



## eLIFE – news on life at LIFE

Thursday 26 March 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

### **Café Væksthuset opens on 1 April**

Café Væksthuset at Frederiksberg Campus is opening its doors to a new season, which will include many exciting events and an expanded menu. Keep up to date at [www.cafe.life.ku.dk](http://www.cafe.life.ku.dk) (in Danish).

From 12 noon on 1 April, we can again eat lunch, have meetings or just relax at Café Væksthuset in the beautiful flower garden on Grønnegårdsvej at Frederiksberg Campus.

The new season will be launched with live music and snacks, and the new menu will feature much more than the tasty dishes we know so well – this year, two experienced chefs have been brought in, Jonas Neergaard and Martin Bulov, to create a new gastronomical profile for the café. The plan is to augment the chevre chaud, antipasti and sandwiches with classic bistro cuisine at reasonable prices. So everyone is working hard to get the new and functional kitchen up and running.

The students who run the café are also developing a new and varied event calendar for 2009, including poetry slams, live music, beer tasting events and much more. The events will be posted on the 'event board' in the café and at [www.cafe.life.ku.dk](http://www.cafe.life.ku.dk).

Like last year, the café encourages students and staff to exhibit their projects in the greenhouse.

Café Væksthuset, which opened in May 2008 in connection with the 150th anniversary of the Frederiksberg Campus, is sponsored by the Danish Agricultural Advisory Service.

The staff comprises 12 LIFE students, with Thomas Hagner as the general manager. The concept for the café is to create a unique meeting place for students, staff and guests at Frederiksberg Campus.

In 2008, the café was elected Best New Café in Town on AOK.

*Charlotte Aabo*

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 25 March 2009*

### **Buy a Campus beer at Væksthuset**

In 2008, we created a beer in honour of the 150th anniversary of the Frederiksberg Campus. It was available in kegs and bottles and was such a huge hit that we decided to create a 151st anniversary version. Buy it at Café Væksthuset from 1 April.

Campus is a very special beer brewed by LIFE student Anders Busse Rasmussen, who today runs Indslev Brewery on Funen.

The beer with its beautiful chestnut brown colour is brewed from a malt made from wheat, barley, rye and spelt to which three different varieties of hops have been added. The ingredients produce a nice flavour with a nutty aroma, which stems from the roasted spelt malt.

The lovely 3-litre bottle has been a popular gift item. And many people have bought a bottle or two for the family Easter gathering. We have had a new year brewed this year so that staff and students can again enjoy our own beer on campus or at home. Campus 151, as this year's version is called, is available in the lovely 3-litre bottles at Café Væksthuset for a price of DKK 250 per bottle.

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 25 March 2009*

### **Excellent surroundings for Forest & Landscape researchers and students**

A new building is being erected for Forest & Landscape at Frederiksberg Campus. The first turf will be cut for Forest & Landscape's new building on Friday 27 March. [See the attached invitation](#) (in Danish).

The new building will be attached to Forest & Landscape's current building 'Kjøbenhavns Sygehjem', which is an old listed hospital building from 1859. The two buildings will be connected by a glass walkway at first floor level and they will be further linked by the decorative artwork of Marianne Grønnow.

The new building will be home to more than 120 researchers and will include a large lecture hall, a variety of student facilities, modern laboratories and a hall that is as high as the four-storey building. A good deal of wood will be used in the energy-friendly building, and the hall will feature trellised climbing plants to add a touch of green all the way to the glass roof which will let in daylight, fresh air and a better environment for the users of the building.

The building is designed by the firm of architects Rørbæk og Møller Arkitekter Aps, and in 2009, the firm of landscape architects Schønherr Landskabs-arkitekter will be designing a plan for the grounds surrounding the new building that will harmonise with the overall plan for the entire Frederiksberg Campus.

### **Generous donation**

The building, which was made possible by a generous donation by Villum Kann Rasmussen Fonden, will allow LIFE to bring together forest and landscape research and teaching in Denmark.

“We are very thankful for the opportunity we have been given to build this unique building and bring our resources together under one roof. It will be the ideal surroundings for both researchers and students on our study programmes in forestry, landscape and planning,” says Niels Elers Koch, Centre Director for Forest & Landscape.

The building is expected to be ready for occupation by summer 2010.

Everyone is welcome to attend the cutting of the first turf event.

