



## eLIFE – news on life at LIFE

Thursday 2 August 2007

Email to the editors: [elife@life.ku.dk](mailto: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](http://www.life.ku.dk/Maalgruppe/medarbejdere/life_internt/nyhedsbrev.aspx)

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, Editor, Communications, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk)

## Life at LIFE

### **Record number of students want to study life sciences – 10 per cent increase in number of LIFE applicants**

This news item was created on: 8 am – 2007 noon

The level of interest among young people for the so-called life science study programmes continues to grow. Dean Per Holten-Andersen is very satisfied, but also points out that there are several factors explaining the large increase in the number of applicants:

"The 25 study programmes at the Faculty of Life Sciences are all application-oriented. Already as a student, you experience how you can make a difference, irrespective of whether you are working with food and health, nature and the environment, animals or within other Faculty fields. This appeals to the large group of young people who would like to be in contact with the real world and businesses outside the university and acquire international competences already as a student," he says. In addition, Per Holten-Andersen singles out the unique study environment at Frederiksberg Campus as a significant factor behind the increasing popularity of the study programmes.

The growth in the different fields of study is not evenly distributed. Some 50 per cent more young people would like to study landscape architecture and urban design or become forest and landscape engineers. Food science has also seen a considerable rise in popularity with a 25 per cent increase in the number of applicants. The same applies to the application and business-oriented Biology-Biotechnology study programme, whereas the veterinary study programme – with only a 1 per cent increase in the number of applicants – maintains the large popularity seen in recent years.

Overall, LIFE has had 10 per cent more applicants than last year.

Dean Per Holten-Andersen is particularly pleased that the increase is not taking place at the expense of the rest of the University of Copenhagen.

“The University of Copenhagen is Scandinavia’s leading university internationally, and I am pleased to see that the entire university has experienced an increase in the number of applicants.”

*By Katherina Ludvigsen, Communications*

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 2 August 2007*

## **More students at the University of Copenhagen – total number of applicants up by 7 per cent**

This news item was created on: 2 August 2007

More and more young people want to study at the University of Copenhagen.

In total, 9,818 applicants had the University of Copenhagen as their preferred place of study – an increase of 2 per cent on last year. The total number of applicants for the university has increased by 7 per cent.

More science study programmes have become more popular this year, e.g. computer science, geography and geology-geoscience. The landscape architecture and forest and landscape engineer study programmes have also attracted more applicants.

Among arts subjects, German, Spanish, philosophy, theatre science and educational theory have all experienced an increase. The University of Copenhagen has also had more applicants for law, economics, anthropology and psychology, whereas sociology, political science and public health science have seen a decrease in the number of applicants.

“All the universities seem to have had more applicants because of the high birth rate. Several of the study programmes at the University of Copenhagen, where for a long time we have wanted been wanting more applicants, are seeing a growth in the numbers of applicants – and there are actually places available. After many years with declining numbers, it is particularly nice to see that several of the science subjects and modern languages are apparently becoming more attractive,” says Jakob Lange, Head of Studies.

See more figures at [www.studier.ku.dk/optagelse2007/](http://www.studier.ku.dk/optagelse2007/)

**Mette Damgaard Sørensen, Communications, [mds@adm.ku.dk](mailto:mds@adm.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 2 August 2007*

## **Sparrowhawk chicks now fledged**

This news item was created on: 1 August 2007

The sparrowhawk pair that for a period of time spread terror in the gardens by attacking the gardeners and visitors from behind has now calmed down. The pair had three beautiful chicks which have now fledged. After having spent a couple of days on the edge of the nest, the chicks ventured out on the nearest branches. Fortunately, it turned out that they were able to fly.

Now, at the end of July they are still here in the gardens, and sometimes you can hear them scream: "Mummy, when is it supper time?!"

The nest, which the sparrowhawks built this year, was only 3 metres above the ground. We have now removed it, hoping that they will build a new one higher up in the tree next year, so they will not feel threatened and thus attack passers-by.

