



ROYAL NORWEGIAN EMBASSY



# transatlantic science week 2009

## discover - innovate - collaborate

minneapolis, mn - september 27-30, 2009

KNOWLEDGE AND COOPERATION FOR GREEN GLOBAL SOLUTIONS

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norway



## DISCOVER – INNOVATE – COLLABORATE

Transatlantic Science Week 2009  
September 27-30, Minneapolis, MN



Science Week seeks to strengthen cooperation in research, innovation and higher education between the United States, Canada and Norway. Through exchange of ideas and experiences we seek to encourage and expand collaborations.

The Royal Norwegian Embassy in Washington D.C., the Honorary Consulate General in Minneapolis and the University of Minnesota welcome you to Transatlantic Science Week 2009.

### Transatlantic Cooperation

In 2001 the Norwegian Government decided to strengthen the bonds across the Atlantic, through implementing a new strategy for Norway's relations with the United States and Canada. The Royal Norwegian Embassies in Washington, D.C. and Ottawa received the responsibility of establishing Research and Technology Forums. Individual and institutional bridges have been created, and the long-term Strategy for Scientific and Technological Cooperation with North-America released in 2005, was an important milestone. A bilateral agreement for cooperation in science and technology between Norway and the United States was signed in 2005.

The Transatlantic Science Forum, organized by the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Washington, D.C., has evolved into an annual event. In 2009 the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Forum opens in Minneapolis, MN, pointing to heritage as well as modern societies with close ties.

### Goals of the Transatlantic Science Forum

The main goal of Science Week and other Forum activities is to *increase transatlantic cooperation in research, innovation and higher education*. We aim to facilitate and increase cooperation between Norway and North America and put bilateral agreements on science and technology cooperation 'to work'. We want to create a transatlantic arena to showcase and promote Norwegian research and innovation as well as collaborative activities. We encourage dialogue between policy makers, innovators, educators, researchers and other actors.

### Bridging heritage and modern societies – in Minneapolis 2009

The special ties between Norway and the Mid-West are rooted in common heritage, and the ties expand to the wider United States and Canada. The North American population with Norwegian roots exceeds Norway's present population. Our common heritage is an ideal foundation for new relations and cooperation between modern societies. The first Norwegian immigrants established colleges and educational institutions with a high standing today. A long tradition of farming, engineering and research has developed on both sides, and collaborations across the Atlantic are strong on various research frontiers. It is time to demonstrate the special potential that lies in our common heritage, and how this special energy can create winning transatlantic teams for the future.

### Science Week 2009: discover, innovate, collaborate!

Through climate change and turbulent economic times, science and innovation are essential to survive on this planet. We need **new energy concepts, clean technologies and medical technologies**. We need new knowledge about **biodiversity**, and **ecology**, and we need international partnerships and good policies. **Knowledge, technology and innovation are important tools in order to find solutions**. With Charles Darwin's "On the Origin of Species" as a backdrop, Science Week 2009 will focus on transatlantic cooperation to develop sustainable solutions for our common future.



Royal Norwegian Embassy,  
Washington, DC



McNamara Alumni Center, University of Minnesota,  
Minneapolis, MN



## Knowledge and cooperation for green global solutions

Ongoing and planned collaborations will be focused in workshops and symposia. Ecology and environment friendly energy are at the center, however the conference themes cover:

Life science - neuroscience  
Ecology, biodiversity, climate  
Applied mathematics



Renewable energy  
Green, clean technologies  
Society, culture and policies



Innovation  
Matching businesses  
Institutional partnerships

## Science Week - a collaboratory with spin-off effects:

When researchers, innovators, business people and government policy makers meet, Science Week becomes a laboratory where collaboration is created – **a collaboratory**.

