



eLIFE – news on life at LIFE

Thursday 2 October 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

No eLIFE in calendar week 42

Life at LIFE

Invitation: Hear Ralf and Lykke's future plans for LIFE... and the rest of the University

Wondering what visions our Rector has for the University of Copenhagen? And for LIFE? Want to hear our Pro-Rector's assessment of the potential of LIFE's study programmes in the international educational market of the future? Or do you have other unanswered questions about your university? Then meet up in lecture hall 3.02 at Thorvaldsensvej 40 on Friday 24 October 2008 at 9 am where Ralf and Lykke will be talking about the direction in which they would like to see LIFE and the University going, as well as answering any questions you, your colleagues or your fellow students at LIFE might have.

Programme for the meeting:

9.00 am Welcome by Per Holten-Andersen, Dean

9.05 am Introductory remarks about the University of Copenhagen and LIFE by Rector Ralf Hemmingsen and Pro-Rector Lykke Friis
9.20 am Q&A by Jacob Søby Bang, Head of LIFE Communications
10.15 am Conclusion of meeting

To make sure that as many as possible of the issues of greatest interest to us here at LIFE are covered, part of the Q&A session will be based on questions that have been submitted beforehand to [eLIFE](#). So, if you have one or more questions which you really want to hear the Rector's Office answer on that day in October, write now to [eLIFE](#) and submit your *questions to the Rector's Office*.

Your question(s) will be brought up at the meeting, if at all possible. All questions submitted to eLIFE will be published in eLIFE prior to the meeting to allow you to see some of the topics that will be covered at the meeting. Naturally, eLIFE will be covering the meeting, so we will subsequently be able to follow up on any questions that were not answered or that you did not get a chance to ask.

The meeting will be in Danish, but eLIFE will be reporting on the meeting in both Danish and English. After the meeting from 10.30-11.30 am, the Rector's Office will meet with LIFE's department heads to hear what people are talking about in each LIFE department.

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 2 October 2008

Bjørn Nørgaard, monstrous rain, exotic fruit, collection of monstrosities...]

– And we could go on and on. This year's Night of Culture at LIFE is a record-breaking event – both with regard to the number of activities (a total of 26) and the number of participating LIFE staff members (220). Bjørn Nørgaard will be opening our Night of Culture in Gimle Square at 5 pm, where he will talk about the work 'Biodiversity'. The other activities will open at 6 pm: The future moves into the Gardens where the group of light artists known as Lyskastellet along with a group of German sound artists invite you on a botanical space odyssey; in Cafe Væksthuset you can meet a wonderful (natural-marinated??) roast; you can try your hand as a veterinarian; and, according to tradition, there will be a variety of activities in the Marble Hall and Vandrehallen. See our entire programme at www.life.ku.dk/kulturnatten.

If you would like to advertise for the Night of Culture at LIFE in your community, at your local library, at your child's school etc., you can pick up copies of our little brochure at LIFE Communications at Bülowsvej 17 on the 1st floor. We have also designed a poster you can print in either A3 or A4 format.

[Find the poster here](#) – remember to scale the format to fit the chosen paper size.

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 1 October 2008

How can the University of Copenhagen become a more professional organisation? – Three quick ones for Karen Poder

In connection with the University Festival 'Universitetets Døgn', eight different workshops will be held at the various University campuses. LIFE will be hosting a workshop on The Professional Organisation, so we asked Karen Poder, head of the PUMA consultants, three quick questions:

* What characterises a professional organisation?

A profession has common methods and values. In addition to these, a professional organisation also has a common direction – i.e. shared strategies and a management and staff that are willing to and can implement them.

* How can the University become a more professional organisation?

The University is a complex organisation with many stakeholders. With the speed of change we are currently experiencing, it is important to maintain our focus on promoting our core activities – teaching, research and knowledge dissemination. It is about simplification and debureaucratisation, and it is about good management. Internal dialogue and balancing expectations are part of the process.

* Who can contribute to this professionalisation?

Everyone can – students, heads of departments and staff. At the workshop, everyone will have a chance to say what they can do and what they think ‘the others’ can do to further promote the professionalisation of the University of Copenhagen.

You can read more about the workshop at www.universitetetsdoegn.ku.dk, where you can also register. Seating is limited.

