

eLIFE – news on life at LIFE

Thursday 14 June 2007

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, Editor, Communications, glb@life.ku.dk

Email to the editors: elife@life.ku.dk

Final deadline for editorial changes is Tuesday at 11 am before publication of eLIFE on Thursday.

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

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

Life at LIFE

Watch out for sparrowhawk attacks

This news item was created on: 12.06.2007

When walking under the trees in the gardens, you risk being attacked by the sparrowhawk.

The sparrowhawk takes good care of its chicks, and until they are fledged, it attacks people that it perceives as a threat.

All 'traffic' on the paths in the gardens is at your own risk, and the garden staff have put up warning signs where relevant. They believe that the 'guarding' of the young birds will last until the end of June.

Read more about the [sparrowhawk here](#)

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, Communications, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 12 June 2007

Sunshine, green grass, blue sky and rounders – AU rounders tournament held last Friday

This news item was created on: 12.06.2007

On Friday 8 June, the AU events committee held the illustrious rounders tournament. The day was perfect for the event: green grass, sunshine and blue sky. AU spiced the day up with the last two ingredients: Entertainment in the form of the rounders tournament and (almost) cold beer.

Academic associations and interest groups competed against each other. For those not familiar with the associations, it was difficult to see which association the different teams represented. It did not make it easier that some of the players played for more than one team.

The event started with a warm-up at 4.30 pm, and many of the teams took the warm-up very seriously. Seriousness also characterised the first couple of matches. But during the afternoon, the intake of beer and the heat made the seriousness vanish. According to umpire Marcel Claude Pinnerup, the Toga team won the tournament, and the agricultural economists, JØ, came second.

After the game, most players enjoyed the last of the sunshine on the lawn before heading for A-vej.

Contact:

Maja Johansen, Communications, petrine@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, Communications, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 12 June 2007

Staff policy in practice – evaluation – a strong tool

This news item was created on: 12.06.2007

Evaluation – a strong tool

According to Wender Bredie, Professor and Head of Group at the Department of Food Science at the Faculty of Life Sciences, evaluation is a natural part of everyday life at a university.

“Evaluation is most obvious when it is systematised, e.g. when students evaluate their teaching. But evaluation does not have to be a major project. It may also take the form of a conversation with an employee in the corridor.”

Evaluation is, in other words, not necessarily a deliberate action, it is part of everyday life.

Evaluation – only when necessary



The idea of the lonely scientist in his study is very far from reality. Today, research takes place in groups where each person does what he or she does best:

“If you want to create dynamic research environments, you need to put together a group that works – of teamworkers who recognise each other’s competences”, says Wender Bredie. Through evaluation you become aware of what you are not so good at, and it makes it easier to recognise those who are better than yourself.

“In a team, people get to know each other. I believe you achieve more when they also recognise each other.”

But it is not all rosy. You should only evaluate when it is necessary:

“Your evaluation should be targeted, and you should only evaluate when it is necessary. Otherwise people will lose interest, and then the evaluation is of no value”, says Wender Bredie.

It must serve a purpose

Last year, the Faculty of Life Sciences conducted an employee satisfaction survey. In this context, the departments allocated resources to an external facilitator who was to participate in the discussions of the survey results.

"It is nice that resources are made available when new initiatives are taken. In this way, the workplace signals to its employees that the survey is being taken seriously", says Wender Bredie.

The clear signal from the Faculty made the employees more open to the new ideas. It showed that the Faculty of Life Sciences is committed to creating a good working environment.

Evaluation and development

According to Wender Bredie, evaluations are a good tool for implementing change at all levels of the organisation.

"Evaluations show what works and what can be improved. It is therefore a good aid in terms of motivating changes", he explains. But it has to be made in the right way for the employees to remain interested:

"When performing evaluations, it is important that you allocate sufficient time and that the evaluation is goal-oriented," Wender Bredie elaborates.

Employees must be able to understand the purpose of the evaluation

When you want to implement something new, you are often met with different types of opposition. People are sceptical of changes. It is therefore important that those who perform the evaluation understand the purpose of the evaluation:

"Not until the employees have gone through the process and during the process have identified the areas where improvements are necessary can you really see the point of the evaluation", concludes Wender Bredie.

If you have any experiences with evaluation and learning in the workplace which you want to share with others, please send them to eLIFE at elife@life.ku.dk

Maja Johansen, Communications, petrine@life.ku.dk – latest update 12 June 2007

Gimle and Gumle need an upgrade

This news item was created on: 07.06.2007

LIFE's canteens, Gimle and Gumle, are in need of an upgrade. The firm of architects Signal arkitekter is currently identifying possibilities, wishes and needs in connection with the rebuilding which should also accommodate an expected increase in the number of users and a wish for being able to use the canteen areas outside lunch time more than has so far been possible.

