

Jørn Brøndal (born 1961)

Professor of American Studies
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Education

1999 PhD degree in US History, University of Copenhagen
1994 MA (cand. mag.) degree in history (major) and American societal studies (minor), University of Copenhagen

Employment

2017- Professor of American Studies, Center for American Studies, SDU, Odense
2003-2017 Associate Professor of American History, Center for American Studies, SDU, Odense
1999-2003 Assistant Professor of American History, English Studies, SDU, Kolding

Appointments, elections, and leadership

2019 Member of the board of the Danish-American Fulbright Commission
2017 Member of the Teaching Committee, Department of History, SDU
2016-17 Main organizer of the 25th Biennial Conference of the Nordic Association for American Studies, "American Colors: Across the Disciplinary Spectrum," SDU, May 22-24, 2017
2016 PI for a DFF-Research Project 2 (Danish Council for Independent Research) application: "Scandinavian-American Encounters," submitted on October 4, 2016
2015- History Teaching Coordinator, the English and American Studies programs, SDU
2014- Member of the editorial board of American Studies in Scandinavia, a peer-reviewed academic journal of the Nordic Association for American Studies
2014- Member of the Departmental Council (Institutråd) of the Department of History, SDU
2011-13 President of the Nordic Association for American Studies
2011-13 Member of the Board of the European Association for American Studies
2009-13 Member of the editorial board of The Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, a US-based peer-reviewed academic journal of American history
2008-11 PhD advisor for Rune Reimer Christensen who defended his dissertation successfully on April 29, 2011
2008-9 Chair of the Center for American Studies, SDU
2005-16 President of the Danish Association for American Studies
2004-12 Member of the History Study Board, SDU, representing American Studies
2004-5 Chair of the Center for American Studies, SDU
2003-9 History Teaching Coordinator, the English and American Studies programs, SDU
2002-3 Member of the Study Board for Danish and English, SDU, Kolding

2020: University of Southern Denmark's Research Dissemination Award "for the lively and creative communication of his/her specialist field to a broad group of recipients"

2020 Syddansk Universitets forskningsformidlingspris
2020 41.500 USD fra Den Amerikanske Ambassade i København for programmet "Amerikansk kultur og politik ved en skillevej: Præsidentvalget i 2020," der blev organiseret i samarbejde med kolleger ved Center for Amerikanske Studier, Syddansk Universitet
2017 Brøndal's book Det sorte USA: Fra Uafhængighedserklæringen til Barack Obama (Black America: From the Declaration of Independence to Barack Obama, 2016) was among the finalists for two book awards: 1. "ÅRETS HISTORISKE BOG" ("History Book of the Year") awarded by Dansk Historisk Fællesråd (Danish Historians' Joint Council) in March 2017 (5 finalists). 2. "LÆSERNES BOGPRIS" ("The Readers' Book Award," nonfiction and fiction) conferred by Danmarks Biblioteksforening (Denmark's Library Association) and the newspaper Berlingske Tidende in April 2017 (10 finalists)
2015-16 DKK 180,000 in publication support for Brøndal's book, Det sorte USA: Fra Uafhængighedserklæringen til Barack Obama, from the Politiken Foundation (Politiken-Fonden), the Augustinus Foundation (Augustinus Fonden), Consul George Jorck and Wife Emma Jorck's Foundation (Konsul George Jorck og Hustru Emma Jorck's Fond), the Frimodt-Heineke Foundation (Frimodt-Heineke Fonden), the G.E.C. Gad Foundation (G.E.C. Gads Fond), and the Publication Committee of the Faculty of Humanities, SDU

- 2015 A DKK 141,100 "HUM SEED" grant from the Faculty of Humanities, SDU, for building an international network of scholars with a view to submitting a research grant application in 2016
- 2005 Wisconsin Historical Society Book Award of Merit 2005 for the book, *Ethnic Leadership and Midwestern Politics: Scandinavian Americans and the Progressive Movement in Wisconsin, 1890-1914* (2004)
- 1994 Fulbright American Studies Award for research one year as a PhD fellow at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (in association with the Research Academy (Forskerakademiet))
- 1994 Travel grants from the American-Scandinavian Foundation, the Knud Højgaard Foundation (Knud Højgaards Fond), the Politiken Foundation (Politiken-Fonden), and Christian and Ottilia Brorson's Travel Grant (Christian og Ottilia Brorsons Rejselegat) for a one-year stay as a PhD fellow at the University of Wisconsin-Madison