Katherina Ludvigsen

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 1 October 2008

Is it all about money? – Three quick ones for Jens-Peter Lynov

In anticipation of the workshop on business collaboration in the future – ‘It takes two to tango’ – at the University Festival ‘Universitetets Døgn’ on 9-10 October, we asked Jens-Peter Lynov, Vice-President of Research and Innovation, three quick questions:

* Is it all just about money?

No – it’s not just about money. The University shouldn’t be greedy in connection with business collaboration, but we shouldn’t be naive either. We possess enormous quantities of knowledge that are very valuable to the business community. If the commercialisation of our knowledge results in huge benefits for a company, it’s only fair that we get a piece of the pie so we can produce even better research and study programmes in future.

* What can we as a university achieve in the future through more successful business collaboration?

Many of the issues that businesses are working on are actually extremely interesting from the point of view of research. So collaboration with the business community can give rise to entirely new fields of research at the University of Copenhagen. Further, collaboration projects with businesses increase the students’ chances of finding jobs in the business community after graduation.

* Should our study programmes be tailored to the needs of industry?

That is a question we will be discussing at the workshop on 10 October. (My own opinion on the matter is a clear no.)

You can read more about the workshop at www.universitetetsdoegn.ku.dk, where you can also register. Seating is limited.

Katherina Ludvigsen

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 1 October 2008

Villa Rolighed – the unique jewel of the Faculty

The history of Villa Rolighed began with a small enterprise that was associated with the Danish royal court, and after a long and eventful life, it stands now in all its romantic splendour, as part of the Faculty of Life Sciences.

Back in the day of King Christian VI, more specifically 1742, Royal Treasurer ('minister of finance') Nicolai Ahrentzen was allocated a parcel of land south of the Ladegaardsåen stream in Frederiksberg. There the treasurer established a wax bleach works as he was responsible for supplying wax candles to the royal court, which had to be bleached in the sun in order to attain the correct white colour. The modest parcel of land was only leased, but a 27-bay half-timbering structure was built for dwellings and the bleach works as well as livestock buildings, a carriage shed and a number of bleaching benches.

In 1749, Ahrentzen left the service of the court and passed his wax bleach works on to the distinguished businessman Lüder Stiefken, who went bankrupt only eight years later, and so the bleach works were put up for auction.

The property and some adjoining parcels were acquired by Judge Advocate General Andreas Bruun. He refurbished the estate and shut down the wax bleach works, replacing it with a quaint little hobby farm with eighteen cows. Andreas Bruun also established a garden with a fish pond in the little bog and named the property 'Mariendal', possibly after one of his many children. Despite his great fondness for farming, he did not have enough money to keep it up, and so after a couple of quick deals – the last one using a front man to keep the price down – the property was acquired by royal advisor, large-scale businessman and ship-owner Conrad Alexander Fabritius de Tengnagel.

Fabritius de Tengnagel paid a significant price for the estate. Around 1770, he established a new main building in something resembling a baroque style, decorated with what was considered at the time unusual splendour, and gave the place its final and lasting name – Rolighed.

A document from 1795 shows the original magnificence of Villa Rolighed. It was about 10x10 metres with a full basement, ground and first floor, and roofed with glazed tiles. The basement had four rooms and a large kitchen with three cookers, a built-in copper boiler and a baking oven with an iron door. Next to the kitchen was a bath – rather unusual for the time – with a floor of fine marble tile and furnished in authentic imported wood. The basement door was equipped with bulls-eye glass windows, which remain intact to this very day. The ground floor is elevated, and a set of magnificent double stone steps with wrought-iron railings lead up to the entrance hall onto which five rooms open up, as well as the main sitting room with a fireplace, panelled walls and ornate stucco work featuring flower and animal motifs.

One of the rooms was painted in Chinese style and decorated with Chinese furniture, and there were walled recesses and hearths with 'gilded ornaments'. From the entrance hall, an elegant staircase led up to the six rooms on the first floor. The main building was flanked by thatched-roofed wings on either side, housing stables and the carriage shed – a truly idyllic manor house.

