

Faculty of Life Sciences

Internal Newsletter – Thursday 4 January 2007

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The final deadline for editorial changes is Tuesday 11 am before publication of the Internal Newsletter on Thursday afternoon.

This version does therefore not contain the latest articles from the online version. These can be found in the next edition.

Editorial changes may occur in relation to the online newsletter – all pictures, teasers and some of the articles have, for example, been omitted.

As regards links in the newsletter, please refer to the Danish online version at the faculty's website www.life.ku.dk/nyhedsbrev



News and debate

Danish history in the making

This news item was created on: 30 December 2006

Understand the history that created the Faculty of Life Sciences and you will understand the ambition driving the faculty today.

Before the invention of the car and the railway, the horse was of crucial importance. The nation that possessed the expertise and the tools to handle horseshoes and was able to diagnose, cure and ensure healthy horses – this nation was a step ahead of others. It was able to win wars and to ensure transport and food supply. In the mid-1700s, this was a known fact. But Denmark lacked the expertise and the tools that it took.

As a young man, Peter Chr. Abildgaard roamed the world. He studied to become a veterinary surgeon and a doctor at some of the best universities in Europe. He then returned to Copenhagen. At the request of the Danish King and in order to overcome one of the great social problems of the time, he founded the Veterinary School in 1773. With great success. As a result, crucial new knowledge about horses and cattle was gained for the benefit of the entire Danish society.

In 1856, it was decided to move the Veterinary School to the fields at Frederiksberg. [M.G. Bindesbøll](#) was commissioned to create a magnificent campus just a few hundred metres outside the old capital and thus The

Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University was established. The aim was to “raise farming in our homeland to a higher level”.

The original mission was accomplished. However, the ambition of using applied research and education to solve some of the most important social challenges in close collaboration with the world outside the university still defines the mindset of the university that merged with the University of Copenhagen on 1 January 2007.

The seal

The historical roots are reflected in the faculty’s seal with a horse and three crossing ears of corn. The horse on the seal is a reproduction of the horse that stands in front of the faculty’s original assembly hall. The horse was crafted by the famous sculptor Salu as the preliminary work for the equestrian statue in Amalienborg Palace Square. The statue is renowned worldwide as being the ultimately perfect horse and is therefore a fitting image of what we strive to accomplish in our activities at the faculty.

The ears of corn on the seal are inspired by an original drawing by Peter Chr. Abildgaard.

The corn symbolises life and all living things – the object of the research and the study programmes at the faculty. The three ears of corn are crossed to symbolise the harvest and thereby the processing of primary produce into food that people and animals can eat and which can both satisfy their hunger and make them either ill or healthy.

The colour of the seal is burnt umber. UMBER, because it is a basic earth colour and thereby both represents the basic research of the faculty and brings to mind the earth, which is the focal point of many of our activities. Burnt, because it lends a warm glow and depth to the colour that has characterised life and the spirit on our campus for 150 years.

Jacob Søby Bang, Head of Communications

Jacob Søby Bang, Communications, jsb@life.ku.dk – latest update 30 December 2006

Jørgen Honoré, Technical University of Denmark, takes up position as Director of the University of Copenhagen on 1 February

This news item was created on: 22 December 2006

Innovative Director of the University of Copenhagen

Jørgen Honoré takes up position as new Director of the University of Copenhagen on 1 February. He is thus leaving the post as Director of the Technical University of Denmark, where he has been employed since 2002.

Jørgen Honoré holds a graduate engineer degree as well as an MPA degree in economics, political science and organisation. Starting his career in the construction firm Højgaard & Schultz, he has since then been Vice Director of the Danish Technological Institute, Director of the Service Sector Quality Institute and Vice Director of Risø National Laboratory.

Extremely qualified

- With Honoré, we will not only be getting a Director who can drive large-scale change processes within financial management and IT and HR management. We will also get a Director with extensive experience within

innovation and business collaboration. Jørgen Honoré is therefore extremely qualified to enter the management team of the new University of Copenhagen, says Rector Ralf Hemmingsen. He is looking forward to working with the new Director, who also possesses great insight into public educational and research institutions.

More than enough challenges

There will be ample challenges for the new university Director, who will be directly responsible for the university's joint finances, the IT department and the buildings. Currently, the University of Copenhagen is facing a merger with The Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University and The Danish University of Pharmaceutical Sciences, organisational changes, implementation of the campus vision and management of the globalisation funds.

Jørgen Honoré, who is 53 years old, has been preliminarily appointed by the University Board for a five-year period. Together with Rector Ralf Hemmingsen and Pro-rector Lykke Friis, he will constitute the university's daily executive management.

Contact: Jasper Steen Winkel, Head of Communications, tel. +45 35 32 42 62.

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, Communications, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 22 December 2006

Every contribution counts and must be met with respect and appreciation

This news item was created on: 20 December 2006

Peter Sandøe is professor of bioethics and has been employed with KVL for nine of his 51 years. He is currently i.a. Head of Research at the Institute of Food and Resource Economics (FØI). From his office, he talks about his view on respect and appreciation at KVL and how important these factors are.

