



eLIFE – news on life at LIFE

Thursday 3 September 2009

Email to the editors: 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

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

Life at LIFE

Welcome to the new students

Dear new students,

This week, more than 500 Bachelor and more than 500 Master's students are starting at LIFE. We have seen you around Frederiksberg Campus being introduced to all the new aspects of university life: Freshers' trips, new friends, new classes, A-vej, new housing and much more. It is with great pleasure and pride that we bid you welcome. You bring even more life to our 151-year-old Frederiksberg Campus. And eventually you will be among the graduates that are going to help create a sustainable future for animals, people and plants. We have one of the best campuses in the country, if we do say so ourselves. And Frederiksberg Campus is well-known for its particularly good study environment. So you can really look forward to meeting LIFE's committed and talented lecturers and get to know the place better.

Our old students make sure that there is never a dull moment at Frederiksberg Campus: You can join one of our [many clubs](#) – we offer something for everyone! Or you can form your own new club. If you want to influence your studies, you can become involved in the activities of the study boards. The students have a film club, they host events at Café Væskthuset – yes, there are all manner of possibilities at LIFE.

Approx. half of you are new international students. And we are very happy to have you. Experience has shown us that your presence adds something special to student life and campus life in general.

Getting to know a new culture can be a challenge. I hope you have found the intro course helpful! Otherwise you can always bring any questions you might have to a First Contact.

Finally, I encourage you to follow the lead of many others at LIFE and sign up for the annual University of Copenhagen Campus Race – you can read more about it at www.campusrace.ku.dk.

There is much you can do to make your years as a student at LIFE a momentous chapter in your lives. I hope you will make the most of your time here. And we promise to do our part! Welcome to LIFE!

Kind regards,
Per Holten-Andersen
Dean at LIFE

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gjb@life.ku.dk – latest update 2 September 2009

DHL Relay Race – exercise and social interaction

As a supporter, it was fantastic to see an energetic runner from the University of Copenhagen pass by practically once a minute – and even though I only witnessed the final round, most had enough resources to wave and smile.

The University of Copenhagen's tent was also a fine sight in Fælledparken. But maybe we should come up with a special cheer next year befitting of Denmark's largest knowledge institution. So don your thinking caps, suggestions are always welcome!

There was an excellent atmosphere in the tent – the grilled sausages and the draught beer were delicious. But we should probably make sure to have a couple of extra kegs on hand next year, because apparently some of the final runners didn't get any. However that wasn't going to put a damper on their spirits. As one runner said to me: "I didn't run fast enough, so I didn't get any beer. But that's OK. I ran because I enjoyed too many beers over the summer."

The DHL Relay Race is a fine combination of exercise and social interaction. And while the University is made up of a lot of little teams, the atmosphere in the tent and all the rosy cheeks showed that we are also one big team.

Pro-rector Lykke Friis

See the [DHL relay as a sound slide](#) at Universitetsavisen.dk.

Gabino Casas Casanova has compiled some statistics for the University's participation in DHL 2009:

Teams and runners

The University of Copenhagen registered 319 teams, corresponding to 1,595 runners (approx. 30 per cent more than in 2008).

272 teams received final times, i.e. there were a number of teams that completed the race but forgot to hand in chips (we found lots of chips in the tents).

From the Faculty of Life Sciences (LIFE), 64 teams were registered (via the LIFE staff association), corresponding to 320 runners.

See the results at www.sparta.dk.

I have created an overview of [results for LIFE participants](#).

In the category 2 men, 3 women, team no. 52 'KU-LIFE- IHE-Klinisk.Eksp.Ernæring' came in tenth place. Sometime this week, we expect the University of Copenhagen Administration to compile the University's overall results lists, including the winners from among the University's teams.

Tents and people

Like last year, the University sponsored the tents and T-shirts.

There were two tents with room for 1,440 and 288, respectively, giving a total of 1,728 people (approx. 33 per cent more places than in 2008).

We estimate that there were approx. 2,000 runners and supporters in and around the tents throughout the evening (approx. 33 per cent more than in 2008).

Eat, drink and be merry

40 kegs of organic beer (760 l) were emptied before 9 pm (approx. 43 per cent more beer was consumed than in 2008).

