



Foreword

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Swedish Society for Anthropology and Geography, the owner and publisher of *kritisk etnografi – the Swedish Journal of Anthropology*, has a long and stable history of academic publishing. The Society, since long an open non-profit association based on membership, dates back to 1873 and has from the very start published scientifically. First in anthropology 1873 to 1877, and from 1877 to 1880 in one journal devoted to anthropology and another devoted to geography. In 1881, the two series merged into one. It was named *Ymer* and is still published. In 1919, the Society started the international journal *Geografiska Annaler*, this year celebrating volume 100 in two series concerned with human geography and physical geography respectively. Over the years the Society has also, when timely, been involved in the production of atlases and other geographic and anthropological works and always with a concern for the highest of academic standards – in content, in form and in distribution – following but also taking lead in pushing pertinent issues and agendas. Our new journal *kritisk etnografi* is no exception to this.

In the statutes of the Society, one of the main objectives is to support anthropology and geography and one of the best ways to fulfil this aim is to make research results within our subjects available for further discussion in and beyond academia. However, no research is ever better than its methods and heuristics allow, and what could then be more nourishing than a journal devoted to the critical inquiry of and into ethnography as a research practice? Discussing and scrutinizing not only ethnographic ideas, research results and textual strategies but also its grounding methods, practices and analytical imaginaries? Confident of the topical relevance of the new journal, anchored as it is in the networks of the research communities throughout Sweden and beyond, and backed by Sweden's eldest anthropological and geographical society, we believe *kritisk etnografi* will make a significant and important contribution to not only the landscape of academic journals but also to furthering and deepening debates on the human condition. It is thus with great joy and pride we now launch its inaugural issue.