

Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation Grant

The Swedish-American Historical Society and North Park University's Archives and Special Collections have been awarded a \$15,000 grant from the Barbro Osher Pro Suecia Foundation. Director of archives Anne Jenner applied for the grant on behalf of the Swedish-American Historical Society to support digitizing its academic journal, the *Swedish-American Historical Quarterly*, which has been published continuously since 1950.

The project aims to make the entire journal freely available and searchable in full-text through the online library catalog at Brandel Library. Digitizing *the Quarterly* makes this significant body of scholarship freely accessible to the online community and ensures long-term preservation as part of a sustainable digital collection.

The Swedish-American Historical Society has both current and historic connections to North Park. Its administrative office has been located on campus since the Society's founding in 1948 and its archival collection, the Swedish-American Archives of Greater Chicago, has been on campus since the 1960s. The archives are administered alongside the collections of North Park University and the Evangelical Covenant Church by Jenner in the F.M. Johnson Archives and Special Collections, located in the lower level of Brandel Library.

While the Swedish-American Historical Society and North Park's Center for Scandinavian Studies have previously received funding from the Pro Suecia Foundation, this is the first grant received specifically for a digitization project. Scholarly articles, book reviews, memorials, and news and notes published in the *Quarterly* will be searchable online beginning as early as March, and the project is scheduled to be completed by December 2009.

The project leads the digitization effort at the Archives. The photograph collection of North Park and the Evangelical Covenant Church is will be digitized as well. Also in line are historically significant publications of the church and the university including the *Covenant Yearbook*, starting in 1885, and the *North Park Catalog*, starting in 1893.

North Park Theological Seminary professor Philip J. Anderson, who serves as president of the Swedish-American Historical Society, notes that the project "will benefit the growing transatlantic cooperative network of universities, libraries, archives, and cultural organizations in North America and Sweden, in which our Society continues to take an active role."

Press release

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