It is with great awe, gratitude and joy I now assume the role as editor-in-chief of Nordic Studies in Education, which has been running for thirty-five years. With excitement I look forward to the opportunity of having a closer insight into the educational research conducted in the Nordic countries, and to be in dialogue with, whilst learning from, researchers from many different perspectives. I must also admit that I find it a bit flattering to be the first editor-in-chief of NSE coming from Norway.

At the same time, I feel a certain awe in taking over the role as editor after these previous editors: Eva-Marie Köhler (1980–83), Kirsten Reisby (1984–90), Biörn Hasselgren (1991–2012) and Fritjof Sahlström (2012–2015). In Norway we have a saying called “Jumping after Wirkola” (“å hoppe etter Wirkola”). For many years, Bjørn Tore Wirkola (1943– ) was not only the best ski jumper of Norway, he was also the best in the world. Because Wirkola was so outstanding and dominant, it was the experience of many ski-jumpers that they failed in their attempt whenever they had to jump after Wirkola. This is the kind of awe I feel, especially after taking over from editor-in-chief Fritjof Sahlström, who, together with editorial assistant Tuuli From, has raised the journal up many notches in quality.

I must therefore give a big thanks to Fritjof and Tuuli! Many thanks also to President Carl Anders Säfström, the members of NFPF’s/NERA’s editorial board and Universitetsforlaget, for their trust in me taking over as editor! I look forward to an ex-
citing and rewarding collaboration with you all in the future. The same goes for Dziuginta Baraldsnes from Bergen University College, who will be the new editorial assistant.

My hope is that this back-up, together with my educational experience, will help me to succeed as the editor of a journal with a focus on education / *pedagogikk* in the best possible way. For example, I know the school system from the inside, through my long-time teaching in Norwegian primary schools, and, not least, I have experience as an editorial board member, editor and peer reviewer for journals at national and international level.

Although the international perspective is important, I do wish to emphasize that NSE is a Nordic journal. Thus I see the value of preserving the journal’s tradition of writing in either English or Scandinavian. I even wish to emphasize the importance of writing in one’s own language, ensuring that not all research ends up in English. Research has many nuances, which can easily be lost if the researcher chooses not to write in his or her mother tongue.

As the new editor-in-chief of NSE, I would also encourage the different researchers in the Nordic countries to conduct innovative research in education / *pedagogikk*. I therefore welcome papers that are able to develop theoretical and practical knowledge in the field.

At the same time, I wish to encourage all sorts of researchers, both within and outside the Nordic countries, to consider NSE as a potential journal for publishing their works. This means that I will welcome educational research from a wide range of academic disciplines, methods and perspectives on teaching, learning, upbringing, *Bildung*, etcetera, which affect different aspects of education.

A major challenge, though, is whether NSE can be a forum for a broad and interdisciplinary approach to education research, without marginalizing the discipline of *pedagogikk*. In several countries, the term education science (in Norwegian: *utdanningsvitenskap*) has become dominant, i.e. a term in which *pedagogikk* has turned into an interdisciplinary, alongside other disciplines. The danger is that *pedagogikk* is being marginalized as an independent research discipline. For this reason, I wish to make room for research being able to develop the research discipline of *pedagogikk*, whilst I will work actively for NSE to emerge as a publication channel with a broad approach to education-related issues.

Finally, it is fair to say that the five works that make up this issue of NSE have gone through the hands of the previous editor and his editorial assistant. That goes for other papers as well. All papers being accepted for publication of NSE before me taking on the role as editor will be published successively.