analysis to follow.

Equally important seems a rather uniform suggestion voiced by the institutions that within the general anthropological field there exists a specific Norwegian anthropology.

To get closer to an understanding of the shared sense of anthropology in general and of Norwegian anthropology in particular, it is worth noting the changing contexts of the discipline – including changing funding practices, institutional policies as well as the major trends in global history that always feed into make-up of the academic world. This will be done with a view to the period 1999-2009, which is the period for which the Panel has assessed the research quality of the discipline, as presented below.

### 2.1 Beginnings

The beginnings of anthropology in Norway as a separate academic discipline belong to the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. It is of course possible to draw lines further back to developments within other social and human sciences, not to mention the museums, but it is important to note that anthropology as such is a relatively young discipline. The first university department was established in 1962.

Until 1962, problems and themes that we would today identify as anthropological were dealt with in other institutional settings, notably the Institute for Comparative Cultural Research, which framed studies of cultural history, popular culture and folklore. It was also the place to which Thor Heyerdahl turned with his theories of the origins of the Polynesian populations. He sought support from the diffusionist theories of cultural history.<sup>1</sup>

Soon, new trends displaced diffusionism and the focus on cultural history. The developments in France, North America, and not least in Britain had repercussions in Norway, where the idea of creating a Chair in 'Ethnography' reflected the multiplying departments of anthropology elsewhere in the world. The first Chair was given to Guttorm Gjessing, who had worked with Arctic and Sámi populations at the Institute for Comparative Cultural Research, in 1947. His own background was

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<sup>1</sup> Arne Martin Klausen, *Antropologiens Historie*, Oslo 1981: Gyldendal (p.152-3).

mainly in archaeology and cultural history, but institutionally, Ethnography was placed within geography. In his book, *Samfunn og kultur* ('Society and Culture') from 1963, which was the first introduction to the new discipline in Norwegian, Gjessing explicitly associated (Norwegian) Ethnography with what in English was called Cultural or Social Anthropology. He did attempt at defining the distinction between the two, but ended up with the warning that it would be wrong to think of culture and society as clearly distinguished, because as the American anthropologist A.L. Kroeber had said: "they are like the two sides of one piece of paper".<sup>2</sup>

Guttorm Gjessing and the students who soon appeared were located within the Ethnographic Museum in Oslo, which dated back to the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, and which remained a stronghold for the development of the discipline in Norway until the early 1960s. Reading reminiscences from the time, reminds one of the 'fewness' of (would-be) anthropologists who crowded the upper floor rooms allotted to the new discipline. A small group of 6-7 students who were taught by Gjessing were to become driving forces in the broadening up of the topic and its spreading to other institutions; they have become known as the Loft Gang (*loftsgjeng*).<sup>3</sup> A prominent figure was Harald Eidheim, who started his studies in 1950 and who names Axel Sommerfelt, Henning Siverts, and Jan-Petter Blom as members the Loft Gang at the time. Soon after, Arne Martin Klausen joined. Harald Eidheim was to become a leading figure in Norwegian and Sámi Studies, somewhat to the regret of Gjessing who wanted him to work with the ethnographic collections. Eidheim then conferred with Fredrik Barth, who had joined the staff at the Ethnographic Museum in 1953, and Barth confirmed that the projects he envisioned would be 'all right anthropology'.<sup>4</sup>

According to Arne Martin Klausen (and many others), Fredrik Barth was to set the most important mark in the development of anthropology in Norway.<sup>5</sup> He got a university fellowship at the Ethnographic Museum in 1953 and held that position for five years; he was thus the second person to have a proper position in anthropology (Ethnography) in Norway, and he came with an entirely different background than Gjessing. Barth's anthropological education had taken place outside of Norway, mainly in Chicago but also in Britain, and most of his fieldwork was outside of Europe. Yet, in the 1950s he also did some fieldwork in Norway (in Atnadalen, and on Norwegian travellers). Barth's contacts with and contributions to 'The British School' was to last, as was his influence upon the Norwegian community of anthropologists, as the Panel was able to glean from the self-evaluations and not least the conversations with representatives from the departments.

It all began with Barth's lectures to the Loft Gang during the formative years of anthropology in Norway. Between them they soon agreed that it was expedient to have a proper anthropological curriculum at the undergraduate level, instead of being just a special post-graduate option within geography. Fredrik Barth committed himself to this and in the process of distinguishing anthropology from its neighbouring disciplines he emphasized the importance of a truly international, academic

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<sup>2</sup> Guttorm Gjessing, *Samfunn og kultur*, Oslo 1963: Universitetsforlaget (p.14).

<sup>3</sup> Halvard Vike, Fremveksten av norsk sosialantropologi: En introduksjon, *Norsk Antropologisk Tidsskrift*, vol. 19, 2008 (p.158).

<sup>4</sup> Interview with Harald Eidheim by Thomas Hylland Eriksen, *Norsk Antropologisk Tidsskrift*, vol 19, 2008 (p. 182). Eidheim suggests that Barth joined in 1952, while Arne Martin Klausen says 1953, see below.

<sup>5</sup> Arne Martin Klausen, *Antropologiens Historie*, Oslo 1981: Gyldendal (p.157).

anthropology in the British style, thus alienating some of the more local, cultural historical approaches.<sup>6</sup>

An undergraduate course (*grunnfag*) was ready in 1959; it was taught by Fredrik Barth and Arne Martin Klausen, and 7 students passed the first exam in anthropology proper in 1960. This paved the way for the appointment of Jan-Petter Blom as the first university lecturer in anthropology in Oslo.

Fredrik Barth himself moved to Bergen in 1961, not being given an opportunity to continue in Oslo after the termination of the fellowship. The University of Bergen was in the making at the time, and Barth was instrumental in the creation of the Institute of Social Anthropology in 1962 – a name that was here used for the first time in Norway. With Barth as Chair, the ‘Bergen School’ soon was at the centre of the development of anthropology in Norway. Georg Henriksen, who studied in Bergen, but who was indecisive as to whether it was to be anthropology or sociology, reminisces: “Then I heard Fredrik [Barth’s] lectures. And that was absolutely fantastic. His anthropology and his way of lecturing were what I had always sought after, and what had preoccupied me in high school [*gymnasium*]: the relationship between individual and society.”<sup>7</sup> Georg Henriksen was later to become one of the founders of IWGIA, The International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs.

Seen from Oslo, the development was not entirely happy, according to Harald Eidheim. Barth had ‘taken’ Jan-Petter Blom, Henning Siverts and Otto Blehr with him to Bergen, and he also ‘snatched’ some students for his own ‘branch’. This opened a post for Eidheim himself at Oslo alongside Arne Martin Klausen, and they established a new Institute of Ethnography outside of geography and of the Museum (only in 1977, was the name changed to social anthropology in Oslo). Asked about the relationship between Bergen and Oslo in these early years; Eidheim answers: “The Bergen group soon built up a very strong self-esteem. Actually we [in Oslo] were under the impression that Barth had hopes of undermining Oslo. When Harald Eidheim [Eidheim himself speaking] was asked by Barth whether he wanted to move to Bergen, because they needed him there, many people saw this as evidence of his aim. I [still Eidheim speaking] answered that I did not want to do so, and that I thought it would be better for Norwegian anthropology, if he and I were located in separate places.” After some reflection, Eidheim adds thoughtfully: “I think we have experienced that building a national environment has something to do with the environment’s ability to liberate individuals scholarly.”<sup>8</sup> He concludes that from his point of view, there was a general tendency to depreciate the Oslo environment.

This – almost constitutive – rift within a small and emerging anthropological environment is confirmed from the Bergen side by Georg Henriksen in an interview with Espen Væhle, when he says that in the Bergen opinion, the people of Oslo did not understand what was shaping up in Bergen, where Barth made things happen, and where he was generally appreciated and much liked.<sup>9</sup>

What began as a joint effort in the Loft Gang thus became institutionally split up, and while there was never a complete break of connections, the two major anthropological environments remained in

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<sup>6</sup> Arne Martin Klausen, *Antropologiens Historie*, Oslo 1981: Gyldendal (p. 158).

<sup>7</sup> Georg Henriksen in an interview with Espen Væhle, *Norsk Antropologisk Tidsskrift*, vol. 19, 2008 (p. 161).

<sup>8</sup> Harald Eidheim in an interview with Thomas Hylland Eriksen, *Norsk Antropologisk Tidsskrift*, vol. 19, 2008 (p.184-85).

<sup>9</sup> Georg Henriksen in an interview with Espen Væhle, *Norsk Antropologisk Tidsskrift*, vol. 19, 2008 (p. 168).

some sort of tension until relatively recently, if one judges from stray remarks and a conspicuous lack of collaboration.

In Oslo itself, Guttorm Gjessing was sceptical about the development from the traditional ethnographic virtues, including the collecting of artefacts, to a modern international anthropology.<sup>10</sup> The development gained further momentum, however, not least with the establishment of the Faculty of Social Sciences in 1963, within which The Institute of Ethnography was formally established in 1964, nominally still with Gjessing as Head, but soon to be replaced with Axel Sommerfelt in 1966 (according to Klausens book *Antropologiens historie*; the correct year is possibly 1967).

In 1973 Arne Martin Klausen was the first anthropologist appointed as professor at the University of Oslo. He was instrumental to disseminating anthropological knowledge and debates to the general public and to keeping anthropology at least as an option in the high school curriculum. He published a number of books in Norwegian, and made a concerted effort at engaging the general public in the anthropological perspective. Klausen's ambition to disseminate anthropological knowledge to people outside of Academia took strong root in the concept of the Norwegian anthropological 'Self,' mainly in Oslo but also more generally. It was also a token of distinction *vis-à-vis* Bergen and Barth's explicit ambition to embrace international anthropology and to emphasize high scientific ambitions. The rift that started on ideological grounds thus did have some real implications. Arguably, the more so, because Bergen had all the freedom of the (regional) pioneer, while Oslo was naturally committed to traditions of research and dissemination related to museums and directed at the general public.

The year Klausen was appointed the first professor at the new department in Oslo (1973), Guttorm Gjessing retired from the Chair at the Ethnographic Museum. The vacancy made Barth come back to Oslo to take over Gjessing's Chair, while Reidar Grønhaug succeeded him in Bergen. So Barth was back at the loft, so to speak, but meanwhile anthropology as such had become firmly established at the University of Oslo – on the new campus at Blindern – a long way away, it seemed. The regional differences had already become more complicated.

In the late 1960s and early 1970s the University of Tromsø was established as a regional university of Northern Norway. The social sciences were given a prominent position, and within them anthropologists were to play a major role in the field of regional and Sámi studies. The first Chair in Sámi studies was given to Harald Eidheim, while the renowned Ottar Brox became professor of local community studies. In multiple ways, these two persons were to carry the torch of research in (and on) the margins of Norwegian society.

Finally, in 1975, anthropology took root also at the Technical University in Trondheim, where Jan Brøgger became professor in 1976. He was to become another strong public voice in Norwegian anthropology. In all of these four universities, the discipline has become increasingly well established over the last decades. Additionally, anthropology has found its way into other units or institutions, with specific, and often, interdisciplinary profiles. It still exists also at the Ethnographic Museum (see the more specific histories below).

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<sup>10</sup> Arne Martin Klausen, *Antropologiens historie*, Oslo 1981: Gyldendal (p. 160ff).

This historical sketch, which hardly adds new information for the initiated, provides a baseline for the discussion of the present landscape of anthropology in Norway for the Research Council and others who are not necessarily familiar with the formation of the discipline. It is all the more important because the present profile and strength of anthropology makes it easy to forget how young the discipline is. This is significant in another respect as well; it means that the 'founding fathers' have taught many of the present generation of (senior) teachers. It also partly explains why some of the founders still have a remarkable presence not only in the histories of the individual departments and other units but also in the constitution of present day self-perceptions. We shall return to that.

## 2.2 A Strong Voice

In keeping with the anthropological tradition, the Panel has found it pertinent to listen to local voices including some, which were not raised with a view to the present evaluation. Above, we have quoted some of them in the interest of understanding the formative forces and persons in the early years of the discipline. We noted how Fredrik Barth was pivotal in the making of a new, international anthropology, and in paving the way for a development that drew more on the American and especially the British inspiration than on the earlier continental European tradition of cultural history and folklore.

In the Panel's interviews with representatives from the institutions, Barth's legacy was often mentioned as a distinguishing feature of Norwegian anthropology as a whole, and it is therefore interesting to see how he, at one point in time, saw Norwegian anthropology and his role within it.

We are fortunate to have an interview that Barth gave in 1989 with Ottar Brox and Marianne Gullestad, herself a significant figure in the generation of Norwegian anthropologists taught in Bergen. The interview appeared in a book called *På norsk grunn - Sosialantropologiske studier av Norge, nordmenn og det norske* ('On Norwegian Ground - Social anthropological studies of Norway, Norwegians, and the Norwegian'), published in 1989 as a festschrift to Fredrik Barth who turned 60 that year.<sup>11</sup>

After having stated that Barth had played a major role in putting Norwegian anthropology on the world map, Marianne Gullestad asked how Barth would qualify the Norwegian anthropological research environment today (1989). Barth answered:

Possibly it is easiest to start out critically, but I'll rather start in a positive vein. What I find to be the strong point of Norwegian anthropologists is their ethnographic sense – a kind of faithfulness when it comes to the complexity of empirical ethnographic material. This I find valuable. What I miss the most is theoretical inventiveness and a will to expose oneself in the international anthropological literature. These two issues are closely interconnected; if people do not have any new and pressing general ideas on their mind, they do not have anything, which they feel compelled to impress upon their international colleagues.

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<sup>11</sup> Ottar Brox and Mariann Gullestad, eds. *På norsk grunn. Sosialantropologiske studier av Norge, nordmenn og det norske*. Oslo 1989: Ad Notam.

The result is a quiet dogmatism. Each generation of students find their own standpoint – but they remain there. If we are to create a vital tradition, each one of us must make these leaps and develop ourselves<sup>12</sup>.

Among many other interesting themes discussed by Brox, Gullestad, and Barth in the interview, one is particularly interesting in the present connection, namely whether there are cultural peculiarities in Norway that have influenced the formation of Norwegian anthropology. For his own part, Barth notes how an attention to the natural environment, and the skill of navigating a landscape was first a personal, but later became also a professional bias. This, he suggests, may generally be more important in Norway than for instance in Britain, where class plays a far more important role.<sup>13</sup>

The point made here is significant in suggesting that there is a particular ‘Norwegianness’ that influences the anthropological attention to other worlds. A particularly strong element in this is the experience of moving about in a not always welcoming landscape and to be able to find one’s way within it. The anthropologist’s point of departure matters, therefore, with respect to the kind of anthropology one pursues.

Barth continues to emphasize a theme in Norwegian culture that seems to inhibit academic work: “That is our mistrust about anything that tastes of intellectualism. We have a tendency to discard knowledge, difficult concepts, intellectual elegance and a broad-ranging spiritual life – all those cultural skills that one associates with the continental European intellectuals. We shall write a clear, good Norwegian, and only the original is genuine, everything else is suspect. Such sentiments often block the development of academic skills that we need.”<sup>14</sup> Culture and the social fabric of Norway thus partly accounts for the shape and direction of Norwegian anthropology, which – according to Barth – had a tinge of parochialism (although he does not use this word).

A third theme raised by Gullestad is the theme of equality – notably between teacher and student – which seems to be a general Norwegian ideal of social relationships. This has been a strong point in much of Gullestad’s own work. The question posed to Barth is whether it has been difficult to play a key-role within the Norwegian egalitarian climate. Barth answers in the affirmative and points to his own wish to play it the Norwegian way, i.e. having an egalitarian teacher-student relationship, which sometimes seemed thwarted by his seniority, and his natural authority as a teacher, and founder (not to speak of his outstanding work, one would like to add), however. This, Barth says, has led both colleagues and students believe that he was false, and in some instances the results have been painful to him and implied a good deal of isolation. In general, Barth believes that people have had difficulties in severing the student-teacher relation, and have focussed far too much on him as a

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<sup>12</sup> “Det er kanskje lettest å begynne kritisk, så la meg heller begynne positivt. Det jeg synes de fleste norske antropologer har av styrke, er deres etnografiske sans, en slags etterrettelighet når det gjelder kompleksiteten i etnografisk empiri. Det synes jeg er verdifullt. Det jeg mest savner, er teoretisk oppfinnsomhet, og en vilje til å eksponere seg i den internasjonale faglitteraturen. De to er nært forbundet: hvis folk ikke har noe prinsipielt nytt på hjertet, har de heller ingenting de trenger å overbevise sine utenlandske kolleger om. Resultatet blir en stille dogmatisme. Hver generasjon av studenter skaffer seg et tidsmessig ståsted – men der blir de stående. Skal vi nå få til å skape en vital tradisjon, må hver enkelt av oss gjøre disse teoretiske sprangene og utvikle oss.” (Barth 1989: 199)

<sup>13</sup> Ibid: 208-209.

<sup>14</sup> Ibid: 210.

person and too little on each other and on social anthropology as the shared concern.<sup>15</sup> The flip side of being hailed as founding father thus seems to remain set apart from the community.

There are specific reasons for citing Barth at some length, even if this particular interview is already 20 years old. Since then, the discipline has been booming, publications in Norwegian and in other languages sprout. Something still stands: Fieldwork and proper ethnographical investigations are still the *sine qua non* of Norwegian anthropology. But the founding fathers also still stand as figures that are hard to circumvent entirely.

This is confirmed in the most recent History of Anthropology to be published in Norwegian (where Arne Martin Klausen's was the first), and written by Thomas Hylland Eriksen and Finn Sivert Nielsen. In their tour de force through the development of international anthropology, they devote a section to Barth whom they identify as unquestionably "the most influential Nordic anthropologist." The authors go through his works and his illustrious career, and his creation of models that were more or less unheard of in anthropology.<sup>16</sup> Eriksen and Nielsen stress the influence of the 'Bergen School' upon international anthropology generally, while also stressing its contribution to the founding of Norwegian local community studies. In short, even in more recent times, (some of) Barth's younger colleagues still readily embrace his status as founder and major play-maker on both the national and the international scene.

## **2.3 Histories of the participating institutions**

As mentioned in the preceding chapter, the evaluation includes a total of 9 institutions and 88 researchers. The institutions represent three different categories: University anthropology departments, multidisciplinary university units with a strong anthropological presence, and independent research institutes outside the higher education sector (with a large group of anthropologists). These will be presented individually below.

### **2.3.1 University anthropology departments**

All the four broad universities of Norway are represented by their Departments of Social Anthropology: the University of Oslo (UiO), the University of Bergen (UiB), the University of Tromsø (UiT) and the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU).

#### ***Department of Social Anthropology, University of Oslo***

The Department was established in 1964 (named The Institute of Ethnography with Guttorm Gjessing as Head), and in 1973, Arne Martin Klausen became the first anthropologist appointed as professor at the University of Oslo, at a soon-to-be renamed institute. It is now the largest anthropological department in the Nordic countries, and one of the largest in Europe. At the time of writing, the Department has a staff of 22 researchers (excl. PhD students) and 12 non-scientific employees, which includes personnel affiliated with the interfaculty programme CULCOM (Cultural Complexity in the new Norway). Approximately 400 students are registered at the Department.

The Department's role within the national context (as seen by its staff members) is to be the leading department of anthropology in Norway. This implies a broad view of the field; there have never been

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<sup>15</sup> Paraphrased from Fredrik Barth in the interview with Ottar Brox and Marianne Gullestad (1989: 211-213).

<sup>16</sup> Thomas Hylland Eriksen and Finn Sivert Nielsen, *Fra verdens ende og tilbake: Antropologiens historie*, Oslo 2002: Fagbokforlaget (p-137ff).



any restrictions in terms of regions or themes that could be studied. The Department has traditionally seen itself as an arena for comparative anthropological research covering most major regions of the world (with its major strengths in research on Africa and Latin America, and to some extent Norway), all aspects of social life normally included in the standard British version of social anthropology, and heavily moored in long-term fieldwork as a methodological ideal. The US four field concept of the discipline has not played any significant role, as archaeology and biological anthropology in particular, but also to some extent linguistics, have been far less important than social and cultural anthropology proper.

Thematically, the Department has a strong research tradition in areas such as kinship and social organization, religion and ritual, material culture, political anthropology, gender and ethnicity/identity politics. Most members of the staff study both 'traditional' societies, for example minorities at the fringe of state institutions, and 'modern' institutions in Norway and elsewhere. Today, the Department has organized its activity mainly under four headings: 1) Nature and society, 2) Minorities in a global world, 3) Comparative Nordic ethnography, 4) Culture, identity and power. The Department offers bachelor and master's degrees in social anthropology, as well as a PhD programme. In 2006-2008, the Department had at any given time on average 246 bachelor students, 124 master students, and 40 PhD students.

In this report, we use the term UiO when referring to the Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Oslo. From UiO, 19 researchers (9 women and 10 men) are included in the evaluation; 15 full professors and 4 associate professors. A Post Doc was employed in the period 2007-09, but was not included in the material.

### ***Department of Social Anthropology, University of Bergen***

The Department was founded in 1962 by Fredrik Barth together with Jan-Petter Blom as the first independent anthropological department, and played a leading international role in the development of anthropological theory through the 1960s into 1970s, with seminal contributions, for example, to the study of ethnicity. The 1970s and 1980s saw a strong additional emphasis on forging new analytical tools for applied anthropology, in the context of development and international aid, mainly in the African savannah zone (especially the Sudan), and in the context of international labour migration and refugees and the growth of ethnic minorities in Norway.

The tenured staff was doubled in the 1990s, and the Department's research concentration on the Middle East and Africa expanded into a global scope, with new regional foci in Scandinavia and Europe, South Asia, Southeast Asia and Melanesia. Throughout the history of the Department, its profile has been strongly linked to the 'Bergen anthropology': an approach characterized by a dedication to long-term fieldwork and solid ethnographic grounding, an analytical ambition to understand human life-worlds and social processes from the perspectives of local-global connections and regional studies, and the contextualization of the cultural in the social and material. Recent years has seen an increasingly collective trend in the emergence of thematic and regionally focused research groups in the Department. The current research groups in and around the Department are: 1) Bergen Pacific Studies, 2) Challenging the state, 3) Global Moments in the Levant, 4) Norwegian spaces, 5) Post-Ottoman Group, and 6) Poverty politics. Development, in broad terms, is the single issue of most sustained strategic interest.

The Department offers bachelor and master's degrees in social anthropology, while the PhD studies are organized by the Faculty of Social Sciences. There were on average 270 students enrolled in the bachelor programme at any time between 2006 and 2008. However it declined from 283 in 2006 to 149 in 2008. At the bachelor level, the Department also coordinates a multidisciplinary 3-year programme in Development studies, which combines subjects from social anthropology, geography, economics and political science. Approximately 60 students were enrolled at the two master programmes at any given time during 2006-2008. However, the number has declined from 86 in 2006 to 53 in 2008. In addition to this the Department is involved in other programmes such as bachelor programmes in Middle Eastern Studies and Latin American studies (and has since 2007 also offered a one-year anthropology programme at bachelor level with an annual enrolment of 15-20 students in 2007-2008). The Department's M. Phil. Programme 'The Anthropology of Development' has been running since 1998. Initially it was funded by NORAD (The Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation); enrolled students from the global south only, and with focus on human ecology. In 2004 the profile was changed to a broader thematic orientation, concerning the effects of globalizations across time and continents; and a recruitment of both local and international students, the latter mainly funded through the quota scholarships provided by the Norwegian State Educational Loan Fund (*Lånekassen*).

Currently, the Department's scientific personnel include 19 tenured staff members (9 full professors and 7 associate professors) and 3 post-doctoral fellows. Of the 19 current tenured staff, two associate professors are employed as senior curators of ethnography at the Bergen Museum's Division of Cultural History (the museum curators have, however, always participated in the research and teaching activities at the Department). 31 PhD students are registered at the Department.

In this report, we use the term UiB when referring to the Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Bergen. From UiB 20 researchers (7 women and 13 men) are included in the evaluation: 7 full professors, 10 associate professors, 2 post doctoral fellows and one professor/head of department.

### ***Department of Social Anthropology, University of Tromsø***

The Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Tromsø was established in 1973. In August 2009, the Department merged with the Department of Archaeology to form a new department labelled Department of Archaeology and Social Anthropology. The new department consists of three sections: Social Anthropology, Visual Cultural Studies (VCS) and Archaeology, of whom the former two are encompassed by the evaluation. At the time of writing, the Social Anthropology Section has 7 permanent scientific staff members and 13 PhD students. The VCS section has 3.7 permanent scientific positions.

The main areas of research have been within the broad fields of indigenous studies and visual anthropology, albeit individual researchers have periodically also focused on other fields. Given the Department's location in northern Norway and the explicit regional profile of the University as a whole, it has had a particular responsibility to contribute to research and teaching around Sámi conditions, as instigated by Eidheim and others. Regionally, however, Africa, Latin America, and Oceania are also studied by researchers at the Department. In the national context the research community defines its role as a contributor in a wider societal and political context especially when it comes to Sámi issues and international development issues. In an international context the

community similarly defines its particular role as contributor to indigenous issues and to aid and development issues (management of natural resources etc.).

The VCS Section focuses on comparative research on impact of globalization in peripheral regions; francophone Sahelian Africa (Cameroon, Niger and Mali) and Northern Norway. At VCS, film and other visual and auditive tools are emphasized as means for communication between researchers and local/global communities/networks.

The Department has a social anthropology educational programme on the bachelor, master and PhD levels (educating PhD students under the programme Culture and Social Sciences with a specialization in social anthropology). VCS delivers an English taught international master's degree. In 2008 the Department had 125 bachelor students (and 65 on the programme studies), 15 anthropology master studies and 17 VCS master students.

In this report, we use the term UiT when referring to the Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Tromsø. 10 researchers, representing both social anthropology and VCS (4 women and 6 men) are included in the evaluation: 3 full professors, 6 associate professors and 1 post doctoral fellow.

### ***Department of Social Anthropology, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)***

The Department of Social Anthropology was established in 1975 as a part of the College of General Sciences (AVH), thus having its origin from an in-service training college that merged with the Trondheim Technical College in 1996, resulting in the creation of NTNU. Today the Department has 12 permanent scientific staff members, 3 administrative staff members, and 14 PhD students (including two externally funded students).

Ever since its establishment, the Department has been heavily oriented towards teaching, and not only directed at would-be anthropological professionals. From the start there was a certain emphasis on Africa, due to the prominent role of African Studies at the History Department at the then University of Trondheim. Today, the Department teaches courses in regional ethnography, classical anthropological subjects, as well as more specialized contemporary issues (like anthropology of Organizations, Globalization and Development), and offers continuing education courses on the social and cultural context of current issues in Africa and the Middle East. The Department also teaches, at introductory level, prospective engineers with an ambition of international professional careers, the cultural dimension of technology transfer in regions such as Asia and Latin America, and coordinates the interdisciplinary African Studies Program at NTNU. Belonging to a technology university and thus having a thematic focus on business corporations and technology management and transfer, is unique both within a national context, and in a European context.

The strategic work at the Department conforms to the goals and values in the overall research strategy of NTNU, defined as a university with a broad academic scope that has its main focus on technology and the natural sciences, and where at least one thematic focus area of teaching and research at each discipline within the social sciences should be relevant to the main technological profile at the University. The research is not organized in formalized research groups, although most of the research falls under three broad categories: 1) Organizational anthropology, 2) African studies, and 3) Health, body, culture and disease.

The Department offers study programmes at all levels – bachelor, master’s and PhD degree. The Department also hosts the Programme for African Studies, a multidisciplinary programme with teaching on bachelor level. The Department has a large number of bachelor and master students, but since they also open for students in other social sciences to specialize in social anthropology, it is difficult to compare the student numbers with those at the other social anthropology departments. However, if we consider study credits, the Department produces almost as many as the University of Oslo, and actually exceeded their credit output in 2005, and has in all years between 2005 and 2009 (except 2007) produced more credit points than the University of Bergen’s anthropology department.

The Department still finds itself in a phase of transition. This is due to the challenge of finding its place within a technical university, but also due to the retirement of the Department’s founder, Professor Jan Brøgger, in 2005. The identity of the Department was to a certain extent associated with him. Upon his retirement, strategies were discussed towards building a new identity to make the Department as a whole more visible within the discipline nationally and internationally. During Brøgger’s reign at the Department, the staff members were mostly recruited for teaching positions and most of the current staff is over 50 years old and has primarily been involved in teaching. Only to a lesser degree have they been expected to carry out individual research on an international level.

In this report, we use the term NTNU when referring to the Department of Social Anthropology at NTNU. 12 researchers (3 women and 9 men) are included in the evaluation, i.e. all permanent scientific staff members: 2 full professors, 8 associate professors, 1 associate professor/head of Department and 1 PhD student (who became associate professor after the evaluation began).

### **2.3.2 Multidisciplinary university units with a strong anthropological presence**

There are three multidisciplinary university departments from the University of Oslo included in the evaluation: Department of Ethnography (Museum of Cultural History), Section for Medical Anthropology and Medical History at the Institute of Health and Society (Faculty of Medicine) and Centre for Development and the Environment (organisationally located directly under the University Board).

#### ***Department of Ethnography, Museum of Cultural History, University of Oslo***

The Ethnographic Museum at the University of Oslo was established in 1857, and its ethnographic collection now numbers close to 60.000 artefacts. In 1989 the Ethnographic Museum was joined with the Department of Social Anthropology to constitute the Department and Museum of Anthropology. This co-organization ended in 1999 with the establishment of the Museum of Cultural History, to which the Ethnographic Museum was transferred.

The University Museum of Cultural History is organized as a faculty with the Director of the museum as Dean and comprises 7 departments. Department of Ethnography is the smallest of these 7 departments having a regular staff of 4 social anthropologists and 2 storekeepers. Only one of the four regular staff members was working at the former Department and Museum of Anthropology, two staff members were employed in their current positions in 2001 after calls with emphasis on regional expertise on Africa and Oceania, and the fourth person was appointed in 2006 following the retirement of a professor who had worked at the Department prior to the merger. At present there are three PhD students within the Department of Ethnography.

At the establishment of the new museum in 1999 it was decided that the regular scientific staff should have responsibility for managing collections from and doing anthropological research in specific ethnographic regions. The four anthropologists who currently constitute the regular scientific staff of the Department of Ethnography have regional responsibility for the regions of Africa, East Asia, Oceania and South Asia. The tasks of the regular staff belong to four categories: Research (within fields of regional expertise), teaching (giving courses at the bachelor course 'Material culture' and the PhD course 'Aesthetics: Object, ritual and display', supervising students of social anthropology at the University of Oslo), collection management (tasks related to collecting/documenting artefacts in the field, to the documentation of existing collections and to responding to external interest in the regional collections), and curatorial tasks (production of ethnographic exhibitions or other forms of communication disseminating information about the ethnographic collections and the ethnographic regions and topics of research covered by expertise of the scientific staff to the public). 4 researchers (1 woman and 3 men) are included in the evaluation from Department of Ethnography: 2 full professors, 1 associate professor and the head of Department

***Section for Medical Anthropology and Medical history, Institute of Health and Society, University of Oslo***

Section for Medical Anthropology was formally established at the Faculty of Medicine in 1990 as part of the (then) Institute of General Practice and Community Medicine. The establishment came after Professor Benedicte Ingstad had been teaching medical anthropology seminars at the Institute and through these recruited several doctoral candidates. Until 2001, hers remained the only position at the Section. Following a decision by the Institute to secure a minimum of two permanent positions in every discipline, an associate professorship was announced. This position was earned by the first doctoral candidate to defend a thesis at the Section.

In 2008 the Section expanded and was re-named Section for Medical Anthropology and Medical History. In addition to the two permanent positions at the Section, the new Section for Medical Anthropology and Medical History has one research fellow, one postdoctoral fellow and 10 PhD candidates working in the field of *medical anthropology*, and one professor, one postdoctoral fellow and one active professor emeritus working in the field of *medical history*.

In the beginning of 2010, the Faculty of Medicine reorganized. The former Institute of General Practice and Community Medicine is now one of three departments in the newly established 'Institute of Health and Society'. The Department today has six sections: Medical Anthropology and Medical History, Preventive Medicine and Epidemiology, Social Medicine, Medical Ethics, General Practice and International Health, thus creating a multidisciplinary environment.

While cultural and historical dimensions of health and illness (disease) form the overall field of inquiry for the Section, most of the research activities can be concretized in four intersecting thematic fields: disability, sexual and reproductive health, Asian medicine, and the medicalization of everyday life. The Section has particular competence in the following three regions: East- and southern Africa (Tanzania, Botswana and South Africa); Central and East Asia (China, Tibet and Mongolia), and Norway. The research focus of the Section is very much historically dependent on the persons who established the Section. From the early days and until today, the relations between disability and culture have been among the main research fields at the Section for Medical Anthropology, heavily influenced by the early research by the founder. Later, HIV and Aids, and groups in particular vulnerable positions for acquiring HIV infections have also been ongoing research themes at the Section. Topics such as Asian medicine have emerged along with the entry of new staff members bringing in their competences.

Section for Medical Anthropology and Medical History aims to be an interdisciplinary link between social sciences and medical and health sciences, and has both research and education in themes related to both fields of science. The Section offers courses in qualitative methods on both master and PhD level for students within medicine and health, as well as courses in medical anthropology and minority health.

In this report, we use the term Section for Medical Anthropology when referring to Section for Medical Anthropology and Medical History. 4 researchers (all female) in medical anthropology are included in the evaluation: one full professor, one associate professor, one postdoctoral fellow and one senior researcher.

