



## eLIFE – news on life at LIFE

Thursday 8 April 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

### **Symposium celebrating LIFE's major grant holders**

Dean Per Holten-Andersen hereby invites all staff members to a symposium to celebrate and recognise the researchers who have contributed the most in the area of externally funded research at LIFE in 2009. The symposium will take place on Monday 26 April in the main lecture hall from 3 to 5 pm.

Register no later than 12 noon on 23 April by email to: [insj@life.ku.dk](mailto:insj@life.ku.dk)

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 8 April 2010*

### **Open greenhouses: 1,300 visitors dropped by**

The greenhouses on Rolighedsvej were open to the public on the weekend of 27-28 March. Approx. 500 visitors defied the unseasonable weather on Saturday, while around 800 people dropped in on Sunday. All in all, a very nice showing, also considering it was the first weekend in the schools' Easter holiday.

Many took interesting research stories home with them. And most also left with a plant or two. According to the committed LIFE staffers who gave tours, spoke about their research and proffered good advice on garden and houseplants, there were two types of visitors: Those who came to buy plants and those who came for the experience and to learn something.

The next open house in the greenhouses will be the weekend of 24-25 March 2012.

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 7 April 2010*

### **Would you like to win DKK 30,000/EUR 4,000?**

Participate in the Open Film Competition 2010 presented by LIFE – Faculty of Life Sciences, University of Copenhagen. Read more at [www.LIFE.ku.dk/filmcompetition](http://www.LIFE.ku.dk/filmcompetition).

### **What should your film be about?**

Make a film illustrating the difference you can make in the world with a life science degree. Please bear the following conditions in mind:

- The film must take place outside
- The film must not exceed one minute in length
- The film must be in English

### **Who may participate?**

Anyone may participate in the Open Film Competition.

### **What about recording and format?**

You can record the film in any format you like: On your cell phone, video camera, digital camera or something else.

### **Deadline for submission?**

Submit your film no later than 14 May 2010 at 12 noon. The winners will be announced on 21 May 2010. All winners will be contacted directly.

### **Where can you get more information?**

You can read all about prizes, rules, conditions, the jury and more at [www.LIFE.ku.dk/filmcompetition](http://www.LIFE.ku.dk/filmcompetition). Read more about LIFE and our study programmes in 20 languages at [www.LIFE.ku.dk/LIFEinternational](http://www.LIFE.ku.dk/LIFEinternational).

You are also welcome to contact Michael Guldager, Communications Officer, [mgu@life.ku.dk](mailto:mgu@life.ku.dk), for more information about the competition and LIFE.

**Michael Guldager, Communication, [mgu@life.ku.dk](mailto:mgu@life.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 6 April 2010*

# Announcements

## **KU aims to save more than 5 million with green IT solutions**

IT has become a major part of daily life, but it has also brought with it increased electricity consumption. Throughout 2010, the faculties and Group IT, with contributions by Green Campus, will be launching a number of initiatives intended to lower the consumption of electricity by servers, PC workstations and photocopiers/printers.

The objective is to ensure that the University of Copenhagen achieves its target of reducing its energy and carbon consumption by 20 per cent by 2013. The initiatives are all described in Danish in [Handlingsplan for grøn it 2009-10 \(Action Plan for Green IT 2009-10\)](#).

The greatest energy savings will be achieved by centralising 800-1,000 servers, which today are placed in incidental rooms equipped with inefficient and energy-demanding cooling systems, in two large common server rooms with energy-efficient cooling systems. When that project is complete in 2013, it is estimated that the University can save more than DKK 5 million in operating and cooling expenses. While, added bonuses include greater operational reliability, better service etc.

Similarly, there are quite a lot of savings to be realised through better organisation of the printing and photocopying facilities so that we have more users sharing fewer printers. In addition to cutting purchasing and service costs, this initiative will also result in reduced operating expenses, e.g. in the form of lower electricity consumption.

Another important action area is the procurement of IT equipment. The Danish Centre for Energy Savings estimates that the public sector wastes DKK 4 million every day on electricity by buying new equipment that is not energy-efficient. This is also an area of significant potential at the University. The aim of this initiative is to ensure that computers, monitors, servers etc. are purchased via the joint purchasing agreements, are energy-efficient and live up to the criteria set out by the Danish Centre for Energy Savings.

Finally, focus will be aimed at helping employees to reduce their energy consumption at their workstations by, among other things, utilising the computer's power management options so that monitors and computers automatically shut down or go on standby when not in use. With 15,000-20,000 computers at the University, there is the potential to save upwards of DKK 500,000 a year simply by having monitors go on standby after 10 minutes' inactivity. And all the employees have to do is touch the keyboard to activate the monitor again.

**Thomas Arnbak-Hartzberg, Group IT, [thoh@adm.ku.dk](mailto:thoh@adm.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 8 April 2010*

# Education

## **Europel: 20th anniversary**

Europel organises a Sensorial Contest for students of the associated institutes every year, while a symposium and a general assembly are organised every 18 months. These events offer an opportunity to discuss methods of education, several subjects of the education programme, simulation software, etc.

Europel also promotes student exchanges for writing theses in associated countries or for studying at associated institutes. It is a lot easier to realise this if you know people at other institutes personally, so networking is also very important.

This year, Europel is celebrating its 20th anniversary from 14-16 October: The organisation was founded by Mr Mathieu in La Roche sur Foron two decades ago.

The celebration will also be in La Roche sur Foron, where the main topics will be: Nutrition & Health, Environment & Sustainability and New Technologies.

In addition to the symposium, the Sensorial Contest will be organised for students of the associated institutes, members (or students of member institutes) can send posters and, of course, there will also be time for discussion among teachers (and managers) from the associated institutes.

Of course members pay a reduced fee for this meeting!

On the [Europel website](#), you can find more information about Europel and the programme in October 2010.

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 6 April 2010*

## **Staff news**

### **Honorary Doctor Grete Thorbek, lic.agro., celebrates her 100th birthday on 8 April**

Retired Research Manager Grete Thorbek, lic.agro., was affiliated with the Department of Human Nutrition for many years as a consultant.

Grete Thorbek was awarded the 1964 Saxonia Prize for her research and has twice been conferred the title of Honorary Doctor – once in 1974 by the University of Hohenheim in Stuttgart and again in 1991 by her employer of many years, the Royal Danish Veterinary and Agricultural University.

(Source: [Dansk Kvindebiografisk Leksikon](#))

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 6 April 2010*