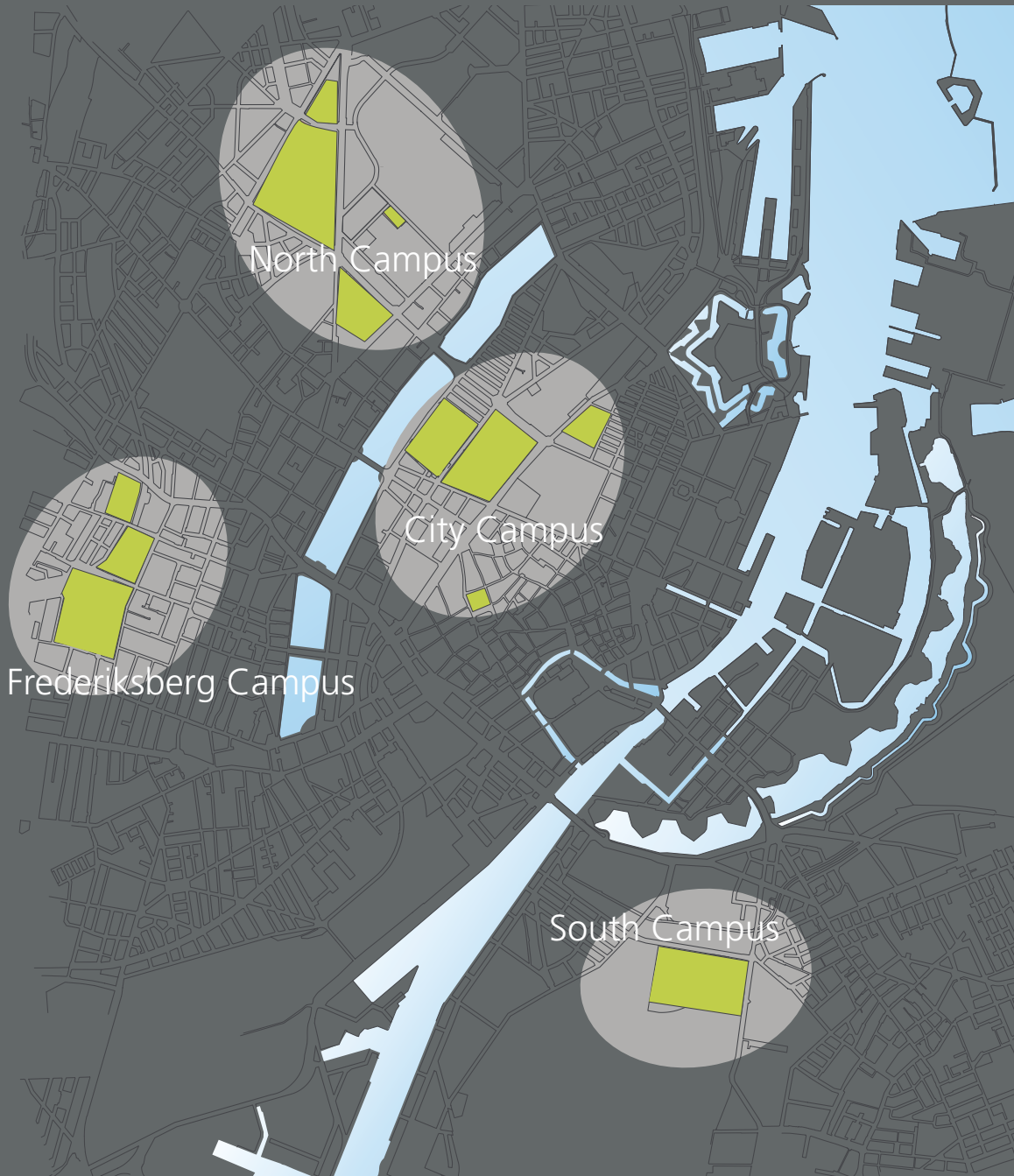


University Life
2006

University of Copenhagen Campuses



The University of Copenhagen is to be concentrated into four large campuses (see page 18).

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2006 characterised by merger debate

2006 was an eventful year for the University of Copenhagen. The decision was made to merge with the Royal Danish Veterinary and Agricultural University (KVL) and the Danish University of Pharmaceutical Sciences (DFU) as of 1 January 2007. And the management reform will soon be complete at all levels. The main focus in 2007 will be the University of Copenhagen's overall strategy.



PHOTO: HEINE PETERSEN

The University management reform began with the appointment of the Rector as of 1 November 2005. Upon the recommendation of the Rector, the Board appointed in January former head of research and head of European policy Lykke Friis, PhD, as Pro-Rector beginning on 1 March 2006. The Rector then appointed the Deans, who have since appointed Vice-Deans and department heads. This leaves the Curriculum Board elections and appointment of directors of study, which will take place in the first part of 2007.

In December, the Board appointed Jørgen Honoré as University Director, upon the recommendation of the Rector. He replaces Else Sommer, who was appointed Chief Executive of the City of Copenhagen's Children and Youth Administration.

In March, the Danish Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation asked every university and government research institute to indicate the boards' intended merger partners.

The University considered a merger with DFU and KVL most appropriate.

On the basis of these declarations and a number of follow-up meetings, the Ministry released the Government's proposal for a new map of Denmark in the university and government research institute sector. This proposal includes a merger of KU, DFU and KVL.

After comprehensive analyses and negotiations between the three universities, a basis for decision-making was established for the boards and the Ministry. KU's Board approved the merger at a meeting held on 7 November.

While the management reform and the merger have been the most prominent aspects of 2006, it is also worth noting that an agreement has been made between KU and the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation regarding the University's properties and future location. The agreement ensures funding to cover the costs of moving faculties and departments, which is necessary to achieve rational property finances. With this agreement, KU can use fewer addresses than described in the original campus plan.

In December, the Board adopted KU's budget for 2007. For technical reasons, the three merging universities will have separate budgets for the first year. In addition, a merger budget has been established that combines the special expenses and savings resulting from the merger.


The political agreement on globalisation funds increases funding for research, and the Board is looking forward to achieving a better basis for long-term planning of and investment in research and education.

The Board's Strategic Pool in the 2007 budget earmarks funds for a number of strategic initiatives. In the area of education, funds have been set aside for improving the study environment. Funds have also been earmarked for a series of research initiatives; international collaboration; dissemination and various staff policy improvements.

Furthermore, research funds have been reserved for allocation by the individual faculties according to internationally recognised quality criteria.

2007 will be a year of transition. The 2007 Board will comprise 17 members – the members of KU's Board as well as three external and three internal members elected or appointed by KVL and DFU from among their board members.

The first task of the Transitional Board in 2007 will be the adoption of KU's overall strategy, which has been submitted for consultation at the University since 1 November 2006. ■



Bodil Nyboe Andersen
Chairperson of the board

The Board of 2006 – key decisions

19 January

The Board appointed, upon the Rector's recommendation, Lykke Friis, PhD, as Pro-Rector for the University of Copenhagen.

7 March

The Board approved the Performance Contract.

4 April

The Board approved the annual report for 2005.

7 November

The Board approved the agreement with accompanying appendices regarding the merger of the three universities: the University of Copenhagen, the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University and the Danish University of Pharmaceutical Sciences.

5 December

The Board adopted the 2007 budget.

18 December

The Board appointed, upon the recommendation of the Rector, Jørgen Honoré as Director of the University of Copenhagen.

Rector's team in place

A new team: The University of Copenhagen came under an entirely new management team in 2006. Rector Ralf Hemmingsen's choice for Pro-Rector, Lykke Friis, was approved by the Board. And six Deans were then appointed.

The new Deans are the highest authorities of their faculties. The Deans together with the Rector, Pro-Rector and University Director make up the Management Team that is responsible for the development of the University.

The Deans are responsible for ensuring that the University conducts excellent research, provides an education of the

highest quality and establishes strong partnerships with the business community and knowledge institutions – also internationally.

“We have appointed a number of experienced academic leaders. This is necessary because the University is facing some very crucial tasks, including strengthening basic research and the study environment. And there is also an extensive need for modernisation of the organisation,” says Rector Hemmingsen.

You can follow developments on the Rectorate's blog: blogs.ku.dk/lykkeogralf



PHOTO: SØREN HARTVIG

Henrik Dam – Dean of the Faculty of Law

38-year-old Henrik Dam has had a fast-track career at the University of Copenhagen. He earned an LLM in 1991 and immediately received a research scholarship. In 1996 he was appointed assistant professor and in 1998 associate professor. Among the staff, he is known as the dynamic Vice-Dean, who as financial controller was responsible for righting the previous year's deficit of more than DKK 14 million. At the age of 37, he was appointed professor in tax law. Henrik Dam has a number of visions for the Faculty – including Law having at least three international one-year Master programmes by 2008. With regard to the study environment, Henrik Dam feels it is not currently up to scratch:

“The problem is the physical setting. So I welcome the Rector's decision to establish a South Campus (Søndre Campus), because in my eyes it's a move in the right direction for our Faculty.” ■



Nils Overgaard Andersen – Dean of the Faculty of Science

Nils O. Andersen, professor of experimental nuclear physics at the Niels Bohr Institute, is known as the dedicated soul who could successfully manage being a Director for two three-year periods and still keep up his research and teaching. Now he will be heading the largest science research and education institution in Denmark with more than 6,000 students and 1,500 staff.

Part of what Professor Andersen will be working with as Dean is staff policy improvements:

“I can see that students of mine who find jobs in the private sector in many ways have much better working conditions than what we offer young researchers. It should take hard work to get in here, but once you're in and taking part in the race, you should be treated decently,” says Professor Andersen. One thing he would like to do is provide start-up funds for young researchers. ■

Steffen Kjeldgaard-Pedersen – Dean of the Faculty of Theology

As the only one of the elected deans, Steffen Kjeldgaard-Pedersen is continuing in the position. In 1973 he earned a Master's in Theology at the University of Copenhagen and in 1983 he earned his Doctorate. He has held positions as professor, head of department and director of studies at the Faculty of Theology, and in 2002 he became Dean of the Faculty. According to Professor Kjeldgaard-Pedersen, his most important task will be “to make sure that the studies function optimally and to ensure good working conditions for both colleagues and students.” As Dean, he will also head up the Faculty's move to Amager, where he says one of the challenges will be to bring all the good things from the study environment at Købmagergade to the new setting at the Southern Campus. ■



PHOTO: SØREN HARTVIG



PHOTO: SØREN HARTVIG

Kirsten Refsing – Dean of the Faculty of Humanities

Kirsten Refsing has been recruited from a position abroad. For the last 12 years, she has worked at the University of Hong Kong as head of department and professor in Japanese. She is one of the world's leading researchers in the language of the Japanese Ainu peoples.

“The Humanist from Hong Kong” is the first female Dean in the history of the Faculty. She has returned to the

University of Copenhagen where she started 40 years ago as a student at what was then known as the Department of East-Asian Studies. In 1986 she submitted her doctoral thesis at the University of Copenhagen and held a position as associate professor at the Department for four years. From 1993-94, she was head of the Department of East-Asian Studies.