As a precondition for their work, the architects want to hear input from users on which needs and wishes Gimle and Gumle should be able to meet in the future to be a contemporary part of LIFE as an innovative and attractive environment.

Workshop:

A workshop will therefore be held for all interested parties on Tuesday 12 July 2007 at 4.00 to 7.00 pm in Gumle.

- How would you like LIFE's canteens to be in the future?
- Should they only be a place where you eat or should there be other functions?
- Should they have a lounge – HotSpots with IT access – a meeting place – a café – study areas – a library – resting places?

Spend a couple of hours on making Gimle and Gumle the No. 1 place at LIFE. Signal arkitekter will be in charge of and guide you through the workshop. For more information, please see the activity calendar. Registration at kantinesvar@life.ku.dk.

Questionnaire

In order to get input that reflects the views of as many people as possible, and thus the best possible basis for the project, a questionnaire has also been prepared with three simple questions about Gimle and Gumle. Please spend two minutes completing the questionnaire with your input on how to improve the canteen and study environment at LIFE.

The questionnaire can be found at:

<http://www.life.ku.dk/Maalgruppe/medarbejdere/services/kantine/survey.aspx>

Contact:

The canteens, kantinerne@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, Communications, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 7 June 2007

Chefs serve crab ice cream, liquorice salad and chilli with chocolate, but Leif Skibsted told us what molecular gastronomy is actually all about at the University of Copenhagen on Wednesday 6 June

This news item was created on: 07.06.2007

When it comes to food science, the Faculty of Life Sciences has a strong position, a position which has become even stronger following the introduction of the new subject area molecular gastronomy where food scientists meet chemists, physicians and chefs in the service of good taste. In the autumn, a new MSc programme in gastronomy and health starts up.

Professor Leif Skibsted has become a popular lecturer within an area which is very hot, to say the least. Lifestyle, health, the quality of ingredients, new and varied gustatory sensations are on the agenda to an extent not previously seen.

This was probably also one of the reasons why 200 people spent a lovely summer day listening to a lecture on molecular gastronomy with the title Food and Molecules in Annexe A, Studiestræde 6.

Even though the lecturer has a background in chemistry, a lot of other specialist aspects were included: history, culture, literature, sensorics and practice. Leif Skibsted's professional insight and low-key wit kept the attention of the audience who had many, some very specific, questions after the lecture.

The lecture on food and molecules marked the end of this season's lectures with scientists (*Mød Videnskaben*) which is organised by the University of Copenhagen in collaboration with the newspaper *Politiken*.

Previous lectures in 2007: "Extreme exercising", "Mission to Mars" and "Stupid dialects and strong swear words".

The next event will be held on Wednesday 5 September at 4.30 to 6 pm.

Read more at www.ku.dk/moedvidenskaben

Announcements

Bookshop to be refurbished

This news item was created on: 12.06.2007

Samfundslitteratur • Life Sciences will be closed from 26 June to 1 August 2007 due to refurbishment. Opening hours for the days leading up to the closing:

Monday 25 June, 9.00 am to 2.00 pm

Tuesday 26 June, 9.00 am to 2.00 pm

Opening hours in the week ending 5 August:

Wednesday 1 August, 9.00 am-2.00 pm

Thursday 2 August, 9.00 am-2.00 pm

Friday 3 August, 9.00 am-2.00 pm

As from the week ending 12 August, our opening hours will be back to normal.

If you have any questions or if you need to order any books, please call our commercial department on 3815 3895, write an email to sl@sl.cbs.dk or find your book at www.samfundslitteratur.dk.

We look forward to welcoming you in our new shop in August.

See you soon and have a nice summer!

Kind regards

Samfundslitteratur • Life Sciences

Contact:

Lisa Folden Jensen, Samfundslitteratur, lfj@sl.cbs.dk

Competence development for technical and administrative staff in the autumn of 2007

This news item was created on: 08.06.2007

A large number of courses will be available this autumn, and the registration deadline for several of them is in August – see PUMA's website www.ku.dk/puma

PUMA would like to draw your attention to the following courses:

Course in administrative procedures (*Sagsbehandleruddannelsen*) – start date 4 september – application deadline 1 August

The secretary in the eye of the hurricane (*Sekretæren i orkanens øje*) – start date 6 September – application deadline 9 August

Visual presentation technique – add pictures! (*Visuel præsentationsteknik - sæt billeder på!*) – start date 11 september – application deadline 7 August