Other activities happen back to back and in parallel. In 2009 in Minneapolis some of these are:

- The US Norway Centennial Chair program holds its annual workshop to discuss research projects and possible extensions of the program
- Neuroscience: Scientists from UMN, UiO and NTNU meet for a collaborative workshop or individual meetings and seminar (p 9-10)
- Applied mathematics: Centers of Excellence at UMN and UiO will meet to further collaborations
- Ecosystems/Ecology: Scientists from UMN and UiO will meet to plan collaborations
- Materials science: Scientists from UMN and UiO will meet in mini-workshop
- Climate seminars organized by the embassy and interest groups in neighbor states
- Networking meetings and visits are planned on an individual basis by the attendees

### Future Forum Events:

[updates on [www.norway.org](http://www.norway.org)]

Kavli Lecture, October 15, 2009, at the Carnegie Institution for Science, Washington DC  
Signing of Letter of Intent between the NIH and the Research Council of Norway (Fall 2009)  
Science and Technology forum in Ottawa, Canada (Spring 2010)  
Science Week 2010, at the Carnegie Institution for Science in Washington DC (October 2010)  
Science Week 2011 in San Fransisco (Fall 2011)

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## Ambassador's Greeting



Dear Participant,

Welcome to the 8<sup>th</sup> Science Week, this year in collaboration with the University of Minnesota.

The Embassy's Forum for Research, Innovation and

Higher Education is instrumental in creating this annual arena, which for the first time has moved the full program out of Washington, D.C. to Minneapolis, MN.

'Discover, Innovate, Collaborate' is at the core of the Science Week and Science Forum agenda. Cooperation in research, innovation and higher education creates arenas for dialogue, and provides a knowledge base for policy decisions. This year's Science Week spans ecology, technology and alternative energy solutions.

The University of Minnesota collaborates with Norwegian universities on these topics. There are multiple institutional partnerships across the Atlantic, and we look forward to hearing about frontier research and technology. Student exchange is an integral part of many such research collaborations.

The events this week in Minneapolis, MN, represent comprehensive networking initiatives.

I am delighted to welcome speakers, moderators and participants to Science Week 2009, and would like to thank all contributing individuals and institutions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chr. Strømme'.

Wegger Chr. Strømme  
Ambassador of Norway to the United States  
Forum Chair

## Honorary Consul General's Greeting

Dear friends,

I extend my warmest greetings to all those participating in the first annual Transatlantic Science Week taking place in Minneapolis this September. On behalf of the Royal Norwegian Consulate General in Minneapolis, it is a great pleasure to welcome you. Innovations in science and technology are central to developing clean energy, combating climate change and building a sustainable society.

We need international partnerships, both private and public, together with the right government policies to find fresh solutions. As North Atlantic neighbors, Norway, Canada and the United States of America must continue to work in close cooperation for the mutual benefit of our scientific communities.

I would like to thank all contributing individuals and institutions for sponsoring the Transatlantic Science Week. I would also like to thank all the volunteers that came out to help put on this event which would not have been possible without their dedication.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Walter F. Mondale'.

Walter F. Mondale  
Honorary Consul General



## Minister's Greeting

Dear Participant,



Science and technology are critical drivers for achieving sustainable development, and international cooperation in these fields is crucial if we are to meet today's burning challenges: climate change, energy and the environment, and health issues.

During Science Week we will address some of these issues and find innovative ways of working on them together.

The United States is Norway's most important partner in research cooperation.

There are already solid bonds across the Atlantic in the fields of research and higher education, but we want to see even more student and researcher exchange and more institutional partnerships. I see the Science Week as an important event to achieve this.

It is also an important arena for promoting Norwegian research and innovation, as well as higher education.

I look forward to joining you for a vibrant and innovative Science Week that will have positive results far beyond the time and space of this year's event.



Tora Aasland  
Minister of Research and Higher Education  
Norway

## University of Minnesota President's Greeting

Dear Participant,

Welcome to the University of Minnesota, one of the nation's premier research universities. We are very pleased to co-host Science Week 2009.



The University of Minnesota's active commitment to transatlantic cooperation is reflected in the Norwegian Centennial Interdisciplinary Chair program and our expanding collaborations with other universities and institutes throughout Norway. Like our Norwegian colleagues, we believe that transatlantic cooperation in research and education is one of the best ways to find solutions to critical challenges such as those created by climate change, the demand for alternative energy sources, and global food and health-care needs. We are honored to facilitate this gathering of scientists, educators, and government and university leaders from around the world for the purpose of sharing research, information, and ideas, and we hope this broad exchange will generate new ideas for cooperation.

Best wishes for an exciting and productive Science Week 2009!



