



## eLIFE – news on life at LIFE

Thursday 14 January 2010

Email to the editors: [elife@life.ku.dk](mailto:elife@life.ku.dk)

The final deadline for editorial changes is Wednesday before the publication of eLIFE on Thursday.

The online newsletter may be subject to editorial changes.

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

### **New Associate Dean wants to strengthen collaboration between academia and business**

As of 1 April 2010, Erik Bisgaard Madsen has been appointed Associate Dean for Research at the Faculty of Life Sciences (LIFE), University of Copenhagen. Erik Bisgaard Madsen's ambition is to strengthen LIFE's collaboration with national and international research institutions. He also wants to improve LIFE's collaboration with the business community, especially the biotech companies that are emerging in Denmark and abroad.

Erik Bisgaard Madsen, who is 54 years old and holds an MSc in veterinary medicine and a PhD, will be taking up the position as Associate Dean for Research at LIFE with the special objective of further strengthening collaboration between the research and business communities. His aim is to ensure that the results from cutting-edge research are fully exploited for the benefit of both society and business. He will focus, in particular, on strengthening areas aimed at the biotech sector and sectors that contribute to the climate-friendly production of foods. Erik Bisgaard Madsen intends to establish stronger ties between LIFE and national and international partners. He plans to improve the Faculty's ability to attract the external funding that is becoming increasingly important to Danish universities. Finally, he wants to further develop and internationalise the PhD programme.

Erik Bisgaard Madsen is driven by a lifelong interest in developing a sustainable agricultural sector that

produces high-quality foods for our tables based on consideration for our natural resources. Throughout his career, which began in a veterinary clinic in Western Jutland, he has stayed in touch with the research community and developed his network. He wants to focus on the entire chain from basic research to production, product and consumer. By virtue of his comprehensive network of contacts, Erik Bisgaard Madsen hopes to make a positive contribution to LIFE's networks and collaboration with the outside world.

Erik Bisgaard Madsen comes from a position as Director of Food Safety and Veterinary Affairs at the Danish Agriculture & Food Council. He holds a degree in veterinary medicine, a PhD and a BComm. His previous positions include Vice President of the Danish Bacon & Meat Council (Danske Slagterier) and of the Danish Meat Association. He has also worked at the Danish Veterinary Serum Institute (now the National Veterinary Institute at DTU) and at a veterinary clinic. For a number of years, he has been Chairman of the Danish Council for Strategic Research Programme Commission on Health, Food and Welfare. He is also a member of the DTU Board, the Danish Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fisheries' Food Inspection Committee and the Food, Agriculture and Fisheries Advisory Board (Det Rådgivende Fødevarerudvalg).

Erik Bisgaard Madsen replaces Torben Greve, who is stepping down as Associate Dean for Research after five years.

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 14 January 2010*

### **Who should receive the LIFE Communication Award 2010?**

At the celebration of LIFE's birthday on Monday 8 March, we will also be handing out the LIFE Communication Award. But who should the award go to this year? Nominations and motivations can be submitted to LIFE Communications at [caa@life.ku.dk](mailto:caa@life.ku.dk) until den 27 January.

The LIFE Communication Award is presented every year to an employee or student at LIFE who has made an extraordinary contribution to the dissemination and communication of LIFE's research to the University's non-academic stakeholders, including potential students, the business community and the general public.

The communication award reflects the fact that LIFE emphasises, recognises and seeks to promote popular science and the communication activities that fall outside traditional research and teaching activities.

**Charlotte Aabo, Communications, [caa@life.ku.dk](mailto:caa@life.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 13 January 2010*

### **Role models wanted!**

The Faculty Management at LIFE has adopted an action plan to get more women to choose a career in research and management.

The Danish Consolidation Act on Gender Equality (*Lov om ligestilling af kvinder og mænd*) states that when appointing members to boards, councils or committees, all public authorities – including LIFE – must recommend both men and women.

When appointing more than one member, the appointments must be distributed equally among men and women.

The Faculty Management therefore encourages everybody to always consider whether a female candidate can be recommended or appointed, e.g. to research councils, for honorary doctorates, to assessment committees or as honorary alumni, keynote speakers, chairpersons, award winners etc.

We do this because visible female role models increase the likelihood that other women will follow in their footsteps.

Furthermore, research shows that women are not invited as often to participate in the professional networks that their male colleagues are a natural part of.

So invite them to join you!

Grete Bertelsen

Associate Dean for Education

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 13 January 2010*

## Announcements

### **Sonning Prize 2010**

The German author Hans Magnus Enzensberger has had a long and important literary career. On 2 February, he will receive the Sonning Prize, and you are invited to attend the ceremony.

