



eLIFE – news on life at LIFE

Thursday 20 November 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

University of Copenhagen's Annual Commemoration 2008

The founding of the University is formally commemorated every year. The Annual Commemoration is traditionally held on the third Thursday in November and attended by members of the Danish Royal Family. The celebration consists of a ceremony in the University's Ceremonial Hall during the day and a performance in the evening at the Royal Theatre.

This year, the Annual Commemoration will take place on Thursday 20 November at 1.45-4.00 pm in the Ceremonial Hall, Frue Plads.

The ceremony in the afternoon will comprise various speeches, the awarding of prizes and the conferral of honours – including six honorary doctorates, including an Honorary Doctorate of Science for Professor Peter Bordier Høj, University of South Australia, for his pioneering research in plant biology.

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 19 November 2008

LIFE nominated for the European Excellence Awards 2008

We are nominated in two categories: best 'Change Communication' and best 'Event'.

The faculty was nominated for the way we have organised and implemented the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Frederiksberg Campus as the centre point for efforts towards a sustainable future.

The nomination emphasised the project's strategy, innovation, creativity, cost-effectiveness and results. The European Excellence Awards will be conferred at a ceremony in Budapest on 11 December 2008. The objective is to honour "outstanding achievements in the field of communications and PR across Europe".

The jury that assessed and nominated LIFE comprises more than 30 leading communication experts from companies, organisations, bureaus and universities from all over Europe. The European Excellence Awards are organised by the European communication magazine *Communication Director, Magazine for Corporate Communication and Public Relations*.

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gjb@life.ku.dk – latest update 19 November 2008

The Hanoverian stallion Flingart

Now that the large animals have been moved to the new animal hospital in Taastrup, we really miss the quaint sound of horses' hooves around Frederiksberg Campus. We do have the proud Hanoverian stallion Flingart, although he doesn't make much noise since he is made of plaster.

Around our Faculty, there are many undiscovered nooks and crannies, and after pottering about in the Gardens for 17 years, I discovered a great new attraction at the Faculty a couple of months ago that has been hidden unnoticed at the Department of Basic Animal and Veterinary Sciences. And it really is a jewel that should be brought out into the light.

We need to go back to 1907 when the sculptor Anne Marie Carl-Nielsen, wife of the composer and poet Carl Nielsen, received a letter from the chairman of the national committee for the collection of monuments for King Christian IX. She was asked to participate in a competition along with three other artists to create an equestrian statue of King Christian IX in full military dress to be given a distinguished place at Christiansborg Castle.

Christian IX was a very popular king and, together with his equally popular Queen Louise, he had a flock of children who had become kings and queens and even a tsarina all over Europe, so the nickname Europe's father-in-law was right on the mark. It was therefore not so strange that a committee had been created for the grand purpose of honouring the popular king and queen for posterity.

The selected artists were asked to produce a model sketch of the equestrian statue as they visualised it, and for their efforts they each received DKK 1,500, which was a considerable sum at the time. Anne Marie went to work with zeal and created not only a sketch of the statue but also a relief on the base depicting the cultural and commercial development of the kingdom under Christian IX. This didn't leave a dry eye in the house, and so the committee chose Anne Marie Carl-Nielsen from among the four anonymous participants.

Sculpting was not the most logical career path for Anne Marie Carl-Nielsen, who grew up on a farm near

Kolding. But as early as the age of 12, she was already sculpting in such available materials as butter and clay. Despite her obvious talent, her father would not hear of her learning anything other than housekeeping. But Anne Marie was a stubborn and determined woman, and finally she got her way and went to Copenhagen, where she, at the young age of 23, debuted in Charlottenborg's Spring Exhibition. Shortly thereafter, she received a distinguished award for her statue of Thor and the Midgard Serpent, paving the way for her participation in the world exhibition in 1889 with some charming statuettes of calves, good enough to catch the eye of the great Rodin, himself.

At some point, she fell violently in love with the composer Carl Nielsen, and after just a few weeks' acquaintance they were married and moved to an attic in Copenhagen, where they quickly had three children (probably to the father's great shock). They were poor as church mice, but Carl Nielsen wrote poems and composed with success and Anne Marie worked energetically on commissioned pieces such as memorials and portrait busts until she could, after quite a few formalities, begin her principal work in 1912, the Christian IX equestrian statue.

