



eLIFE – news on life at LIFE

Thursday 7 May 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

Inspiration – not dictates

A wide variety of opinions were represented when Business Affairs hosted a debate on whether the credibility of the universities and of the individual researchers is still credible when looking at the consequences of collaboration with the business community and the commercialisation of research findings.

In the invitation, Dean Per Holten-Andersen wrote, "The Faculty's credibility is crucial, not just for LIFE researchers but also for our stakeholders in the business community".

At the meeting, the Dean made it clear that we want to collaborate with the business community. It is a source of inspiration for both researchers and students. We need to be inspired, but not dictated to!

He encouraged the universities to discuss among themselves what norms should apply to business collaboration, and he emphasised that it should be a set of norms, not a set of rules.

A detailed summary from the meeting will be available soon. The University of Copenhagen newspaper *Universitetsavisen* will also be printing an article on the subject.

The debate took place on Wednesday 6 May 2009. Read the [invitation and statements from the panel](#)

[members](#).

Afterwards, Business Affairs hosted the annual Invention Champagne reception where LIFE inventors are celebrated. See the [Business Affairs website](#) (in Danish).

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gjb@life.ku.dk – latest update 7 May 2009

Green Marble Hall

A student project to create a greener indoor environment is now a reality! Last weekend, the Marble Hall was furnished with a number of very large aluminium containers that fit in very well with the timeless style of the Hall. The containers each hold a very large and beautiful plant that gives the space life and a pleasant atmosphere.

The project was initiated and realised by a group of plant-loving students at LIFE. The idea came about after a study excursion to Aarhus University's Flakkebjerg Research Centre more than a year ago. Flakkebjerg has an almost rainforest-like vestibule, and this inspired the students to also create a greener and more interesting environment at LIFE.

The project, which consists of four large aluminium containers in the Marble Hall and nine planters with trellised climbers in the first part of Vandrehallen, has received funding from the University of Copenhagen's school environment pool and the LIFE management. Two of the plans are sponsored by LIFE's Greenhouses at Rolighedsvej, the remaining come from Sicily via the Copenhagen Wholesale Market! The plants are watered and cared for every week by a group of students.

Enjoy them! And think about how plants can fill a space with life and add character. Help care for the plants in the midst of LIFE's fantastic study and working environment!

Bjarne Larsen, horticultural science student

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gjb@life.ku.dk – latest update 5 May 2009

Rostrup – our almost world-famous botanist

In the Faculty's listed gardens, there is a large bust of Emil Rostrup who looks out over the old gardens from his high pedestal. Since the bust is placed in the gardens and not in the Main Building with its waxed floors or in the row of busts at the Anatomy Building, one assumes that he must have had something to do with botany, which, of course, he did.

Emil Rostrup was born in 1831 on the Danish island of Lolland. As a boy he spent a good deal of time in the great outdoors and was his own teacher, so at an early age he began to see nature through the eyes of a natural scientist. As a young man, he worked briefly as clerk at Juellinge Estate Office with his father, Estate Supervisor and Privy Councillor Georg Rostrup. However, getting all that ink on his fingers became a bit too dull, and he found himself staring longingly out the windows. So he quickly earned a preliminary diploma and later a degree in applied natural science at the College of Advanced Technology (now Technical University of Denmark).

For many years, he taught natural science and mathematics at Skaarup College of Education until 1883 when

he became a lecturer and later associate professor in plant pathology at the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University (now LIFE). Emil Rostrup was not one for resting on his laurels and was always actively performing various honorary offices from state consultant on plant diseases to chairman of both the Seed Testing Commission and the Royal Danish Horticultural Society, and he was awarded an honorary doctorate by the Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters.

He published a number of academic works on flora and participated in the excavation of kitchen middens from the Stone Age. However, his special interest was fungi, and he published innumerable articles, papers and books on mycology, and although the book *Danmarks Laver* (Lichen of Denmark) may not initially seem the most interesting work, it was as a mycologist and plant pathologist that Rostrup became well-known outside Denmark. He was, therefore, admitted to various foreign associations and often received interesting foreign guests who were given tours of his beautiful and extensive plant pathology collection at LIFE. It is also worth noting that for several years Rostrup was *efor* (according to the encyclopaedia, *eforos* in ancient Sparta was a higher official who saw to it that the king observed the constitution etc.) and chairman of the Garden Committee of the LIFE Gardens.

