



## eLIFE – news on life at LIFE

Thursday 12 February 2009

Email to the editors: [elife@life.ku.dk](mailto: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](http://www.life.ku.dk/Maalgruppe/medarbejdere/life_internt/nyhedsbrev.aspx)

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, Editor, LIFE-Communications, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk)

## Life at LIFE

### **Dialogue meeting on the Universities Act**

Dear staff and students at LIFE

The Faculty Management would like to invite you to take part in a dialogue meeting on the Universities Act at LIFE on 19 February at 3-4 pm in Lecture Hall 1.01.

The dialogue meeting provides an opportunity for you to tell the Faculty Management in what ways you think the new Universities Act has been a success and how we might do things better at LIFE.

The dialogue meeting will start off with brief speeches by representatives of the Faculty Management, staff and students. Thereafter, the debate will be open to everybody who wishes to engage in a dialogue with Management on the subject.

All staff and students are welcome.

Three more dialogue meetings will be held in 2009 focusing on themes of current interest to staff and students at LIFE.

Dean Per Holten-Andersen

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 11 February 2009

## Poisonous tree is felled

The most poisonous tree in the Gardens – the Poison Sumac or *Rhus chinensis* – has been felled. Read more and see the photos on [the Garden's website](#).

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 11 February 2009

## Gnudtzmann's beautiful but oft-criticised main building

You do not really see it, unless you know to look. And yet, there are many differences between Bindsbøll's old main building and Gnudtzmann's bombastic addition to the old building. Bindsbøll's main building, which seemed in 1858 enormous in what was at the time fairly open landscape, quickly became too small for the many activities at the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University. So due to insufficient space, the architect Johannes Emil Gnudtzmann was commissioned in 1892-95 to double the size of the main building.

Not much is known about Gnudtzmann's childhood, except that he was born in 1837. Later he became second lieutenant in the Artillery Reserves, serving between 1862 and 1864. He apparently got through the war in one piece, and in 1865 he passed the polytechnic exam in architecture as the only person ever to take the exam. A closer look at his career in architecture reveals that LIFE's main building is clearly one of his more important works. He did design several churches, including Sankt Pouls Kirke in Nyboder, but he was mainly active in the secular world – designing a block of flats in Colbjørnsensgade, workshop buildings at Helsingør Shipyard, Hotel Korsør with a theatre, a municipal school, a savings bank and a court registry as well as Helsingør Court of Law with jail. And we must not forget the Botanical Gardens exit at Østre Farimagsgade.

As the Faculty's main entrance stands today, only Gnudtzmann's more than 100-metre-long building is visible from Bülowvej, while Bindsbøll's old main building is more humbly situated behind it. The general opinion at the time was that Gnudtzmann had been a little too rough on Bindsbøll's beautiful building, and many have lamented and regretted the addition.

Bindsbøll's beautiful tiles were replaced in both the old and the new parts with the more gloomy grey slate slabs that bring the two parts together to form a homogeneous whole. On the North and South Wings, it is still possible to see the tiles, if anyone is interested in admiring the beauty of Bindsbøll's original buildings. Gnudtzmann's task was also very well-defined in that it was to join two main buildings together, and over the ages, the concept of beauty has also changed, both in terms of the stoutness of women and the art of architecture.

I personally find Gnudtzmann's Main Building lovely, and the somewhat grandiose entrance hall suits it. On the surface, the style to some extent even resembles that of Bindsbøll.

The entrance is called *Kongeporten* (the Royal Gateway) as that is where kings and queens throughout the ages have entered the premises to attend the Faculty's anniversary celebrations in the Main Lecture Hall. The Royal Gateway has just enough room for a coach and a team of horses to pass through, and was last used for that purpose in 2003 when the queen rode through to re-inaugurate the Main Lecture Hall.

