

RRE UPDATES

The Latest From the RRE Alumni Network

WHAT HAPPENED?

Nina Skafte Shares Careers Tips
Morten Jensen Reflects on the
Danish Labour Market
Yahya Barry Returns to RRE



RRE graduates receive a 'skills profile' certificate upon successful completion of the programme. Academic, analytical, critical, project implementation, communication and time management are examples of these skills. But how do these work out for graduates in real life? We spoke with Nina and Morten.

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BE OPEN ABOUT YOUR OPPORTUNITIES, THINK BROADER, DON'T NARROW YOURSELF ...

Nina Skafte

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NINA SKAFTE SHARES HER RRE EXPERIENCE

The Benefits of the RRE Programme in Career Development

In an online tutorial held February 17th, Nina spoke to this topic of career development with a cohort of current first-year students. Nina graduated in 2013 and went on to pursue a blended career in publishing, research, the cultural sector, and most recently, in education.

In her current job teaching Danish, she finds that with the majority of her students from Muslim and 'traditional' Christian backgrounds, the skills she has drawn most upon from the RRE programme have been: the knowledge of other cultures but also the linguistic expertise she gained in Semitic and Indo-European languages. This has been instrumental in her ability to teach Danish from a comparative framework to languages her students use as native speakers.

For Nina, having a part-time job with a publishing company while studying RRE was invaluable because it helped her identify early on, what skills within the programme were relevant to that part of the labour market and her career.

THE DANISH EDUCATION SYSTEM

Reflections by Morten Jensen

The first in his family to attend university, Morten had no idea of what to study. He had to make a life-changing choice as the deadline for admissions loomed close. The Danish education system emphasises specialisation, and this can be restrictive for a "multi-potentialite" like himself.

Morten, an admissions officer at DTU (Danish Technical University) graduated from the RRE programme in 2013. His specialisation within a labour market focused on experience posed a challenge in securing jobs related to his area of expertise. "Ideally, you're expected to work in your field of expertise; failing that, you're expected to develop new areas of expertise" remarked Morten. This has been a significant challenge in career development.

Whilst the shortage of priests in Denmark creates a potential career pathway, it obviously isn't a calling for everyone. Morten suggests that the Faculty of Theology should consider having a careers advice service for its students whose vocational ambitions fall outside the remit of religious ministry.

The RRE programme could also support students in their specialisations. He found it difficult to "find relevance" in his thesis on gender construction in early Christianity. He advises those in the programme to secure student jobs to get a foot in the market and to have contingency plans they can fall back on.



RETURNING TO RRE AFTER A DECADE

Yahya Barry Delivers Weekly Tutorials

In his post to the RRE Facebook group, Yahya told us: "as a student, one of the things I wished I had more of was careers advice on what to make of my study while going through the programme's modules and even on deciding my dissertation topic."

A current visiting senior researcher at the Centre of African Studies, Uni of Copenhagen, Yahya has taken the opportunity to deliver a series of online tutorials for first-year RRE students. Since graduation, his career in academia and religious ministry has benefitted from collaborative networks and partnerships. He looks to further build upon these networks.



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CAREER OPPORTUNITIES & VACANCIES

POSTDOC STUDY OF RELIGION AARHUS UNIVERSITY

Two-year fixed-term postdoctoral position in the study of radicalization, extremism, and political violence.

[Link for further details.](#)

- Deadline: 07 March 2021

RESEARCH & OUTREACH OFFICER UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Full-time fixed-term post conducting research into themes relating to Islam in the global age.

[Link for further details.](#)

- Deadline: 25 April 2021

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT JOURNAL OF AFRICAN STUDIES

Part time, 7hpw. A well-organised person to undertake administrative duties in support of the journal.

[Link for further details.](#)

- Deadline: 27 February 2021

ENGAGEMENT OFFICER THE OPEN UNIVERSITY UK

Part time, 7hpw. A well-organised person to undertake administrative duties in support of the journal.

[Link for further details.](#)

- Deadline: 26 February 2021

GET INVOLVED

Be part of the RRE networks: student and alumni to collaborate in helping each other advance our careers in challenging times.

The spark that created this 'RRE Update' first issue were the career-focused tutorials being delivered for current students. We wanted to summarise the content of these tutorials and share them for the benefit of students and alumni.

But then we thought: why not, this has the potential to become a regular self-standing RRE publication, a forum for great ideas, open collaboration as well as being a platform sharing job opportunities.

If you want to get involved, we warmly welcome you to get in touch by emailing yab@teol.ku.dk.

Published 19.02.2021 by Olive Tree CIC Publications