The ceremony will take place on Tuesday 2 February at 2 pm in the Ceremonial Hall, University of Copenhagen, Frue Plads, Copenhagen K. Registration is required. Please send an email to: [sonning@adm.ku.dk](mailto:sonning@adm.ku.dk) by 26 January.

Please note, the event will take place in English and German.

For more information on the Sonning Prize, please see [www.ku.dk/sonningprisen](http://www.ku.dk/sonningprisen).

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 13 January 2010*

### **The lottery for renting the holiday fund's properties is now open**

It is now possible to enter the lottery for renting the holiday fund's properties in the period 29 May–19 December 2010.

Please enter via kvikbook on the holiday fund's website at: [www.ferie.ku.dk](http://www.ferie.ku.dk). The deadline for registering is 22 January 2010.

Smoking prohibited in holiday properties:

As of 29 May 2010, smoking is no longer permitted in the holiday fund's properties. Please note: Smoking is already prohibited in the holiday properties outside Denmark.

New holiday fund property – house in Frigiliana in Southern Spain.

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 13 January 2010*

### **ITLC offers courses in Absalon and Excel in February and March**

In February and March, the IT Learning Center is offering the following courses: 'Introduktion til Absalon' (Introduction to Absalon), 'Brug Absalons testværktøj, karakterbog og e-portfolie aktivt i din undervisning' (Using Absalon's test tool, grade book and e-portfolio actively in your teaching) and 'Excel grundkursus og anvendelse af grafik' (Basic course in Excel and use of graphics).

See the list of courses and register at: <http://www.itlc.life.ku.dk/kurser>.

All courses are for staff, and participation is free of charge.

The courses being offered are:

**- Introduktion til Absalon (Introduction to Absalon)**

This course is for lecturers and other employees who want to learn the basic functions available in Absalon.

**- Brug Absalons testværktøj, karakterbog og e-portfolie aktivt i din undervisning (Using Absalon's test tool, grade book and e-portfolio actively in your teaching)**

This course is for lecturers who want to use Absalon's advanced functions, such as the test tool, the grade book and the e-portfolio. The course is based on your needs and ideas and uses presentations and exercises to show how you can use Absalon in your teaching.

The objective is to provide you with an overview of your options and enable you to use Absalon actively when you teach.

**- Excel grundkursus og anvendelse af grafik (Basic course in Excel and use of graphics)**

This course is for anyone interested in a basic introduction to the many functions available in Excel.

Register at: <http://www.itlc.life.ku.dk/kurser>

All courses take place in the afternoon from 1 to 5 pm in room H60, the Library, Dyrsløgevej 10.

**Søren Larsen, ITLC, [larsen@life.ku.dk](mailto:larsen@life.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 13 January 2010*

## **Would you like to be part of the International Mentor Network**

International Staff Mobility (ISM) is starting up our third mentor network, and invites you to join. You will get the chance to have a Danish mentor, and to meet with many other researchers from abroad. [Please read invitation here.](#)

If you wish to join, please [complete this form](#) and return to [annch@adm.ku.dk](mailto:annch@adm.ku.dk).

**Ann Lee Berger Christensen, International Mentor Network, [annch@adm.ku.dk](mailto:annch@adm.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 13 January 2010*

## **No lending or returning of books and other materials during the period 15-24 January 2010**

The REX library system is being upgraded to a new system version from 15-24 January 2010, both days included. Consequently, there will be no lending or returning of books and journals, and it will not be possible to order books and journals from the stacks.

The search facilities in [REX](#) and access to [e-resources](#) will not be affected.

#### **Details**

12 January: Last day for orders via [www.bibliotek.dk](#) before 7 am

13 January: Last day for ordering books via REX before 7 am

14 January: Last day for lending and returning books and journals

15 January: Closed for lending and returning books and journals

25 January: Book ordering will reopen at 7 am

We will extend the loan period for books which would otherwise expire in the week beginning Monday 25 January 2010. This also applies to the period for picking up books.

We regret any inconvenience this may cause our users.

We look forward to welcoming you to a new and better version of our library system from Monday 25 January 2010.

*Web editor, [bvfb@life.ku.dk](mailto:bvfb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 5 January 2010*

## Education

### **Rubicon Contest**

From 8-10 March 2010, 20 teams, consisting of four students each, will have the opportunity to face the challenge of their lifetime and compete in the Rubicon Contest 2010 in an international environment. The Rubicon Contest is an international contest for business students from all over the world. This is the fourth time it will be organised and hosted by students of the collegiate consultancy 'b.one e.V.'. It will take place at the Business and Information Technology School (BiTS) in Iserlohn, Germany.

The Rubicon Contest is an ambitious, entrepreneurial-oriented competition for international participants. Rubicon promotes sharing ideas, intercultural contacts with students and German companies as well as the unique opportunity to have a fantastic experience abroad. The topic for this year's competition will be sustainability.

