



eLIFE – news on life at LIFE

Thursday, 31 January 2008

Email to the editors: elife@life.ku.dk

Final deadline for editorial changes is Wednesday before publication of eLIFE on Thursday.

Editorial changes may occur in relation to the online newsletter.

As regards links in the newsletter, please refer to the Danish online version at the Faculty's website http://www.life.ku.dk/Maalgruppe/medarbejdere/life_internt/nyhedsbrev.aspx

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, Editor, Communications, glb@life.ku.dk

Life at LIFE

Historical tree felling in the Faculty Gardens

When inspecting the old trees in the Gardens, it turned out that one of the 150-year-old linden trees was infected with fungus. As the tree was leaning over Thorvaldsensvej, and its trunk also had a massive split, it had to be felled before someone was hit on the head.

The tree was as old as the Faculty of Life Sciences, and as several of the gardeners are involved in the Faculty Anniversary, they chose to fell the tree in a manner befitting the anniversary spirit (and how they might have done it back in 1858: using axes, a two-man felling saw and lots of enthusiasm).

On Tuesday afternoon, the notch was ready, and on Wednesday morning the actual felling began. The gardeners gave all they had, and after an hour's hard work, the giant was toppled. And even though they had to enlist the help of a not so historical 66 hp chainsaw, the gardeners signalled the start of the celebration of the Faculty's 150-year anniversary (as was duly noted by the bystanders) with a deafening bang.

Lars Elver Birck

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 31 January 2008

Yale University to reduce its CO₂ emissions by 43% by 2020 – University President Richard Levin visits the University of Copenhagen

As an introduction to the 2009 Climate Summit in Copenhagen, Yale President Richard Levin gave a speech on 21 January for employees and students at the University of Copenhagen on sustainability and the green wave which Yale University has set in motion, and which the University of Copenhagen wants to follow.

See or read Mr Levin's speech at <http://www.virtuel.ku.dk/en/debate-yale-president-richard-levin>

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 31 January 2008

The old trees in the Faculty Gardens

In 1856, the Danish state bought the farm "Rolighed" and started the construction of the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University. As horticulture was to be taught in addition to veterinary medicine, it was only logical to have gardens around the buildings.

The first director of the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University, Carl Emil Fenger, also chaired the committee that prepared a proposal for the layout and use of the gardens. The gardens were to serve three main purposes, which still apply today: provide plant material for teaching activities in botany and horticulture, beautify the university's surroundings and serve as public gardens.

The gardens were designed by the horticultural society's gardener, Julius August Bentzien, who worked as landscape architect, and Sørensen Wagenblast was employed as permanent garden hand after having replied to the following job advertisement in "Dansk Haugeidende" in April 1857: *"The new Gardens of the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University are seeking a young gardener for the position of resident gardener; the monthly remuneration will amount to 50 rix-dollars. Prospective applicants are kindly invited to submit a written application to the Director of the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University, Professor Fenger, by 1 May at the latest.*

Associate Professor Johan Lange, assisted by botanical gardener August Weillbach and Titular Councillor of State Rudolph Rothe were responsible for the distribution of the plants on the area, based on a botanical-systematic division by plant families. The majority of the plant material was obtained from Hesede and Hørsholm nurseries, but also from other Danish nurseries as well as German, Dutch and French nurseries.

As it often proved difficult to obtain the plant material, sometimes two to three trees of the same species were planted next to each other, and the least vital ones were then subsequently removed. In several instances, they did, however, forget to do so, illustrated by the double silver linden trees near Flisehaven and the large zelkova trees facing Bülowsvej, which are actually no less than four large trees which have grown together.

The Gardens were officially opened in 1858 and were more or less completed by 1860, and quite a lot of these trees and bushes are still here, even though storms, rot and lightening have made most of them fragile.

Major tree collections in the Gardens include the ash trees in the southern section, where the small golden weeping ash facing Bülowsvej is particularly noteworthy – the 4-metre tree has stood there for 150 years. There are also the collection of chestnut trees near the corner of Bülowsvej and Thorvaldsensvej and the collection linden trees near Flisehaven.

Even though the name of the place has changed from the Gardens of the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University to the Gardens of the Faculty of Life Sciences, they have been here for all 150 years, so let us be happy that the old giants are still among us.

