

SUF

Sveriges ungdomskulturforskarens förening

Association of Swedish youth culture researchers

From 1987 to 1994, an extensive interdisciplinary research programme was carried through, called Youth Culture in Sweden (FUS: Forskningsprogrammet Ungdomskultur i Sverige). Supported by the Swedish state research council for the humanities and social sciences (HSFR), it developed advanced interdisciplinary research organized around the four main thematic areas of modernity, gender, style and spheres. It was organized by an interdisciplinary central group lead by musicologist and media researcher Johan Fornäs, Professor of literature Ulf Boëthius, media researchers Michael Forsman, Hillevi Ganetz and Bo Reimer, and sociologist Sabina Cwejman. The result was a series of seven Swedish reports (1990-1994), various information material, and two English volumes: Fornäs (1995) and the collection Fornäs & Bolin (1995).

In parallel to this large theoretical endeavour, the programme also built up a national, interdisciplinary network by engaging c. 70 Swedish researchers from widely different social science and humanities disciplines in seminars, interest groups (some of whom developed into new projects) and an internal newsletter. This network continued until 1999 as the Association of Swedish youth culture researchers (SUF: Sveriges Ungdomskulturforskarens Förening), formed in 1994 to keep up contacts and communication in the field and to work for the interests of these researchers. SUF was in the end chaired by Johan Fornäs, with Michael Forsman as secretary and sociologist Adrienne Sörbom as treasurer. Its network included a majority of the FUS-researchers plus a growing number of new and often younger members. In 1999, SUF was closed down in favour of the new Swedish network for youth culture researchers NU (Nätverk för Ungdomskulturforskare), developed from the former research programme Youth Culture at Stockholm University (Ungdomskultur vid Stockholms universitet, USU).

The SUF-members received a newsletter called Suffix and free entrance into a digital network called Sufnet. Each year a national seminar was arranged, in cooperation with the regional centres for youth research and supported by the same research council (HSFR). The one in Gothenburg 1995 had “The Other” as its theme, in Stockholm 1996 “Mediatized Youth”, in Lund 1997 “Youth in Urban Settings”, in Linköping 1998 “The Young at School”, in Stockholm 1999 “Youth Culture Research” and in Uppsala 2000 “Rites, Symbols and Values”.

Publications

- Fornäs, Johan, Ulf Boëthius & Sabina Cwejman (1990): *Metodfrågor i ungdomskulturforskningen. FUS-rapport nr 1*, Stockholm/Stehag: Symposion.
- Fornäs, Johan & Ulf Boëthius (1990): *Ungdom och kulturell modernisering. FUS-rapport nr 2*, Stockholm/Stehag: Symposion.
- Fornäs, Johan, Ulf Boëthius & Sabina Cwejman (1991): *Kön och identitet i förändring. FUS-rapport nr 3*, Stockholm/Stehag: Symposion.
- Fornäs, Johan, Ulf Boëthius, Hillevi Ganetz & Bo Reimer (1992): *Unga stilar och uttrycksformer. FUS-rapport nr 4*, Stockholm/Stehag: Symposion.
- Fornäs, Johan, Ulf Boëthius & Bo Reimer (1993): *Ungdomar i skilda sfärer. FUS-rapport nr 5*, Stockholm/Stehag: Symposion.
- Fornäs, Johan, Ulf Boëthius, Michael Forsman, Hillevi Ganetz & Bo Reimer (eds) (1994): *Ungdomskultur i Sverige. FUS-rapport nr 6*, Stockholm/Stehag: Symposion.
- Fornäs, Johan, Ulf Boëthius, Michael Forsman & Bo Reimer (1994): *Forskningsprogrammet Ungdomskultur i Sverige: Slutrapport*, Stockholm: JMK.
- Fornäs, Johan & Göran Bolin (eds) (1995): *Youth Culture in Late Modernity*, London: Sage.
- Fornäs, Johan (1995): *Cultural Theory and Late Modernity*, London: Sage.
- Bäckström, Åsa, Johan Fornäs, Michael Forsman, Hillevi Ganetz & Adrienne Sörbom (1998): *Nätverk för ungdomskulturforskning. Verksamhet 1987-1998*, Stockholm: JMK (JMK skriftserie 1998:2).