Because the hawks are, of course, welcome to stay in the gardens, as they contribute to the overall diversity that can be enjoyed throughout the year.

Kim Greiner, The Gardens

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 1 August 2007*

## **On Sunday 5 August, the School Service at LIFE opens for registration for the 2007/2008 school year**

This news item was created on: 31 July 2007

If last year is anything to go by, most places will be snapped up in the course of the following week. The School Service at LIFE has been a great success in its two years of existence.

Read more about the School Service here

[http://www.life.ku.dk/moed\\_kv/skoletjenesten.aspx](http://www.life.ku.dk/moed_kv/skoletjenesten.aspx)

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 1 August 2007*

# Announcements

## **Booking of rooms**

This news item was created on: 2 August 2007

Please use the email address [lokadm@life.ku.dk](mailto:lokadm@life.ku.dk) for booking lecture or conference rooms. You can also use extension 32049, but we recommend email booking.

**Sannie Porner, Buildings Management, [spo@life.ku.dk](mailto:spo@life.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 2 August 2007*

### **Danish Veterinary Association (DDD) seminar: The big university reform. Veterinary Week, 28 August, 1 pm to 5 pm at Hotel Nyborg Strand – registration deadline: 13 August**

This news item was created on: 31 July 2007

The structure of food research has seen radical changes following the merger of the government research institutions and the new universities. How will this affect the academic content and what other implications will it have? VAFU will be hosting a discussion seminar focusing on the pros and cons of the university reform. [See flyer with programme and registration](#)

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 31 July 2007*

### **Two clinic dogs looking for good after-work homes**

This news item was created on: 30 July 2007

As IMHS will be buying two more clinic dogs in mid August/early September, we are looking for someone from LIFE who may be interested in owning the dogs. The dogs will be Labrador Retrievers and probably bitches, although we cannot guarantee what gender they will be.

For more information, please send an email to [klinikhund@life.ku.dk](mailto:klinikhund@life.ku.dk), and we will then contact you.

Veterinary nurse Sara Corscadden Kjærsgaard and veterinary nurse Iben Malte Quottroup

**Sara Corscadden Kjærsgaard, IMHS, [sk@life.ku.dk](mailto:sk@life.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 30 July 2007*

### **Information meeting for new employees**

This news item was created on: 30 July 2007

On Monday 27 August, an information meeting will be held for new employees. Registration deadline: Friday 17 August to Susanne Magnusson, HR, [sma@life.ku.dk](mailto:sma@life.ku.dk) – extn. 32026.

The information meeting will be held in the Senate's conference room, Bülowsvej 17, at 9.30 am.

After the meeting, there will be a guided tour of Frederiksberg Campus.

**Susanne Magnusson, HR, [sma@life.ku.dk](mailto:sma@life.ku.dk), [sma@life.ku.dk](mailto:sma@life.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 30 July 2007*

# Education

## **New admission procedure to ensure that the labour market gets the veterinary surgeons it needs**

This news item was created on: 31 July 2007

Press release: Today, women account for 90 per cent of all veterinary students. At the same time, there is a shortage of veterinary surgeons, especially for large animals and within food safety. This uneven application pattern is a challenge which the Faculty of Life Sciences is now addressing. The Ministry has just approved a new admission procedure which makes it easier to match the interests of young people with the needs of the labour market when assessing which of the many applicants to admit. Read the entire press release at [http://www.life.ku.dk/Nyheder/2007/967\\_ny\\_vet\\_optag\\_procedure.aspx](http://www.life.ku.dk/Nyheder/2007/967_ny_vet_optag_procedure.aspx)

*By Martin Sandgaard, Communications*

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 31 July 2007*

## **A meeting of practice and research – submission of project idea by Friday 31 August**

This news item was created on: 30 July 2007

Project at the University of Copenhagen supports the development by academic environments of further education courses for the highly educated.

