



eLIFE – news on life at LIFE

Thursday 23 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

Life at LIFE

Hear Ralf and Lykke's future plans for 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 go, as well as answering any questions you, your colleagues and 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.

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, gjb@life.ku.dk – latest update 22 October 2008

Night of Culture at LIFE

"What was the best thing about the Night of Culture?"

"It was the tiger."

"What were you supposed to do with it?"

"I think we were supposed to cut its balls off."*

- Emma, aged six, tried her hand as a veterinarian at the Night of Culture. In addition to castrating stuffed tigers, about 200 people like herself lucky enough to get tickets to the Small Animal Hospital also had the chance to hear and see the heartbeat in the chests of the cute clinic dogs, guess what weird instruments were used for and much more. And everything was communicated by enthusiastic and helpful employees.

Enthusiastic employees could be found all over the campus that evening. In fact, there were a total of 237, and they all did their part to give the estimated 3,000 visitors a wide variety of experiences. The Museum of Veterinary History had 375 very interested visitors, the collection of monstrosities and the Pathanatomical Theatre drew full houses and in the Gardens, there was a festive atmosphere with the amazing light and sound shows of Lyskastellet and Wundersund.

As per tradition, the Marble Hall and Vandrehallen were transformed into a wandering sea of people, with high spirits at the many stands where the public could learn how to create a rainwater bed, taste gourmet carrots (and try to guess whether they were conventional or biodynamic), look at plant fibres and – of course – the soft ice cream was, as always, a big attraction. If you were unable to go to the Night of Culture, or if you were busy at one of the many stands, check out the slideshow on the website.

* she said the following morning standing in her pyjamas and clutching a horseshoe from the Museum of Veterinary History – a treasured souvenir from a fantastic evening.

Lykke Thostrup

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gjb@life.ku.dk – latest update 22 October 2008

Vote for Væksthuset as best new café of the year

Væksthuset is just a hair's breath away from becoming best new café of the year. [Vote NOW](#) and give Væksthuset a long life at LIFE.

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 21 October 2008

University of Copenhagen now no. 48 among the world's best universities

The University of Copenhagen is the only Nordic university among the top 50 of the best universities in the world, according to the recently published 2008 edition of the [Times Higher Education-QS World University Rankings](#). This year, the University of Copenhagen is ranked 48th in the world and 12th in Europe, scoring particularly high in the social sciences.

The survey compares the world's universities based on a variety of criteria, including journal citations and reviews by faculty and the business community. This year, a record number of researchers (6,354) participated in the survey, and their evaluations contribute 40 per cent to the total weighting. Similarly, 2,339 business people from all over the world were surveyed about which universities they would prefer to receive graduates from and their responses contribute 10 per cent to the overall ranking.

The number of citations in academic journals per faculty contributes 20 per cent to the weighting as does the student-faculty ratio. The number of international students and faculty at the universities contributes 5 per cent to the overall ranking.

Last year, the same ranking system placed the University of Copenhagen 93rd globally, while in 2006 the University was ranked 54th. Care must be taken when comparing the results from year to year, as the methods of calculation can vary somewhat from year to year, and this can impact on the universities' rankings on the list.

Read more about this year's ranking at www.topuniversities.com

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 21 October 2008

Hortensia – named after a French mistress

In mid through late summer, the hydrangea, also called hortensia, really struts its stuff with its domed flower heads in various shades of white and pink. But there are also species with sterile 'advert flowers' which are designed to attract insects by underhanded means, like in the advertising business.

Like so many other garden plants, the hydrangea is not a native of Europe but grows naturally in more exotic locations like Japan and China, as well as the not quite so exotic south-eastern USA and down through Central America.

The American Hydrangea species, *Hydrangea arborescens*, has been cultivated in England since 1736, when it arrived along with a variety of other return goods like sugar and rum after shipments of slaves from Africa were unloaded in America.

Long before these first American hydrangeas took root in Europe, however, the plant was cultivated in China and Japan, and when the first Europeans saw them on their travels in these countries, these countries had strong traditions for and well-established gardener cultures.

