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Scholarship for research at Uppsala University
Methods of social acceptance of feminist theory in the university environment
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My stay in Sweden in a retrospective view can be called a wonderful experience in all aspects.

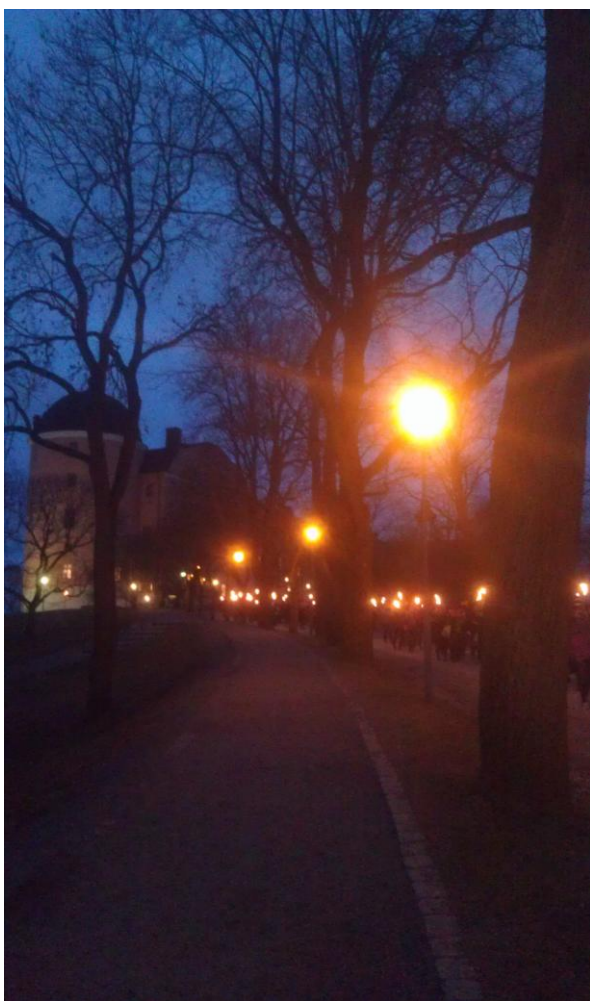
It was my good fortune to do a research at the Centre for Gender Research (Uppsala University). It is a great place. Firstly, the atmosphere of the Centre is amazing – kindness, sincere interest from the direction of colleagues, willingness to help in any situation. Secondly, there is a high scientific level. Representatives of different fields of scientific knowledge work at the Centre: ethnologists, sociologists, pedagogues, philosophers, culturologists, biologists, physicists, and so on. Advice and comments, a side view, a view from different perspectives and evaluation criteria helped me with the forming of my own research, and also gave me confidence in what I do.

Informal communication was also wonderful. There is a “fika tradition” in the Centre – morning coffee at 8 o'clock, when everybody just arrives, the most numerous fika at 10, then – lunch, and the final coffee at 15. It's not just a meeting for coffee and small talk: there are discussions about research and debates on important gender issues.



With my poster at the Open House

The topic, with which I came to Sweden, is methods of social acceptance of feminist theory in the university environment. I tried to understand what mechanisms exert influence on the attitude toward feminism among female graduate students, on the examples of Uppsala University students with the comparison to Ural Federal University students' opinion.



**The 8th of March. Torch demonstration
(Uppsala Tjejjours Fackeltåg)**

By the beginning of my arriving in Sweden, I conducted a series of semi-structured interviews with students at my university. In Uppsala I also conducted several interviews with students, but also, I conducted interviews with representatives of student unions and student parties – these organizations play a significant role in the formation of the image of feminism among students. Analysis of the results showed that there was a stereotyping of feminism, as well as less critical view of gender discrimination and harassment among the Russian students compared to the Swedish. It has been possible to trace the causes of such phenomena, such as the university policy about gender and tolerance; huge amount of academic courses on gender issues; social and political activity of the students.

As for Uppsala – the town where I was living for 4 months – in my opinion, is a very comfortable place to live and work. It combines history and modernity, active student life and calmness of a small town, research centre and recreation areas. Beautiful architecture, friendly people, nice atmosphere – that's all Uppsala.

But, of course, during my stay in Sweden I visited other cities; and crowded (by the standards of Uppsala) Stockholm and fabulous Sigtuna left a wonderful impression.



Peaceful Sigtuna

Perhaps, the main and memorable moments of my Swedish experience were the meetings with the Foundation. Dinners at Disa's house, Easter with stipendiates, trips to the Dacha, meetings with the Foundation board members and other interesting people – everything will remain in my memory and will be associated with the Swedish hospitality. I am immensely grateful to the board members of the Sverker Åström Foundation and especially to Disa Håstad for the opportunity to get to know Sweden and the Swedes. During my stay in Sweden, I met wonderful people, had interesting discussions on the significant for me subjects, and saw those places about which I have dreamed since childhood. I visited the Midsummer party in the

last day in Uppsala; and spent my last day in Sweden at beautiful Disa's Dacha in the archipelago – and that was a great final chord of my Swedish experience.



At Disa's Dacha

Thank you!