



eLIFE – news on life at LIFE

Thursday 5 March 2009

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, LIFE-Communications, glb@life.ku.dk

Life at LIFE

Madlysten – a cookbook by students for students

Almost a year ago, an email was sent around by the Danish Society of Engineers – IDA, which was looking for students interested in writing a cookbook.

There was a fair amount of interest, and the two IDA student contacts at LIFE (Bjarke Dall Jørgensen and Louise Bjerrum) chose the five people they felt displayed the commitment and creativity necessary for the project. After the first meeting, we realised that we were seven very different people with seven very different expectations for the outcome of the project. However, we were quick to agree on the structure of the book and that we wanted to come up with something new, different and uniquely challenging and fun!

We finally decided that our cookbook would be a combination of traditional dishes with a few offbeat dishes.

And we also wanted to include options to spice up the dishes or give them a little twist with the help of a kind of 'tips and tricks' of the trade.

We are extremely proud of the final result, which is a book divided according to main ingredients, e.g. vegetables, beef, bread and cakes and hangovers. Most of the recipes also come with a little info box, which we have dubbed 'Kloge Åge' (Wise Owl), where the reader can find interesting facts about one of the ingredients or the entire dish. Finally, many of the dishes are accompanied by our version of a 'tips and tricks' called 'trylle trylle', which provides inspiration on how the dish can be adapted to suit your particular taste.

The entire process has been extremely educational, and we required the assistance of several professors and other LIFE staff members. We have also tested each other's recipes endlessly, adjusting them and adapting them, where possible, to our common tastes.

The climax of this extremely industrious year is planned for Thursday 5 March 2009, when we will host a Release Party at A-vej, where all IDA members will receive a free copy of the cookbook. We will also be serving samples and a glass of bubbly. The people who helped us through the process, from both IDA and LIFE, are also invited to the event. All LIFE students are, of course, also welcome, and it will be possible for natural resource, biotech and food science students to join IDA and receive a free cookbook to boot.

Negotiations are currently underway to try to sell the cookbook. If everything goes according to plan, the cookbook should be available in selected supermarkets and shops from sometime in April for the grand sum of around DKK 150.

Laura Weenink

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 2 March 2009

Green facts: Did you know that...

... A wide-open fume cupboard costs DKK 48,000 a year in energy – the University of Copenhagen has approx. 2,000 fume cupboards.

Source: [Grøn Gerning](#) (Green Deed)

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 2 March 2009

Museum of Veterinary History – a gold mine of curiosities

In the South Wing, which is one of Bindsbøll's beautiful old buildings, you will find the Museum of Veterinary History on the first floor – a veritable gold mine of curiosities from the history of veterinary science.

Upon opening the door to the staircase, visitors are greeted by a colourful display of interesting paintings and signs, so it can take some time to climb the stairs to the quaint, low-ceilinged room full of all sorts of objects from the world of veterinary science.

The founder of the Veterinary School, P. Chr. Abildgaard, owned a varied collection of veterinary surgical instruments, horse and ox fittings, and in 1783 he turned over his private collection to the Veterinary School in Christianshavn. Later, the staff at the Veterinary School and, subsequently, staff at the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University systematically collected veterinary instruments for a teaching collection for the benefit of the students. However, the various collections were spread out among KVL's departments until 1967 when Surgery Professor Gert Espersen began the process of bringing the collections together, and in 1973 the Museum of Veterinary History opened its doors. Later, Gert Espersen published his highly prized book *Danske dyrlægeinstrumenter gennem 200 år* (200 years of Danish Veterinary Science Instruments) based on the museum's collections.

When the museum was being built, display cases were needed for the various objects, so an architect was contacted. However, architect-designed display cases turned out to be so expensive that the school could only afford one case. One display case would not make much of a museum, but luckily Gert Espersen learned that the men's clothing retailer Crome og Goldschmidt was shutting down, and from there the museum acquired 17 display cases on the cheap.

So what can you see at the Museum of Veterinary History besides the world's largest collection of horseshoes? Well, let's start by taking a closer look at the horseshoes.

The oldest specimens are from the Orient and date back to 800-1100. Spanish shoes from 1100-1300 and German/Swedish shoes from the 1500s are also represented. Our own Abildgaard, who originally trained as a medical doctor, developed no less than the first scientifically designed horseshoe. Before Abildgaard's day, pretty well all mounted horses limped because their hooves were brutally forced into shape to fit the shoe. Abildgaard took the opposite approach, shaping the shoe to fit the horse's hoof – something no one had thought of before. As a somewhat embarrassed head of the Veterinary School in Hannover, Germany, admitted, it took a Danish medical doctor to teach the world's veterinary surgeons how to shoe a horse.