Robert H. Bruininks  
President  
University of Minnesota



## PROGRAM:

### Sunday September 27:

**Dinner reception and get together for speakers (by invitation)** (Bus from Hotel)  
On the occasion of the visit of Tora Aasland, Norwegian Minister for Research and Higher Education  
Co-hosted by the University of Minnesota and the Royal Norwegian Embassy

### Monday September 28:

McNamara Alumni Center, University of Minnesota, 200 Oak Street SE, Suite 100, Minneapolis, MN 55455

**8:00 am Light Breakfast**

**Memorial Hall**

**8:30 Opening and Welcome to Science Week 2009**

**Memorial Hall**

Vice President **Walter F. Mondale**, Norway's Honorary Consul General in Minneapolis  
**Robert H. Bruininks**, President, University of Minnesota (video message)  
**Tora Aasland**, Norway's Minister of Research and Higher Education

**9:30 am Transatlantic Forum**

**Johnson Great Room**

**Cooperation in Research, Innovation and Higher Education**

Forum Chair **Wegger Chr. Strømmen**, Norway's Ambassador to the United States  
**Martin Loken**, Canadian Consul General in Minnesota  
**Tim Mulcahy**, Vice President for Research, University of Minnesota  
Keynote: **Cora Marrett**, Acting Deputy Director, National Science Foundation: "To Stimulate Research and International Cooperation"  
Remarks by **Arvid Hallén**, Director General, Research Council of Norway  
Q&A and Forum items: **Berit Johne**, Counselor for Science, Royal Norwegian Embassy

**11:00 am Short Break**

**Memorial Hall**

**11:15 am Theme Keynotes:**

**Johnson Great Room**

**Collaborate for Survival of Life and Environment on Our Planet**

**G. David Tilman**, Professor, Director of Cedar Creek Ecosystem Science Reserve; Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Behavior; University of Minnesota  
**David W. Schindler**, Killam Memorial Professor of Ecology, University of Alberta, Edmonton  
**Nils Chr. Stenseth**, Vice President, the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters, Chair of Centre for Ecological and Evolutionary Synthesis (CEES), University of Oslo

**12:45 – 2:00 pm Luncheon**

**Memorial Hall**

Speaker: **Robert Elde**, Dean of the College of Biological Sciences, University of Minnesota: "Students and Research in Science Partnerships"

**2:00 pm Students and Research: Successful Models**

**Johnson Great Room**

Chairs: **Kari Kveseth**, International Director, Research Council of Norway, and **Susan Larson**, Professor, Dean of Research, Concordia College  
**Allen Bateman**, Graduate Student, University of Wisconsin, Madison, and BA, St. Olaf: "Research by Students at Liberal Arts Colleges"  
**Terje Kristensen**, UMB-UMN, Fulbright Graduate Fellow, Torskeklubben Fellow: "Graduate Students as Partners in International Research Teams"  
**Gisele Muller-Parker**, Program Director, NSF and **Terje Emblem**, Special Advisor, RCN: "Nordic Research Opportunity – Cooperation between NSF and RCN"  
**Hanne Krum**, Head of Information, SIU: "Institutional Partnerships"  
Discussion



**3:00 pm Nordic Connections: Scandinavian Studies and Exchange** Johnson Great Room

Chair: **Ingeborg Kongslien**, Professor, University of Oslo

Panelists:

**Curt Rice**, Vice President for Research, University of Tromsø

**Solveig Zempel**, Professor, St. Olaf College

**Tove I. Dahl**, Associate Professor, University of Tromsø, and Dean of Skogfjorden Norwegian Language Village, Concordia Language Villages

**4:00 pm Coffee Break**

Memorial Hall

**4:30 pm Science and Institutional Partnerships: From Neuroscience to Global Networks**  
Johnson Great Room

Keynote: **Menno Witter**, Professor, Kavli Institute, NTNU: "Biology of Memory, and Kavli Institutes as a model for excellence"

**Knut Hove**, President, UMB **Judd Sheridan**, UMN, **Odd Jarle Skjelhaugen**, UMB "The Centennial Chair model"

**Paulo Kofuji**, Associate Professor in Neuroscience, UMN: "Neuroscience partnerships"

**Geir Ellingsrud**, Professor, University of Oslo and **Douglas N. Arnold**, Professor, University of Minnesota, "Two Centers of Excellence in Mathematics"

**Aurora Martinez**, Professor, University of Bergen: "Protein stability and genetic diseases – Multinational research networks"

**Scott Gates**, Professor, NTNU, Director at PRIO Center for The Study of Civil War

Brief summing up discussion: "Keys to Successful and Lasting Partnerships – and to Excellence in Science?" moderated by **Judd Sheridan** and **Berit Johnne**

**6:00 pm Posters and Networking: Institutions and People Building Bridges**

Memorial Hall

Space will be provided for institutions or centers who want to present a poster or other material in this session. Posters and material will be available through both days of the program at the McNamara Alumni Center.