***Centre for Development and the Environment (Senter for Utvikling og Miljø, SUM),  
University of Oslo***

SUM was established in 1990 in response to the report of the Brundtland Commission: 'Our Common Future'. SUM is an internationally oriented research institution at the University of Oslo, which promotes scholarly work on the challenges and dilemmas posed by sustainable development, combining insights from the social sciences, natural sciences and humanities. SUM currently has 35 scholarly and 8 administrative staff members.

Although SUM is primarily a research institution (and not part of the University's faculty structure), it offers courses at bachelor, master and PhD levels, as well as an international master in Culture, Environment and Sustainability. The Centre has the status of a Research School, which specializes in educating scholars interested in interdisciplinary perspectives on development and the environment. The Centre is the host institution of the University's interfaculty research programme 'Livelihoods in developing countries: Health, environment and poverty'. SUM is also coordinating the interfaculty programme 'Energy and environmental change'.

When SUM was established in 1990, the staff members came from different fields, and included only one anthropologist. The build-up of the Centre has been thematically oriented, not disciplinary. SUM's current research is anchored in four thematic research areas: 1) Poverty and development, 2) Energy and consumption, 3) Culture and ethics, and 4) Global governance for sustainable development. The main geographical focus of the research is Latin America, Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa.

In this report, we use the term SUM when referring to Centre for Development and the Environment. 4 anthropological researchers (3 women and 1 man) are included in the evaluation: one associate professor, one senior researcher, one director/professor and one researcher.

### **2.3.3 Independent research institutes outside the higher education sector**

There are two independent research institutes outside the higher education sector included in the evaluation: Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI) in Bergen and Norwegian Social Research (NOVA) in Oslo. They have been included in this evaluation, since they both have a large group of social anthropologists amongst their staff.

#### ***Chr. Michelsen Institute (Christian Michelsens Institutt, CMI)***

Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI) was established in 1930 as a result of a bequest made by Christian Michelsen – Norway's first Prime Minister after the dissolution of the union with Sweden in 1905. The Institute's charge has been to serve as a free and independent institute devoted to research within the humanities and natural sciences. Christian Michelsen's testament also stated that the Institute should devote its energies to "work for the promotion, tolerance and forbearance between nations and races, in religious, social, economic and political life". Significant changes have occurred since then, in terms of the internal structure and most notably the separation from the department of the natural sciences in 1992 (now established as Christian Michelsen's Research AS). A concern with development and progress towards social justice has nevertheless remained the basic brief of the Institute's research. Today CMI operates as an applied, policy-oriented research institute that strives to maintain a balance between basic and commissioned research financed by research grants and other sources. Its work is organized in four thematic and multidisciplinary research groups: 1) Rights, democracy and development, 2) Poverty reduction, 3) Peace, conflict and the state, and 4) The public sector reform. Geographically, the focus is Sub-Saharan Africa, Southern and Central Asia, the Middle East and Latin America.

Within this portfolio, anthropology is acknowledged as having a central role. CMI is the largest centre for development studies in Scandinavia. The 40 CMI researchers are social scientists, mainly economists, political scientists and anthropologists. There are currently 12 anthropologists working at CMI.

Anthropology became part of the Institute's disciplinary make-up in the course of the 1970s. As official international development policies grew to recognize the limitations of macro-economic and 'trickle down' approaches, anthropologists' detailed knowledge of local contexts and practices were recognized as means to design targeted rural development and resource management programmes. Although unable to upturn dominant development paradigms and withstand the swing back to macro-governance proposals in the 1990s, anthropologists retained an important role in Norwegian

development assistance. Aware of the constraints and changing vagaries of international donors, the work of the anthropologists at CMI reflects these origins. It also reflects that the Institute has become increasingly research-led and that the balance between longer-term research and short-term consultancies has, particularly during the last 15 years, tilted towards research. This means that the anthropologists who have been recruited during this period have been better able to continue their anthropological research than the older generation who have depended more on commissioned studies.

CMI is not an educational institution, but hosts 8 master students from the different social science disciplines represented at the Institute. Most students come from the University of Bergen. The students at CMI are writing their theses at their respective institutes, collaborating with researchers at CMI. There have been 7 students from social anthropology in the period from 2004-2008, none of whom are connected to CMI now. Two PhD students have defended their doctoral theses during the period, and there are currently two PhD students at CMI.

In this report, we use the term CMI when referring to Chr. Michelsen Institute. 8 researchers (3 women and 5 men) are included in the evaluation: one director/professor, six senior researchers and one researcher.

***Norwegian Social Research (Norsk institutt for forskning om oppvekst, velferd og aldring, NOVA)***

NOVA is a national research institute that was founded in 1996 under the auspices of the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research. The aim of the Institute is to develop knowledge and understanding of social conditions and processes of change. It focuses on issues of life-course events, level of living conditions and aspects of life quality as well as on programmes and services provided by the welfare system. NOVA is one of the largest social research institutes in Norway, belonging to the institute sector. It is thus a contract research institute; the bulk of the funding comes from departments, directorates and the Research Council of Norway.

NOVA is not involved in any teaching, but three candidates from NOVA have defended their doctoral thesis during the period 2004-2008. NOVA currently has one doctoral student whose doctoral work is attached to an interdisciplinary research project concerning migrant pupils.

NOVA has 93 researchers (2008). Sociology and psychology are the most common disciplines among the research staff (42 persons). The administrative staff consists 15 employees. The research activity at NOVA is organized into six research groups: 1) Child and youth welfare, 2) Youth, 3) Ageing and the life course, 4) Welfare governance and health behaviour, 5) Comparative welfare policy, and 6) Migration and transnationality. NOVA has eight anthropologists at present – seven senior researchers – and one PhD student. The senior researchers belong to the research Section for Migration and Transnationality.

In this report, we use the term NOVA when referring to Norwegian Social Research. 7 researchers (5 women and 2 men) are included in the evaluation: 3 researchers at the professor level ('forsker 1') and 4 senior researchers ('forsker 2').



## 2.4 Summing up: 9 units, 88 researchers

The selection of units and researchers for the evaluation encompasses 9 departments/institutions and 88 researchers. The researchers are summed up in Table 2.1 by their departmental affiliation and academic position, as stated in the CVs submitted to the Panel in late 2009.

**Table 2.1: Numbers of included researchers by department and position**

Department	Full professor	Associate professor	Postdoc	Leader position	Other*	Total
UiO	15	4	0	0	0	19
UiB	7	10	2	1	0	20
UiT	3	6	1	0	0	10
NTNU	2	8	0	1	1	12
Department of Ethnography	2	1	0	1	0	4
Section for Medical Anthropology	1	1	1	0	1	4
SUM	0	1	0	1	2	4
CMI	0	0	0	1	7	8
NOVA	0	0	0	0	7	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>88</b>

Source: CVs submitted to the evaluation Panel, autumn 2009. \*Other includes researchers with competence at the professor level (either researcher 1 or senior researcher), researcher 2 (i.e. researchers with PhD), senior researchers, unspecified researchers and one PhD student.

Full professors and associate professors constitute 69 per cent of the researchers. Post-doctoral fellows are few, only four persons. Five persons are heads of department/institute (in most cases professors). The last category (other) comprises mainly from personnel from the institute sector, where different categories for academic positions are used compared to the universities.

In Chapter 4 we describe the research output at the anthropology departments. We would like, however, briefly to compare the teaching load between the four university departments. Since they are not all equally involved in teaching programmes at all levels (not only social anthropology, but also in interdisciplinary master programmes etc.), comparisons are difficult. However, some key numbers are found in the Norwegian Database of Statistics on Higher Education (Table 2.2).

**Table 2.2: Numbers of credit points\* by Social Anthropology departments**

Department	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Average 2005-2009
UiO	326.7	315.2	359.3	296.7	267.0	312.9
UiB	300.2	254.2	280.3	187.6	178.9	240.2
UiT	69.0	95.0	88.2	77.8	N/A	82.5
NTNU	334.9	304.6	275.9	218.3	238.8	274.5

Source: DBH: Database of Statistics on Higher Education. \* 60 credit points correspond to a full-time study.

Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Oslo has the largest production of student credit points in the period 2005-2009. The Department in Tromsø is significantly smaller than the other three (2009 numbers are missing due to the merger with archaeology). If we compare the number of study credits by number of full-time research equivalent man-years for 2009, NTNU has the highest score (10.7), followed by Oslo (7.8), Bergen (5.9) and Tromsø (4.1). These numbers underscore the fact that NTNU is the most teaching oriented department among the four university anthropology departments. In the period 2006-2009, Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Bergen has produced the highest number of completed PhDs; a total of 14. 10 PhDs were completed in Oslo, and 7 both in Tromsø and at NTNU.

### 3. QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS OF PERSONNEL AND ECONOMY

In this chapter we present data on research personnel and expenditures within social anthropology, both at the national level, and at departmental/institutional level<sup>17</sup>. The rationale for doing this is manifold. *Firstly*, having described the history of Norwegian anthropology and the main facts about each participating institution, statistical data on personnel and expenditures, i.e. the framework in which anthropology takes place, add more information to the Panel's effort of setting the scene for anthropology in Norway. *Secondly*, describing the Norwegian research sector in a broader sense makes this report more accessible for use outside Norway. *And lastly*, even for the Norwegian anthropology community, the research system (personnel, funding structure and so on) may not be self-evident or self-explanatory.

We present statistics for 1) all research personnel with a formal education in social anthropology, 2) personnel at the research units selected for the evaluation, and 3) funding patterns for social anthropology in Norway (at both national and institutional level), both for the discipline and for the units to be evaluated.

#### 3.1 General information about the Norwegian research sector

The Norwegian research sector comprises two sectors, which will be described below: the higher education system (chapter 3.1.1) and the Norwegian institute sector (chapter 3.1.2).

##### 3.1.1 The higher education System

*The higher education sector* encompasses the universities, the specialized university institutions and the state university colleges, as well as university hospitals. All types of higher education institutions are regulated by the same Act,<sup>18</sup> but the different formal status of the institutions implies different degrees of independence. For example, only universities have full autonomy in establishing PhD programmes.<sup>19</sup> Presently there are 7 universities in Norway, the four broad universities in Oslo (UiO, established in 1811), Bergen (UiB, 1946), Trondheim (NTNU 1910/1968)<sup>20</sup> and Tromsø (UiT 1968)<sup>21</sup>, and three university colleges that have recently acquired status as full universities (University of Life Sciences/UMB 2005; University of Stavanger/UiS 2005; and University of Agder/UiA 2007).

Moreover, there are 8 accredited specialized university institutions and 36 accredited university colleges, of which 24 are state university colleges.

The size of a university department will partly depend on its ability to attract students (and open admission study programmes). Part of the general university funds<sup>22</sup> (state funding) of the higher education institutions is based on performance indicators, comprising both education and research

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<sup>17</sup> This chapter, including all analyses and table (unless other stated), derives from the NIFU STEP report "Research within geography, social anthropology and sociology in Norway", by Hebe Gunnes and Stig Slipersæter.

<sup>18</sup> LOV 2005-04-01 nr 15: Lov om universiteter og høyskoler.

<sup>19</sup> Specialized university institutions have such authorization only within their specific fields.

<sup>20</sup> Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), formerly University of Trondheim established 1968 and NTH (Norwegian Institute of Technology) established in 1910.

<sup>21</sup> University of Tromsø merged with Tromsø University College in 2009.

<sup>22</sup> Of the general university funds, 25 per cent rely on the number of students, while 15 per cent is related to scientific production (2009-numbers).

activities (Box 3.1). Education is measured by study credits, completed degrees and international student exchange; research is measured by scholarly publications (weight 0.3), doctoral candidates (0.3), EU research funding (0.2) and research funding from the Research Council of Norway (0.2). In this system the education activities give higher return than the research activities for two reasons. First, the research component is a zero-sum reallocation between the institutions, whereas the education component is not, and gives a return proportional to the education activities of the individual institution. Second, the research component accounts for about 15 per cent of the general university funds (most of this, but not all, is performance-based), and the performance-based education indicators account for about 25 per cent of the general university funds.

**Box 3.1 Performance-based budgeting of Norwegian higher education institutions**

Part of the state core funding of Norwegian higher education institutions is based on performance indicators, comprising both education and research activities. In total, the research component accounts for about 15 per cent of the core funding (most of this, but not all, is performance-based). The performance-based education indicators account for about 25 per cent of core funding. The research component is the interesting one in our context – and particularly its publication score indicator (first implemented for the budget year 2006). The research component includes four indicators as shown in the table below. In total, 1.8 per cent of the core funding in the sector is allocated on the basis of the publication scores (more for the universities and less for the university colleges).

*Research indicators and their weighting*

Indicator	Weight
Doctoral candidates	0.3
EU research funding	0.2
RCN research funding	0.2
Scholarly publications	0.3

The funding formula for publication activity includes two dimensions. First, articles in journals (ISSN-titles), articles in books and books/monographs (ISBN-titles) are given different weights. Moreover, publication outlets are divided into two levels in order to avoid an incentive to productivity only. The outlets given extra weight are those defined to be the leading and most selective international journals, series and publishers (limited to about 20 per cent of the publications). The national councils in each discipline or field of research participate annually in determining and revising the highest level under the guidance of the Norwegian Association of Higher Education Institutions. The table below shows the relative weights given the different types of publications at the two levels.

*Publication weights*

Publication type	Outlets at normal level	Outlets at high level
Articles in ISSN-titles (journals)	1	3
Articles in ISBN-titles (books)	0.7	1
Books (ISBN-titles)	5	8

Note: Co-authored publications are shared among the participating institutions.

The formula only includes ‘scholarly publications’. Series in which more than two-thirds of the authors are from the same institution, for instance, are not included. There are plans for also including other types of publications and forms of communication, but so far these plans have not been implemented. The definition is that a scholarly publication must:

1. present new insight;
2. be presented in a form that allows the research findings to be verified and/or used in new research activity;
3. be written in a language and have a distribution that makes the publication accessible to most interested researchers;
4. appear in a publication channel (journal, series, book publisher, website) that has routines for external peer review.

Sources: Box 4.1 in ‘Norwegian Development Research – An Evaluation’. Oslo, RCN, 2007; ‘Orientering om forslag til statsbudsjettet 2010 for universiteter og høyskoler’, Ministry of Education and Research 2010.

We find a *dual set of positions* in the higher education sector. The first set comprises positions combining research and teaching, including full professors (the only ones called professors in

Norwegian), associate professors ('førsteamanuensis') and assistant professors ('amanuensis'). The second set comprises lecturers, or positions whose main task is teaching, and who only to a small extent participate in research. These are college readers ('høgskoledosent'), senior lecturers ('førstelektor'), and university and college lecturers ('universitets- og høgskolelektor'). For our purpose, only a few of these positions are of interest; assistant professors are more or less non-existing today (none of the 88 researchers in the evaluation are assistant professors), and having a teaching position did not qualify for inclusion in evaluation according to RCN's specifications of which researchers could be included.

Up to 1960 there were only a few full professors at each department, but this has gradually changed. From 1993 the possibility of individual professor promotion on the basis of added competence ('personlig opprykk til professor etter kompetanse') has contributed to increasing the formal competence of the academic staff, and in 2007 there were more full professors than associate professors at the universities, and there are very few assistant professors.

In addition to these positions there are temporary recruitment positions: 3-4 years fellowships for PhD students and post doctor fellowships of various length, as well as research assistants. There are also some research positions outside this structure, particularly at research centres and other units without regular teaching responsibilities.

### **3.1.2 The Norwegian institute sector**

*The Norwegian institute sector* consists of heterogeneous units, which on an overall level can be divided into research institutes serving enterprises and the Government sector. The research institutes under governmental regulations for funding of research institutes represent the largest group measured in R&D activities. These research institutes are divided into agricultural and fishery research institutes, technological and industrial research institutes, environment and development research institutes, national social science research institutes and regional research institutes. Other institutions with R&D, such as the Research Department at Statistics Norway, the Norwegian Institute of Public Health, museums, and Health trusts (that are not university hospitals), are also included in the sector.

The research institutes receive core funding from the Government, often allocated by the Research Council of Norway, but for most of them the major part of their activity is based on competitive funding for specific research projects, such as projects grants from the Research Council and the European Framework Program, as well as commissioned research projects from government agencies and private enterprises. The size of a research institute, in terms of research positions, will thus depend on its ability to attract research funding. The institute sector is heterogeneous as to the size, objective and research profile of the units, as well as concerning the societal sectors they serve.

From 2009 on, the funding scheme for research institutes receiving governmental core funding has been changed in accordance with principles for core funding of the higher education institutions. The core funding of the research institutes is allocated according to a formula based on scientific results (number of publications, competitive funding obtained etc), as well as strategic institute initiatives. Some institutes directly under government are not included in the new regulations.

In 2007, 80 per cent of the R&D activity within social sciences in the institute sector was funded by public sources, and 32 per cent of the total R&D expenditure in the sector came from the Research

Council of Norway this year. 9 per cent was funded by Industry, foreign sources accounted for 8 per cent and other national sources amounted to 3 per cent.

Unlike the higher education institutions, the research institutes have no teaching obligations. Whereas the higher education institutions have a mix of research and teaching positions, the research institutes only offer research positions. Some researchers in the institute sector still undertake teaching obligations at higher education institutions, and they may hold secondary positions ('bistillinger/II-stillinger') at higher education institutions. Furthermore, the research institutes host many PhD students (PhD students may be employed at universities or research institutes), but the PhD programmes, education and degrees are the responsibility of the higher education institutions. Some of the research institutes, as well as other institutions with R&D which are not included in the Government's regulations for funding of research institutes, also have special management tasks, such as monitoring water quality, and thus other positions than researchers. Many of the research institutes within the social sciences use a three level classification of their researchers – Researcher I (with full professor level competence), Researcher II (doctoral degree or doctoral level competence) and Researcher III (without a doctoral degree).

### **3.1.3 Note on data sources**

Statistics in this chapter is based on the NIFU STEP databases, which provide the basis for the official Norwegian R&D statistics on the higher education sector and the institute sector. The NIFU STEP *Register of Research Personnel* (RPR) covers researchers/university graduated personnel that participate in R&D at Norwegian higher education institutions, as well as the research institutes and health trusts. The register is based on regularly reports from the institutions to NIFU STEP and includes information on position, age, gender, educational background etc. The register does not cover research personnel in private enterprises, e.g. persons with a degree in social sciences employed at consultancy firms. The register does not cover special part time affiliations ('bistillinger'), with the exception of Professor II. Only personnel with a job share of 40 per cent or more are included in the register. The data was updated on October 1<sup>st</sup> 2007. Since this evaluation investigates the time period 1999-2008, we do not see this as a problem.

For persons with a higher degree from a Norwegian institution, the information is based on NIFU STEP's Graduate register ('Akademikerregisteret'), providing full information on graduates from Norwegian higher education institutions, whereas for persons with a foreign degree, the information relies on whether or not the institutions (their employer) include this information in their reports to NIFU STEP. As a result, we lack information on formal education for 10 per cent of the research personnel employed in the social sciences in the higher education sector, and 2 per cent in the institute sector.

Comparison between the research personnel in the institute sector and the higher education sector by position is somewhat complicated due to the differences in tasks and structure. As mentioned above, several research institutes within social sciences use a 3 level position structure for the researchers. NIFU STEP has done an adjustment to this system for all researchers in the institute sector within the social sciences according to formal competence, in order to make comparison between institutes and sectors possible.

The national *statistics on R&D expenditure* is based on regularly reports from the institutions to NIFU STEP. For the present analysis, a limitation in the data related to the disciplinary coding should be

noted. As the research institutes are mainly interdisciplinary, the statistics for this sector do not split expenditures on disciplines, only on the overall field of science, such as humanities and social sciences. This makes it difficult to make accurate dispositions for R&D expenditure within social anthropology in this sector. The figures regarding units in the institute sector will therefore be made for social sciences in total, or for the units included in the evaluation.

Statistical data for research institutes are based on data updated annually for the research institutes subject to governmental procedures for funding of research institutes. These statistics are used in this chapter in order to present data on core funding and other sources of funds relating to current income at the research institutes. These data deviate somewhat from the R&D statistics used elsewhere, since they are based on income rather than expenditure. The current incomes are excluding financial incomes and other extraordinary incomes.

Note that all numbers presented in this chapter pertain to either social anthropology in Norway as a whole, or for the institutions encompassed by the evaluation as a whole; rather than to the 88 researchers selected for the evaluation.

### 3.2 Personnel in social anthropological research

Personnel with a degree in social anthropology include persons with a higher degree from Norway<sup>23</sup>. In 2007, the Norwegian higher education and institute sector comprised a total of 319 researchers with a higher degree in anthropology (Table 3.1).

**Table 3.1: All research personnel in Norway with a higher degree in social anthropology by type of institution (2007)**

Type of institution*	Anthropologists	% of all personnel in anthropology
Universities	161	50
Specialised university colleges	8	3
State university colleges	64	20
Research institutes	86	27
<b>Total</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>100</b>

\*Note that this table encompasses all anthropologists among the research personnel at the various institutions, without regard to their departmental affiliation.

Of a total of 319 researchers with a higher degree in social anthropology, close to 75 per cent were employed in the higher education sector and 25 per cent in the institute sector. Half of the research personnel with a degree in social anthropology were affiliated with a university and 20 per cent with a state university college. There were anthropologists at all the universities in 2007 (also at a university hospital). 21 of the 24 state university colleges had at least one anthropologist among their research personnel, as had four of the specialized university institutions and both the national academies of art. Seven higher education institutions had 5 or more anthropologists employed, while this was the case for four research institutes. Approximately 40 per cent of the anthropologists in the higher education sector and institute sector were employed at the units selected for the evaluation.

In addition to this, 99 anthropologists were employed in higher administrative positions in the higher education sector or the institute sector in 2007, 64 of them at a university. Of the administrators with a higher degree in social anthropology, 70 per cent were women. This means that of the 319 persons

<sup>23</sup> The data on the social anthropology units encompasses 24 researchers for which there is no information about educational background. Some of these might have a degree in social anthropology from outside Norway.

with a higher degree in social anthropology found in the Higher education and the institute sector in 2007, close to one quarter was employed in an administrative position.

**Table 3.2: Academic employment of higher degree candidates in anthropology in Norway 1995-2005 – per cent employed in different sectors by discipline and gender**

<b>Employment in 2007</b>	<b>Women</b>	<b>Men</b>	<b>Total</b>
University	6	13	8
University college	4	4	4
Research institute sector	3	4	4
<b>Total with a scholarly/research position in 2007</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>16</b>
Administrative or technical position in higher education sector	9	6	8
<b>Total employed in the higher education/research sector in 2007</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>24</b>
Not employed in the higher education/research sector	77	73	76
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>N (higher degree candidates 1995-2005)</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>826</b>

From 1995 to 2005, 826 candidates obtained a higher degree in social anthropology from Norwegian higher education institutions according to NIFU STEP's Graduate Register (Table 3.2). Of these 225 were men and 601 women. Thus, 75 per cent of candidates in social anthropology were women.

Among the 826 higher degree candidates from 1995-2005 in social anthropology, 16 per cent were employed as research personnel in the higher education sector and the institute sector in 2007. The share of men that ended up working in the higher education sector was higher than for women, whereas the share of women working in administrative positions in the sector was larger than for men. Administration thus seems to be an alternative career opportunity or path for female anthropologists within academia, while a higher proportion of male candidates obtain a research position.

56 per cent of the research personnel with a higher degree in social anthropology in 2007 were women. Women were in majority at all types of institutions, although the share at the universities and the specialized university institutions were approximately 50-50.

**Table 3.3: Research personnel with a higher degree in social anthropology by type of institution and age (2007) – percentages within type of institution**

<b>Sector</b>	<b>&lt;30</b>	<b>30-39</b>	<b>40-49</b>	<b>50-59</b>	<b>&gt;60</b>	<b>N</b>
Universities	6	33	29	20	12	161
Specialised university institutions	0	0	75	13	13	8
State university colleges	2	19	34	33	13	64
Research institutes	9	23	33	28	7	86
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>319</b>

Of the 319 researchers with a higher degree in social anthropology, the average age was 45.1 years. The age structure of anthropologists was quite even within the different kinds of institutions in 2007. At the universities, one third of the anthropologists were between 30 and 39 years, which was the largest share at this type of institution. At the research institutes, the largest share was between 40 and 49 years (Table 3.3).

**Table 3.4: Researchers with a higher degree in social anthropology in 2007 by gender and academic position (percentage)**

Gender	Professor level	Researchers and postdocs	Recruitment positions*	Lecturers	Total
Female	42	66	65	68	56
Male	58	34	35	32	44
<b>Total</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>319</b>

\*The category 'Recruitment positions' includes: Research Fellows ('stipendiater') and Research Assistants regardless of source of funding.

Approximately 43 per cent of the anthropologists were employed at the professor level, while recruitment position was the second largest group (Table 3.4). The share of female research personnel with a higher degree in social anthropology was much higher than for men in all categories except at the full professor level, where 58 per cent were men. This is no less than a striking gender imbalance, given the overall dominance of female researchers within the discipline (we return to issues of gender and generation in chapter 6).

### 3.3 Research units to be evaluated: Personnel with a degree in social anthropology and other research personnel.

A total of nine units were selected for the evaluation in social anthropology. The nine units employed a total of 257 researchers in 2007, of which 115 had a higher degree in anthropology (Table 3.5). For 19 researchers at the selected units, we have no information on educational background, and there might be anthropologists among these.

As we see in Table 3.5, there are three institutions that differ from the rest; i.e. the anthropologists constitute only a small share of total number of researchers. The percentage of anthropologists in 2007 was 12.5 at SUM, 13.5 at NOVA and 18 at CMI. Of the total research personnel at the units to be evaluated, 45 per cent were anthropologists.

**Table 3.5: Research personnel at the units in social anthropology selected for the evaluation by educational background (2007)**

Institution	Social anthropology	Economics	Sociology	Political sciences	Human geography	Other social sciences	Humanities	Natural sciences	Engineering and technology	Medical and health sciences	Unknown	Total
UiO	24		1			2					6	33
UiB	27					2					2	31
UiT	16					1						17
NTNU	17					1	2					20
Department of Ethnography	6						1					7
Section for Medical Anthropology	5					1				2		8
SUM	3			4	1	3	4	1	1		7	24
CMI	8	11	1	10		6	4				4	44
NOVA	10	4	28	6	1	22	2					73
<b>Total</b>	<b>116</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>257</b>



Close to half of the personnel (regardless of educational background) at the units selected for the evaluation were employed at the professor level (Table 3.6). The highest share of research personnel at the professor level was found at CMI and NOVA (66 and 59 per cent respectively), followed by the anthropology departments at UiT and NTNU. The anthropology departments at UiB and UiO had the highest share of recruitment personnel (42 and 33 per cent). The share of lecturers was low at all units, while the share of researchers/postdocs varied between 0 and 50 per cent.

**Table 3.6: All research personnel at the research units selected for the evaluation in social anthropology by departments and academic positions (2007) – per cent**

Institution	Professor level <sup>1</sup>	Researchers and Post docs. <sup>2</sup>	Recruitment positions <sup>3</sup>	Lecturers <sup>4</sup>	N
UiO	48	12	33	6	(33)
UiB	48	6	42	3	(31)
UiT	53	0	29	18	(17)
NTNU	50	10	35	5	(20)
Department of Ethnography	43	14	29	14	(7)
Section for Medical Anthropology	25	38	25	13	(8)
SUM	21	50	29	0	(24)
CMI	66	27	7	0	(44)
NOVA	59	12	29	0	(73)
<b>All selected units</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>(257)</b>

<sup>1</sup>Full professors, Associate Professors ('førsteamanuensis'), academic leaders (employed Deans and Chairs/Heads of departments) and University College Docents/Senior Lectures ('høgskoledosenter') and Researcher I/Senior researcher and Researcher II in the institute sector. Professor II is not included in the table. <sup>2</sup>All researchers and Post doctors in the higher education sector without regard of their source of funding, as well as Researcher III in the institute sector. <sup>3</sup>The category 'Recruitment positions' includes: Research Fellows ('stipendiater') and Research Assistants regardless of source of funding. <sup>4</sup>Assistant Professors ('amanuensis'), senior lecturers, university lecturers and college lectures ('førstelektor', 'universitetslektor' and 'høgskolelektor').

There is a good gender balance among the anthropologists at the units selected for the evaluation (Table 3.7); approximately 50 per cent of the personnel with a degree in social anthropology were women.

**Table 3.7: Share of female research personnel at research units selected for evaluation in social anthropology, 2007 (per cent)**

	Personnel with a degree in social anthropology		All researchers	
	% female	N	% female	N
UiO	50	24	55	33
UiB	48	27	48	31
UiT	40	15	41	17
NTNU	35	17	35	20
Department of Ethnography	50	6	57	7
Section for Medical Anthropology	80	5	75	8
SUM	67	3	67	24
CMI	25	8	43	44
NOVA	80	10	59	73
<b>All selected units</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>257</b>

Of the 257 researchers at the selected nine units (both those included in the evaluation and those not included), 53 per cent were women in 2007. The share of female researchers with a higher degree in social anthropology (49 per cent) is somewhat lower than for the total number of researchers at the selected units, but the difference is small. The total share of women for the

multidisciplinary units selected for evaluation should not be compared directly with the share among the total research personnel, as there are several units with a high number of researchers, but few social anthropologists.

### 3.4 Economic resources to research in social anthropology

We now present figures for research within social anthropology based on the official Norwegian R&D statistics. R&D expenditure over time, by source of fund and type of institutions are presented. The figures show R&D expenditure at the higher education institutions categorized under social anthropology.

A total of five units in the higher education sector were classified within social anthropology in 2007; all of them are included in the evaluation. For higher education units, the National R&D statistics is the source, whereas for units in the institute sector, we use key figures on institutes under the governmental regulations for funding of research institutes. This means that we capture *all research* at these institutions, which is a problem, given the fact that most of it is either multidisciplinary or non-anthropological.

#### 3.4.1 Funds for social anthropology 1997-2007

Table 3.8 shows the R&D expenditure for social anthropology in the Norwegian higher education institutions by source of funds for the years 1997 to 2007.

There has been an overall increase in current expenditure on R&D within social anthropology from 1997 to 2007, from NOK 28.9 million in 1997, to NOK 35.9 million in 2007. 1999 was the top year. Then there was a decrease in R&D expenditure within social anthropology until 2005. From 2005 to 2007 there has been an increase, but the expenditure is still not back on the 1999 top-level.

**Table 3.8: Current expenditure on R&D within social anthropology in the Norwegian higher education sector by source of funds: 1997-2007. Per cent**

Source of fund	1997	1999	2001	2003	2005	2007
General university funds (GUF)	76	68	74	69	69	73
Research Council of Norway (RCN)	23	22	23	24	19	16
Other public sources	1	9	1	3	7	4
Industry	0	0	0	0	0	1
Other national sources	0	1	1	11	2	5
Foreign sources	0	0	2	2	3	1
<b>Total per cent</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Total million NOK<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>(28.9)</b>	<b>(38.3)</b>	<b>(35.3)</b>	<b>(35.3)</b>	<b>(33.9)</b>	<b>(35.9)</b>

<sup>1</sup>Constant 2000 prices

General university funds (GUF) was the main funding source within social anthropology, varying from 61 to 73 per cent. The most important external source was funds from the Research Council of Norway (RCN), which accounted for approximately one fifth of the funding between 1997 and 2005. In 2007, funding from RCN accounted for a somewhat lower share of the current R&D expenditure. Other national sources, such as own funds from the universities, was an important funding source in 2003 and 2007, while public sources had a high share in 1999 and 2005.

In total, there has been a 24 per cent increase in social anthropology R&D expenditures over a ten-year period. Compared to other social sciences (e.g. psychology and political science), however, this is a modest growth. The highest growth in the period, has been seen in the 'discipline' other social

sciences, where the expenditures have more than doubled (Table 3.9). There have been several mergers of departments within social sciences at different institutions during the last decades, and the tendency is a higher number of multidisciplinary units, which is reflected here. Moreover, the state university colleges have increased their R&D efforts within social sciences in the period; R&D at this type of institution is mostly registered at faculty level, where faculties are classified as multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary units.

**Table 3.9: Expenditures on R&D (in million NOK) within social sciences in the higher education sector by discipline 1997-2007 (constant 2000-prices)**

Discipline	1997	2007	Growth 1997-2007	Average per year
Social anthropology	28.9	35.9	1.24	34.98
Human geography	17.5	22.4	1.28	19.11
Sociology	39.8	39.2	0.98	40.63
Economics	99.6	160.5	1.61	114.96
Political science	37.7	67.7	1.79	44.81
Psychology	77.5	143.1	1.84	102.65
Education	185.3	281.7	1.52	229.28
Law and criminology	95.0	155.0	1.63	109.31
Other social sciences	452.9	888.6	2.08	638.5
<b>Total (higher education sector)</b>	<b>1007.2</b>	<b>1794.1</b>	<b>1.78</b>	<b>1334.3</b>

Source: NIFU STEP, R&D statistics

Of the units selected for evaluation, the Institute of General Practice and Community Medicine (now Institute of Health and Society) at the University of Oslo had the highest R&D expenditure in 2007 (Table 3.10). Section for Medical Anthropology and Medical History only accounted for a small part of the Institute's R&D expenditure, as the unit had approximately 13 per cent of the total personnel. Department of Ethnography also accounted for a small portion of the total R&D expenditure of the Museum of Cultural History, where the personnel accounted for 10 per cent of the total research personnel. Among the other units in the higher education sector, the Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Oslo was the largest measured in R&D expenditure, followed by SUM. CMI was the largest unit in the institute sector. The R&D expenditures have been calculated by NIFU STEP on the basis of the units' budgets and an R&D survey from 2007. The numbers reflect the total budgets extracted for time spent on teaching and administration, i.e. R&D expenditures are calculated as the percentage of the employees' time spent on R&D activities.