Fabritius was a real man-about-town who loved art, theatre and music, and he was known for his lively parties, which he often hosted at his ornamented estate in Christianshavn or his brand new country house 'Enrum' near Vedbæk, north of Copenhagen, where he also established an outstanding park.

In addition to art, Fabritius appreciated beautiful women, and Villa Rolighed was perfect for those more intimate meetings. While not officially noted in the annals of history, Rolighed was used as a discrete residence for his many mistresses, and after a swift ride outside the ramparts of the city, Rolighed's exquisite bathing facilities really came into their own. It was common knowledge that all was not what it seemed. And the ageing Countess Louise Stolberg considered him contemptible, exclaiming that "he should be deported to America like any other criminal". (Sounds almost like sour grapes).

After 35 years in the possession of Fabritius de Tengnagels, Rolighed came into the hands of the Emanuel Rafn, then head of the state office for the administration of agricultural properties and married to the sister of Bishop Münster. While their marriage was far from perfect – it is said they got along like cat and dog – they still managed to create a pleasant home at Rolighed, where Münster claimed to have spent many comfortable hours, but that "there was perhaps too much wild merriment to disrupt the calm fellowship".

Rafn acquired land around Rolighed, thus increasing the size of the property to about 22,500 hectares, but in 1803 he was promoted to Governor of Drammen in Norway, and so he sold Rolighed to Nicolai Lautrup, cashier of the financial institution Den Almindelige Enkekasse.

Apparently, the position of cashier was very lucrative at the time, for Rolighed was purchased for all of 19,999 rix-dollars. Lautrup also owned Godthaab Ladegård, but it was ostensibly with a view to speculation, for in 1810 he sold the whole lot to the wholesaler Peter Mariboe.

Mariboe added to Rolighed with adjoining land so that the property ultimately spanned from the Ladegaardsåen stream in the north to Gl. Kongevej in the south. However, Mariboe's fortune and possessions were a colossus with feet of clay and he ultimately went bankrupt, fleeing to Fredericia where people of the day could seek sanctuary from their creditors.

Four auctions were held with no luck until 1821 when the jeweller Falck Henriques acquired Rolighed for 40,100 silver rix-dollars. Falck Henriques owned Rolighed for many years, although he sold some of the land. But from 1839, Rolighed was again subject to speculation.

Over a period of just a few years, it had five different owners until 1855 when Rolighed with all its adjoining land was sold to the Danish Ministry of the Interior with a view to establishing the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University (KVL). Copenhagen's defence ramparts had been abandoned a few years previously, and it was now permitted to build brick buildings instead of the half-timbering houses with thatched roofs that could easily be burnt down to give Copenhagen's canons a clear firing range.

KVL only used the area south of Rolighedsvej, where the architect Bindesbøll's main building was built and inaugurated in 1858 and where the listed garden was established. KVL later gave a plot of land to Sct. Thomas church and sold off the land where the streets of N.J. Fjords Allé, L.J. Brandes Allé and Dr. Abildgaards Allé would ultimately be built.

The old country house of Rolighed and its plot of approx. 3 hectares between the Ladegaardsåen stream and Rolighedsvej were sold to an appointed committee which established the Kjøbenhavns Sygehjem hospice. The hospice was established after the great cholera epidemic to provide chronically ill people from the more well-off in society better care than that offered to the impoverished. The building, which was inaugurated in 1859, was designed by the architect Stilling in the Italian style that was so popular at the time. The facade is a near-exact copy of Bernini's Pallazzo di Montecitorio, which was built in Rome in 1650 as a palace for noblemen but is now used by the Italian Chamber of Deputies.

During the years when the hospice existed, Rolighed itself was used as the official residence of the chief medical consultant, and the carriage shed in the yellow wings was used as a chapel.

Unfortunately, Hans Christian Andersen did not stay at Rolighed, although it would have served as the perfect inspiration for his story "Clumsy Hans". However, the poet J.C. Hostrup did stay at Villa Rolighed for an extended period of time where he wrote his comic musical "Soldaterløjer" (Soldiers' Pranks).

Another well-known resident was the prominent architect C.F. Hansen, who stayed at Villa Rolighed for several

years. C.F. Hansen once headed the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts and as an architect oversaw the rebuilding of the Church of Our Lady cathedral after the bombardment of Copenhagen in 1807 as well as building the courthouse at Nytorv, the Metropolitan school at Frue Plads and a number of manor houses and small churches. So it was a very distinguished gentleman who died in 1845 at Rolighed at the age of 90.