Kim Greiner, Senior Gardener

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 31 January 2008

Send staff news from LIFE to *Universitetsavisen*

To increase the coverage of staff news, the university newspaper would like to bring all important appointments at the University of Copenhagen. Please send us a list, for each issue, of new appointments, professorships etc. at your faculty. The dates are shown in the list of publication dates under deadline for announcements.

[Publication plan](#)

Kind regards,

Hjørdis Havsteen Brandrup

Information officer, *Universitetsavisen*

Tel. (353) 228 98

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 29 January 2008

Announcements

PUMA offers three courses for technical and administrative staff

PUMA would like to draw your attention to the following courses for technical and administrative staff, all with registration deadlines in February:

[Den gode indkøbskontrakt](#) (a course on good purchasing contracts), 3 March, 9.00 am to 4.00 pm.

Registration deadline: 4 February.

[Effektiv notat- og referattekniik](#) (a course on note and minute-taking), 10 to 11 March, 9.00 am to 3.00

pm. Registration deadline: 4 February.

[Skab overblik i pressede situationer](#) (a course on how to handle stressful situations), 26 March, 9.00 am to 3.30 pm. Registration deadline: 20 February.

The courses are described in detail in the attached PDF files. Course descriptions and PUMA's other courses are also available at: <http://kursuskatalog.ku.dk/>

We hope that you will forward the course offers to relevant technical and administrative staff.

PUMA Kursussekretariat - HR & Organisationsudvikling

Tel. 353 22659

Nørregade 10, 1017 Copenhagen K

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 31 January 2008

KUreren

KUreren – news from the management <http://kureren.ku.dk/>

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 31 January 2008

The Department of Large Animal Sciences to move some of its activities to Taastrup in weeks 6 and 7

As from week 7, the postal addresses are as follows:

Institut for Produktionsdyr og Heste (Department of Large Animal Sciences)

Name of employee at secretariat (if relevant), incl. Head of Department Per Henriksen

Højbakkegård Allé 5

2630 Taastrup

Institut for Produktionsdyr og Heste (Department of Large Animal Sciences)

Medicin & Kirurgi (Large Animal Surgery and Medicine)

Name of employee (if relevant)

Højbakkegård Allé 5

2630 Taastrup

Institut for Produktionsdyr Department of Large Animal Sciences)

Universitetshospital for Store Husdyr (Large Animal Hospital)

Name of employee (if relevant)

Højbakkegård Allé 5

2630 Taastrup

Institut for Produktionsdyr og Heste (Department of Large Animal Sciences)

Produktion & Sundhed (Health and Production)

Højbakkegård Allé 5

2630 Taastrup

Please note that this address applies for general mail for the group as well as special mail for Professor Jens Peter Nielsen, Professor Carsten Enevoldsen, Associate Professor Helle Stege, Assistant Professor Ilka Klaas and the PhD students who have moved address.

Other mail for employees in the Health & Production group should be sent to the following address:

Institut for Produktionsdyr og Heste (Department of Large Animal Sciences)

>name of employee <

Grønnegårdsvej 2

1870 Frederiksberg C

Institut for Produktionsdyr og Heste (Department of Large Animal Sciences)
Veterinær Reproduktion & Obstetrik (Veterinary Reproduction and Obstetrics)
Name of employee (if relevant)
Dyrlægevej 68
1870 Frederiksberg C

Institut for Produktionsdyr og Heste (Department of Large Animal Sciences)
Populationsbiologi (Population Biology)
Name of employee (if relevant)
Grønnegårdsvej 8
1870 Frederiksberg C

If you have any queries concerning the move, please contact Head of Department Per Henriksen (pshe@life.ku.dk),
Clinical Manager Susanne N. Olsen (sno@life.ku.dk) or Departmental Administrator Inge F. H. Olsen (ifho@life.ku.dk).

Inge F. H. Olsen, Department of Large Animal Sciences, ifho@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 30 January 2008

The future of sustainability in the coffee industry – workshop – Thursday, 28 February, Thorvaldsensvej 40

The workshops are an opportunity for the participants to acquire new knowledge and discuss topics such as: "What is sustainability?", "Coffee trade and sustainable development" and "The future of sustainable products in Denmark."

Time: 28 February 2008, 9.00 am to 4.00 pm

Place: Life – Faculty of Life Sciences, University of Copenhagen
Thorvaldsensvej 40
1870 Frederiksberg C

Registration: kaffeklubben@kaffeklubben.net

Participation in the event is free.

