

CSCTFL 2015 Keynote Speaker



Dr. Tove I. Dahl is a Professor in the Department of Psychology at UiT The Arctic University of Norway in Tromsø, Norway. She is also the dean of Skogfjorden, The Concordia Language Villages' (CLV) Norwegian language village. The summer of 2014 marked her 36th summer on the Skogfjorden staff, and her 32nd as its dean.

Tove is a graduate of Augsburg College with a major in English (*summa cum laude*), and she has her PhD in educational psychology from the University of Texas at Austin. Her graduate work on native and foreign language comprehension was recognized with the Emma Marie Birkmaier Award for Doctoral Dissertation Research in Foreign Language Education by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages and the Modern Language Journal and inspired CLV's very first endowed scholarship. She has since worked with topics related to motivation learning for the Norwegian Institute for Research in Adult Education in Trondheim (1991-1993) and UiT (1993-present). At the University, Tove's interest in education for responsible global citizenship led to work on the board for the Norwegian Centre for Peace Studies (2004-2008).

Meanwhile at Concordia Language Villages, Tove worked on multiple curriculum projects for Skogfjorden that span resources of language learning and cultural awareness as manifested in Skogfjorden's peace curriculum funded by the Norwegian American Foundation. What all Skogfjorden curricula have in common is a deep grounding in the CLV mission and the Skogfjorden Promise that articulates Skogfjorden's Norwegian take on how to advance the mission. In 2008, the King of Norway recognized Tove and her Skogfjorden work by naming her a Knight of the First Class of the Royal Order of Merit for promoting the Norwegian language and culture in the USA. Throughout her tenure with CLV, Tove has worked collaboratively with US learning institutions, particularly Concordia College. For example, she worked at establishing the CLV Internal Review Board in 1995 to help promote research ventures at the Concordia Language Villages in collaboration with the College. She has also worked with both faculty and students involved in the Concordia Masters of Education in World Languages Instruction program.

Tove is driven by a deep desire to use language and culture as media for helping people discover the world they live in *and* to help them discover and give voice to the best of the world they carry within themselves. In that spirit, Tove's CLV-related research has examined language learning through the psychological and motivational processes behind the comprehension of native and foreign languages as well as the use and benefit of foreign language learning strategies. From a cultural perspective, her research has examined the experience of peace and multicultural education within the Concordia Language Villages context. Her current research is part of a large research project that involves over 50 researchers and is financed by the Research Council of Norway. With her background in learning and motivation, she and her team are exploring how visitors experience the High North through their interactions with the nature, people and culture of the region. The goal is ultimately to determine how to enhance those experiences to encourage greater involvement in what the region has to offer.

Finally, Tove is the very proud mother of Espen Sindre Rice, a Concordia College student with a language background that includes Norwegian, English and German and whose current major is Global Studies (<http://www.concordiacollege.edu/academics/departments-programs/global-studies/>). She knows that young people like her son are leading us into the future we have laid the foundation for and is confident that with strong educational backgrounds that include language and cultural studies they will take us to better places than we have yet to imagine.