**6:30 – 9:00 pm Dinner Reception**

Memorial Hall

Hosted by **Tora Aasland**, Norway's Minister of Research and Higher Education

Remarks by **Ambassador Ben Whitney**

## Tuesday September 29:

At the McNamara Alumni Center, University of Minnesota

**8:00 am Light Breakfast**

Memorial Hall

**8:30 am The Special Energy between Norway and the US Mid-West and West Coast**

Memorial Hall

Honorary Consul **Gary Gandrud**, Minneapolis, and Honorary Consul **Kim Nesselquist**, Seattle

**9:00 am Keynotes: Global Challenges**

Johnson Great Room

**Lois Quam**, President, Tysvar, Minneapolis

**Ole Petter Ottersen**, President, University of Oslo

**Arvid Hallén**, Director General, Research Council of Norway

**10:15 am Short Break**

Memorial Hall



New Norwegian Centers for Environment-friendly Energy Research (CEER), funded by the Research Council, have international industry and research partners. The focus is long-term research in this field. Carbon capture and storage, offshore wind, solar cell, bioenergy, renewable energy and zero emission buildings are key words.

Chairs: **Judd Sheridan**, Professor, University of Minnesota and **Julie Christiansen**, Senior Adviser, Department of Energy and Petroleum Research, Research Council of Norway

Presentations: Center leaders, partners and researchers from both sides of the Atlantic will present projects and larger initiatives in alternative and environment friendly energy.

Centers and participants:

**BIGCCS** – Carbon capture and storage: **Nils Røkke**, VP Climate Change Tech, SINTEF, center director; and **Alan Kersten**, Distinguished Member of Technical Staff, Sandia National Lab

**CenBio** – Biomass and bioenergy: **Lars Sørum**, Sr. Research Scientist, SINTEF, center dir; **Odd Jarle Skjelhaugen**, Prof. and Dir. Bioenergy Center, UMB, center co-director

**NOWITECH** – Off-shore wind: **Tore Undeland**, Prof. Elec. Power Eng., NTNU; **Ned Mohan**, Prof. Elec. & Comp Eng., UMN

**Solar Cell Technology**: **Erik S. Marstein**, Head, Dept. Solar Energy, IFE, center dir; **Anders Elverhøi**, Dean of Research, Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Science, UiO

### 12:30 – 1:45 pm Buffet Luncheon

Memorial Hall

**Speaker: Jonathan Foley**, Director of the Institute on the Environment, UMN

**Remarks by Minister Tora Aasland**

Sponsored by the NACC Mid-West Chapter

### 2:00 pm Research Based Innovation: New Transatlantic Opportunities Johnson Great Room

Moderators: **Doug Cameron**, Managing Director, Piper Jaffray and **Lars Aukrust**, Director of Innovation, Research Council of Norway

Panelists:

**Stephen N. Oesterle**, M.D., Senior Vice President for Medicine and Technology, Medtronic

**Energy Company**, Minneapolis

**Dag Dvergsten**, President, Dvergsten AS,

**Terje Mikalsen**, President, Venturos Inc. and Chair, NACTA

### 3:00 pm Coffee Break

Memorial Hall

### 3:30 – 5:00 pm Parallel Workshops: Creating and Stimulating Transatlantic Collaboration – Setting Goals for Action

Parallel sessions will be charged with making recommendations and suggesting concrete goals and actions aimed at stimulating transatlantic cooperation. Key institutions will be presenting their views and ideas, and the panelists will reach conclusions and recommendations to be presented and posted after Science Week – and as input to the further work of agencies and policy makers.

Students, researchers, innovators, agencies, institutions and other actors are invited to discuss how we can stimulate transatlantic cooperation, and to contribute to the concrete outcomes from these sessions.