As I learned more about the history of the horseshoe, I discovered that Københavns Hesteskofabrik (Copenhagen Horseshoe Factory) was the first to produce machine-made horseshoes. In the late 1800s and early 1900s, the factory sold horseshoes all over the world, from Russia across New Zealand to Northern China. The English army was also a major customer, ordering no less than 250,000 pairs of horseshoes for the Boer war in South Africa, among others. Later, during World War I, both the English and the German armies bought their horseshoes from the Copenhagen factory. From a piece of iron, the horseshoe would undergo eight processes in the machinery before coming out, after just 1 minute and 15 seconds, as a finished shoe ready for sale. But all good things must come to an end, and the market for horseshoes ultimately dried up, forcing the factory to close down in 1966.

The collection of horseshoes continues with a poster of the Army Model Shoe from 1909, which could be ordered in a variety of sizes to fit the horse's hooves. The army also used summer shoes, and the museum even has a picture of a horse in trainers.

There is also a collection of horseshoes by the Veterinary Surgeon Christ Christensen. He is the only Danish veterinary surgeon to have become a millionaire by producing horseshoes, but of course he did so in the USA with a light-weight shoe for race horses.

From the exciting history of the horseshoe, we move on to the instrument collection, where Danish veterinary surgeons also made a major contribution to the world of veterinary science with the 'embryotome', which has saved the lives of many a horse. Before 1923, many horses died in 'child birth'. If the foal faced the wrong way and could not come out, both the mare and foal would die, but Danish veterinary surgeons invented an instrument that could at least save the mare.

There is also a notorious instrument called a horse twitch, which was used for pacifying horses according to the opposite approach as the 'horse whisperer'. The instrument is illegal today, but when it was in use in Denmark, it was called a French twitch. In France, it was called a German twitch, in Germany it was a Polish twitch and in Poland it was a Russian twitch. I do not know what the Russians called it, they just used it.

There is also a collection of stun rifles for wild animals, including one that used compressed air. Even bows and arrows have been used for the purpose. Professor Stockfeldt's chloroform mask is also on display. The standard procedure for its use was to throw the horse down on the floor and then place the chloroform mask around its muzzle. Unfortunately, it was common for the person operating the mask to pass out long before the horse did.

There are plenty of other interesting finds at the museum, like the veterinary chemist's shop in Ørbæks, a collection of wooden legs for horses, an old guild chest and a model of the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University as it looked in 1900, which was displayed at the world exhibition in Paris.

There is also a canon ball, which was fired in 1807 when the English world-premiered the bombardment of

civilians in Copenhagen – the projectile ended up in the back of a horse. The horse suffered major internal injuries but could be walked home “without the slightest hindrance, according to Erik Viborg. A couple of days later, though, the horse was unable to stand up and had to be put down with another bullet – this time a much smaller one.

There is also a respectful display of a piece of shrapnel that ended up in a horse called Aro, during the attack on the Shell building on 21 March 1945. The horse limped for two years before developing an abscess, and the shrapnel could finally be fished out. But my family can beat that story by a horse length, for my own mother took a bullet on that same occasion. And today, nearly 64 years later, the bullet is still lodged inside her, right where it ended up during the attack. (You can read the story in *Vanløse under krigen* (Vanløse during WWII), published by Bostrup, or at www.kemg.dk).

In my opinion, some of the most beautiful objects in the museum are the original plaster models of famous equestrian statues. The sculptor Agnes Lunn is represented with a mare and foal, which can be seen in bronze in the park outside Knabstrup Main Station in Holbæk, north of Copenhagen. And Helen Schou is there with a statue of Christian X on horseback, which stands outside Aarhus Cathedral. And, of course, there is ‘The Jutlandic Horse’, which can be seen in full-size in Randers, Western Denmark, but which is called by my tour guide, Jens Munk, simply a horse from Jutland.

The museum is run by four-five elderly gentlemen who volunteer for the sheer pleasure of showing off the place and telling stories about all the interesting objects.