The supply of research-based further education courses is dominated by long-term courses. Many highly educated people are looking for reflection and inspiration in relation to their jobs, but they do not have the time or resources for a long study programme such as a Master's degree. There is a lack of short courses that appeal to this group.

The University of Copenhagen is therefore launching a project that supports the development by academic environments of new further education courses.

Emphasis will be on developing courses that combine research-based knowledge and the practical experience of the participants.

The courses will correspond to 5-15 ECTS credit points.

Academic environments can obtain grants for developing the courses, assistance with concept development, needs analyses, educational support and marketing. The financial contributions for covering the labour costs spent on the development work will amount to approx. DKK 150,000 and must be counterbalanced by co-financing of a similar amount by the academic environment/department in question.

To support the development work, academic environments are invited to participate in an educational/didactic development team for the purpose of exchanging ideas and experience as well as to be inspired by best practice from Denmark and abroad.

Submit your project idea. Interested academic environments can submit their project ideas until and including Friday 31 August 2007.

See guidelines at the project website [www.kompetence.ku.dk/elu-projektet](http://www.kompetence.ku.dk/elu-projektet)

**Gitte Preisler, IT Learning Center - DVJB, [gjp@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjp@life.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 30 July 2007*

## **New telephone number for Student Counselling Office and as from 27 August also with a new name, Student Services, which you should contact if you have any questions**

This news item was created on: 30 July 2007

The Student Counselling Office at LIFE has started using its new telephone number. You can now contact us on 35 33 35 33 during opening hours, Monday to Friday, 9 am to 12.30 pm.

The new telephone number is part of the setting up of the new Student Services of which the Student Counselling Office is an integrated part. The new Student Services will provide student counselling, assistance for BSc projects and theses, finding accommodation, exam registration etc.

The new Student Services will open at the start of term on 27 August and will then be open every weekday from 9 am to 3 pm. Until then, the Student Counselling Office will be open weekdays from 9 am to 12.30 pm.

You can email us now at [studenterservice@life.ku.dk](mailto:studenterservice@life.ku.dk) and see our website at [www.life.ku.dk/studenterservice](http://www.life.ku.dk/studenterservice)

See you in the new Student Services!

**Student Services, Education and Students, [studievejledning@life.ku.dk](mailto:studievejledning@life.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 30 July 2007*

## **2007/08 curricula (only) available on the website – printed student handbooks will no longer be published**

This news item was created on: 30 July 2007

The 2007/08 curricula are now available on the website under Studerende > Studieordninger.

Printed student handbooks will no longer be published.

The following major changes have been made compared to last year's curricula:

- a new curriculum has been prepared for the BSc programme in Horticulture, as the programme is now offered in Danish
- a new subject-specific course has been established in Urban Design on the BSc programme in Landscape Architecture
- a new curriculum has been prepared for the new MSc programme in Gastronomy and Health

In the part of the curricula common for all study programmes, the following changes have been made:

- in future, the new 7-step scale will be used for marking
- group exams can no longer be held (see in particular chapter 7.12)
- target descriptions have been prepared for theses, BSc projects and written assignments
- an electronic copy must be handed in of BSc projects and theses
- it is possible to prepare one (and only one) 3-point assignment in the course of your study programme

Please note that the regulations are subject to minor changes from year to year. All lecturers and students are therefore encouraged to read the regulations (again) when relevant, e.g. when starting on a BSc project or thesis.

Please also note that the common part of the 2007/08 curricula may be subject to further changes in terms of deadlines and thesis formulations due to coming changes in the executive order concerning education and exams which is expected to enter into force on 1 September 2007.

If you want to know more about what the abolition of group exams means, you can (if you are a lecturer) read the executive order "Ny bekendtgørelse afskaffer gruppeeksamen" under For medarbejdere > Undervisning & eksamen > VÆRD AT VIDE om eksamen, and (if you are a student) you can read "Særligt om gruppeeksamen" under For studerende > Eksamen > VÆRD AT VIDE om eksamen.