The bottom of the Royal Gateway is painted a sad grey, granite colour, and the two 'granite' columns are hiding some indefinable material underneath, but it still looks nice. The ceiling, on the other hand, is decorated in the outer entrance with leaves and in the inner entrance with leaves and two paintings, one of a ploughman

working his horse and the other of a group of black and white cows in a field. A few butterflies have been painted on the leaves, as well, and perhaps they inspired the painters to add a couple of butterflies to the recreation of the ceiling in the Main Lecture Hall after the explosion.

Today, the Royal Gateway is nice and inviting. During the daytime, the pompous outer doors are open, and the next set of doors are of glass, making the entrance to the Faculty bright and friendly. In the inner gateway, there is another set of glass doors that open on to the polished floor on the ground floor and the beautiful stairway with its wrought iron railing leading up to the offices on the first floor.

On the right-hand side of the inner gateway, there is a memorial tablet featuring the names of students and graduates who died during World War II. Even though it is a sombre topic, I still feel it only proper to mention here those who died for a free Denmark. We have much to thank them for as they gave their most precious possession – life:

Emil Balslev (member of the Aars Air Drop Group), Albert Carlo Iversen (member of the Hvidsten Group) and Erik Briand Clausen (member of the reception group in Slagelse) were all executed by the Gestapo in Ryvangen.

Per Sonne (member of Holger Danske) was executed by the Gestapo at Osted in a prisoner transport from Vester Prison, where all the prisoners on the truck were shot during an alleged escape attempt.

Axel Richard Møller (chairman of the Danish Freedom Council's local committee) and Ole Vagn Larsen were ambushed at a bogus veterinary call and killed.

Finally, Herman Peter Andersen was mortally wounded during an air raid on Skjern Abattoir and Carl Christian Jensen was killed along with his 15-year-old daughter during an air raid on the city of Tønder.

The best aspect of Gnudtzmänn's building is the Central Courtyard that it created, and it is here that the differences between the two architects are clearly visible. In the middle of the two wings you can clearly see Bindsbøll's narrow, handmade Flensborg bricks and Gnudtzmänn's larger, machine-made yellow bricks. The window frames are also very different – compare Bindsbøll's elegant, light and bright iron frames with Gnudtzmänn's heavier and darker wood frames. However, Gnudtzmänn did partially continue the curved windows, so the differences between the buildings are thankfully not too great.

The Central Courtyard has for many years been the perfect venue for cultural events, which always take place in August, when the old window recesses are lit up to create the perfect atmosphere. There have been summer ballet performances by Alexander Kølpin and music performances by the Danish Radio Concert Orchestra as well as famous Scandinavian performers like Sanne Salomonsen, Tommy Körberg and Solbjørg Højfeldt. One year, we even had the pleasure of Monique, Kaya Brüel and Jimmy Jørgensen, all Danish singers. There have also been performances by the world famous acrobatics troupe from Australia whose costuming expenses tend to be kept to a bare minimum. The fine tradition of summer performances in the Central Courtyard is always a wonderful experience, and I hope it will continue for many years to come.

The Faculty's main building had been hidden for many years behind a giant wrought iron gate, although it had been softened by flowerbeds leading up to the Royal Gateway. But in 1994, the drastic decision was made to create a more inviting entrance. The landscape architect Andreas Bruun managed to create a beautiful forecourt with a little fountain and stone benches surrounded by lovely trimmed box hedges. He even found room for a small number of parking spaces for guests.

The forecourt is the traditional starting point of the Faculty tours, but note that it is the only place on our campus with three-hour parking, which is not quite long enough if you happen to be taking one of our grand three-hour tours. Once a guest asked during a break whether she might just pop over and move her car, but I assured her that the parking wardens never came by, and if they did, I would pay the ticket. I never say that anymore, because afterwards, she came back with a parking ticket, which I had, of course, promised pay. So I did – to something the municipality calls 'Citizens' Services', although I cannot for the life of me figure out why we need that kind of citizens' service in our area.