It was the scientist Sir Joseph Banks who brought the hydrangea from Japan to England in 1789. Joseph Banks

was a member of the Royal Society in London, and he went on James Cook's first expedition around the world, so he was a well-travelled man. Later, he proclaimed Australia to be *Terra Nullius*, 'unclaimed land' that was open for the taking. The aborigines didn't quite agree, but that is another story altogether.

On expeditions to the Far East, the plant was also given the name hortensia by the French botanist Philibert Commerson. He was a practical man, so he brought his mistress with him on his long journeys far from the home fires. Because it was dangerous at the time for a white woman to travel in China, she was disguised as a hunter. Whether she was given a false beard is unknown. His mistress was Hortense Barré, and this might be worth noting by other women if they know a botanist who just happens to be looking for a name for a new species of plant he has just discovered. Of course, chances are slim that another large plant family as beautiful as the hydrangea is in need of a name, so you might have to accept a hitherto undiscovered microscopic moss found on the underside of a rock or out in the middle of nowhere.

A woman on one of my tours once proudly announced that there was a rose called Hanne, and that was her name too, so I couldn't help asking what the fellow's name was. She didn't answer, but quickly turned the same colour as the rose called Hanne.

The hortensia's more common Latin name, *Hydrangea*, is not nearly as romantic as it refers to the plant's great thirst. The name comes from Greek, with *hydro* meaning water and *angeion* meaning vessel or jug.

There are countless varieties, species and cross-breeds of hydrangea which I won't spend time on here.

Hydrangeas generally produce an abundance of flowers and are very decorative shrubs that grow between 1 to 4 metres tall. There are also climbers, like the *Hydrangea anomala petiolaris*, which climbs trees clinging with aerial roots or covers pergolas with green foliage, larger winter buds and white flower heads.

Many varieties have large domed flower heads, but there are also several species with 'false flowers' where the middle of the inflorescence consists of smaller, unimpressive, hermaphrodite, fertile flowers. The large, showy, sterile flowers sit along the edge of the inflorescence looking nice to attract insects. And since the insects have already been conned into visiting the 'advert flowers', they may as well visit the boring flowers in the middle of the inflorescence, which is the prime objective of the 'advert flowers'.

All hydrangeas require light, humus-rich soil, and some species can only grow in acid soil. The acidity of the soil also influences the colour of the flowers, with the popular blue flower heads requiring a low pH of 4.5-5.5. If the pH value increases to neutral and further to alkaline soil, the colour of the flowers changes from violet-pink to increasingly brighter shades of pink. So if you want blue hydrangeas, you have to fertilise with aluminium sulphate over a period of several years.

When I give tours, I often hear complaints from people about hydrangeas that won't flower. Usually it turns out that they have a potted hydrangea for indoors, but have been told it could be planted out. And it can, it sprouts up every spring, doesn't flower and then dies back in the winter. The next spring, it sprouts up again, doesn't flower and then dies back. And only the extent of your patience can decide how long you can wait before throwing it out and buying one of the many beautiful garden varieties.

In the Faculty Gardens, we have hydrangeas on the shady hill at the corner of Thorvaldsensvej and Bülowsvej, but most of our hydrangeas are situated in the southern section of the Gardens at the corner of Bülowsvej and Dyrhøjevej.

Kim Greiner, Senior Gardener

Guðrun Lau Bjerno, gjb@life.ku.dk – latest update 21 October 2008

Record number of tours of the Faculty and Gardens

The tour season is winding down and we have beaten all previous records. Spring – summer – autumn – many anniversary tours of the Gardens have been held for the general public in addition to the paid tours for associations, institutions and companies. We have given a total of 41 free anniversary tours, with 1,492 participants, which averages to 36.4 people per tour, so interest is still strong. Together with the standard tours, in 2008 we gave 73 tours with a total of 2,291 guests who have heard about the Faculty and our study programmes. They also heard about some of our old buildings, such as Bindelsbøl's main building with the main lecture hall and our Gardens with selected sights and appropriate anecdotes.

On the luxury three-hour anniversary tours, we continued on through the tower block into area 3, where guests heard about the old Copenhagen hospice, the greenhouses and Villa Rolighed, and where we were actually lucky enough a couple of times to be allowed inside the villa to see its beautiful sitting room with the grand fireplace. It was also possible on the anniversary tours to visit the stables and the Museum of Veterinary History where Jens Munk showed us around.