In the South Wing with the official address of Søndre Sti 4, Bülowsvej 17, 1870 Frederiksberg C, there is a brand new, anonymous-looking sign that simply says “Museum”. Why it does not say Veterinærhistorisk Museum (Museum of Veterinary History), and why it does not show the opening hours is a mystery. But here I can tell everyone that admission to the museum is free and that it is open every Monday 10.00 am-2.30 pm and every Wednesday 1.00-2.30 pm. And I can also reveal that the museum people have decided, this year, to remain closed between Christmas and New Year.

It is also possible to book group tours at other times by calling +45 3533 2149 during the museum’s opening hours, or by email to: museumsvet@life.ku.dk. You are also welcome to call Museum Manager Hans Smedegaard on tel.: +45 2194 9126.

Remember to sign the guest book, and expect your visit to take much more than five minutes.

Kim Greiner, Senior Gardener

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 2 March 2009

Announcements

Live streaming and webcasts from the Climate Congress

Now everyone can listen – and watch – as top scientists and politicians discuss climate change challenges and solutions at the international scientific congress on climate change hosted by the University of Copenhagen and the International Alliance of Research Universities (IARU).

The opening and closing sessions of the congress will be broadcast live on the [congress website](#).

The opening and closing sessions will take place – and be streamed live – on Tuesday 10 March, 10.00 am-12 noon and Thursday 12 March, 3.50-5.10 pm, respectively.

The opening session speakers will include Professor Katherine Richardson, University of Copenhagen, Connie Hedegaard, Danish Minister for Climate and Energy, and Dr. Rajendra Pachauri, Chairman of the IPCC. During the closing session of the congress you can hear, among others, Daniel M. Kammen, Barack Obama's senior advisor on energy and environmental policy and professor at the University of California at Berkeley, and Professor Lord Nicholas Stern, London School of Economics & Political Science. Danish Prime Minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen will also attend the closing session on Thursday afternoon, where the messages from the congress to the politicians will be presented for the first time.

All plenary sessions will also be video taped and posted as webcasts on the congress website no later than one hour after the end of each session.

[See the conference programme here](#)

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 5 March 2009

Library licence for Gyldendal's red dictionaries

KUBIS – The University of Copenhagen Library and Information Service – has taken out a one-year licence for *Gyldendals Ordbøger* (the so-called red dictionaries). Standard and remote access is via <http://ordbog.gyldendal.dk>, and remote access is via <http://ep.fjernadgang.kb.dk/login?url=http://ordbog.gyldendal.dk>.

No user ID or password is required. Just select the language in the red bar at the top and enter a search term.

2009 is considered a trial year, and we will be keeping close tabs on use of the dictionaries with a view to assessing whether to acquire a three-year licence for 2010-2012 and how to fund that licence.

Read more about the licence under <http://www.bvfb.life.ku.dk/Nyheder.aspx> (in Danish).

Marianne Grützmeier, BVFB, mg@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 4 March 2009

Spring is upon us. Reserve your plot by 6 March at the latest

If you need a plot of land or perhaps an entire field, the possibilities are almost limitless at the experimental farms in Taastrup. 500 acres of sound Danish soil cultivated conventionally, organically, unploughed or unfertilised, both with and without windbreaks or along a bubbling brook. You can help decide the best location to accommodate your research ideas, teaching needs or experimental desires.

The experimental farms are manned by experimental technicians with broad knowledge and extensive experience in conducting field experiments on all scales, and we offer our services at the idea stage, during the process and at the end when soil or plant material needs to be prepared for analysis.

On the technical side, we have traditional agricultural machinery, special experimental machinery and equipment for measuring all kinds of parameters in soil and plants.

At Rolighedsvej and at Højbakkegård in Taastrup, a total of 3,000 sq m of greenhouses – divided into smaller units – and 15 climate chambers are available for research, teaching and study purposes. All staff and students at the University of Copenhagen are welcome to use the facilities, and the gardeners at the sites attend to the plants and are available to assist you in all practical matters.

Please contact us if you need more information at tel. +45 3533 3526, or go directly to an application form via the website www.gf.life.ku.dk.

Applications for field experiment land must be submitted by Friday 6 March 2009 at the latest for planning reasons.

Applications concerning greenhouse facilities may be submitted as needed.

Hanne Lipczak Jakobsen, Green Support Services, halj@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 4 March 2009

Joint pay policy at University of Copenhagen

LIFE has now implemented the University of Copenhagen's joint pay policy through the adoption of the 'FSU-aftale om forhandling af løn på LIFE' (Faculty Collaboration Committee agreement on pay negotiations at LIFE).

LIFE has also endorsed several of the University's pay agreements, which consequently replace any previous LIFE/KVL pay agreements that may exist.