Professor Refsing wishes to make a special effort to reduce the drop-out rate, and to get students to complete their studies at a faster pace:

“It is our duty as teachers and researchers to make sure that the problem does not arise by providing support and help to students so they can meet the requirements stipulated by the Government. ■



Lykke Friis – Pro-Rector of the University of Copenhagen

She burns for political science – and at an age of 36 is the new Pro-Rector of the University of Copenhagen. Lykke Friis, PhD, began her political science studies at the University at the tender age of 17, and in 1993 she earned her MSc supplemented by a Master's from the London School of Economics. Four years later, she earned her PhD and in 1996 was appointed researcher – later head of research – at the Danish Institute of International Affairs (DUPI). In 2003, she left the academic world taking the title of Head of European Policy at the Confederation of Danish Industries. ■



PHOTO: HEINE PEDERSEN

Troels Østergaard Sørensen – Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences

Troels Østergaard Sørensen was head of the Institute of Economics for 13 years. And it was also here that he completed his MSc in economics in 1979, his PhD in 1983 and achieved a permanent position as associate professor in 1984. As the new Dean, he will help ensure that the Faculty lives up to its vision of being the leading social science faculty

in Denmark. According to Professor Sørensen, one of the challenges will be to prepare researchers and administrative staff for the increased competition for research funding. Another challenge is internationalisation:

“Mobility among students and researchers will increase in coming years. So if you want the best workers and students, you have to be able to compete in an integrated market for research and education in Europe.” ■



PHOTO: HEINE PEDERSEN

The rectors of the former Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University and the Danish University of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Per Holten-Andersen and Sven Frøkjær, became, by the merger with the University of Copenhagen of 1 January 2007, deans at the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences and The Faculty of Life Sciences, respectively.

Ulla Wewer – Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences

Professor Ulla Wewer, MD, has great visions. The 53-year-old, internationally esteemed cancer researcher was appointed Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Health Sciences in 2002. Before that she held such varied positions as research assistant in the USA and professor in experimental pathology at the University of Copenhagen.

Ulla Wewer is known as the originator

of the University's Tech Trans Unit, which transfers knowledge to the business community. In 2005, she herself concluded a license agreement with an American pharmaceutical company for a new method of foetal diagnosis. That same year, she became acting Dean of the Faculty.

For Professor Wewer, the goal is clear: “The Faculty of Health Sciences should be home to innovation and should attract students and staff from near and far.” ■



PHOTO: HEINE PEDERSEN



PHOTO: HEINE PETERSEN

The story travelled around the world when Eugene Polzik, professor of physics at the Niels Bohr Institute, published his findings on teleportation in *Nature* in October. His team of researchers successfully transported “something” from one place to another using a beam of light.

A brilliant breakthrough

Teleportation. As soon as the word is said, the vision of a sci-fi hero ‘beaming’ from the spaceship to a foreign planet appears in our minds. And when you visit the laboratory in the basement under the Niels Bohr Institute on Blegdamsvej, your expectations of mystical, other-worldly experiments are confirmed. The room is dark, and on a large table there are metal containers and a myriad of mirrors and detectors where infrared light in a fraction of a second is sent from one position to another, split into fragments, processed and sent on in a labyrinth of zigzags. A tangled web of wires hangs down throughout the room, and in the background you can see blue and green dots of light.

The experiment at the Niels Bohr Institute is the first example of teleportation, where light is used to transport information, and where an atomic cloud containing billions of caesium atoms is used to store the information.

A revolution in communication

“Teleportation is one of the most important building blocks in the future quantum communication network, and it can revolutionise communication with computers,” says Professor Polzik.

“The information is not coded and processed in the current 0 and 1 bits, but in quantum states. This means that there can be much more information than with standard bits. In this way, enormous amounts of information can be exchanged between computers, and data can be processed at extremely high speeds. Another important aspect is that the information

encoded in quantum superpositions is completely secure – it is a kind of built-in encryption,” the Professor explains.

Professor Polzik’s journey into the world of quantum physics began in the former Soviet Union. He earned a degree in physics from Saint-Petersburg State University in 1976, and three years later earned a PhD in experimental physics. In the following years, he taught physics until the entire family emigrated to the USA in 1989. There, he walked into the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) and proposed a seminar on quantum optics.

“When I had given that seminar, they offered me a job,” he says with a modest smile.

Cutting-edge research

At Caltech he became part of the research team that was one of the first in the world to successfully carry out teleportation from light to light. That was in 1998, and it attracted a lot of attention.

“But it was clear that it would be more interesting to involve an atomic substance, since computers consist of atoms,” explains Professor Polzik. So the next challenge was teleportation of a piece of information from light to atoms.

Denmark wanted to take part in this new cutting-edge research, and after several years at both Caltech and the University of Aarhus, he was offered in 2003 a basic research centre in quantum optics – QUANTOP – at the Niels Bohr Institute. Here he has composed a team of 15 researchers who work with four different types of experiments.

The experiments with teleportation from light to an atomic substance take place over many hours, and the researchers often do not get home until late at night. One night, in the wee hours, they did it.

“We double checked the figures and could hardly believe it, and then, overwhelmed by happiness, we began to pat each other on the backs,” he recalls.

When the research findings were published in the prominent scientific journal, *Nature*, there was a veritable storm of media interest. Eugene Polzik was practically hunted by media from all over the world. But he took it all in stride.

“I just love doing something that no one else has ever done,” concludes Professor Polzik. ■

A Google search with the words “teleportation polzik” gives around 35,000 hits.

Research in *Nature*

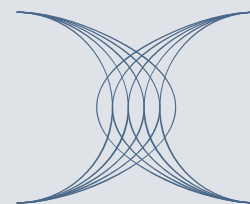
The international journal, *Nature*, is one of the world's leading scientific journals. It is based on peer review, where each article is reviewed by other experts in the same scientific field before publication. Several of KU's research projects in 2006 were mentioned in *Nature* – including:

- The researchers Paul Cloos, Jesper Christensen, Karl Agger and Director for the Biotech Research and Innovation Centre (BRIC), Kristian Helin, have identified some of the aggressive allies of cancer cells as well as how they can be stopped.
- 170 researchers from 16 different countries – including researchers from the Department of Biology headed by Professor Cornelis Grimmekhuijzen – have mapped and interpreted the genes of the honey bee.
- A team of researchers from DARK Cosmology Centre at the Niels Bohr Institute, with astrophysicist Johan Fynbo at the helm, has discovered a new way in which stars can die.
- Biologist Kasper Thorup from the Zoological Museum, in conjunction with international colleagues, has discovered that bats navigating over long distances find their way home with the help of the Earth's magnetic field.

The year's events 2006

A selection of events from the year in review at the University of Copenhagen.

- 1.1. Assistant Professor Karen Martinez, Department of Pharmacology, the recipient of a grant of DKK 1,734,000 from the Lundbeck Foundation, launches into a project in which the inner workings of computer chips will be combined with the inner workings of nerve cells. This will permit detection of very low concentrations of e.g. blood molecules, which can reveal pathologies.
- 1.1. Professor Finn Cilius Nielsen, Department of Diagnostic Radiology, engages in a project with a grant of DKK 2 million from the Lundbeck Foundation to characterise certain mRNA-binding proteins that affect foetal development.
- 4.1. A research team coordinated by Professor Bjørn Quistorff, Department of Medical Biochemistry and Genetics, receives a grant of DKK 16 million from the Danish Council for Strategic Research for the project *Foetal metabolic programming*. Studies will include how maternal intake of fat, carbohydrate and protein affects foetal development.
- 4.1. Kasper Munch is the first student to earn a PhD from the Bioinformatics Centre. The Centre was founded at the Faculty of Science in 2002.
- 14.1. Rector Ralf Hemmingsen signs an agreement for a new global alliance between ten of the world's most prestigious research-intensive universities – *International Alliance of Research Universities (IARU)*. The Alliance will be engaging in collaborative research projects on global issues in fields such as health, energy and the environment. (See pages 30-31)



INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE OF RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES

- 16.1. One of the world's leading business universities, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Boston, identified nano-business Atomistix as one of the world's fastest-growing companies due to its potential to top sales of DKK 250 million within five years, wrote the Danish financial paper *Børsen*. One of the co-founders of the company is Kurt Stokbro, who holds a fractional position at the Nano-Science Center, Niels Bohr Institute.

The steadfast professor

When Jens Juul Holst and his research team proposed that it was possible to treat diabetes with a gastrointestinal hormone, the entire research community thought they were out of their minds. But they were steadfast. And now the first pharmaceuticals have arrived.

There are many pleasures in life. But one of the most satisfying must be to have proven yourself right. It requires the ability not to care that other people see what you are doing as an obsession.

Jens Juul Holst is the man who proved himself right. He is professor at the Department of Biomedical Sciences, and his main interest is gastrointestinal hormones.

In February it became clear that Professor Holst's research, which began in the 1970s, has resulted in pharmaceuticals that can treat – and possibly even cure – type 2 diabetes and obesity.

The findings are revolutionary and are yet more proof of the importance of basic research.

A potent hormone

Originally Professor Holst was going to be a surgeon. But then “Jens Rehfeld got his claws into me.” Rehfeld is now professor and head of the Department of Clinical Biochemistry at Copenhagen University Hospital – Rigshospitalet.

In 1972 they started a laboratory where they conducted research in gastrointestinal hormones, especially incretin, which is actually two hormones. They worked with one in particular, GIP, which stimulates insulin production.

“But the main objective was to find the complete mechanism behind the actions of incretins, and we knew that there had to be another hormone,” says Professor Holst.

And there was. The researchers found GLP-1 and discovered that it stimulates the production of insulin and is, in Holst's own words, “amazingly potent”. That marked the starting point. In the beginning, the two researchers thought that GLP-1 resembled GIP, which they knew *did not* stimulate the production of insulin in patients with diabetes.

“We thought that their insulin-producing cells worked so poorly that even incretin couldn't do anything. But in 1992 we found that GLP-1 worked. And then I decided to devote all my energy to GLP-1.”

And this was despite the fact that the pharmaceutical companies showed very little interest.

PHOTO: WILLI HANSEN



“No one believed in it,” he says.

The discovery of GLP-1 was no miracle cure per se because the hormone disappeared too quickly from the organism. The researchers addressed this issue and discovered that the DPP-4 enzyme is responsible for breaking down GLP-1 in the body. “So if we could find an inhibitor of the enzyme, it could be used to treat patients with diabetes,” explains Professor Holst.

And they found an inhibitor that could do just that.

“But in 1995, when we suggested treatment with DPP-4 inhibitors, a lot of people said that we were crazy and that it wouldn’t work. The immunologists were especially vocal. But we remained steadfast,” says the Professor.

And in 2001, an experiment panned out: an inhibitor was administered to humans for four weeks – and it worked.

Suddenly, the pharmaceutical companies were queuing up to produce DPP-4 inhibitors.

“It totally revolutionises the treatment of type 2 diabetes, because the effect on the blood sugar appears to remain constant. This is crucial, because the other known treatments fail after a period of time,” says the Professor.

The first with everything

“It might have happened anyway, because researchers were working on it all over the world. But we have been the first with almost everything, because from the very beginning we held onto that angle and had treatment of diabetes in mind.”

One of the most promising products – Liraglutide – is based on the natural hormone and is developed by Novo Nordisk. The company is investing heavily in this particular product, and the hormone keeps proving useful in many new ways.

“It might be possible to prevent type 2 diabetes if GLP-1 is given to people in the high-risk group. That would be fantastic. We are carrying out this type of trial in collaboration with some pharmaceutical companies, and it will be some time before we see any results. But we believe that it will work.” ■

26.1. The discovery of an Earth-like planet is published in *Nature*. Associate Professor Uffe Gråe Jørgensen, Niels Bohr Institute, heads the Danish observations at the telescope in Chile, where an international team of researchers makes the discovery.