Among laymen, Rostrup is best known for his work *Rostrups Flora*, which was an indispensable part of botany instruction at upper secondary schools and other institutions in Denmark. The book contained a key that could be used by readers well-versed in botanical morphology to find a specific plant which was accompanied by a brief description. If the description did not fit the plant, it was necessary to go back a step or two and try again. There were no shortcuts with colourful photos, just black and white drawings, the key and the ever-so-important magnifying glass to guide the reader.

The book was first published in 1860 as a "guide to the flora of Denmark", and its full title was *Den danske Flora* (The Flora of Denmark), but colloquially it was simply called *Rostrups Flora*. In 1935, the 15th nearly unchanged edition was published, after which it was revised by one C.A. Jørgensen, and was subsequently referred to as Rostrup/Jørgensen: *Den danske Flora*. It was not until 1973 after the publishing of the 20th edition that the name was changed, and it has since been published by various editors under the title *Dansk feltflora* (Field Flora of Denmark).

Rostrup was ultimately granted an honorary doctorate at the University of Copenhagen as well as the title of Professor at LIFE. Even though he kept many puffballs in the air throughout his life, he always remained steady and calm in a well-grounded way, and never showed signs of stress.

Rostrup travelled far and wide throughout Denmark to study the nature of his country, but foreign travel was not his favourite pastime, and he found it exceedingly taxing to leave his native country even for just a brief period of time.

Like many other professors and researchers from the University, Rostrup has had a street named in his honour. And since only positive things can be said of Rostrup, his bust deserves a kind thought and a polite nod as we hurry by.

Rostrup probably had no need for the trick which old professors often share with new professors of botany: "Remember to always walk ahead of the students when on a plant excursion." "Why?", the new professor asks. "That way, if you see a plant you don't know, you can step on it and tell them about some of the other plants."

Kim Greiner, Senior Gardener

Danish Government presented its Green Growth proposal at Café Væksthuset

On Thursday 30 April, the Danish Government presented its [Grøn Vækst](#) (Green Growth) proposal at Frederiksberg Campus.

Four ministers participated:

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Economic and Business Affairs Lene Espersen, Minister for the Environment Troels Lund Poulsen, Minister for Climate and Energy Connie Hedegaard and Minister for Food, Agriculture and Fisheries Eva Kjer Hansen.

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 5 May 2009

Announcements

Take care in the area around Forest & Landscape

In connection with the construction of the new Forest & Landscape building at Rolighedsvej, there has been a good deal of trespassing at the site that is not related to the project.

Both by visitors and by LIFE's own staff.

For safety reasons, we want to make it clear to everyone that all traffic to/from the area outside the construction site MUST take place on the roads/paths established around the site. Trespassers are not permitted on the construction site.

It has also been made clear to the workers at the construction site that the area around the site is still 'LIFE premises' and that they should, of course, show some consideration.

Please see [this plan for the site](#), where the construction site and the common access roads are marked.

Henrik R. R. Boch

Technical Project Manager, Engineer

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 7 May 2009

Courses currently offered

Want to be a better project manager? Then register for [LIFE's project management course](#) which is being offered this autumn 2009.

There are still places available on the following PUMA courses:

27–28 May: [Velkommen til Københavns Universitet \(Welcome to the University of Copenhagen\)](#)

29 May: [Grundkursus for Medlemmer af Samarbejdsudvalg](#) (Basic Course for Works Council Members)

29 May: [Fønix Persongruppesystemet \(Fønix Staff Group System\)](#)

2–4 June: [Projektledelse Module B](#) (Project Management Module B)

8–10 June: [Specialkursus i Førstehjælp ved Udstationering i Arktiske eller Tropiske Egne](#) (Specialisation Course)

on First-aid in Arctic and Tropical Regions)

Click the links to read more. See also www.kursuskatalog.ku.dk for other offers from HR & Organisation/PUMA.
Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 6 May 2009

Denmark in the EU – What should our priority be in the next electoral period

LIFE is hosting one of the largest EU electoral debates for young Danish EU politicians/frontrunners on Thursday 14 May 2009 at 2.15 pm in lecture hall 3-13, Thorvaldsensvej 40 (Marble Hall).

Chairman of the meeting: Director Henrik Zobbe, Institute of Food and Resource Economics

Participate in debates with:

- Sofie Casten-Nielsen, Social Liberal Party (B) frontrunner
- Morten Messerschmidt, Danish People's Party (DF) frontrunner
- Christian Wedell-Neergaard, Conservative Party (C) candidate
- Emilie Turunen, Socialist People's Party (SF) candidate
- Louise Feilberg, Liberal Party (V) candidate
- Claus Larsen-Jensen, Social Democratic Party (A) candidate

Should it be:

- Sofie's Health and legal policy
- Morten's Metock – the decision and the open borders
- Louise's Consumer policy
- or something completely different?