The amount earmarked for the monument was set at DKK 180,000, and the finished statue was to be mounted and delivered no later than 1917.

Christian IX preferred Hanoverian horses and, after searching high and low, Anne Marie found, in Northern Germany, a magnificent specimen in the stallion Flingart, which lived from 1906 to 1917. For months prior to World War I, Anne Marie worked on the plaster model of Flingart, and she also managed to bring home and store the model unscathed after war broke out.

Because of inflation and the difficult conditions during World War I, the earmarked amount was no longer sufficient, so the planned reliefs on the base were unfortunately dropped.

The equestrian monument nearly cost Anne Marie her marriage, because she lived for her profession and, when she was forced to choose, she often, though reluctantly, chose art over caring for her children and husband. The mutual respect between the spouses kept them together, however, although, for extended periods of time, Anne Marie did not have much energy for anything besides her own projects, so they in fact lived separately for several years.

It must have been a huge relief for the couple when, after a ten year delay, the completed equestrian statue was finally officially revealed on 15 November 1927 at the Riding Grounds at Christiansborg Castle, where it still stands to this day.

So how did the full-size plaster sculpture end up here at the Faculty? That was something of a mystery for years, and there is no written documentation, but the fact is it appeared in the foyer of the Pathology building in 1948 or 1949 and has been there ever since. Now, statues only come to life and wander about in fairytales and such, so in 1992-93 an investigation was initiated to put an end to the mystery. Innumerable interviews with people at and outside LIFE turned up no results, but then someone thought to contact the previous administrator, Arvid Paludan, who took up the position in 1946.

The good Arvid Paludan explained that, some time after he took up his position, he was contacted by Irmelin Eggert Møller, born Carl-Nielsen, asking whether the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University might be interested in a full-sized plaster horse created by her mother Anne Marie Carl-Nielsen. The model was not exactly taking up space in her sitting room, but she no longer wanted it and it deserved a better home than a warehouse in Copenhagen harbour.

After seeing the beautiful animal, an agreement was reached and Flingart was placed on display in the foyer of

the Pathology building, where it lives a somewhat languishing existence. But now, at least, its existence has come to light with this story, and I can warmly recommend a closer acquaintance.

The Pathology building does not have an entrance on the busy Grønnegårdsvej, so you have to go through the courtyard behind the building at Dyrslægevej 100 (right across from Café Væksthuset) and up the very wide staircase. After passing a couple of doors, stay to the right, and there you will find Flingart in all his glory.

Time has taken its toll – an ear and his tail have broken off at some point and he has become a bit dishwasher-grey here and there, so a light whitewash would be in order. I made short work of taking care of the greatest disgrace myself – digging out chewing gum out of a certain orifice.

Kim Greiner, Senior Gardener

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 18 November 2008

Announcements

Write your own profile on life.ku.dk

Try entering your name in one of the major search engines. Chances are, your LIFE profile will be among the first ten hits. And these profiles are viewed often, so it is a good idea to write something about yourself and your work.

In October, we had 40,186 lookups in LIFE's directory and 6,739 users wanted to view the results. That is nearly 1,300 times a day that entries in the directory were viewed.

Update your own profile on the website

If you are registered in Groupwise, you can update the text under the profile tab in the directory.

On the Sitecore support page, www.scsupport.life.ku.dk, you can read the [instructions for how to update your own profile](#).

Janne Bavnhøj, jba@life.ku.dk – latest update 19 November 2008

Green gossip about the University of Copenhagen and the environment

How much CO₂ do the eight faculties produce? How good are they at sorting rubbish? And which faculty has the lowest heat consumption? You can find answers to these and many other questions by visiting the Green Board – a new website about the University of Copenhagen and the environment. The Green Board goes behind the University's green accounts to tell the stories behind the figures. There is also plenty of good advice about how you can contribute to a greener campus.