26.1. Seven researchers from the University of Copenhagen are honoured with the Young Researchers Award from the Danish Councils for Independent Research: Assistant Professor Kresten Lindorff-Larsen, Institute of Molecular Biology and Physiology; Assistant Research Professor Claus Juul Løland, Department of Neuroscience and Pharmacology; Professor Jesper Kragh Grodahl, Department of Mathematical Sciences; External Associate Professor Thomas Jøhnik Hoffmann, Department of Arts and Cultural Studies; Associate Professor Nanna MacAulay, Department of Medical Physiology; Professor Eske Willerslev and Associate Professor Jesper Nygård, both of the Niels Bohr Institute. The researchers will receive funding for a research project and a personal award of DKK 100,000 each.

26.1. The first meeting is held of the consortium behind a new forum for innovation at the University of Copenhagen – *Innovation in Natural and Health Sciences (NSI)*. Among various projects, NSI will be organising workshops for researchers and students interested in entrepreneurship and innovation.

9.2. The Lundbeck Foundation’s *Center for Integrated Molecular Brain Imaging (CIMBI)* opens. CIMBI consists of numerous collaborating institutions, including the University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen University Hospital, Hvidovre Hospital, the Danish University of Pharmaceutical Sciences and the Technical University of Denmark.

17.2. *The McKinsey Award*, worth DKK 10,000 for best short economics essay in autumn 2004 is awarded to economics student Rikke Wümpelmann for the presentation *Danish Funding for Film Making*. In addition, economics student Marianne Clausager Koch and PhD student Christin Kyrme Tuxen are awarded the *Champagne Prize*.

20.2. In the wake of the Danish daily *Jyllands-Posten*’s Mohammed illustrations, a conference on religion and freedom of speech in a globalised world is hosted at the Faculty of Humanities at which leading Danish researchers address issues such as religion and photos, the media’s use of images and Islam and politics. (See pages 34-35)



PHOTO: HEINE PETERSEN



PHOTO: HEINE PETERSEN

She is one of Denmark's leading experts in Islamic law, and she is frequently consulted in the public sphere. Assistant Research Professor Rubya Mehdi, born and raised in Pakistan, has conducted research in Denmark for 20 years. In April, she received the jurisprudence award, *Kafkatten*, for her work.

When law is more than just legal details

Since Rubya Mehdi's childhood in Pakistan, a fire has burnt inside her – a fire kept alight by law and justice. She turned her burning interest into action by becoming a law student in Manchester at the early age of 19, and then she became a women's rights activist at the university in Islamabad, Pakistan. But it is through her research conducted in Denmark over the last 20 years that she has made a lasting impression. As one of the only experts in Islamic law, she has taught and advised social workers in local authorities and in connection with lawsuits, where the Muslim parties act according to Danish as well as Islamic law and common law.

“My most important task as a researcher is to focus on life as it takes place outside the courts. That is how the legal system gets stronger – not by exclusively looking at how cases develop within the walls,” explains Mehdi from her office at the Carsten Niebuhr Section at the Department of Cross-Cultural and Regional Studies.

She is currently working on a book that is the result of her three-year research project “Pakistani families' use of Sharia and Pakistani common law in Denmark”. She has followed the divorces of Muslim couples in Denmark and documented how Islamic law and traditions function parallel to Danish legislation.

Invalid contract

According to Islamic law, the couple at a wedding has entered into a marriage contract that stipulates, among other things, equal rights to divorce and a morning gift for the woman, which is transferred to her in case of divorce. But if the couple gets divorced in Denmark according to Danish law, the contractual relationship becomes invalid and the woman loses her rights in relation to finances and children. At the same time, she cannot get a divorce in the Muslim community and may

Kafkatten – and other awards

Rubya Mehdi received the 2006 *Kafkatten* award from the Danish Association on Legal Affairs (Dansk Retspolitisk Forening). Other researchers at KU have also received awards in 2006. Here are a few highlights:

- Professor Jesper Grodal from the Department of Mathematics received the European Young Investigator Award of approx. DKK 9 million.
- Professor, Flemming Balvig, doctor of laws (LLD), Associate Professor Lars Holmberg, PhD, and Sociologist Anne-Stina Sørensen from the University of Copenhagen received the prominent European Crime Prevention Award of EUR 20,000.

therefore not marry another Muslim man according to Islamic law – which most wish to do.

Mehdi believes in “legal diversity”, a relatively new term in Danish jurisprudence, which paves the way for other norms.

“Globalisation brings with it a growing need to understand the many legal systems that form the basis for different cultures, which suddenly find themselves co-existing side-by-side. The law must take into account the different traditions people have for entering into binding agreements with each other. This is a huge challenge to the Danish legal system, according to Mehdi.

On the basis of her research findings, Mehdi suggests an expansion of Danish law to ensure equal rights for Muslim women through the introduction of a marriage contract. This model is already in place in Norway. However, she has been misunderstood in the press as wanting to introduce Sharia into Danish legislation. Even though interest in understanding Islam is increasing, it is still a challenge for researchers to speak to the media on such complicated aspects, where messages are served in abbreviated form in newspaper headlines or as sound bites on TV news.

When Mehdi fled to Denmark in 1984, it was due to Islamic fundamentalism; opposition to her research into Islam’s influence on Pakistani law became too violent. Today she is happy to have the opportunity to conduct research in Denmark.

“In Pakistan I would never have come this far with my research. A friend of mine, who works at the university in Islamabad, has recently published a book based on her research in family planning. The book was burnt in the university courtyard because it was seen as an expression of her promoting free sex.” ■

- 23.2.** Rector Ralf Hemmingsen becomes the new chair of the Danish Research Coordination Committee (DRCC). He replaces Jens Oddershede of the University of Southern Denmark, who has chaired DRCC since it was established in 2004.
- 23.2.** An open day event is held at the University of Copenhagen with induction meetings and the opportunity to visit a large number of study programmes.
- 1.3.** Lykke Friis, PhD in international politics and Master of Economics, London School of Economics, takes up her five-year appointment as Pro-Rector of the University of Copenhagen. (See pages 6-7). Lykke Friis takes over from Jørgen Olsen, MSc, who instead takes up an appointment as director of Danish Pharma Consortium.
- 2.3.** A kick-off meeting is held with Minister for Science, Technology and Innovation Helge Sander in connection with the agreement concluded between the University of Copenhagen and the Technical University of Denmark on a nano-collaboration in which 200 researchers from the two universities will meet, collaborate and coordinate their research.
- 7.3.** The last of 14 volumes on the history of the University of Copenhagen is published. The work entitled *The University of Copenhagen, 1479-1979* describes the University’s development from the Middle Ages to modern times. The editor of the work is university historian Ejvind Slottved, Division of Building and Physical Planning.
- 10.3.** With a grant of DKK 2 million from the *Danish Natural Science Research Council*, Professor Thomas Bjørnholm, Nano-Science Center, starts the project Bionanotechnology. Professor Peter E. Nielsen, Department of Medical Biochemistry and Genetics, commences the project *Mimicking fundamental processes of life. On the road to artificial life?* with a grant of DKK 540,000 from the same research council.
- 15.3.** Professor Jens Rehfeld, Department of Diagnostic Radiology, is presented with the *Lundbeck Foundation Nordic Research Prize* worth DKK 1.5 million for research elucidating a number of factors relating to types of cancer and psychiatric disease.
- 15.3.** Carlsberg, Viking Life Saving Equipment and the University of Copenhagen join forces to ensure the success of Danish companies in the world at large, reports the Danish financial paper *Børsen*. The ambition is to prepare business people to succeed in foreign markets through the two-module *Cultural Awareness* course.
- 17.3.** Researchers from the Institute of Public Health and Copenhagen University Hospital – Bispebjerg, with a grant of DKK 4.2 million from the Rockwool Foundation, make good progress in a collaboration with researchers from the USA. The project will compare the Danish health service



PHOTOS: HEINE PETERSEN



A researcher that rocks

Johan Olsen, a postdoctoral student, researches X-ray crystallography. He is also the lead singer in one of Denmark's most popular rock bands, Magtens Korridorer. A science nerd with a Mohawk may sound like an impossible mix. Nevertheless, he is living proof that the combination can work.

Johan Olsen can still remember the first time he saw his grade-school biology teacher draw a DNA molecule on the board.

"I can still see the room and how the light hit the board while he drew a double spiral. It was such a wild experience, and he wasn't a very talented teacher," recalls Olsen.

Seeing him in his Mohawk and hooded sweatshirt, it is hard to imagine this punk kid becoming ecstatic about the behaviour of a molecule. But he is a real science nerd. This is confirmed by his colleague who once asked Olsen to autograph a CD and received a drawing of a serotonin molecule to boot.

"Serotonin is what puts us in a good mood, and it's a typically nerdy thing to know its formula," says the colleague,

adding that no one else in the department could remember the formula.

Cool molecules

That is how Olsen is. After being introduced to the DNA molecule, Johan Olsen began spending time at the local library reading *Scientific American*. And after upper-secondary school, he decided to study biology at the University of Copenhagen.

"I wanted to work with molecules and genes, but thought it was important to understand biological systems at the macroscopic level first. Early in my studies I read a book by Albert Szent-Gyorgyi. He started out wanting to understand what life is and ended up looking at electron transfers in photosystems. In his book, he wrote that even though he had gone into great detail, he still didn't understand it," explains Olsen enthusiastically.

"That's how it is with the molecular structures I work with. You can try to describe the molecule, but you can't understand it. It exists in another reality than we do. It's fascinating to observe something, you actually can't see. You know, your eye is made of atoms. But you can't focus on an atom. That's why we purify proteins so that they crystallise and then shoot X-rays into them. That produces some spots and then you can see the atomic structure of the molecules."

From Excel to punk

Olsen got his PhD in X-ray crystallography, before landing his current position at the Institute of Molecular Biology and Physiology. At one point, he was also unemployed for a year, because he had realised that he wanted to work with music

more and was only interested in a part-time position as a researcher. Because “it’s healthy for the soul to do something that doesn’t take place in Excel” – *not* because the molecules have lost their power of attraction.

“I am currently working on a project with a protein called 16K, and we are making new discoveries practically every day. Experiments have been carried out with mice that are heavily infected with tumours, but injecting them with 16K halts the growth of the tumours. It is an extremely potent tumour-inhibiting hormone, and we want to find out why and how exactly it works, so that maybe it will be possible to develop it and use it as a drug in cancer treatment.

Not strange at all

Even though Olsen is standing with each foot in very different worlds, he does not consider his life divided. And he does not find the combination strange.

“I think that the need to be dressed in a specific uniform as an academic is no longer as strong. And when I say uniform, I mean both the tweed jacket, and how you communicate your personality. Over the last 13 years, I have regularly attended crystallography conferences, and in that time I have seen a change. I feel like the same person, when I’m onstage and when I’m at the Institute. And I always look forward both to coming here in the morning and to riding in the tour bus with the band.” ■

Moving boxes in the new BioCenter

At the end of 2006, the first stage of the new BioCenter – established to strengthen biotechnology research in Denmark – was ready to be taken into use. In December, the Institute of Molecular Biology and Physiology, under the Faculty of Health Sciences (NMR Center), and the Biotech Research and Innovation Center (BRIC) began moving in. The Bartholin Institute and the Finsen Laboratory, experimental research units under Copenhagen University Hospital, also moved in.

The Center is the result of a collaboration between the Danish University and Property Administration and the University of Copenhagen. The approximately 29,300-square-metre premises will house new research and teaching facilities. The BioCenter will be officially inaugurated in spring 2007.

with the private American health care organisation Kaiser Permanente. The project is led by Dr. Anne Frølich, consultant physician, Institute of Public Health.