[Word document for print \(in Danish\)](#)

Lartey Lawson, Institute of Food and Resource Economics, law@foi.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 6 May 2009

Universitetsavisen no. 6

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

[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.

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 5 May 2009

Free consultation on searches for literature

The library offers one free, personal consultation on how to perform literature searches by one of the library's subject specialists.

This is to help students conduct targeted searches in literature databases based on their own well-defined topics.

You can read more about consultations on the Library website, where you can also find a form and guidelines: <http://www.bvfb.life.ku.dk/kv/konsult.aspx>.

A consultation lasts approx. 1 hour. If you are working as part of a group, the whole group is welcome, and you will then be offered a longer session.

Please contact the research librarian responsible for your subject area by completing a form and submitting it by email. We use the form to prepare the consultation.

We look forward to seeing you!

Kind regards,

The research librarians at the Faculty of Life Sciences Library

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

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

Course on handling chemical waste

We are again offering courses on handling chemical waste. They will be on Wednesday 3 June at LIFE and Thursday 4 June at FARMA. The courses are open to all University of Copenhagen staff who work with chemical waste.

Maj-Britt Stærfeldt will be present at the courses at LIFE to answer any questions. [Read more here](#) (in Danish).

Registration on a first-come-first-served basis at the website: www.sikkerkemi.ku.dk (in Danish).

Rikke M. Fatum, Buildings and Operation, rmf@life.ku.dk

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

1st European Universities Golf Championship

On behalf the European Universities Sports Association (EUSA), the University of Algarve Student Union is organising the 1st EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP in Lagoa - Algarve – Portugal on 1-7 September 2009.

The competition will take place at the Pestana Golf Resort - Gramacho, Vale da Pinta and Silves golf courses. In 2007, the Student Union created a golf project at the University of Algarve with the aim of bringing the student community and the world of golf together with the organisation of the Annual Golf Circuit and Universities Portuguese Open.

The success of these events has encouraged us to apply to organise the 1st European Golf Championship. Algarve is well-known for its excellent golf environment and the Pestana golf courses host many competitions.

The 1st EUROPEAN UNIVERSITIES GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP is open to all European students representing their university.

For more information, please contact us:

desporto@aaualg.pt Tel. (0351) 289 818 606

Websites for entry forms:

www.eusa.eu | www.eucgolf2009.com

EUG '09 Organising Committee

University of Algarve Student Union | Associação Académica da Universidade do Algarve

Rua das Violetas

Lote O R/C 8000-000 Faro

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gjb@life.ku.dk – latest update 5 May 2009

Brain and Mind Forum 2009

Conference for young scientists in Denmark, LO-skolen, Helsingør, 22-24 September 2009.

Read more at www.bmm.ku.dk - and here

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gjb@life.ku.dk – latest update 5 May 2009

Wanted: good ideas

Junior Researcher Forum 2009-2010: 5th season starts in September!

What do you want to hear about in the Junior Researcher Forum next season?

Send suggestions to Jette Fugl, jfu@life.ku.dk

Read more: www.juniorforskercafe.life.ku.dk (in Danish)

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gjb@life.ku.dk – latest update 5 May 2009

Education

FN's e-newsletter for May

Christmas lasts until Easter as the Danes say. And In Denmark, summer appears to begin in April and last until September – where is the logic?

Here is some news (in Danish) about what is going on in FN – your academic association: [FN e-newsletter for May 2009](#).

On behalf of the FN board,
Jens Møller Christoffersen, PR Coordinator, FN

In this issue, you can read about:

- FN office-sharing with the landscape architects (FLS)
- The problem with YES?!
- General Meeting – mark your calendar!
- Junior Research Forum
- FN at the Academic Committee Festival

- VCTA 2009
- May Party
- After-hours climate lecture
- Comic Corner – hilarious news

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gjb@life.ku.dk – latest update 7 May 2009

SU no longer at LIFE

This is information primarily for Danish students about the Danish State Education Grant and Loan Scheme (SU).

On Monday 4 May the SU Office at LIFE will merge with the central SU Office at the University of Copenhagen in the centre of Copenhagen.

Therefore, if you have questions about your SU, or if you want to apply for SU, you should contact the SU Office at Fiolstræde 22, 1014 Copenhagen or at +45 3314 1536 / su-kontoret@adm.ku.dk.

The opening hours are Monday–Friday 10 am-3 pm – telephone hours are Monday-Friday 9 am-4 pm, Tuesdays from 10 am and Fridays until 3 pm.