**Table 3.10: Current expenditure on R&D at the units selected for the evaluation in social anthropology by department and source of fund (2007). Per cent (and millions NOK in 2000)**

Institution	GUF <sup>2</sup>	RCN	Other public	Industry	Other national	Foreign sources	Sum	Constant 2000 prices <sup>2</sup>
UiO	77	22	1	0	0	0	100	11.1
UiB	68	25	0	3	1	2	100	10.5
UiT	64	5	17	0	13	0	100	6.0
NTNU	76	7	3	0	14	0	100	6.8
Museum of Cultural History <sup>1</sup>	68	1	20	11	0	0	100	36.4
Institute of General Practice and Community Medicine <sup>1</sup>	44	17	28	0	10	1	100	41.2
SUM	52	20	18	0	1	10	100	25.1
Units in the institute sector	Basic funding	RCN	Other public	Industry	Other national	Foreign sources	Sum	Constant 2000 prices <sup>3</sup>
CMI	16	19	35	1	12	16	100	65.5
NOVA	35	18	34	0	9	3	100	56.2

<sup>1</sup> Department of Ethnography and Section for Medical Anthropology and Medical History at UiO did not answer the R&D survey for 2007 as separate units, but are included in the answers from the main departments/institutes. This table displays the R&D expenditure for the departments, and we do not know the distribution on source of funds for these two units.<sup>2</sup> R&D expenditures cannot be given in current prices per unit due to statistical rules that apply to the R&D statistics.<sup>3</sup> Statistics on the income for the research institutes are available per institution at [www.foustatistikbanken.no](http://www.foustatistikbanken.no). To make comparison more feasible, both values are converted to constant prices.

The most important funding source for the higher education units was General University funds, varying from 44 to 77 per cent. The RCN was the overall second largest funding source at 6 of the 8 higher education units, varying from 1 per cent of the expenditure at the Museum of Cultural History at the University of Oslo, to 25 per cent at the Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Bergen. The Museum is not representative for the units selected for evaluation, as only a small part of the R&D was conducted at the Department of Ethnography selected for evaluation. Among the other units, RCN's share of the R&D expenditure varied between 5 and 25 per cent.

Other public sources were important for SUM and the Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Tromsø, where approximately one fifth of the R&D expenditure was funded by this source. Other public sources for these selected departments within social anthropology mainly cover direct project funding from the Ministry of Education and Research, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other ministries, as well as counties. Museum of Cultural History and Institute of General Practice and Community Medicine also received much funding from other public sources.

Other national sources, such as private donations and grants, was more important at the departments of social anthropology at NTNU and the University of Tromsø than for the other university departments, while SUM (UiO) received 10 per cent of their R&D funding from foreign sources. Museum of Cultural History (UiO) was the only unit where industry accounted for a noticeable share of the R&D expenditure.

In the following sections, we explore the general information given in Table 3.10 based on additional information provided by the institutions in their self-evaluations submitted to the Panel.

*Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Bergen* has over the past ten years seen external funds become an increasingly important component of the Department's total research funding, mainly consisting of large grants from the RCN. In 2008 RCN's contribution was 2,973 million NOK. Small grants from foundations<sup>24</sup> at home and abroad, and from NORAD<sup>24</sup>, have also contributed

<sup>24</sup> Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation

to fieldwork, research time, PhD funding and the upkeep of the Department's international M.Phil. programme. The rest of the research funding comes from the core university budget. The Department in Bergen stressed in their self-evaluation that the major grants received had all been to projects emerging from within the research profile of the Department. There is thus little conflict between such funding and how staff members themselves prefer to carry out their research. The Department aims to continue applying for major grants from RCN, and also from EU, although it has little experience in doing so (but has been close to getting a large project recently). The Department is mindful of the opportunities offered by EU funding, but finds the time and resources for engaging in a sustained way in this as very demanding within a competitive and limited field.

*Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Oslo* had (in 2007) a slightly different funding structure compared to the Department in Bergen. Core university funds and RCN funds stood for 99 per cent of the funding (whereas the Bergen Department had a larger share of external funding outside RCN). Compared to the core budget, the percentage of external funding has increased in the period. The Department has not experienced that external funding has contributed to shaping the discipline in ways that are not wholly consistent with the overall research profile of the Department, for instance by leading it towards applied research and/or narrowing the academic and intellectual scope. Contrary to the Bergen Department, EU funding is not much in focus (although the Department at the time of writing has seen an application reaching the final evaluation round at the European Research Council). The Oslo Department writes in their self evaluation that EU projects – often larger scale projects – do not match the researchers' interests and priorities, directed as they often are primarily towards problem-solving issues, specific sectors of society, and towards an exclusively national/European context. This is also the case for larger scale projects from the RCN.

*Department of Social Anthropology at NTNU* differs from the other university anthropology departments because of its high share of external funding from non-public national sources. The largest sources in 2008 were Holtestiftelsen and Afrikanettverket. The most important external funding source during the period of review has been the private donation from Norwegian Industry (Holtestiftelsen), seconded by RCN. With respect to organizing conferences, the most significant external funder has been Ministry of Foreign Affairs, seconded by RCN. The private donation from Norwegian Industry and funding from RCN that enabled research on business corporations, transnational labour migration, and technology transfer has had profound impact on the research profile of the Department. The Department finds that the opportunity for financing small-scale, individual projects is rather poor, since they feel the current funding policy stresses large scale, interdisciplinary programme research, which disfavours their research practices and strategy. For example, the Department claims that EU framework programmes leave little opportunity for research in classical ethnographic regions beyond issues directly related to EU's policies and interests in these regions, which is further complicated by the emphasis on funding large multi-university research programmes that are often at odds with the Department's more individualized approach (which is common in the discipline at large). Despite finding the current funding policy less favourable to their research practice, they nevertheless follow NTNU's current strategy to increase external funding from EU framework programmes. They (unsuccessfully) applied as partner in a consortium of more than 40 European universities and independent research institutes in an interdisciplinary application to the EU 6<sup>th</sup> Framework programme, and now have an application in the 7<sup>th</sup> framework in a collaboration project with European and Chinese universities.

*Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Tromsø* differs from the other anthropology university departments because of its low share of RCN funding. The Department has a much higher share of external funding from other public sources, mainly from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs under various 'culture' and 'regional' votes, and from the Research and Education section of the Ministry of Defence. The funding from the Ministry of Defence concerns (half of) a master programme (experience based master's degree in conflict, security and multiculturalism; run jointly with the Department of Political Science), and provides the main funding and teaching obligations (including some courses on 'Culture and Conflict' at the bachelor level) of one academic staff member. This means that the department in Tromsø only have access to six out of seven staff members for regular anthropology teaching on bachelor, master and PhD level (and after amalgamation with Archaeology, the teaching staff is further reduced by one).

*Department of Ethnography at the Museum of Cultural History (UiO)* makes claim of a difficult economic situation for receiving research funds in their self-evaluations. In the last few years, the Department's main research funding source has been the 'small research funding' ('småforskmidler') from the University of Oslo which has made regular short-term fieldwork possible. In addition, each member of the staff is secured an annual funding from their own institution of 5000 NOK for their individual research (which is not much when e.g. doing research in Oceania etc.). Internal funding for collecting has decreased in recent years and is only NOK 30.000 in 2010. The perception at the Department of Ethnography is that the current policy of the RCN, with its emphasis on large, international collaborative projects, is not so well suited to the discipline of anthropology in general, and particularly not so when it comes to practicing the discipline within an organization like the Museum of Cultural History.

*Centre for Development and the Environment, SUM (UiO)* stands out in a university context with a large share of its research funded from abroad, albeit RCN is the most important external source. Other sources are the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, NORAD and EU. The large share of external funding is not seen as damaging to the Centre's profile. The mandate of SUM defines the Centre's thematic focus and research priorities. Within the more general frame, they try to match the competence and interests of the staff members and potential recruits with the possibilities of external funding.

The share of general university funds is particularly low at the *Institute of General Practice and Community Medicine at UiO* (now Institute of Health and Society). This unit is classified within medical and health sciences, and has a different funding structure than most of the units classified within social sciences. *Section for Medical Anthropology* at the Institute has only two permanent positions financed over the core budget of the Institute. The Section's most important funding source is RCN (both research grants and 'miljøstøtte'). In addition, some PhD candidates have received funding from *Helse og Rehabilitering* (a foundation of 27 health and rehabilitation organizations, receiving money from the public bet game 'Extra'), which only provides funding for projects carried out in Norway. The Section does not feel it has been forced to adapt its research profile in an undesirable manner so as to better fit to external funding schemes.

*Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI)* and *Norwegian Social Research (NOVA)* are not part of the higher education sector and thus do not receive the same basic funding as the university units. For these two research institutes, public funding amounted to 88 per cent at NOVA and 71 per cent at CMI. NOVA had the largest share of basic funding, 35 per cent. CMI received 16 per cent of the R&D

funding from foreign sources and 12 per cent from other national sources, while other national sources were the most important non-public source at NOVA. Among the anthropologists selected for this evaluation, NORAD and RCN were the most important funding sources to CMI, whereas ministries and RCN were so for the anthropologists at NOVA.

### 3.4.2 The Research Council of Norway's funding of social anthropology

Focusing on the funding from RCN, Table 3.11 shows the different types of projects and programmes that have been funded in the years 2001 to 2008. The table includes all grants categorised within social anthropology by RCN. The Panel wishes to make a great reservation to the interpretation of these numbers. Much research carried out by anthropologists is multidisciplinary, or may be classified under other headings than anthropology. Thus, the numbers presented below are based on a rather fragile material, and must be interpreted as such.

In social anthropology, more than half of the funds from the RCN were granted to independent projects, while 40 per cent was awarded to research programmes<sup>25</sup>. Of the research programmes, Action-Oriented Programmes received most of the funding in the period 2001-2008, and IMER (international migration and ethnic diversity for Norwegian society) and VEFO (Programme on welfare research) were the two largest action-oriented programmes within social anthropology.

Among the Basic Research Programmes, P-SAMISK (Program for Sámi Research) was the largest one. Only a small amount of funds were allocated to support network measures or other R&D related activities in social anthropology, less than 0.5 per cent of the total funding for each category.

**Table 3.11: The Research Council's funding<sup>1</sup> within social anthropology by type of funds: 2001-2008**

Type of funding	Type of funding scheme	Per cent of funds
<i>Independent projects</i>	Independent projects (Fri prosjektstøtte) <sup>2</sup>	47
	International projects (Internasjonal prosjektstøtte)	1
	Other independent projects	10
	Sum independent projects	58
<i>Research programmes</i>	Basic Research Programmes	8
	Action-Oriented Programmes	34
	User-Directed Innovation Programmes	0
	Large Scale Programmes	0
	Sum Research Programmes	42
<i>Network measures</i>	National measures/arenas (Nasjonale stimulerings tiltak, møteplass)	0
	International network measures (Internasjonale nettverkstiltak)	0
<i>Diverse R&amp;D-related activities</i>	Information/communication/publishing	0
<b>Total millions NOK 2001-2008</b>		<b>109</b>

<sup>1</sup>Figures in this table are based on the RCN budgets and coding of disciplines and not comparable with the figures in the remaining tables of this chapter – which are based on the national R&D statistics. In the national R&D statistics, the expenditures are coded according to the disciplines of the performing research units, whereas in RCN the grants are coded according to the discipline of the individual projects. The funding categorised as social anthropology may therefore differ between the two sets of data. <sup>2</sup>For types of funding schemes where no English terms are found on the RCN web site, the Norwegian term is given in parenthesis. Source: Research Council of Norway, revised budgets 2001–2008.

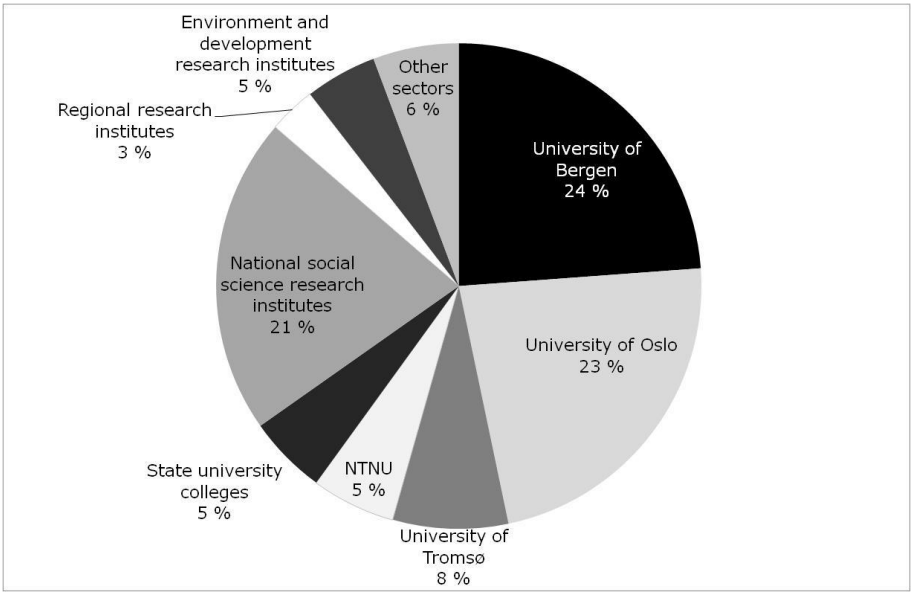
<sup>25</sup> By comparison, the share of funds from RCN granted to independent projects within human geography and sociology was 28 and 18 per cent respectively, thus making the RCN funding of social anthropology less attached to research programmes compared to these two disciplines.

The distribution of funds from RCN by institution shows that the University of Bergen and the University of Oslo received the largest shares of the funding classified as social anthropology, with 24 and 23 per cent respectively of the funds allocated in the period 2001 to 2008 (Figure 3.1). The Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Bergen was the overall largest recipient of funds from the RCN in the period, followed by the Department of Social Anthropology in Oslo. Two thirds of the funding from RCN within social anthropology went to units in the higher education sector.

In the institute sector, research institutes in social sciences received a total of 21 per cent of the funds. Institute for Social Research (ISF) and NOVA were the largest recipients of the social science research institutes, followed by CMI which is listed as a research institute in environment and development.

An overall look at the units that received funding within social anthropology, shows that two units receiving more than NOK 3.0 million in the period 2001-2008 are not included in the evaluation; Institute for Social Research (ISF) and Institute of Urbanism and landscape at The Oslo School of Architecture and Design. Institute of Urbanism ended the project within social anthropology in 2004, while ISF still had ongoing anthropological projects in 2008.

**Figure 3.1: The Research Council of Norway’s funding within social anthropology by receiving institutions: 2001-2008. Per cent**



Source: Research Council of Norway, revised budgets 2001–2008.

*Social anthropology* was at the top of the list of disciplines in social sciences with respect to relative share of total R&D funding coming from the Research Council of Norway, namely 16 per cent. The category of ‘other social sciences’ scoring equally high, refers to interdisciplinary projects with the general field. While the relative percentages may not be overly significant, we have chosen to bring the latest overview of the distribution of funding success within the social sciences in general (Table 3.12, below).



**Table 3.12: Current expenditure on R&D within the social sciences in the higher education sector by source of fund and discipline (2007), per cent**

Discipline	GUF <sup>1</sup>	RCN <sup>2</sup>	Other public	Industry	Other national	Foreign sources	Total
Social anthropology	73	16	4	1	5	1	100
Human geography	79	14	5	0	0	2	100
Sociology	87	8	3	1	1	0	100
Economics	85	7	3	4	0	1	100
Political science	69	9	12	1	4	5	100
Psychology	70	9	16	0	4	1	100
Education	72	8	15	0	1	4	100
Law and criminology	55	13	25	1	3	2	100
Other social sciences	65	16	8	5	4	3	100
<b>Total higher education sector</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Institute sector</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>100</b>

<sup>1</sup>General university funds. Research institutes do not have GUF, but most of them receive basic funding from either the RCN or a ministry. These funds are included under RCN or Other public in this table. <sup>2</sup>Research Council of Norway. Source: NIFU STEP, R&D statistics.

## 4. QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS OF PUBLICATIONS

In this chapter we study the scholarly publications from the time period 2004 – 2008 of the 88 researchers that are included in the evaluation, cf. table 2.1, page 30. We want to draw a picture of the publishing activity that takes place at the institutions in the evaluation; across departments, time, types of publications and characteristics of the researchers themselves.

In the following we will measure publications by two different measures:

- *Number of publications*: This is the easiest way of measuring research, simply by counting the number of journal articles, monographs, edited volumes, and doctoral theses and classify them according to established criteria such as presumed journal impact or international standing of the publisher.
- *Publication equivalents*: This means that each publication has been weighted by some criterions. In this report we have weighted the publications by *type* of publication and *co-authorship*. One publication equivalent equals one scholarly publication by one researcher. Journal articles and book chapters (in edited volumes) count 1, whereas monographs and doctoral theses are given higher weight and count 5. Moreover, the figures are weighted for co-authorship by dividing the publication equivalents by the numbers of authors contributing. In this way an article co-authored by two persons counts as 0.5 (that is, 0.5 for each of them if both researchers are in the analyzed sample).

It will be specifically pointed out in both text and tables whether we are analysing number of publications or publication equivalents.

### 4.1 Data sources and included publications

The analyses in this chapter are primarily based on the publications registered in the publically accessible database Frida<sup>26</sup> and ForskDok<sup>27</sup>, and *not* on the comprehensive publication lists compiled for the evaluation. Frida and ForskDok are two different registration systems for scientific publications employed by Norwegian universities and other higher education institutions, and include the scholarly publications for all the institutions to be included in the evaluation of social anthropology. The Frida/ForskDok publication data are summarised in the Norwegian DBH database<sup>28</sup> and are used for the calculation of the performance based budgeting of Norwegian higher education institutions. Publication data for the universities in Bergen, Oslo and Tromsø, and NTNU are registered in the Frida system, while the other higher education institutions use the ForskDok system. Institutes outside the higher education sector do not register their publications in these databases. In our study, we therefore had to rely on publication lists that we received from these departments. Information on PhD theses was taken from the Research Personnel Register (RPR) at NIFU STEP.

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<sup>26</sup> At <http://wo.uio.no/as/WebObjects/frida.woa/5/wa/fres?la=en>. We received all data directly from Frida, and did not search the publications through this public site.

<sup>27</sup> At <http://www.bibsys.no/norsk/produkter/forskDok/index.php>.

<sup>28</sup> The database contains information on research and higher education in Norway.

#### 4.1.1 Categories of scholarly publications included

The analysis is limited to the publication categories included in the Norwegian performance based budgeting of higher education institutions; monographs and contributions to edited volumes (book chapters) published at publishing houses classified as scientific/scholarly by the Norwegian Association of Higher Education Institutions (UHR), and articles<sup>29</sup> in series and journals classified as scientific/scholarly by UHR. The UHR classifies all relevant journals/series and publishers at two levels: the normal level (level 1) and a higher level (level 2) which is given extra weight in the performance based funding model and only includes the leading and most selective journals and publishers. The UHR annually revises the classification list. Several journals and publishers are not classified as scientific/scholarly and are listed as such in the register.<sup>30</sup> The annual revisions imply that the level of a journal or publisher may change from one year to the next. When publication level is included in the analysis, the level at the year of publication applies<sup>31</sup>. The publication level has nevertheless not been used in the weighting of the publication equivalents, as they are in the Norwegian funding system. The purpose of this chapter is to explore the publication *activity* at the units in the evaluation, not to measure *quality*. The two levels defined by UHR have come to be somewhat synonymous with quality levels, but the Panel wants to maintain the distinction and to explore the quality of the research based on qualitative assessments (from extensive reading of the researchers' publications) in chapter 5.

In sum, the analyses cover all articles in journals/series classified as scientific/scholarly, and monographs as well as articles in edited volumes published by publishers classified as scientific/scholarly. All analyses are limited to the period 2004 to 2008. In addition, PhD theses in the period (by the evaluated 88 researchers in the period 2004 to 2008) are included.

The selection of papers is not perfect, but gives a strong indication about the full amount of research that is done at the institutions (and it correlates well with what the researchers have selected themselves to submit to the Panel to be analyzed in the next chapter).

Based on the institutions' self evaluations, and comments made by the institutions during the meetings with the Panel in June, our choice of not weighting the publications by outlet level may seem appropriate. There is a general feeling at the anthropology departments that edited volumes (a category that embodies international collaboration and thematic stringency) and monographs from good international publishing houses (referred to as anthropology's most highly esteemed form of publication) are poorly credited in the UHR system compared to journal articles.

Only 'unique' articles are included in the present analysis. Some publications are reported more than once because they are written by several authors, and therefore appear on the publication lists of all the authors; accordingly they will appear more than one time. In the analysis this is handled by removing all duplicates in the analysis of departments and groups (but not later on in the analysis of individuals), i.e. only unique publications are included.

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<sup>29</sup> Including regular articles and review articles but not book reviews, editorials or letters. Conference reports are not included unless they are published by publishers classified as scientific.

<sup>30</sup> The register is publically available at <http://dbh.nsd.uib.no/kanaler/>.

<sup>31</sup> We have also included a limited number of articles that were published in journals that were not classified by UHR at the year of publishing. These articles were, however, classified as scientific by UHR the year after.

#### 4.1.2 Data limitations

The Norwegian database used in the performance based budgeting – and in our analyses – is not without shortcomings. For example, some publications may be missing, and there may be cases where a publication has been given incorrect classification code or has been multiply reported. A test comparison of publications retrieved from the databases indicates good accordance with the publications listed in the researchers own CVs.

In some cases, we identified relevant publications in our databases that for some reason were not included in the CVs. In other words, individual publication lists may also be incomplete as a data source. It is still possible that some researchers may be puzzled by the low number of publications that are included in our analyses compared to their own CVs. There is, however, an explanation for this. CVs may contain a wide range of publications that do not meet the criteria outlined above for what counts as a scientific/scholarly publication. For example, book reviews, articles in popular magazines, internal institution reports, interviews, conference abstracts, and so on, do not qualify for being included in this analysis, while of course they count in the larger picture.

The anthropology community seems to agree that the UHR system has a limited range of categories, and that the current selection of publication types is better equipped for medicine and the natural sciences. For some researchers in this evaluation it is a problem that the making of documentary films (which is the research output itself, not a way of disseminating results from written publications) is not a part of the system. We might also add exhibitions and curator tasks.

There are also concerns about the geographical imbalance in the sample of approved publishing channels. A specific example, regarding collaboration with researchers in the Global South, provided by one of the institutions was: “We note, for example that choices must be made between publication in recognized journals and the opportunity to publish and encourage the production of textbooks, research results and policy-papers together with colleagues in Africa and Latin America. There is a serious imbalance in the accreditation given different types of publication”. This institution regarded the Western world orientation of the system strongly reprehensible, since the system mainly focuses on Northern American databases, thus representing a cultural discrimination of parts of the world that the Norwegian research institutions would like to collaborate with.

Having said this, whilst the UHR system and the level 1 and 2 distinction may be seen as problematic for anthropological research, it is nevertheless much in focus at all institutions, where there is a great focus on the need to publish in the right channels, combined with a certain pride (in annual reports etc.) when the institution has succeeded in getting level 2 publications (or published in certain highly regarded journals/publishing houses).

We may conclude that despite many of the challenges and possible shortcomings of using Bibliometric databases for measuring anthropological research, the data does produce a reliable output profile based on ‘objective’ data, and the picture painted here in chapter 4 is very much the same as the one we will draw up in chapter 5, which is based on the Panel’s reading of selected publications from the same institutions analyzed in this chapter.

Table 4.1 shows the development in the number of publications by type for each year of the covered period. The table includes all publications registered at the four social anthropology departments (UiO, UiB, UiT and NTNU), Department of Ethnography and Section for Medical Anthropology at UiO,

as well as the publications from the anthropologists included in the evaluation working at SUM, CMI and NOVA (i.e. not all publications at these three institutions). Table 4.1 thus represents the ‘total Norwegian anthropological output’ in the period 2004-2008.

**Table 4.1: Number of publications by social anthropologists by type and year 2004-2008**

Publication type	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Total
Books/Monographs	2	6	4	7	10	29
Book articles	37	24	38	51	23	173
Journal articles	49	44	62	49	57	261
<b>Total</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>463</b>

Source: Frida/ForskDok.

It should be noted, from a general point of view (and not empirically tested), that the data for the introduction/test year 2004 of the register may seem incomplete. This year’s data was not used for the performance based budgeting, and the coverage for 2004 seems not as good as for the following years. The introduction of performance based budgeting in 2005 might have led to an increased number of publications, and we find that the annual number of publications is higher in 2006-2008 than in the first two years of the period (although the number of book articles reach an all-time low in 2008). This may be due to both stronger incentives to publish and stronger incentives to systematically register all scientific publications.

The classification of publications has not been checked, and we have relied solely on the classification data in Frida and ForskDok. This means that a publication classified as a journal article is analysed as a journal article, even if the title should indicate that it might be a book review. Double listing of publications has been checked, and all double listings have been removed<sup>32</sup>.

## 4.2 Overall figures and trends

In our analysis, 69 out of 88 anthropologists come from the social anthropology departments at the four major universities in Norway (NTNU, the universities in Oslo, Bergen and Tromsø), and the two UiO units Department of Ethnography and Section for Medical Anthropology. The analysis in chapter 4.2 covers all publications registered at these departments.

The reason why these initial analyses in Chapter 4.2 do not include *all* institutions selected for the evaluation, is that only the four major universities have easily identifiable social anthropology departments, where all the selected researchers work, and where they constitute a significant part of the department’s total number of researchers. This is not the case for the independent research institutes or SUM. These units are characterized by one – or both – of the following two characteristics: The selected researchers do not work at *specific* anthropology units, or they constitute a small percentage of the total number of researchers at their departments, e.g. at SUM where only 8 out of 144 publications in the period 2004-2008 were authored by researchers selected for this evaluation. Hence, these institutions have not been included in the analyses in Chapter 4.2.

<sup>32</sup> E.g. because of misspelling of article titles

Table 4.2 shows the numbers from Table 4.1 distributed across departments. Among the 463 publications listed in Table 4.1, 392 came from the university units listed in Table 4.2. The small difference in total N (392 against 399 in Table 4.2) indicates that practically no publications have authors from more than one of the included departments. If these departments had co-authored many publications, then we would have seen a much higher total N in Table 4.2.

**Table 4.2: Number of publications by type and department (total for 2004-2008)**

Department	Books/Monographs		Book articles		Journal articles		N
	#	%	#	%	#	%	
UiO	10	6.5	68	43.9	77	49.7	155
UiB	5	4.9	33	32.4	64	62.7	102
UiT	0	0.0	14	42.4	19	57.6	33
NTNU	2	4.5	12	27.3	30	68.2	44
Department of Ethnography	3	15.8	7	36.8	9	47.4	19
Section for Medical Anthropology	2	4.3	12	26.1	32	69.6	46
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>36.6</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>57.9</b>	<b>399</b>

Source: Frida.

Journals are the most frequently used publishing channel. 58 per cent of the publications are journal articles (Table 4.2, total for the period). In particular, the Department of Social Anthropology at NTNU (68 per cent) and Section for Medical Anthropology and Medical History at UiO (70 per cent) have high proportions of journal articles. Department of Social Anthropology at UiO has the lowest journal article percentage among the four broad universities' anthropology departments (50 per cent), but also the highest proportion of book articles (44 per cent). The total number of monographs is low, and comparisons between departments are not indicative, but we notice that the UiO in the period has twice as many monographs as UiB.

In total, Department of Social Anthropology at UiO has the highest number of publications among the universities' social anthropology departments in the period (155), approximately 1.5 times as many as UiB (second highest number of publications), 3.5 times as many as NTNU (in total 44 classified publications in the 5-year period) and 4.7 times as many as UiT (in total 33 classified publications in the 5-year period).

**Table 4.3: Number of publication equivalents by department and year (2004-2008)**

Department	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Total	Average per year	% of publication equivalents from the selected researchers
UiO*	37.00	35.58	31.00	39.00	34.99	177.07	35.41	72.1%
UiB*	10.33	28.00	26.75	23.32	24.50	112.90	22.58	63.7%
UiT*	4.50	5.00	5.00	13.00	0.50	28.00	5.60	44.6%
NTNU*	10.50	5.05	5.50	3.63	15.49	40.17	8.12	44.3%
Department of Ethnography	2.00	3.00	9.00	10.00	7.00	31.00	6.20	58.1%
Section for Medical Anthropology	8.25	1.34	18.00	3.83	6.50	37.92	7.58	35.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>72.58</b>	<b>77.97</b>	<b>95.25</b>	<b>92.78</b>	<b>88.48</b>	<b>427.06</b>	<b>85.41</b>	<b>61.3%</b>

Source: Frida. \*The table includes the same 399 publications as in Table 4.2, weighted as publication equivalents.

In Table 4.3, the publications are counted as publication equivalents, showing the weighted sum of scholarly publications annually for each of the six departments. Among the four social anthropology university departments, UiO has the highest total number of publication equivalents (177.07),

approximately 1.5 times as many as UiB (112.90), 4.4 times as many as NTNU (40.62) and 6.3 times as many as UiT (28.0). In comparing the average number of publication equivalents per year, we see a two-sided distribution of the departments: UiO (35.41) and UiB (22.58) on the one side, and the other institutions on the other, all with average publication equivalents below ten. When we study changes over time, there are large annual fluctuations for all departments. As they tend to go in both directions, there is no systematic increase in publication equivalents between 2004 and 2008 at the department level.

The final column in Table 4.3 shows that the researchers selected for the evaluation have contributed to a total of 61.3 per cent of the publication equivalents at the departments included in this chapter between 2004 and 2008. The 'best match' between selected researchers and their respective institutions was found at Department of Social Anthropology at UiO, where 72 per cent of the publication equivalents came from anthropologists selected for the evaluation. The smallest match was found at Section for Medical Anthropology, but this does not by any means reflect a 'poor result', it simply reflects that a large share of the research conducted at the Section has been performed by personnel within medical history or non-anthropological research fields, or by personnel that for other reasons are not included in the evaluation, e.g. because of mobility.

### 4.3 Publication profiles: journals, language and co-authorship

We now concentrate our analyses on the 88 anthropologists included in the evaluation, i.e. researchers from all nine units are included. Their publications will be investigated in terms of publishing outlet, publication language and co-authorship.

In the studied 5-year period, the 88 anthropologists have published in 82 different journals. Of these, 55 are only used once. Table 4.4 shows the number of journal articles by journal and department.

**Table 4.4: Frequency of journals, by department and journal level (2004-2008)**

Journal	Level <sup>a</sup>	UiO	UiB	NTNU	UiT	Department of Ethnography	Section for Medical Anthropology	NOVA	CMI	SUM	Total
Norsk Antropologisk Tidsskrift	1	13	9	3	2	3	1	1	1	0	33
Anthropological Theory*	2	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Ethnos*	1&2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4
Ethnic and Racial Studies	2	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	4
Social Science and Medicine*	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Bulletin of Latin American Research*	1&2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	3
Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*	1&2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Norsk tidsskrift for migrasjonsforskning	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3
Omsorg: Nordisk tidsskrift for Palliativ Medisin	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Rhetorica Scandinavica	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	3
Social Analysis: Journal of Cultural and Social Practice*	1&2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Tidsskrift for ungdomsforskning	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3

Journal	Level#	UJO	UIB	NTNU	UIT	Department of Ethnography	Section for Medical Anthropology	NOVA	CMI	SUM	Total
Africa*	1&2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Arr. Idéhistorisk tidsskrift	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Babylon - Norsk Tidsskrift for Midtøsten°	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Brill's Tibetan Studies Library*	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
British Journal of Community Justice	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Hadronic Journal*	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Human Ecology*	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
International Journal of Health Services	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
International Journal of Middle East Studies	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
International Social Science Journal	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Journal of Latin American Studies	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Senri Ethnological Studies*	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	2
Social Anthropology*	1&2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Tidsskrift for kulturforskning	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Tidsskrift for samfunnsforskning	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Acta Borealia	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Anthropological Journal of European Cultures	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Anthropology Today	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Appetite	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Asian Anthropology*	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Asian Journal of Social Science	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Barn	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Before Farming°	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Canadian Journal of African Studies	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Communications of the ACM	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Contemporary Drug Problems*	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Contemporary Justice Review	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Critique of anthropology*	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cybernetics & Human Knowing	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Diedut / Sámi instituttta	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Disability & Society	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Energy and Environment	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Environment & Planning. D, Society and Space	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Focaal : European Journal of Anthropology°	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Forced Migration Review°	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Forum for Development Studies	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Global Networks	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Health	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Journal of Development Studies	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Journal of Eastern African Studies*	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Journal of Intellectual Capital	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Journal of Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Journal of Refugee Studies*	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Journal of Religion in Africa	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1



Journal	Level <sup>a</sup>	UiO	UiB	NTNU	UiT	Department of Ethnography	Section for Medical Anthropology	NOVA	CMI	SUM	Total
Journal of Southeast European and Black Sea Studies	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Kvinneforskning	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Latin American and Caribbean Ethnic Studies*	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Medical Anthropology Quarterly*	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Middle Eastern Studies*	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Nations and Nationalism	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Nordiske organisasjonsstudier	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Nordisk Østforum	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Norsk Statsvitenskapelig Tidsskrift	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Nytt Norsk Tidsskrift	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Oceania*	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Paideuma: Mitteilungen zur Kulturkunde	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Reproductive health matters	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Reviews in Anthropology	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Revista Europea de Estudios Latinoamericanos y del Caribe / European Review of Latin American and Caribbean Studies	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Third World Quarterly*	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Scandinavian Journal of Public Health	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Sosiologi i dag	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Studi Emigrazione*	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
The Asia Pacific Journal of Anthropology	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
The Journal of Nutrition, Health & Aging	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Tidsskrift for Den norske legeforening	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Tidsskrift för politisk filosofi	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Tidsskrift for kjønnsforskning	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Vård i Norden	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>48</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>156</b>
Total Level 1		33	24	10	9	3	9	16	9	3	116
Total Level 2		15	13	1	1	1	3	1	4	1	40

Source: Frida/ForskDok and DBH. The sample includes the publications of the 88 researchers selected for the evaluation.<sup>a</sup> Due to the annual level revisions one journal may be rated at both level 1 and 2, i.e. our institutions have published in a journal both when it was rated at level 1, and when it was rated at level 2. \* Indicates that these journals have changed level during the period 2004-2008, but the Norwegian institutions did only publish in them when they were at the level indicated in the table. ° Indicates that the journal was at level 0 at the time of publishing, but has later become a level 1 journal. We have included these articles, and assigned them to level 1.