Kim Greiner, Senior Gardener

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 5 February 2009

## Announcements

### Meet US Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia

Guest lecture: What is the role of the US Supreme Court? How does a 21st-century world power interpret a more than 200-year-old constitution?

You are invited to hear this impressive lecture by one of the world's most high-profile judges, US Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia, at the University of Copenhagen.

Programme:

- Welcome speech by Pro-rector Lykke Friis
- Introduction by Professor Ditlev Tamm
- Lecture by Antonin Scalia
- Debate

Time and place: Monday 16 February, 3-5 pm in the Ceremonial Hall, Frue Plads. Followed by a reception in the Tapestry Hall.

Everyone is welcome. No registration is necessary.

Related links:

[http://jura.ku.dk/english/calendar/antonin\\_scalia/invitation\\_antonin\\_scalia\\_uk.pdf](http://jura.ku.dk/english/calendar/antonin_scalia/invitation_antonin_scalia_uk.pdf)

Organiser: Centre for Studies in Legal Culture, Faculty of Law

**Gitte Høyer, Faculty of Law**, [Gitte.Hoyer@jur.ku.dk](mailto:Gitte.Hoyer@jur.ku.dk)

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 11 February 2009

### Chocolate Festival 2009 at LIFE

The chocolate association Chokoladeselskabet will be hosting its Chocolate Festival 2009 on Sunday 8 March 2009, 11 am-5 pm in the Marble Hall at LIFE.

We have invited some of the best chocolate makers and artisans in Denmark to show us the best the world of chocolate has to offer. There will be plenty of samples, activities and opportunities to buy chocolate. The festival will be opened by TV chef Claus Meyer.

Admission: DKK 85, including five samples. Find out more at <http://www.chokoladefestival.dk/>

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 11 February 2009

## **Meet spring at a run with the University's running club**

The running club for University of Copenhagen staff is calling all runners!

There are a lot of staff members at the University of Copenhagen who enjoy a nice run. So, in 2008, a group of us decided to form the University of Copenhagen running club. The dark, wet and cold winter is finally drawing to a close, and the days are again growing longer and brighter. This means it is time to get the club up and running again!

The main objective of the running club is to create new social opportunities for University of Copenhagen staff through a sport where everyone can participate! We, therefore, have groups that run at different levels: beginner, medium and advanced. The advanced group also does interval and speed training.

The group runs are already in full swing – so mark your calendar and spread the word to your colleagues.

Read more about the running club and see when we run at: <http://motion.ku.dk/loebeklub/>

*Taskforce behind the creation of the University of Copenhagen running club /by Tina Didriksen  
Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 11 February 2009*

## **European Citizens' Consultations: Shape the EU**

Now Europeans have the chance to shape the EU and share their visions for a citizens' EU. The new 'European Citizens' Consultations' are a unique opportunity for you, as a citizen, to say what you think about the European Union and its future.

### **Make your opinion known**

In collaboration with the European Citizens' Consultation project, the European Commission has launched an online debate on the economic and social future of the EU. The citizens' consultations will take place in all 27 EU member countries, and everyone is welcome to participate and be heard.

Just go to the [website](#) and write what you think in the active blog, which is open to everyone. You can also give your opinion on other people's entries and vote on the entries you like best.

### **Citizens' Consultation at Christiansborg**

All entries, opinions and votes on other entries will make up the background material for the citizens' consultations that will take place throughout Europe in March 2009. The Danish consultation will take place on 28-29 March in Landstingssalen at Christiansborg.

At the Danish consultation, 30 randomly selected citizens will read all the entries in the Danish blog and, based on this and their own opinions, come up with a political vision for what the EU should focus on when it comes to the economic and social future of the EU. The results will be immediately passed on to the Danish political parties that are running in the European Parliament election.

### **Joint European citizens' meeting**

After the national hearings, bloggers will also have the chance to comment and vote on the recommendations from the consultations. The results from Denmark and the other EU countries will be released and discussed at a joint European citizens' meeting in May 2009.