**Programme** for the event at Rolighedsvej 23, Frederiksberg, on Friday 27 March 2009 at 2.30–4.00 pm

2.30 pm Welcome – Centre Director Niels Elers Koch, Forest & Landscape

2.35 pm Danish University and Property Agency – Director Jens Peter Jacobsen

2.40 pm University of Copenhagen – University Director Jørgen Honoré

2.45 pm Faculty of Life Sciences – Pro-dean of Research Torben Greve

2.50 pm Villum Kann Rasmussen Fonden –

2.55 pm Forest & Landscape – Centre Director Niels Elers Koch

3.00 pm Cutting of the first turf

The event will be followed by refreshments outdoors, if the weather holds, or in the ground-floor halls and foyer at Rolighedsvej 23. It will also be possible to hear more about the project in the two ground-floor lecture halls where you can meet the architects Birte Rørbæk and Bente Rørbæk Jørgensen and landscape architect Torben Schønherr.

**Katrine Hahn Kristensen, Forest & Landscape, [hahn@life.ku.dk](mailto:hahn@life.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 20 March 2009*

### **From book to book to pure paradise**

The LIFE Library dates back to the good old days of Abildgaard when the Royal Veterinary School was founded in Christianshavn in 1773. Abildgaard was a keen book collector, and in 1783 he donated his entire collection of 2,156 works to the Royal Veterinary School, thus forming the basis for our wonderful library.

Abildgaard's successor at the Royal Veterinary School, Erik Viborg, was also a book lover, and on his study trip in 1787-90, he procured a large collection of academic works in French, German and English, which also became part of the library. Throughout his lifetime, Viborg also maintained close ties to a network of colleagues at the other European veterinary schools, and through trades and purchases he increased the size of the book collection significantly.

Until that time, all the books have been registered in handwritten catalogues, but in 1858 the first printed catalogue was published in honour of the school's move to Frederiksberg and the establishment of a brand new library in the new main building. The library still only had one room at its disposal, and the books, users and librarian had to fight for space in the increasingly confined room.

At the end of the 1890s, the collection had grown to 20,000 works, so more shelves had to be added and some of the books had to be put into storage. At that time, the library was still only open for one hour three days a week. In 1892, Vilhelm Grundtvig, the first full-time librarian, energetically began working on an alphabetical and systematic card catalogue.

The book collection continually grew, especially as a result of the publications by the school's lecturers, so that by the start of the 1900s, the collection rounded 30,000 books. The opening hours had also been expanded to three whole hours a day, and special key-bearers had access to the reading room for no less than 12 hours a day.

Space continued to be an issue, and in 1908 the collection reached 40,000. Finally, in 1921 the library moved into a brand new library wing, which was connected to the main building.

The library staff also grew, keeping pace with the new assignments and extended opening hours. By 1958, there were 12 employees, including several female librarians, and at the very top, it was now all managed by a head librarian. By then, the collection had grown to 200,000 works, so that even the new building was becoming overcrowded, and it was necessary to build extra shelves all over the place and move books down to the narrow and very cramped stacks in the basement. A good deal of time was spent on moving books back and forth from the basement stacks, and it was necessary to close the library for two or three weeks each summer to reorganise everything.

From 1950, a new classification system was introduced, but technology advanced quickly, and suddenly the first baby steps were taken with a computerised catalogue system. Only the staff were allowed to touch the fine new computers, but in 1986, terminals were also installed for the public. The card catalogues were discontinued, and another library system era came to an end.

Computers could not do much for the space problems, however, and finally a major decision was made to do something about the terrible conditions for the books and staff. The entire library building, which was only from 1921, was to be torn down and a modern new library building erected in its place.

The new library building, which was completed in 1995, was a product of the architectural firm Erik Møllers Tegnestue headed by Jens Fredslund, Royal Inspector of Listed State Buildings. The highly successful project resulted in both functional and beautiful surroundings for what is now known as the Faculty of Life Sciences Library.

Interestingly, the new building suits Bindsøll's old main building quite well, and between the two buildings the Library Courtyard has now been established, with architecturally designed ivy triangles, plane trees and crab apple trees. Although several large trees had to be felled in connection with the construction project, the large maple in the grass-covered circle was not touched, and while it is not the most vigorous of trees, it still lives on in the courtyard.

The exterior of the new library building is in yellow brick with areas of blue-glazed tile. The entrance was decorated by Lin Utzon with a large tile frieze depicting climbing vines.