One journal stands out as not only the most frequently used publication channel, but also the *only* really frequently used journal for publishing among the 88 anthropologists: *Norsk Antropologisk Tidsskrift*. Researchers from all departments except SUM have published in this journal. Besides this journal, there are no common publishing channels. Number two on the list, *Anthropological Theory*, has only published articles from UiB researchers. The most striking finding in Table 4.4 is that relatively few articles have been published in international journals that might be described as core disciplinary journals (such as JRAI, American Anthropologist, American Ethnologist, Current Anthropology, Social Anthropology, Social Analysis). Also, none of the high profile general journals

used, and only a few of the regional/thematic journals, are US based; of course, the level (1 or 2) ascribed to a journal is neither a simple correlate of a strictly disciplinary standing or of the journal's publishing place. A third finding is that there is a large number of the journals that are highly specialized in their respective niches, and thus of a limited visibility in the wider community. The overall picture is that Norwegian anthropology is not very visible in any of the international leading journals. A fourth finding is that the choice of journal only to a very limited extent goes by department; rather, *each researcher* seems to have his or her preferred journals.

Most departments have a clear level-1 profile, i.e. most (or almost close to all) of their journal articles have been published in level-1 journals. There are three exceptions: UiO and CMI have a less unbalanced level 1-2 divide (approximately 1/3 at level 2) than most departments, whereas UiB has over 50 per cent of their journal articles at level 2.

This publishing pattern is also typical for monographs and book chapters. Table 4.5 shows the distribution across publishing houses. In the studied 5-year period, the 88 anthropologists have published at 45 different publishing houses. Of these, 22 are only used once. Three publishing houses stand out as the frequently most used publication channels: At the top we find *Berghahn Books* (level 2, most used by UiO and UiB). Both number two and three on the list are Norwegian publishing houses at level 1: *Pax Forlag* (most used by NOVA) and *Universitetsforlaget* (only used by UiO and Section for Medical Anthropology). Contrary to journal articles, the monographs and book articles have an equal distribution across level 1 and level 2 publishing houses.

**Table 4.5: Frequency of publishing houses, for monograph and book chapter publishing, by department and publishing level (2004-2008)**

Publishing house	Level <sup>a</sup>	UiO	UiB	NTNU	UiT	Department of Ethnography	Section for Medical Anthropology	NOVA	CMI	SUM	Total
Berghahn Books	2	11	8	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	22
Pax Forlag	1	3	0	0	0	2	0	11	0	0	16
Universitetsforlaget	1	7	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	11
Berg publishers	2	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Routledge	2	4	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	6
Ashgate	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	5
Cappelen Akademisk Forlag	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	5
Gyldendal Akademisk	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	5
Hamburg: LIT Verlag	2	1	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	5
Palgrave MacMillan	2	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	1	5
Pluto Press	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5
Tapir Akademisk Forlag	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	5
James Currey Publishers	2	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	4
Abstrakt Forlag	1	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Brill Academic Publishers	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3
Fagbokforlaget	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	3
University of California Press	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3
Cambridge University Press	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2

Publishing house	Level#	UiO	UiB	NTNU	UiT	Department of Ethnography	Section for Medical Anthropology	NOVA	CMI	SUM	Total
Martinus Nijhoff Publishers/ Nordic Human Rights Publications	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
RoutledgeCurzon	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Unipub forlag	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Uppsala: Nordiska Afrika Institutet	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Wageningen Academic Publishers*	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Blackwell Publishing*	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Blackwell Verlag	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Bricoleur Press	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Edward Elgar Publishing	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Elsevier-bookseries: Research on Economic Inequality	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Equinox Publishing*	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Lawrence Erlbaum Associates	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
London: Zed Books*	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
NIAS Press*	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Princeton University Press	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Russel Sage Foundation	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Rutgers University Press*	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Scandinavian Academic Press*	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Spartacus	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Stanford University Press	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Transaction Publishers	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Unesco	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Unipub forlag	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
University of Chicago Press	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
University of Michican Press	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
University of Pennsylvania Press*	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Verlag Anton Saurwein	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>62</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>146</b>
Total Level 1		26	7	3	4	2	5	20	5	1	73
Total Level 2		36	17	3	0	6	1	1	6	3	73

Source: Frida/ForskDok and DBH. The sample includes the publications of the 88 researchers selected for the evaluation. \*Indicates that these publishing houses have changed level during the period 2004-2008, but the Norwegian institutions did only publish in them when they were at the level indicated in the table.

Contrary to the journal articles, most departments have a majority of their monographs and book articles published at level 2. Again, UiB stands out with 17 out of 24 publications at level 2. UiO also has a majority of publications at level 2 (36 out of 62) (also true for Department of Ethnography, CMI and SUM). NOVA has only 1 out of 21 publications at level 2 (which was similar for journal articles; 1 out of 17). Again, in contrast to the journal outlets, the range of publisher outlets includes a full range of prominent and highly respected academic presses throughout the world including the US.

In Table 4.6 we study how the distribution between level 1 and 2 has changed over time for the different types of publication. A relatively high proportion of the journal articles (25.6 per cent) are published in level 2 journals. The percentage of journal articles at level 2 has increased markedly over time. 2006 was a particularly 'good year' with 41 per cent published at level 2. In 2007 and 2008 approximately 30 per cent of all journal articles were at level 2. This increase is noticeable compared to the 6.9 percentage at level 2 in 2004. The level 1-2 distribution for book articles shows the same pattern. There were higher shares of book articles at level 2 in 2007 and 2008 than in 2004 and 2005. Interestingly, the number of journal articles was at its highest level in 2005, but this year, the book articles were at an absolute low in the time period. In total 47 per cent of book articles were published at level 2. 37.1 per cent of the total publications were published at level 2. As level 2 is defined to cover up to 20 per cent of the publications in a field/discipline, the proportion of level 2 publishing among the included anthropologists may be considered as high.

**Table 4.6: Scholarly publications by outlet/level and year (2004-2007), per cent**

Type	Publication level	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2004-2008
Monographs	Per cent level 1	100.0	50.0	33.3	33.3	37.5	40.9
	Per cent level 2	0.0	50.0	66.7	66.7	62.5	59.1
N (publications)		1	4	3	6	8	22
Book articles	Per cent level 1	58.3	52.6	74.1	38.5	40.0	52.4
	Per cent level 2	41.7	47.4	25.9	61.5	60.0	47.6
N (publications)		24	19	27	39	15	124
Journal articles	Per cent level 1	93.1	80.0	58.8	71.4	70.0	74.4
	Per cent level 2	6.9	20.0	41.2	28.6	30.0	25.6
N (publications)		29	35	34	28	30	156
Total	Per cent level 1	77.8	69.0	64.1	50.7	56.6	62.9
	Per cent level 2	22.2	31.0	35.9	49.3	43.4	37.1
<b>N (publications)</b>		<b>54</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>302</b>

Source: Frida/ForskDok and DBH. The sample includes the publications of the 88 researchers selected for the evaluation.

Table 4.7 shows what language the publications were written in (language is defined as the language of the publication – not the language of the journal title).

**Table 4.7: The language of the publications (2004-2008), per cent**

Type	Norwegian	English	N
Monographs	31.8	68.2	22
Book articles	33.1	66.9	124
Journal articles	39.1	60.9	156
<b>Total</b>	<b>36.1</b>	<b>63.9</b>	<b>302</b>

Source: Frida/ForskDok. The sample includes the publications of the 88 researchers selected for the evaluation.

The proportion of publications in English is high: 63.9 per cent and does not vary much between publication types. Likewise, it has not changed much over the years (not shown in tables). The percentage of publications in English has increased from 53.7 per cent in 2004 to 66 per cent in 2008.

The proportion of publications in English varies, however, between the departments (Table 4.8). The anthropologists from SUM and CMI write close to all their publications in English, whereas Norwegian is the standard language for NOVA. The other departments write their publications in +/- 60 per cent English. There were no publications in other languages than Norwegian and English in the period that were picked up by the Frida database that is used in the funding of Norwegian Higher Education institutions, and thus our publication analysis. As stated earlier, this is a problem for the anthropological research community, as there are many researchers that have a significant contribution of papers in other languages (e.g. Spanish among some researchers from SUM and publications from UiB in both Italian and Spanish in the period studied here). This is considered both as important and a necessity for dissemination of research results in the countries where the research actually is performed, and in order to stimulate research collaboration with researchers in the South - even though it does not pay off in the Norwegian funding system.

**Table 4.8: The outlet/journal level and language of the publications by department (2004-2008), per cent**

Department	Per cent English	Per cent level 2	N
UiO	68.2	45.5	110
UiB	73.8	49.2	61
UiT	64.3	7.1	14
NTNU	58.8	23.5	17
Department of Ethnography	58.3	58.3	12
Section for Medical Anthropology	50.0	22.2	18
SUM	100.0	50.0	8
CMI	91.7	41.7	24
NOVA	21.1	5.3	38
<b>Total</b>	<b>63.9</b>	<b>37.1</b>	<b>302</b>

Source: Frida and ForskDok. The sample includes the publications of the 88 researchers selected for the evaluation. Included publications: Monographs, book articles and journal articles.

There are large differences in level 2 publication between the departments. Department of Ethnography and SUM have the highest per cent level 2 publishing (58 and 50 per cent). On the other side, NOVA and UiT stand out as institutions with practically no publications at level 2. Among the four social anthropology university departments, UiB and UiO (49 and 45 per cent) perform significantly better in terms of level 2 publishing than their equivalents at NTNU and UiT (23 and 7 per cent).

Table 4.9 shows the proportion of the different kinds of publications that have more than one author. Unfortunately, the Frida and ForskDok data does not allow us in a good way to investigate who the collaboration partners are<sup>33</sup>. 21 per cent of book articles and 24 per cent of journal articles are co-authored.

<sup>33</sup> It is possible to identify co-authors from the other institutions that are included in the Frida database, but not authors from institutions outside the Frida database.

**Table 4.9: Co-authorship of scholarly publications: proportion of co-authored publications by type and year (2004-2009), per cent**

Type	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2004-2008
Monographs	0.0	25.0	0.0	16.7	0.0	9.1
Book articles	25.0	10.5	33.3	20.5	13.3	21.8
Journal articles	13.8	28.6	23.5	25.0	30.0	24.4
<b>Total per cent co-authored</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>22.4</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>21.9</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>22.2</b>
<i>Total number of publications</i>	<i>54</i>	<i>58</i>	<i>64</i>	<i>73</i>	<i>53</i>	<i>302</i>

Source: Frida and ForskDok. The sample includes the publications of the 88 researchers selected for the evaluation.

The share of co-authorship has varied between 2005 and 2008 for both book articles and journal articles. 2004 seems to represent a special year: co-authorship was unusually high for book articles, and unusually low for journal articles. Co-authorship in book articles has decreased in the period (from 25 to 13 per cent), whereas co-authorship in journal articles has moved in the opposite direction (from 13 per cent in 2004 to 30 per cent in 2008). In sum, for all types of publications, the share of co-authorship is rather stable, which *is not* in line with the general trend for scientific publications, which shows an increase in co-authorship, both in Norway and internationally.

Section for Medical Anthropology (38.9%), UiT (35.7%), NTNU (35.3%) and NOVA (26.3%) have the highest co-authorship percentages. Co-authorship is least frequent and SUM (12.5%) and CMI (8.3%).

Lastly, we study how the number of publication equivalents change over the years. Journal articles and book chapters count 1. Monographs and dr. dissertations count 5. Please note that PhD theses were not included in the analyses in the previous chapters.

We have only included PhD theses that met the following criteria: the researcher was working at the current institution at the time of point of the dissertation. This means, that if a researcher had his/her dissertation at NTNU in 2004, NTNU does not get any credit for the thesis if this person now works at e.g. UiB, and was selected as one of UiB's researchers for this evaluation. On the other hand, if a person was working at UiB in 2004, but the dissertation was at NTNU, the person (and UiB) does get credit for this. Based on this principle, we included 12 PhD theses in the analysis.

In addition, we distinguish between 'unadjusted' and 'adjusted' average publications per researcher. Unadjusted means that all 88 researchers are included, whereas adjusted means that the researchers are only included in the analysis from the year they became affiliated with their current department<sup>34</sup>. We do this, in order to avoid the fallacy of having a low average number of publications per researcher resulting from a situation where many of the researchers worked elsewhere or had not started their careers in the first years of the analysis.

<sup>34</sup> It is still a possibility that some researchers have been "in and out" of their departments after this, e.g. due to sickness, guest research stays abroad, or other type of leaves.

**Table 4.10: Number of publication equivalents per researcher (2004-2008)**

Type	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2004-2008
Monographs	5.00	17.50	15.00	27.50	40.00	105.00
Number of researchers	71	74	82	86	88	88
<i>Unadjusted average publications per researcher</i>	0.05	0.19	0.18	0.31	0.45	1.19
<i>Adjusted average publications per researcher</i>	0.07	0.23	0.18	0.31	0.45	
Book articles	20.99	18.00	22.50	35.83	14.00	111.32
Number of researchers	71	74	82	86	88	88
<i>Unadjusted average publications per researcher</i>	0.23	0.20	0.25	0.40	0.15	1.26
<i>Adjusted average publications per researcher</i>	0.29	0.24	0.27	0.41	0.15	
Journal articles	27.50	29.92	29.33	23.99	24.75	135.49
Number of researchers	71	74	82	86	88	88
<i>Unadjusted average publications per researcher</i>	0.31	0.34	0.33	0.27	0.28	1.53
<i>Adjusted average publications per researcher</i>	0.38	0.40	0.35	0.27	0.28	
PhD theses	10.00	15.00	10.00	0.00	25.00	60.00
Number of researchers	71	74	82	86	88	88
<i>Unadjusted average publications per researcher</i>	0.11	0.17	0.11	0.00	0.28	0.68
<i>Adjusted average publications per researcher</i>	0.14	0.20	0.12	0.00	0.28	
Publication equivalents	63.49	80.42	76.83	87.32	103.75	411.81
Number of researchers	71	74	82	86	88	88
<i>Unadjusted average publications per researcher</i>	0.72	0.91	0.87	0.99	1.17	4.67
<i>Adjusted average publications per researcher</i>	0.89	1.08	0.93	1.01	1.17	

Sources: Frida, ForsDok and NIFU STEP Doctoral Degree Register. The sample includes the publications of the 88 researchers selected for the evaluation.

Table 4.10 shows that the average numbers of publication equivalents per researcher vary during the period, and increases from 2004 to 2008, both when we consider adjusted and unadjusted numbers, although the latter increase is less marked. However, this trend depends upon what type of publication we investigate. For example; book article equivalents per researcher was higher in 2004 than in 2008 (but 2007 is the peak year) and journal article equivalents have decreased throughout the period. The total increase in average publication equivalents per researcher from 2004 to 2008 is thus due to an increase foremost in monographs, but also in PhD theses.

#### 4.4 Number of publications per researcher

We now analyse differences in publication activity between departments, academic positions, age and gender, focusing on publication differences at the individual level.

**Table 4.11: Number of publications and publication equivalents by department (2004-2008)**

Department	Number of publications				Number of publication equivalents				N
	Min	Max	Mean	Median	Min	Max	Mean	Median	
UiO	0	35	6.00	4.00	0	49.00	6.74	3.50	19
UiB	0	14	3.20	2.00	0	15.33	4.07	2.00	20
UiT	0	4	1.80	2.00	0	5.50	2.25	2.00	10
NTNU	0	7	1.58	1.00	0	9.00	2.33	1.00	12
Department of Ethnography	0	5	3.00	3.50	0	8.00	4.75	5.50	4
Section for Medical Anthropology	1	10	4.50	3.50	1.00	5.59	3.39	3.50	4
SUM	0	4	2.50	3.00	0	12.00	7.33	8.66	4
CMI	0	7	3.12	2.50	0	7.00	3.50	2.75	8
NOVA	4	9	6.00	6.00	4.33	11.33	8.83	9.00	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>3.65</b>	<b>3.00</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>49.00</b>	<b>4.67</b>	<b>3.00</b>	<b>88</b>

Sources: Frida, ForsDok and NIFU STEP Doctoral Degree Register. The sample includes the publications of the 88 researchers selected for the evaluation.

Most departments have strong productivity variations among the selected researchers (Table 4.11) Minimum-max levels for *number of publications* show that all institutions except Section for Medical Anthropology and NOVA had researchers with no classified scholarly publications between 2004 and 2008. Because the distribution of publications is unbalanced within the departments, the median value gives a better overview of number of publications than the mean value. The highest *median* values for *number of publications* are found at NOVA and UiO, followed by Department of Ethnography and Section for Medical Anthropology, indicating that at these institutions it is typical that a researcher has a high level of publications. The most productive researcher in the period was a professor from UiO with 35 publications. There were only three other researchers with more than 10 publications (from UiO, Section for Medical Anthropology and UiB). 13 researchers (14.8 per cent) had no classified scholarly publications in the period.

Even when taking the limitations of the UHR system and the publication data we use here into account, there is still reason for concern about the 15 per cent of the researchers who have no scholarly publications in the 5-year period. In addition to this, 15 persons (17 per cent) had only one publication over 5 years<sup>35</sup>. Some of these had a small research output because of mobility, i.e. their publications from their former employees were not picked up in our analyses. However, there were 25 persons who had either 0 or 1 publication, and who were working at their current department throughout all years in the period 2004 to 2008. This effectively means that 28 per cent of all the anthropologists are ‘unproductive’ researchers. This does not mean that they are unproductive *per se*, but that they are classified as unproductive within UHR funding system.

In Chapter 4.1.2 we pointed at how the choice of publication categories in the funding system may explain why much research is not registered in this analysis. However, the fact that many researchers publish scantily is recognized by the institutions themselves. From the self evaluations and the meetings with the departments we would like to illustrate this point:

“No staff members are passive, but the publication record of some is too low. As in any academic institution, research activity and published results are not equally distributed. This reflects anything from personal research agendas and networks, via the ability to devise long-term and efficient publishing strategies, to various circumstances of domestic life, and in the

<sup>35</sup> Another 15 persons (17 per cent) had two publications between 2004 and 2008.



longer run the research and publishing record of each individual staff will necessarily wax and wane". (From the University of Bergen's self evaluation)

"The main challenge the Department faces, is to develop a stronger record of publications. Merits in publications vary greatly between individual staff members, and the problem is that there are too few staff members that publish regularly (....) A current strength is that we through the strategies mentioned above have begun systematically to take measures towards this goal. Efforts to increase publications have also been done through internal seminars to assist each other in completing manuscripts for submission, although more efforts could have been done in that direction. Moreover, merits in publications are stressed even harder in recruitment of new staff and will contribute to a more robust tradition in the future". (From NTNU's self evaluation)

Thus, the institutions readily acknowledge imbalances in publication numbers, sometimes implying that a minority of staff members stands for the majority of publications. Hence, most institutions have developed strategies to both increase the number of publications and increase the number of staff contributing on the publications.

Another explanation for a seemingly unproductive record in our analysis is based on the so-called 'grey literature', e.g. public reports, papers or articles in national thematic journals without referee. Such dissemination does not qualify for 'scholarly' purposes given the lack of external peer review, but helps modify the 'unproductiveness', i.e. the production in many cases takes place outside of the UHR system's boundaries. This is in particular a part of everyday for life for anthropologists in the independent research sector, where the demand for external fund raising is higher than in the university sector. This may also inhibit the academic research in another sense:

"The intensive writing of applications that are not funded is the most serious inhibition to research in general and to innovative research in particular. Preparing applications often push aside research activity or render too little time to fulfil research plans. Many rejections further undermine creativity and aspiration and instead motivate for strategic and 'safe positioning' that may restrain the writing of innovative research propositions". (From NOVA's self evaluation)

Nevertheless, we believed it was worthwhile looking at the CVs of the 'unproductive' researchers, to try to find any patterns behind the unproductiveness. In some cases we were not able to gather the necessary information from the CVs to give us an understanding of low productivity, but in general, the CVs contained some implicit information about possible reasons for unproductiveness that may be grouped in four categories (we do not compare them across departments).

- ✓ Heavy teaching or administrative work load (e.g. head of department, coordinator of student programmes, etc.), or other tasks (e.g. curatorial tasks).
- ✓ Publications in channels not included in the UHR system (book reviews, articles in popular magazines, internal institution reports, interviews, conference abstracts, documentary films, encyclopaedia work, public dissemination, etc.).
- ✓ Consultancy work, ending up in public reports.
- ✓ Considerable time spent on sick leave.

A few researchers had CVs that stated a more or less alternative (original or even brave) publication pattern that fell under the UHR radar (i.e. a consistent pattern of publishing in South American or African local journals). A similar point could be made about films, exhibitions and other work of both quality and relevance that somehow disappear from view within the UHR system.

However, there are still some researchers with absent or scant publication outputs that are hard to explain away, since there were no indications of either heavy teaching, or administrative workload, let alone alternative publishing. In some cases it left the Panel with an impression of low productivity being the pattern of some individuals rather than an aberration. In that respect, it was the more puzzling because some researchers had a consistently high number of conference participation, but without their papers being converted into publications (neither in UHR approved channels or other). This suggests that there may be a hidden research activity not being delivered as research publications.

Returning to Table 4.11; when we examined median *publication equivalents* and not number of publications, NOVA is still the most productive institution, but SUM is now second placed, and UiO has dropped below Department of Ethnography and is now fourth with Section for Medical Anthropology. We feel, however, a need to modify these initial results. This is largely due to two issues.

*Firstly*, those institutions that have been credited points from PhD theses, have received extra publication equivalents that in some cases equals the total publication equivalents for all other researchers at the same institutions. For a small institution, with few researchers included in this analysis, one or two PhD theses may increase the level of publication equivalents per researcher from close to zero, to the very top of all included institutions. We therefore chose to calculate publication equivalents where all PhD theses were removed.

*Secondly*, when we include the 'unproductive' researchers, (mean) publication equivalent measures may be misleading. We have therefore also calculated publication equivalents only including researchers who have published (1 or more publications) in the 5-year period.

After PhD theses were removed, UiO is top of the ranking. NOVA is number two, whereas SUM has dropped from second to third place (Table 4.12).

**Table 4.12: Publication equivalents per researcher by department (2004-2008)**

Department	Total number of publication equivalents	Number of researchers	Publication equivalents per researcher	Excluding dr. dissertations	Excluding researchers with 0 pub*	Excluding dr. dis. and researchers with 0 publ.*
UiO	128.16	19	6.74	6.74	7.12	7.12
UiB	81.41	20	4.07	3.57	5.08	4.46
UiT	22.50	10	2.25	1.25	2.50	1.38
NTNU	28.00	12	2.33	1.50	3.50	2.25
Department of Ethnography	19.00	4	4.75	4.75	6.33	6.33
Section for Medical Anthropology	13.59	4	3.39	3.39	3.39	3.39
SUM	29.33	4	7.33	4.83	9.77	6.44
CMI	28.00	8	3.50	2.87	4.00	3.28
NOVA	61.82	7	8.83	6.68	8.83	6.68
<b>Total</b>	<b>411.81</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>4.67</b>	<b>3.99</b>	<b>5.49</b>	<b>4.69</b>

\*Researchers selected for the evaluation without any publications in 2004-2008. In total 13 researchers (4 from NTNU, 4 from UiB, and 1 from UiO, Department of Ethnography, SUM, UiT and CMI, respectively). Sources: Frida and NIFU STEP Doctoral Degree Register. The sample includes the publications of the 88 researchers selected for the evaluation, and a total of 75 researchers in the two columns to the right.

When we removed 13 researchers with no publications during this period, SUM, NOVA and UiO are still the top three departments, but some of the departments with low productivity now perform better, in particular NTNU (also UiO). In the final column to the right of Table 4.12, we have removed both PhD theses and unproductive researchers, and we believe these numbers represent a more accurate method to assess the productivity of the departments. This column does not measure the departments' levels, but rather the levels of the researchers that *are* productive. UiO is the most productive department with 7.12 average publication points per researcher. Since the researchers at UiO encompassed by this evaluation only included full professors and associate professors, of whom none had completed a PhD thesis in the period, the method where PhD theses are removed is the one most favourable to UiO. Three departments are closely positioned after UiO: NOVA (6.68), SUM (6.44) and Department of Ethnography (6.33). All these departments are above the total average (4.69). Below the average we find UiB (4.46), Section for Medical Anthropology (3.39), CMI (3.28), NTNU (2.25) and UiT (1.38).

The numbers in Table 4.12 do not take into account that many researchers have not been working all years at their current departments (or that they have been on leave for shorter or longer periods). We therefore calculated a productivity indicator for the personnel, measured as a variant of number of standardized publication equivalents per man-year<sup>36</sup>, but this had minimal impact on the relative differences between the departments.

#### 4.4.1 Productivity by academic position and gender

In Table 4.13 the researchers are categorised according to their total number of publication equivalents in the 5 year-period. Categorizing the researchers was a challenging task. Many of them have changed both title and/or workplace between 2004 and 2008. The CVs that the researchers submitted in 2009 are in many cases different from what is registered in RPR. The groupings in Table

<sup>36</sup> We examined the researchers' CVs and tried to identify for how many months in the period 2004-2008 that they had worked at their current department.

4.13 are based on the RPR from 2008, and supplied with information from CVs in cases of uncertainty (e.g. whether a person in a leader position has competence at the professor level or not).

In order to make comparisons more accurate and purposeful, the researchers were grouped into four categories. We analyse university departments and the institute sector separately, and in each of these groups we distinguish between researchers with professor level competence, and researchers with competence below the professor level. We refer to these two levels as the *professor level* and the *researcher level*<sup>37</sup>.

14.8 per cent of the anthropologists had no publication equivalents in the period. 17 per cent had publication equivalents below 2 (but more than 0). 30 per cent had 2-5 article equivalents. 25 per cent had between 5 and 10 article equivalents. Eleven researchers (12.5 per cent) had more than 10 article equivalents.

**Table 4.13: Number of publication equivalents per researcher by academic position and gender (2004-2008), per cent**

Position*	Gender	***Publication equivalents 2004-2008					**Mean	N (researchers)
		0	0,01- 1,99	2,00- 4,99	5,00- 9,99	10,00-		
Professor level (universities)	Women	6.7	20.0	33.3	20.0	20.0	4.81	15
	Men	13.3	6.7	40.0	26.7	13.3	7.36	15
	<b>Total</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>13.3</b>	<b>36.7</b>	<b>23.3</b>	<b>16.7</b>	<b>6.08</b>	<b>30</b>
Researcher level (universities)	Women	25.0	37.5	18.8	6.3	12.5	3.02	16
	Men	18.5	18.5	29.6	29.6	3.7	3.37	27
	<b>Total</b>	<b>20.9</b>	<b>25.6</b>	<b>25.6</b>	<b>20.9</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>3.24</b>	<b>43</b>
Professor level (institute sector)	Women	0.0	0.0	60.0	20.0	20.0	5.53	5
	Men	20.0	0.0	20.0	60.0	0.0	4.20	5
	<b>Total</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>4.86</b>	<b>10</b>
Researcher level (institute sector)	Women	0.0	0.0	33.3	0.0	66.7	7.94	3
	Men	0.0	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	8.66	2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>8.23</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Total (per cent)</b>	Women	12.8	23.1	30.8	12.8	20.5	4.40	39
	Men	16.3	12.2	30.6	34.7	6.1	4.89	49
	<b>Total</b>	<b>14.8</b>	<b>17.0</b>	<b>30.7</b>	<b>25.0</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>4.67</b>	<b>88</b>
<b>Universities</b> (both levels)	Women	16.1	29.0	25.8	12.9	16.1	3.88	31
	Men	16.7	14.3	33.3	28.6	7.1	4.79	42
	<b>Total</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>20.5</b>	<b>30.1</b>	<b>21.9</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>4.41</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>Institute sector</b> (both levels)	Women	0.0	0.0	50.0	12.5	37.5	6.43	8
	Men	14.3	0.0	14.3	71.4	0.0	5.47	7
	<b>Total</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>33.3</b>	<b>40.0</b>	<b>20.0</b>	<b>5.98</b>	<b>15</b>

Sources: Frida, ForskDok, NIFU STEP Doctoral Degree Register and personnel lists from the included departments. The sample includes the publications of the 88 researchers selected for the evaluation.\*According to the RPR 2008.

*Explanation:* In this table the units of analysis is researchers, not publications. The table shows the proportion of researchers with 0, 0,1-1,99, 2-4,99, 5-9,99, and 10 and above publications in the period (row percentages).

<sup>37</sup> \**Professor level* includes professors and professors in leader positions at the university departments, and senior researchers ("forsker 1") and researchers in leader position with professor competence in the institute sectors. *Researcher level* at the universities include: associate professors, postdocs, and other researcher categories (e.g. researchers, senior researchers, leader positions without professor competence). In the institute sector, the researcher level includes: researchers ("forsker 2"), leader positions without professor competence, and other (unspecified) research categories.

Note 37 cont.

\*\* The second last column shows the average number of publication equivalents per researchers, *not* percentages.

\*\*\*A publication equivalent equals one scholarly publication authored by one researcher: Articles (in scholarly journals or books) counts 1, monographs and PhD theses count 5. The figures are weighted for co-authorship by dividing the publications scores by the number of authors contributing.

The first issue in Table 4.13 that draws our attention is the relatively high mean level of publication equivalents among researchers below the professor level in the institute sector (8.23). However, this is due to the fact that 3 out of 5 of these have received 5 publication points for PhD theses in the time period. Apart from this, the professors at the universities receive the highest mean number of publication equivalents (6.08), followed by the researchers at the professor level in the institute sector (4.86) and the researchers below professor level at the universities (3.24).

Comparing university researchers with institute sector researchers, we see that mean publication equivalents at the universities are 4.67 and 5.98 in the institute sector.

In total, the mean number of publication equivalents differs slightly by gender. Men have a higher mean level (4.89) than women (4.40), but this depends on which sector we analyze. Men publish more than women at the universities (4.79 compared to 3.88), whereas women publish more than men at the independent research institutes (6.43 compared to 5.47).

20.5 per cent of the women and only 6.1 per cent of the men had more than 10 publication equivalents. The largest group of female researchers are those with 2-5 publication equivalents, whereas the largest group of male researchers are those with 5-10 publication equivalents. In sum, men have more publication equivalents than women, but there are relatively more women at the highest level.

**Table 4.14: Average number of publication equivalents per researcher by age and gender (2004-2008)**

Age	Gender	Publication equivalents*				N (researchers)
		Mean	Minimum	Maximum	Std. deviation	
30-39	Women	9.16	3.00	15.33	8.718	2
	Men	8.50	7.00	9.50	1.322	3
	Total	8.76	3.00	15.33	4.473	5
40-49	Women	4.07	0	11.41	4.528	12
	Men	7.21	1.00	49.00	12.725	13
	Total	5.70	0	49.00	9.640	25
50-59	Women	1.68	0	4.00	1.305	10
	Men	3.00	0	9.00	2.863	21
	Total	2.57	0	9.00	2.523	31
60 and above	Women	5.86	0	15.00	4.561	15
	Men	4.79	0	13.00	4.350	12
	Total	5.38	0	15.00	4.416	27
<b>Total</b>	Women	4.40	0	15.33	4.474	39
	Men	4.89	0	49.00	7.222	49
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4.67</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>49.00</b>	<b>6.130</b>	<b>88</b>

Sources: Frida, ForskDok, NIFU STEP Doctoral Degree Register and RPR. The sample includes the publications of the 88 researchers selected for the evaluation.

Table 4.14 shows how productivity varies by age and gender. In general, the productivity is highest in the age group 30-39 years (8.7 publication equivalents per researcher). The lowest productivity is found in the age group 50-59 (mean: 2.5). This is seen for both men and women.

Again, it should be noted that the numbers of researchers in the different age and gender categories are low, and consequently the average values in tables 4.13 and 4.14 are highly dependent on the publication activity of single researchers. The youngest age group consists of only five researchers, and although the three men in this group have quite similar equivalent profiles (as seen by a low standard deviation) this is not so for women (indicated by a high standard deviation).