### **Co-organised by the Danish Cultural Institute**

For more information on the opportunities for citizen involvement in the future of the EU, please contact the Danish Cultural Institute, which is the Danish partner in the project and organiser of the Danish Consultation.

More information is available from General Secretary Finn Andersen or Project Manager Olaf Gerlach Hansen on tel.: +45 3313 5448. Information is also available by email to: [ogh@dankultur.dk](mailto:ogh@dankultur.dk).

[www.europaeiske-borgerkonsultationer.eu](http://www.europaeiske-borgerkonsultationer.eu)

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update*

### **Courses currently offered by PUMA**

There are still places available on the following staff courses (primarily in Danish):

Start date/Title

- 25/2 CURIS, advanced
- 25/2 Project management for researchers, module 1 (Implement)
- 2/3 Basic bookkeeping
- 3/3 Service English for administrative staff, 1 spot available, Cam-4 level, 9 am
- 5/3 Workshop for website managers
- 9/3 Coaching for managers
- 11/3 Case-handling – few spots left
- 16/3 Project management for researchers, module 1
- 18/3 Project management, module A (Mannaz)
- 19/3 Welcome to the University of Copenhagen
- 23/3 Collegial coaching
- 1/4 Purchasing
- 14/4 ScanPas – data input and extracts
- 16/4 Cultural Awareness – say hello to your foreign colleague

Read more about the above courses and see the deadlines for registration in the [Course calendar](#).

See also the courses under [KU systemer og procedurer](#) (in Danish)

See the entire [Course catalogue 2009 \(in Danish\)](#)

- or call the HR Secretariat/PUMA on ext. 22659 to find out more.

**Anette Mar, HR & Organisation, [amar@adm.ku.dk](mailto:amar@adm.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 11 February 2009*

## Major Darwin exhibition opens

The Zoological Museum recently opened a major [Darwin exhibition](#). The [Evolution](#) exhibition celebrates 200 years since the birth of Charles Darwin and 150 years since the publication of the ground-breaking publication of his most famous work, popularly called *The Origin of Species*.

However, the exhibition has been opened against a more serious background. The concept of evolution is under pressure from creationists – Genesis supporters – who believe that God created every species on Earth.

“Even in Denmark, there are now private independent schools that want to teach students creationism in various guises, such as Intelligent Design, in biology class. They apparently think that evolution is a theory that you can choose to either believe or not. But evolution is not something we THINK took place – it is something we KNOW. Now we are giving people the opportunity to be convinced by taking a voyage of discovery through the evolution of life,” says Exhibition Manager Hanne Strager in reference to the new exhibition at the [Zoological Museum](#).

The Evolution exhibition picks up the trail where Darwin left off. Visitors are led into the present, where they are shown examples of the discoveries that science has made time and again since the day of Darwin – all of which confirm and support the evolution concept.

The exhibition targets both adults and children, providing exciting and entertaining educational insight into Darwin’s theory and into how all living creatures are related and have been for millions of years. The material is presented in a light and accessible manner that is fun and comprehensible to people of all ages. It is a perfect opportunity to take a personal voyage of discovery in Darwin’s footsteps.

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 6 February 2009*

## Education

### Energy Forum – Best Student Paper Awards Competition

Energy Forum (EF) has received a research grant from Nordic Energy Research, which also covers the costs of a Best Student Paper Awards competition in the interface between energy, climate and technology (ECT), for students at MSc or PhD level in the Nordic countries.

[Guidelines for the awards competition](#)

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 11 February 2009*

### Junior Researcher Forum: Katherine Richardson: The Sea – the key to an understanding of climate change

Junior Researcher Forum, 17 February, 5.15 pm in the Library.

Katherine Richardson, Vice-dean (Outreach), KU-SCIENCE, will speak on The Sea – the key to an understanding of climate change:

There is a good deal of evidence suggesting that climate change and other global changes currently taking place will mean that the sea does not absorb as much CO<sub>2</sub> in the future. In her lecture, Professor Richardson will explain the processes that are crucial for this absorption and how they are affected by global changes.