Inside, there is a bright wide-open space with a counter, of course, and innumerable tables with computers for the library's users. Along the walls, are rows and rows of bookcases. It is said that the library has a total of 17 kilometres of bookshelves. Stairs lead up to the first floor where the reading room is located, and again there are tables all over the place where students can sit and work on their computers. In the basement, there is a huge periodicals collection that takes up a lot of space, and it is also possible to go even further down to the underground book stacks.

A variety of small exhibits of veterinary instruments and historical photographs dot the library, and the walls

and floors often feature the various art exhibits of the staff association.

There is a nice atmosphere in the library, and when you walk in you are greeted by a low hum of activity from the many students hard at work studying. We should all feel lucky that the Faculty has such a beautiful paradise of a library.

The LIFE Library is located at Dyrølægevej 10, 1870 Frederiksberg C, and is open Monday-Friday 8 am to 8 pm. Remember it is a public library, so everyone is welcome to use it, not just staff and students.

In the library's attic there is a large 'torture chamber' in the form of a fitness room, where students and members of the staff association can obtain 24-hour access to all the exercise they want at a very reasonable price. I had never been up there before, but had heard about it, so I started out with some light stair climbing – one floor after the other. Near the top, a kind person offered me a chair so that I could catch my breath. It is somewhat disturbing that there isn't even an elevator that goes up there. The fitness room is a combination of heating pipes and other technical installations for the library with rows of exercise machines erected in between. An instructor is probably needed just to get a basic idea of how the machines work, and I wandered about and looked on in awe. The only person there was a veterinary surgeon from the Large Animal Hospital in Taastrup, and while she demonstrated one of the machines for me, she explained that the place was actually not used very much. As I walked down the stairs thinking what a shame it is with all that unused equipment up there, I actually considered starting to work out – but the New Year is far off yet.

*Kim Greiner, Senior Gardener*

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 20 March 2009*

## Announcements

### **Communication courses for scientific and academic staff members**

Do you want to write a thrilling academic article? Or do you want to improve your skills at handling meetings with journalists? PUMA is again offering its two well-tested and popular communication courses for scientific and academic staff at the University of Copenhagen.

On the first course, you will learn how to organise your article/analysis and find a connecting thread. You will also be given good ideas for how your text can be made more accessible and lively. In the second course, you will receive training in how to get your message across, using both theory and practical exercises.

13 May, 9.00 am–4.00 pm – registration deadline: 8 April

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

27 August, 9.00 am–5.30 pm – registration deadline: 23 July

[Forskeren ud i pressen - medietræning i at få dine forskningshistorier ud i medierne](#) (The researcher in the press – training in how to get your research stories into the media)

HR & Organisation/PUMA

Tel.: +45 3532 2659, [puma-info@adm.ku.dk](mailto:puma-info@adm.ku.dk)

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 26 March 2009*

## **Now you can also borrow e-book readers**

On Wednesday 1 April, KUBIS will begin lending e-book readers.

The Library has invested heavily in the acquisition of e-books for some time, and we are now ready to take the next step.

From 1 April the Library's users will be able to loan an e-book reader so that they do not have to read their e-books on the computer screen or print them out on paper.

An e-book reader is an electric apparatus for displaying e-books. A growing number of different models are becoming available, most of which use the eInk screen technology, which is a very reader-friendly screen because it does not tire the eyes and consumes very little power.

There is good evidence to suggest that reading books digitally on e-readers is more environmentally friendly than reading them on paper.

The Library has chosen to invest in Sony's PRS 505 Reader. It has been used in the USA for several years, but is brand new in the European market. The model was chosen for its relative sturdiness and ability to withstand transport in a rucksack better than other models.

The loan period will be one month, and the user can freely download one of the more than 250,000 e-books the Library has now acquired.

For more information, please contact: Christian Knudsen, Special Consultant, tel.: +45 3347 4592 , email: [cbk@kb.dk](mailto:cbk@kb.dk)

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 24 March 2009*

## **Green Deed campaign makes an impact**

The three-week Grøn Gerning (Green Deed) campaign promoting good energy habits is now over. More than 3,500 AutoPowerOff plug banks, 770 on/off timers, 65 green piggies, 15,000 hard candies and many other green items have been handed out. Everyone has done a really great job – and according to the feedback, doing green deeds has turned out to be fun as well.