- 21.3.** Four *Mikael Kristiansen Prizes*, each worth DKK 100,000, are awarded to economics students Jannik Ahlefeldt-Laurvig, Alexander Andersen, Tullik Helene Ystanes Føyn and Anne Christine Nierhoff.
- 24.3.** Ten internationally renowned Danish researchers from the universities of Copenhagen, Aarhus and Odense undertake an inter-academic research project on barriers to physical activity. The project is headed by Professor Jens Bangsbo, Institute of Exercise and Sport Sciences, and is co-financed by a DKK 1 million grant from the Danish Ministry of Culture’s Sports Research Council.
- 31.3.** Evy Frantzen, criminologist, Faculty of Law, defends her doctoral thesis *Street-Level Drug Law Enforcement in Vesterbro*.
- 31.3.** PhD student Jesper Vaczy Kragh, Medicinsk Museion, receives a grant of DKK 994,133 from the Lundbeck Foundation, which is to be used for the first historical survey of psychiatric treatment methods in the period 1954-76.
- 10.4.** Professor Kristian Helin, Director of the Biotech Research & Innovation Centre (BRIC) receives DKK 20 million from the Lundbeck Foundation. The money will be used to fund a new BRIC team that will investigate psychiatric disorders and neurological diseases – a so-called “CNS team”.
- 10.4.** The Lundbeck Foundation grants DKK 1,530,000 to Professor Jens Bo Nielsen, Institute of Exercise and Sport Sciences. The money will be used to establish mouse models of known mutations that give rise to a number of neurological symptoms, notably spasticity.
- 18-19.4.** Agnes Heller, the Hungarian philosopher and the author of 40 books, delivers a lecture entitled *THE EVILS: Evil, Radical Evil, Historical Evil in the University’s Ceremonial Hall*. The following day (19 April) she is presented with the Sonning Prize 2006 – Denmark’s largest cultural award, worth DKK 1 million.



PHOTO: TOMAS BERTELSEN

- 21.4.** The *Europe in Transition* Research Priority Area hosts a debate in the University’s Ceremonial Hall with Prime Minister Anders Fogh Rasmussen,

Merger on a large scale

Even the most highly polished crystal ball could not have revealed the event of the year at the University of Copenhagen (KU). In a historic moment the merger between the Royal Danish Veterinary and Agricultural University (KVL), the Danish University of Pharmaceutical Sciences (DFU) and KU became a reality.

The merger process was officially launched by the Danish Minister for Science, Technology and Innovation Helge Sander. On 1 March 2006, he asked all university boards to prepare a proposal for which universities they would be interested in merging with. And suddenly people at the rectors' offices and in the board rooms became extremely busy. Intensive negotiations took place over the summer – behind closed doors. And in September a proposal was submitted to the

Ministry. Finally, in early October, the Rectors of KU, KVL and DFU could inform students and staff that as of January 2007, KVL and DFU would be part of the KU family as two independent faculties. With this merger, the University of Copenhagen has become the largest university in Scandinavia – in terms of the number of researchers, with a total of 5,500. And the University is attended by approximately 37,000 students.



Sven Frøkjær, Dean of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences (formerly Rector of the Danish University of Pharmaceutical Sciences – DFU)

“DFU would never have been listed in any of the major rankings, because we were too small and limited to just one faculty. But if you look at the citations of our researchers – one of the categories that is weighted most in rankings – we are on par with the best in Europe. So you could say that with the merger with KVL and KU, we can achieve the recognition we deserve.

“Now we are combining forces rather than competing with each other. And that gives us the opportunity to create even more attractive study and research environments, thereby increasing our ability to attract students.” ■



Arne Astrup, professor at the Department of Human Nutrition (IHE), the Faculty of Life Sciences (formerly the Royal Danish Veterinary and Agricultural University – KVL)

“If we look at the 500 research projects currently being carried out at IHE, KU and DFU appear extremely often as collaborative partners. The same holds for the education programmes, where we often exchange project and graduate students. This makes us natural merger partners.

“I am very happy about the merger, because there are a lot of barriers in daily life when different universities want to collaborate. For instance, when KVL established investment pools for interdisciplinary research. If, as a KVL researcher, I wanted optimum results, some of the money would have gone to our partners at KU and the former DFU. But that was, of course, not possible.” ■

A merger with vision

The vision of the merger is to create the most influential and internationally-oriented university in Denmark. This can be done by strengthening our strategic alliances with top international universities and by keeping the University's research and education programmes at the same level as the best universities in the world. The focus of the merger has been to bring together health and life science research – that is research in plant, animal and human life with a special focus on prevention and treatment of diseases. But KU remains, after the merger, an academically diverse university.

Faculty of Life Sciences (formerly Royal Danish Veterinary and Agricultural University) (2005)

Students: 2,930 / Staff (man-years): 1,635

Revenue: DKK 1.17 billion

Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences (formerly the Danish University of Pharmaceutical Sciences) (2005)

Students: 1,183 / Staff (man-years): 376

Revenue: DKK 244 million

University of Copenhagen (pre-merger) (2005)

Students: 32,838 / Staff (man-years): 5,451

Revenue: DKK 5.33 billion



Seals for the Faculty of Life Sciences and the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences.



David Salomonsen, law student and chair of the KU Student Council

"We are satisfied with the outcome of the merger – especially because everyone now has access to more wide-ranging academic environments. And hopefully this can improve the University's programmes. In the short term, I don't think there will be major changes, but in the long term I hope that the merger will result in more flexible conditions, giving students more leeway to compose their study programmes across disciplines." ■

who sets out how the EU can tackle the challenges faced by Europe in the coming years. (See page 39).

25.4. Her Royal Highness Crown Princess Mary presents *The Crown Princess Mary Scholarship* at the University of Copenhagen. The two scholarship recipients, Danielle Conlan, a law student from the University of Tasmania, and Joseph Kelly, a student of mathematics at the Queensland University of Technology, each receive DKK 10,000. (See pages 40-41)

27.4. The new campus plan for the University of Copenhagen is published. In the future, the University will be concentrated around three large campuses – North Campus, South Campus and City Campus. (See pages 18-19).

27-29.4. A team of law students from the University of Copenhagen comprising Troels Frølich Larsen, Laura Hartung Petersen, Evelyn Tadros and Carsten Sandvik take second place at the European *Telders International Law Moot Court Competition*, held at the International Court of Justice in the Hague. (See pages 20-21).

1.5. Four of the six new deans at the University of Copenhagen take up their appointments: Professor Nils Overgaard Andersen, Faculty of Science; Professor and acting Dean Ulla Wewer, Faculty of Health Sciences; Professor and present Dean Steffen Kjeldgaard-Pedersen, Faculty of Theology; and Associate Professor Troels Østergaard Sørensen, Faculty of Social Sciences. (See pages 6-7)

1.5. Dr. Peter Norsk takes up a post at the University of Copenhagen as Denmark's first professor of space medicine. Previously he held a position as associate professor at the Department of Medical Physiology, and was formerly Director of the Danish Aerospace Medical Centre of Research at Copenhagen University Hospital.

5.5. Researchers at the University of Copenhagen discover that the substance EPO can be used to treat damage to brain tissue, reports the Danish newspaper *Weekendavisen*. According to Associate Professor Jesper Mogensen, who heads the basic research section of the Unit for Cognitive Neuroscience, EPO may be marketed for the treatment and prevention of brain damage within a few years.

5-6.5. The University of Copenhagen participates in the Day of Research – with activities including the special *Meeting Science* event entitled *Sex and Love*. The event includes debates and presentations by Bente Rosenbeck, gender issues researcher; Bo Jacobsen, psychologist; Troels Kjær, brain researcher; Mikael Rothstein, religion research; and Jes Søb Pedersen, evolution researcher. (See pages 32-33)

10.5. The book entitled *Images of God – Religion and Freedom of Speech in a Globalised World* is published. In this publication, Professor Niels

In April, the University Management presented its vision for the future: To gather the University into four large campuses, and to complete the project by 2013. But despite the shifting around of people and the reduction of our square meterage, the Campus Project offers many new opportunities for employees and students, according to Dean Troels Østergaard Sørensen.



PHOTO: HEINE PETERSEN

Copenhagen's new campus university

“The fact that activities are gathered into four campuses strengthens the sense of unity, providing easier access to facilities and contributing to the sharing of skills among the disciplines,” says Troels Østergaard Sørensen, chair of City Campus – and Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences.

The four campuses are North Campus (Nørre Campus), South Campus (Søndre Campus), City Campus and Frederiksberg Campus. And even though staff and students will have to move in closer together and occupy fewer square metres to save on rent, Professor Sørensen sees many positive aspects of the campus vision:

“We have the opportunity to develop new, centrally located service centres for researchers and students. We are combining functions, both physically and virtually. The benefits are that students and researchers can look for information in just one place and can do so any time of the day or night. This strengthens the support functions, resulting in better programmes and research,” he says.

Room for growth

The campus vision also opens up for the opportunity to incorporate a number of development projects into the plans that can open the University up to the world outside.

“The campus plans have room for new activities, among other things to establish more contact to the business community so that the University can live up to its targets,” says Professor Sørensen.

For instance, the Botanic Garden at City Campus forms the backdrop to ambitious plans for an upcoming Natural History Museum project; South Campus has recently established a hothouse for innovative graduate students; and North Campus is in the process of gathering research-funded activities into one unit that will be responsible for patents and transferring knowledge to the business community.

The vision is a challenge

Troels Østergaard Sørensen realises that the vision presents a huge challenge, especially for staff and students. As long as the plans have not been officially adopted, the vision creates uncertainty about where they will belong in the future.

“But we need to think things through to make sure that there is room for both new projects and new employees. For instance, the number of PhD students will double from 2008. The trick is to get as much out of the space as possible, while still creating a better environment and ensuring room for expansion,” concludes Professor Sørensen. ■

Four campuses

The campus vision was launched in April. The project means that up to 2013, the University of Copenhagen will combine its activities into a North Campus (Nørre Campus), City Campus, South Campus (Søndre Campus) and Frederiksberg Campus (see map on page 2).

New financial terms – the SEA (government property administration) rent scheme – form the basis for the management's decision to reduce the area of the University. In short, the SEA scheme provides the universities with the same subsidies for rent, regardless of where in the country the university's buildings are located. Since rent in Copenhagen is relatively high, KU has been forced to think in new directions in terms of property administration. With the Campus Project, the University will be able to spend more money in the future on dissemination, education programmes and research – rather than on bricks and mortar.

Read more at www.ku.dk/campus.



PHOTO: HEINE PETERSEN

Study areas and 24-hour access

“It’s a question of building up flexible surroundings with room for all types of students,” explains Beate Sløk-Andersen.

She is 22 years old and a third-year European ethnology student at South Campus. She is also the student representative in the South Campus Group.

Sløk-Andersen participated in a “future workshop” at South Campus in November where 24 students from the Humanities, Law, Computer Science and Theology attended a one-day event on student life. The objective was to formulate visions for the future campus.

“I was surprised at how much the needs of the students differ in terms of physical surroundings. For instance, law students need areas for studying, while computer science students need space for group work,” she explains.

Availability 24 hours a day

The students want, among other things, study areas, lockers for coats and social rooms for relaxation and discussions – all the facilities necessary to be a full-time student. And they are looking for a university that is available to them at all hours of the day, year-round – also libraries, group rooms and IT facilities.