In 1922, the hospice moved to Ordrup, and KVL reacquired the property, which today houses Forestry and Landscape, as well as the old farm Rolighed, where the building was refurbished and turned into the official residence of the Rector, or as the position used to be called: the Director of the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University.

Professor Ellinger was the first rector to move into the lovely old building, but later rectors found the house too big and impractical, so it was abandoned and stood vacant for ten years, only to be used once in a while for teaching purposes. The villa, which is a class A listed building, fell into disrepair, the timber began to decay, the plaster fell off the façade and the steps almost collapsed. By 1973, local residents had begun complaining about the dilapidated state of the building. The complaints ended up at the Building and Planning Committee for the City of Frederiksberg, and although KVL placed the blame on delays due to a construction ban, a comprehensive restoration finally took place and the Department of Clinical Microbiology could move in.

In 1997, the Botanical Unit took over Rolighed and its adjacent buildings for offices, laboratories and classrooms, and now that the old yellow wings have been refurbished, the old country house stands in this anniversary year in all its glory, as a small, well-cared-for and unique jewel under the Faculty of Life Sciences.

Kim Greiner, Senior Gardener

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 1 October 2008

Announcements

Laboratory Animal Science B for technical staff

There is still room on the Laboratory Animal Science B course. The course starts in calendar week 43 and is only for technical staff working with animal testing (is not open to academic staff). The course gives participants insight into various aspects regarding laboratory animals as well as the basic handling of a variety of animals, basic surgical techniques, anaesthesia etc. The course is compulsory for technical staff working with laboratory animals. [You can read more about the course here](#)

[Registration](#)

Christian Kampmann, Department of Experimental Medicine, chka@sund.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 2 October 2008

Courses currently offered by PUMA

There is room on the following courses:

Project management for researchers – strengthen your skills as a project manager of research projects
– 23 October

Cooperation and communication – the personal angle – 28 October

Written communication in English – brush-up for technical/administrative staff – 3 November

Conflict as a development generator – conflict management for experienced managers – 2 December

Read more about the above courses and see the deadlines for registration in the [course calendar](#).
See also the administrative courses without dates – or call PUMA at ext. 22659 for more information.

Registration for the [administrative courses](#) is continuous, and courses will be created as soon as there are enough participants registered.

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 2 October 2008

Seminar on how to teach in an intercultural classroom

How can we interact successfully with people from different cultural backgrounds? Join in this interactive seminar and develop strategies for cross-cultural understanding in your work as a teacher in an intercultural setting. Through discussions and activities, you will develop skills and knowledge for improving your day-to-day work with diverse students.

Time: Tuesday 21 October, 9 am-1 pm.

Location: To be announced

Sign up by sending an email to Cecilie Bech Lindgren (cbli@life.ku.dk) by 13 October.
(Limited seating, so sign up soon - it's first come first served)

Instructor:

Dr Darla K. Deardorff, Executive Director of the Association of International Education Administrators

She is also an English as a Second Language instructor and teacher trainer with over twelve years of experience and has lived, taught and worked in Germany, Japan and Switzerland. Dr Deardorff teaches cross-cultural courses at Duke University as well as other universities, companies and non-profit organisations. In addition to speaking at national and international conferences in the past decade, Dr Deardorff has also served as a consultant on assessment and intercultural competence development to universities and non-profit organisations.

Cecilie Bech Lindgren, Internationalisation and Developing Countries, cbli@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 2 October 2008

Visit LIFE's new Quiet Room

The Quiet Room officially opens on Wednesday 8 October at 12 noon – drop by during your lunch break to see the facilities and enjoy a little refreshment.

The room is situated on the mezzanine near staircase 4 in the tower block along with the new room for general relaxation.

In the Quiet Room you can:

- Sit still and enjoy the silence
- Stretch your back and the rest of your body
- Get away from the noise and bustle for a bit
- Contemplate your next assignment
- Meditate

The Quiet Room is carpeted and has subdued lighting. There are mats you can lie down on and beanbags to relax in. And there are pillows and throws for extra comfort.