Service English – for administrative employees (*Serviceengelsk – for administrative medarbejdere*) – start date 18 September – application deadline 14 August

Contact:

Anette Mar, Course Secretariat, PUMA, puma-info@adm.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, Communications, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 8 June 2007

Male subjects aged 40-70 wanted

This news item was created on: 08.06.2007

As part of a major scientific study, we need to test the health benefits of consuming fish on a daily basis. As a subject you will be given a meal at lunch or supper time consisting of either fish or poultry which you must eat daily. The study lasts 8 weeks and is being conducted from 12 March to 26 May 2007 (weeks 36-47). The study includes two tests involving blood tests and pulse distribution measurements as well as two periods of diet registration. We need male subjects aged 40-70 who are not on medication, who are healthy and who are non-smokers. Participants will be paid a fee.

If you are interested and would like to know more, please contact Post. doc. Jesper Hallund, Department of Human Nutrition, ext. 32485, jeha@life.ku.dk

Contact:

Jesper Hallund, Department of Human Nutrition, jeha@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, Communications, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 8 June 2007

If you know anyone who would like to experience our lovely gardens, free guided tours are organised in June, July and August

This news item was created on: 07.06.2007

The guided tours take place on 20 and 27 June, 4 and 25 July, and 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 August and start at 1.00 pm.

Meeting place: by the fountain in front of the main building, Bülowsvej 17

Registration is not necessary.

Contact:

Hanne Lipczak Jakobsen, Green Support Services, halj@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, Communications, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 7 June 2007

Find your design template on the Internet

This news item was created on: 07.06.2007

Many already know. Some may have forgotten. And others haven't heard yet: Our new design manual offers a large number of templates that make it easier to create a folder, a report, a PowerPoint presentation etc.

At www.ku.dk/design under Det Biovidenskabelige Fakultet (Faculty of Life Sciences), you can find logos and templates in many shapes and sizes. On the same page – under Papirlinje (paper line) – you can order and find templates for conference accessories.

If you have any questions concerning our design programme, you are welcome to contact Communications on tel. +45 3 2077 or caa@life.ku.dk

Contact:

Charlotte Aabo, Communications, caa@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, Communications, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 7 June 2007

Education

Free language course for students who are to study abroad – deadline by 25 June

This news item was created on: 12.06.2007

The University of Copenhagen is offering intensive language courses for students who are going to study abroad (only studies for which credit transfers are possible). The language courses include English at advanced level and French, Italian, Spanish and German at beginner's level.

The course start is 6 August, and the deadline for applications is 25 June.

For further information and application form, click the following link: <http://www.egl.ku.dk/sprogkursus/>

Contact:

Secretariat for Internationalisation and Developing Countries, Education and Students

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, Communications, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 12 June 2007

First land masters

This news item was created on: 12.06.2007

On Friday 15 June, the first masters of rural area development and landscape management will receive their diplomas. They will be completing a three-year part-time master's degree. Dean Per Holten-Andersen will hand out diplomas in the greenhouses at Rolighedsvej 23 at 4 pm. Everybody is welcome.

Contact:

Morten Stenak, Forest, Landscape and Planning, mste@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, Communications, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 12 June 2007

Read FN's Newsletter for June 2007

This news item was created on: 08.06.2007

[Link to FN's Newsletter of 8 June 2007](#)

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, Communications, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 8 June 2007

BOGLIG VIDEN er DØD – send an ePostcard

This news item was created on: 07.06.2007

Now you can send all your friends a greeting with the ePostcard entitled "BOGLIG VIDEN er DØD – hvis den ikke sættes i spil" (Book-learning is dead – if it is not used)

You can find the ePostcard at <http://www.life.ku.dk/uddannelse/kampagne/epostkort.aspx>

Godrun Lau Bjerno, Communications, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 7 June 2007

Design your city – award ceremony on Wednesday 6 June 2007

This news item was created on: 07.06.2007

"What does your city look like? Do you want it to have open outdoor sports facilities or colourful bazaars, skyscrapers or terraced houses, a youth centre at the city centre or a jam session in Vestergade?", the Centre for Forestry, Landscape and Planning asked youngsters aged 15 to 24 and invited them to submit their proposals and participate in the competition "Design din by" (Design your city). Fifty-three proposals were submitted. On Wednesday 6 June, prizes were presented to the best proposals. Head of Department Gertrud Jørgensen opened the award ceremony at 11:30 by welcoming everybody and explaining the basis for the competition. Hans Henrik Christensen, Director of the Danish Forest and Nature Agency, took over and talked briefly about the importance of urban planning for future cities and the countryside in general. He emphasised the fact that because half of the world's population often live in towns and cities, and often in very large cities, it is important that you take all aspects into consideration when designing the cities. As an example he mentioned that it may have an impact on the environment whether you design a city for cars or cyclists or pedestrians.