Everyone is welcome!

[www.juniorforskercafe.life.ku.dk](http://www.juniorforskercafe.life.ku.dk)

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 6 February 2009*

### **Student Services offers a variety of activities in Block 3**

There is more information available at [www.life.ku.dk/studenterservice](http://www.life.ku.dk/studenterservice) > Aktiviteter (in Danish) or [www.life.ku.dk/studentervices](http://www.life.ku.dk/studentervices) > Activities (in English)

#### **Travel abroad**

Come and hear about opportunities for studying abroad this autumn. The first 25 visitors will receive a sandwich and soft drink.

Time: Wednesday 11 February 2009, 12.00-1.00 pm.

Venue: To be announced on the Student Services website

Target group: Students interested in studying abroad

Language: Danish (possibility for guidance in English afterwards)

#### **Give your studies a boost – break new ground**

Want to spice up your studies? Come and learn more about volunteer stays, studies abroad and courses outside LIFE.

Time: Friday 20 February 2009, 12.45-2.30 pm

Venue: Auditoriums 3-01, 3-13 and 3-14

Target group: Everyone

Language: Danish

#### **Competency workshop**

What competencies do you possess? And how can you make them visible?

Time: Friday 27 February 2009, 9.00 am-3.00 pm

Venue: AAK, Nørre Voldgade 94, 1358 Copenhagen K

Target group: All MSc students at LIFE. BSc students, if there is room.

Language: Danish

Registration is required!

#### **Veterinary Medicine BSc Project II**

For veterinary medicine students interested in learning more about writing a Bachelor project. A good place to find inspiration for your project.

Time: Wednesday 11 March 2009, 2.00-3.30 pm.

Venue: To be announced on the Student Services website

Target group: Third-year BSc students in veterinary medicine

Language: Danish

#### **About exams**

Learn about the different types of exams, rules and regulations. Talk with other international students about how to deal with exams at LIFE.

Time: Friday 13 March, 12.30-3.00 pm

Venue: To be announced on the Student Services website

Target group: International students, both full-degree and exchange

Language: English

### **Job search workshop**

Are you thinking about what you want to do after graduation – and how you can get there? Are you getting ready to look for a job? Then this workshop is for you!

Time: Thursday and Friday 16-17 April 2009, 9 am-4 pm

Venue: To be announced on the Student Services website

Target group: All MSc students at LIFE

Language: Danish

Registration is required!

**Student Services**, [studenterservice@life.ku.dk](mailto:studenterservice@life.ku.dk)

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 6 February 2009*

## Staff news

### **Inaugural lecture: Professor Ellen Braae**

Professor with Special Responsibilities Ellen Braae will be giving her inaugural lecture on Thursday 26 February 2009 in the Main Lecture Hall, 1-01, Bülowsvej 17 at 3 pm. There will be a reception in the Senate's conference room after the lecture.

Title of lecture: New Landscape Architectural Challenges

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 6 February 2009*

### **New professor of biological control at Agriculture & Ecology**

As of 1 January 2009, Jørgen Eilenberg has been appointed Professor of Biological Control with focus on studying the interaction between insects and microorganisms at the Department of Agriculture and Ecology. The appointment underpins the strong international position Denmark holds in the field and strengthens the Faculty's profile in environmentally friendly production.

Inaugural lecture: 26 March, 2-3 pm in auditorium 3-14, followed by a reception in the Marble Hall.

Title of lecture: Insects, microorganisms and biological control.

[Read more here](#)

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 6 February 2009*

### **New Head of Department of Small Animal Sciences**

Asger Lundorff Jensen, who has for the past five years been head of studies of one of Denmark's most attractive study programmes, Veterinary Medicine, has been appointed Acting-head of the Department of Small Animal Sciences as of 1 March 2009. One ambition of the appointment is to strengthen the close sparring with veterinary clinics across the country.