### **Good results – for the most part**

And the efforts have really paid off! The total energy consumption dropped from the first to the last week of the campaign, corresponding to annual savings for the University of Copenhagen of nearly DKK 2,400,000 in energy expenses, or approx. 700 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>. The savings in heating were particularly excellent, with a reduction of up to 11 per cent.

Read all about your faculty's results here: <http://groengerning.ku.dk/kampagneresultater/> (in Danish)

Remember to participate in the competition – the deadline is Friday 27 March

The deadline for winning fantastic prizes for your entire department/unit has been extended to Friday 27 March. The winners will be announced in calendar week 14.

Only the green ambassador who represents your department/unit can complete the form. And the form may only be completed once, so make sure you have done as many green deeds as possible before completing the form to increase your chances of winning.

<http://groengerning.ku.dk/kampagneresultater/> (in Danish)

### **Promotion of good energy habits continues**

During the three weeks of the campaign, you have helped implement good energy habits, and it is important that these be maintained and developed. This requires recurring focus on not lapsing back into the bad habits, and perhaps you will soon have the energy to implement new changes that were not part of the campaign. We also hope you will introduce new employees and students to the green deeds.

The Grøn Gerning organisation will continue to help you maintain and increase your focus on good energy habits and routines. We will be back with more on that later.

### **Share your green deeds**

- Organise meetings via Skype instead of driving or flying.
- Set your computer screen to turn off automatically via the power settings. See how here: <http://groengerning.ku.dk/kampagneresultater/> (in Danish)
- Expecting to be gone for an extended period of time? – Turn off the heat and have a colleague turn it on again the day before you return.
- Make marks on the electric kettle to show how much water is needed for one cup, a small pot and a large pot.

These are just some of the good ideas that staff and students have shared with us via the website <http://groengerning.ku.dk/forslag/> (in Danish). There is also room for your good ideas.

### **Good energy habits are part of the University's overall energy initiative**

It can be frustrating trying to build up good energy habits if you discover significant energy waste in areas that are out of your control. But do not lose faith, changes are being implemented across the board.

The University has decided to reduce its energy consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 20 per cent by 2013. That is a huge goal, requiring initiatives in a wide variety of areas. Good energy habits are an important part, but there are also major technical, operational and building-related initiatives in the works.

A number of the University's largest and most energy-demanding buildings are currently being reviewed to find out where the greatest savings can be achieved.

Read more about the University of Copenhagen's energy focus here:

[http://klima.ku.dk/groen\\_campus/energiklimainsats/](http://klima.ku.dk/groen_campus/energiklimainsats/)

Keep up the green deeds, they make a difference.

Contact:

Tomas Refslund Poulsen  
Grøn Gerning, Secretariat  
[trp@adm.ku.dk](mailto:trp@adm.ku.dk)

Anders Gerhard Jørgensen

Grøn Gerning, Secretariat

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*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 24 March 2009*

### **Holiday fund: Lottery for Barcelona**

Barcelona is again on the programme for the holiday fund. It is possible to participate in the lottery for rental of the flat in Barcelona in the period 24 May to 20 December. The draws are only for complete weeks (Sunday to Sunday).

The deadline for applications is 7 April 2009. More information is available on the holiday fund's website [www.ferie.ku.dk](http://www.ferie.ku.dk) (in Danish).

**Pia Munk Banche, Feriefonden (holiday fund), [pch@adm.ku.dk](mailto:pch@adm.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 24 March 2009*

### **Agricultural inspections – future perspectives**

JA is hosting a debate meeting for students and anyone else who is interested: Fremtidens landbrugskontrol (Agricultural inspections – future perspectives), Tuesday 31 March, 4–6 pm at KU-LIFE, lecture hall 3-14, Marble Hall, Thorvaldsensvej 40. The debate will be based on *moMentum's* themed publication *Kontrol & kvalitet* (Inspections and quality) from February 2009.

- What characterises quality in inspections?
- What will it take to adapt governmental agricultural control to the Denmark of the future?
- What are the frameworks that inspections set for production and development?
- What role does globalisation play?

Come and hear the interesting presentations by Peter Gæmelke, President of the Danish Agricultural Council, Steffen Damsgaard, Chairman of the Danish Council of Rural Districts, and Anni Kær Pedersen, Chief Consultant, Danish Plant Directorate. Location to be announced in *Jord og Viden* and in the electronic newsletter *Opslaget Onsdag*.

In connection with the debate meeting, JA will be serving a sandwich and a beer or soft drink. Participation is free, but registration is required for planning purposes – [register here](#) (in Danish).