#### **Session A: Research and Higher Education**

Johnson Great Room

Coordinators:

**Ellen Sue Ewald**, Royal Norwegian Honorary Consulate General, Minneapolis

**Judd Sheridan**, University of Minnesota

**Berit Johne**, Royal Norw. Emb., Washington, DC

To charge the participants:

**Jarle Aarbakke**, President, University of Tromsø

Round table participants:

**Per Anderson**, Concordia College and Nordic

#### **Session B: Research Based Innovation**

Memorial Hall

Coordinators:

**Anders Davidson**, Royal Norwegian Honorary Consulate General, Minneapolis

To charge the participants:

**Gary Smaby**, VC-in-Residence, Univ. of Minnesota

Round table participants:

**Lars Aukrust**, Research Council of Norway



American Learning Alliance (NALA)  
**Thorleif Anthonen**, Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)  
**Anita R Asbjørnsen**, Norw. Consulate General, N. Y.  
**Astri Andresen**, University of Bergen  
**Gisele Muller-Parker**, National Science Foundation  
**Sonia Noronha Mykletun**, US-Norway Fulbright Foundation, Oslo  
**Matthew Richey**, St. Olaf College  
**Mads Nygård**, NTNU  
**Ola Stave**, Norw. Assoc. of Higher Educ. Institutions  
**All additional session participants** are encouraged to be active with input during the workshop, as well as to the output document with recommendations.

**Ivan Burkow**, NORUT, Tromsø  
**Doug Cameron**, Piper Jaffray, Minneapolis  
**Jostein Christian Dalland**, Birkeland Innovation, University of Oslo  
**Dag Dvergsten**, Dvergsten AS, Norway  
**Kjetil K. Jåsund**, Ministry of Trade and Industry  
**Terje Mikalsen**, Venturos, Minneapolis  
**Ned Mohan**, University of Minnesota  
**Nils Røkke**, SINTEF, Norway  
**Ivar Sorensen**, The M&A Group, Minneapolis

**All additional session participants** are encouraged to be active with input during the workshop, as well as to the output document with recommendations.

**5:00 – 5:30 pm In Conclusion**

**Memorial Hall**

- Brief preliminary reporting from Workgroups A and B
- Closing remarks by Vice President **Walter F. Mondale**

**6:00 pm** Reception and Concert with the **Oslo Chamber Choir** at the **Minnesota History Center, UMN**

Address: 345 Kellogg Blvd W, Saint Paul, MN 55102-1903

**5:45 pm** Bus transportation from McNamara to the History Center

**8:45 pm** Bus transportation to Hotel



## Wednesday September 30:

**8:00 – 9:15 am Closed Breakfast Meeting (by invitation only):**

Meeting of the Steering Group for Minneapolis at the Honorary Consulate General.

**9:30 am SITE VISITS to Academic and Industry Venues**

Coordinators: **Anders Davidson** (Innovation and Business Dev.) and **Ellen Ewald** (Research and Higher Edu.)  
 Bus transportation will be provided Details will be announced to the registrants,

1. **St. Olaf College Science Building** (Depart 9:30 am from hotel. Return ca 3:00 pm.) [www.stolaf.edu](http://www.stolaf.edu)
2. **3M Hall of Innovation** (Departure 12:15 pm from hotel. Return ca 3:30 pm.) [www.3m.com](http://www.3m.com)

### Side Event: Neuroscience Symposium:

#### Neuron-Glia Interactions - From Perisynaptic To Perivascular Communication

**Sept. 30, 2009; At: 3-125 Mayo Memorial Building**, 420 Delaware Str SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455

Speakers from the University of Minnesota<sup>1</sup> and the University of Oslo<sup>2</sup>.

- 10:30 am Introduction by chairs **Jon Storm-Mathisen**<sup>2</sup> and **Paulo Kofuji**<sup>1</sup>
- 10:40 am **Eric A. Newman**<sup>1</sup>: "Neuron-glia vascular coupling"
- 11:00 am **Paulo Kofuji**<sup>1</sup>: "Kir4.1 channel knock out mice: a tool for functional in vivo studies"
- 11:20 am **Silvia Mangia**<sup>1</sup>: "Dynamics of lactate concentration and blood oxygen level-dependent effect in the human visual cortex"
- 11:40 am **Robert F. Miller**<sup>1</sup>: "D-serine as a glial modulator of nerve cells"
- 12:00 pm Coffee break
- 12:20 pm **Mahmood Amiry Moghaddam**<sup>2</sup>: "Aquaporin 4 knock out mice: a tool for functional in vivo studies"
- 12:40 pm **Linda Hildegard Bergersen**<sup>2</sup>: "Lactate as a signal molecule"
- 13:00 pm **Vidar Gundersen**<sup>2</sup>: "Astrocytes regulate synaptic activity"
- 13:30 pm LUNCH AMONG SPEAKERS