One of Sløk-Andersen’s personal visions is a short distance between students and teachers, so they can meet in the halls and chat. The same applies to the environment between students:

“It is important that students have the opportunity to meet socially, within and outside academic frameworks and across disciplines and years of study. It is important to belong and to turn study time into a rich study life,” concludes Sløk-Andersen. ■

Henrik Gregersen, the Faculty of Theology, jointly with other researchers from the University of Copenhagen, presents a combined, multi-disciplinary analysis of the Mohammed crisis.



PHOTO: CHRISTOFFER REGILD

- 15.5.** The findings of studies of the Northern Wheatear (*Oenanthe oenanthe leucorhoa*), conducted by a team including Kasper Thorup, a postdoctoral researcher at the Zoological Museum, are published in the American journal *The Condor*. This small bird appears to accomplish migration to its wintering grounds in Africa in one direct crossing of 4,000 km.
- 16.5.** A new Galathea 3 exhibition at the Zoological Museum entitled *Cool Researchers* receives DKK 1,250,000 from the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation. The exhibition will present “portraits” of the 25 researchers participating in the Danish scientific expedition.
- 18.5.** The University of Copenhagen spearheads a global multidisciplinary research initiative to survey human-environment interaction in the large-scale *Global Land Project*, which ties in with one of the actions of the IARU. The Chair of the Scientific Steering Committee is Professor Anette Reenberg, Department of Geography.
- 20.5.** In San Francisco, Emeritus Professor at the University of Copenhagen, Peter Naur, receives the prestigious *Turing Award* – referred to as the Nobel Prize of computer science – of DKK 700,000. Peter Naur is credited with the introduction of computer science in Denmark, which led to the establishment of the Department of Computer Science at the University of Copenhagen.
- 22.5.** *Dansk flora* – a modern, scientific and authoritative reference work on Danish flora – is published. The work is edited by Associate Professor Signe Frederiksen and Associate Professor Finn N. Rasmussen, both of the Department of Biology, as well as Ole Seberg, the Natural History Museum of Denmark. The work includes 270 colour images.
- 26.5.** The Department of Name Research under the Department of Scandinavian Research launches a new genealogical database in which users can look up details of the origins and prevalence of Danish names. The names base contains 6.5 million entries. See www.danskernesnavne.navneforskning.ku.dk.
- 28.5.** Postdoctoral researcher Paul Cloos, Associate Professor Jesper Christensen, PhD student Karl Agger and Professor Kristian Helin, all of the Biotech Research & Innovation Centre (BRIC), have discovered how cancer cells maintain eternal youth, as featured in *Nature*. At the same time,

Trainee with prestige

A large office chair and working with the Chief Justice were part of the job when 27-year-old law student Karen Johansen became the first trainee with the justice administration in Malawi. And she is ready to return to the African country after handing in her Master's thesis at the University of Copenhagen.

The golden skin and blonde highlights are still there. It has only been a few weeks since Karen Johansen returned home from her traineeship at the Labour, High and Supreme Courts in Malawi in southern Africa. Malawi is a small corner of the African continent where it is still common to walk around barefooted, live in mud-built huts and perform rain dances.

Karen was the first trainee to visit the country via an agreement between the International Commission of Jurists and the Danish Institute for Human Rights, and she spent a year and a half in Malawi's second largest city Blantyre.

"The fact that I was the first trainee meant that I had a lot of freedom and a lot of responsibility, and I got a chance to work with the Chief Justice, which corresponds to the Danish Minister for Justice," says Johansen.

Among her assignments were legal research, the establishment of a library, preparation of handbooks and participating in hearings and seminars on protection of human rights. One of the most interesting assignments, according to Johansen, was participating in a High Court investigation into the archiving and handling of case files in Malawi's eastern districts.

"There was a lot to do and I worked some very long days. But it really felt like I made a difference – for example by creating systems that they could use to organise their files," she explains, pointing to one of her photos from Malawi's Supreme Court – an overcrowded room with files from the last 10 years piled up in loose leaf from floor to ceiling.



PHOTO: KAREN JOHANSEN

Large office chair = high status

The work pace in the public sector in Malawi is in many places extremely slow, but not because of lack of funding or education according to Johansen. The country did not escape its dictator until 1994.

"The dictatorship can, in a way, contribute to making people incapable of action. They are not used to taking the initiative, and many have trouble seeing the good parts of democracy, because there is no food, and people are sick," she explains.

"There is a clear hierarchy," continues Johansen, looking at a photo of herself in a large office chair. "A large chair equals high status. And because I was white – *muzungu* – I was automatically placed higher up in the hierarchy. On the other hand, it was also a kind of status symbol for them to have a white trainee.

Back to Malawi

Malawi is one of the 10 poorest countries in the world. The average Malawian lives for less than one dollar a day. The brutal realities, the foreign smells, the dust and the heat were a huge change from life in Denmark. But in

time she made some good friends through her work – all Malawians.

“They live in the here and now with enormous enthusiasm. And you see a society that actually does work; maybe not according to Danish standards, but on its own terms,” she explains.

With regard to the legal challenges, everything took place on an entirely different level than in Denmark, and a court case could be about a citizen accused of stealing 500 grams of rice.

“I learned to address the problems and find a solution. It was also a challenge to be away from home and a personal victory to have done it,” she says.

Johansen believes that the experience she has gained can certainly be used in an office job in Denmark. But what she wants most, after handing in her Master’s thesis, is to work in a developing country – preferably Malawi, where she can use her new network. ■

KU Law students among the best in the world

In the moot court, law students compete to handle a fictive case in the best possible way. And the talented students at the Faculty of Law are among the best in the world:

- In the world’s largest moot court competition in international law, the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition, the KU team achieved, among other things, a third place in the individual oral performance. The team participants were Daniel Clarry, Sarah Hack, Jesper Johansen, Anne Østrup and Benedikte Stellingner.
- In the Willem C. Vis commercial arbitration competition in Vienna, the KU team was among the eight best in oral performance. The team comprised Michael Bryrup, Signe Vejen Hansen, Jef Hounsgaard, Anders Bjørn Nielsen, Johanne Vidkjær and Kirsten Nørgaard.
- The KU team achieved second place in the Telders International Law Moot Court Competition, where they also achieved second place in individual oral performance. Troels Frølich Larsen, Laura Hartung Petersen, Evelyn Tadros and Carsten Sandvik participated.

the researchers have developed small molecules that inhibit the activity of the enzymes that prevent cancer cells from ageing. This may be the first step towards a new type of cancer medicine.

- 29.5.** The Danish Advanced Technology Foundation grants DKK 21 million to a project in which Dr. Michael Larsen, consultant physician at the Institute of Oto-Rhino-Laryngology, Ophthalmology and Dermato-Venerology, in collaboration with the firm of NKT and COM•DTU, will be developing a technique for treating cataracts.
- 30.5.** For the first time in its history, the University of Copenhagen becomes a shareholder in a firm based on its own patent – the nano enterprise Hytronics A/S. Professor Poul Erik Lindelof and Associate Professor Jesper Nygård, both of the Niels Bohr Institute, are behind the firm, which was established at the beginning of 2005.
- 1.6.** The Oticon Foundation grants DKK 1.5 million to the project *The Regional Role of Cultural Institutions – Cultural Prosperity and Developmental Dynamics*, headed by Professor Christian Wichmann Matthiessen, Department of Geography.
- 2.6.** The Faculty of Humanities hosts the conference *Framing Co-Existence in the 21st Century – Business as a Cultural Bridge*, which directs focus at how the business community builds bridges between cultures and presents the role of investment and industry in the globalisation process.
- 2.6.** Dr. Filip Krag Knop, M.D., PhD, Department of Medical Physiology, is awarded the *Paul Langerhans Grant* of DKK 500,000 by the European Foundation for the Study of Diabetes and the firm of Amylin.
- 2.6.** At a conference at Copenhagen City Hall on the challenges of globalisation, Rector Ralf Hemmingsen delivers a talk on the University of Copenhagen’s future IT focus. Among other measures, new IT combined study programmes will be ready in September 2007.
- 6.6.** Professor Bente Klarlund Pedersen, Clinical Institute of Internal Medicine, receives DKK 1,500,000 from the Lundbeck Foundation to determine the basic mechanisms involved in the regulation and function of the growth hormone BDNF.



PHOTO: BRITT LINDEMANN

- 7.6.** A new survey is published which reveals that science researchers at the University of Copen-



PHOTO: LIZETTE KABRÉ

42 students spent the summer thinking great new thoughts for some of Denmark's most important companies. The University of Copenhagen helped organise the first innovation summer school. It was such a huge success that a follow-up is already in the works.

“Have you had a lot of ideas?”

It is mid-morning in mid-summer. While most are taking a break from their studies, one group of students meets up in an old fencing hall in Filmbyen (Movie Town) in Avedøre (south of Copenhagen). The fencing hall at Zentropa WorkZ is the location of a new summer school. And even though the summer school has only been underway for a week and a half out of a total of five weeks, the old hall has been transformed. Rough, worn floorboards, lighting columns, modern computers and a few bright red plastic chairs are joined by project descriptions, drawings and lists of keywords hung up on the walls.

An assorted mix

A total of 42 students from different educational institutions – especially within the humanities – took part in the summer school. They worked in groups to develop radical new business ideas for one of eight companies: Novozymes, Gyldendal, Danish Broadcasting Corp. (DR), Danisco, Grundfos, Danish Museum of Art and Design, Danish Foundation for Entrepreneurship Activities and Culture and Zentropa WorkZ. DR wanted a proposal for how to establish a creative environment for developing new games. And Novozymes was interested in the development of a new communication concept that established dialogue between citizens and experts on social, ethical and environmental aspects of biotechnology.

The companies' interests were addressed from financial, technological, design-related and user perspectives.

“The idea behind the pilot project was to give students the opportunity to test their professional skills. To offer them innovation training that also includes a practical part, and

that can be used in many different sectors,” explains Trine Middelbo Sørensen, project developer and co-organiser from the University of Copenhagen's Faculty of Humanities.

For Grundfos, the objective was to have a game concept developed by people who do not come from an industrial company. The point of the game was to communicate and roll out the model to be introduced in the company in order to inspire employees to think innovative in e.g. business and marketing.

It is another hour before lunch, and the groups, led by their own “gang leaders”, chat willingly.

Workcamp06

- Workcamp06 developed as a collaboration between the University of Copenhagen on Amager (KUA) and Zentropa WorkZ, and was offered for the first time as a graduate course in summer 2006.
- The summer school was financed by KU, eight participating companies and through scholarships from IDEA, Zentropa WorkZ and the Danish Foundation for Entrepreneurship Activities and Culture.
- The summer school will also be offered in 2007.

– and more innovation in 2006:

The Faculty of Humanities at the University of Copenhagen held a conference in December on innovation for humanists. It was organised by students who have started a business in connection with a course in strategic communication instructed by Associate Professor Mie Femø Nielsen, Department of Scandinavian Studies and Linguistics. Read more about Workcamp06 at www.workcamp.dk and about KU's innovation courses at www.ku.dk/innovation.



PHOTO: LIZETTE KABRÉ

“Have you had a lot of ideas,” asks the Grundfos group’s gang leader. The main theme this week is not to think in reality, but to think boldly – and in new ways.

One of the students in the group is 29-year-old Kirstine Ankerstjerne Aavang, who studies communication at KU. At the summer school she has the opportunity to test her experience in practice:

“Here you work intensely with other students on a concrete concept. One that is not just put away in a drawer when it’s all over.

“And despite the different disciplines represented in the group, we’ve worked really well together.

We are really busy, especially up to each Friday, where we have to present the work we’ve done that week to the companies. But it’s very educational. I find that my own view of the world is constantly being challenged because people’s backgrounds are so different,” says Ms Aavang.