Programme:

4.00 pm Welcome – JA chairwoman, Kirsten Holst

4.05 pm Presentation by Peter Gæmelke, President, Danish Agricultural Council

4.25 pm Presentation by Anni Kær Pedersen, Chief Consultant, Danish Plant Directorate

4.45 pm Presentation by Steffen Damsgaard, Chairman, Danish Council of Rural Districts

5.05 pm Debate

5.45 pm Conclusion and networking with sandwiches, beer and soft drinks

## **Universitetsavisen no. 4 – Will we survive? Gale warning from University's climate congress**

[See here where you can find a \*Universitetsavisen\* newsstand.](#) If your department or unit wants to hand the newspaper out directly to its staff, LIFE-Operations would be happy to leave a stack in the department/unit mail room. Contact John Stone Andersen, Head of Operations, [jsa@life.ku.dk](mailto:jsa@life.ku.dk).

The latest issue of the university newspaper *Universitetsavisen* is out, bringing news, background articles and debate.

### **Gale warning from climate congress**

It was a gloomy message that came out of the University of Copenhagen's major climate congress in Bella Center on 10-12 March. Climate change is unavoidable and the political will to react is crucial to avoid catastrophic results, according to climate researchers from all over the world.

Major theme on the congress. Read pages 8-17

### **Akademisk Boghandel bookshop fights for survival**

The University of Copenhagen's preferred bookshop has applied for suspension of payments, but a rescue plan is in the works to keep the business going. Students can still buy books. Read page 2

### **Fired for research in the wrong subject**

What is the point of freedom of research when a subject area can be abolished because it does not fit into the department's strategy? Researchers at Natural Science are wondering just that after the analytical chemistry course was cut back. Read pages 4-5

### **University focuses on the inner market**

From September, all faculties at the University of Copenhagen are required to plan their study programmes according to the same year and timetable structure. This should make it easier for students to compose their studies across the traditional boundaries. Read pages 6-7

### **The Muslim is the Jew of our day**

A new PhD thesis documents significant similarities between how Danish politicians spoke about Jews before World War II and how they speak about immigrants today. Read pages 18-19

Section 1: Researchers need free time for own ideas, page 5/ Climate congress pages 8-17: A gloomy update – climate report, pages 8-9/ Two degrees of understanding – closing session, pages 10-11/ On catching a coal turkey – interview with James Hansen, page 12/ To deaf ears – interview with Johan Rockström, page 13/ Pork chops without borders – interview with Annette Reenberg, pages 14-15/ Top climate researchers teach at University of Copenhagen, page 16/ Youth of the world gambled with the climate, page 17/ Future climate negotiators at summit, page 17

Section 2: Towards a sustainable masculinity, page 1/ Calendar and announcements, pages 2-6/ Names, pages 6-7/ KUmmentar, page 8

Read the newspaper online as e-pages at <http://www.e-pages.dk/ku/202> (in Danish)

Or as a PDF file <http://www.e-pages.dk/ku/202/fullpdf/full.pdf> (in Danish)

Have fun!

Kind regards, Richard Bisgard, editor

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 19 March 2009*

## Education

### **Trainee at Danida in Bhutan**

The Liaison Office of Denmark (LOD) in Thimphu, Bhutan, is calling for a trainee with interest in development assistance, especially within the area of private sector support. The daily work at the LOD is directed at the three main programme areas: The Social Sector Programme Support (Health and Education), the Environment and Urban Sector Programme and the Good Governance Support Programme. Furthermore, the LOD provides support for strengthening the private sector.

### **About the traineeship at LOD**

The purpose of the traineeship is to give the trainee insight into the work of a small Danish representation office, mainly working with the administration of development assistance. Focus for this internship will be on promoting private sector support. In general, the trainee will handle ad hoc tasks regarding development assistance and should be prepared to get involved in all the working areas of the representation office, i.e. writing reports/minutes, participate in meetings, answering various requests, editing the homepage, helping organise official visit, assisting with evaluation tasks etc. The trainee is expected to work on a trainee report on a topic relevant to his/her university studies.

### **Expectations of the trainee**

- Completed Bachelor Degree in a relevant field (exam papers must be sent with the application)
- Relevant academic and/or work experience within the area of private sector support
- Proficiency in written and oral English (Working language at LOD is English)
- Proficiency in IT (Experience with homepage editing is an advantage)
- High degree of independence is requested
- The trainee is expected to work on a trainee report on a topic that is relevant to LOD and the trainee's studies.