Mass media appearances

- 2003- Jørn Brøndal appears frequently in the Danish mass media, discussing US politics and ethnic and racial issues on TV (especially DR2 and TV2 News), radio (especially DR P1, DR P3, and Radio24syv), and in the newspapers. In March 2017, Brøndal joined a two-person expert panel appearing each week on the DR2 TV show, "Jersild om Trump." In 2020—a presidential election year—Brøndal made 131 appearances on Danish national TV and radio—82 times on TV (DR1, DR2, TV2, TV2 News) and 49 times on radio (P1, P3, P4, and Radio4). Statistically speaking, this corresponds to making an appearance 35 percent of the days of that year.

Selected conferences, seminars, and lectures

- May 22-24, 2017 Main organizer of the 25th Biennial Conference of the Nordic Association for American Studies, "American Colors: Across the Disciplinary Spectrum," SDU. With more than 150 participants from 21 nations this was the largest American Studies conference thus far held in Denmark
- January 26, 2017 Guest lecture at Uppsala University, Swedish Institute for North American Studies: "African American History and the American Dilemma, 1776-2017"
- September 16, 2016 Commencement address, the Faculty of Humanities, SDU: "Kandidaterne og kampens afslutning: Det amerikanske præsidentvalg 2016" ("The Candidates and the End of the Struggle: The American Presidential Election 2016")
- May 11-13, 2016 Organization of the international seminar, "Scandinavian-American Encounters I," SDU, on the basis of a "HUM SEED" grant from the SDU
- August 25-27, 2016 Organization of the international seminar, "Scandinavian-American Encounters II," SDU, on the basis of a "HUM SEED" grant from the SDU
- April 4-5, 2016 Participation in the seminar, "Rethinking Histories of Immigration and Indigenous Peoples in North America," Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, Stockholm, with the paper, "Travel Narratives as Sources to the History of Encounters between American Indians and Scandinavians"
- March 21, 2016 Guest lecture at the History Club Phi Alpha Theta, San Jose State University, California: "European Perspectives on the US Presidential Election 2016"
- March 15-18, 2016 Participation in the conference, "Nordic Immigration in the Pacific Northwest—From Then to Now," Nordic Heritage Museum and University of Washington, Seattle, with the paper, "How Scandinavian Travel Writers Described Westward Movement in the Late Nineteenth Century"
- September 29, 2015 Organization of the seminar, "America in the World," at the Center for American Studies, SDU, with participation by Dag Blanck and Markus Heide, Uppsala University
- May 11-13, 2015 Participation in the 24th biennial conference of the Nordic Association for American Studies in Oulu, Finland, "American Values: Public Virtues, Private Vices," with the paper, "Soon the Red Man Will Live Only in Legend and Cooper's Wonderful Accounts": Portrayals of Native Americans in Danish Travel Literature in the Mid- and Late 19th Century"
- May 8, 2015 Keynote address, John Morton Center for North American Studies, University of Turku, Finland: "The Immigration Issue and the Future of the Republican Party"
- June 19, 2014 Public lecture at the University of Leipzig: "Contemporary Immigration to the US in a Historical Perspective"
- April 10-13, 2014 Participation in the annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians in Atlanta, Georgia, as chair of the panel, "Whiteness and the Ethnic 'Other': Scandinavian-American Perspectives," with prepared comments on papers by Gunlög Fur, Linnaeus University; David Mauk and Terje M. Hasle Joranger, University of Oslo; and Dag Blanck, Uppsala University
- May 30-31, 2013 Participation in the conference, "Constitutions: On-Going Revolutions in the U.S. and Europe", University of Auvergne, France, with the paper, "An Early American Dilemma? Scandinavian Travel Writers' Reflections on the Tension Between the Founding Ideals of the United States and the Condition of African Americans, ca. 1850-1900"
- May 24-26, 2013 Participation in the 23rd biennial conference of the Nordic Association for American Studies in Karlstad, Sweden, "Currents and Countercurrents," with the paper, "'The Fairest Among the So-called White Races:' Portrayals of Scandinavian Americans in the Filiopietistic Literature of the Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries"
- April 18-22, 2012 Participation in the annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, with the paper, "How Red Was La Follette? Robert M. La Follette and the Socialist Party"
- April, 1, 2012 Participation in the biennial conference of the European Association for American Studies in Izmir, Turkey, with the paper, "Trauma to the Soul? Freedom, (Civil) Religion, and the Plans for a "Ground Zero Mosque"