When using the Quiet Room, please hang up your coat and leave your shoes and bag in the little front room to help keep the Quiet Room tidy and inviting.

If you prefer to sit in an armchair and chat or read, you can sit in the front room, which has been furnished with low chairs and tables – much cosier and more personal than sitting in Vandrehallen.

The Quiet Room was a wish from students who wanted a place where they could relax, stretch their backs or just get away from the noise of the other common areas. As chance would have it, the perfect room just happened to be available close to the buzz of Vandrehallen.

We hope that the room will be welcomed and used a lot, and that its users will respect each other and help maintain calm and quiet in the room.

Annette Nylev

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 1 October 2008

Live music at Café Væksthuset, Friday 3 October

On Friday 3 October, Væksthuset will play host to live music with plenty of energy. Musa Acuminata will be performing and, yes, it does mean Bananito. The genre is sustainable jazz that will get your hips moving.

The four-member band includes two students from LIFE – Troels Prah (Biotech – vocals and double-bass) and Morten 'Spillemand' Rasmussen (Food – Rhodes and organ).

Morten and his band won AU's 'Eurovision Song Contest' last year and recently played at the Freshers' Party to an enthusiastic audience – especially the ladies. When duty calls, Morten is also a pianist at various gala functions at LIFE.

Troels sometimes accompanies Morten at the same events with his giant double-bass. The last time Troels graced us with his skills was at this year's welcome show where his fingers literally danced on the fingerboard – a real pleasure.

The concert at Væksthuset will centre around Troels' songs, which are a collection of bluesy-jazz with Danish lyrics, spiced with the best of the great American songbook and personal interpretations of songs from near and

far.

The two LIFE musicians are bringing a guitarist and drummer with them, so it's sure to be a lively night at Væksthuset. So come on down to the Café and join the party!

Friday 3 October, 7.30 pm in Cafe Væksthuset

Thomas Christian de Bang, Café Væksthuset, tdb@dsr.life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 1 October 2008

Education

Junior Research Forum on cancer research at LIFE – Wednesday 8 October, 5.15 pm

LIFE conducts ground-breaking, world-class research with a view to saving the lives of many more cancer patients in future.

Nils Brünner from the Biomedical Group at the Department of Disease Biology will talk about his research. Junior Research Forum, 8 October, 5.15 pm in the Library.

Hear more about your options as an international cancer researcher based on a degree from LIFE.

Everyone is welcome!

Pizza and beer/soft drinks will be served.

www.juniorforskercafe.life.ku.dk

Jette Fugl, Faculty of Life Sciences Library, jfu@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 1 October 2008

Staff news

New chief information officer at Forest & Landscape

Gudrun Christensen has taken over the position as chief information officer at Forest and Landscape.

Gudrun Christensen comes from a position as chief consultant at the Technical University of Denmark, and has previously work as head of communications at the Danish Institute for Food and Veterinary Research, and as communications officer at the National Board of Health.

She has a PhD from the Department of Human Nutrition, KVL (now LIFE), and a Master's degree in Danish and Communication from Roskilde University.

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 1 October 2008

Inaugural lecture: Professor Jan Gorodkin, Friday 14 November, 2 pm, main lecture hall 1-01

On 1 May, Jan Gorodkin was appointed Professor of Bioinformatics with special responsibilities within animal genomics. Professor Gorodkin will be giving his inaugural lecture entitled "Bioinformatics for mapping the genome of the mammal" (in Danish) on Friday 14 November 2008 at 2 pm in the main lecture hall. The lecture will be followed by a reception on the 1st floor in the Anatomy building, Grønnegårdsvej 7.

[See invitation](#)

Helle Strandlyst, Department of Basic Animal and Veterinary Sciences, hks@life.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 26 September 2008

Research

LIFE carries out the most comprehensive study of young people's taste buds in Danish history

As part of the Danish Science Festival 2008, scientists from the Department of Food Science and 1,000 school classes at 270 primary, lower and upper secondary schools across the country carried out a mass experiment that will hopefully shed light on, among other things, why young people are so fond of candy and other sweet things, while others prefer fruit and wholegrain bread.

[Read the press release](#)

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 1 October 2008

Research funding

See the updated information on the Research & Information website.