## Speakers

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Zempel, Solveig, St. Olaf College p 7

## Partners and Contacts

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Norwegian Center for International Cooperation in Higher Education; Linda Prestegård, [linda.prestegard@siu.no](mailto:linda.prestegard@siu.no)



## Science Counselor's message: A Transatlantic Collaboratory

### Dear Science Family and Friends!

Thank you for making this 8<sup>th</sup> Transatlantic Science Forum a wonderful event – this time in Minneapolis!



Together we have developed Science Week into a true *collaboratory* - a forum where government, academy and industry meet - a laboratory where transatlantic

collaboration is created and strengthened. The forum serves as a catalyst. When excellent speakers and presenters from various disciplines meet, spin-off effects are created in the form of parallel activities and new collaborative ideas.



*Evolution and Energy:* 2009 marks the bicentenary of Charles Darwin's birth and the sesquicentennial of his 'On the Origin of Species'. 2009 also marks 100 years since the Norwegian painter Edward Munch came to the coastal town of Kragerø and started his work with the magnificent paintings for the University Hall in Oslo. Munch's 'The Sun' is shown as a collage on this program, and on the Government's white paper 'Climate for Research'. The intense rising sun expresses nature and energy. Thus the works of both Darwin and Munch resonate with Science Week 2009: Ecology, biodiversity, environment friendly energy, and the need for knowledge and cooperation to find green global solutions to the climate challenges.

*Transatlantic Forum:* To inspire students and researchers, and give them an early international 'life changing experience' is important. This summer 12 Norwegian bachelor students visited the University of Minnesota – a Fulbright activity and a direct spin-off of Science Week 2007. This fall the 'Nordic Research Opportunity' program is sending 13 NSF graduate fellows to research centers in Norway, for an early career experience and to connect excellent institutions. Numerous other collaborative examples are on the program this week. The *Transatlantic Collaboratory* will continue to evolve, with visible as well as unmeasurable results.

The human factor is essential for lasting collaborations and partnerships.  
Thank you Team Minneapolis and all new science friends!

**Thanks and see you all again - across the Atlantic!**

Berit Johne  
Counselor for Science and Technology, PhD  
Royal Norwegian Embassy, Washington DC and Ottawa



(Art by [www.astriluihn.com](http://www.astriluihn.com))

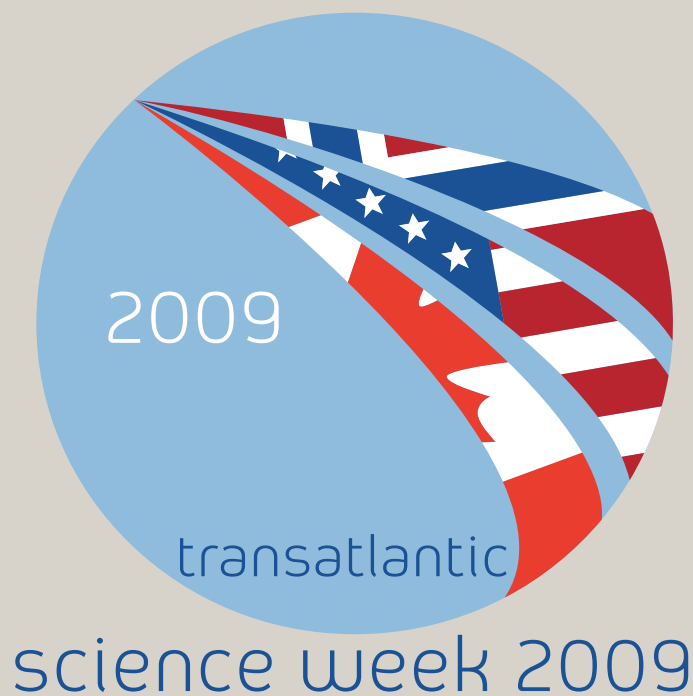


*Program cover illustration:*  
Collage with elements from Edward Munch's 'The Sun',  
The University of Oslo  
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