On the Green Board, you will find articles, useful advice and surprising facts. You can also write comments, submit good ideas or participate in various polls on environmental conditions. The Green Board will be updated as new results come in and when green initiatives are implemented.

The Green Board is the proposal that won the University of Copenhagen's Green Relay competition at the beginning of the year.

[Visit the Green Board](#)

Tomas Refslund Poulsen, Green Campus, trp@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 19 November 2008

The Humanitarian Water and Food Award – Pre-Launch

The Humanitarian Water and Food Award, acknowledging and promoting sustainable ways to bring water and food to all.

The association for the Humanitarian Water and Food Award was founded by a group of business people with the express intention of bringing the situation to the attention of as many people as possible and to work to inspire hope by bringing what is working and what could work to the forefront.

Attend the pre-launch, 25 November 2008, LIFE, main lecture hall, Bülowsvej 17, 5.00-9.30 pm.

[Registration here](#) [More information on the website](#)

Pelle Lütken, The Humanitarian Water and Food Award, pl@waterandfoodaward.org

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 19 November 2008

Life-Saving First Aid Course

Life-Saving First Aid in English (no. 7995). Monday 1 December 2008, 9 am-3 pm.

Registration by 24 November 2008. [Registration form](#).

Niels Thiesson Wollesen, Working Environment & Cooperation, niw@adm.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 19 November 2008

IT support during the Christmas holidays

The Service Desk will only be open 9 am-3 pm on 22-23 Dec., 29-30 Dec. and 2 Jan.

– and IT support may take longer than normal during that period. This also applies for Faculty Services.

Contact IT support, as usual, at: AdhocIT, ServiceDesk@life.ku.dk or on 3533 2105.

Lisbet Ring-Hansen, IT, lrh@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 18 November 2008

Conference on public-sector ICT research of the future

A conference on strengthening public-sector research in information and communication technology will take place on Wednesday 3 December 2008, 10 am-4 pm at Eigtveds Pakhus, Asiatisk Plads 2G, 1448 Copenhagen K.

[See invitation and programme here](#)

Anni Carlsen, Research and Innovation, anc@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 18 November 2008

Education

Global e-learning course seeks to fight climate change

MSc students from all over the world can now take a university course over the Internet on managing climate change. The course seeks to help train the experts of the future in practical approaches to and prevention of future climate change. The course has been created by, among others, the Faculty of Life Sciences at the University of Copenhagen and members of the UN climate panel, including Barack Obama's personal climate advisor.

[Read the press release](#)

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gjb@life.ku.dk – latest update 18 November 2008

Find inspiration and information for your BSc project or MSc thesis...

On Friday 5 December 2008, 12.30-2.45 pm, a 'market' with departments and Student Services on BSc projects and MSc theses will be held in the Marble Hall.

There, you can find inspiration on topics, a supervisor and learn about the rules, possibilities and resources you can draw on in connection with your BSc project or MSc thesis.

[See the full programme](#)

See you there!

Marianne Vesterager, Student Services, mave@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gjb@life.ku.dk – latest update 18 November 2008

Staff news

Professor Peter Bordier Høj appointed Honorary Doctor at KU-LIFE

When the University of Copenhagen hosts its traditional Annual Commemoration on Thursday 20 November 2008, six prominent researchers will be conferred the title of Honorary Doctor, including Professor Peter Bordier Høj from the University of South Australia, who will receive an Honorary Doctorate of Science.

Peter Høj is recognised for his great contribution to plant biology as a researcher, teacher and top manager. His work spans from pioneering research findings on photosynthesis through scientific wine production to top managerial positions, including Vice Chancellor and President of the University of South Australia. He also builds bridges between frontline research and needs in the business community.

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gjb@life.ku.dk – latest update 19 November 2008

Danisco Award 2008 goes to Barbara Ann Halkier

The Danisco Award 2008 goes to Associate Professor Barbara Ann Halkier, DSc, Department of Plant Biology and Biotechnology. She receives DKK 250,000 for her promising research in the cancer-preventive properties of bioactive compounds in plants, especially vegetables from the cabbage family. The specific aim of her research is the development of functional foods or dietary supplements enriched with health-promoting substances as well as the production of crops with increased resistance to disease, which allows for a reduction in pesticide use.