The lion's share of the Faculty/Garden tours were led by myself, although gardener Lars Birck also did his fair share. And why do we do it? Because we want to do something special during our Faculty's anniversary year because we are proud of our workplace and we want to share the Faculty's exciting stories.

In addition to the anniversary tours, we also had the standard commissioned tours, which cost a fee. Associations who toured the Faculty this year include the media and communications group of the HK trade union, SKAT – Danish customs and tax administration, Royal Copenhagen, Conservative People's Party, Novo Nordisk, Department of Development and Land Administration, University of Copenhagen libraries, Danish Food Industry Agency, National Environmental Research Institute, Farma KU, Copenhagen Journalists' Club, Statens Serum Institut, Palaces and Properties Agency and a variety of pensioner associations and trade unions.

The very different groups are not equally fun to spend time with. If they are dull, they only get a standard tour, but if they are lively and interested, they get a super-tour. Personally, my favourite group this year would have to be the Copenhagen Journalists' Club. We were on the same wave length right away and there was an excellent dialogue, which made it easy. You can almost get a high from being a guide for such a lively group of people.

We are well aware of the fact that we represent the Faculty during the tours, and so we behave with decorum, but we are still known to joke a bit with guests if we can sense that they can take it and are otherwise responsive.

Sometimes being a tour guide can be something of a trial, like when a guest criticised Saly's horse statue, proclaiming its head far too small and its legs too thin. In such situations, all you can do is politely explain that the equestrian statue is considered one of the most beautiful statues in the world.

It can also be embarrassing when a guest criticises our rockery. The rocks were all placed incorrectly and there was no end to what was wrong with it, and we should really get some help as we obviously didn't know what we were doing. In polite society, one does not criticise someone in front of others (except for politicians), so perhaps that person should get help learning some manners.

Our guests are very interested in seeing the main lecture hall, and if that is not possible, they are always greatly disappointed. But it is, unfortunately, not possible to book the hall for tours, because we are only in

there for ten minutes tops, and we can't very well stand in the way of large events. If at all possible, however, we do try to get in there during a break or after an event.

One day when the door to the main lecture hall was open, we found a bunch of students inside spread out around the room studying and working in groups. Their class didn't start for another hour, so I asked those sitting in the first row if I might come in with a group and show them the hall. They gave me permission, we walked in and I gave them an extra short presentation. On the way out, a female student asked for my name. I told her, and asked why. Because some of the students felt that I was disturbing them: "But I asked if it was alright and it was." But I didn't ask everyone and she was going to register a complaint. "You can complain all you like young lady. Go straight to the Faculty Management. But you should know that they want us to give as many tours as possible. And these people, 'the tax payers', are the ones who pay for the Faculty and for your education." I'm afraid I got a bit angry, but I just don't understand that kind of narrow-mindedness and people wanting everything for themselves.

Being a tour guide on the Frederiksberg Campus is otherwise a positive experience, and we receive plenty of praise for our efforts. And since about half of the guests on our tours have never been here before, we certainly do our part to increase the general public's knowledge of our study programmes and this unique place.

Kim Greiner, Senior Gardener

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gjb@life.ku.dk – latest update 21 October 2008

Announcements

Christmas party in the Café

Are you and your colleagues or classmates looking for a place for your annual Christmas party, or do you just want to try something new? Then hold your Christmas party at Café Væksthuset.

Contact us for more information by email to cafe@dsr.life.ku.dk and make this year's Christmas party something out of the ordinary.

Yours sincerely, The Café

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gjb@life.ku.dk – latest update 23 October 2008

New purchasing agreements at the University of Copenhagen

The University of Copenhagen currently has a number of different agreements with suppliers. [See here.](#)

New supply agreements:

Taxi service:

The University of Copenhagen, along with the other universities, DR and various ministries and government agencies, has entered into an agreement via EU tender with DANTAXI. The agreement takes effect on 1 October 2008 and runs for two years with the possibility of extension by a further 2 x 1 years.

Taxi vouchers and plastic cards can be procured from DANTAXI.