**Ingelise Lundgaard, Education and Students, [il@life.ku.dk](mailto:il@life.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gjb@life.ku.dk](mailto:gjb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 30 July 2007*

### **First graduate at LIFE under the new PPP programme (Public Private Partnerships)**

This news item was created on: 2 July 2007

On Thursday 28 June, Anh Dao Phan Thi from Vietnam was awarded her MSc in Food Science and Technology.

She is the first student from a developing country who is sponsored by an entirely new programme, PPP (*Offentlig Private Partnerskaber* – Public Private Partnerships) where private businesses, the Faculty of Life Sciences and Danida sponsor the education and living costs for students from developing countries.

The purpose of the programme is to strengthen the education sector and the competences in the developing countries with which the private companies are doing business.

This grant for the Faculty of Life Sciences is equally sponsored by Arla Foods and the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Danida.

Per Holten-Andersen, Dean at the Faculty of Life Sciences, is very pleased "to have the very first graduate educated at the Faculty of Life Sciences under the auspices of the PPP agreement based on active financial support from the Danish business sector and Danida."

Anh Dao Phan Thi, from the Can Tho University in southern Vietnam, has written her thesis at the Department of Food Science at the Faculty of Life Sciences with Associate Professor Leif Poll as her supervisor. In her thesis, she demonstrates significant effects on the quality, aroma and vitamin C content of both fresh mango and mango juice when subjected to different ripening conditions, blanching and pasteurisation. Anh Dao now holds an MSc in Food Science and Technology.

In commenting on Anh Dao's studies in Denmark and her thesis, her supervisor Leif Poll says: "Anh Dao worked in a dedicated manner in the laboratory and her findings are so good that I feel sure they can be used in a scientific paper. I will suggest that Ahn Dao prepares a scientific paper with me based on her thesis findings."

The very fact that the first PPP graduate at the Faculty of Life Sciences is from Vietnam also pleases Henrik Jørgen Andersen, Head of Corporate Research, Arla Foods, as the company is expanding its activities in Vietnam, one of the fastest growing markets in the region. Arla Foods is launching a new company in Vietnam

with expected sales of DKK 60 million in the first year, and Arla Foods is also planning to introduce a new milk powder product named Milex®. Henrik Jørgen Andersen is therefore delighted that Arla Foods' involvement in the PPP programme together with the Faculty of Life Sciences and Danida has resulted in such an impressive strengthening of Vietnamese competences: Anh Dao Phan Thi's MSc in Food Science and Technology.

The first degree under the new PPP agreement was officially awarded on Thursday 28 June by Mogens Flensted-Jensen, Pro-dean of Education. Other participants in the ceremony included Grete Bertelsen, Head of the Department of Food Science, Leif Poll, Associate Professor, supervisor for Anh Dao Phan Thi, Henrik Jørgen Andersen, Head of Corporate Research, Arla Foods, representing the private donor in the partnership, and Anne Christensen, Director at Danida Fellowship Centre.

Click here [for more information about the PPP programme](#).

*By Mikael Jørgensen, Education and Students*

**Mikael Jørgensen, Internationalisation and Developing Countries, [mij@life.ku.dk](mailto:mij@life.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 2 July 2007*

## Staff news

**60 years: Professor Leif Skibsted, Department of Food Science, Tuesday 28 August – symposium and reception on Monday 27 August at 1.30 pm in lecture room 1-01**

This news item was created on: 1 August 2007

Leif Skibsted, Professor of Food Chemistry at the Faculty of Life Sciences, the University of Copenhagen, celebrates his 60th birthday on 28 August 2007.

Leif Skibsted's research focuses on understanding the properties of food based on the physical and chemical interactions that occur at a molecular level. Studies of the mode of action of antioxidants have, among others, played a very important role.