### **Rubicon Contest – The challenge**

During the three-day period, participants will be required to work out innovative problem-solving strategies and ideas. In three rounds, teams must prove their economic skills by competing in computer simulations, business-plan development and case studies. The teams take part in a business simulation, and the best eight teams move on to the second round the following day.

They will compete in a case study emphasising sustainability. The best four teams will move on to the final round on the third day. The best four teams will then prepare another case study and present their results in

front of an academic and a business jury, as well as all other Rubicon participants.

The Rubicon Contest offers our distinguished guests and participants an extensive programme of dinners, guest lectures, workshops, parties and much more. The Rubicon team organises everything, from a pick-up service at the airport and appropriate accommodation to an extensive programme alongside the contest.

### **Rubicon Contest – Venue**

The Rubicon Contest 2010 takes place at the campus of the Business and Information Technology School (BiTS) in Iserlohn, Germany. BiTS University is a business school with an entrepreneurial focus. Its undergraduate study programmes in Business and Management Studies, Communication and Media Management, Sports and Event Management, Business Journalism, Business Psychology, Green Business Management and the recently added International Management of Service Industries have a very good reputation. Besides its huge variety of undergraduate studies, BiTS University offers two Master programmes within Corporate Management and Public Relations and Corporate Communications. In September 2009, the Campus Symposium with keynote speaker Tony Blair took place at BiTS University. The Campus Symposium is an annual international business conference also organised by the students of BiTS University (more information can be found at [www.campus-symposium.com](http://www.campus-symposium.com)).

### **Rubicon Contest – Support**

As a university, you can support your students and help them compete in an international environment against other business students from top business schools all over the world.

We kindly ask you to consider paying for your teams' flight and living expenses during the three-day event. The competition fee is EUR 150 per person, including accommodation and board. The remaining expenses will be entirely financed through fund-raising by the organising students, in order to give your students an outstanding experience in Germany and allow them to represent and promote your university.

### **Rubicon Contest – Application**

As a university, you can nominate and apply for a maximum of three teams. Each team must consist of four people. The maximum total number of participants is 80 (20 teams). If the number of applications exceeds 20, the Rubicon organisation team will evaluate the CVs of the team members and select the most competitive and interesting teams. You will receive notice of acceptance or refusal after one week.

You can find all application documents, guidelines, timetables and further information at [www.rubicon-contest.com](http://www.rubicon-contest.com). If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us directly by email ([info@rubicon-contest.com](mailto:info@rubicon-contest.com)). Our organisational team will be happy to answer your questions.

In our email we have also attached an announcement and a letter to your students about the Rubicon Contest 2010. We kindly ask you to please pass on this information.

The time has come to cross the Rubicon and let your university and your students be a part of the event. Nominate your teams and apply by 31 January 2010.

[Rubicon info-letter to the university](#) [Announcement for students](#) [Rubicon info-letter to students](#)

Your Rubicon Contest 2010 Team

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 13 January 2010*

# Staff news

## **Farewell reception: Annette Kjær Ersbøll**

Associate Professor Annette Kjær Ersbøll is stepping down as associate professor at IPH and as head of the graduate school at LIFE at the end of January 2010.

A reception will be held on Friday 29 January, 1-3 pm, at Grønnegårdsvej 8.

Everyone is welcome.

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 13 January 2010*

## **Kristian Thorup-Kristensen appointed Professor at IJØ**

The Dean has decided to appoint Kristian Thorup-Kristensen Professor of Crop Science at the Department of Agriculture and Ecology as of 1 February 2010.

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 13 January 2010*

## **Former LIFE student wins prize in the USA**

Jeppe Hvelplund Kjærsgaard, 34, Agronomist and PhD, is a researcher at the University of Idaho. He is also a co-developer of a prize-winning project, which was selected from among 600 projects.

The prize will be conferred by Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, the niece of John F.

Kennedy, who is chairperson of the assessment committee.

The prize comes with a cash award of DKK 200,000 for further development of the methodology.

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 13 January 2010*

## **Lars Graudal, S&L, elected chairman of Teaknet**

Lars Graudal, Head of Research at Forestry & Landscape, was elected chairman of Teaknet at their recent conference in Kerala, India. Teaknet is a global coalition of researchers, growers and traders of teak – perhaps the most important species of tree in the world.

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 13 January 2010*

## **LIFE researcher receives grant of DKK 45,000**

On 4 January 2010, Martin Krarup Nielsen, postdoctoral fellow, veterinary surgeon and PhD at the Department of Large Animal Sciences, received a grant of DKK 45,000 from the foundation Aage og Edith Dyssegaards Fond.