[Read the press release](#)

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 18 November 2008

Professor Ylva Ardö honoured by the International Dairy Federation

Professor Ylva Ardö, Department of Food Science, recently received the International Dairy Federation Award 2008 at the World Dairy Summit in Mexico. The award is an international recognition of Ylva Ardö's research which has resulted in, among other things, the development of a new technique for conserving milk samples. The technique is already used in most laboratories that conduct routine analyses of milk samples in Europe, the USA and Australia.

[Read the press release](#)

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 18 November 2008

Anniversary: Frank Mortensen, assistant engineer, IGM – reception on Wednesday 3 December, 2 pm

To celebrate the 25th anniversary of Frank Mortensen on 1 December, the Department of Basic Sciences and Environment will host a reception at 2 pm on 3 December.

The address is Thorvaldsensvej 40, stairway 6 or 8, 5th floor, room R547.

Dorte Persson, Department of Basic Sciences and Environment, dope@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 18 November 2008

Grants

Abildgård Symposiums – application deadline 15 December

The board of the foundations *Abildgårdfonden* and *Overdyrlæge Hans A. Madsen og Hustrus Fond* hereby invites applications for financial support for the holding of scientific symposiums in 2009 within the veterinary medical area. The symposiums will be held within the framework of LIFE and should result in the publication of a symposium report.

The application should contain a description of the research area covered by the symposium and its connection to LIFE as well as ideas for a programme. A detailed budget, a short CV and the applicant's publication list must also be enclosed.

It is possible to apply for funding of the following expenses:

- Travel and accommodation expenses for invited lecturers
- Rent of rooms and equipment
- Food
- Publication of symposium report

Applications must be received by Legatadministrationen (the Foundation Administration), Study and Students' Affairs, by Monday 15 December 2008 at the latest.

Applications are evaluated according to the scientific level of the symposiums and their connection to the veterinary research areas of LIFE.

The financial basis of the present application round is DKK 135,000 which is expected to be divided between at least two symposiums.

Annette Guildal, Study and Students' Affairs, ag@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 18 November 2008

Henrik Tofte Jacobsen's foundation – deadline 15 December

Of the interest accrued from Henrik Tofte Jacobsen's foundation, a grant of DKK 143,000 is available for allocation. The grant will be awarded in connection with Henrik Tofte Jacobsen's birthday on Saturday 21 February 2009.

The purpose of the foundation is to support research, education, communication and supplementary training within horticulture at the Department of Agriculture and Ecology.

A reasoned application must contain all information needed to assess the relevance of the application as well as the applicant's CV. The application form is available on the Faculty's website.

Applications must be submitted by 15 December 2008 to the Faculty of Life Sciences, University of Copenhagen, Study and Students' Affairs, Bülowsvej 17, 1870 Frederiksberg C, Denmark.

Annette Guildal, Study and Students' Affairs, ag@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 18 November 2008

International Fund – application deadline 8 December

The LIFE International Fund is managed by KINU (Committee for Internationalisation and Development Collaboration). The funding is earmarked for the internationalisation of the Faculty's study programmes.

The framework grant for the International Fund in 2008 is DKK 1.800.000.

What qualifies for funding?

Participation in international study programmes

Activities and service functions in connection with the planning of the mobility of students, PhD students and scientific/academic staff

Outgoing teacher mobility

Participation in Euroleague, NOVA and other professional networks which are deemed to result in new international teaching activities

It is not possible to apply for funding for study trips and study stays for individual students or for IT equipment and other equipment

You can read more about funding opportunities in the regulations for the International Fund

Application

Please note that funding from the International Fund requires co-financing from either the department, a partner institution or other sources. Documentation for co-funding must be attached to the application. Application deadline: 8 December 2008.

Send applications to:

KINU, Committee for Internationalisation and Development Collaboration, Bülowsvej 17, 1870 Frederiksberg C, Denmark.

If you have further questions about the application criteria etc., please contact Christina Stigaard, Internationalisation and Developing Collaboration, chst@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 18 November 2008

Research funds etc.

See the updated information on the Research & Information website.