Approx. 3,100 organic sausages + rolls were consumed (approx. 20 per cent more than in 2008).

Approx. 1,000 apples, pears and bananas were consumed (approx. 50 per cent more than in 2008).

750 l of mineral water with the University logo were consumed (approx. 25 per cent more than in 2008).

People enjoyed innumerable cans and bottles of their own beer as well as mineral water from the DHL 'picnic baskets'.

Lots of wine in cartons was consumed (but a lot remained unopened).

A great deal of surplus and unopened food (not red wine) was donated to Copenhagen's shelters for the homeless.

We thank everyone for their support in gathering together all the surplus food!

Lost property

Two giant bags were filled with clothing left behind (an increase of 100 per cent compared to 2008). Lost items can be picked up at Occupational Health and Safety (Arbejdsmiljø & Samarbejde), Nørregade 10, entrance C, by appointment before 15 September 2009.

Thank you to the volunteers from the Niels Bohr Institute

Finally, I would like to thank the Niels Bohr Institute for all their help with hanging up banners, providing storage, picking up materials etc. and for dropping off the donated foods to the homeless shelter and a thousand other things.

And thanks to all our colleagues, friends and family members who helped make Monday evening a party for the University runners.

Gabino Casas Casanova, Department of Human Nutrition

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 2 September 2009

Climate scholars welcomed at Café Væksthuset

The recipients of the COP15 climate scholarships have now arrived in Denmark from all over the world. On Tuesday 1 September, they were welcomed at Café Væksthuset by Danish Minister for Development Cooperation Ulla Tørnæs and Danish Minister for Science, Technology and Innovation Helge Sander.

The climate scholarships have been created using the money the Danish government has saved by deciding not to hand out the usual gifts and conference material at the climate conference.

Experience shows that conference gifts often end up in the rubbish bins at hotels and conference centres. And with 15,000 participants, this amounts to significant financial, environmental and resource-related savings.

The approx. DKK 4 million saved has instead financed travel costs, accommodation and two years of climate studies at five Danish Universities for 11 young students. Most come from the developing countries that are facing special challenges because of climate change.

With more than 800 applicants from all over the world, the climate scholarships have called attention to Denmark as an attractive place to study.

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, qlb@life.ku.dk – latest update 2 September 2009

Come to CO2PENHAGEN

Come to CO2PENHAGEN – the world's first carbon-neutral cultural, art and music festival. On 5-6 September, the doors will open to a fantastic technological universe filled with design, culture, music and experiences.

See TV-2, Mercury Rev (US), Dúné, Mikael Simpson, Szhirley, Camille Jones, Lars H.U.G., Grand Avenue, Lulu Rouge, Bjørn Svin, Kiss Kiss Kiss, When Saints Go Machine and many more. Everyone will be performing on energy-efficient stages with LED lighting and amplifiers powered using green electricity.

We don't believe the climate-friendly society of the future will force humans back into the caves.

On the contrary! So come and experience a real mini-society where the climate and the environment go hand in hand with great music, exciting activities and partying.

Two-day tickets are available for only DKK 350 + fees. One-day tickets are also available for DKK 200, and children are free.

Bus 150S will take you from Nørreport Station to the festival site for free. Just show your festival ticket.

The festival takes place at DTU, and the main entrance is on Lundtoftegårdsvej.

Read more about the festival and see all the bands at [CO2penhagen's website](#).

Torben Frandsen, Natural resource student

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, qlb@life.ku.dk – latest update 2 September 2009

Announcements

I have turned 60. Do I have any special rights?

This is just one of many questions to which you can find the answer in the Staff Handbook. The [Staff Handbook](#) makes it easy for you to search for information on the rules, guidelines and agreements that apply to employment at LIFE, e.g. maternity/paternity leave, the working environment and competency development. You can find the Staff Handbook on the staff portal. And if you want to suggest new articles, you are more than welcome to contact Karen Vestergaard Petersen, HR, kvp@life.ku.dk.

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 2 September 2009

AEU – Course on PhD administration

AEU (Administrative Supplementary Training for University Employees) is hosting a Course on PhD administration on 3-5 November 2009.

[Read more about the course here](#) (in Danish).