Leif Skibsted's comprehensive knowledge is widely recognised in the university world and not least in many food companies, in particular within the dairy and meat industries as well as in the ingredients industry, as a result of numerous collaboration projects. For his large contribution to research, Leif Skibsted has been awarded, e.g., Bjerrums Kemikerpris and the Carlsberg Research Award in Agricultural Science.

Leif Skibsted has built up a comprehensive international network of collaboration partners, which, in addition to many contacts in Europe, also counts scientists in, e.g., Brazil and China where he is Honorary Professor at

the Huazhong Agricultural University in Wuhan. In addition, Leif Skibsted is the only Dane to be elected as a Fellow to the exclusive "International Academy of Food Science and Technology".

In 2005, Leif Skibsted was honoured by ISI Web of Knowledge as the most quoted Danish agricultural and food scientist in the scientific literature. He was later included as "highly cited" on the list of the most quoted scientists in the world, a list counting only 25 Danes. Leif Skibsted is, however, also known for communicating science to a popular audience, as he answers questions from consumers in the magazine Samvirke, published by the Co-operative Retail and Wholesale Society of Denmark (FDB).

Among university students, Leif Skibsted is known as a very committed lecturer. In recognition of this, he was awarded the Golden Bull Award (Den Gyldne Tyr) by students at the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University in 2001 for being such an excellent lecturer.

The education of future food scientists is very important for Leif Skibsted, and he has during his career educated many new scientists. At the same time, Leif Skibsted is head of the research school FOOD under the auspices of the Centre for Advanced Food Studies, which coordinates the education of scientists within food in Denmark and which is now looking to expand its activities globally.

Leif Skibsted was awarded a PhD from the Danish University of Pharmaceutical Sciences in 1976. He then held various scientific positions at the Department of Chemistry at the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University and at the University of California. In 1991, Leif Skibsted became head of the Centre for Food Science at the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University and in 1992 he took up the professorship in food chemistry at the Department of Food Science at the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University.

The most recent field of research which has absorbed Leif Skibsted is molecular gastronomy where, in collaboration with various chefs, he is trying to combine the experience of these chefs with research into the physical/chemical reactions of food, thus providing the basis for developing new and exciting dishes. Molecular gastronomy is at the same time an important ingredient in the new MSc in Gastronomy and Health being offered by the University of Copenhagen from September 2007.

This interest in food and health is also important for Leif Skibsted in other contexts. Leif Skibsted is, among other things, a member of the Danish Fitness and Nutrition Council, and he is both an enthusiastic cook at home in Klinteby near Faxe Ladeplads and a keen marathon runner – he broke the magical four-hour barrier a couple of years ago.

Leif Skibsted's birthday will be celebrated on 27 August 2007 at 1.30 pm with the symposium "Fødevarer: Molekyler og mekanismer" (Food: Molecules and mechanisms) in the main lecture hall 1.01, Bülowsvej 17, Frederiksberg and with a reception at 3.30 pm in the Senate's conference room, Bülowsvej 17, Frederiksberg. Please register at [ism@life.ku.dk](mailto:ism@life.ku.dk). [Programme](#)

*By Carsten Peter Sørensen, Department of Food Science*

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 1 August 2007*

**Farewell reception: Senior Laboratory Assistant Ruth Jensen, Department of Basic Animal and Veterinary Sciences (IBHV), on Thursday 16 August from 2 pm to 4 pm in the library, IBHV, Grønnegårdsvej 7**

This news item was created on: 30 July 2007

To celebrate the retirement of Senior Laboratory Assistant Ruth Jensen, a farewell reception will be held on Thursday 16 August at 2 to 4 pm

Reception venue: The library, the anatomy building, Department of Basic Animal and Veterinary Sciences, Grønnegårdsvej 7.

Everybody is welcome!

