

Crossroads – Archaeology Before and After #excavationinprogress

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The postponed conference *Vägskäl – arkeologin före och efter #utgrävningpågår* (Crossroads – archaeology before and after #excavationinprogress) was held this autumn in a pandemic-adjusted form. The conference gathered archaeologists from all sectors to discuss the problems of sexual harassment in archaeology exposed during the #metoo outcry in 2017 (see notice by Petra Aldén Rudd in volume 26). The event was arranged by the Swedish Archaeological Society together with Liv Nilsson Stutz at Linnæus University, Campus Växjö on 8 to 10 October 2020 (Linnéuniversitetet 2020). It began with a keynote lecture by Robin Nelson from Santa Clara University on *Field lessons: equity, exclusion, gender, & labor in research settings*. Due to travel restrictions this lecture was online, but it was an inspiring opening. The first session then concluded with a talk by two coordinators of the Swedish archaeological #metoo call, Petra Aldén Rudd and Annica Ramström. The second day offered a number of speakers discussing everything from the history of sexual harassment and gender-based exclusion in archaeology, how unions work with these questions, to the present-day gender balance in Swedish archaeological workplaces. Day three started with a presentation of the results from a survey recently carried out by the Swedish Archaeological Society (2020) on responses to the #metoo outcry in Swedish archaeological workplaces. This was followed by an online presentation by Kayt Hawkins from the Institute of Archaeology, University College London, on the RESPECT campaign which combats sexual harassment in UK archaeology. She then joined a lively panel discussion with other speakers. The closing section was a fruitful discussion of where we should go from here to make the situation better in the future. This event has given us many different ideas to continue the work

to eliminate sexual harassment within archaeology and to create safer and more equal workplaces.

References

- Aldén Rudd, P. 2019. #utgrävningpågår. *Current Swedish Archaeology*. Vol. 26 pp 267–268.
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- Swedish Archaeological Society. 2020. *Kartläggning av svenska arkeologibranschens respons till #utgrävningpågår: En rapport*. http://www.arkeologiskasamfundet.se/document/events/rapport_sas_kartlaggning.pdf [Accessed 9 November 2020].