“No man is an island”

Some people may take being met with respect and appreciation in their working lives for granted. But, according to Peter Sandøe, this is not necessarily true at a university where the focus on the discoveries made by researchers and their publications of scientific articles may sometimes overshadow the efforts of the overall employee group:

“Even the best professor is in trouble if there is no team of lecturers and technical-administrative personnel available in the day-to-day work to support the joint goals. Even though student contact and IT support do not appear on international ranking lists, they are nevertheless valuable tasks for the team that we are all on together,” says Peter Sandøe.

Every employee's contribution counts

In Peter Sandøe's department at the Institute of Food and Resource Economics, it has been a challenge to render the value of teaching visible:

“The institute has its roots in a government research institution where focus was on research and fact finding and where teaching was something completely unknown. Now, there are employees who are dedicated solely to teaching. They did not use to feel respected and appreciated and this created a poor working climate”, says Peter Sandøe.

Fortunately, the lecturers drew management's attention to the problem. They succeeded in placing teaching on the agenda and making their worth more visible.

“Today, teaching is getting to be appreciated as an important part of the work of the institute – and this is also made visible in the day-to-day work and when the institute presents itself externally.”

Employees have to put themselves in each other's shoes

Respect and appreciation can be expressed in many ways but, according to Peter Sandøe, it is always a question of mutual trust and understanding of the working conditions of your colleagues:

“In order to come close to understanding another human being, you need to try to put yourself in his or her shoes. This applies not only to the individual departments, but also across KVL. That is why it is so important that each and every employee at KVL takes an active stand when it comes to showing respect and appreciation. It is obvious that you cannot adopt a personal attitude towards every single one of the 1,800 other employees at KVL, but you can be aware of the fact that the various departments work under different conditions and have different cultures,” suggests Peter Sandøe and adds:

"It is not equally easy to respect and appreciate all colleagues. But, in my experience, if you just try to focus on the good side of people you may find it difficult to respect, you have come a long way."

Every employee at KVL must be met with respect and appreciation

Diversity is a strength

Peter Sandøe has longstanding experience from his work in the university world – a world with many different staff groups and strong individuals. He believes that there is a good basis at KVL for creating an understanding of the value of diversity.

"KVL is a multicultural scientific village where it is easy to perceive diversity as a strength. All contributions are necessary to get things moving, and respect and appreciation are keywords to a pleasant and fruitful working environment," he concludes.



Announcements

New names of the administration units

This news item was created on: 22 December 2006

The names in the administration will be changed on 1 January 2007:

Central administration and joint facilities	Faculty Service
Registrar's Office	PENDING
Technical Administration	Buildings and Operation
Research and Innovation Office	Research and Innovation
Staff Office	HR
Budget and accounting	Budget
IT department	IT
KVL Communications	Communications

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, Communications, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 22 December 2006

Holiday cottages for rent for employees at the University of Copenhagen – in the course of 2007, this offer will also apply to employees at the Faculty of Life Sciences

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The draw for holiday cottages for rent in 2007 was announced in the Copenhagen University Newspaper no. 18, 2006, page 15. The holiday cottages are owned by the holiday fund "Ferienfonden".

For technical reasons, employees at the Faculty of Life Sciences cannot participate in this draw, but will be able to do so at a later point in time. As soon as all staff data are gathered in one place and the office of the Danish Working Environment Agency handling matters relating to the Danish Holiday Act (*Ferielovkontor*) has given the go-ahead as regards the transfer of our share to the University of Copenhagen's holiday fund, we will be able to apply on an equal footing with all other employees at the University of Copenhagen. This will be announced in the Internal Newsletter when it happens.

For further information, please read www.ku.dk/ferie

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, Communications, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 22 December 2006

New names for the Danish Institute for Food and Veterinary Research

This news item was created on: 22 December 2006

When the Danish Institute for Food and Veterinary Research merges with the Technical University of Denmark on 1 January 2007, we will be represented by two new institutes and a commercial unit.

The Danish Institute for Food and Veterinary Research will be split into two institutes in connection with the university merger on 1 January 2007. The names of the new institutes will be The National Food Institute and The National Veterinary Institute. The sales and marketing activities of the Danish Institute for Food and Veterinary Research are, at the same time, spun off into a new department named Dianova.

This change becomes effective on 1 January 2007 when the Danish Institute for Food and Veterinary Research merges with the Technical University of Denmark (DTU), Risø National Laboratory, the Danish Institute for Fisheries Research, the Danish National Space Center and the Danish Transport Research Institute (DTF).

Same core services

Together with our new partners at DTU, we are looking forward to building up an internationally leading university which, based on research, benefits both students, the business sector and society in general.

The institutes will continue to carry out the same work and deliver the same core services of the same high quality as the Danish Institute for Food and Veterinary Research does today. This concerns research, monitoring and advice for the benefit of public authorities and the business sector. At the same time, the institutes will maintain and develop the competences and the capacity that are essential for solid research-based advice.

Focus on customers

The new department Dianova sells and markets the institutes' laboratory analyses, advice, innovation and discoveries. The professional advice combined with analysis results will still be provided by the specialists at the institutes.