After Hans Henrik Christensen came the award ceremony. First the chairman of the panel of judges, Stig L. Andersson, briefly talked about the deliberations of the panel in the selection process, and the prizes were then presented to the winners. The event was concluded by refreshments being served, courtesy of Centre for Forestry, Landscape and Planning.

Click here www.designdinby.dk for more information on and pictures of the winning projects.

The winners were:

First prize – DKK 15,000

Kirstine Elmhøj Hansen & Charlotte Reim, Christianshavns Gymnasium.

Second prize – DKK 7,500

Zenia Jensen, Cecilie Skjelmose, Lotte Tranberg, Mads Olsen, Cecilie Lynge Jørgensen & Muhammed Hussein, Fredericia Gymnasium.

Second prize – DKK 7,500

Charlotte Moe & Christine Bjerke, Charlottenlund/Fredensborg.

Third prize – DKK 5,000

Christine Bjerke, Fredensborg.

The panel of judges consisted of:

Panel chairman, Stig L. Andersson, creative director and affiliated professor at Forest and Landscape.

Ursula Andkjær Olsen, poet and author

Ellen Højgaard Jensen, director, the Danish Town Planning Institute
Kristoffer Lindhardt Weiss, philosopher
Karsten Ifversen, architectural writer
Gertrud Jørgensen, architect and Head of Department, *Forest and Landscape*

Contact:

Maja Johansen, Communications, petrine@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, Communications, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 7 June 2007

The University of Copenhagen took home all three prizes in the essay competition on the future study environment

This news was created on: 06.06.2007

On Wednesday 6 June, the Danish Minister for Science, Technology and Innovation, Helge Sander, presented prizes to the winners of the essay competition on the future study environment. The three winning contributions offer different concepts for an optimum study environment at the universities, academically and socially.

The first prize of DKK 25,000 was won by Lise Nielsen, a student at the Department of Scandinavian Studies and Linguistics, University of Copenhagen, for her essay "Det gode studiemiljø" (The good study environment). The second prize of DKK 15,000 went to Mette Bergenser and Linda Lützau Nielsen from the Department of Anthropology, University of Copenhagen, for their essay Rum for fordybelse, viden, forbundethed og inspiration (Room for immersion, knowledge, connectedness and inspiration). The third prize DKK 10,000 was awarded to Andreas Birkbark, a student at the Department of Sociology, for his essay Studietid anno 2017 (Study time 2017).

Helge Sander was pleased to see that 63 contributions had found their way into the competition and that many of the contributors had considered ways in which the technology can be integrated into the physical environment and thus strengthen the spread of knowledge and the learning process for students. The contributions also included suggestions as to how the special characteristics of the individual subjects could be reflected.

All contributions will be included in the continuous work of developing the future study environments of higher education, which is a large-scale development project aimed at campus environments.

Three contributions for the essay competition came from students at LIFE.

At www.ubst.dk, the Danish University and Property Agency has published further information about the essay competition, the three winning contributions and the panel's report.

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, Communications, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 6 June 2007

Staff news

Defence of doctoral thesis: Bo Jellesmark Thorsen, Head of Department, Forest and Landscape, Friday 15 June at 2 pm, lecture hall 1-01

This news item was created on: 07.06.2007

On Friday 15 June, Bo Jellesmark Thorsen, Head of Department at Forest and Landscape, will defend his thesis, Studies of Stochastic Decision Problems in Resource Economics, in auditorium 1-01, 2 pm for his doctoral degree in agricultural sciences.

The following official opponents have been appointed:

Professor Birger Solberg, Doctor of Agricultural Science
Department of Ecology and Natural Resource Management
Section Resource Economics
Norges Landbrugshøjskole (Agricultural University of Norway)
Ås, Norway

Doctor Joseph Buongiorno, Senior Researcher
University of Wisconsin
Department of Forest Ecology and Management
Madison, USA

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, Communications, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 7 June 2007

Appointment: Henning Klarlund joins Research and Innovation

This news item was created on: 06.06.2007

On 1 July 2007, Henning Klarlund will start as administrator at Research and Innovation.

Henning will join the research administrative team which currently consists of Astrid Holm Olsen, Jan Andersen, Lykke Hindsgaul, Mette Christiansen and Anni Carlsen. Henning will be responsible for keeping the researchers updated on application deadlines for miscellaneous national and international research funds, provide advice on applications and ensure a smooth process in connection with coordinating activities, institutional declarations, signatures etc. Henning will head our network of funding coordinators at the departments and will furthermore be working with the strategic development of the graduate school area.