Asger Lundorff Jensen is a Professor of Veterinary Clinical Pathology at LIFE and member of the Accreditation Council, the Danish Research Council for Technology and Production Sciences and the Danish Council for Veterinary Health. He is very much looking forward to starting his duties as head of department:

“One of the most important goals I have this year is to increase the Department’s visibility, not just as an internationally recognised research and education institution, but also as a close and accessible knowledge centre and sparring partner for small animal veterinary clinics throughout Denmark,” says Asger Lundorff Jensen.

“This year, the veterinary medicine study programme has accepted 50 per cent more students than last year. And coming years will also experience increasing intakes. This is partly because veterinary medicine is one of Denmark’s most attractive study programmes, bringing in excellent students from all over the country. And it is partly because there has been increasing demand in recent years for our graduates. The fact that more people have the chance to earn a degree in veterinary medicine will greatly benefit clinical practice as well as the pharmaceutical and food industries in a matter of just a few years,” says Asger Lundorff Jensen, who will continue to perform his head of studies duties until a replacement is found, most likely by the end of March.

“My in-depth knowledge of the veterinary medicine study programme means that I can guarantee that everyone at the department will do their utmost to maintain and develop the programme’s strong and very progressive study environment. We have, therefore, set some very ambitious targets for the next two years, so that we can, to an even greater extent, offer students the latest teaching methods,” concludes Asger Lundorff Jensen.

CV:

Professor of Veterinary Clinical Pathology since 1996

MSc in Veterinary Science – 1986, PhD – 1991, DVM – 1994

Diplomate European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine-Companion Animals (ECVIM-Ca) – 1999

Diplomate European College of Veterinary Clinical Pathology (ECVCP) – 2002

Master’s degree in learning processes, specialising in medical pedagogics – 2009

Study Committee Chairman – 2002-2009

Head of Studies, Veterinary Medicine Study Programme at LIFE since 2004

Has been with the Department of Small Animal Sciences at the former Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University, now LIFE – Faculty of Life Sciences at the University of Copenhagen, since 1988.

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 5 February 2009*

## **New Head of Department of Large Animal Sciences**

On 1 March 2009, Hans Henrik Dietz starts as Head of the Department of Large Animal Sciences. The appointment is intended, among other things, to ensure that Denmark’s large animal sciences study programme will continue in future to be strongly research based, thereby ensuring that we can continue to produce veterinary surgeons of a high academic quality to service owners of large animals.

The establishment of Europe’s most modern large animal hospital has underpinned the status of the Department of Large Animal Sciences at LIFE as a recognised research and education institution that also offers advanced treatment of animals based on the latest knowledge of animal diseases, health and welfare. Now the department is strengthened even more with the appointment of Hans Henrik Dietz as new Head of Department:

"I will work closely with the rest of the department's highly trained and committed staff to continue to improve the veterinary medicine study programme, not only to prepare the veterinary surgeons of the future for the international market, but also to meet the growing demand for veterinary surgeons, also in rural districts where highly qualified veterinary surgeons with specialist expertise in pigs and cattle are in great demand in the agricultural sector," says Hans Henrik Dietz.

The achievement of these goals is already well underway with the new admission procedures for the veterinary medicine study programme requiring admission interviews for future students to ensure the breadth of the students' animal interests.

"One of our focus areas will be to ensure that the many new veterinary medicine students interested in working with large animals have access to the best educational opportunities with an extremely high academic level and the latest teaching equipment," continues Hans Henrik Dietz.

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 5 February 2009*

## Research

### **Klog på Klima (Clever on the Climate) – one-day seminar at LIFE**

A number of LIFE researchers will present current research and teaching relating to climate change and adaptation on Monday 2 March, 9.30 am-12.30 pm in auditorium 3-14.

The seminar is organised by the Department of Agriculture and Ecology. The programme will be available from Monday 16 February.