#### 4.5 Summing up

Numbers rarely speak for themselves, especially when they are subject to uncertainties of the kind we have discussed above. Yet, the Panel is confident that *the pattern* is valid, and we may therefore venture some conclusions.

The extended fieldworks that are first published in monographic form, often serve as a baseline for research for years after – and the question of *impact* becomes complex. The Panel wants to stress – along with many of the researchers comprised in the evaluation – that impact measurement in general seems out of step with anthropological research and publication patterns. However, based on the analyses in this chapter we may say something about the *visibility* of Norwegian social anthropology research.

The publication record for Norwegian anthropology in general is satisfactory, albeit rather uneven. When we look at journal articles, where a large share of them are published in Norwegian journals, it's quite striking that except the Norwegian Journal of Social Anthropology there are no common journals for publishing. Yet, one should not underestimate the importance of having a Norwegian journal in the first place, which might serve as a training ground for younger researchers, and a public outlet for more mature researchers wanting to disseminate complex findings to a wider audience. Articles published in international journals are skewed towards thematically and regionally specialized niche journals, of which most journals are European rather than American. Since only a small share of the journal articles are published in core or leading journals, Norwegian anthropology is possibly of a limited visibility in the wider international community. This should not obscure the fact that the percentage of level 2 journals is satisfactory. Only, some of them are very specialized niches journals (when seen from the discipline of anthropology as such).

The pattern seen for journal articles contrasts with the pattern of monographs and edited volumes, which are generally published at highly rated publishing houses (also acclaimed American publishers). However, they are at the same time possibly also of limited visibility because they speak mainly to specialists within the same area (as elsewhere in the world of anthropology).

There is one genre in particular that seems to get too little credit in the system and that is the edited volumes (i.e. collection of articles around a common theme). It is noteworthy that in anthropology in general, as in Norwegian anthropology more particularly, the edited volume often presents the 'state of the art' concerning a particular theme, and as such it contributes to a shared knowledge that enables people to push further. Another feature of the edited volumes is that it allows for collaboration, national and international, and that it often includes younger scholars under the (editorial) supervision of seniors.



## 5. QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS OF PUBLICATIONS

In Chapter 4 we gave a statistical publication analysis, focusing on the productivity of the social anthropologists over a 5-year period. In this chapter, we turn our focus to the contents of the research conducted at the departments. The aim is to give some indication of the relative strength of the different units with respect to the quality of research as identified by the Panel, having read the submitted works. We also want to identify both the regional and the thematic orientation of the units. A preliminary observation is that Norwegian anthropology is broad and inclusively defined both regionally and thematically.

All 88 researchers included in the evaluation were asked to submit two works for the Panel to assess. Thus, there were 176 publications to read for the Panel. There were no guidelines for what the researchers could submit. Hence all sorts of research output were presented to the Panel: books, articles, PhD theses, reports, and even a film. The researchers were asked to explain the reasons why they submitted the works that they did. Many different reasons came up – all of which must be considered highly understandable:

- The researchers wanted the publications to reflect and give contours to their research profile, their research interests, and the trajectory of their research.
- Some submitted works that they regarded as being of high quality, with reference to their own publication record.
- A number of scholars regarded the works they submitted as being in some sense representative or comprehensive demonstrations of what they are capable of – and/or would like to aspire to. This was particularly prevalent for researchers who were presenting either rather old books (often based on PhD theses) or PhD theses themselves.
- In applied research, the researchers often pointed towards the ‘relevance’ or policy reception of their work; this meets a social and political expectation that should not be overlooked, even if it does not always match the demand for original research.
- A number of the participants, from the University of Oslo in particular, also pointed towards the importance of publicly-relevant/politically engaged work, which speaks out to the broader Norwegian (and international) public, about important contemporary issues.
- Some scholars pointed to the uniqueness of their work – ‘the only ethnography of...’ or to recognition they have received for their work.
- In the case of the University of Bergen scholars, and some of the University of Oslo scholars, there was a clear sense of an intellectual journey, with scholars submitting their most recent contributions to a particular line of debate, but also signalling a schedule of work for the future.
- There were also a few explanations that are more ‘apologetic’ in character, providing reasons for a modest publication record, or a halt in their publication record. This was perfectly understandable, and in some cases gave an idea of the reasons for a low publishing profile.
- Other reasons mentioned (among many): the use of new methods (e.g. fieldwork with GPS or with camera), being the only work in English in the period, being the most recent, being the most personal, being the most comprehensive on a particular theme, documenting international research partnerships, bringing together a number of fields studied, etc.



The publications were thus submitted for a large number of reasons, and not necessarily because they were considered representative for the individual researcher or for the researcher's department. Nevertheless, the researchers themselves chose what to submit, and their choices must reflect their sense of significance. The Panel therefore assumes that the publications as a whole are seen as representing the best of Norwegian anthropological research. In principle, we may only be able to say something about the 176 submitted works, but we believe this still is a large enough amount of works, for us to be able to make more general assessments of the departments. Hence, compared to Chapter 4, we shift focus from the overall productivity of the researchers over a long time period, to the content and the quality of the chosen publications that they wanted to submit to the Panel.

## **5.1 First impressions**

Before the Panel met for their second meeting in March 2010, where they had read the material submitted by the researchers, each member had written down some 'first impressions' based on the reading. As is well known from anthropology, first impressions often are instrumental to identifying the significant themes in a particular field.

The Panel members therefore agreed to write one or two pages on their impression of the general quality of the works, strengths and weaknesses, dominant themes and so forth. These were circulated along with the more specific comments on all publications prior to any mutual consultation and discussion of the findings, to make sure that they were 'uncontaminated' by group vocabularies and shared interests. These impressions were surprisingly uniform on all accounts and will invariably infuse the qualitative analysis of the publications in this chapter; 'Surprising' because the panellists come from different countries and institutional settings, but all the more gratifying for the same reasons. It certainly provided the Panel with a sense of a shared horizon and a common (if not easily standardized) measure of research quality.

For the record we shall relate some of these first impressions, which will be dealt with more systematically later.

### **5.1.1 Overall profile**

All the panellists agreed that there seemed to be a strong affinity between Norwegian anthropology and British social anthropology. There were also some links to French structuralist anthropology, but surprisingly few echoes from American cultural anthropology. It was also noted that there was a distinct Norwegian flavour to many publications that it was hard to pinpoint, but which seemed to derive mainly from a Barthian legacy. The rigour of the arguments, their clear relatedness to core concepts, and the steadfast application of these perspectives on more contemporary material, all testified to a strong degree of continuity in Norwegian anthropology. What is detectable, but less prominent, are some recent efforts towards the development of new theory, or of pushing theoretical frontiers further. Anthropology in Norway thus appears robust and reliable in the application of established theory rather than in advancing new theoretical frontiers.

### **5.1.2 Fieldwork**

The fieldwork tradition is well established, with most publications relying on long-term participant observation, or drawing on earlier long-term fieldwork. What is encouraging to see is the ways in which fieldwork experiences are put to creative use in illuminating events in contemporary Norway, events that often attract larger public attention. There is thus evidence of a publicly oriented anthropology, albeit not developed to its full potential. Overall, little development is seen in terms of innovative fieldwork techniques and methodologies, reflective perhaps of a relative lack of discussion around methodological issues and challenges in the publications.

The strength of the fieldwork tradition at times appears to limit a more generalizing agenda, and much of the work seems to follow the logic of already-established theoretical trends, rather than necessarily developing theory of its own. This impression is perhaps accentuated by the proportion of works submitted that are PhD theses (either as theses, or in later published editions). By definition, such works are more empirically driven, and less theoretically ambitious – at least overtly. While these works tell great stories and bespeak of an ethnographic sensitivity, one was often left wanting for more rigorous probing of the theoretical implications, that might well take the author beyond received wisdom.

The practice of publishing PhD theses as they were first submitted appears to have seeped into the overall orientation of the discipline, and the Panel wonders whether younger scholars should be encouraged to do more work on their material before first publication. Most, if not all, of the published PhD theses appear in rather low-profile Scandinavian publishing houses, which points towards a difference of quality between them and other works that had gone through an extra phase or more analyses, and published at more prominent publishing houses. The Panel believes this premature publishing pattern prevents the doctoral candidates to develop intellectually and produce more theoretically inflected work that may have more international impact and visibility. One is left wondering whether publishing the theses as soon as possible at level 1 publishing houses is motivated by the credit points for PhD theses in the Norwegian funding system, which is not necessarily an optimal strategy, when they could have reached level 2 had they only been elaborated on. From the publication reading, the Panel thought that some of the books that had gone through this extra phase were of extremely high quality.

The monographs and PhD theses were generally based in long-term fieldwork of the classical kind, and there is little doubt that the strength of Norwegian anthropology mainly derives from such work, rather than from theoretical or conceptual explorations on the borders of the known.

### **5.1.3 Pure vs. applied anthropology**

There is a balance of 'pure' and more 'applied' anthropological themes. The latter comes in two types: those related to Development, which are concerned with understanding/assisting in processes of development in the Global South; and those located in Norway itself, which focus on immigration and refugee issues, or on medical/reproductive issues. In each case, and throughout, there is a strong emphasis on understanding the relationships between the local and the global, through the particularist focus of ethnographic fieldwork.

Academic anthropology, produced in or oriented towards the academic community, seems to be somewhat livelier in terms of publication and conceptual debate than the more applied genre. This is to be expected. It is also our impression that the larger departments, notably those in Bergen and

Oslo, are the most dynamic ones in terms of publication and analytic strength. The more applied and policy-oriented strands of Norwegian anthropology seem, however, to be quite in touch with academic debates, even if theoretical stringency is not the hallmark of the publications; nor, indeed, their scope. It is important, however, to make note of the intrinsic value of communication within a larger community of anthropologists.

#### **5.1.4 Prominent themes**

Thematically, Norwegian anthropology is very comprehensive. Some of the thematic areas that have benefitted particularly from the engagement of Norwegian anthropologists are kinship, economic anthropology, political anthropology, transnationalization processes, migration and development, and medical and reproductive anthropology. Not least in debates around forms of kinship and sociality, the contributions are up-to-date and significant. In the areas of political and economic anthropology, there is a strong engagement with contemporary issues relating to changing subsistence and conflict patterns under conditions of socio-economic change. In these fields, too, the contributions are solid and tightly connected to established traditions, but more seldom contributing to original theorizing. Clearly, the current transnational processes and globalization do entail some theoretical renewal and conceptual innovation, pointing to the historical embeddedness of anthropology and to the responsiveness of Norwegian anthropologists to present conditions.

#### **5.1.5 Predominant regions**

Regionally, the corpus appeared strongest in Melanesia/Polynesia and Sub-Saharan Africa, with good coverage of South Asia; Middle East; Southeast Asia; China/Tibet. There seems not much focus on Western or Eastern Europe, the Americas, the Caribbean, the Arctic. Globalization also appears to have become a 'region' itself. There is plenty of work on Norway itself, although much of this concerns immigrant or refugee groups within Norway – and/or processes regarded as *other*. This signals a set of tacit assumptions about 'proper Norway' as a relatively undifferentiated social/moral unit. There is not much in the way of work, few of the works under review attempted to unpack this, or question its legitimacy. This is not unusual in European anthropology, but it is noteworthy.

#### **5.1.6 General**

In general, the Panel's first impressions from the readings were of an energetic research community rooted in a strong fieldwork tradition. Intellectually, it is indebted to a mainly British social anthropological tradition (or perhaps Anglo/French), although there are some nods in the direction of a 'Norwegian' tradition of Social Anthropology (normally through references to Fredrik Barth and his legacy).

It also seems clear that anthropology in Norway makes up a diverse, quite thriving and well-funded research environment that also plays an important public role in the country. The publications are directed at diverse audiences, and testify to the strong legacy of the early Oslo anthropology in particular of making the discipline relevant to a larger public. Unlike the situation in France and the US, there is little straying outside the (social) anthropological canon and only a few of the works draw (explicit) sustenance from broader social theory and philosophy.

With respect to originality, there were relatively few works that would potentially change the horizon of anthropology (in the sample read by the Panel). The theoretical potential of the submitted publications in general seemed under-explored, even where the analysis demonstrated both solid ethnographic knowledge and creative thinking. Also, the epistemological foundations of knowledge

tended to recede from view. This was not a uniform picture; of course, there were a number of works that produced delight in the reader by being surprisingly original, if mostly by way of their innovative use of ethnographic material, or by their analytical focus.

## 5.2 Principles for scoring

The publications were distributed randomly between the Panel members<sup>38</sup> so that each member read 35 or 36 publications. In assessing these publications, the Panel agreed to follow four guidelines:

- Each scientific work should be given a written assessment of 10-20 lines (more was accepted, but not required, if it was a book). The Panel members were supposed to write 'short reviews' and not extensive peer reviews (this was in line with the mandate given).
- In each of these assessments, the Panel members had to address the clarity and quality pertaining to the following four dimensions of each individual publication.
  - The main objective
  - The use of ethnography
  - The quality of the argument
  - The overall contribution to anthropology

The idea was to make the individual descriptions comparable to each other, but also to acknowledge the various roads towards 'research quality'. It may go mainly by way of a formidable objective, which is then fulfilled; or mainly by way of a rich and well-presented ethnographic material testifying to methodological sophistication, or, indeed, by way of a fine-tuned and convincing theoretical (or analytical) argument drawing upon or discussing with earlier literature. Thus, the overall contribution to anthropology may be qualified on different grounds, and quality itself requires a sense of balance between objective, ethnography, argument and general contribution.

- Based on the points above, each publication was given a score from 1 (lowest) to 5 (highest) reflecting the quality of the publication. The top score should purely be based on the four criteria above – regardless of the type of publication (journal article, edited book, institutional report, etc.) or the language of the publication (Norwegian or English).
- In addition to this, each publication was to be given a few keywords (2-4) and a description of the geographical area in focus in the publication, with the aim of finding dominant themes and regions.

A total of 176 publications were submitted, but one of the contributions has been left out of the ratings presented in this chapter, since it was a film (and therefore the only piece within its genre). Thus, there are 175 publications that have been assessed by the Panel. The assessments form a (positively) skewed normality curve (Table 5.1). The average score for the publications was 3.17.

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<sup>38</sup> One Panel member did not read Norwegian, and was therefore not given any publications written in Norwegian.

**Table 5.1: Distribution of publication scores**

Score	Per cent	Number of publications
1	9.1	16
2	16.0	28
3	35.4	62
4	28.0	49
5	11.4	20

In chapter 5.3 we focus on how the scores are distributed across departments, gender, publication type, language and academic positions. In chapter 5.4 we compare scores across thematic and regional areas.

### 5.3 Research quality in general and by institution

In Table 5.2, the scores are compared across the nine institutions included in the evaluation.

**Table 5.2: Average publication scores by institution**

Institution	Mean	N	Min	Max	Median
UiB	3.53	40	1	5	4.00
UiO	3.47	38	1	5	3.50
Department of Ethnography	3.38	8	1	5	3.00
Section for Medical Anthropology	3.25	8	1	5	3.50
SUM	3.00	8	1	5	3.50
UiT	2.89	19	1	4	3.00
CMI	2.81	16	1	4	3.00
NOVA	2.79	14	1	5	3.00
NTNU	2.71	24	1	5	3.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.17</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3.00</b>

On average, the publications from University of Bergen got the highest score (3.53) followed by the University of Oslo (3.47). These two institutions, plus Department of Ethnography and Section for Medical Anthropology were the four departments with scores over the total mean (3.17).

All institutions had publications that were scored 1, and most institutions had top rated publications too. Median values indicate that at all institutions, a typical article gets the score 3, whereas the University of Bergen is the only institution with a median score of 4.

**Table 5.3: Scores by language of publication**

Language	Mean	N	Min	Max	Median
Norwegian	2.64	45	1	5	3.00
English	3.34	129	1	5	3.00
French	4.00	1	4	4	4.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.17</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3.00</b>

Most submitted publications were written in English, and they have been rated significantly higher than the ones written in Norwegian. However, both Norwegian and English language publications received both top and bottom score (Table 5.3). In general, we may claim that this difference has its origins in the fact that Norwegian publications are more often textbooks and popular articles, or directly oriented towards the Norwegian public, whereas English publications are more

straightforward journal articles and more theoretically based monographs and contributions to edited volumes.

**Table 5.4: Scores by type of publication**

Type	Mean	N	Min	Max	Median
Edited volumes	4.00	3	4	4	4.00
Monograph	3.82	34	1	5	4.00
PhD theses	3.21	14	2	5	3.00
Journal article	3.02	59	1	5	3.00
Book chapter	3.00	46	1	5	3.00
Institution report	2.68	19	1	5	3.00

Table 5.4 compares scores across publication types. It appears that the quality is higher among the more comprehensive material. Edited volumes and monographs get the highest scores, whereas PhD theses, journal articles and book chapters are considered rather equally. Institution reports get the lowest scores.

Table 5.5 shows that publications written in Norwegian get lower scores than the English publications, regardless of what publication type we consider (except edited volumes, which were very few, and institution reports).

**Table 5.5: Publication scores by language**

Type	Language	Mean	N	Min	Max	Median
Edited volumes	English	4.00	2	4	4	4.00
	Norwegian	4.00	1	4	4	4.00
Monograph	English	4.13	24	3	5	4.00
	Norwegian	3.10	10	2	4	3.00
PhD theses	English	3.25	8	2	5	3.00
	Norwegian	3.17	6	1	5	3.00
Book Chapter <sup>39</sup>	English	3.05	41	1	5	3.00
	Norwegian	2.25	4	1	3	2.50
Journal Article	English	3.37	43	1	5	3.00
	Norwegian	2.06	16	1	3	2.00
Institution Report	English	2.55	11	1	5	2.00
	Norwegian	2.88	8	1	4	3.00

Note also that monographs in English are scored between 3 and 5, whereas Norwegian monographs are between 2 and 4. In general, publications in Norwegian seldom get the top score.

<sup>39</sup> One book chapter was written in French, and is not included in Table 5.6.

**Table 5.6: Publication scores by language and department**

Type	Language	Mean	N	Min	Max	Median
UiO	English	3.63	30	1	5	4.00
	Norwegian	2.88	8	1	4	3.00
UiB	English	3.84	31	2	5	4.00
	Norwegian	2.44	9	1	4	2.00
UiT	English	2.91	11	2	4	3.00
	Norwegian	2.71	7	1	4	3.00
NTNU	English	2.71	14	1	4	3.00
	Norwegian	2.70	10	1	5	2.50
Department of Ethnography	English	3.38	8	1	5	3.00
	Norwegian	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Section for Medical Anthropology	English	3.17	6	1	5	3.50
	Norwegian	3.50	2	3	4	3.50
SUM	English	3.00	8	1	5	3.50
	Norwegian	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CMI	English	2.81	16	1	4	3.00
	Norwegian	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
NOVA	English	3.60	5	1	5	4.00
	Norwegian	2.33	9	1	3	2.00

Department of Ethnography, SUM and CMI did not submit any publications in Norwegian. Most institutions, most notably UiO, UiB and NOVA, receive higher scores for their works written in English. However, this is not so for Section for Medical Anthropology (but only two publications in Norwegian were submitted).

We then study variations in publication scores across age, based on the possibility that a researcher's publication quality varies over the lifecycle, e.g. the best work is done during a certain period of one's life. The publication analysis (chapter 4) showed that *productivity* differed by age, with the age-group 30-39 being the most productive, and the age-group 50-59 the least productive (keep in mind, though, that the sample is small; only 16 researchers in the youngest age group). The results in table 5.7, showing scores by the authors' age at the year of publishing, duplicate these findings, i.e. the 'best work' is done in the youngest age group, whereas the age group 50-59 gets the lowest scores.

**Table 5.7: Scores by age when publishing**

Age	Mean	N	Min	Max	Median
30-39	3.56	16	2	5	3.00
40-49	3.14	65	1	5	3.00
50-59	2.97	69	1	5	3.00
60-69	3.52	25	1	5	3.00

The scores given by the Panel are in line with a general finding in Bibliometric literature: research quality is strongly correlated with research productivity. This is demonstrated in Table 5.8.

**Table 5.8: Scores by productivity (measured by publication equivalents<sup>40</sup>)**

Equivalents	Mean	N	Min	Max	Median
0	2.81	26	1	4	3.00
0.01-1.99	2.97	30	1	4	3.00
2.00-4.99	3.24	54	1	5	3.00
5.00-9.99	3.16	43	1	5	3.00
9.99-	3.68	22	1	5	4.00

We have used the publication equivalents for each researcher in the period 2005-2008 (see chapter 4) and grouped the productivity of the researchers into five categories. There is a positive correlation between quantity and quality of output. In other words, it is not coincidental which researchers get the higher scores from the Panel: it is generally those researchers who publish a lot (but often also the first book based on the PhD fieldwork gets high quality marks). Furthermore, those with more than 10 publication equivalents are different from all other groups in having a median score of 4, indicating a certain quality gap between the top researchers and the rest.

**Table 5.9: Scores by academic position**

Position	Mean	N	Min	Max	Median
Professor	3.42	65	1	5	4.00
Associate professor	3.14	66	1	5	3.00
Postdoc.	2.92	12	1	4	3.00
Institute 1 <sup>41</sup>	2.85	20	1	5	3.00
Institute 2 <sup>42</sup>	2.75	12	1	5	3.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.17</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3.00</b>

Table 5.9 compares publication ratings by academic positions. There are two main points from this table: the Panel rated the publications from the university scholars higher than the publications from researchers in the institute sector, and even though there is not much of a difference between e.g. professors and associate professors, the scores do increase by academic position, with professors getting the highest scores. Professors are also the only academic position that gets scores above the total average.

## 5.4 Themes and regions

The Panel members added 1-4 themes (keywords) and 1-2 geographic regions to each publication they read. Both the number of themes and regions far exceeded what is possible to use as grouping categories in comparing institutions etc. We therefore re-grouped them into a smaller number of categories. It is a problem that some themes are hard to categorize when not considered in specific relation to the content of the publication. Therefore, this exercise of grouping of themes (and regions too) will never be completely correct. In the analysis, the following categories have been used for themes (Table 5.10):

<sup>40</sup> The term publication equivalent is explained in Chapter 4.

<sup>41</sup> Institute 1 represents researchers from the independent research institutes with academic competence at the professor level.

<sup>42</sup> Institute 2 represents researchers from the independent research institutes with academic competence below the professor level.



**Table 5.10: Grouping of themes from the publications**

Theme	Includes:
General	Anthropological history, anthropological theory, critical perspective, ethnography, history, history of anthropology, introduction to anthropology, public anthropology, regionalism, representation, semiotics, textbook, theory.
Political anthropology	Customary law, customary rights, democracy, law, legal anthropology, legal systems, local politics, politics, power, property rights, sociality, social movements, social organizations, village life.
Economic anthropology	Class, consumption, energy, exchange, labour, land tenure systems, livestock, natural resources, pastoralism, production.
Medical anthropology	Body, emotion, epidemics, health, race, sex.
Materiality and place	Culture, culture industry, ecology, environment, material culture, place, sense of place, technology, town planning, trade/tourism,
Organizational anthropology	Business, cooperation, organizations, policy-anthropology, policy discourses, policy reforms, risk.
Globalization	Civilization, cross-border, cultural relations, culture, culture difference, hybridization, immigration, incompatibility, interdependence, migrant identity, migration, multiculturalism, multiethnicity, refugees, transnational migration, world systems.
Cosmology and knowledge systems	Epistemology, ethics, expert systems, indigenous knowledge, Islam, knowledge, magic, religion, ritual, science, witchcraft.
Kinship, marriage and gender	African youth culture, childhood, elderly care, family, feminist, gender, generational change, generations, masculinity/gender, youth.
Development	Hunger, poverty, poverty reduction, social change, urban development, urbanization, urban-rural change.
Conflict and violence	Security, weapons, youth riot.
The nation state	Anthropology of the state, national identity, nationalism, national self-image, the welfare state.
Selfhood and learning	Agency, belonging, education, ethnicity, experience, honour, identity, indigeneity, individual identity, memory, personhood.
Arts and media	Colours, discourse, film, language, linguistics, music, narrative, patterns of speech, performance, performance politics, rhetoric, visual anthropology.

Each publication was also classified by reference to one or more geographic regions (Table 5.11). One of the categories is 'general', which includes more general or theoretical work, or work with no particular regional grounding, or with a global reference. Not all geographic regions are easy to categorize, e.g. should Sudan be considered Sub-Saharan or North Africa? Should Turkey be considered Europe or the Middle East<sup>43</sup>? Again, and as anthropologists know, categories do not always 'map' the world in an unambiguous way. Nevertheless, the Panel wanted to group its readings with reference to regional predomination.

<sup>43</sup> In cases of uncertainty, we have checked the publications and tried to find out whether Sudan is North or South Sudan, etc.

**Table 5.11: Grouping of geographical areas in focus in the publications**

Area	Includes:
General	General, global, transnational, textbook, unspecified, theoretical
Norway	Norway
Europe	East and West, and Scandinavia apart from Norway
North America	US, Canada, Arctic
South and Latin America	South, Middle and Latin America
Central and East Asia	China, Tibet, Mongolia, Japan
South and South East Asia	Indian Ocean, Pakistan, Afghanistan
The Pacific	Australia, New Zealand, Melanesia/Polynesia
Africa	Sub-Saharan
The Middle East	North Africa, Turkey

Since both the number of themes and regions exceed the number of publications, the up-coming analyses are not based on either the total number of researchers or number of publications, but on the number of total counts for either themes or regions. This means that whereas some publications are only included once in the analyses, others may be included up to four times. For example, if a publication was given the theme 'development', then the score given to this publication will only be counted once. However, many articles were assigned themes from different categories (e.g. 'development' and 'globalization'), and these are analyzed both as a publication about development and as one about globalization. A publication that has been given more than one theme from the *same* theme category, however, is only counted once. For example: a publication with the themes 'security' and 'weapons' is only included once in the analysis, since both keywords are grouped under 'conflict and violence'.

**Table 5.12: Scores by themes (n=323)**

Keyword	Mean scores	# of publications	Contributors
The nation state	3.71	7	UiO (3), UiB (3), UiT (1)
Cosmology and knowledge systems	3.54	35	UiB (14), UiO (7), NTNU (4), Department of Ethnography (3), NOVA (2), UiT (2), SUM (2), CMI (1)
Materiality and place	3.50	20	UiB (5), NTNU (4), UiO (4), SUM (3), UiT (2), Department of Ethnography (1), CMI (1)
Political anthropology	3.45	38	UiB (11), UiO (7), UiT (7), CMI (4), NOVA (3), Department of Ethnography (2), Section for Medical Anthropology (2), NTNU (2)
Conflict and violence	3.33	12	UiB (6), CMI (4), UiO (1), UiT (1)
Economic anthropology	3.32	22	UiB (5), NTNU (4), CMI (4), UiO (3), SUM (2), UiT (2), Section for Medical Anthropology (1), Department of Ethnography (1)
General	3.29	21	UiB (9), NTNU (4), UiO (3), UiT (3), Department of Ethnography (1), CMI (1)
Medical anthropology	3.14	21	UiO (10), Section for Medical Anthropology (5), UiB (3), NTNU (2), SUM (1)
Globalization	3.07	43	UiO (11), NOVA (10), UiB (7), NTNU (6), UiT (3), Section for Medical Anthropology (2), Department of Ethnography (2), SUM (2)
Organizational anthropology	3.00	8	NTNU (5), Department of Ethnography (1), UiT (1), CMI (1)
Selfhood and learning	2.96	24	UiT (8), UiB (4), UiO (3), NTNU (2), NOVA (2), CMI (2), Section for Medical Anthropology (1), Department of Ethnography (1), SUM (1)
Kinship, marriage and gender	2.89	37	UiO (10), NOVA (7), UiB (7), NTNU (4), UiT (3), CMI (2), SUM (2), Section for Medical Anthropology (1), Department of Ethnography (1)
Development	2.89	18	CMI (6), UiB (4), NTNU (4), UiT (2), UiO (1), SUM (1)
Arts and media	2.88	17	UiO (4), NTNU (3), NOVA (3), UiB (3), UiT (2), Department of Ethnography (1), CMI (1)

The themes are not significantly different (in statistical terms) from one another in the scores when we compare a theme to the one above and/or below (Table 5.12). However, the difference between the top ranked themes and those at the bottom are interesting to look at. The theme ‘The nation state’ is the highest rated thematic area, but is also a very limited research area, with few publications and contributors. ‘Cosmology and knowledge systems’ is rated second, and is by contrast a thematic area where most departments contribute, and the number of publications is large (all departments except Section for Medical Anthropology are represented).

However, it seems that the broader the contribution, the lower the scores are. The thematic area with most counts is ‘Globalization’ which is ranked ninth (out of 14 areas). The two thematic areas where all departments have contributed are ‘Selfhood and learning’ (ranked 11) and ‘Kinship, marriage and gender’ (ranked 12). ‘Globalization’ was the most frequent thematic research area. The fact that globalization (with all its different constituents) figures frequently as research theme may have to do with contemporary funding patterns, encouraging large-scale programmes and multidisciplinary work (often commissioned work from the ministries). What is significant here is that the empirical research was not seen to be of the same quality in ‘Globalization’ as it was in traditional fieldwork. The theoretical sophistication to grapple with the globalization issues was not as high as expected. ‘Globalization’ thus scores low on both empirical and theoretical parameters.

**Table 5.13: Research profiles of the departments**

Institution	Main research themes	#of areas represented
UiO	Globalization (16.4%), Kinship, marriage and gender (14,9%) and medical anthropology (14.9%)	13
UiB	Cosmology (17.3%) and Political anthropology (13.6%)	13
UiT	Selfhood and learning (21.6%) and Political anthropology (18.9%)	13
NTNU	Globalization (13.6%) and Organizational anthropology (11.4%)	12
Department of Ethnography	Cosmology and Knowledge systems (21.4%), Political anthropology (14.3%) and Globalization (14.3%)	10
Section for Medical Anthropology	Medical anthropology (41.7%), Political anthropology (16.7%) and Globalization (16.7%)	6
SUM	Materiality and place (21.4%), Economic anthropology, Globalization, Cosmology and Kinship (all 14.3%)	8
CMI	Development (22.2%), Political anthropology, Economic anthropology and Conflict and violence (all 14.8%)	11
NOVA	Globalization (37%) and Kinship (25.9%)	6

Table 5.13 describes the main research themes at the departments, according to the thematic keywords listed for each publication by the Panel. It also describes whether the departments’ research activity is concentrated on a few or on many themes. Among our 14 thematic research areas, the four broad university departments have performed research within close to all research areas. On the other side, it is particularly Section for Medical Anthropology and NOVA that are characterized by *one* major thematic area. At Section for Medical Anthropology it is obviously ‘medical anthropology’ that dominates, whereas NOVA is highly concentrated on ‘globalization’ (and also ‘kinship, marriage and gender’).

**Table 5.14: Scores by geographic region (n=193)**

Keyword	Mean score	N	Contributors
North America	3.83	6	UiO (5), UiT (1)
South and Latin America	3.56	9	UiO (4), SUM (2), CMI (2) UiT (1)
The Middle East (and North Africa)	3.55	11	UiB (7), UiT (2). Department of Ethnography (1), CMI (1)
Central and East Asia	3.50	6	UiO (2), Section for Medical Anthropology (2), Department of Ethnography (1), NTNU (1)
The Pacific	3.47	17	UiB (9), UiO (3), Department of Ethnography (2), UiT (2), SUM (1)
Europe	3.44	9	UiB (3), UiO (2), NOVA (2), NTNU (1), UiT (1)
General/Global/Unspecified	3.24	37	UiO (12), UiB (8), NTNU (8), NOVA (3), UiT (2), CMI (1), Section for Medical Anthropology (2), Department of Ethnography (1)
Africa (Sub-Saharan)	3.11	38	NTNU (8), UiT (7), CMI (7), UiO (6), UiB (6), SUM (3), Department of Ethnography (1)
South and South East Asia	3.05	22	UiB (6), CMI (6), UiO (4), Department of Ethnography (2), NTNU (2), SUM (1), NOVA (1)
Norway	2.74	38	NOVA (11), UiO (6), NTNU (6), UiT (5), Section for Medical Anthropology (5), UiB (3), Department of Ethnography (1), SUM (1)

From Table 5.14, where we compare scores by geographic regions, it appears that it is the smaller regions, i.e. those with few publications that receive the best scores. The four largest groups (General, Africa (Sub-Saharan), South and South East Asia, and Norway), get the lowest scores. The differences between the geographic regions are small, with two exceptions: Publications about North America are scored highest, while publications about Norway get the lowest scores.

**Table 5.15: Regional profile by departments**

Institution	Main regional areas	# of areas represented
UiO	General (27.3%), Norway (13.6%), Africa (Sub-Saharan) (13.6%)	9
UiB	The Pacific (21.4%), General (19%), The Middle East (and North Africa) (16.7%)	7
UiT	Africa (Sub-Saharan) (33.3%), Norway (23.8%)	8
NTNU	Africa (Sub-Saharan) (30.8%), General (30.8%), Norway (23.1%)	6
Department of Ethnography	The Pacific (22.2%), South and South East Asia (22.2%)	7
Section for Medical Anthropology	Norway (55.6%), Central and East Asia (22.2%), General (22.2%)	3
SUM	Africa (Sub-Saharan) (37.5%), South and Latin America (25%)	5
CMI	Africa (Sub-Saharan) (41.2%), South and South East Asia (35.3%)	5
NOVA	Norway (64.7%)	4

Table 5.15 shows the main geographic research regions at the departments, according to the regions listed for each publication by the Panel, as well as whether the departments' research activity is concentrated on a few or on many geographic regions. Among the 10 possible geographic regions, UiO (9 regions), UiT (8 regions), Department of Ethnography (7 regions) and UiB (7 regions) have been engaged in most regions. Section for Medical Anthropology and NOVA stand out at the other end of the scale, primarily with research oriented towards Norway; this is a direct function of their mandate.