DANTAXI
Jernbane Alle 68
2720 Vanløse
Denmark

Tel. 7025 2525
www.dantaxi.dk

Order via: Internet, VIP number or standard telephone booking.

Payment via: taxi vouchers, plastic taxi payment cards or standard credit cards (no discount for payment with credit card).

The discount is given as an annual bonus. See 'Indkøbsgruppen' on Punkt KU.

Temp services:

SKI A/S has concluded an agreement for temp services via EU tender. Agreements have been reached with a number of temp agencies covering a wide range of products and geographic locations. The agreement is presented in a spreadsheet which can seem difficult to understand. But once you grasp the methodology, it works just fine. The agreement takes effect on 1 July 2008 and runs for two years with the possibility of extension by a further 2 x 1 years.

See 'Indkøbsgruppen' on Punkt KU. The savings for the University as a whole are significant.

Removal services:

The University of Copenhagen has entered into an agreement via EU tender on removal services. On the basis of a variety of criteria and requirements, the tender set out to find the lowest price from a supplier that could still meet our needs in terms of product, size and geography.

We have a consumption of at least DKK 5 million per year, which means that the service must be put out to EU tender. It also means that a variety of regulations and laws must be complied with. The agreement runs for two years with the possibility of an extension by a further 2 x 1 years.

Regular 'day-to-day' removals must always be given to the supplier. However, for LARGE-SCALE removals of entire departments and the like, it is possible to obtain quotes from other companies, although Adam must ALWAYS be given the opportunity to bid on these projects as well.

Adam also offers a relocation programme for international removals – both to and from Denmark.

Adam Transport Co. Aps
Kanalholmen 31-33
2650 Hvidovre
Denmark

Tel. 7010 5100
www.adam.dk

See 'Indkøbsgruppen' on Punkt KU.

Publications:

The University of Copenhagen has entered into an agreement with Best Buy Broker (BBB) regarding the printing and binding of our publications. BBB is not a printing house, but can put our jobs out to tender with a selection of printers that are appropriate for the job in question.

The University has put a number of publications out to tender through BBB and significant savings have been achieved on the individual jobs.

Best Buy Broker
Nordre Fasanvej 91
2000 Frederiksberg
Denmark

Karin Andersen
Tel. 3832 2209
ka@best-buy-broker.dk

See 'Indkøbsgruppen' on Punkt KU.

Erik Nørgaard Jensen, Purchasing Section, enj@adm.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 22 October 2008

Debate: Talent and career development

The Kubulus Alumni Association is hosting an event in collaboration with *Ugebrevet Mandag Morgen* with the theme of talent development and headhunting with a special gender twist. Gitte Seeberg and Soulaima Gourani will speak on the topic on the basis of their own career experiences.

The debate will take place on 28 October 2008, 4.00-5.30 pm in committee room 3, Frue Plads – and is open to all students at the University of Copenhagen.

Register here: <http://alumni.ku.dk/mandagmorgen/>

Lisbeth Ihlemann, Kubulus Alumni Association, lji@adm.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 21 October 2008

Inaugural conference at the Centre for Internationalisation and Parallel Language Competencies

The Centre for Internationalisation and Parallel Language Competencies (CIP) at the University of Copenhagen is hosting an inaugural conference on Wednesday 19 November 2008 from 1 to 5 pm at the Faculty of Humanities, Amager.

Rector Ralf Hemmingsen will open the conference where two leading language policy researchers will speak on language policy and parallel language competencies from a Danish and an international perspective. Furthermore, CIP Associate Professor Lars Stenius Stæhr will introduce the centre's research areas and activities, including the process of developing and implementing language competency development courses in Danish and English for different target groups at the University.

The invitation and programme for the day are attached to this email in both [Danish](#) and [English](#).

Register by email to Tina Didriksen tinad@hum.ku.dk by 17 November – participation is free.

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 21 October 2008

Theme meeting on cloned and transgenic pigs

The Department of Experimental Medicine, in collaboration with PixieGene A/S, is hosting a theme meeting on cloned and transgenic laboratory pigs.

The event will take place on Wednesday 12 November 2008 at 2-4 pm in the Dam Auditorium at the Panum Institute (Blegdamsvej 3B, 2200 Copenhagen N).