Lise Kolbøl, IBHV, [lk@life.ku.dk](mailto:lk@life.ku.dk)

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 30 July 2007*

**Farewell reception: Head of Secretariat Rita Elkjær, Department of Agricultural Sciences (IJV), on Thursday 9 August at 2 pm in the canteen at Højbakkegaard**

This news item was created on: 30 July 2007

As Rita has chosen to seek new challenges at the Department of Pharmacology and Pharmatherapy at the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, we would like to thank her for her dedicated work at the Department of Agricultural Sciences.

We would therefore like to invite colleagues and collaboration partners for a farewell reception on Thursday 9 August at 2 pm in the canteen, Højbakkegård Allé in Taastrup.

Brian Dennis, Head of the Department of Agricultural Sciences

Annett Skindbjerg Rasmussen, IJV, [asr@life.ku.dk](mailto:asr@life.ku.dk)

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 30 July 2007*

**New professor: Lars Stoumann Jensen has been appointed professor with special duties – inaugural lecture on 17 August at 1 pm in the Marble Hall**

This news item was created on: 30 July 2007

On 1 April, Lars Stoumann Jensen was appointed professor with special duties within the biological aspects of manure and waste substances in relation to soil fertility and the environment.

Lars Stoumann Jensen will give a lecture on: Affald fra land til by - kan vi udnytte det mere bæredygtigt? (Waste from country to city – can we utilise it in a more sustainable manner?) on Friday 17 August at 1 pm in lecture hall 3-14. After the lecture, a reception will be held in the Marble Hall.

Everybody is welcome.

Brian Dennis, IJV, [bde@life.ku.dk](mailto:bde@life.ku.dk)

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [gib@life.ku.dk](mailto:gib@life.ku.dk) – latest update 30 July 2007*

**New professor: Annemarie Thuri Kristensen appointed professor of clinical oncology on 2 July at the Department of Small Animal Science (IMHS)**

This news item was created on: 30 July 2007

The dean has appointed Annemarie Thuri Kristensen professor of clinical oncology in small animals at the Department of Small Animal Science on 1 July 2007.

Camilla Holm, HR, [caho@life.ku.dk](mailto:caho@life.ku.dk)

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 30 July 2007*

### **New professor: Knud Jørgen Jensen appointed professor of nanobioscience on 1 August at the Department of Natural Sciences (IGV)**

This news item was created on: 30 July 2007

The dean has appointed Knud Jørgen Jensen professor of nanobioscience at the Department of Natural Sciences on 1 August 2007.

**Mie Weile , HR, [miwe@life.ku.dk](mailto:miwe@life.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 30 July 2007*

### **New head of the Department of Large Animal Sciences from 1 October**

This news item was created on: 2 July 2007

On 1 October, Per S. Henriksen will take up the position as Head of Department at the Department of Large Animal Sciences.

A veterinary surgeon, Per S. Henriksen has for a number of years been employed at the Danish Veterinary and Food Administration, most recently as deputy director responsible for the food and nutrition area. Per S. Henriksen has the required scientific background, experience at handling administrative tasks as well as a large network of business contacts, including international experience within the veterinary and food area. At the same time, he possesses the managerial competences required to meet the challenges facing the department: The occupancy of a new horse hospital, the move to Taastrup, international accreditation as well as expanding student numbers by 50 per cent.

**Dean Per Holten-Andersen, [pha@life.ku.dk](mailto:pha@life.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 2 July 2007*

### **Professor Arne Astrup, Department of Human Nutrition, appointed member of the professional advisory committee for increasing the awareness of the risks associated with smoking, alcohol, obesity and physical inactivity**

This news item was created on: 2 July 2007

The Minister for Employment, Claus Hjort Frederiksen, has appointed Professor Arne Astrup, Department of Human Nutrition, member of the professional advisory committee for increasing the awareness of the risks associated with smoking, alcohol, obesity and physical inactivity for the period 15 June 2007 to 31 December 2010.