Read more about SU for foreign citizens at <http://www.su.dk/English/Sider/default.aspx>.

Mads Andersen, Study and Students' Affairs, maa@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gjb@life.ku.dk – latest update 6 May 2009

Research

Higher subsidies for Industrial PhDs

News from the Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation: Now companies and universities can receive higher subsidies for Industrial PhD projects. Companies can also apply for a number of Industrial PhD projects without having to name candidates beforehand.

The pay subsidies for appointing Industrial PhDs in private companies is being increased from DKK 12,500 to DKK 14,500 a month. The Danish Council for Technology and Innovation has decided to increase the total pay subsidies for the company over the three-year period of an Industrial PhD project to DKK 522,000.

But companies are not the only recipients of subsidies; universities participating in Industrial PhD projects will also receive more funding. The funding that goes to universities over the three-year period has been increased from up to DKK 300,000 to up to DKK 360,000.

Helge Sander, Danish Minister for Science, Technology and Innovation, says about the decision:

“The increase in the public subsidies will hopefully encourage both companies and universities to use the Industrial PhD scheme even more. In this way, we are expanding a very important bridge for knowledge transfer and knowledge spread between universities and the business community.”

In future, companies can also win approval of up to five projects without naming candidates as a supplement to the standard procedures where a candidate is named in the application. Once projects without named candidates are approved, the company can find and appoint the appropriate candidates. This gives the individual company better leeway for planning its research efforts and makes it easier to initiate more than one Industrial PhD project at a time.

A total of 119 Industrial PhD projects were approved in 2008. The government's goal is for 150 projects to be initiated in 2010.

Further information:

Helge Sander, Danish Minister for Science, Technology and Innovation, can be contacted through Allan Boldt, Information Manager, Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, abo@vtu.dk, tel.: +45 3392 9739

Secretariat for the Industrial PhD scheme: Ditte Mesick, dtme@fi.dk, tel.: +45 3544 6213. See also www.erhvervsphd.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 6 May 2009

Grants

The Danish Kauffman Global Scholarship Program 2009-2010 – application deadline: 7 June

Are you a student at a Danish university or a new graduate, and do you have a project you want to carry out? Then we have a good offer for you: A six-month stay in the USA in 2010 with contact to some of the best universities and communities of entrepreneurs in the world, combined with a three-month internship at an advanced American company that can support you in the development of your project. The deadline for the submission of applications is 7 June 2009.

[Read more here](#) (in Danish) [Application form](#)

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 6 May 2009

LIFE's International Fund

The Faculty's International Fund is administered by the LIFE International Committee, which is chaired by Grete Bertelsen, Pro-dean for Education. The funding is earmarked for the internationalisation of the Faculty's study programmes.

The framework grant for the International Fund in 2009 is DKK 1,379,000.

What qualifies for funding?

Participation in international study programmes

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

Outgoing teacher mobility

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

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

You can read more about funding opportunities in the regulations, which can be found on the International Fund website (in Danish). Here, you will also find a link to the application form.

Application deadlines for 2009:

1 April

1 May

1 June

1 July

1 August

1 September

1 October

1 November

1 December

Kristina Fontel, vice-chair of the VeterinærMedicinsk Rejseforening (VMR – Veterinary Travel Association), IVSA Denmark, has written the following brief description of how VMR has benefited from the fund:

VMR has used LIFE's International Fund to attend international veterinary student conferences and symposia hosted by the International Veterinary Students Association (IVSA). Attending these events has given our members some fantastic experiences – professional as well as social.

For instance, we have learned the answers to the following questions:

- How are bulls raised for bullfighting?
- What is the attitude towards bullfighting in Spain?
- Does an SDM herd look the same in Denmark and Turkey?
- Is Istanbul really as big as everyone says?
- What are the facilities like at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine in Malaysia?
- Do Scottish men wear kilts for a night on the town?
- What do veterinary students in Grenada do to promote animal welfare on the island?

Without the financial support of the International Fund, we would not have been able to participate in IVSA's activities and, thus, learn the answers to these and many other questions.

Danish veterinary students have also been active on IVSA's board. The International Fund has made it possible for IVSA Denmark to participate in live meetings in, for example, Slovenia.

Christina Stigaard, Study and Students' Affairs, chst@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gfb@life.ku.dk – latest update 5 May 2009

Grant awarded

Professor Sigurd Tovborg Thomsens Legat was awarded on 5 May 2009 – the recipients have been notified directly. Letters of rejection will not be sent.

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

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 5 May 2009

Research funds etc.

See the updated information on the Research & Information website.