The deadline for registration is 18 September, and there are still places available. Register online at www.aeu.dk (in Danish).

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 1 September 2009

Influenza A information

After consultation with HR&O, the University of Copenhagen has now launched the website www.influenza.ku.dk, which provides general information on Influenza A (H1N1) for students and staff. The site is currently only available in Danish.

Several faculties already provide local communication on Influenza A – including LIFE with the article: [Prevent the flu epidemic locally](#) by Head of OH&S Rikke Fatum, in eLIFE, 13 August 2009.

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gib@life.ku.dk – latest update 1 September 2009

Education

Student Services activities in block 1

For all activities and events, there is more information available (incl. room numbers) at www.life.ku.dk/studenterservice.

Check out our events www.life.ku.dk/studenterservices

Travel Abroad I

Come and learn about your opportunities for studying abroad this autumn. The first 25 visitors will be served a sandwich and soft drink.

Time: Friday 11 September, 12 noon- 1.30 pm

Target group: Students interested in studying abroad

Language: Danish (possibility for guidance in English afterwards)

Travel Abroad II

Group guidance on studying in Europe and overseas in the academic year 2010/2011. Focusing on the 1 October application deadline.

The group guidance will be divided up according to study programme:

For veterinary medicine students: 17 September, 3.00-4.00 pm

For food science programmes: Monday 21 September, 2.00-3.00 pm

For other study programmes: Wednesday 16 September, 2.00-3.00 pm

Language: Danish

Inspiration for Good Study Habits!

Study techniques for new students!

Receive good advice on how to organise your reading, note-taking techniques, project work and how to plan your time.

Time: Friday 2 October, 12.45-2.45 pm

Target group: New students at LIFE

Language: Danish

About Exams

Find out: How to register for exams. What the first-year exam is. What to do if you fail an exam. What to do if you are ill at the time of an exam.

Time: Calendar week 42

Place: In your classes

Target group: First-year students

Languages: Danish

Competency Workshop

What competencies do you possess? And how can you call attention to them?

Time: Friday 25 September, 9.00 am-3.00 pm

Place: AAK, Nørre Voldgade 94, 1358 Copenhagen K

Target group: All MSc students at LIFE. BSc students, if there is room.

Language: Danish

[Registration required!](#)

Give Your Studies a Boost – Break New Ground

Want to spice up your studies? Come and learn more about industrial projects, studying abroad and courses outside LIFE.

Time: Friday 9 October, 12.45-2.30 pm

Target group: Everyone

Languages: Introduction in English, presentations in Danish and English

Job Search Workshop

Are you thinking about what you want to do after graduation – and how you can get there? Are you getting ready to look for a job? Then this workshop is for you!

Time: Thursday and Friday, 8-9 October 2009, 9.00 am-4.00 pm

Target group: All MSc students at LIFE

Language: Danish

[Registration required!](#)

English for Academic Purposes: Oral Skills

This course is for students who need to improve their oral communication skills in English in order to participate more freely in class discussions and presentations.

Time: First lesson on 23 September, 5.15-7.00 pm

Target group: Danish and international students

Language: English

[Registration required!](#)

Get going at LIFE

Get an introduction to project writing, exams, the use of references, study techniques, the Danish classroom and rules and regulations. Fruit and bottled water will be served.

Time: Monday-Friday 21-25 September, 12.00 noon-1.00 pm

Place: To be announced on Student Services website

Target group: International students

Language: English

Registration: Registration required at Student Services website

Wondering what's outside LIFE?

Find out about study activities outside the Faculty, such as industrial projects, studying abroad and courses at other faculties.

Time: Friday 9 October, 12.45-2.30 pm.

Place: To be announced on Student Services website

Target group: International and Danish students at LIFE

Language: English

English for Academic Purposes: Oral Skills

English course for students with a genuine need to improve their oral communication skills in English in order to participate more freely in class discussions and presentations. The course runs for 9 two-hour sessions.

Course start: Wednesday 23 September, 5.15-7.00 pm.

Target group: International and Danish students at LIFE

Language: English

Registration: Registration required at Student Services website

Inge Langberg Kjær, Student Services, studenterservice@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, gjb@life.ku.dk – latest update 2 September 2009

Kick-start Erasmus activities in the new academic year

Institutions of higher education that need to establish new agreements on internships and study stays or who are working on an application for an intensive programme or a multilateral project can apply via CIRIUS for preparatory visits.