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 2 July 2007*

# Research

## Three new focus areas at LIFE

This news item was created on: 30 July 2007

The Faculty of Life Sciences will launch no less than three new focus areas in 2007. Over the next four years, the faculty will strengthen and raise the profile of interdisciplinary research within the fields of water, biofuels and animal models.

With the new focus areas LIFE is sending a strong signal that the faculty's core research areas and competences are relevant for society. Both politically and among the general public, there is increased focus on all three areas, and the choice of water, biomass for energy and animal models reflects the ambition of LIFE: to make a difference for the society that we are part of.

An important criterion for choosing these areas was that they bring together and coordinate research across departments and are also open for including scientists from other parts of the Life Science cluster at the University of Copenhagen. This creates new synergy between research areas which already possess strong competences within their individual fields of expertise. It is a common feature of the focus areas that they comprise both research, teaching, communication and innovation.

## Future water resources

By making future water resources a strategic focus area, LIFE emphasises its major competences within the field of water. Recent years have seen water becoming an item on the political agenda, with focus on the need for sustainable management of the water resources. The lack of clean water is one of the critical problems that needs to be solved, and one which has top priority at both national and EU level. At the same time, solutions are required in terms of the considerable problems with water quality that developing and newly industrialised countries are facing.

LIFE's main areas of expertise within water are the function, consumption and influence of water in relation to food production, ecosystems and health. The faculty has adopted a holistic approach to the chain from farm to fork, and in this connection water plays a central role. At the same time, there are very good opportunities for water and health research at the new University of Copenhagen where many scientists work across faculties within this field.

## Fuel for Life

The faculty's focus on sustainable primary production for bioenergy is introduced under the slogan *Fuel for Life*. Bioenergy is energy for heating, electricity and transport that originates from biomass, primarily from plants. Several of the agricultural crops and forest products which are currently used for feed, food and materials can also be used as raw materials for bioenergy. These plants are, however, not developed for use as biomass for energy, and there is a great potential for increasing the production of biomass. Sustainable production is the major challenge when it comes to utilising the large potential of biomass from plants.

The political focus on bioenergy has increased, and both the Danish government's globalisation fund and the EU's Seventh Framework Programme have earmarked large sums for research on the conversion of biomass to energy and biofuels. It is the ambition of the Faculty of Life Sciences to become a powerhouse within this field, also internationally. The faculty possesses a unique combination of competences within farming, forestry, plant breeding, production systems, planning, development aid, environmental economy and organics, all competences that are supplemented by teams of scientists from other faculties at the University of Copenhagen as well as other institutions in Denmark. The interdisciplinary focus area *Fuel for Life* brings together the research environments of the University of Copenhagen in a joint effort to develop sustainable production of bioenergy.

The bioenergy focus area has its own website: see more at [www.fuel.life.ku.dk](http://www.fuel.life.ku.dk)

### **SHARE – Synergy in Human and Animal Research**

Finally, LIFE is launching an overall focus area within animal models, the purpose being to exploit the potential synergies between research on animal and human diseases and thus improve the health of both animals and people. As the only faculty in Denmark, LIFE has the expertise and unique competences within both experimental and spontaneous clinical animal models that bring together disciplines and teams of scientists across departments. Animals spontaneously develop a large number of the same diseases as people, including cancer, blood poisoning, diabetes and heart diseases, and diagnostics and treatment are often the same in animals and people.

LIFE has a very active research and teaching environment within the area of laboratory animals and is the largest provider of education within this field.

The synergy with the human field will form the basis for increased collaboration with the Faculty of Health Sciences (KU-SUND) and the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences (KU-FARMA), and the focus area also opens up for new interdisciplinary research collaboration projects with the pharmaceutical industry. The area is also an international focus area in, for example, the EU's Seventh Framework Programme.

SHARE will support the veterinary PhD research programme that is facing its biggest challenge ever with the goal that 25 per cent of a year group is to complete a PhD.