Everyone is welcome! Registration is not necessary.

**Rikke Pape, Department of Agriculture and Ecology, [rpt@life.ku.dk](mailto:rpt@life.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 11 February 2009*

### **University researchers are allowed to own shares**

Press release: A number of Danish newspapers, led by the Danish daily *Politiken*, have today questioned whether university researchers should be allowed to give statements in cases that can have an influence on companies with which they collaborated or otherwise have a vested interest in. More specifically, one of Denmark's leading researchers, Arne Astrup, is criticised for giving a statement on the diet drug Tesofensine while owning shares in NeuroSearch. The story leaves readers with a number of unanswered questions. LIFE Science UPDATE has spoken with some of the key players to find answers.

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

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 11 February 2009*

### **Proposals for members of the scientific research councils and board of the Danish Councils for Independent Research**

The Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation is now calling for proposals for members of the five scientific research councils that make up the Danish Councils for Independent Research – see the councils below - as well as for its board. See the call on the Agency's Danish website, [www.fi.dk](http://www.fi.dk), under Nyheder. The deadline for proposals is 18 March 2009.

The Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation hereby calls for proposals for members of the Danish councils for Independent Research (DFF):

- Board of the Danish Councils for Independent Research
- Danish Research Council for the Humanities (FKK)
- Danish Natural Science Research Council (FNU)
- Danish Social Science Research Council (FSE)
- Danish Medical Research Council (FSS)
- Danish Research Council for Technology and Production Sciences (FTP)

The Danish Councils for Independent Research funds specific research activities based on researchers' own initiatives and provides research-based advice to the Danish Government and Parliament. Every member of the Danish Councils for Independent Research must be a recognised researcher.

In order to comply with the intentions of the Gender Equality Act for equal gender representation on councils and boards, the Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation strongly encourages candidates of both genders to apply within the individual specialist areas.

You can find more information on the call for proposals, contact information, the Danish Act on the Research Advisory System etc. and the criteria for the composition of the scientific research councils at [www.fi.dk](http://www.fi.dk).

Proposals must be submitted to the Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation no later than Wednesday 18 March 2009 at 12 noon.

Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation  
Bredgade 40, 1260 Copenhagen K, Denmark  
*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 6 February 2009*

## Grants

### **KVL's Jubilæumsfond – application deadline: Sunday 15 March 2009**

A grant is available from KVL's Jubilæumsfond for distribution in spring 2009. The grant portions are for either DKK 5,000 or DKK 10,000.

The grant can be used to undertake assignments for which the necessary funding cannot be obtained through the normal channels, including the launch of research projects, general funding for students and study stays outside Denmark. The funding available may not support activities which, according to legislation or normal practice, are covered by the state.

In connection with applications for funding of the launch of research projects, it must be documented that the necessary funding for the purpose concerned cannot be obtained in the form of ordinary grants or from state foundations. Funding is normally not granted for equipment or activities which have already been initiated at the time of application.

Funding is not granted for the following purposes:

- Funding in connection with bachelor or thesis projects in Denmark
- Studies abroad supported by Erasmus or NORDPLUS funds
- Activities commenced before 15 March 2009

Furthermore, grants are not available for PhD students.

Applications must be prepared using the application forms available at the Faculty website for students, and a signed copy must be submitted to the Faculty of Life Sciences/University of Copenhagen, Study and Students' Affairs, Bülowsvej 17, 1870 Frederiksberg C, Denmark by 15 March 2009.

Applications without relevant enclosures or specified budgets or which have been received after the deadline will not be considered.

Letters of rejection will not be sent out, but once the grant has been awarded, it will be announced in eLIFE. The grant is expected to be awarded at the end of April 2009.

**Annette Guildal, Study and Students' Affairs, [ag@life.ku.dk](mailto:ag@life.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 11 February 2009*

## Research funds etc.

See the updated information on the Research & Information website.