New ideas

“In traditional innovation training, the students learn about innovation, but they don’t innovate. They get to do that at the summer school, where they have to develop business concepts based on an innovation model,” explains Lars Lundbye from Zentropa WorkZ. By the end of the five weeks, the students have learned about market research and idea generation, developing a concrete business plan as well as marketing and presentation.

One group of students has gone outside in the sun with what looks like a huge mind map – a 10-metre-long sheet of paper full of thoughts in the form of keywords and other scribbles. This is when all the ideas are released, this is when they think in new ways – innovate. ■

hagen collaborate extensively with private-sector industry. In the survey, just over 60 per cent of the researchers affirmed that they collaborate with private-sector industry – just two years ago the figure was 40 per cent. In addition, 16 per cent of researchers have been involved in setting up their own business.

- 12.6.** PhD student Daniel le Maire, Department of Economics, receives the *Tuborg Foundation’s Business Economics Prize 2006* at the Carlsberg Academy. The prize is worth DKK 150,000.
- 13.6.** The *Euroclear grants* for 2006 are awarded to economics students Benjamin Kramarz and Mads Jellingsøe along with PhD student Christin Tuxen, Department of Economics. The graduate students each receive DKK 75,000, while the PhD student receives DKK 100,000.
- 20.6.** The Tech Transfer Unit at the University of Copenhagen along with the tech transfer units at the Royal Danish Veterinary and Agricultural University, and the Danish University of Pharmaceutical Sciences receive DKK 3.7 million for proof-of-concept activities. The grant is part of a proof-of-concept pilot project initiated by the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation.
- 21.6.** Niels Erik Skakkebaek, Professor of Growth and Reproduction, the Faculty of Health Sciences, receives a newly created research prize – the *Kirsten and Freddy Johansen Medical Science Research Prize* – worth DKK 1.5 million. He receives the prize for his contribution to understanding testicular cancer and environmental impacts on male fertility.
- 21.6.** The Novo Nordisk Foundation grants DKK 15 million to a new centre at the University of Copenhagen which will focus on research in global health – including diseases such as type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular diseases.
- 23.6.** Professor Jens Høiriis Nielsen, Department of Medical Biochemistry and Genetics, is awarded DKK 546,000 from the Danish Research Council for Culture and Communication to mount a performance in collaboration with the Science Theatre, with the working title *Stem cells: human spare parts?*
- 27.6.** A new exhibition, *The Solar System – From the Origin of Everything to the Emergence of Life*, opens at the Geological Museum. Astronomers, geologists and geophysicists from the University of Copenhagen will act as virtual guides on video screens.



PHOTO: JAKOB LAUTRUP



PHOTO: LIZETTE KABRÉ

Researchers at summer school

Normally, Toby Wiseman works at Imperial College in London. But last summer he travelled to the Niels Bohr Institute to talk to a bunch of colleagues about the Big Bang, black holes and gravity. And those types of international meetings are good for both the research and the researcher, he feels.

I sometimes catch myself sitting and talking to myself when I'm concentrating on solving an equation. But luckily we have classes and international meetings like at the Niels Bohr Institute – they bring us out into the fresh air.

So says 31-year-old Toby Wiseman, teacher and researcher at Imperial College in London. His previous jobs include working for three years as a postdoc at Harvard University, where his research dealt with such topics as “plasma-balls”, “numerical Ricci-flat metrics on $K3$ ” and “non-uniform black strings”.

Not entirely unintelligible

While the formula $E \gg N^2 A_{\text{gap}}$ is unintelligible for most of us, that's not the case for Wiseman and his colleagues who gathered last summer at the Niels Bohr Institute. That E is larger than what follows was the opening line of Wiseman's lecture “Black Holes and String Theories”. Translated into normal language, his research is about building bridges between different theoretical worlds.

“My lecture dealt with black holes and some of the phenomena that exist according to our calculations, but that can't be observed or proved in experiments yet. It was my small contribution to getting a bit closer to an area that we still know every little about,” he explains.

16 researchers from all over the world

At the Niels Bohr Institute's summer school, participants had the opportunity to discuss the newest research in black holes and string theories. 16 researchers from all over the world took part, as did local researchers and students. Two daily lectures and plenty of time to chat ensured the participants a rewarding visit.

“One prerequisite for growth in the field is giving researchers the opportunity to meet and present their ideas to others. Along with other research environments in the USA and Russia, the Niels Bohr Institute is one of the power centres in this area,” explains Wiseman.

“When you meet other people of like-mind, something always happens to bring new ideas into play. This is where researchers gain inspiration and keep up confidence in the possibility of finding answers to the last unanswered questions.”

According to Wiseman, the theoretical physics research community has globalised to such an extent that it feels like one big family. Today, you can travel fast and inexpensively to conferences and workshops, and since 1999, all new research findings have been published on a website with free access to everyone.

“We have different approaches to the topic, but the basic theories are the same, and in recent years we have been working in the same direction. Today, we can publish online, thus avoiding having to wait three to six months for a journal to publish our articles. And we’re good at meeting to share our work,” explains Wiseman.

“The prerequisite for being a good researcher is having a child’s curiosity and the courage to learn something new. When I look at the best researchers in theoretical physics, I always notice that they look like children in a state of deep concentration with their favourite toys,” says Wiseman. “Our theories break down when dealing with extreme things such as the Big Bang and black holes, where distances are very short. Basically it’s about finding answers to one of the biggest questions you can ask yourself. What exactly did happen when the universe was created?” ■

Do you speak English?

The University of Copenhagen offers approximately 350 courses in English every semester. With the exception of certain courses designed specifically for exchange students, these courses are open to both Danish and international students.

The courses are extremely diverse. Every faculty offers courses in English, and new ones are being developed all the time.

Each semester, the course catalogue “Courses Offered in English” is compiled with descriptions of all English-language courses offered at KU. It is available at www.ku.dk/international/english, under Studies/Courses. In addition to semester courses in English, KU offers a number of summer courses at the individual institutes and departments as well as through Øresund Summer University. Read more at www.uni.oresund.org.

27.6. The Department of Chemistry hosts the Danish Chemistry Olympiad, and the winning upper secondary pupils visit the Department to perform the final exercises before participating at the International Chemistry Olympiad. This is held in Korea between 2 and 11 July, and the Danish contestants return home with a gold medal, two silver medals and a bronze medal.

28.6. The recently rediscovered Judas Gospel is published in Danish translation. The translator is Associate Professor of Coptic languages, Paul John Frandsen, Department of Cross-Cultural and Regional Studies. The Judas Gospel is a so-called Gnostic text, written at the end of the 3rd century.

28.6. Professor Karsten H. Jensen, Geological Institute, receives DKK 2,550,000 from the Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation as an adjustable grant for a school of water resources for researchers (FIVA).

30.6. The Øresund Aquarium reopens following large-scale extension works, and an official opening is held with the Lord Mayor of Helsingør Per Tærsebøl and Rector Ralf Hemmingsen as guests. The extension is the largest in the history of the aquarium.

1.7. Henrik Dam, professor in tax law, takes up the post as new Dean of the Faculty of Law. (See pages 6-7)

1.7. *The Niels Bohr International Academy*, which has received a grant from the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation of DKK 10 million, launches its activities with the *Niels Bohr Summer Institute*. The Academy will strengthen Denmark’s position as a leader in research in such fields as theoretical physics.

7.7. Researchers have discovered that many networks – from the Internet to cellular metabolic networks – share the same underlying structure. Professor Kim Sneppen, Head of the Center for Models of Life, and other researchers from the Niels Bohr Institute publish a study in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America (PNAS)* in which they modelled a protein network which is common to all animals and is also involved in our immune system.

19.7. The discovery of a new species of bird in the Eastern Arc Mountains in Southern Tanzania (see photo on left) is published in the *Journal of Ornithology*. This discovery of a new species of bird, the *batis*, which is distinct from species found on the neighbouring mountain, was made by Professor Jon Fjeldså, Zoological Museum.



DRAWING: JON FJELDSÅ

PHOTO: HEINE PEDERSEN



Roundtrip to China

There is plenty of amazement on both sides when the harmony-seeking Chinese – and their minimal use of gestures – meet the Danes, with their love of discussions and plenty of arm movements. That is why the University now offers courses in cultural bridge-building and understanding. This is especially beneficial for the business community.

We don't really feel like we hit it off with our Chinese customers, says Annemette Krogh, Director of All Denmark Relocation. For 11 years, the company has relocated foreign business people to Denmark, helping them with Danish Civil Registration, enrolment in schools and daycares, bank accounts and daily challenges like grocery shopping.

Bent Nielsen listens and nods. On a normal day, Nielsen is a postdoctoral student in Chinese philosophy at the University of Copenhagen. But today he is also a cultural consultant for half a day. All Denmark Relocation wants to gain a better understanding of Chinese culture, to improve staff-customer relations.

“We have three hours. I suggest that we start with a quick all-around tour of China. The history, culture and language, and how they see themselves and others. Then we can cover the challenges you experience in your work,” says Nielsen.

Little Colour TV

Over the next hour, Bent takes the four consultants on a breakneck trip through time and place. He enthusiastically tells stories about *Zhongguo* – the region in mid-China that, like the Grecian city-states, shared civilisation and language and considered people outside barbarians. About the rise and fall of dynasties. About the enormous Chinese navy,

that could have rounded the Cape of Good Hope decades before the Europeans actually did, if it hadn't been docked for domestic policy reasons. About the Chinese empire that was the largest technological power in the world until 300 years ago. About Chinese religion, which reflects the Emperor's enormous bureaucracy, with all of ten departments in Hell. About modern China and its frenzied growth. About the liberalisation in the 80s and 90s that allowed many families to have a second child, which they might actually call “Little Colour TV” as a loving reminder of what they had to give up to afford another child. About the prosperous Chinese coastal areas with housing estates the size of Zealand.

Body language?

And now we return to the challenges, the misunderstandings, the Chinese nods that are not always an expression of comprehension.

“I can see why you're confused about receiving a 'yes-yes', when your clients haven't understood you,” says Nielsen.

“It's because they don't want to put you in the uncomfortable situation that you haven't expressed yourselves clearly enough. The Chinese insist on maintaining harmony regardless of the cost. As Europeans, we have a hard time understanding how important that is for them.”

“Does that mean that appearance and ‘face’ are important for the Chinese, while we in the West can find it superficial,” contributes one of the course participants.

“Yes. It’s because we are used to thinking in oppositions that exclude each other: day-night, man-woman, good-evil, true-false. So we often conclude that a person who considers appearance important is without substance,” explains Nielsen.

He goes on to explain *feng shui* as an expression of the Chinese aspiration to bring landscaping and interiors into harmony with the universe. About how the Chinese often get uncomfortable when the person they are speaking to uses too many gestures, because they are raised to avoid such behaviour in the public sphere. And about how an agreement or a contract is often still up for negotiation in China, even when it is considered concluded in Denmark.

China-Denmark in three hours is starting to have an effect.

“I can see how our extremely rational and effective way of doing things can seem almost stressful to the Chinese. Our Western clients appreciate it, but I understand now that it doesn’t seem like conscientious service to the Chinese,” concludes Annemette Krogh. ■

New initiatives: Cultural courses

The University of Copenhagen is working with the National Museum of Denmark and the Industrialisation Fund for Developing Countries to produce tailored courses for the business community and others who work within the terms of globalisation. The courses are designed to give participants in-depth knowledge of non-Western cultures. Read more at www.kulturkurser.dk.