## 5.5 Summing up

In this chapter we have presented the results from the Panel's assessment of the 176 publications that were submitted by the researchers in the evaluation. They were distributed randomly between the Panel members, who assessed their quality on the basis of a shared set of criteria, adopted for the purpose. There was a general consensus on the major findings. The scores are not absolute in any sense, but they are indicative of a pattern of relative research quality.

With this proviso, and with the diversity of researchers in mind, the Panel first wants to acknowledge the solidity of Norwegian anthropology, its deep ethnographic basis, and a generally satisfactory level of publication in a broad – and broad-minded – field of anthropological interest. Monographs and edited volumes (often formed in an international collaboration, rather than across departments in Norway) are strongholds of quality and collaboration, while articles are more diverse. Within the category of articles, there is a conspicuous difference between articles published in English (or other international language) and in Norwegian, the latter generally being of relatively poorer quality. It is as if, in some cases, the peer review did not function properly.

This being said, the Panel wants to acknowledge the strong public profile of Norwegian anthropology, which is particularly pertinent in Oslo, and very much part of the UiO tradition, deriving from Arne Martin Klausen (and others through the course of time). Only, in the UHR credit system, this seems to be relegated to the lower ranks of performance, while – in fact – it answers the political demand for 'relevance'. There is a discrepancy here that should be addressed – especially as the UiO is generally marked for a high quality production.

In terms of actual scores (ranging from 1-5), the average rating of the publications was 3.17. The publications from UiB and UiO were ranked highest. In general, publications written in English are considered of higher quality than publications written in Norwegian (regardless of publication type and department). Edited books and monographs were generally considered high quality, which is in keeping with the strong empirical tradition. The quality of the publications varies by the authors' age (highest scores in the youngest age-group) and researchers' productivity. It is generally the researchers with a high productivity who receive the highest scores.

The scores also differ by sector: publications by university researchers are considered better than publications from the institute sector. 'Globalization', 'Kinship, marriage and gender' and 'Cosmology and knowledge systems' are the three dominant themes in the publications. The highest scores are given to publications whose content is 'The nation state', 'Cosmology and knowledge systems' and 'Materiality and place'. The most common geographic regions in the publications are Norway, 'Africa (Sub-Saharan)' and 'General/global/unspecified'. The highest scores, however, are given to less common regions: 'North America', 'South and Latin America' and 'The Middle East (and North Africa)'. Although the picture is not absolutely clear, there are nevertheless distinctive patterns.

## 6. THE SOCIAL LIFE OF THE PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

In this chapter the Panel describes the social life of the departments in terms of social factors that may affect research output, including overall environment, patterns of hierarchy, inclusiveness and exclusiveness, generational dynamics, mobility, international collaboration and the impetus to produce work that is both high quality and of broader relevance within and outside Norway. Part of the background information was found in the reports and self-evaluations submitted, but a more significant source emerged during the meetings with the representatives from all the Institutions. The meetings were conducted in mutual trust and respect, and the Panel once again wants to take the opportunity to acknowledge the generosity shown by the institutional representatives in their sharing of reflections that went far beyond simple answers to questions posed.

This generosity made it possible to get at least some glimpses of structures and relationships that have a strong impact on the research environment and individual possibilities for academic flourishing, but which are rarely talked about – such as possible rivalries, charismatic leaders, friendship and a congenial atmosphere, whether hierarchical or flat. The relationship between the teachers and the PhD students is certainly also subject to implicit social phenomena that cannot be completely regulated. The PhD students may be included or excluded from the larger environment, and they may be seen to contribute to the Institution's research or to inhibit it.

One factor, which has a high impact on the social life of university departments, is the presence of students and their legitimate expectation of being taught to the highest standard. On the basis of the available material it is difficult to assess the actual relationship between PhD supervision and departmental research. We do not know who supervises how many students, and how it affects the senior supervisor's research – positively or negatively.

Regarding the teaching of bachelor or master students there seems to be more formal rules as to how much teaching, the individual teacher has to provide, relative to their research. The different departments may have relatively uniform rules, but they materialize differently due to external pressures and internal administrative procedures and histories. UiO writes that they have a 50-50 rule, and they have been successful in maintaining that rule: "Although this principle is undermined in many institutions and units for a number of reasons, the SAI [Department of Social Anthropology] has largely been able to maintain it. Our current capacity allows for distributing a lesser load of teaching for most staff". NTNU has in principle (for the permanent staff) 50 per cent teaching, 47 per cent research and 3 per cent administration, but finds it impossible to realize this since the number of students is so high and they do not have resources to hire temporary teaching staff. UiB also has a 50-50 rule, but the professors claim that there is less and less time left for research (because of teaching and administrative tasks, e.g. revisions of programmes). UiT writes: "The relationship between teaching/administrative tasks and research is somewhat problematic. After the university reform and in connection with the restructuring processes internally at the University, a disproportionately large amount of time has to be devoted to teaching/tutoring and administrative tasks. To some extent this is a corollary of being a small disciplinary environment. We become vulnerable when individual researchers are out on research leave or other types of leave. The university reform imposed larger duties concerning student contact and guidance. The splitting of the previous elementary levels (*grunnfag* and *mellomfag*) in shorter courses has meant that more work

has to be devoted to evaluations and graduation work without additional resources being added. Increased bureaucracy makes demands on the staff through continuous reporting and short deadlines. There is little doubt that the individual staff members' research time has been squeezed".

## **6.1 Academic leadership**

We have noted earlier that some of the founding fathers (and they *were* men, at the time) have continued playing a role until relatively recently. It is therefore apt to start with them and consider their legacies in a broader perspective, as reflected in present day reflections on the discipline, before we address the issue of current leadership patterns.

One of the notable absences from the self-evaluations was a discussion of the general academic life at the units. Such discussion could address questions of whether there is a vivid academic environment at the unit, or whether the daily life at the unit is conducive to academic development. As a Panel, we would consider this to be an important factor in the success of any research unit. In the material that the Panel received there was a noticeable lack of any specific thoughts about social dynamics at the units. The general quality of the academic life seemed not to be an issue that was much discussed. Most departments more or less equated 'academic life in the department' with having regular internal seminars. But in some cases, the Panel was left wondering whether these were actually successful in creating a sense of community and a shared horizon. In many cases the seminars were noted to have a low attendance and to be dominated by the older researchers ("the older talk, the younger listen").

Overall, the general opinion of the Panel is that Norwegian anthropology is characterised by a very strong empirical tradition in which scholars conduct and write some very detailed ethnographic work – often over the longer term – and produce strong analyses. Theoretically, however, scholars do not develop their work as far as it could go, or take risks (cf. chapter 5); this could be owed to the individuality of research. There are frequent references to the notion that ethnography should be 'informed by' theory, or should have theory 'laced within it' but not much talk of how to generate theory, in the sense of generalized knowledge. Participants from one of the departments – Oslo – appeared to imply that debating theory was a divisive pursuit, and something, which had characterised an earlier phase of the development of the Department. The empiricist legacy was – in the case of the larger departments at Oslo and Bergen – explicitly or implicitly linked to the legacy of Fredrik Barth, through whom reference was also made to 'processual' anthropology – which deals empirically with social processes. Others were more oblique: "We were always told by our teachers that we should not make claims that cannot be empirically demonstrated," said one of the participants from Trondheim. The positive methodological legacy was offset by a more problematic legacy of Barth as 'Big Man' – a kind of dominant and overbearing figure whom most seemed to think and hope was a feature of the past. Jan Brøgger served a similar role in relation to the Social Anthropology Department at NTNU. One of the Oslo participants explicitly stated: "We don't want a big-man", indicating that such a figure could be divisive and would inhibit the development of new ideas.

In the self-evaluation from the University of Bergen the point of departure is clearly Fredrik Barth, and his seminal contributions to international anthropology in several fields. When quizzed about

this legacy and the question of whether it has been seen as an enabling or constraining factor, the representatives answered:<sup>44</sup>

- Speaker 1: It is difficult for me to say because I was trained when the Barth legacy was still taught, but there is still some attention about details and ethnographic focus, and build it up from bottom-up. New staff from outside: more difficult to say. I don't think we can claim that they are all embracing the Barth legacy. But at staff seminars etc. we do give attention to this, but we are not constantly trying to reproduce the Barth legacy.
- Speaker 2: You can see the influence in many ways, e.g. in the ethnographic and empirical approach. Especially for his students. But we are the next generation. More than Oslo, we organize things in research groups, the way he did, by including students in fieldwork. He had a long tradition on bringing in students to work (with him). Other departments don't have that long-standing tradition. None of us today are from that generation – Barth's students have largely moved into retirement.

One way or the other, the legacy remains, not least in terms of a strong bent towards fieldwork outside of Europe. Yet it is also inherent in the current departmental centring around Professor Bruce Kapferer, coming from outside of Norway a decade ago, and who was mentioned as a main character in the keeping up with the international ambitions of Bergen, and clearly was seen as a focal point within the Department.

The collective acknowledgement of the necessity of leadership in Bergen creates a potential tension between the legacies of the UiB Department, and the UiO commitment – developed by Arne Martin Klausen – to a publicly engaged and socially 'relevant' anthropology focusing on Norway and produced for the Norwegian market (even while UiO is also strongly committed to studies outside of Norway). At our meeting, representatives from the UiB Department said that "we view ourselves as the locomotive of non-European analyses at the University". In the self-evaluation they further emphasized that the Department explicitly aims at a high international profile, with publications in English and supported by the organizational structure that allows individuals to form groups in response to calls for funding applications.

At the other end of the scale, the legacy of the founder of the anthropological Department at NTNU is deemed less benign in relation to new demands. At the meeting with representatives from NTNU, it was said that the challenges of developing a more extensive research record are a result of the founder, Jan Brøgger's legacy. He was very much a public figure. "Things did not fall apart when he left [in 2005], but our identity was his personality. He recruited people, frankly, to do the teaching, so that he could sit and do his research."<sup>45</sup> Evidently, the situation in which a technical university merged with a teaching school was a major challenge, and although anthropology was incorporated at an early stage, it remained a challenge to find a proper, and distinctive, foothold. The leader set a rather random course: "Brøgger was a central person. He did not recruit people who were good at

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<sup>44</sup> The quotes are not verbatim, but paraphrased from the minutes that come close. Also they are not the full text on the issue.

<sup>45</sup> Cited from the minutes.



both teaching and publishing. It was fairly random who were employed at the University over the years. I am an example: they knew I could teach – they did not have any other plans for me then.”<sup>46</sup>

Clearly, there is more to leadership than an individually committed person. He or she must be able to involve the colleagues, and make them develop along with him- or herself.

Whilst there was a strong sense of collective endeavour in all of the departments, encouragement and nurturance of research performance – both in terms of applying for and succeeding with grant applications and, crucially, with research output/writing – seemed to be rather more haphazard and individuated. A number of units were aware of their rather weak performance in publication, but seemed a little lost as to how to improve things. This was true in particular of the NTNU Department, where the participants described a department in which scholars had over the years come to see themselves as primarily teachers rather than researchers and writers. More recently, a new leadership is beginning to focus on bringing the potential of individual researchers and the entire Department to the fore. Elsewhere, good practice appears to have rested on an informal understanding, for instance a tacit assumption that hiring ‘the best’ people should generate self-motivated and successful scholars. Only the Bergen Department appeared to develop more structured and strategic procedures – such as formal staff appraisals, research mentoring, discussion groups etc.

Given that most researchers are individualists and that anthropological research inherently tends towards thematic dispersal and a measure of anarchism, academic leadership is a complex issue. This is not an uncommon feature of social anthropology globally, in which the image of the solitary heroic fieldworker – often idiosyncratic and single-minded – dominates. Historically, there is a disciplinary machismo around training and nurturance that is borne out of the discipline’s focus on practical, ‘on-the-job’ learning. However, all too often this ‘sink or swim’ attitude also contributes to forms of academic patronage, where only some individuals are caught up in the larger academic system.

The historical path of having the department’s mind-set formed by a ‘Big-man’ was particularly evident in Bergen and Trondheim, albeit with different feelings attached to it and to a lesser extent to the University of Oslo where a certain informal ‘collective leadership’ of a group of professors now seem to be evident (and working well). Generally, academic organizations are top-heavy, and at the UiO the pyramid stands on its head, and the Panel has some concerns about whether this ‘truce’ is necessarily conducive to original research, and particularly to theoretical insight and academic development. We might return, here, to the comments from Oslo (cited above) that theory be regarded as ‘divisive’. Collective leadership undoubtedly makes the Department a pleasant place to work. There seem to be no ongoing internal ‘wars’ or academic disagreements, but does this make up for a lack of critical ‘edge’?

At CMI, SUM and NOVA the leadership seems more characterized by a general overall management (which works well), rather than academic leadership, the way it has particularly been seen at NTNU and in Bergen. The focus at these institutions is not solely on anthropology, but on multidisciplinary studies often in relation to applied projects (the researchers do their thing, though not always necessarily as anthropologists). CMI seems quite dynamic in terms of strategies, writing applications

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<sup>46</sup> Cited from the minutes.

and getting funding, but this pragmatic view on how to survive as a research institute is not promoting anthropological research per se (although the anthropologists feel very welcomed at the Centre). The focus on multidisciplinary rather than social anthropology is also evident at SUM (where the anthropologists do surprisingly little research of the Centre's main areas environment and development, as seen from the publications submitted to the Panel), and at NOVA, where there seems little tradition for group research and a rather free choice of research topics.

At the UiT, leadership seems rather low-key. There is management but not much of a scene-setting. The Department's beginnings within a regionally committed university, and its development in the shadow of relatively high-profile researchers who 'invented' the study of the marginal communities in Norway, and revitalized the study of indigenous populations of the North, have petered out. A symptom of this is a split running through the Department between (what is left of) indigenous studies and visual cultural studies. The former now addresses issues and peoples beyond Norway, and the latter mainly rests with an international master programme, catering for African students in particular. In the latter unit, there is little new research going on, and surprisingly little awareness of visual theories developed and discussed elsewhere. There seems to be a major lack of academic leadership in the Department, capable of setting a joint course, or at least a more consistent course, for the two sub-specialties. The recent merger with archaeology could probably be used constructively to profile anthropology as such, but because the merger has been introduced from outside (or from above) without prior discussion, and because of the internal divide in the Department, the merger has had the opposite effect. Instead of being faced by a forward-looking leadership, a collective sense of despair has set in. It is tempting to conclude that anthropology has definitively internalized the perceived marginal position of UiT.

The lack of enabling leadership also applies to the Department of Ethnography at the Cultural Museum, where there is an uncertainty about where the unit is heading. Similarly to the Department in Tromsø, the Section has developed a deeply ingrained sense of being 'victimized', and feels that it is not being seen or heard by the management at the Museum.

This contrasts with Section for Medical Anthropology that has moved away from the general Department in Oslo and now finds itself where it wants to be. This section has since its creation been characterized by a 'Big-woman' leadership, possibly performed in a more open-minded and inclusive way than by the 'Big-men' leadership styles visible elsewhere.

To conclude on leadership, we note that the departments are generally characterized by collegial solidarity, even where there are hierarchical tendencies and the pool of anthropology research actually top-driven. Hierarchy is generally based on reputation and legacy, more than formal and visible structures. In most cases the department constitutes an academic home, with all the informality this implies, and the unquestioning of leadership.

## **6.2 Social organization**

As a whole, Norwegian anthropologists strongly identify themselves with their departments, rather than with a unified Norwegian anthropological tradition. The historical legacy of the ancestors is alive, but mainly at a departmental level, even if Fredrik Barth is seen as a common ancestor at the national level. He was not the sole founder, but his role as a lighthouse somehow outshone the impact of the others as the researchers now looked back.

With this in mind, it was striking that the PhD students we interviewed felt relatively free from the burden of the history of the discipline in Norway. Whether this represents a common generational shift in attitude within Norwegian anthropology or is better understood as a lifecycle issue – that students learn their responsibilities as defenders of a particular tradition after they gain faculty positions and begin to teach and write within the discipline – is an open question.

In the following we explore the social organization of the units in terms of their formal organization (inclusion and exclusion), their gender and generation composition, and the kind or degree of multidisciplinaryity.

### **6.2.1 Inclusion and exclusion**

On the whole, Norwegian anthropologists are very loosely organized within the units. Some units are sub-groups of a larger multidisciplinary environment and may develop a strong sense of themselves; positively or negatively. Among the former, Section for Medical Anthropology at UiO is a prime example, feeling recognized and at ease within a larger multidisciplinary environment. At the other end of the spectrum, Department of Ethnography feels marginalized within and in opposition to the larger Museum of Cultural History. We return to this issue below, where multidisciplinaryity as such is discussed.

Only UiO has actively sought to organize the researchers in particular research groups, but even there, groups are far from exclusive. People are members of several groups, which seem to serve more as internal sources of inspiration than as a formal structure. One reason for this is that staff members tend to change both empirical fields and analytical themes over the years. If more formal groups are built up it is usually around a larger project for which funding is sought. There have been several successful programmes made at UiO on this basis. Such groupings tend to be opportunistic – in a positive sense – responding to Research Council calls for particular thematic research programmes. They generate research for tenured faculty, and resources for the recruitment of posts within the research groupings, but the Panel is concerned about the patterns of inclusion and exclusion that these initiatives generate. On the one hand, the larger departments are characterised by highly productive and successful researchers, who are serial ‘grant-getters’, and many of whom have run larger programmes, and on the other hand less successful researchers who are serially under-productive, in terms of both the quantity and quality of their research output. This suggests that success breeds success, but leaves the unsuccessful somewhat left behind and marginalised.

The individualistic bent also has a lot to do with the very personal experience of fieldwork, yet there is a great potential in developing further collaboration. The units do not necessarily have well-established procedures in which they can capitalise on the skills and abilities of faculty to produce good research. In general, the units were a little reticent in their description of the general research environment, and it was not clear that the kinds of contexts in which scholarly exchange was supposed to take place were actually successful in generating meaningful and productive encounters. Most units referred to rather informal procedures whereby more senior staff advised more junior staff members, though it was not clear exactly how this worked, and when probed it often seemed to take place in the auspices of the hierarchy of a research programme: i.e. a senior researcher, as principal investigator of a research programme, guides a more junior researcher on that programme.

The egalitarian bent of Norwegian society (mentioned in chapter 2), which in many ways fits the anthropological research ethos rather well, given that everybody is on his or her own in the field and

contribute to a shared pool of knowledge on a par with everybody else, works against an establishment of formal structures of a hierarchical nature. The examples of successful research programme leaders, who pave the way for younger colleagues and enable them to develop their own potential, should perhaps make senior anthropologists less wary about wielding their own authority. In a context where mentoring and motivating more junior research staff increasingly has become a core activity of senior research staff in other countries, Norwegian social anthropologists might also be encouraged to consider introducing such practices. A number of units acknowledged that departmental seminars and other discussion contexts – where units were supposed to come together to discuss contemporary anthropology – were not as well attended as they might be. Again, there might be reasons to re-think how these units could foster a more supportive and encouraging dialogue between the more and less experienced than that offered by the flat seminar tradition. Whilst the seminar tradition is important, it is also important to organize it in a manner that promotes both productivity and quality of the research; for both senior and junior researchers. As neither experience nor creativity is equally distributed among staff, some of the more experienced could take it upon themselves to set a more ambitious and demanding agenda for the less experienced – to the benefit of all. Exerting academic authority is different from executing power.

### **6.2.2 Gender**

Whilst there is a high degree of gender equality in terms of absolute numbers of social anthropologists in Norway, there appears to be something of a ‘glass ceiling’, with women under-represented in the cohort of full Professors, when compared to men (in chapter 3 we described how female higher degree candidates in social anthropology to a lesser extent than their male counterparts ended up in academic positions, but were more inclined to obtain an administrative position at the same institutions). The fact that social anthropology is by and large a female discipline (measured by the share of female students), makes it striking that there are more male professors than female professors (both in absolute and relative numbers). Except for full professors, women are overrepresented in all other academic positions.

The types of institutional affiliations are also skewed by gender, with high proportions of women social anthropologists working in the institute sector, where they are funded through ‘soft money’ – highly dependent on externally-funded research projects, and in more applied areas such as migration and medical anthropology, which have become somewhat ‘feminised’. Indeed, just as the University departments have had their historical ‘Big Men’, for better or for worse, so too we might see the emergence of ‘Big Women’ in the institute sector – so far most conspicuously at Section for Medical Anthropology, where a strong institutional position for medical anthropology with a distinct and supportive ethos has flourished. Other such environments are possibly in the making.

It is interesting to see how women have moved into multidisciplinary environments, and as such become brokers between anthropology and other disciplines. The ‘Big Men’ were core anthropologists, whereas the leading women are often truly at the borders of anthropology. This point was demonstrated in the publications submitted to the Panel. When the Panel compared the geographical focus of the publications, no typical gender patterns were found, with one exception: women were more oriented towards Norway, and men more oriented towards more global/general issues. This is linked to the gender differences seen in *thematic areas*: men being more concerned with general/theoretical anthropology (as well as economic anthropology), while women are more

concerned with kinship, marriage and gender, and medical anthropology. The orientation towards Norway is specifically linked with units in the institute sector.

Whilst female social anthropologists are underrepresented at the professor level at the universities, they are in terms of position in the hierarchy equal to men in the institute sector. In the institute sector the scientific productivity of women is also slightly higher than that of men, which is completely opposite at the universities (see chapter 4). The Panel did not detect any differences in quality between men and women's research (see chapter 5).

### **6.2.3 Generation**

From the publications as well from the Panel's meetings with the representatives of the units and not least the doctoral students, a distinct generational pattern to Norwegian anthropology emerges. While the legacies and inspirational power of the founding fathers, and in some cases mothers, were still influential, this was less so the case among the younger generation of scholars. Among the doctoral students there was a clear sense of involvement in a larger intellectual endeavour than that outlined by the forefathers, and belonging to a larger national and international network. Whilst this may weaken the stronghold of the legacy in the future, there is also reason to believe that the younger generation will infuse the Norwegian anthropological community with a wider set of theoretical influences as well as open up for regional as well as international collaborations. This, indeed, is more or less in the nature of generation.

The people from CMI directly addressed the issue of generation, when asked about the shifting emphasis of their work: "It is not a change of emphasis as such; it is more a shift of generation. The people who came in at CMI in the 70s were developmentalists. It was about trying to make development work in a local context in the South. More recently hired anthropologists have a different training, and have been formed in a post-development school, and have a different approach, more informed by political anthropology."<sup>47</sup>

While this statement is not in itself revolutionary, it does remind us that generation is not so much a question of age as of general outlook and point of departure into the anthropological 'problem'. That being said there are still specific questions regarding generation and demography to address. A number of units, most notably UiO, is somewhat 'top-heavy', with a large proportion of researchers in their 50s and 60s. This points towards a potentially challenging time around the corner, as these scholars begin to retire. It is unclear to the Panel whether a new generation is being encouraged to develop their own intellectual agendas to take them forwards into the future. The Oslo Department exemplifies a clear tension between the positive aspects of professionalization of research training on the one hand, and the potentially negative routinization of anthropology on the other.

### **6.2.4 The challenge of multidisciplinary**

Of the units studied, some are 'housed' in larger organizational structures that comprise different disciplines. These are the three multidisciplinary university departments from the University of Oslo included in the evaluation: Department of Ethnography at the Museum of Cultural History, Section for Medical Anthropology and Medical History at Institute of General Practice and Community Medicine (Faculty of Medicine) and Centre for Development and the Environment (Faculty of Social Sciences). In these units, the anthropologists find themselves working on a daily basis with

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<sup>47</sup> This is cited from the minutes of the meeting.

researchers from other disciplinary backgrounds, epistemological traditions, and theoretical perspectives. This multidisciplinary environment in most cases also means that the anthropological units or clusters are operating within structures that are thematically orientated and focused.

Possibly the most explicit, and the most constructive version of multidisciplinary, was found at Section for Medical Anthropology (at UiO). In the self-evaluation it is stated: "Our section is characterized by being a small anthropological unit based in an inter- and multidisciplinary department. The disciplines of the department are quite diverse and thus provide for an environment characterized by both 'radical' multidisciplinary (epidemiology, general practice and anthropology) and 'sisterly' multidisciplinary (history, medical ethics and anthropology). For our section, the multidisciplinary environment facilitates not only rewarding multi- and cross-disciplinary work but also provides access to empirical fields and allows for dialogues with medical expertise whenever that is needed."

This positive spirit was repeated at the meeting, at which it became clear to the Panel that it might have a lot to do with the history of anthropology within that unit, as presented above. It is an important lesson about the (potential) power of one committed scholar within a larger environment. It is also a heartening report from a multidisciplinary environment. In many ways, the story presented a model of pleasant *refuge* from perhaps less sympathetic forces at the UiO Department; a space in which medical anthropology was acknowledged and respected. Similarly, SUM found itself well placed to set its own agenda, while also relating to the Department of Social Anthropology in a collegial manner. The environment at SUM simply presented an alternative academic space, possibly with more freedom and with colleagues from other disciplines.

A more troubled case was presented by the Department of Ethnography, where anthropology had merged with archaeology in a larger Museum of cultural history. Here, the model seemed to be one of *exile*. There seemed to be no real dialogue between the two disciplines, let alone any collaboration. The anthropologists (who are in minority, there are four of them) feel marginalized and unappreciated. The problem was aggravated by a sense of uncertainty as to what their real contribution should be. If they were to focus on materiality, which would be an obvious choice given the development of exciting new anthropological theories in this area, they would allegedly need entirely new collections, since the ones at hand were completely outdated. It is difficult for the Panel to assess this claim, but it was abundantly clear that the situation was fragile, and that the leadership at the Museum of Cultural History has kept a somewhat distant role in enhancing the profile of material anthropology or else build bridges between the two disciplines.

On the whole, we can see how a multidisciplinary environment can be considered to offer opportunities as well as some threats to the discipline. On the positive side, we found that many of the units are doing very well in their milieus, having been able to establish a solid position for anthropology among other disciplines, and also being able to make good use of anthropological methods and theory. They have also been able to develop and deepen research areas, such as medical anthropology. They have also opened up employment opportunities for younger anthropologists, and thereby contributed to the growth of the discipline at a more general level as such.

One challenge observed, however, is how to develop anthropological theory without a critical mass of fellow anthropologists with whom to converse, engage, and discuss. This appeared to be the case

in particular with the Department of Ethnography. Some of the interviewed researchers also aired the view that they experienced a lack of connection to the larger anthropological community, in Norway as well as internationally. This was evinced in the fact that there seemed to be little collaboration between the larger anthropology departments and the smaller thematic institutes, e.g. in terms of seminars, workshops, projects, and the like. It would appear that this is an area for development.

This concern seemed to be less prominent at CMI and NOVA, which differ from the three multidisciplinary units described above: Section for Medical Anthropology, Department of Ethnography and SUM. CMI and NOVA differ from the former two in that their scientific staff members have a much more diverse educational background. In addition to this, they differ to SUM also in terms of being more oriented towards applied research and to some extent consultancy tasks for governmental agencies. The development of social anthropological theory and method as such is not defined as main tasks at these two research institutions. Rather; the main focus is on putting together a team of researchers that is capable of successfully fulfilling (or applying for) projects. These projects are rarely defined as anthropological projects, but are seen as projects within thematic areas, e.g. development, poverty, welfare etc. where many different scientific competences are equally important in order to complete the project.

There is thus reason to reflect on if, and when, working as an anthropologist in a multidisciplinary setting becomes an opportunity for furthering anthropology and for pushing the anthropological frontier, and when it generates a career impasse or threatens to weaken anthropology as a discipline. With the exception of the CMI participant – who in any case may not have been representative of the views of other CMI anthropologists – all the participants from the smaller units (those primarily working in interdisciplinary centres) were concerned with developing their identities and expertise *as social anthropologists*. In a number of cases – Section for Medical Anthropology, SUM, NOVA – this involved well-organised and regular seminar and reading groups to discuss current issues and trends within the discipline. Only CMI referred to resource difficulties in maintaining such disciplinary activity in an interdisciplinary context.

### 6.3 Mobility<sup>48</sup>

Mobility is an important factor in avoiding reproduction of old ideas and theories. It opens for exchange of thoughts, and thereby for academic friction and a vivid academic life. It is thus important to investigate to what extent the anthropology units are self-recruiting, or whether they are exporters and/or importers of scientific knowledge. As has been stated previously, Norwegian anthropologists seem to identify themselves strongly with their departments, and it is quite obvious that increased inter-institutional mobility would have beneficial effects for the discipline as a whole.

In this section we look at the educational background of the units' staff and the mobility of PhD students from dissertation institution to current work place.

The academic staff (defined as those listed as anthropologists in the NIFU STEP databases) has in general their educational background from where they are now working (Table 6.1). There are three exceptions: At SUM, two out of three anthropologists in 2007 had their education from abroad. The

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<sup>48</sup> Mobility analyses were conducted upon request by researchers Hebe Gunnes and Terje Bruen Olsen at NIFU STEP.

anthropologists in Tromsø and at the Department of Ethnography in Oslo generally had researchers with educational background from their own universities, but also a large share of researchers educated at other institutions<sup>49</sup>.

**Table 6.1: Mobility in Norwegian anthropology: Educational background of the academic staff<sup>1</sup> (2007) at the nine evaluated departments, per cent**

Work place 2007	Institution awarding higher degree <sup>2</sup>					Total %	N
	UiO	UiB	UiT	NTNU	Abroad		
UiO	92	8	0	0	0	100	(24)
UiB	19	81	0	0	0	100	(27)
UiT	13	7	67	13	0	100	(15)
NTNU	29	12	0	59	0	100	(17)
Department of Ethnography	67	17	0	17	0	100	(6)
Section for Medical Anthropology	100	0	0	0	0	100	(5)
SUM	33	0	0	0	67	100	(3)
CMI	0	88	0	0	12	100	(8)
NOVA	100	0	0	0	0	100	(10)

<sup>1</sup> Includes personnel with a higher degree in the discipline registered in the NIFU STEP databases, including all Norwegian higher degrees, but not all foreign higher degrees. <sup>2</sup> Higher degree = Cand.polit./Mag art/Master. Source: NIFU STEP/Research personnel register.

The overall conclusion, however, is that most of the anthropology staff tend to pursue their academic careers at the same institution (or the closest one for the research institutes) where they once got their degree. Since the numbers in Table 6.1 are from 2007, they must be interpreted with caution for the anthropology department in Tromsø, since it merged with the Department of Archaeology in late 2009.

Table 6.2 investigates whether this pattern is also recognizable for those anthropologists that earned their doctoral degrees during the period 2003 and 2007. There are four university departments today that are authorized to establish social anthropology PhD programmes. Among the 34 doctoral students in the period 2003 to 2007 that completed their dissertations, 13 persons (38 per cent) are now working at the same institution where they wrote their dissertation.

**Table 6.2: Mobility (I) between dissertation institution and work place in 2008 for persons with social anthropology PhD 2003-2007**

Work place the same as PhD affiliation	PhD institution				Total
	UiO	UiB	UiT	NTNU	
Yes	4	4	3	2	13
No	5	8	4	4	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>34</b>

Source: The doctoral degree register and the research personnel register, NIFU STEP.

The numbers in Table 6.2 are small, yet interesting. Approximately half of the PhD students who completed their dissertations between 2003 and 2007 at UiO and UiT are now working at the same departments, whereas about 1/3 of the former PhD students at UiB and NTNU are now working at these institutions. Table 6.3 tells us where to find those PhD candidates who did not end up working at the same place where they got their PhD.

<sup>49</sup> The table also shows that SUM and CMI aside, none of the anthropologists in 2007 had their education from abroad, but this is largely due to lack of information on foreign higher degrees in the database that is used here.



**Table 6.3: Mobility (II) between dissertation institution and work place in 2008 for persons with social anthropology PhD 2003-2007**

Work place 2008	PhD institution				Total
	UiO	UiB	UiT	NTNU	
UiO	4	1			5
UiB		4			4
UiT			3		3
NTNU				2	2
Lillehammer College	1			1	2
Oslo College	1				1
Research sector	3	3	2	1	9
Not found		4	2	2	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>34</b>

Source: The doctoral degree register and the research personnel register, NIFU STEP.

Department of Social Anthropology at UiO produces either future staff at the Department, or provide research institutes or colleges with qualified staff. None of the PhD candidates from UiO are found in the category 'not found', which is interesting. In this category we find persons that end up working outside the research sectors or abroad (some internet research showed that some of these returned to the research sector in Norway in 2009). NTNU, UiT and in particular NTNU are represented in this category. It is also interesting that among PhD candidates completing their degree between 2003 and 2007, only one (from UiB) has been employed at another social anthropology department.

Among those 26 PhD students who completed their degree between 2003 and 2007, and were identified in the research sector in 2008, 10 were working as associate professors, one as university lecturer, 10 were researchers (hereof 8 in the institute sector), and 5 were post doctor fellows.

Thus, most PhD students do in fact find employment in the higher education sector, whereas only 24 per cent among all master students who graduated between 1995 and 2005 was found in the higher education sector in 2008. The Panel has not performed any specific analysis of what the labour market in general looks like for social anthropologists.