[Read more here](#). [Registration necessary – deadline: 10 November](#).

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

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 21 October 2008

Theme day on storage of chemicals

As part of the 'Sikker Kemi på KU' (Safe Chemistry at the University) project, a theme day on storage of chemicals will take place on 23 October.

How should chemicals be stored? There are many statutory requirements and the political focus on terror prevention produces a steady flow of new requirements.

- Where and when: Lundsgård Auditorium, PANUM, 23 October 2008, 12.30-4.00 pm
- Register via the website: <http://sikkerkemi.ku.dk/> (in Danish)
- Invitation for announcements: <http://cms.ku.dk//upload/application/pdf/96fec18b/Tema2.pdf> (in Danish)

It is still possible to register!

Everybody is welcome!

Rikke Fatum, daily head of safety, Buildings and Maintenance, rmf@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 21 October 2008

Courses on chemical waste

On 30 October LIFE will hold two courses on chemical waste. The courses are primarily geared towards the working environment groups, but also target others who handle chemical waste as part of their jobs.

See the course programme and find the registration form at: <http://sikkerkemi.ku.dk/kurser/>

Rikke Fatum, daily head of safety, Buildings and Maintenance, rmf@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 21 October 2008

Brief information meetings on chemical waste

As a follow-up to the general courses on chemical waste which will take place on 30 October, we offer more details on LIFE's chemical waste programme.

On Tuesday 4 November 2008, two brief information meetings will take place in auditorium 3-04 on sorting and labelling chemical waste at KU-LIFE. The meetings have no capacity limit and will be conducted by the person responsible for receiving chemical waste, Associate Professor Niels Agerbirk, Department of Natural Sciences.

At 10-11 am, the theme is 'Discarded chemicals from chemical stores'.

At 11 am-12 noon, the theme is 'Regular chemical waste from laboratories'.

Both meetings will begin with a 20-30-minute review of LIFE's regulations, after which all questions will be answered. The meeting is for all users of LIFE's chemical waste programme.

Rikke Fatum, daily head of safety, Buildings and Maintenance, rmf@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 21 October 2008

Two SNU lectures

"Sun activity and climate change" by Senior Researcher Jens Olaf Pepke Pedersen, PhD, National Space Institute, Technical University of Denmark, Monday 27 October 2008, 7.30 pm

The Earth's climate is always changing, but there has been growing concern that the changes in recent years are man-made.

This has led to strong political interest in climate research and to decisions to spend huge sums on counteracting climate change.

But climate systems are extremely complex, and much of our understanding of the climate is based on model calculations.

In this lecture, we will take a look at some of the components of the climate system, historical changes in the climate and, especially, changes in the Sun's activities as a cause of some climate change.

The lecture will take place at: UNI•C, Vermundsgade 5, 2100 Copenhagen Ø, from the courtyard, through the gate and on the right.

"Cheminova, a successful company in a politically incorrect business area" by President and CEO Bjørn Albinus, Auriga Industries A/S, Monday 17 November 2008, 7.30 pm

Cheminova is a chemical company that manufactures pesticides. Since its founding in 1938, the company's development has resembled that of many other successful Danish companies. Cheminova's products help

protect the global food supply. In recent years, there has been tremendous pressure to increase the production of food to keep up with the overall population growth, increasing prosperity and increased use of agricultural land for the production of bioethanol.

The market for chemical fertilisers and pesticides is experiencing growth.

President and CEO of Auriga, Bjørn Albinus, will talk about Cheminova's history and why he thinks Cheminova, which has the noble objective of protecting the global food supply, is criticised time and again in the media for unethical behaviour.

The lecture will take place at: UNI•C, Vermundsgade 5, 2100 Copenhagen Ø, from the courtyard, through the gate and on the right.

Bente Egaa, UNI -C, bente.egaa@uni-c.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 21 October 2008

Come cut the first turf of Green Lighthouse

This is an invitation to "the cutting of the first turf" of the University of Copenhagen's Green Lighthouse – a carbon-neutral house which will contain student services and a faculty club at Campus North. Speeches all written texts pertaining to the event will be in Danish. But the cutting of turf, the visual elements of the exhibition and the food and entertainment can be enjoyed regardless of what language you speak. For further information and registration for the event please contact Jacob Sølling +45 3532 2630/+45 2875 2630 or Charlotte Brix Andersen +45 3532 4104/+45 2875 4104.