If you need to visit your European partners to conclude agreements on Erasmus collaborations, it is possible to apply for subsidies to cover travel expenses and accommodation for a so-called preparatory visit.

Application

The application deadline for preparatory visits is ongoing, however applications must be submitted no later than one month before the start date of the visit. It is not possible to submit applications after 15 November 2009.

The application form for preparatory visits must be completed online on the CIRIUS website.

Read more about [Preparatory visits](#) (in Danish) under the Erasmus programme.

Sanne Hovendahl, Study and Students' Affairs, sho@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 1 September 2009

Find Harald

Is your lecturer or colleague a wise owl and a brilliant teacher?

The University of Copenhagen's lecture award 'Årets Harald' is given every year to a part-time or full-time lecturer at the University for good and inspirational teaching. The winner receives a porcelain owl and DKK 25,000, which is presented at the Annual Commemoration Ceremony on Thursday 12 November 2009.

With this award, which is named after the mathematician Harald Bohr, the University of Copenhagen wishes to call attention to and show its appreciation for high-quality university teaching.

Are you a student or employee at the University of Copenhagen and do you know this year's best lecturer? Send in a reasoned nomination of max. 1 page no later than Monday 14 September 2009 to:

Communication
Attn: Helle Thaysen
Nørregade 10
Postbox 2177
DK-1017 Copenhagen K

The nomination must be in a sealed envelope marked 'Årets Harald'.

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 1 September 2009

Staff news

Inaugural lecture: Professor Dr Cecil C. Konijnendijk

Friday 2 October 2009 at 2 pm in auditorium 3-14. Afterwards, there will be a reception at Forest & Landscape, Rolighedsvej 23.

See the invitation here – [Invitation inaugural lecture](#)

Jette Kanneworff, Forest & Landscape, jeka@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 2 September 2009

Research

Nordic Networks: Effect Studies and Adaptation to Climate Change

The Top-level Research Initiative launches a call for Nordic Networks within the sub-programme 'Effect Studies and Adaptation to Climate Change'. The sub-programme aims to improve knowledge about the effects of climate change, society's capacities for adaptation and the risks and opportunities that the effects of climate change may bring to the Nordic region.

A Nordic Network brings together prominent research groups from at least three Nordic countries in order to strengthen and increase the quality of research and research training at the Nordic, European and international levels. Interdisciplinary applications are encouraged. Participants from industry, policy-makers and societal players can be included in the Nordic Network where relevant.

The deadline for applications is 13 November 2009 (4:00 pm CET).

For more information [see here](#) and [read the complete call text here](#).

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Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 1 September 2009

Conference: Sustainable Use of Natural Resources in Tropics and Subtropics

All academic staff members are invited to participate in the 3rd Scientific Conference of the Institute of Tropics and Subtropics at the Czech University of Life Sciences on 19 November 2009. [See here for more information on registration](#).

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 1 September 2009

Grants

Foreningen PLAN DANMARK – deadline for applications: 1 October

As in previous years, the above foundation is awarding a number of grants in the order of DKK 5,000-10,000 in December 2009.

The aim of the grants is, among other things, to improve the education of young farmers and students at the Faculty of Life Sciences who, for example, would like to study at a university abroad for a semester. Financial support for travel and living expenses is provided.

The application must be for studies abroad starting *after* the deadline for application; starting studies abroad in

September 2009, however, is acceptable.

Applications without correct academic records stating all marks and exam attempts and a specified budget will not be considered.

Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

Signed applications must be submitted to the Faculty of Life Sciences/University of Copenhagen, Study and Students' Affairs, Bülowsvej 17, 1870 Frederiksberg C, Denmark, by Thursday 1 October 2009 at the latest.

Letters of rejection will not be sent, but the awarding of the grant will be announced in eLIFE.

Annette Guildal, Study and Students' Affairs, ag@life.ku.dk

Gudrun Lau Bjerno, glb@life.ku.dk – latest update 1 September 2009

Research funds etc.

See the updated information on the Research & Information website.