#### **6.4 Recruitment and career paths**

We may in general speak of two types of staff recruitments. The first is the recruitment of PhD students, i.e. appointing young scholars. The other is the recruitment of senior researchers, i.e. appointing from other institutions (both nationally and abroad). In this section we discuss the institutions' recruitment patterns and strategies, and what kind of formalized programmes they have for enhancing their staff's career paths.

Table 6.4 displays large variations in the recruitment of PhD students. UiO is almost exclusively recruiting their own students to PhD positions, whereas half of the PhD students at UiB have their education from another institution. In total, 2/3 of all PhD students that completed their dissertation between 2003 and 2007, were recruited from the same university department where they gained their higher degree.

**Table 6.4: Mobility between education institution and PhD institution for persons with a social anthropology PhD 2003-2007**

PhD institution the same as education institution	PhD institution				Total
	UiO	UiB	UiT	NTNU	
Yes	8	6	4	4	22
No	1	6	3	2	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>34</b>

Source: The doctoral degree register and the research personnel register, NIFU STEP.

Based on the self evaluations submitted by the units, and the Panel's meetings with them, we now briefly explore recruitment in recent years – defined as externally appointed staff in the period 2004 to 2008, and what (if any) strategies the units have to promote external recruiting.

- *Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Oslo* recruited four persons from other institutions in the period. Recruitment to permanent positions is international in its profile. However, historically, the Department has used recruitment of internal PhD students to counter the centrifugal tendency caused by the great number of external applicants working in Norway and mainly with applied research questions (mainly within the Norwegian context), in order to safeguard the anthropological perspectives and methods of long term fieldwork in non European (or unfamiliar or little known) environments. Recently, though, PhD positions have been advertised internationally. Historically, the Department has not specified any particular regional or thematic areas when announcing a position, but during the interviews the applicants have been asked what areas they would like to relate their research to, and then the Department has tried to relate them to existing groups. Recent appointments, though, have been more focused.
- *Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Bergen* has over the last 10 years had 3 external applicants for recruitment to 7 tenured positions. The Department wishes to encourage mobility by always advertising available positions (including postdoctoral fellowships) openly and internationally. Historically, positions have been earmarked regionally, but today they do not advertise for any specific areas although it's used internally.
- *Department of Social Anthropology at NTNU* has recruited one permanent staff member from UiB (as well as a postdoctoral fellow who did his postgraduate at Oxford). In the period of review there were two tenured positions vacant (and two postdoctoral positions). The Department's strategy to further scientific development and renewal has been to increase competition for positions by announcing permanent and post doctoral positions internationally rather than nationally and scholarships for the postgraduate program nationally rather than regionally. The Department has emphasized merits in publications (rather than how applicants would fit in) in order to recruit people "better than themselves".
- *Department of Social Anthropology at University of Tromsø* has not recruited scientific staff from other institutions in the period. Announcements appear in both Norwegian and English. Some positions have been published internationally, and networks have been utilized to encourage international applicants (Visual Cultural Studies has actively tried to recruit PhD candidates from abroad). An important consideration in the future for the new (merged) Department will be teaching-related and the need to provide teaching in English or English/Scandinavian.

- *Section for Medical Anthropology at University of Oslo* has no permanent staff recruited from outside in recent years and there have been no announcements of positions for permanent staff in the period. The main strategies for recruiting PhD candidates and postdoctoral fellows from abroad are recruitment through already existing international research collaborations involving the Section or other sections at the Department, and recruitment among students who have completed the master programme in Community Health.
- *Department of Ethnography at University of Oslo* has not recruited permanent staff in the period, and has no internal policy for post-doctoral recruitment. However, they have informal dialogue with the Department of Social Anthropology at UiO and have established a resource group for those interested in the Department of Ethnography (they try to identify persons who could be interested in being in such a group). No doctoral students attached to the Department have yet been appointed to a position within the institution, and the possibilities for such appointments appear quite limited with the current minimum staffing at the Department.
- *SUM at the University of Oslo* has not recruited permanent staff from outside in the period (only one position has been announced). However, five of the senior researchers that are in externally financed, temporary positions have been recruited from other institutions. The recruitment is adapted to fit development and needs of the respective multidisciplinary research areas, not the need of anthropology or any other particular discipline. The Centre does not encourage international mobility, as it is considered high already. Permanent positions are announced internationally, while PhD and postdoctoral positions are announced nationally.
- *CMI* has recruited two researchers from UiB in the period. The feeling at CMI is that too few of the staff has been hired after external competition. Hiring is based on local networks and internal processes (master and PhD students that have been affiliated with CMI), i.e. CMI hires people they “know and trust”. Appointments are considered in relation to the possibility of getting new projects, and within such a multidisciplinary framework, non-anthropologists at CMI may argue that other disciplines are more needed.
- *NOVA* has recruited one external researcher in the period. International recruitment has mostly been of research assistants (whom NOVA later helps apply for PhD funding). Targeted groups for future recruitment are economy and law, because this is considered the way to adapt to the trends in the market (i.e. more short projects with quantitative methods).

Arguably, the numbers and the above summaries of departmental mobility patterns speak for themselves, but based on the meetings with the departments, the Panel feels justified in adding some more general observations.

Norwegian anthropology departments seem to have strong departmental cultures that persist over long periods of time. There are historical reasons for this, but it is also partly due to the limited mobility between institutions that we have documented. With this comes a particular pattern of internal recruitment for lectureships and other positions, and a strong identification with one’s institution, its legacy and regional location. Historically, the same pattern has applied to the recruitment of graduate students but this has changed somewhat in the past decade, particularly in Bergen.

The persistence of these discrete cultures has generally not been seen as a problem; it was the way things were, ever since the establishment of the departments in the 1960s and 1970s. It is only more recently that the demand for internationalization and collaboration has shifted the external expectations to the departments. During the last decade, following ministry initiatives, the larger anthropological community in the country has also begun collaborating more intensely, notably with respect to PhD education. We can think of three reasons for this belated development:

- A general recognition of regional differences in Norway (both good and bad, needless to say).
- A stark imbalance within the national academic community where the vast majority of jobs and academic prestige have been located in Bergen and Oslo.
- A certain local patriotism centred on the celebration of (or distancing from) local founder figures.

This local patriotism, which is of course also related to practical matters of family and spouses' occupational situation, seems to be waning. From the meeting with the PhD students it transpired that they had less sense of belonging to a local, or even a national anthropology, and rather more attachment to what they perceived as a truly international discipline. (Evidently, their teachers share this view of anthropology, but their attachments remain also local.) All in all, the general picture is one of little mobility and a dominant pattern of self-recruitment. This lack of mobility is not due to any formal constraints, but continuous with deep department and university cultures. Bluntly speaking, a typical career path is to write your doctoral thesis at the same institution where you got your master's degree. If a further academic career is pursued, it will be at the same university (or in a multidisciplinary unit geographically closely situated).

Most institutions described some efforts in bringing in people from other parts of the country (or from abroad). The influx of new researchers is still small, however, as is mobility within Norway.

It is worth noting that the representatives from all departments participating in the meetings with the Panel stressed that the pattern of departmental isolation was rapidly diminishing. The establishment of a pan-Norwegian PhD school was an important factor in this. In general, the times are changing, and seem more open also to internationalization, although this in itself is a more complex issue than bureaucrats and policymakers are ready to acknowledge.

A complicating factor in the general picture of limited mobility between departments is the opacity of career-paths and possibilities. In contrast to countries where the career-path is clearly structured and shifts in between the steps are expected, Norwegian anthropologists face a rather unstructured future, when they embark on their first job. It seems natural, therefore, that young academics tend to stay embedded in networks within the known community.

## **6.5 National and international networks**

A common metaphor used by the institutions themselves was that of the doughnut. A number of units considered themselves to be particularly good at looking outwards – towards other disciplines or overseas colleagues (less so towards other units within Norway) – to create scholarly research networks, but less concerned with or less good at taking care of the 'centre' of the department or unit. This is born out also in our observations about research collaborations, such as edited collections, which often involve a Norwegian anthropologist working with an overseas colleague.

At the national level, there have been moves towards a national PhD school, but this has not come out of any departmental initiative; rather it is more or less being imposed from the top-administrative level, partly in consequence of an evaluation of research training some years back.<sup>50</sup> On its own initiative, NTNU has created a Nordic PhD school, but participation is still mostly local or at least Norwegian, although other Nordic PhD's have also participated.

We thus see some initiatives for increasing the level of national collaboration and networks, but it is still the case that among the 88 researchers selected for this evaluation, there was not one single publication authored by two researchers from different Norwegian institutions. Adding to that, as we saw in Chapter 4, co-authorship between the four university departments is virtually non-existing.

The lack of sustained linkages at the national scene is not paralleled in the international arena, within which Norwegian anthropologists often have close personal links. Broadly speaking, anthropology is inherently international. Its fieldwork legacy and broad comparative scope makes it next to impossible to remain parochial. Even so, there is also a distinct Norwegian tradition of addressing local issues and speaking to a general public, which may be invisible at the international level. In some cases, such as NOVA, this is a natural reflection of the aim of the institution, whereas in other cases the limitation is not as self-evident.

Focussing on internationalization (as such) we first note that it may be of diverse kinds and constitute different kinds of network and collaboration: Norwegians travelling abroad, scholars from abroad coming to Norway, or a general openness to the 'outer' world and individual participation in international research networks and conferences. If we consider the last kind first, we note a very satisfactory participation and presence of Norwegian anthropologists in international networks, conferences and journals. The Oslo anthropologists in particular have had a high profile also in the making of the European Association of Social Anthropologists.

As for the other modalities of internationalization, we note that in Norway it has for decades meant establishing contacts with other individuals and institutions, especially in Europe, less in the US and the rest of the world (apart from specific programmes involving the Global South). These contacts resulted in collaborative research projects, mutual invitations for lectures, and joint publications<sup>51</sup>.

The internationalization efforts have only recently had a direct impact on the lives of graduate students. The impulse is still governed by a sense of a dyadic relationship between Norwegian anthropologists and 'the field'. Students and faculty seldom spend sustained time at other institutions abroad. The level of recruitment of international students is very low as a whole, with Bergen having the vast majority of these students, and Tromsø recruiting a good number for the MA in Visual Cultural Studies. Only in Bergen has the graduate students' training been converted to an English language programme. Some departments (e.g. Oslo) expressed reservations about creating an entirely English language doctoral programme. Part of this stems from an explicit, and perfectly legitimate, commitment to keeping a Norwegian language anthropology alive. This, again, is related

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<sup>50</sup> *Evaluering av norsk forskerutdanning*, Norges Forskningsråd, 2002.

<sup>51</sup> The Panel was interested in finding out about the extent of longer guest researcher stays abroad, but this information was not always available in CVs, in annual reports or on the internet. However, based on limited information, it is the impression of the panel that the extent of longer stays in departments abroad is rather limited.

both to a sense of feeling 'at home' in one's language, and to a wish to be able address issues of public relevance in anthropological terms.

The recruitment of faculty staff from abroad is also very limited, albeit changing gradually in Oslo and Bergen. The worries here are well known from other European countries: will the new faculty members 'fit in' – linguistically, culturally and personally? Will they stay in Norway for a long period of time? Will they be pulling an equal weight in teaching and administration as compared to Norwegian colleagues? These considerations are not to be taken lightly, since academic life in general has a marked administrative element, which presupposes a command of the local (or in this case at least another Scandinavian) language as well as the local bureaucratic culture. This was remarked upon by several of the units that the Panel met with.

Whatever the reasons, and some of them are known in other countries as well, one is still left with a sense of a certain inchoate reservation about breaking the old model of internationalization (meeting the world out there) and embark on a more intense and also more difficult path of 'importing' the world to Norway. The latter kind of internationalization might lead to one's workplace being transformed from a more homely and intimate space where most things and relationships are pre-scripted and pre-understood, to a more 'alienated' and also 'formal' atmosphere where meetings, seminars and teaching, or at least some of it, happens in English.

In one case (NTNU), it was stated by the representatives that until recently, their Head of Department (and founder) had provided limited encouragement for internationalization, firstly because he himself was not seen as a great collaborating spirit and did not attract people from outside, secondly, because he focused entirely on the Department's teaching capacities within the general set-up of the NTNU. Now, a new structure and a new head paved the way for a Nordic research course that seemed to open up the Department to the world. There are now conscious efforts made to enhance international collaboration.

In another case (CMI) the representatives stressed a strong international component in their work, not least by way of the steady influx of master and PhD students from the Global South (and elsewhere), which was part of their teaching programme (which is also the case for the master students in Visual Culture Studies in Tromsø). There is also a remarkable collaboration between CMI and their partners in publications. A number of non-Norwegians also had (had) permanent positions, even if there was still a general complaint about too few posts being filled after an open recruitment process.

The Panel believes that there may be a direct relationship between this long-lasting model of limited internationalization and the limited innovation and theoretical risk-taking, seen in the scholarly work. Put simply, the parameters of identity, rank, status and achievement are overwhelmingly focused on Norway, perhaps Scandinavia at times. Publishing in English serves to bolster and maintain one's place in the domestic order of things and less to establish oneself in a wider and global debate in anthropology.

There are notable exceptions; some individuals stand out as 'international' scholars in every sense of the term without necessarily losing out on the domestic arena. But the general pattern is clear. The domestic arena promises a high-profile public recognition, well-paid jobs and almost unparalleled working conditions for both men and women, and those with families. The Panel believes this may

explain, in the main, why so many Norwegian anthropologists appear to be un-ambitious in their wanting to go on to the international job-market, and by implication, in their choice of publication outlets in English. The home ground and the familiar language is one thing, but the very supportive social environment of the welfare state is possibly an even stronger motivation for staying in Norway<sup>52</sup>. One should not forget that this actually has been instrumental to the (next-to) gender equality in Norway, which must be cherished.

To sum up: The orientation is mostly national, even when the language is English, and the training and model of exposure transmitted to the younger generation is also predominantly that of using the financial strength of the Norwegian academy to invite international scholars to Norway, host conferences, and to visit other departments but only in brief stints. Apart from the protracted fieldwork periods, the out-migration impulse is almost non-existent, even as shorter one or two semesters visiting stints. It is somehow balanced by the strong tradition of fieldwork that sends most anthropologists abroad for longer periods of time. Similar arguments were made by the representatives from the various institutions concerning student and PhD exchange. There was generally little incentive (and no money) to send students abroad. It should also be noted here that Norwegian institutions are still on the outskirts of the European Union student mobility programmes.

## **6.6 Public anthropology and 'relevance'**

When we discussed the publications, we noted a marked prevalence of articles in Norwegian, often published in the *Norwegian Journal of Anthropology*. This is more than a coincidence, let alone a simple matter of convenience.

While on the negative side this may seem to inhibit internationalization, on the positive side it is also indicative of the commitment to enlighten the national community, and to open interesting and challenging opportunities to the candidates fostered within the anthropological discipline. This, in turn, is related to the historically high national profile of anthropology, and its general recognition as an important player among the social sciences – owing very much to its founding fathers, not least in Oslo but also elsewhere. To see how, it is worth going back to the self-evaluation made by UiO: “Continuing a long tradition, starting with the inspiration from professor Fredrik Barth through Arne Martin Klausen (who retired in 2001) in particular, we see it as our task to contribute not only to good education, but to knowledge production in a more general sense in Norwegian society. Anthropology is generally held in high regard not only in the public, but in the social sciences and the humanist disciplines, often offering perspectives from fieldwork based, comparative work of a kind that is sometimes lacking in the other disciplines.”

To get there, the *Norwegian Journal of Anthropology* plays a significant role: “The journal, which consists of contributions in Norwegian exclusively, thus serves as a fundamental link between our departments’ interest in Norway/Nordic ethnography our ‘enlightenment tradition’ and link to Norwegian society at large” (UiO self-evaluation).

This public and mediating ambition is not exclusive to UiO, but is reflected in many other statements. In the Section for Medical Anthropology they tend much more towards an applied anthropology, in the traditional sense of the term. There are also other models, which can describe public

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<sup>52</sup> It is of course fully possible that not going abroad is not a matter of not wanting to, but rather that there are some mechanisms that prevent the researcher from going.

anthropology and its broader relevance. It is important that these are acknowledged, as they might provide encouragement and acknowledgement to otherwise beleaguered units. For example, the Department at UiT, whilst currently reacting to restructuring in ways that have clearly demoralised a number of staff, might return to an important element of their mission, namely, Sámi studies. Whilst this is clearly an academic research endeavour, it also has significant scope for public relevance, particularly through the development of Sámi rights, and their relationship to other indigenous rights processes both nationally and globally. Similarly, the Department of Ethnography at the Museum in Oslo might be encouraged to think of their curatorial and exhibition activities as forms of public anthropology – relevant to the broader education of the Norwegian and visiting public.

The general point the Panel wants to make in the present context is that instead of appealing to ‘relevance’ in an abstract sense, the notion of a public anthropology may take us further towards a true assessment of the impact of anthropology in Norwegian society. To speak of a public anthropology in this sense makes it evident that relevance reaches far beyond the instrumental, although this may be important in settings devoted to applied anthropology, whether at home or in the Global South. Even so, this particular kind of instrumental relevance draws upon the general development within anthropology, and should be seen as just a specific instance of a public anthropology. (See also chapter 1, where the notion of relevance was first discussed.)

## **6.7 Resource issues**

A number of units referred to the difficulties of unpredictable resource allocation methods. In some cases this was brought about by rather recent restructuring – most notably in Tromsø. In others, it was down to a dependence on research grant funding. That said, there were less complaints than what one might expect about the restructuring of grant funding to favour larger programmes rather than ‘responsive’ mode individual funding. Only the Tromsø Department really complained about this, in ways that were a little difficult to unpack. In a department that seems to be dominated by two entirely separate spheres of social anthropology – ethnographic documentary films and indigenous societies – the complaint was that funding was targeted mostly to projects concerned with either poverty or natural resources issues. The complaint was perplexing, in that indigenous societies are among the most vulnerable to issues of natural resources and poverty, and the Panel would have thought the indigenous societies group would be particularly well placed to benefit from such funding streams. Indeed, the Tromsø department appears to have been affected by its own legacy – or legacies – and the lack of enabling leadership, as previously discussed.

With the exception of Tromsø and the Department of Ethnography in Oslo, the institutions gave no impression of being in a difficult financial situation. All institutions gave reasons for why more money would be desirable (most notably NTNU, so that they could hire more teaching staff), but the lack of funds was not a central issue. The main concern was with having to spend more time on applying for external funding, which actually is out there. This was particularly the case at NOVA, who, as an independent research institute, has a completely different funding structure from the university institutions. NOVA is more dependent on external funding sources, which implies a continuous process of project application writing, which may inhibit further elaboration of collected material and results presented in the ‘grey literature’; transforming it to research published through scientific channels. It was noted that the university departments find themselves in a state of transition from being totally dependent on internal (university) funds to now having to rely more on external funds.



In the institute sector, this had always been the case, and they seemed rather content with the matter.

The increasing importance of external funding brings up some challenges to the university departments. Firstly, it requires more time for writing project proposals, which inevitably consumes some of the research time – which is new to people. Secondly, the larger programmes initiated by RCN (and other major funding sources) are increasingly multidisciplinary, and allegedly not fitting well into the anthropological portfolio. In addition, the application procedures (especially those for EU projects) are administratively and technically complicated exercises. Some institutions seem to respond to this in a rather reluctant manner, whereas others see this as a challenge that they shall overcome. Both UiB and NTNU have unsuccessfully applied for EU funds, but give the impression that they see this as a learning process, and they will continue trying since these funding patterns are here to stay and will, whether one likes it or not, be an important funding pattern in the future.

## 6.8 Comparative analysis

As a whole, we would say that the two big departments in Oslo and Bergen appear most successful in terms of their general contribution to the development of anthropology. In terms of the social life of the departments, they differ considerably, however. Bergen is organized around a central figure, who for the past decade has been attributed with the leadership in terms of international outlook and collaboration. The price seems to have been an implicit marginalization of a number of people and a rather remarkable number of unproductive researchers. In Oslo, the pattern is more even, and there is less sense of leadership, possibly at the cost of weakening the sense of having a research community where the seniors take responsibility for the juniors. Here, a demographic problem is also on the horizon, and this will have to be carefully managed if the Department is to keep momentum. The introduction of newer, younger members of staff into a department that will be losing many of its senior faculty over the next decade (due to retirement) will be a challenge that might require that some of the more structured procedures utilised by Bergen – including formal appraisal – are introduced. Indeed, we would be inclined to recommend that such procedures are adopted as best practice across the spectrum.

NTNU Trondheim finds itself in a transitional phase, and should be supported in their attempts to get the best, research-wise, out of their faculty – most of whom were appointed merely as teachers. Previously, the Department was able to appoint a Professor II, and this should be revived. This might be all it takes to enable the Department to set a new course, by seeing itself through the eyes of an encouraging ‘critical friend.’ This person, who should be a scholar of international standing, could help raising staff morale and offering advice about publication. The Department of Social Anthropology at NTNU could also benefit from closer links with the other departments – particularly Bergen and Oslo – links, which will perhaps follow naturally from the national PhD school, but others could be sought and established via different channels.

Tromsø is a small department and it should revisit its adherence to two strong but unrelated themes. It was unclear to the Panel exactly how much – if at all – the ethnographic film unit is generating *research* activity. Rather, it seems to be an exercise in MA teaching – which is not the same thing. It is also dependent on the north-south funding scheme. Indeed, both streams in Tromsø appear to have been dependent on this funding. We would recommend their diversifying this: not only in terms of their funding streams, but also in terms of their activities. The alliance with Archaeology may force

their hand, but the Department needs a serious rethink in (and by) itself. The organization and the social life of the Department seemed less than productive, to judge from the self-evaluation as well as the meeting.

The smaller institutes are each placed slightly differently. Some appear to act as a refuge or escape from the departmental establishments (e.g. Section for Medical Anthropology), others seem to be effective exiles from the departmental fold (e.g. the Department of Ethnography). In all cases rather tight – perhaps tighter – relationships with the established departments would seem to make sense. Where necessary – as in the case of the Department of Ethnography – the departments could be given formal responsibility for ‘looking after’ the interests of their ‘satellite’ institutes within the institutional context. Anthropology is a strong discipline with a good national and international reputation. It could capitalise on this position, to ensure that colleagues are not demoralised – as they appear to be at the Department of Ethnography, at NTNU, and in Tromsø.

Such collaboration with a ‘local big brother’ is found in Bergen, where CMI has close relations and staff exchange with the university department. NOVA in Oslo, on the other hand, lacks such collaboration, and in contrast to CMI there is no presence of master students for supervision, or the extent of PhD students that CMI has. This is possibly an important explanation to why CMI has more internationally published publications, whereas NOVA is mostly confined to Norwegian journals, and in particular to publications outside of the Norwegian research funding system, i.e. to institutional reports etc. Although the researchers at NOVA are highly productive in terms of the number of publications, they reach publishing at level 2 in the funding system to a much lesser degree than CMI.

All in all, the Panel finds that the above review of Norwegian social anthropology in terms of both the inner social life of the individual departments and the national and international relationships has offered important insights into the workings of the discipline, which in turn may encourage the units to identify their own sense of strength and weakness. The major stronghold of the community is actually its multi-polarity, and this could be explored and exploited explicitly and creatively in a joint learning process.



## 7. RECOMMENDATIONS

In this final chapter the Panel sums up its general impression of strengths and weaknesses in Norwegian anthropology, first by unit and then for Norwegian anthropology as a whole. In each case recommendations are given of both general and specific kinds. Before doing that it is worth noting some salient features of the anthropological landscape as a whole on the basis of the evaluated institutions.

Anthropology in Norway stands out as an important and quite influential discipline. Since its (institutional) beginnings in the 1960s it has gained significant ground in the intellectual environment, and it has attracted substantial amounts of funding. The discipline is remarkable for its vitality and for its steadfast cultivation of new fields, new themes and new concepts in the quest for understanding what seems to be an ever more complex world. It is no surprise that 'globalization' has become an important target for anthropological research, nor that it has not yet become a stronghold in the field.

The institutions encompassed by this evaluation are of quite different nature. The four anthropology departments at the universities constitute a specific genre in relation to the multidisciplinary research units. Within these two kinds of institutions there are also major differences related to their individual histories and to their current profiles or mandates. This should be kept in mind throughout. Even so, it is also worth noting that there are relatively strong unifying currents that seem to infuse all the units and link them together.

First of all there seems to be a strong enlightenment ethos on the one hand, striving towards knowledge that can be shared, and a humanitarian ethos on the other, where knowledge is put to use in correcting social or historical wrongs. This is to be greatly respected. The strong position of *Norsk Antropologisk Tidsskrift* should be seen in this light. As the most important (quantitatively) outlet for research, and the only journal to which each and everyone contributes, it is a testimony to the public ambition of Norwegian anthropology, but also potentially to its inwardness and closure.

Second, there is a strong legacy of conducting fieldwork, and of producing solid ethnographic knowledge before making generalizations. This is in accordance with the international (particularly British) view of anthropology as first and foremost an empirical discipline, the hallmark of which is long-term fieldwork. The general challenge is to transcend this inherently individualistic production of knowledge and make it 'add up' to a more comprehensive knowledge that can be shared, also with other disciplines.

Third, the Panel wants to acknowledge the emerging sense of having to professionalize anthropology, for example by way of joint PhD programmes, which may contribute to a de-individualization of the discipline. Here, the challenge will be one of keeping an open eye to renewal in face of the inherent danger of routinization.

We shall return to more specific comments on Norwegian anthropology as a whole, once we have presented the individual units in terms of their strengths and weaknesses.

## 7.1 The individual units

In assessing strengths and weaknesses of the nine institutions in this evaluation, the units have been assessed differently with a view to their roles and aims in Norwegian society and within the broader anthropological community. Clearly, the two big departments in Oslo and Bergen are in a league of their own, being both older and more comprehensive than the two smaller departments in Trondheim and Tromsø. Anthropology in Trondheim and Tromsø is less research driven than in Oslo and Bergen and has relatively more focus on teaching of various kinds.

### 7.1.1 Department of Social Anthropology, University of Oslo

*Strengths:* The Department has a high international profile, in terms of publication and participation in (personal) networks. It also has a strong public profile within Norway, which is a strength not only to the Department but also to Norwegian anthropology in general. The publications generally are of high quality (especially for those who publish a lot) and appear in significant journals and with good publishing houses. The ethnographic base is strong, and fieldwork mandatory for the MA and the PhD.

*Weaknesses:* There seems to be a lack of theoretical ambition. The productivity of the researchers is highly skewed; there is a large share of researchers with a very low scientific productivity – at least to the extent scientific productivity is defined in the Norwegian funding system of higher education institutions. The Department is marked by a high degree of home-recruitment, which favours reproduction at the expense of renewal. There is a demographic problem on the horizon, when the present seniors retire in a not so distant future, but the Department has not yet addressed this.

*Recommendations:*

A: The Department of Social Anthropology in Oslo should consider lifting their ambition towards generalizing, and support the structures for theoretical advancements on the basis of their solid ethnographic tradition.

B: The Department should develop plans to enhance the scientific production of the less productive researchers. An increase in each staff member's scientific contribution would benefit the Department, both in terms of funding and in terms of creating a more egalitarian research community, as well as in terms of increasing the quality of the research (since the Panel has found a strong association between the quality of the publications, and the productivity of the individual researchers).

C: The Department should think carefully of the demographic transition they soon will face. They should focus more on how to support the next generation of researchers, but also try to recruit more broadly, to even out what from the outside appears to be a strong home recruitment.

D: The Department should consider whether the focus on public dissemination to some extent may overshadow the Department's role as a contributor to theoretical advancements in the field. As the nation's largest department, in terms of numbers as well as breadth of portfolio, this should be the responsibility of the Department.

E: In general, and given its standing, the Department could optimize its capacities, also with respect to mentoring the next generation.

### **7.1.2 Department of Social Anthropology, University of Bergen**

*Strengths:* The Department has a high international profile, and good international recruitment. It has a high publication score, qualitatively and quantitatively. Research is focused on core topics that enhance specialist knowledge. The Department has developed (and is still developing) organizational routines that aim at encourage and support researchers, intellectually and practically. A relatively structured doctoral programme is part of this. The Department has a relatively balanced age-structure. It has a strong academic leadership, centred around a charismatic leader, and appears to be a living place.

*Weaknesses:* The publication pattern is rather narrow, and the focus on particular themes seems to make the Department less open to (what is considered) peripheral anthropological themes. The distribution of publications is very uneven, and the number of 'unproductive' researchers too high. There seems to be too much of a big-man culture, which is not equally appreciated by all, and which tends towards marginalizing some researchers. A feature of this is that matters Norwegian are rendered relatively invisible. The Department seems to be rather self-sufficient.

#### *Recommendations*

A: The Department should work actively towards an improvement of the productivity among the under- or unproductive researchers.

B: The Department should consider distributing academic leadership in the interest of maintaining diversity and encouraging junior researchers to make their own, distinct intellectual choices. This would also encourage a productive intellectual friction.

C: The Department could consider widening the dialogue and collaboration with other departments in Norway, and with issues of more direct relevance to and impact upon Norwegian society.

### **7.1.3 Department of Social Anthropology, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)**

*Strengths:* The Department takes teaching very seriously; the staff not only teaches a lot more than the average university employee, it also puts a lot of effort and thought into it. The Department has pioneered a Nordic Research school, to which international scholars have been invited; through this it has made an international mark. Members of the Department are self-reflexive and demonstrate a strong will to change and to move towards better research output patterns. A number of staff members have completed high-quality fieldwork projects, but have not (yet) published the results. The Department has a lot of students, including a dynamic group of PhD students.

*Weaknesses:* The Department seems to lack a sense of direction, after the retirement of its founder some years ago. The Department has a low scientific productivity. The publications are generally of lesser quality than to be expected. The staff members are too humble about their capacities and potentialities, as they transpire from the publications, many of which are based in solid ethnography.

#### *Recommendations:*

A: NTNU needs to realize that the heavy teaching load is a liability to the Department.

B: To encourage the Department to set a new research agenda for itself, the Panel strongly recommends that NTNU makes it possible for the Department to have a Professor II.

C: The Department itself should reconsider its publication activity, and seek to enhance it – quantitatively and qualitatively. The Panel noted that there was a lot of unpublished material in the pipeline, and the Department should think about strategies to get it out.

D: The Department should look ahead and find the strength in what they have, even though the transition from an university college to a comprehensive university department has been difficult, and the more so because it has been overlaid by another transition, from having a strong leader (effectively reducing the colleagues to teachers) to finding oneself in a new era.

#### **7.1.4 Department of Social Anthropology (since 2009, Department of Archaeology and Anthropology), University of Tromsø**

*Strengths:* The research strengths of the Department are related to Sámi studies and studies of indigenous people worldwide. There is also a booming master programme of Visual Cultural Studies, attracting students from abroad, notably the Global South. In this, the Department has shown quite an enterprising spirit. Generally, the Department deserves credit for doing visual anthropology (as the only institution in Norway doing it), and the wish to create a peer reviewed film ‘journal’ is original.

*Weaknesses:* The publications indicate that the potential of the two thematic strongholds is not fully explored. The productivity and quality of the Department’s publications are low, and the extent of national collaboration and mobility is limited. In the Visual Cultural Studies programme, there seems to be little original research. The Department’s attitude towards funders and funding systems is not constructive. There seems to be a general feeling that the chance of getting new large-scale research programmes on e.g. environmental issues was limited given the Department’s key areas. There is a general, and unproductive sense of victimization after the merger with archaeology, which was forced from outside.

#### *Recommendations*

A: The Department should work concertedly towards the creation of a new vision for anthropology in northern Norway and for strengthening the anthropological community.

B: The Department should take advantage of the restructuring and reflect on who they are and what they are doing; in short they should use the situation to set a new agenda for themselves.

C: The Department should explore the external funding possibilities in a sustained and constructive manner; programmes related to environmental or poverty issues seem to invite strong projects on indigenous peoples.

D: The Department should look to a broader audience for their publications and start writing more in English, and stretch themselves after a higher share of level 2 publications.

E: The Visual Cultural Studies programme needs a serious rethinking. Its research profile is weak, and while its teaching may be important, the Department should consider how to use the limited resources for research.

### **7.1.5 Department of Ethnography at the Museum of Cultural History, University of Oslo**

*Strengths:* The small staff at the Department of Ethnography produces top-quality research.

Everyone at the Department publishes; the output is consistently high. The staff members all have their individual expertise.

*Weaknesses:* For the Department of Ethnography it seems a major weakness that they are a minority within a non-inclusive larger institution. If this is a weakness of organization, there also seems to be a weakness at the Department as such, in that there seems to be no concerted effort to swing the situation around to the Department's own advantage. The research remains very individualistic, and does not address the most obvious strengths inherent in the affiliation, such as studies of materiality. The research seems 'unfocused'; there is clearly an unused potential for more collaboration both at the Museum and with colleagues at the Anthropology Department at the University of Oslo.

*Recommendations:*

A: The Panel recommends that the Museum looks carefully into the position of the Department of Ethnography and develop more inclusive structures of participation and encouragement. More resources for new fieldwork and collection should be made available.

B: The Department should capitalize more on its position and take more responsibility for improvement.

C: The Department should look for possibilities for doing collaborative projects with archaeologists rather than saying that they can't work together

D: The Department should start looking for more external funding, and reach out more to general anthropology at the Oslo Department, in general and not least in terms of PhD education.