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 21 October 2008

The new Business Affairs works for you!

Because business collaboration is a key part of LIFE's development strategy, the Faculty has appointed a service body to facilitate mutual interests between LIFE and the business community: Business Affairs.

Business Affairs works to increase the opportunities of both staff and students to contact relevant companies and stakeholders from the business community.

Business Service's objective is to realise LIFE's business strategy and in this context work with, among other things:

- Internships and business-oriented courses
- Marketing of the business PhD scheme
- Fundraising from private sources for, e.g. buildings, positions and priority areas
- Coordinating the Faculty's strategy with the departmental action plans for increased business collaboration

It is the declared goal of Business Affairs to create a natural entrance to LIFE for companies that are not already acquainted with LIFE, to establish consistency between strategy and action, to stimulate the exchange of knowledge, ideas and entrepreneurship and to increase the number of collaboration projects between LIFE and the business community.

Visit Business Affairs at www.life.ku.dk/erhverv (in Danish).

Ditte Thøgersen

Stine Vedel Rasmussen, Business Affairs, svra@life.ku.dk

The University takes a positive stance on sponsorship agreements

In June 2008, the University of Copenhagen adopted a policy for sponsorship agreements.

Sponsorship agreements are all types of private donations – from people, private foundations or companies – that are associated with the University's core activities, such as initiative funding for the promotion of the study environment, building facilities, competency development etc., and where the private sponsor's logo or name is to be publicly visible. Sponsorship agreements do not cover research funding, which is processed by Innovation & Research Services according to other rules.

Funding from public pools and foundations are not covered by the following rules.

Formal requirements:

Sponsorship agreements must be concluded between a sponsor and either a centre, department, faculty or Central Administration. Staff may not enter into sponsorship agreements on their own or receive personal remuneration. Every agreement must be approved by the head of the unit in question before being signed, and the Dean must be informed. The Dean must inform the Office of the Rector of agreements totalling DKK 500,000 or more before the agreement may be signed.

There must be a written contract between the sponsor and the department/faculty when entering into a sponsorship agreement. The agreement must state the respective obligations of the two parties.

Sponsorship agreements must respect the University of Copenhagen's purchasing agreements. Products that are donated to the University, e.g. fixtures, must comply with the University's sustainability requirements (prepared in 2008).

Contracting parties:

A sponsorship must never damage the reputation of the University.

For instance, it is not possible to enter into agreements with sponsors:

- who have been convicted of serious crimes or who do not observe international conventions, such as ILO conventions on workers' rights. Sponsors can be required to sign a declaration to this effect.
- whose products can have a major, directly damaging impact on humans, animals and/or the environment. With regard to stimulants such as beer, wine and spirits, the University may receive such products for special events, cf. the University's HR policy. The sponsor may advertise for the product in question at these special events.

Visibility:

In cases where a sponsor advertises for a product at the University of Copenhagen, it must not appear to be a product recommended by the University.

To the extent that the sponsor is to be credited for the sponsorship at the University, this must be done discretely, for instance with an engraved plaque so as not to have a negative impact on the aesthetic surroundings of the University. It is possible to name locations after sponsors, such as the Lundbeck Auditorium, and to add the sponsor's logo to websites according to the rules in the University of Copenhagen's

web manual.

In connection with co-branding, the guidelines in the design manual at www.ku.dk/design must be followed, and the central Communications Division must be informed.

Specific cases of doubt as to the appropriateness of a potential sponsorship may be presented to the University Management through Communications. It is also possible to obtain copies of previous agreements from Communications.

Note:

VAT rules:

The Danish Value Added Tax Act (*Momsloven*) differentiates between gifts, sponsorships and grants.

There is no VAT on gifts and rarely on sponsorships. This is because the service offered in return for the sponsorship is so limited that there is no correlation between the contribution and the advertising value – most sponsorships are normally only mentioned on a plaque, a website or an engraved sign on the wall.

However, it does happen that a donor makes it a condition that the recipient pay VAT of the sponsorship. This is not a problem for the University of Copenhagen.