### **Period of traineeship**

The vacant traineeship period will be from 20 August 2009 to 15 February 2010.

### **Terms of Traineeship**

LOD will provide accommodation and a small monthly contribution to cover the living costs. The trainee will be responsible for covering all other expenses, incl. travel expenses to/from Bhutan, vaccinations, insurance etc.

### **Application**

The application should be approx. one A4 page and should be written in English.

CV in English as well as documentation of exam results should be sent by email along with the application to:

Liaison Office Denmark

Post Box 614

Thimphu, Bhutan

Email: [pbhrpk@um.dk](mailto:pbhrpk@um.dk)

Fax: +975 322813

Please write in the subject field: 'Application for Trainee'

Any questions regarding the traineeship can be sent to the present trainee, Thomas Land Christiansen at email: [thochr@um.dk](mailto:thochr@um.dk)

Deadline for application: 15 April 2009

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 20 March 2009*

## Staff news

### **Inaugural lecture: Professor Hanne Frøkiær**

Professor with special responsibilities in biochemistry and natural compounds Hanne Frøkiær will be giving her inaugural lecture on Friday, 3 April 2009 at 2 pm in auditorium 3-03, Thorvaldsensvej 40.

The lecture will be followed by a reception at the Department of Basic Sciences and Environment, Thorvaldsensvej 40, 5th floor, room R545.

Title of lecture: Mechanisms behind immune modulating effects of food components and microorganisms.

**Dorte Persson, Department of Basic Sciences and Environment, [dope@life.ku.dk](mailto:dope@life.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 24 March 2009*

### **Professor Annemarie Thuri Kristensen appointed member of the EU 7th Framework Programme for Research**

On 9 March 2009, Professor Annemarie Thuri Kristensen, Department of Small Animal Science, was appointed member of the reference group for the EU 7th Framework Programme for Research – Health focus area by the Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation.

She was nominated for the appointment by the University of Copenhagen.

The reference group is expected to act as a living and active forum with ongoing dialogue and information sharing between the Danish members of the EU's programme committee and the research area's Danish stakeholders.

*Asger Lundorff Jensen*

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 23 March 2009*

# Research

## **CO<sub>2</sub> deposits in forest soil – the role of nitrogen**

The VILLUM KANN RASMUSSEN FONDEN has awarded a grant of DKK 3.3 million to a research project on carbon binding in forest soil. The project will focus in particular on the degree to which air pollution in the form of nitrogen can have a positive impact on carbon binding and, consequently, on CO<sub>2</sub> deposits in forest soil.

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

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 26 March 2009*

## **Bibliometric indicator project seriously criticised by specialist groups**

A large majority of the 68 specialist groups who have contributed to the Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation's bibliometric project has now submitted a sharply worded protest over the working processes and the so-called authority lists which are to form part of the basis for future budget allocations to the universities. Since spring 2008, the specialist groups have contributed to the selection of journals and publishing houses and to their subsequent grouping into levels, which are to be used in connection with point allocation.

The criticism refers partly to the poor collaboration between the academic groups and the Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation's academic committee, which has not listened to the comments by the specialists during the process, and partly to the results of the project, which in many cases differ significantly from the recommendations of the specialist groups. However, the results have been published on the Agency's website anyway in the form of a list of more than 20,000 journals and publishing houses grouped into two levels, which will trigger the award of various points.

A total of 54 of the 68 specialist group chairpersons have signed the protest – including a majority among the health science groups. The protest has been sent to the steering committee for the indicator project, whose members include the rectors from the University of Copenhagen, Aarhus University and University of Southern Denmark. In direct response, the chairwoman of the steering committee, Director Inge Mærkedahl, has summoned all 68 specialist group chairpersons to a dialogue meeting on 31 March in order to discuss possible solutions.

[Read the letter from the specialist groups here](#)

(in Danish)

Michael Gjedde Palmgren, Chairman of Specialist Group 44 (Biotechnology)

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 23 March 2009*

## **Upper secondary school students want to be researchers**

The national talent competition for young aspiring researchers has just been launched for the 12<sup>th</sup> year in a row. And the young upper secondary students seem very keen to try life as a researcher. This year, when the University of Copenhagen traditionally opens its doors to the aspiring researchers on 20-21 March for two days of academic and social interaction, 172 aspiring researchers will be on the list of participants.