It is not possible to apply for the grant, which is awarded to highly qualified researchers within the scientific fields of medicine, veterinary medicine and animal husbandry on the basis of nominations by the foundation board. The objective of the grant is to promote Martin Krarup Nielsen's research, including in particular, study trips, participation in conferences and similar activities.

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 13 January 2010*

### **Affiliation: Søren Toubro**

The Rector has appointed Søren Toubro, CEO & MB, Reduce, affiliate associate professor of appetite regulation and obesity at the Department of Human Nutrition.

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 13 January 2010*

### **Affiliation: Bent Ejlersen**

The Rector has appointed Administrative Medical Consultant Bent Ejlersen, Copenhagen University Hospital – Rigshospitalet, affiliate professor of pathobiology at the Department of Veterinary Pathobiology.

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 13 January 2010*

### **Affiliation: Garnt Dijksterhuis**

The Rector has appointed Garnt Dijksterhuis, Lead Scientist at Unilever BV, the Netherlands, affiliate professor of sensory science at the Department of Food Science.

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 13 January 2010*

## Research

### **Good money in water research at LIFE**

LIFE's strategic initiative in water research – ViVa – Viden om vand (Knowledge on Water) – has paid off.

Three major environmental technology projects – SUPREME-TECH, Vand i Byer (Water in Cities) and CLEANWASTE – have received funding from the Danish Council for Strategic Research and the Danish Council for Technology and Innovation. Together they contribute more than DKK 25 million to water research at LIFE.

**Mette Christiansen, Research and Information Office, [mech@life.ku.dk](mailto:mech@life.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 13 January 2010*

### **Cutbacks within forestry and landscape research**

Forestry & Landscape at LIFE must reduce the number of full-time equivalents by approx. 10 per cent due to lack of funding of forestry research and general cutbacks at the University of Copenhagen.

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 13 January 2010*

## Grants

**Novo Nordisk Foundation calls for applications for the following grants – application deadline 1 February 2010**

**Hallas-Møller Scholarship** (five-year) is awarded to senior researchers who contribute to maintaining and strengthening current Danish research in medical and natural science, preferably in biomedical research, clinical research and basic research in biology.

The scholarship is awarded to:

Young researchers who should preferably remain in the research system and whose standard scholarship options have been exhausted and for whom a university position is not within sight in the near future. The awarding of a scholarship presupposes an important and promising research effort. Applicants are expected to have documented independent research work.

or:

Researchers who have achieved a tenured position at an institution, but who wish to be released from their teaching and administration duties. The research must be of international excellence. Emphasis will be on the opportunity for research-related breakthroughs which it is deemed would be accelerated further by the awarding of a scholarship.

Salary – according to the relevant collective agreement or in equivalence to the scholarship recipient's current salary level. Applicants cannot expect to be able to apply for leave of absence during the scholarship period.

Operating expenses – max. DKK 1.5 million annually as full or partial coverage of expenses directly related to the research project (payroll expenses, materials etc.).

Two grants are awarded each year.

**Clinical Research Scholarships** – Denmark (five-year) are designed to enable highly qualified researchers employed in full-time clinical positions to be partially released from their clinical duties in order to give them the opportunity to conduct continuous biomedical/experimental research. The objective of these scholarships is to secure important bridge-building between clinical work and biomedical/experimental research in Denmark. A total of DKK 10 million is available.

Grants totalling DKK 2.5 million each (DKK 500,000 p.a.) which are to cover the salary of the person who temporarily takes over the researcher's clinical functions.

Applicants who speak Danish as their native language **MUST** submit their applications in Danish. Only applicants who do not speak Danish as their native language may submit applications in English.

The application form with detailed guidelines is available on the Foundation's website, [www.novonordiskfonden.dk](http://www.novonordiskfonden.dk), from 14 December 2009. Applications must be completed using the online application system and submitted electronically to the Foundation no later than 4 pm on 1 February 2010.

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 13 January 2010*

### **Nordea Foundation's Residence Programme – application deadline 15 February**

Through the Nordea Foundation, six apartments at Heerings Gaard in the Christianshavn area of Copenhagen are available to highly qualified international personalities.

International researchers from all disciplines as well as artists, cultural personalities and experts within one of the Nordea Foundation's four strategic areas of health, sport/exercise, nature and art/culture can apply for one of the apartments.

A number of institutions in Denmark can submit nominations for the apartments. Find out more on the Nordea Foundation website [www.nordeafonden.dk/legatbolig](http://www.nordeafonden.dk/legatbolig).

For questions, please contact Marianne Bigum, Project Manager: +45 3333 5583 / [legatbolig@nordefonden.dk](mailto:legatbolig@nordefonden.dk).  
**Gudrun Lau Bjerno**, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 13 January 2010