Seating is limited, and members of Kaffeklubben.net have priority.

Read more about Kaffeklubben.net at www.kaffeklubben.net

Programme

9.00 to 9.30 am: Registration and coffee

9.30 to 11.00 am: What is sustainability?

Presentation by Simon Bolwig (PhD, Research Group on Global Economy, Trade and Development, DIIS)
What is sustainability, and how do you define and weight the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainability?

What are the limitations and opportunities of sustainable production and activities?

Who guarantees sustainability in relation to consumers?

Panel: Dorte Hougaard (External Quality Manager, Urtekram A/S), **Henning Høgh Jensen** (Associate Professor, Department of Agricultural Sciences, Section of Environment, Resources and Technology, Life

Sciences) and **Jonas Giersing** (Product Manager, Max Havelaar).

Chairman of the meeting: Morten Seifert (journalist)

11.00 to 11.30 am: Coffee break

11.30 am to 1.00 pm: Coffee trade and sustainable development

Presentation by Peter Christensen (Partner, NAF-trading)

Coffee trade from farmer to shop – including differences between conventional and certified coffee and traceability in the supply chain.

What are the perspectives of sustainable development among coffee producers and how can businesses and NGOs contribute to this? What is the position of cooperatives in relation to large multinationals and what are the challenges faced by cooperatives in this context?

Panel: Paul David Videbæk (founder of Ictus Fairtrade), **Jesper Juel Rasmussen** (Program Coordinator, Caritas), **Lars Pehrson** (CEO, Merkur Bank), **Susanne Hegnbo** (Purchasing, COOP), **Michael Larsen** (Material Manager, Merrild Kaffe A/S).

Chairman of the meeting: Steffen Thomsen (Chief Consultant, Danish Federation of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises)

1.00 to 2.00 pm: Lunch

2.00 to 4.00 pm: The future market and demand for sustainable products

Presentation by Frank Høgholm Pedersen (Senior Researcher, Copenhagen Institute for Futures Studies)

What changes in consumption motives and product choice will the future bring? How can high-tech food and ICT change consumption choice and shopping situations? What can we expect from transparent food?

Panel: Peter Neergaard (MSc, PhD, Professor, Department of Operations Management, CBS). Responsible corporations (CSR) and retail trade in the future. Who will drive the market development for sustainable products?

Chairman of the meeting: Mette Boye (Director, Consumer Policy Centre, Danish Consumer Council)

We are looking forward to a well-attended, exciting and educational day.

Kind regards,

Kaffeklubben.net

Mikael Jørgensen, Internationalisation and Developing Countries, mij@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 30 January 2008

Conference on ICT-supported learning at universities – Wednesday, 27 February at the IT University

The Danish Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation is hosting conference on the strategic use of information and communication technology (ICT) in the learning environments at the Danish universities.

The conference will take place on Wednesday 27 February 2008 at the IT University of Copenhagen.

The purpose of the conference is inspire the management, educational units and e-learning units/IT departments of the universities to ensure a strategic focus on and an increased use of ICT-supported learning at the universities.

The background for the conference is the national strategy for ICT-supported learning which the Danish Minister for Science, Technology and Innovation, Helge Sander, launched in June 2007. The national strategy for ICT-supported learning is available at:

<http://www.itst.dk/e-laering-og-it-faerdigheder/e-lering/national-strategi-for-e-lering> (in Danish)

E-learning Consultant Anita Monty from LIFE's IT Learning Center is giving a presentation on the development and change of teaching in practice.

At the conference, you will also get information about the funding for which the universities can apply in connection with the national strategy for ICT-supported learning.

Registration is required.

For the programme and information about registration, click here:

<http://www.ubst.dk/nyheder/konference-om-ikt-stottet-lering-pa-universiteterne> (in Danish)

Gitte Preisler, IT Learning Center, gip@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 29 January 2008

Term kick-off: US Election – Super Duper Tuesday – Monday, 4 February, 2.00 to 4.00 pm in the Ceremonial Hall, Frue Plads

The term kick-off on Monday, 4 February is a US election event.

You are invited to participate in the discussion when a panel of experts on the USA will answer question about the upcoming US presidential election.

The election meeting will be opened by the US ambassador, James P. Cain, and the panel will comprise Clement Kjersgaard from Danish television (DR2) as well as researchers specialising in US politics. The University, the Student Council and the Alumni Association will provide the right US election atmosphere on the day between the Super Bowl and Super Duper Tuesday.