"That's 50 more than last year. It's nice to see that upper secondary students have really opened their eyes up to the special opportunities for putting their research talents to the tests. During the two days at the University of Copenhagen, the aspiring researchers will be prepared academically and socially for continuing to work with their research ideas," says Lisbeth Ihlemann, project coordinator, University of Copenhagen.

### **From stem cells to *Warcraft***

Each aspiring researcher has submitted a description of their dream research project, and there has definitely been no lack of imagination. Project titles include: "Can stem cells repair the brain?", "Is the Danish language becoming extinct?", "*World of Warcraft* addiction – fact or fiction?" and "Deep-sea fish and organ rejection". Projekt Forskerspirer (Aspiring Researchers Project) is the only talent project in Denmark that allows young people to conduct research within the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences or life and health sciences. [See all the project ideas](#) (in Danish).

"The life and health sciences area is a huge hit among this year's aspiring researchers. Many projects deals with health and disease, and it is impressive to see how much the students have grasped of the often extremely complex scientific issues," says Lisbeth Ihlemann, who goes on to add that the hope of making a difference with their research project is an important source of inspiration and a driving force for many aspiring researchers.

### **About Projekt Forskerspirer**

The deadline is 30 October for submitting complete project descriptions to the competition to become Aspiring Researcher of the Year, and the winners will be selected in mid-December. One winner will be selected for each of the four categories, and they will each receive DKK 20,000 to carry out their projects.

Projekt Forskerspirer has been developed as a joint venture between upper secondary schools in Denmark and several Danish universities, and is coordinated by the University of Copenhagen. [Read more about Projekt Forskerspirer](#) (in Danish).

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 20 March 2009*

## **Danish Biotechnological Society and Danish Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology**

Invitation – all students and staff are welcome.

3rd Annual Biotechnology Lecture and Awards. Thursday 23 April 2009, 2–5 pm, Lundbeck Auditorium, BioCentre, University of Copenhagen, Ole Maaløes vej 5, Copenhagen N. [Programme](#).

Nobel Prize 2008 meeting – Viruses and cancer. Tuesday 28 April 2009, 1–5 pm, Lundbeck Auditorium, BioCentre, University of Copenhagen, Ole Maaløes vej 5, Copenhagen N. [Programme](#).

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 19 March 2009*

## **Grants**

### **SHARE Post.doc grants 2009 – Deadline for applications is 1 May 2009**

SHARE – "Synergy in Human and Animal Research" is a strategic research initiative at the Faculty of Life Sciences, University of Copenhagen. SHARE has its primary focus on animal models and the synergy between research in human and animal diseases to develop an innovative and integrated approach to improved medical care in animals and humans. SHARE's aim is to support interdisciplinary research collaboration

SHARE offers two partly financed two-year postdoc grants. The project theme must include aspects of animal modelling of human diseases and be within at least one of SHARE's core areas, i.e.

- The molecular basis of disease
- Inflammation and haemostasis
- Cancer
- Ethical and welfare aspects

Applicants must have an agreement with the LIFE department where they expect to carry out the project, and formally the grant will be paid to that department.

The SHARE grant will fund 50 per cent of the salary for the successful candidate, while the remaining salary and project costs must be financed from other sources.

Deadline for applications is 1 May 2009

To learn more about SHARE and the criteria for SHARE postdoc grants and to acquire the application form go to [www.share.life.ku.dk](http://www.share.life.ku.dk) > Research > SHARE grants.

**Peter Talarek-Andersen, Department of Small Animal Science, [pban@life.ku.dk](mailto:pban@life.ku.dk)**

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### **The Carlsberg Foundation – deadline for applications is 15 April**

The Carlsberg Foundation will be distributing a number of grants in 2009. A total of DKK 80,000 will be available.

The grants can be used for e.g.:

- a) Remuneration for temporary scientific or technical assistance required for the completion of scientific work.
- b) Purchase of specific scientific aids.
- c) Short-term relief of scientists to allow the completion of specific scientific work.

The grants are awarded to basic scientific research projects which are expected to influence Danish farming and animal husbandry.

Application forms are available on LIFE's website and must be submitted to the Faculty of Life Sciences, Study and Students' Affairs, Bülowsvej 17, 1870 Frederiksberg C, by 15 April 2009 at the latest.

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

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## **Research funds etc.**

See the updated information on the Research & Information website.