– and Bestyrelsesakademiet

KU and the law firm Plesner have joined forces to train board members. The programme, called Bestyrelsesakademiet (or the Boardroom Academy), is the first of its kind at university level. The objective of Bestyrelsesakademiet is to prepare current and potential board members to handle the increasingly complex tasks and huge demands that boards face today. Read more at www.ku.dk/kompetence.

31.7. Professor Jesper Grodal, Department of Mathematics, receives the *European Young Investigator Award*. The award is accompanied by DKK 9 million and a five-year visiting research post at a European university.

1.8. Professor Kirsten Refsing takes up the post of Dean for the Faculty of Humanities. (See pages 6-7)

4.8. The University of Copenhagen’s research station – Arctic Station – on the island of Qeqertarsuaq (Disko Island) in West Greenland celebrates its centenary. The event is marked by the publication of a book about research at the Arctic Station, which, with contributions from 60 researchers, describes fauna and flora, climate and geology. (See pages 36-37)

9.8. An asteroid – a 1,000-metre lump of rock and metal – is named after Associate Professor Henning Haack of the Geological Museum, who for many years has researched asteroids and meteorites.

11.8. A farewell reception is held for Else Sommer, University Director. She resigns from the post after eight years and instead takes up an appointment as Chief Executive of the City of Copenhagen’s Children and Youth Administration.

11.8. The starting signal is fired for the Galathea 3 expedition. The University of Copenhagen takes part in the long voyage on board *Vædderen*, the expedition vessel, and a series of research projects selected by the Danish Expedition Foundation. (See page 33)



PHOTO: NAJA MIKKELSEN

16.8. The LEO Pharma Research Foundation awards DKK 250,000 to PhD student Jeppe Madura Larsen, postdoctoral student Charlotte Menné Bonefeld and Professor Carsten Geisler, all of the Department of International Health, Immunology and Microbiology. The award is earmarked for a project on allergic contact eczema.

29.8. The University of Copenhagen and the Danish Emergency Management Agency join forces on a new degree programme entitled *Master of Disaster Management* to ensure that Denmark is able to mount an effective response in the event of a natural disaster or terrorist attack at home and abroad.

1.9. For the first time, the University of Copenhagen offers six-month courses in biology, English, mathematics and music in cooperation with

Hand-held help for people with reading disabilities

A dyslexic construction worker can use a little computer to have a manual read out loud. And after hours, the computer helps him to read better. In 2006, the University of Copenhagen launched new tools for people with reading disabilities, developed in collaboration with several companies.



PHOTO: HEINE PEDERSEN

People with reading disabilities have more and more difficulties as the amount of information in society increases. The problem is enormous. According to OECD, 36 per cent of adult Danes can't read well enough to perform to their full potential at school, work or home, explains Professor Carsten Elbro, head of the Centre for Reading Research at KU.

That is why the University and a number of companies have joined forces to create the perfect tool for people with reading disabilities.

With a hand-held computer – also called a PDA – they have access to immediate reading assistance with sound.

“It is completely new, being able to use something as small as a PDA for speech synthesis. The person with a reading disability can use the PDA to understand manuals, order forms or customs papers.”

They just have to take a picture of a text with the PDA, and it reads the text out loud. But the project does not stop there. Teaching programs are also being developed for the PDA to offer individual training without having to display your reading disability to the public.

“The smart thing about using a PDA for e-learning is that you can choose the time and place for it,” says Professor Elbro. The collaboration has been called Mobile E-Learning for People with Reading Disabilities – MELFO.

Visit by the Danish Parliament

The Centre for Reading Research has a long tradition for collaborating with the private sector, but the MELFO project still differs in several ways.

“Ever since the Centre was established in 1989, we have worked with the private sector. What's new with MELFO is the enormous attention the project has attracted. You don't get a visit by the Danish Parliament's Research Committee every day to hear about reading research,” explains the Professor with a smile.

A project like MELFO requires a combination of people who know about programming, learning, reading problems and speech synthesis. It requires a lot of partners who, of course, have different interests in the project. The many partners' very different interests has also been something of a challenge to handle, but the collaboration is so promising that the problems are sure to be overcome along the way, according to Professor Elbro.

Huge potential

“The potential is huge. People with reading disabilities will greatly benefit from scanning texts and having them read aloud wherever they are. And in terms of teaching, the project can eventually result in the development of teaching modules that are more specialised. For example in terms of vocabulary that you have to know in order to work at different companies,” explains Professor Elbro. And he concludes:

“If you need to read about semi-permeable membranes and moisture barriers, then you're not necessarily very interested in reading about 'Janet and John' in a regular reading course in a classroom.”

In addition to the Centre for Reading Research, the other contributors are the Centre for Language Technology and the



Department of Media, Cognition and Communication from KU, the Danish Building Research Institute, and the private-sector companies Motto S.A, Sensus ApS and Hewlett-Packard. The collaboration was brought about by Crossroads Copenhagen. ■

Read more at <http://melfo.hum.ku.dk>.

In the lead with commercialisation

The University of Copenhagen is the leader among Danish universities when it comes to licensing agreements and turning a profit from research findings. Figures from the Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation show that the University of Copenhagen accounted for almost 40 per cent of all university commercialisation income in 2005, with commercialisation earnings amounting to DKK 1.75 million. KU signed eight licensing agreements in 2005, and obtained seven patents in the same period – placing it in the leading position in this area as well.

teachers from 12 upper-secondary schools in Greater Copenhagen. This gives the highest achieving pupils the opportunity to experience university life while still in their final year of school.

- 1.9. The conclusions of a project conducted by a group including Professor Peter Gundelach and Professor Margaretha Järvinen, Department of Sociology, are published in the book *Young People, Parties and Alcohol*. This reveals that young Danes have Europe's highest alcohol consumption compared with young people in other countries.
- 1.9. Jens Perch Nielsen, Managing Director of the knowledge firm Festina Lente, becomes the first-ever Danish external professor of insurance mathematics.
- 1.9. External Associate Professor Christine Isager, Department of Media, Cognition and Communication, defends her PhD thesis *Writers playing up*. If Danish newspapers were more accepting of new journalism they would have more success in attracting young writers, is the message in the thesis.
- 4.9. Some 2,000 new students are welcomed to the University of Copenhagen by Rector Ralf Hemmingsen at the traditional Matriculation Reception. The tradition of the Rector's speech and subsequent handshake with the students is more than a century old.
- 5.9. Two research groups in astrophysics at the Niels Bohr Institute and the University of Aarhus receive DKK 6 million from the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation to establish the first school of astrophysics for researchers.
- 5.9. Rector Ralf Hemmingsen and Pro-Rector Lykke Friis go live with their joint weblog as the first Danish university management to jump on the blog wagon.
- 8.9. The High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the EU, Javier Solana, visits the University of Copenhagen for the debate on *Europe in the world's hotspots*. (See pages 38-39)
- 12.9. Professor Thomas Söderqvist, Medical Museion, receives a grant worth approximately DKK 3 million from the Novo Nordisk Foundation. The grant is awarded as a one-year extension of the research project *Danish Biomedicine 1955-2005: Integrating Medical Museology and the Historiography of Recent Biomedicine*.
- 15.9. The Boards of Directors of the Danish University of Pharmaceutical Sciences, the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University and the University of Copenhagen submit their recommendation to the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation for the merger of the three universities.



PHOTO: LIZETTE KABRÉ

Job Fair in Chinese

Three hundred Chinese students met 14 Danish companies at a Job Fair, the first of its kind, held by the University in April. The aim was to help the Chinese students find a job after graduating – and thereby make studying in Denmark even more attractive.

About 10 in the morning – and the first arrivals are already on the scene. The hall slowly fills as the hands of the clock approach 11. Everywhere there is a murmur of voices – in Danish, English, and especially Chinese.

A handful of fair-haired assistants and company representatives are visible among the crowd of Chinese students. When Jørgen Delman, Director of the Nordic Institute of Asian Studies, opens the day's proceedings, the students sit listening, their notebooks and ball-point pens at the ready.

Pro-Rector Lykke Friis welcomes those present, then Jens Purup Krog from the Board of the Danish Chamber of Commerce in China introduces the participating companies and explains that the background for the event is the shortage of qualified workers in China.

The Job Fair was the brainchild of Tage Bild, then Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, and organised in collaboration with Jørgen Delman, from the Danish Chamber of Commerce in China, and the Association of Chinese Students and Scholars in Denmark. According to Tage Bild, the Job Fair is an example of the University of Copenhagen's desire for greater collaboration between the University and the private sector – so students can get to know the companies and vice versa.

At present, there are about 3,000 Chinese students in Denmark. Many of those who found their way to the Job Fair were studying economics or engineering. One is 28-year-old Xiaoyan Zhang, an economics student at KU. She is in the second year of her MSc programme, and would like to work in marketing after she graduates. She has previously worked in various Chinese companies in Beijing, where there was a lot of competition and stress levels were very high. According to her, there are several advantages to being employed by a Danish company:

“They have good personnel policies and holiday schemes, better training programmes, offer the opportunity to travel abroad and so on.”

Foreign travel is also high on Shengyu Huo's wish list. He is a 24-year-old economics student at Roskilde University, and is due to earn his MSc in the summer. CV under arm, he circulates among the various companies' stands in the hall. Most of all, he would like to work for a large company in Denmark as a channel of communication with its units in China.

“With a job in Denmark or with a Danish company in China, I would be able to use my knowledge of Danish language and culture,” he says, in almost fluent Danish.

IARU off to a good start

Collaboration between the participants in IARU is in full swing. A meeting of the alliance of star universities was held on 11 and 12 September at the University of Copenhagen to discuss future university programmes – including the question of how to ensure that PhD programmes can equip researchers and knowledge workers to satisfy the demands of industry.

Later in the year – from the 4 to 6 October – a large number of top researchers in the fields of ageing, longevity and health met for an international IARU workshop at the University. The Faculty of Health Sciences was the driving force behind the workshop, which was addressed by more than 45 leading Danish and foreign researchers. This marked the initiation of a special collaboration between some of the world's leading universities in the area of health. For more information visit www.ku.dk/iaru and www.iaruni.org.

Bridge-building between cultures

Every six days a Danish company does business in China, and for Danish companies there is great value in participating in the Job Fair.

“We have the opportunity to meet able, well-educated people with good knowledge of English and an understanding of the Danish culture and working environment,” says Jesper Geertsen, an HR consultant from Grundfos.

Such employees are also highly rated at Maersk, partly because they can bridge different cultures and bring an international environment to the office.

There are signs that good results will be achieved, because both at Grundfos and at Maersk further contact is confidently expected with some of the graduates who stopped by with their CVs and contact information.

Moreover, there is a benefit to the University – and to Denmark as well, believes Tage Bild.

“Danish companies are popular among the Chinese, so we have an interest in telling future paying students that a degree from a Danish university can increase their chances of getting a job with a Danish company in China,” he explains. ■

19.9. New surveys conducted by Danish geologists reveal that the Wadden Sea is not emptying and that the system is stable, reports the TV programme *Deadline*. This contrasts with previous research predicting that the Wadden Sea would disappear in a hundred years' time. Professor Morten Pejrup, Department of Geography, explains that the new surveys indicate that the bed of the Wadden Sea will continue to follow the mean sea level.

21.9. The first of 12 meetings are held at the University of Copenhagen on cultural critic and multiartist Poul Henningsen – organised by the Department of Scandinavian Studies and Linguistics.