In the limited number of cases involving a large service that is more along the lines of co-financing, the case in question must be assessed legally. Such cases must be referred to the Accounting Section, Finance & HR in Central Administration.

There is no VAT on grants given in the interest of the recipient and if the donor does not receive anything in return.

In case of any doubt, the recipient should seek legal and/or accounting assistance. Alternatively, the donor can seek binding advanced approval from the National Tax Board.

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gjb@life.ku.dk – latest update 21 October 2008

Education

Cultural agreement grants for the academic year 2009/2010 – Summer courses

In accordance with the cultural agreements with a number of countries, Danish students may apply for foreign scholarships for courses at foreign institutions in summer 2009. Separate information sheets for each country and the CIRIUS application form can be downloaded at the CIRIUS website: www.cirusonline.dk/kulturaftaler

Applications must be submitted to the International Office (Fiolstræde 24, postboks 1143, DK-1017 København K).

See deadlines below:

- Germany – Hochschulsommerkursstipendien (DAAD scholarships). Application form available at www.daad.de/de/form – 24 November 2008
- Israel – 1 December 2008
- Bulgaria, Greece, Italy (requires at least two years of Italian), Poland, Rumania, Russia, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Turkey, Hungary – 2 February 2009
- Belgium and the Netherlands: Direct application to Dutch Studies, <http://nederlandsk.ku.dk/>
- Spain: Online application for language courses at the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs website www.aeci.es. The application procedures are in Spanish.

- Portugal: Online applications for language courses via the Instituto Camoes website www.instituto-camoes.pt (in Portuguese).

Cecilie Bech Lindgren, Study and Students' Affairs, cbli@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 23 October 2008

Cultural agreement grants for the academic year 2009/2010

In accordance with the cultural agreements with a number of countries, Danish students and researchers may apply for foreign scholarships for study stays at foreign institutions for the academic year 2009/2010.

Separate information sheets for each country and the CIRIUS application form can be downloaded at the CIRIUS website: www.ciriusonline.dk/kulturaftaler

Note: Summer courses will be advertised separately.

Application deadlines for STUDENTS for scholarships of 2-12 months' duration:

All applications, with the exception of the Netherlands and Portugal, must be submitted to the International Office (Fiolstræde 24, postboks 1143, DK-1017 København K) by the deadline.

Application country and deadline for applications:

Belgium – 1 December 2008

Bulgaria – 1 December 2008

China – 1 December 2008

Czech Republic – 1 December 2008

Egypt – 1 December 2008

Estonia – 1 December 2008

France – 1 December 2008

Germany – 24 November 2008

Greece – 1 December 2008

Hungary – 1 December 2008

Iceland – 1 December 2008

Israel – 1 December 2008

Italy – 1 December 2008

Japan (government grant) – 1 December 2008

Japan (to Tokai University) – 1 December 2008

Latvia – 1 December 2008

Lithuania – 1 December 2008

Netherlands – <http://www.nuffic.nl/home/redirect/huygens-scholarships-programme>

Poland – 1 December 2008

Portugal – www.instituto-camoes.pt

Rumania – 1 December 2008

Russia – 1 December 2008

Slovakia – 1 December 2008

Switzerland – 20 October 2008

Turkey – 1 December 2008

- Portugal: Please note that applications for scholarships to Portugal are submitted via the Instituto Camoes website – www.instituto-camoes.pt

- Netherlands: Please note that scholarships to the Netherlands are submitted via Nuffic – Netherlands Organisation for International Cooperation in Higher Education – <http://www.nuffic.nl/home/redirect/huygens-scholarships-programme>

Application deadlines for RESEARCHERS:

Separate information sheets for each country and the CIRIUS application form can be downloaded at the CIRIUS website: www.ciriusonline.dk/kulturaftaler

Cecilie Bech Lindgren, Study and Students' Affairs, cbl@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 23 October 2008

Can veterinary training in Jutland save agriculture?