Read more and register for the event at <http://www.ku.dk/semesterkickoff/>

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 29 January 2008

Do you need project management tools?

As in previous years, LIFE will be offering a course in project management in autumn 2008.

You can find the dates and registration information at the HR website:

http://www.life.ku.dk/Maalgruppe/medarbejdere/personale/interne_kurser/andre_kurser/projektledelse.aspx

If you cannot wait until the autumn, PUMA will be offering courses in project management in spring 2008:

<http://kursuskatalog.ku.dk/ledelse-organisation/>

Henriette Lieblein, HR, hel@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 31 January 2008

Student Peace Prize - Nominations 2009

The Student Peace Prize is to be awarded for the sixth time in Trondheim, Norway in 2009. The prize is awarded every second year on behalf of all Norwegian students, and is the only peace prize in the world to and from students. In giving this prize we wish to highlight the important role of students in the struggle for peace, democracy and human rights. Student efforts are widely underestimated, even though students often have the ability and opportunity to think differently, and thus to create a more peaceful world. Awarding the Peace Prize helps to get support and recognition for idealist students who work for peace and basic rights. The Student Peace Prize receives nominations from all over the world, and we make a tremendous effort to learn about good candidates. The nominee must be a student or a student organization who or which has made an outstanding contribution to peace, democracy or human rights.

A committee consisting of students and prominent persons in Norwegian politics and society chooses the winner of the Student Peace Prize 2009. The recipient receives an invitation to come to Norway to accept the prize in Trondheim in 2009, and will also travel throughout Norway to meet with important organizations and decision makers.

Previous winners have met with the Norwegian Prime Minister, the Minister of Development and HRH Crown Prince Haakon Magnus, to name a few. The media is very attentive to the Peace Prize and its winners. Receiving this prize is a unique opportunity to make contacts, increase media awareness and spread knowledge about oneself and the situation in one's home country.

For further information, see www.studentpeaceprize.org

The Student Peace Prize is still a young institution, but grows by the year. If you have knowledge of a worthy candidate, we hope to receive your nomination. Please forward this information to your friends. The closing date for nominations is February 11, 2008.

Send the nomination and a thorough presentation of the candidate to nomination@studentpeaceprize.org

Ole Andre Gjerde
The Student Peace Prize

Annica Nielsen, Internationalisation and Developing Countries, anie@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 29 January 2008

Education

Project Support – help is available if you have problems with your thesis or BSc project

Project Support is open on Thursday, 9 am to 3 pm where Anders Dahl is ready to help you in Student Services.

- Are you having difficulties getting started?
- Are you having troubles maintaining an overview?
- Are you insecure about your problem formulation?
- Are you having writing difficulties?
- Or is your problem something completely different?

Student Services offers help for all students at LIFE working on a thesis or BSc project. The assistance available primarily relates to structure, coherence, the process, planning, writing and topic/problem formulation, but not the actual academic content. Feel free to drop by – no appointment necessary.

Project Support is open on Thursday 9 am to 3 pm and by phone on 3533 4007 during the same hours. Project Support is located at Student Services. Contact Anders Dahl at and@life.ku.dk for more information.

[Specialebloggen](#) – blog with other thesis students

Academic Support Center at the Faculty of Humanities has established a special [thesis blog](#) for thesis students all over the country. Thesis students can use the blog to communicate with other thesis students about writing a thesis or for networking as well as for giving and getting advice. Signe Skov, Blog Administrator and Writing Consultant, and Jesper Mørch, Information Specialist at the Library of the University of Copenhagen, will also make contributions to the blog. See also the [Academic Support Center website](#) for more information about writing a thesis.

Anders Dahl, Student Services, and@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 30 January 2008

Global Village 2008 – application deadline Friday, 8 March

Now is the time for selecting the next team to represent Denmark in the unique summer programme “Global Village 2008” at Lehigh University, Pennsylvania, in the USA from 22 June to 11 August. It is a fantastic opportunity to learn a lot of new things together with 89 other young people from all over the world.

The application deadline is 8 March, and you can [read more here](#) about what you can expect of such a stay. You can also find contact information for last year’s participants from LIFE.

If a LIFE student is selected for the trip, he or she can apply for a grant through the secretariat for Internationalisation and Developing Countries – contact Annica Nielsen.