[Read more on the HR website](#) (in Danish).

On the HR website, you will also find the various appendixes to the Faculty Collaboration Committee agreement, including a number of trade union-specific appendices, which supplement the relevant University of Copenhagen pay agreements.

Pia Fonsholt, HR, pfo@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 4 March 2009

Access to CABI ebooks

From 2009, students and staff at the University of Copenhagen can access ebooks from CABI Publishing (Centre for Agricultural Bioscience International), published from 2000 onwards, at <http://www.cabi.org.ep.fjernadgang.kb.dk/cabebooks/>.

The CAB eBooks subject collection is divided into six categories: Agriculture; Animal and Veterinary Sciences; Environmental Sciences; Human Health, Food and Nutrition; Leisure and Tourism; and Plant Sciences.

Among the new titles you will find:

The economics of animal health and production
Sustainable farmland management: Transdisciplinary approaches
Environmental impacts of pasture-based farming
Health benefits of organic food: Effects of the environment

Herbal radio modulators: Applications in medicine, homeland defence and space
Tourism, recreation and sustainability: Linking culture and the environment

Jytte Emanuelsson, BVFB, jye@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 4 March 2009

Access to Faculty of 1000 Biology

The Faculty of Life Sciences now has access to [Faculty of 1000 Biology](#).

Faculty of 1000 Biology is the next-generation literature awareness tool. It is a revolutionary online research service that comprehensively and systematically highlights and reviews the most interesting papers published in the biological sciences, based on the recommendations of a faculty of well over 2,300 selected leading researchers ('Faculty Members'). There is full-text access to the articles, and the site is frequently updated. You can save references to reference management tools (BibTex, EndNote, ProCite, RefMan, RefWorks). The licence is only available to the faculties LIFE and NAT.

In 24 subject areas, you can view articles in four category groups: top 10, all-time top 10, most viewed and hidden jewels.

Here are the first four titles under 'Most viewed articles' on Plant Biology:

"Effects of Genetic Perturbation on Seasonal Life History Plasticity", Wilczek et al. 2009

"MAPK target networks in Arabidopsis thaliana revealed using functional protein microarrays", Popescu et al., 2009

"Ca(2+)/calmodulin regulates salicylic-acid-mediated plant immunity", Du et al., 2009

"Genome-wide non-mendelian inheritance of extra-genomic information in Arabidopsis", Lolle et al. 2005

In the 'All-time top 10', the first four articles are:

"Control of gene expression by a natural metabolite-responsive ribozyme", Winkler et al., 2004

"Functional organization of the yeast proteome by systematic analysis of protein complexes", Gavin et al. 2002

"X-ray structure of a protein-conducting channel", Van den Berg et al., 2004

"Histone demethylation mediated by the nuclear amine oxidase homolog LSD1", Shi et al., 2004

Jytte Emanuelsson, BVFB, jye@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 4 March 2009

Current courses on offer for scientific/academic staff

Project management

Want to be a better project manager? In autumn 2009, LIFE is again offering its project management course.

In the hands of two very talented instructors and together with a group of committed LIFE colleagues, you will receive training in a variety of project management tools, and you will have the opportunity to hone your skills as the manager of project participants, project owners and other project stakeholders.

[Read more about the course here](#) (in Danish)

20-21 April:

[Præsentationsteknik med gennemslagskraft](#) (Presentation techniques with impact)

- Deadline: 16 March

13 May:

[Vil du skrive en fængende faglig kronik? Eller analyse til Politiken? \(Want to write an absorbing scientific feature? Or an analysis for a daily newspaper?\)](#)

- Deadline: 1 April

8-10 June:

[Specialkursus i førstehjælp - ved udstationering i arktiske eller tropiske egne.](#) (Specialisation course on first-aid in Arctic and tropical regions)

- Deadline: 4 May

8-10 September

[Projektledelse for forskere Modul 1:](#) Grundlæggende projektværktøjer (Project management for researchers, module 1: Basic project management tools)

- Deadline: 23 July

6-8 October:

[Projektledelse for forskere – Modul 2:](#) Ledelse af projektgruppen (Project management for researchers, module 2: Project group management)

- Deadline: 20 August

The project management courses are external courses (no accommodation) in Copenhagen City with instructors from Implement A/S.

Find the courses offered for the entire year here: www.kursuskatalog.ku.dk.

- For more information, please contact puma-info@adm.ku.dk / ext. 22659.