To produce more veterinarians to look after cattle herds in Western Jutland, the Danish Minister for Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, Eva Kjer Hansen (V), has shown an interest in the move proposed by member of the Danish Parliament Hans Christian Thorning (V), although without giving it her full approval. In the past, the majority of veterinary students at the Agricultural University (LIFE, ed.) were the sons of farmers, whereas now, according to Karen Enevoldsen, a veterinarian in Vestjyske Dyr læger in Nørre Nebel, Western Jutland, the study programme mainly attracts girls from cities who are more interested in pets than livestock and pigs.

Jydske Vestkysten, Billund, 22 October 2008

From LIFE in the press

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 22 October 2008

Open house for MSc thesis students

The National Environmental Research Institute in Roskilde is hosting an open house event for potential MSc thesis students on Thursday 6 November.

Visit five research departments and hear about the possibilities that are available for writing an MSc thesis that can help make a difference for the environment and nature.

Read more at the [National Environmental Research Institute website](#) (invitation in Danish)

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 21 October 2008

Job search workshop

Will you be graduating sometime within the next year?

Are you thinking about what you want to do afterwards – and how you can get there?

Are you getting ready to look for jobs?

Then this workshop is for you!

Student Services, in collaboration with Magistrenes A-kasse (trade union for university graduates), is offering a two-day workshop on 4-5 November for soon-to-be-graduates that will focus on job searching, competencies

and careers. The workshop is a combination of presentations, plenum discussions and group work, and you will receive feedback on your own job application and CV.

You can read more about the course and [register on our activities page](#) (in Danish).

Inge Langberg Kjær, Student Services, studenterservice@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gjb@life.ku.dk – latest update 21 October 2008

Staff news

Honorary Doctor of Forest Research

Director General Niels Elers Koch, dr.agro and MSc in forestry, Forest & Landscape, University of Copenhagen, has been made Honorary Doctor of Forestry Research at the Faculty of Forest Science, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences.

[Press release](#) (in Danish)

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gjb@life.ku.dk – latest update 22 October 2008

Research

Workshop on sepsis in animal models

The Department of Disease Biology and the research initiative SHARE – Synergy in Human and Animal Research are hosting a workshop on "Diagnosing sepsis, severe sepsis and septic shock in humans and model animals: Building a porcine *Staphylococcus aureus* sepsis model" on 10 December 2008, 1.00-4.30 pm, Faculty of Life Sciences. Auditorium to be announced.

Everyone is welcome, but pre-registration is necessary by email to Peter Bo Andersen, pban@life.ku.dk, in order to calculate the refreshments.

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gjb@life.ku.dk – latest update 23 October 2008

New Danish diet pill can double weight loss

A new diet pill, which may enter the global market in just a few years' time, appears to produce twice as much weight loss as standard approved diet pills. The Danish company NeuroSearch A/S and a number of researchers from the Faculty of Life Sciences, University of Copenhagen, are behind the pill and the test, according to www.foodofLIFE.dk, which refers to an article by Arne Astrup to be published in the next issue of *The Lancet*.

[Read the press release](#) (in Danish)

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gjb@life.ku.dk – latest update 23 October 2008

Danish researchers want to help children affected by AIDS

Representatives from Danida, a number of NGOs and researchers from the Faculty of Life Sciences, University of Copenhagen will meet on Thursday to identify new focus areas that can improve foreign aid and the lives of the 15 million orphans that are affected by the AIDS epidemic in Africa.

[Read the press release](#) (in Danish)

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 21 October 2008

Grants

RECETO MSc Scholar Stipends

The Research School of Environmental Chemistry, Microbiology and Toxicology (RECETO) is pleased to announce a number of scholar stipends of DKK 30,000 each for outstanding MSc students who will complete their thesis work at a RECETO institution with the submission of a peer-reviewed research paper to an international journal. The purpose is to ensure that noteworthy MSc research in environmental chemistry, microbiology and toxicology is communicated to the international scientific community and to help prepare the most talented MSc students for PhD studies.

Note: Students must apply for the scholar stipend at least two months before completion of their MSc thesis. The RECETO scholar stipend cannot be awarded to students who have received a scholar stipend from another source.

For more information, see www.receto.dk or send an email to receto@life.ku.dk

Esther Boll, Department of Basic Sciences and Environment, receto@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 21 October 2008

Research funds etc.

See the updated information on the Research & Information website.