Read more at [www.share.life.ku.dk](http://www.share.life.ku.dk)

For each of the focus areas, a steering committee will be appointed with key persons from the research areas in question; the committee will report directly to the pro-dean for research. The steering committee will coordinate the efforts to reach the strategic goals for the focus area and will have the overall responsibility for promoting specific initiatives and projects.

LIFE already has the interdisciplinary focus area BEST (a Danish acronym for building a healthier life), focusing on biomedicine and system biology. Read more at [www.best.life.ku.dk](http://www.best.life.ku.dk)

For further information about the new focus areas, please contact:

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*By Lykke Hindsgaul, Research and Innovation. 2nd revision version*

**Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 30 July 2007**

## Singapore National Research Foundation Research Fellowship

This news item was created on: 2 July 2007

The Singapore National Research Foundation (NRF) supports the Research, Innovation and Enterprise Council chaired by the Singapore Prime Minister to provide a coherent strategic overview of R&D policies and direction in Singapore. It manages a SGD 5 billion National Research Fund to develop R&D as a key driver in transforming Singapore into a knowledge and innovation-based economy.

The Singapore National Research Foundation (NRF) is inviting brilliant, young researchers who are ready for their first independent research appointments to apply for our inaugural NRF Research Fellowship Awards.

The NRF Research Fellowship provides:

- \* Complete freedom and independence to pursue their research direction in Singapore
- \* A 3-year research grant of up to USD 1.5 million, with a possible extension for another three years
- \* A competitive salary
- \* The opportunity for joint appointment at the host university or research institution
- \* Freedom to select the host institution in Singapore

A fact sheet on the NRF Research Fellowship is attached. More information can also be found at the website [www.nrf.gov.sg/nrf-fellowship.htm](http://www.nrf.gov.sg/nrf-fellowship.htm)

**Annica Nielsen, Internationalisation and Developing Countries, [anie@life.ku.dk](mailto:anie@life.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 2 July 2007*

## Grants

### Carlsbergs Mindelegat for Brygger J.C. Jacobsen – application deadline Friday 5 October

This news item was created on: 30 July 2007

Carlsbergs Mindelegat for Brygger J.C. Jacobsen is awarding ten scholarships for students doing final exam projects within chemistry, biochemistry or biotechnology at faculties of science at universities and other institutions of higher education.

Application forms are available at [www.carlsbergsmindelegat.dk](http://www.carlsbergsmindelegat.dk)

[The announcement can be found here](#)

**Annette Guildal, Education and Students**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 30 July 2007*

## Travel grant: Dyrlæge W. L. Lænkholms rejselegat – application deadline: Saturday 15 September

This news item was created on: 30 July 2007

In November 2007, five travel grants will be awarded to student veterinary surgeons at the Faculty of Life Sciences who wish to travel abroad to supplement their studies and who are deemed to have the potential to benefit professionally from such financial support.

- Applications without relevant enclosures, including academic records stating matriculation number and a list of marks, will not be considered.
- Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

Application forms are available at the website for students and must be completed and submitted to the Faculty of Life Sciences, Education and Students, Bülowsvej 17, 1870 Frederiksberg C, by 15 September 2007 at the latest.

If an applicant has not received a reply by 8 November 2007, this means that his or her application has been refused.

**Annette Guildal, Education and Students, [ag@life.ku.dk](mailto:ag@life.ku.dk)**

*Gudrun Lau Bjerno, [glb@life.ku.dk](mailto:glb@life.ku.dk) – latest update 30 July 2007*

## Research funds etc.

See the online version at

[http://www.life.ku.dk/Maalgruppe/medarbejdere/life\\_internt/nyhedsbrev/forskningsmidler.aspx](http://www.life.ku.dk/Maalgruppe/medarbejdere/life_internt/nyhedsbrev/forskningsmidler.aspx)

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