### **7.1.6 Section for Medical Anthropology, Institute of Health and Society, University of Oslo**

*Strengths:* The anthropologists at Section for Medical Anthropology find themselves in a supportive environment, where they enjoy academic freedom and have good space for anthropological research. The Section has a good publication output, both in terms of productivity and quality. The researchers are self-confident and optimistic.

*Weaknesses:* The contentment possibly is also a weakness in that the Section tends towards closing in upon itself. A more sustained exchange and collaboration with the Oslo Department should be pursued in the interest of keeping up with the development of anthropology in general. This would also work towards a lessening of the fragility of the very small institution.

*Recommendations:*

A: Section for Medical Anthropology should seriously consider the future given its fragility in terms of numerical size and demography.

B: The Section should be less self-contained and reach out more to general anthropology.

C: The Section should exchange more with the Social Anthropology Department at the University.



D: The Section could perhaps pick up its original entrepreneurial spirit and set new ambitious research agendas for itself.

### **7.1.7 Centre for Development and the Environment (SUM)**

*Strengths:* SUM is characterized by researchers working in a supportive environment. They enjoy the fruits of successful multidisciplinary collaboration at the Centre. The productivity of the researchers is high; so is the mobility at the Centre (i.e. frequent stays abroad, people coming in). The researchers have freedom to do anthropological research, and stand out as competent researchers that keep up with international trends. Both the Centre as a whole and the anthropologists working there are content and accomplished.

*Weaknesses:* There is a potential mismatch between the portfolio and the actual research. Considering the aim of SUM, it is surprising that development and poverty is not more significant in the research of the anthropologists. This may have to do with the multidisciplinary nature of the Centre, and the challenge for the anthropologists to maintain a focus on anthropology. While this may not have any negative effects on SUM itself, it could be a long-term concern for keeping anthropology as a discipline at the Centre.

#### *Recommendations*

A: SUM should establish/rethink the profile of the anthropologists at the Centre.

B: In the long-term interest of both SUM and of anthropology at SUM, the anthropologists should possibly address the core issues of SUM in a more sustained manner, and thus demonstrate the general strength of the anthropological contribution.

C: In the interest of the above, the unit could rethink its publication strategies, towards establishing a stronger presence in general anthropological fora.

### **7.1.8 Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI)**

*Strengths:* CMI has a strong international orientation and a clear thematic focus. The Institute has been very successful in raising funds. The anthropologists are appreciated in an inclusive and conducive environment where there is high level of autonomy for the anthropologists. Its main profile is within applied anthropology, and it is often based in sustained collaboration with partners from the Global South. There is an active collaboration with the Bergen Department and an ambition to create a strong and inclusive environment also for the younger generations of MA's and PhD's, supervised jointly with the Department.

*Weaknesses:* CMI is very dependent upon external funding sources, and thus has less freedom to explore new avenues of research. In terms of the publication level, CMI scored rather low in the Panel's assessment. This reflects an apparent lack of concern with mainstream anthropological development at CMI – which was also the implicit yardstick of the Panel.

#### *Recommendations:*

A: Despite its applied focus, CMI should explore mechanisms for improving the academic quality of their publications.

B: CMI should look more closely at the conceptual and thematic development of anthropology in general – that is if it wishes to maintain a distinct anthropological profile within the general area of development studies.

### **7.1.9 Norwegian Social Research (NOVA)**

*Strengths:* NOVA has a high public presence in Norway. The anthropologists are often engaged in key debates on everyday life in the national media. All of the anthropologists at NOVA are actively publishing. In addition to scholarly publications, NOVA is an active producer of evaluation reports, internal reports etc. This goes with the mandate, and it makes it difficult to compare the output directly with the other units. Anthropologists at the unit maintain a strong commitment to fieldwork. They are organized in viable research groups.

*Weaknesses:* All publications of research (as distinguished from grey publications) were published only in Norwegian, and only at level 1. NOVA has no international profile and lacks ambition as regards level 2 publishing. In the Panel's criteria for rating quality, NOVA scored weakly. In their own opinion, it is a weakness that they do not have students (anymore). This would add more life and academic dynamism to the group.

*Recommendations:*

A: Despite its applied and national focus, NOVA should try to publish in broad international journals and capitalize more on their empirical research.

B: To facilitate that process, NOVA should actively seek to establish collaborative relations to other anthropology departments.

## **7.2 Norwegian anthropology as a whole.**

In this section, the Panel addresses the strengths and weaknesses of Norwegian anthropology as a whole, and makes broader recommendations for the furthering of anthropological research in Norway.

The university departments fall into two sets; on the one hand the departments in Oslo and Bergen are high profile and well performing. On the other hand, the departments in Trondheim and Tromsø seem less well functioning. They lag behind in terms of original research and publication – not to speak of morale.

As for the units belonging to the institute sector, there is a split between the research driven institutes, and the institutes devoted to applied anthropology. Generally, the latter seem to do less well within a general research paradigm. A common denominator of the Oslo-based institutions, NOVA, SUM, Section for Medical Anthropology and Department of Ethnography, is that they all have a very limited collaboration with the Department of Social Anthropology at University of Oslo. By contrast, there is much more mobility and collaboration between CMI and the Bergen Department.

The Panel would like to initially suggest that the Department of Social Anthropology at the University of Oslo actively seeks to open up for more collaboration with the other units in the Oslo area. This would enable more mobility between the units, and serve as a mentoring function for the smaller ones among them. This would seem pertinent in relation to their respective areas of thematic specialization, and would work to the benefit of all parties.

If we shift focus from the institutions individually to Norwegian anthropology in general, the most notable strengths and weaknesses of Norwegian anthropology can be summarized in five general points.

### ***The Legacy***

Norwegian anthropologists stand on the shoulders of strong forefathers, whose influence is still visible. The most profound legacy has been the strong emphasis on original ethnographic research, which is still seen. This empiricist tradition may explain the apparent lack of generalizing ambition. It also raises the question of whether the new generation is really encouraged to develop their intellectual ideas. Seen from the outside, the high profile of Norwegian anthropology in the media and other public domains is striking and bears witness to a strong tradition.

#### *Recommendation:*

- *Maintain the ethnographic focus, but be more theoretically ambitious so as to optimize the value and impact of the ethnographies.*

### ***The funding patterns***

Norwegian anthropology is characterised by a broad coverage both thematically and regionally (possibly except East Asia). The research community nevertheless seem a bit stuck in the old ways of defining themes and regions. New projects from RCN or EU are multidisciplinary and large-scale, and despite its thematic and regional strengths, the Norwegian anthropology community seems reluctant to enter this new era of funding, claiming that these new forms application forms do not suit anthropology. It is also important to remember that there is an imbalance of structural conditions between the units, e.g. NTNU being swamped in teaching, Tromsø being restructured etc., and generally making the institutions unequally equipped for pursuing external funds.

#### *Recommendations:*

- *The Units should recognize the necessity and opportunities in applying for external funds – and start doing it (if they do not do so already).*
- *The units should focus more on the quality of funding applications as part of the professional requirements.*
- *The units should start looking towards the new large multidisciplinary funding programmes – and consider the potential contribution of anthropology.*

#### *Recommendation for the universities:*

- *Free up some money for short periods of fieldwork – which does not require lots of money (e.g. “sometimes you need money for living three months in India”).*

#### *Recommendations for RCN:*

- *Smaller amounts of money can make a difference (not just the large projects need money). There are strong arguments to maintain small funds for free projects.*

- *There is a possibility that funding schemes make the units more opportunistic. In order to enhance anthropological research, the RCN has to make the opportunities more open, and not focus exclusively on specific themes. Considering the historical impact of individuals, some leeway for funding individual projects would be important alongside funding larger projects.*

### ***The publications***

The monographs and edited volumes are generally of high quality and often published by acclaimed international publishing houses. On the negative side, Norwegian anthropology is not very visible in core/leading journals in the discipline, and the Norwegian participation in international key debates is scant. The publishing pattern is also uneven. A large share of the researchers is publishing very little, and the Panel has not seen evidence of any credible strategies to remedy this.

#### *Recommendations:*

- *Think about procedures for nurturing/mentoring unproductive researchers.*
- *Raise the publication records (publish more, in higher profile international contexts, and in international mainstream, high-profile journals).*

### ***The next generation***

The anthropology community is top-heavy, dominated by a group of highly productive seniors doing high quality research. However, some of the institutions are entering a generational shift without being prepared for its consequences. The planning and career structure for younger researchers is ambiguous and unclear. The PhD training and mentoring opportunities are uneven (Bergen leads the way; the others have nothing structured to offer).

#### *Recommendations:*

- *Nurture the younger generation, prepare for succession.*
- *Initiate and systematize research training in departments and on the national level.*
- *Focus on professionalizing leadership/mentoring/appraisal etc.*

### ***Low national and international mobility and collaboration***

Most institutions are characterized as safe and good places to be, with a good collegial atmosphere, and little conflict. Most institutions are based on self-recruitment, and collaboration between the nine institutions studied is very limited. The international mobility of Norwegian anthropologists is also low.

#### *Recommendations:*

- *Encourage mobility of PhD-students and junior researchers.*
- *Encourage systematic efforts towards mobility across and between universities, but also between disciplines.*
- *Develop internationalization further.*

### 7.3 Finale

The Panel wants to acknowledge the efforts made by the first generations of anthropologists in Norway, who have made the discipline known and respected. However, the Panel also wants to stress that there is room for improvement of the current status; the high public profile of anthropology in Norway is not a given, but must be earned anew by each new cohort. The Panel finds that the state of anthropology today provides a solid basis for new developments while keeping up with the best achievements of previous years.

The international conjunctures and the global developments potentially make anthropology a leading discipline in years to come. To meet this expectation, anthropologists in Norway, who are (comparatively) well funded and have a high degree of professional security (once embraced by the research-system), should make new deliberate strategies for intellectual commitment and development, both *within* the units whose potential seems under-explored, and *between* the diverse units, which have so much to offer each other.

As a truly international discipline dealing with the global community in its many facets, anthropology is well endowed to take the lead in comprehending the challenges facing the globalized world. The unique contribution of the discipline – knowing and understanding people where they are – is increasingly important. Creating knowledge through cross-cultural dialogue with people living in particular places, and analyzing its implications for global understanding, makes anthropology a key discipline in the making of new international patterns of collaborative commitment.

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## APPENDIXES

### Appendix 1: Terms of reference



#### Evaluation of Social and Cultural Anthropological Research in Norway

##### I Introduction

The Research Council of Norway has decided to conduct an evaluation of selected research groups carrying out social and cultural anthropological (hereafter anthropological) research in Norway. The Research Board of the Division for Science will appoint a special panel to perform the evaluation. The results of the evaluation will be publicly accessible. The evaluation will form the basis for the further development of anthropological research in Norway.

##### II The objective of the evaluation

The objective of the evaluation is to:

- Provide an overall assessment of the quality of the anthropological research being conducted by the selected groups in an international perspective.
- Facilitate learning and development within the research groups and offer insight into the strengths and weaknesses of and challenges facing anthropological research.
- Help to identify measures to increase quality.
- Enhance the knowledge base of the research groups, the Research Council and the ministries to further develop anthropological research.

The evaluation report is to be made available in the public domain. Users of the report will be the management and employees of the individual research groups and the top administration of the institutions, as well as the Research Council, research-policy authorities, other research groups and procurers of research. It is essential that the results are published in order to derive the greatest possible benefit from the evaluation.

The Research Council will use the evaluation as the basis for its activities to promote scientific development and quality in research. The research groups themselves will have the primary responsibility for following up the results of the evaluation in activities relating to scientific development, recruitment, researcher training, research management and research organisation.

##### III Organisation

The Research Board of the Division for Science will appoint an independent panel of international experts to carry out the evaluation. The tasks of the panel will be set out in a mandate issued by the Research Board. The Research Council will provide administrative support, and a designated

secretariat will be established to assist the panel in its efforts. The panel is expected to submit its report by the stipulated deadline.

The evaluation will encompass a selection of Norwegian anthropological research groups over a certain size and will extend to all researchers associated with these groups who are formally qualified for employment at associate professor level. The research groups and researchers will be selected on the basis of criteria approved by the Research Board of the Division for Science.

Prior to its finalisation, the evaluation report will be submitted to the research groups for quality assurance of the *factual information*. The panel will then submit the final report to the Research Board.

Evaluation activities will commence in early 2010 and are to be concluded by the end of the year. The panel will prepare a progress plan early on in the evaluation process and will be allowed to propose adjustments to the mandate.

#### **IV Mandate for the evaluation panel**

The evaluation panel shall provide an overall assessment of the quality of the anthropological research being conducted in selected research groups in Norway.

Quality is to be assessed in an international perspective, with due consideration given to national conditions and needs, as well as the scientific objectives of the research groups and their access to resources, including funding and funding sources.

The panel shall also assess whether it would be beneficial to conduct a separate overall assessment of the independent research institutes.

The panel is free to address questions other than those set out in the mandate, should the need arise during the evaluation process.

The conclusions of the evaluation panel are to be accompanied by recommendations for follow-up measures for the research groups, as well as by national-level recommendations targeted toward the Research Council and the ministries.

The evaluation of anthropological research shall encompass the following five dimensions:

##### *1. Quality and relevance*

- Scientific merit and quality of the research community as a whole and the individual researcher groups
- International standing of the research
- Strong and weak research areas
- Influence of the research activities and their relevance relative to:
  - the international researcher community
  - Norwegian society, trade and industry, and working life

##### *2. Organisation, cooperation and doctoral-level education*



- Researcher groups and research institutes
  - Research management and research strategy
  - Balance between junior and senior-level researchers and between women and men
- National and international research cooperation
  - Cooperation and distribution of research tasks at the national level
  - Contact and cooperation at the international level
- Recruitment and renewal
  - Researcher mobility nationally and internationally
  - Capacity and quality of doctoral-level education
  - Recruitment to doctoral degree programmes, post-doctoral fellowship positions and permanent positions

### *3. Publication and dissemination*

- National and international publication channels
- Dissemination to students, users and the public at large

### *4. Capacity and funding*

- Overall volume of anthropological research in Norway
- Distribution and utilisation of research resources
- Funding structure
- Relationship between the funding channel and quality, including the role of the Research Council

### *5. Recommendations and follow-up*

- Recommendations targeted toward the research groups under evaluation and the top administration of the institutions
- National-level recommendations targeted toward the Research Council and the ministries

## **V Basis for assessment**

The evaluation panel is requested to provide an overall assessment of the anthropological research being conducted in Norway and by the individual research groups on the basis of the following material:

1. *Scientific production*
  - a) CVs and publication lists from all researchers encompassed by the evaluation
  - b) Bibliometric analyses of publication data
  - c) Selected scientific works from all researchers encompassed by the evaluation
2. *The research groups under evaluation*
  - d) Annual reports and other documentation of the activities of the institutions under evaluation
  - e) Self-evaluations by the research groups under evaluation
  - f) Meetings between the evaluation panel and the research groups
3. *Reference material*
  - g) Presentations and descriptions of the Norwegian R&D system in general and of Norwegian anthropological research in particular, including institutional and financial framework conditions, the recruitment situation and information about other relevant processes etc.

The material will be obtained and prepared by the Research Council administration. The evaluation panel may request supplementary information, should the need arise during the evaluation process.

## 1. Assessment of scientific production

To gain an overview of the entire scope of scientific activities, the evaluation panel must assess the overall scientific production of the research groups. Complete publication lists from the past five years for all researchers encompassed by the evaluation will provide a basis for the analysis of publication patterns and research production in the field. Bibliometric analyses of publication data will also be performed. The evaluation panel must review the material with a view to assessing scientific breadth and renewal. This review should enable the panel to identify the sub-disciplines, theories, methods and thematic areas where Norwegian anthropological research is well developed in an international context, as well as ascertain whether there are deficiencies in important areas of the field. The panel is also requested to assess the quality of the publication channels used by Norwegian anthropologists.

Researchers encompassed by the evaluation must also submit *two scientific works* of outstanding quality (in their opinion). The term scientific works refers to articles and other contributions to scientific journals, anthologies, doctoral theses and monographs. Together with the complete publication lists, the selected scientific works will form the basis for assessment of scientific merit and production, also in an international perspective.

## 2. Assessment of the research groups

The selected research groups are to prepare a *self-evaluation* using the template designed by the Research Council administration. The objective of the self-evaluation is to highlight the strengths as well as the weaknesses of the research activities carried out by the research groups. The research activities must therefore be reviewed critically in the self-evaluation. The evaluation panel will also be furnished with available *annual reports* and other documentation describing the strategies, plans and activities of the research groups being evaluated, including statistics on students and doctorates and descriptions of doctoral programmes.

In addition, *meetings between the evaluation panel and the research groups* will be arranged. The purpose of the meetings is to give the evaluation panel an opportunity to obtain more detailed information about the objectives, framework conditions and tasks of the research groups. The meetings may be used to gain greater insight into research and publication activities, research management and research strategies, working conditions and the recruitment situation. Special attention should be given to the relationship between research and teaching; that is, to the significance of the teaching and supervisory activities for research-related development. The meetings will provide the opportunity to explore issues raised in the self-evaluation more closely. The evaluation panel itself is to draw up a plan for how it intends to carry out these meetings, as well as their form and content.

### **3. Reference material**

The reference material will provide an overall description of the R&D system in Norway in general and of Norwegian anthropological research in particular, including institutional and financial framework conditions, the recruitment situation and information about other relevant processes etc. A memo describing how the Research Council's funding instruments are utilised to fund anthropological research will also be prepared. This will provide the evaluation panel with the background information it needs to evaluate anthropological research in Norway and the individual research groups in an overall context.

## Appendix 2: Presentation of the Panel members

### **Kirsten Hastrup (panel leader)**

Professor, Department of Anthropology, University of Copenhagen (since 1990)

Editor of *Folk. Journal of the Danish Ethnographic Society*, 1985-92; Secretary General of the European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA), 1989-1991; President of EASA, 1991-1993; Evaluator of the *Research Programme for Comparative Cultural Research*, The Swedish Research Council, 1993-95; Research Director, The Danish Institute for Human Rights, 1998-2001; Member of the Danish Council for Research Policy, 2000-2007; Member of the Executive Board for the *Programme for Cultural Research (KULFO)*, The Norwegian Research Council, 2002-2008; Chairman of the Research Board of the Danish Ministry of Culture, 2003-2009; Member of the Board of the Danish National Research Foundation, since 2008; President of the Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters, since 2008. In 2008-2009 she was member of the Danish Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation's external panel evaluating the Danish Advisory and Funding System for Research.

Main areas of research: Icelandic history and society; Human rights; Theatre and creativity; Greenland and the social implications of climate change.

### **Christina Garsten**

Professor and Chair, Department of Social Anthropology, Stockholm University (where she was awarded her PhD in 1994)

She was Director of Score (Stockholm Centre for Organizational Research), Stockholm University and Stockholm School of Economics, and is still active there, also as member of the Board. Former member of the Board of Riksbankens Jubileumsfond and she was External Evaluator of the Department of Social Anthropology at NUIM, Ireland. She now acts as an Expert Evaluator for research applications to the European Commission. She is member of the editorial committees of the journals *American Anthropologist*, *Organization* and *Scandinavian Journal of Management*.

Main areas of research: the anthropology of organizations and markets, processes of globalization, and emerging forms of governance and accountability in the labour market and in transnational trade.

### **Thomas Blom Hansen**

Professor of Anthropology and South Asian Studies, Stanford University, and Director of the Center for South Asia, Stanford University (since 2010)

He was professor of Anthropology at the University of Amsterdam (2006-2010) where he also served as Dean of the International School of Humanities and Social Sciences. He was professor of Anthropology at Yale University (2004-2006) and Chair of the Council on South Asia; professor of Anthropology at the Department of Social Anthropology at University of Edinburgh (2000-2004); senior lecturer at Roskilde University 1994-1999. He has held visiting positions at EHESS (Paris), University of Natal (Durban), University of Chicago, Columbia University and University of Bristol. He was a member of the national evaluation of social anthropology in Sweden in 2003, and member of the editorial collective behind the journal *Public Culture* from 2004-2009.

Main areas of research: India, urban anthropology, religious identity, collective violence, anthropology of the state, sovereignty, South Africa, race, sound and sense perception, political philosophy.

**Jon P. Mitchell**

Reader in Anthropology and Head of Department of Anthropology, University of Sussex, UK

Mitchell studied social anthropology at Sussex (1987-1990) and the University of Edinburgh, where he did his PhD (1991-1996). After temporary lectureships at Edinburgh (1995-96) and University College London (1996-1997) he moved to Sussex in 1997. He was President of the European Association of Social Anthropologists (EASA) from 2000 to 2002, and EASA Treasurer from 2002 to 2007.

Main areas of research: Anthropology of religion, looking at religious experience, the morals of charity, and the intersection of religion and economy; Political Anthropology, looking at nationalism, corruption and the state; and Popular Culture, looking at festival, football and participation sport. His main research fields are in Malta and UK.

**Ulla Vuorela**

Professor Emerita, University of Tampere (since August 2010).

Vuorela was professor of Social Anthropology at University of Tampere in 1987-2010. In 1999, she was appointed the first Minna Canth-Academy Professor in Women's studies, a post she held in 1999-2004. She was researcher at the Academy of Finland in 1976-1980 and 1982-1986. Vuorela has had several project leaderships with studies on gender and development as well as gender issues in the Middle East and Muslim societies. She has conducted projects in Tanzania, Pakistan and Japan, and publications dealing with post-colonial theory and transnational studies with a focus on transnational families. She has published on history of anthropology in Finland, and acted as a member of the Board of the Nordic Institute of African Studies.

Main areas of research: Feminism and women studies, postcolonial studies, development, migration and ethnic relations, family and generation, East Africa, East Europe and Finland.

### Appendix 3: List of institutions included in the evaluation

<i>Institution</i>	<i>Faculty</i>	<i>Department/unit</i>
<b>Universities</b>		
University of Oslo	Faculty of Social Sciences	Department of Social Anthropology
	Museum of Cultural History	Department of Ethnography
	Faculty of Medicine	Section for Medical Anthropology and Medical History
University of Bergen	Faculty of Social Sciences	Department of Social Anthropology
University of Tromsø	Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Education	Department of Archaeology and Social Anthropology (IAS)
The Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)	Faculty of Social Sciences and Technology Management	Department of Social Anthropology
<b>Research institutes</b>		
Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI)		
Norwegian social research (NOVA)		
Centre for Development and the Environment (SUM)		

## Appendix 4: Letter from RCN to evaluation units, July 2009



**Vår saksbehandler/tlf.**

Janike Harsheim, +4722037437  
[jh@forskningsradet.no](mailto:jh@forskningsradet.no)

**Vår ref.**

2008/05328  
**Deres ref.**

**Oslo,**

3.7..2009

### **Evaluering av sosialantropologi: Bestillingsbrev I**

Vi viser til tidligere kontakt og takker for at dere vil delta i evalueringen. Vi forventer å ha et evalueringspanel på plass om ikke lenge og vil orientere dere så snart panelet er oppnevnt. Endelig liste over fagmiljøer som deltar og mandatet for evalueringen vedlegges.

### **Bestillingsbrev I: Navn, CV-er og publikasjonslister**

Første trinn i arbeidet er å få samlet inn underlagsmaterialet for vurderingen av forskernes faglige produksjon. Det er utarbeidet anvisninger for hva slags materiale vi ønsker innsendt fra institusjonene. Anvisningene fremgår av vedlegg 1. Det er avgjørende for evalueringsresultatet at miljøene og forskerne følger de anvisninger som er gitt for sammenstilling av informasjon om faglig produksjon.

Vi ber om at materialet sendes Forskningsrådet senest 15. oktober 2009.

Forskningsrådet har i tillegg bestilt kvantitative analyser av forskernes vitenskapelige publisering fra NIFU STEP. Disse analysene vil omfatte perioden fom. 1.1.2004 tom. 31.12.2008, og er basert på de vitenskapelige publikasjonene som er innrapportert til Database for høgere utdanning (DBH) gjennom FRIDA og Forskdok, og som er publisert i kanaler som er klassifisert som vitenskapelige. Fagmiljøene i instituttsektoren vil bli kontaktet senere for supplering av publikasjonsdata for de aktuelle forskerne.

### **Orientering om de to neste fasene i evalueringsprosessen**

- *Bestillingsbrev II: Fagmiljøenes egenvurdering og dokumentasjon av fagmiljøenes virksomhet*  
Som miljøene er kjent med, er et annet viktig element i evalueringen fagmiljøenes egenvurdering. Vi har vedlagt et utkast til skjema for egenvurderingen, slik at miljøene kan gjøre seg kjent med hovedinnholdet i denne bestillingen (vedlegg 4). Egenvurderingen skal være på maksimalt 10 sider pluss vedlegg. Vi gjør oppmerksom på at evalueringspanelet i sitt første møte i januar 2010 vil diskutere egenvurderingen og skjemaet kan bli endret noe i forhold til utkastet som er vedlagt. Bestillingen vil sendes fagmiljøene like etter at evalueringspanelet har hatt sitt første møte.
- *Møter med evalueringspanelet*  
Evalueringspanelet vil ha sitt første møte i januar 2010, og der vil det legges opp en plan for møter mellom forskningsmiljøene og evalueringspanelet. Møtene vil trolig finne sted i juni 2010. Etter at evalueringspanelet har hatt sitt første møte vil fagmiljøene motta nærmere informasjon med bl.a. en tidsplan for gjennomføringen av møtene.

Hvis det er spørsmål knyttet til bestillingen, vennligst ta kontakt med konsulent Hanne Husaas, tlf 22 03 73 90, e-post [hhu@forskningsradet.no](mailto:hhu@forskningsradet.no).

Vi takker på forhånd for samarbeidet og ønsker dere alle en god sommer.

## **Norges forskningsråd**

Hege Torp

avdelingsdirektør

Divisjon for vitenskap

Tor Lunde Larsen

seniorrådgiver

Vedlegg:

1. Bestillingsbrev I: Navn, CV-er og publikasjonslister
2. Mandat for evalueringen av sosialantropologi
3. Fagmiljøer som skal inkluderes i evalueringen
4. Utkast bestillingsbrev II: Egenvurderingen og dokumentasjon om fagmiljøenes virksomhet



## Appendix 5: Request #1 from RCN to evaluation units

### Bestillingsbrev I: Underlagsmateriale for vurderingen av forskernes faglige produksjon

Forskere som skal inngå i evalueringen skal være fast ansatt ved institusjonen pr. 30.6.2009 og ha førstestillingskompetanse. Forskere med førstestillingskompetanse vil ha tittel som professor, førsteamanuensis, forsker I eller II eller postdoktorstipendiat.

**Materialet sendes inn samlet fra hver institusjon til Forskningsrådet**, ved: Hanne Husaas, e-post: [hhu@forskningsradet.no](mailto:hhu@forskningsradet.no).

### Frist for innlevering: 15. oktober 2009

1. CV for ansettelsesforhold de siste 10 år
  2. Publikasjonslister for årene fra og med 1999 til og med 30.6.2009
  3. To faglige arbeider fra årene 1999 til og med 30.6.2009
- 
- 1. Navn og kort CV som viser utdanning og ansettelsesforhold fra 1.1.1999 – 30.6.2009**  
Liste over personer som inngår i evalueringen. Listen må inneholde
    - navn
    - stillingstittel
    - vedkommendes ansettelsestid ved institusjonen
    - kort CV som viser utdanning og ansettelsesforhold fra 1.1.1999-30.6.2009
  
  - 2. Publikasjonsliste fra 1.1.1999 – 30.6.2009**

For at evalueringspanelet skal få oversikt over fagmiljøenes profil, ber vi om å få tilsendt publikasjonslistene til alle forskerne som omfattes av evalueringen. De publikasjonslistene vi ber om her skal inngå i det kvalitative materialet som evalueringspanelet trenger, og skal ikke brukes i statistikk.

Publikasjonslistene bør omfatte følgende kategorier:

- a. Doktoravhandlinger
- b. Bøker, monografier, utgitt på forlag (egne kapitler i redigerte bøker føres under c)
- c. Artikler i antologier på forlag (bokkapitler)
- d. Artikler i vitenskapelige tidsskrift (ikke redaksjonelt stoff, debattinnlegg og lignende)
- e. Review-artikler i vitenskapelige tidsskrifter eller bøker (dvs. lengre sammenfatninger av forskningsstatus på et felt)
- f. Bokanmeldelser, debattinnlegg og redaksjonelt stoff i vitenskapelige tidsskrifter
- g. Skrifter/rapporter/arbeidspapirer utgitt av egen eller andre institusjoner
- h. Redigerte bøker

I den grad publisering som faller utenfor disse kategoriene tas med i listene (for eksempel konferansepaper, populærvitenskapelige artikler, kronikker og bokanmeldelser i dagspresse, TV- og radioinnslag), ber vi om at det *ikke* sendes fulle lister. Korte redegjørelser for hvilke andre publiseringskanaler som benyttes, målgruppene for publiseringen og omfanget av den, samt noen illustrerende eksempler, er derimot velkomne.

### **3. Faglige arbeider de siste fem år, fra 1.1.1999-30.6.2009**

- a. To arbeider som er sentrale i forskerens vitenskapelige produksjon
- b. En begrunnelse for hvorfor disse arbeidene er sentrale (til sammen maksimum 1/2 side)

Vi gjør oppmerksom på at det innsendte materialet er viktig for panelet i arbeidet med å vurdere miljøene og helheten i faget. Dette betyr imidlertid ikke at panelet vil foreta en ny fagfelleevaluering av det enkelte vitenskapelige arbeid.

#### **Format:**

- Av bearbeidingshensyn ber vi om at materialet ordnes per forsker i alfabetisk rekkefølge etter forskerens etternavn. Dvs. at først følger CV, publikasjonsliste, utvalgte arbeider og begrunnelse for forsker Abrahamsen, deretter det samme for forsker Bjørnsen osv.
- Vennligst legg ved en oversiktsliste over inkluderte forskere og deres innsendte arbeider, i riktig rekkefølge.
- Så langt det er mulig ber vi om at materialet sendes elektronisk, og i Word-format. De faglige arbeidene kan evt. sendes pr. post.

## **Appendix 6: Request #2 from RCN to evaluation units: self evaluation**

### ***Request II: The institution's internal evaluation and documentation of activities (must be submitted to the Research Council electronically as a Word document)***

Internal evaluations may be *maximum 10 pages, not including attachments*. The deadline for submission of internal evaluations is 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2010.

The following questions should be addressed in the text of the document, and not via references to annual reports, strategies or similar, unless otherwise stated. The questions are not of the same degree of relevance to all the institutions/units/research groups in the evaluation.

#### **A. Template for the research institution's internal evaluation**

The following questions should be addressed:

##### **1. Research quality and activity**

- Has there been particularly high activity carried out in any specific part of the institution, and if so, where?
- What are the research-related strengths and weaknesses and where do these lie?
- How does the institution define its role within a national context – as well as in an international context?
- How does the institution disseminate information to the public? Please provide examples.
- Which visions for the future does the institution have for its overall research activities? Please be specific.

##### **2. National and international research cooperation**


- Evaluate the scope and significance of project collaboration within disciplines and subject areas at the relevant institution and other Norwegian institutions.
- Evaluate the scope and significance of project collaboration with international research groups.
- Evaluate experience with other types of national and international cooperation (e.g. conferences, visiting researchers).
- Evaluate contact with and importance for Norwegian society, the business sector and working life.

##### **3. The institution's research strategy**

- Comment on the relative strength of the work and research efforts of the individual researcher vs. any common areas of focus within the research group.
- What is the relative strength of the individual vs. group/project-based organisation of research?
- How are research management and quality assurance carried out?
- How would you characterise the initiative to participate in and degree of research cooperation between senior researchers and researcher recruits and between older and younger researchers? Provide examples of such collaborative projects.

- What type of joint fora, seminars and the like exist to promote research, quality, discussion and cooperation within the institution? How are activities in such joint fora carried out in practical terms?
  - How does the institution's (the unit which is part of the evaluation) research strategy correlate with the research strategy of the larger institution in which it is embedded?
4. **Recruitment in the subject field during the period 1 January 2004-31 December 2008**
- How many candidates have defended their doctoral thesis during the period?
  - How long did it take the individual candidates to complete their doctoral degrees?
  - How many of the institution's doctoral candidates have been appointed to positions within the institution?
  - How many have been recruited to positions at your institution from other institutions?
  - How does the scientific profile of the doctoral students correlate with the research (or scientific) profile of the institution (the doctoral students' scientific role in the group)?
  - How is the institution's recruitment strategy adapted to further scientific development and renewal and the need within the discipline to educate researchers (delimitation)?
  - How do you encourage national and international mobility?
  - How is the institution's strategy for recruiting from abroad, both regarding ph.d.- and postdoctoral fellows and permanent staff?
5. **How would you characterise**
- The correlation between teaching/supervisory/administrative activities and the time set aside for research activities?
  - The degree of research freedom?
  - The ways in which teaching and supervision is conducive to the institution research?
6. **Importance of resources from the Research Council and other external funding sources**
- What percentage of the overall research activities are financed over the core budget and what percentage are funded by external sources?
  - Which are the most important external sources of funding?
  - From which sources and in which areas is there adequate funding and where is funding less than adequate or inadequate?
  - What is the impact of external funding on the research profile?
  - Describe any strategies for procuring external funding for researchers, researcher groups and the institution.
7. **Are there any other conditions that promote or inhibit research within the institution?**





The publication can be ordered at  
[www.rcn.no/publications](http://www.rcn.no/publications)

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