- May 25, 2011 Participation in the 22nd biennial conference of the Nordic Association for American Studies, in Oslo, Norway, "Transatlantic Resonances," with the paper, ""The Great Nordic Race": The Portrayal of Scandinavian Immigrants in Works on Race and Immigration in the United States in the Early Twentieth Century"
- May 20, 2010 Public lecture at Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität, Munich: "Thomas Jefferson's American Dilemma"
- April 7-10, 2010 Participation in the annual conference of the Organization of American Historians in Washington, D.C., with the paper, "The Ethnic and Racial Side of Robert M. La Follette"
- May 28-30, 2009 Participation in the 21st biennial conference of the Nordic Association for American Studies, "Cosmopolitan America?," with the paper, "Ethnocentrism Disguised as Cosmopolitanism? Painting New World Landscapes in Old World Colors, c. 1870-1914"
- May 15, 2009 Chair of an international panel debate featuring Francis Fukuyama, Johns Hopkins University; Rogers M. Smith, University of Pennsylvania; Desmond King, Oxford University; Erich Rauchway, UC Davis; Tomás Jimenez, Stanford University; Leo Chavez, UC Irvine; Andrew Cohen, Carleton University (Ottawa), Jack Granatstein, York University (Toronto), at the conference, "Stories of Nationhood in Plural Societies," Aarhus University, Denmark
- April 8-11, 2009 Participation in the National Popular Culture & American Culture Associations Conference in New Orleans, with the paper, "Reckless Agents of Worrisome Progress: American Women in Scandinavian Travel Descriptions, ca. 1870-1910"
- April 10-11, 2008 Participation in the conference, "SJSU Immigration Conference: From Strawberries to Software: Immigration to Silicon Valley," San Jose State University, California, with the paper, "Orientals in the West: Danish Travel Writers Report Home About Asian Americans in the American West."
- October 22, 2007 Public lecture at the Department of History, University of Wisconsin-Madison: "Idealism and Patronage: The 1891 Clash Between Robert M. La Follette and Philetus Sawyer"
- October 20, 2007 Participation in the conference, "Friends and Neighbors? Swedes and Norwegians in the United States," Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois, with the paper, ""We are Norwegians and Swedes now, not Scandinavians:" The Impact of Norwegian Independence on Scandinavian-American Politics in the Midwest"
- May 24-26, 2007 Participation in the 20th biennial Nordic Association for American Studies conference in Tampere, Finland, "American Bodies, American Violence," with the paper, "Becoming White and Rather American: Danish Travel Writers Report Home About the Repression of the "Other Races" in the US"
- Nov. 29, 2006 Public lecture at the University of Oslo: "Ethnicity and Politics: Scandinavian Americans and the Progressive Movement, 1890-1914"
- May 5, 2006 Participation in the biennial conference of the Society for the Advancement of Scandinavian Studies (SASS) in Oxford, Mississippi, with the paper, "Scandinavian-American Networks and the Terms of Participation"
- May 27, 2005 Participation in the 19th biennial conference of the Nordic Association for American Studies (NAAS) Conference in Växjö, Sweden, with the paper, "Scandinavian-American Networks and the Terms of Political Participation"
- April 29, 2005 Participation in the 7th Middelburg Conference of Historians of the U.S.A., Middelburg, the Netherlands, with the paper, "The Study of US History in Denmark"
- March 31, 2005 Participation in the annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians in San Jose, California, with the paper, "Ethnicity and Politics: Scandinavian Americans and the Progressive Movement in Wisconsin"