New contact information

Contact information for The National Food Institute on 1 January 2007:

The National Food Institute
Mørkhøj Bygade 19
2860 Søborg
Denmark

food@food.dtu.dk

Tel. +45 72 34 70 00

Fax +45 72 34 70 01

www.food.dtu.dk

Contact information for The National Veterinary Institute on 1 January 2007:

The National Veterinary Institute
Bülowsvej 27
1790 Copenhagen V
Denmark

vet@vet.dtu.dk

Tel. +45 72 34 60 00

Fax +45 72 34 60 01

www.vet.dtu.dk

The department in Lindholm has the address: 4771 Kalvehave, Denmark
tel. +45 72 34 60 00 and fax +45 72 34 79 01.

The department in Aarhus has the address: Hangøvej 2, 8200 Aarhus N, Denmark
tel. +45 72 34 60 00 and fax +45 72 34 69 01.

Contact information for Dianova on 1 January 2007:

Dianova
Science Park Skejby
Brendstrupgårdsvej 102
8200 Aarhus N
Denmark

dianova@dianova.dk

Tel. +45 72 34 69 70

Fax +45 86 20 12 28

www.dianova.dk

Contact:

Jan Mousing, Director, JMO, tel. +45 72 34 61 23

Future Director of The National Food Institute
Henrik C. Wegener, HCW, tel. +45 72 34 74 11

Future Director of The National Veterinary Institute

Kristian Møller, KRM, tel. +45 72 34 61 89

Future Head of Dianova

Mogens Madsen, MM, tel. +45 72 34 68 71

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, Communications, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 22 December 2006

Future telephony operation and service at the Faculty of Life Sciences

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The existing phone system at KVL will not be integrated with the University of Copenhagen's phone system until this spring. This means that there are no immediate changes to phone numbers and functionality. The existing switchboards at KVL (including Forest and Landscape) will also continue operating for the time being. On 1 January 2007, the IT department at the University of Copenhagen takes over the responsibility for the support and administration of the existing phone system.

This means that enquiries in relation to faults and ordering of phones, removal, new establishments etc. should be sent via email to: it-tele@adm.ku.dk or made on tel. +45 35 32 27 00. Read more about the technology and the administration of the University of Copenhagen's phone system at www.ku.dk/it/brugerinfo_tele.

Niels Christensen, Technical Administration/Buildings Management, – latest update 20 December 2006

Login to CampusNet and SiteCore after the merger

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After 1 January 2007, employees should still use their @kvl.dk address when logging on to CampusNet and SiteCore – rather than the new @life.ku.dk. Students should also still use their @dsr.kvl.dk address.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Gitte Preisler, IT Learning Center, gip@kvl.dk – latest update 20 December 2006

International conference: Biomolecular NanoScale Assemblies, 24 - 26 January 2007

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The international conference 'Biomolecular NanoScale Assemblies' at the University of Copenhagen will shed light on the most recent progress within bionanotechnology.

Most natural and artificial biological systems can change their structures and physical-chemical properties in response to the local nanoscopic environment. The most recent advances within nanotechnology have opened up for research into these phenomena and for developing new nanoscale tools that provide insight into biomolecular mechanisms at the single-molecule level. Our understanding of biomolecular systems therefore no longer depends on knowledge about the end status of the global properties, which is merely an, often remote, consequence of the true molecular mechanism.

The conference will be held in English and is open to anyone with an interest in the area.

[Read more about the conference and registration.](#)

[Download folder](#)

Venue

Nano-Science Center
University of Copenhagen
H.C. Ørsted Instituttet
Universitetsparken 5, building D
2100 Copenhagen Ø
Denmark

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, Communications, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 20 December 2006



Research

If you want to look for grants and scholarships, current deadlines for external research fund applications, research programmes etc., these can be found in the Newsletter at

http://www.kvl.dk/Maalgruppe/medarbejdere/kvl_intern/nyhedsbrev/nyt_forskning.aspx

Here you will also find relevant links.



Education

The Nordic Centre

We would like to draw your attention to student activities at and affiliated to the Nordic Centre that are planned for 2007/2008. More information about application procedures and deadlines will follow.

5-10 March 2007: Phd-course in "Sustainable Urban Development"

8-13 April 2007: "Doing Business in the Changing China"

2-20 July 2007: The Nordic Centre Summer Course

September-October 2007: Master Course in Globalization studies (University of Bergen and Fudan University)

October-December 2007: The Nordic Centre Master Course in Chinese Politics (University of Bergen and Fudan University)

Please see the website www.nordiccentre.org <<http://www.nordiccentre.org/>> "courses", where more information about our courses can be found, also about Fudan University's English-instructed Master Programmes.

In addition, some of our member universities also has courses where a part of the course is taken at the Nordic Centre: See their Master in Asian Studies at www.ace.lu.se <<http://www.ace.lu.se/>> and their new Master of Science in International Economics with a Focus on China http://www.nek.lu.se/English/education_MasterChina.asp <http://www.nek.lu.se/English/education_MasterChina.asp> . Both courses will involve a study period at the Nordic Centre.

Best regards,

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Staff news