Kind regards,

HR & Organisation

HR Secretariat/PUMA

Nørregade 10

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www.hr.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 3 March 2009

Education

Huge interest in LIFE's BSc programmes

A great many interested guests attended the open house on LIFE's BSc study programmes on Friday 27 February 2009! A total of 313 potential BSc students took the opportunity to learn more about their favourite study programmes.

The Marble Hall's stalls offered guests a variety of experiences from Petri dishes with bacteria from a dorm-

room fridge and horse hearts through a brand new cookbook and presentation model of landscapes to bioethanol taste tests. The day also saw the advent of a possible new invention: the JØURO. With the new monetary standard, the JØURO, it was possible, under the financial guidance of the Farming Economists, to buy carrots, pork rinds or tomatoes with JØUROs.

The curious guests flitted among the stalls when Dean Per Holten-Andersen welcomed them to LIFE and encouraged them to keep asking questions all day, to listen to the presentations by the study programmes, attend the trial lectures and "smell and taste" LIFE in the stalls and on the tours.

The student counsellors made sure to answer questions such as "Do I need to enclose my photo with my Quota 2 application?" and "Can I be admitted to the veterinary science study programme by studying natural resources?".

Last Friday's visitors chose to hear about the following study programmes:

Veterinary Science – Round 1: 100, Round 2: 10
Farming Economy – Round 1: 14, Round 2: 3
SLING – Round 1: 7, Round 2: 0
Landscape Architecture – Round 1: 35, Round 2: 2
Natural Resources – Round 1: 39, Round 2: 33
Biology/Biotech – Round 1: 68, Round 2: 32
Food Science – Round 1: 50, Round 2: 25

Total: Round 1: 313, Round 2: 105

Visitor statistics compared to previous years:

2009 313
2008 322
2007 318
2006 324
2005 318
2004 525
2003 510
2002 475
2001 350

From the 130 evaluation forms, we can see that the visitors have many favourable comments about what they experienced. We can also see that seven out of ten guests intend to commence studies in 2009, one out of five come from Jutland and two out of five have also attended open house events at other institutions besides LIFE.

Internally at LIFE, 200 students and employees have been directly involved in this event, whereas even more have helped behind the scenes. Communications at LIFE would like thank all of you who helped make this a very successful day.

[See photos from the event](#)

Dorthe Christensen, LIFE-Communications

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 5 March 2009

Staff news

Appointment: Affiliated Professor Palle Bekker Jeppesen

The Rector has appointed Medical Consultant Palle Bekker Jeppesen, Department of Medical Gastroenterology, Copenhagen University Hospital – Rigshospitalet, Affiliated Professor at the Department of Human Nutrition.

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 4 March 2009

Appointment: Affiliated Professor Preben Willeberg

The Rector has appointed Preben Willeberg, Center for Animal Disease Modeling and Surveillance, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California at Davis, Affiliated Professor at the Department of Large Animal Science.

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 4 March 2009

Appointment: Affiliated Professor Merete Styczen

The Rector has appointed Merete Styczen, PhD, Affiliated Professor at the Department of Basic Sciences and Environment.

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 4 March 2009

25th anniversary: Mette Olaf Nielsen – reception on Friday 13 March, 1-4 pm, Anatomy Building

On 1 March 2009, Associate Professor Mette Olaf Nielsen, Licentiate of Agricultural Science, could celebrate 25 years with KVL and LIFE.

IBHV is therefore hosting an anniversary reception on Friday 13 March 2009, 1-4 pm, in the library, first floor, Anatomy Building, Grønnegårdsvej 7.

Everyone is welcome.

Preben Fogd Jørgensen, Head of Department

Marie-Louise Rosenlund, IBHV, mln@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 4 March 2009

Reconferment of Affiliated Professorship on Inger Dalsgaard

The Rector has reconferred the title of Affiliated Professor at KU-LIFE on Head of Section Inger Dalsgaard, PhD, DTU Aqua.

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 4 March 2009

Research

New research centre for revolutionary breast cancer treatment

A new centre for basic research opened its doors on Friday 27 February 2009. At the centre, Danish researchers from several institutions including LIFE, a large number of Danish breast cancer experts and leading genetic researchers from China will develop methods to ultimately offer breast cancer treatment that is tailored to the individual patient. This will improve the survival rates for many women with breast cancer who today only have access to standard chemotherapy, which works for just 50 per cent of patients.

[Read the press release – click here!](#) (in Danish)

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 2 March 2009

Research funds etc.

See the updated information on the Research & Information website.