Henning is an agronomist and leaves a job at the Patent and Contract Unit at the University of Aarhus and has also been with the Danish Institute for Food and Veterinary Research where he handled similar tasks. Henning replaces Lars Johannsen who seeks new challenges at the Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation.

Contact:

Marianne Bigum, Research and Innovation, mabi@life.ku.dk

Research

Are you natural science people bullied into silence? According to Benny Lautrup, Professor at the University of Copenhagen, the answer is yes – read the interview

This news item was created on: 12.06.2007

"Are you natural science people bullied into silence?" was the very direct question for Professor Benny Niels from the Niels Bohr Institute on Monday 11 June in the television programme "Deadline":

"Indeed, many keep quiet because they fear that their statements will be unpopular with their superiors. Many therefore choose not to speak up", Benny Lautrup replied. He stated that natural scientists have always refrained from joining public debates because they are fact-driven. Ten years ago he was able to speak his mind – and did so – without having to fear sanctions, but after the formation of the so-called liberal government in 1992, he experienced increasing suppression of criticism: After the adoption of the new university act and the centralisation of power through university mergers there is a sense of "uncertainty concerning the freedom of speech" among scientists: "Critical statements may result in criticism from your employer or maybe even the minister ..."

Lautrup's admissions concerning "silent natural scientists" came in the wake of a debate with science journalist Lone Frank where she called the attention to a problematic silence among natural scientists. Host Adam Holm thought that this silence did not apply to other main science areas where people are more than happy to join the public debate".

See the clip at www.dr.dk/dr2/deadline2230

Three promising winners at the Venture Cup 06/07 finals

This news item was created on: 06.06.2007

Thursday afternoon, the final of the third stage of the universities' joint competition for ideas and research with a business potential was held in front of 200 participants and invited guests at a filled Nordatlantens Brygge. Restaurant Noma supplied the food, and Mørck Trio provided the entertainment.

The three winners:

First prize of DKK 200,000: CSP.NET. Software library aimed at computer programmers. The library facilitates the programming of networks of machines with multi-core processors.

Second prize of DKK 100,000: InMold Biosystems. A method for casting a specific pattern of biomolecules into a plastic surface, e.g., a Petri dish, a culture bottle or a microwell plate. All of the above are materials upon which cells grow within the life science industry.

Third prize of DKK 50,000: Mooncean. Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) is one of the most notoriously contagious bacteria which spread in hospitals. Mooncean is developing an MRSA detection apparatus which will be accurate, time-saving and cost-efficient.

In addition, three teams won the Plougmann & Vingtoft prize 2007 of DKK 20.000 each:

Bakoba. Constructional toys for children aged 3 to 10.

Mooncean. Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) is one of the most notoriously contagious bacteria which spread in hospitals.

Mooncean is developing an MRSA detection apparatus which will be accurate, time-saving and cost-efficient.

MicroReactor. MicroReactor is a business which develops microreaction technology for the chemical industry.

The business will launch itself on the market with a product aimed a catalyst developers and which will reduce the time required for developing catalysts.

Last, but not least a team won the DevelopSolution prize for business concepts for developing countries.

The prize is a trip around Africa worth DKK 100,000, sponsored by IFU. The prize was introduced by Ulla Tørnæs, Minister for Development Cooperation:

Banqu. By focusing on design, marketing, branding and communication, Banqu is working on developing a fashion brand in Africa, based on a modern African identity.

See www.venturecup.dk for further details about the nominated teams or contact Venture Cup.

The jury for the final consisted of: Arne Fredens, Syddansk Innovation, Benjamin Lundström, Bender von Haller Dragsted, Britta Gavnholt, Plougmann & Vingtoft, Jakob Sand, Capital+, Jens Ove Albertsen, SEED Capital, Jørgen Gransøe, Norventum Capital, Morten Bro Nielsen, CapMan, Nils Hall Torgersen, Teknologisk Innovation, Søren J. Nielsen, Northcap Partners

For statements from the jury, please contact Torsten Kolind.

Twenty-two out of a total of 138 teams participated in the final stage of this year's Venture Cup. Half of the teams consisted of students from at least two institutions of higher education, which was one of the main purposes of the competition.

Contact:

Louise Lindtner, +45 2628 0920, louise@venturecup.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, Communications, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 6 June 2007

Grants

Research funds etc.

See the online version at

http://www.life.ku.dk/Maalgruppe/medarbejdere/life_internt/nyhedsbrev/forskningsmidler.aspx

Here you will find all calls with active links