Annica Nielsen, Internationalisation and Developing Countries, anie@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 30 January 2008

Staff news

40th anniversary: Senior Laboratory Assistant Bente Broeng, IJV, Monday, 3 March

To celebrate the 40th anniversary of Senior Laboratory Assistant Bente Broeng, a reception will be held on Monday, 3 March at 2 pm in room R322, Thorvaldsensvej 40, 3rd floor, stairwell 4, Department of Agricultural Sciences
Everybody is welcome.

Linn Nørreremark, Department of Agricultural Sciences, lwa@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 30 January 2008

EliteForsk travel grants: PhD student Suzanne Elisabeth Vedel, Forest and Landscape, has been awarded the Danish Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation EliteForsk travel grant

On 24 January 2008, PhD student Suzanne Elisabeth Vedel from *Forest and Landscape*, University of Copenhagen, was awarded the Ministry's travel grant for her work on how the Danes use nature for recreational purposes as well as the opportunities for innovation and development of new products and services on forest and nature properties aimed at outdoor life.

The Danes use nature more and more for a wide range of outdoor activities. At the same time, many of the new activities require a lot of space and are sometimes in conflict with each other or with other users. The question is whether some of the problems can be solved by stimulating a new service market? Suzanne Elisabeth Vedel is working on a PhD project which investigates some of the framework conditions for and the dynamics of the innovation and development of new sources of income for forest and nature properties with many outdoor visitors.

"The project will increase the understanding of why the development of new products and the experience economy apparently are making slow progress in this area. Among other things, I am working with play-theoretical models that may explain why potential producers are refraining from introducing products and when they will be competing to be first," says Suzanne Elisabeth Vedel from *Forest and Landscape*. "At the same time, the model can possibly identify ways in which society can stimulate development for the benefit of overall welfare."

Another problem which Suzanne Elisabeth Vedel will be investigating is why some countries offer many public activities of this kind or a wide use of rights (e.g. common rights) to ensure the availability of activities. The findings of the work will form part of *Forest and Landscape's* work with the development of outdoor life, aspects of outdoor life in terms of the experience economy as well as sustainable administration and regulation of our use of forests and landscape.

Suzanne Elisabeth Vedel will, among other things, spend her travel grant on an extended stay at the University of California at Berkeley, USA. Here, she will be developing her professional competences within, amongst others, regulation, contract theory and game theory. Suzanne left for California on 15 January.

The Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation EliteForsk travel grants are elements of the EliteForsk initiative, the purpose of which, among other things, is to reward and visualise the most competent and talented scientists in Denmark. This year, a total of 19 EliteForsk travel grants of DKK 250,000 were awarded. This is only the second year the grants are awarded.

“At *Forest and Landscape*, we are proud that Suzanne’s work and potential have been recognised. It contributes to strengthening our highly committed approach to research in the administration of our use of nature. The research conducted is also supported financially by the Danish Ministry of the Environment and the EU,” says Niels Elers Koch, Head of the Department, *Forest and Landscape*, University of Copenhagen.” This is the second year running that a talented PhD student from *Forest and Landscape* has been awarded an EliteForsk travel grant; both are working in the group conducting research within economy, politics and planning.



Line Wadum, *Forest and Landscape*, liwa@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 29 January 2008

Research

PPP donation from the Danish Agricultural Council paves the way for a three-week research stay at the Faculty of Life Sciences

A PPP (Public Private Partnerships) donation from the Danish Agricultural Council has paved the way for a three-week stay to conduct research in the Bambara groundnut at the Faculty of Life Sciences for Wazael Hillary Ntundu from Tanzania.

Read the article (in Danish) about how competent scientists in developing countries should be supported (*Forskerkompetencer i udviklingslande skal støttes*) in the Danish Agricultural Council’s weekly magazine *FoodCulture*, 28 January 2008, on p. 15.

http://www.landbrugsraadet.dk/getMedia.asp?mb_GUID=C3949016-7B8E-4B83-8649-49BB597E711.pdf

Read more about the PPP agreement between the Faculty of Life Sciences and Danida

http://www.life.ku.dk/om_KVL/internationalisering/opp.aspx

Mikael Jørgensen, *Internationalisation and Developing Countries*, mij@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 29 January 2008

Grants

Research funds etc.

See the online version at

http://www.life.ku.dk/Maalgruppe/medarbejdere/life_internt/nyhedsbrev/forskningsmidler.aspx

Here you will find all calls with active links.