PHOTO: LOUIS POULSEN LIGHTING A/S

25.9. The Danish Festival of Science 2006 opens. The Faculty of Science participates with exhibits such as “The Scientific Village” on Central Copenhagen’s Kongens Nytorv, where secondary school pupils are invited to experiment with robots, go on a GPS treasure hunt and visit a geological base camp.

25.9. A consortium comprising the Marine Biological Laboratory, University of Copenhagen; the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, University of Aarhus; Copenhagen University Hospital – Rigshospitalet’s fertility clinic, and the firm of Unisense A/S receive a grant of DKK 11.2 million from the Danish Advanced Technology Foundation. The aim of the project is to increase the success rate of artificial insemination.

29.9. A ranking prepared on the basis of the universities’ own figures and a citations survey by the Technical University of Denmark (DTU) reveals that the University of Copenhagen together with the University of Southern Denmark and the University of Aarhus are leaders in getting research endorsed by prestigious scientific journals, writes the financial paper *Børsen*.

2.10. Associate Professor Alf Skovgaard and project student Xenia Salomonsen, both of the Biological Institute, discover, in connection with the Galathea 3 expedition, a hitherto unknown parasite. The parasite is called a dinoflagellate and lives inside the body of a transparent water flea.

4.10. A satisfactory conclusion to extensive negotiations and a milestone for Danish research. This was the response from the Danish University of Pharmaceutical Sciences (DFU), the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University (KVL) and

Love and sex are popular topics. The Danish daily *Politiken* and the University of Copenhagen therefore had no difficulty attracting people to a joint event to mark the Day of Research in May.



PHOTO: CHRISTOFFER REGILD

Love and the rattlesnake

The man's member is "like a rattlesnake ... It's always looking for a hole." It was in such poetic terms that cult leader Sun Myung Moon once described the male sex drive. And one can – and has indeed tried to – tame that drive in many ways, explained religious historian Michael Rothstein, addressing the event "Sex and Love" held in connection with KU's Day of Research. Almost 300 people were present in the Ceremonial Hall in the University's Frue Plads buildings to hear about Indian yogis who tie a couple of boulders to the rattlesnake so that it withers away. But marriage, falling in love, monogamy and attraction were other hot topics that five researchers presented their perspectives on. The point of denying the flesh is to release the soul from the prison of the flesh, explained Rothstein. But a human race with sex removed is a contradiction in terms. The entire human race depends on the phenomenon – and we are designed to enjoy it.

When the hunt is on, a woman uses her eyes.

Symmetry is the thing when we choose our life's companion. Especially the woman selects with her eyes, because it is she who picks the man in her life. And it only takes one minute, explained evolutionary biologist Jes S e Pedersen. But a woman also uses her nose. She uses her sense of smell to identify the man's immune response. That which differs from

her own smells best, because it will provide the best defence for future children. Unless she is on the pill. In that case, her body believes she is pregnant, and then she wants to be with others of her own kind – that is, with people who have the same immune response as herself, typically family. Therefore the advice to women was to stop taking the pill, and sniff men's well-used T-shirts instead. And what about men, who are required to be as symmetric as possible? They would do well in doing as Jes S e Pedersen did:

"I once had a crooked smile. But I've stopped now," he said – and he also, as a member of the audience genially remarked, parts his hair in the middle.

Love through the nipple

Brain researcher Troels W. Kj er explained about the nerve cells in the brain and the chemicals that are released, for instance, when a woman breast-feeds. The baby's suckling at the nipple causes the mother to feel deep love towards her child. Experiments with primates show that similar chemicals are found in the greatest quantities in those that are monogamous.

Which, of course, we humans are not always – not even within marriage, let alone over a whole lifetime. But there can well be natural reasons for that.

"Perhaps it is because we live longer and therefore have to put up with each other for longer," said gender researcher Bente Rosenbeck. She described the transformation marriage has undergone in legislation. From being an institution to ensure an orderly framework for reproduction, marriage

became a formalisation of relationships that were based on sex, emotions and desire. But perhaps that is also what makes marriage so “easy” to break out of.

Too formed

Psychologist Bo Jacobsen suggested that the problem with durability could, today, be due to our being too formed as individuals before entering into marriage, so that we are simply incapable of all-consuming devotion.

According to Jacobsen, love survives best when the parties can allow each other to be as they are, and when it is mutual.

“Does that mean that one’s feelings for a beloved who does not reciprocate die away?” asked a member of the audience.

“Can one love a stone for the whole of one’s life?” asked Jacobsen in reply, and then went on to answer his own question:

“Yes, perhaps one can. After all, women can love diamonds.” However, he thought that it was important for love to be returned. It is there that the sense of mental togetherness that we humans value so highly lies. And that was a message everyone – whether married, single, in love, or friends – could take out with them into the spring sunshine for further testing. ■

Galathea 3 – researchers on a voyage of discovery

Galathea 3 is the biggest Danish scientific expedition for more than 50 years. The frigate “Vædderen” is crossing the world’s oceans on a voyage lasting from August 2006 to April 2007. Researchers from the University of Copenhagen are heading 14 of the expedition’s projects, including:

- “Voices from beyond the grave”: In St. Croix, anthropologists, historians and archaeologists will work together with local researchers examining the remains of African-Caribbean slaves.
- “The benthic fauna of the Solomon Sea”: The researchers will investigate the benthic fauna of the continental shelf, slope and deep sea, focusing on diversity.
- “Early life forms in Antarctica”: The researchers will seek out their way into the unwelcoming terrain of Antarctica’s mountain ranges to study fossils and sediments.

In addition, researchers from the University are participating in a number of projects led by others.

the University of Copenhagen (KU) to the Government’s proposal to consolidate research and study programmes in nutrition, food, pharmacy and health science in a single university. With two new faculties as of 1 January 2007, the University of Copenhagen will become Scandinavia’s largest university measured in terms of the number of researchers. (See pages 16-17)



PHOTO: HEINE PEDERSEN

- 4.-6.10.** The University of Copenhagen hosts a large-scale, international workshop in IARU, with the participation of a large number of top researchers in the fields of ageing, longevity and health.
- 5.-9.10.** 30 geologists and geology students from the University of Aarhus and the University of Copenhagen survey subterranean Denmark by detonating two tons of explosives in the sea around Denmark. This permits the last 250 million years’ development of the Danish area to be investigated.
- 12.10.** The exhibition *Monster from the Deep*, mounted by the Øresund Aquarium and five other Danish public aquariums in connection with the Galathea 3 expedition, opens. The exhibition is based around a realistic model of a creature and, via a learning game, the public are helped to produce their own description of the creature.
- 13.10.** The winners of the Academic Writing Center’s and the University of Copenhagen Library’s competition *In search of writing excellence* are celebrated. First place goes to Morten Holmgård Andersen, the Rhetoric Section under the Department of Media, Cognition and Communication, for the essay *Lars Larsen® – Personae in Autobiography as a Sales Strategy*.
- 13.10.** The University of Copenhagen opens its doors to inquisitive minds of all ages for the Copenhagen Night of Culture. The University offers a wide range of events such as *Judas Over the Ages*, *Monsters and Mutants*, *Secrets of the Universe* and *Readings of Hans Christian Andersen’s fairytales*.
- 14.10.** The University of Copenhagen Student Council, in association with the Danish Association of Masters and PhDs, organises a conference on the University of the future – *Xperiment KU*. The conference offers students and staff at the University of Copenhagen the opportunity to try out their wildest ideas and strangest notions.
- 26.10.** The Center for Subjectivity Research headed by Professor Dan Zahavi, Department of Media, Cognition and Communication, together with

Freedom of expression must be exercised with forethought, so that we can live in peace and tolerance. That was the main message of the well-attended February conference on Images of God, where researchers addressed the topical issue of the Muhammad cartoons.

A little self-censorship, please

One of the most important things we teach our students is to be critical of what they hear and see, and to direct their criticism towards each other, their teachers and society. But freedom of expression must be exercised with forethought, so that we can live in peace and tolerance with our differences and similarities.

Such were the opening words of Rector Ralf Hemmingsen when he hosted the one-day conference “Images of God – Religion and Politics in a Globalised World” in February.

The previous Rector, Linda Nielsen, had said much the same when a similar conference was held at the University in 2005. That event was occasioned by the attack on a member of the University’s teaching staff who had quoted from the Koran. This time it was the Muhammad cartoons. “Both epi-

sodes tell us that our use of freedom of expression can be provocative and result in violent clashes between cultures. There’s nothing new in that per se. What is new is that we live in a globalised world, where word travels quickly and the rest of the world is alert to what is said and done in a small country such as Denmark,” observed Rector Hemmingsen.

The ball was thus set rolling for a conference in which an array of the University’s leading researchers in the fields of media, law, religion and Middle Eastern studies spoke on such topics as the prohibition of images, legal traditions, freedom of expression and globalisation trends.

Religion and freedom of expression

Not surprisingly, the Danish daily *Jyllands-Posten* came under heavy fire from some of the researchers for having published the Muhammad cartoons. In particular, Henning Koch, LLD, considered the publishing of the drawings an indirect provocation of yet another cultural conflict.

“When culture editor Flemming Rose trumpets on the front page of *Jyllands-Posten* that one must be prepared to put up with ‘scorn, mockery and ridicule’, he is not giving a correct description of the state of the law in democratic Denmark, but launching a powerful political project which is quite independent of the actual drawings. In Denmark, our legislators established long ago in the laws on defamation, blasphemy and racism that words and actions that insult religious (and other) feelings must be subject to penalties.” Koch was also of the opinion that the Danish Prime Minister had himself added to the confusion with his pronouncements that “freedom of expression is absolute within the framework defined by law.”

“Which means that it is in fact not absolute. A completely meaningless statement, pure political spin,” said Koch, emphasising that there are limits to freedom of expression, and not just when the individual has been told so by the courts.

“The intention of the legislators is actually that the thinking citizen should refrain from an utterance – or, in other words, exercise self-censorship – in order to avoid punishment,” said Koch.

Professor Mogens Müller, DD, also lashed out at *Jyllands-Posten*.



PHOTO: HEINE PEDERSEN

The Harald Award 2006

The University's Teacher of the Year – *Årets Harald* – for 2006 went to Professor Vincent Gabrielsen of the Department of History in the Faculty of Humanities. The announcement was made at the University's Annual Commemoration.

Årets Harald is a prize awarded by the students, in recognition of especially good and inspiring teaching. At the presentation ceremony, Rector Ralf Hemmingsen read out the students' citation:

"Without a doubt, Vincent is our most dedicated, educationally skilled and best teacher. He simply relishes teaching, and for his students there is no doubt that for Vincent teaching is just as important a matter as research – 'good, committed teaching makes good researchers' could be his mantra".



PHOTO: SØREN HARTVIG

"I believe that it is deeply problematical for us if we will no longer accept sacredness. It is in the absence of such acceptance that it becomes so difficult for us to understand the Islamic reaction," he explained.

However, Stig Hjarvard, professor of media science, warned against reducing the matter to a mere question of civilised behaviour and respect for others' feelings.

"Things become too simple if we say it is just about showing respect," he said, and asked whether the Danish singer Trille had gone too far all those years ago when she sang, "That fellow God, it's damned hard to get him thrown out".

"Not in my opinion. I think that in certain cases it is reasonable to challenge religious convictions, even if some people might be offended by that," said Hjarvard, in reply to his own question.

He emphasised, however, that this was not to be understood as a defence of *Jyllands-Posten*. ■

A collection of articles, Gudebilleder – Ytringsfrihed og religion i en globaliseret verden [Images of God – Freedom of Speech and Religion in a Globalised World], edited by Lisbet Christoffersen, was released after the conference. Publishers: Tiderne Skifter.

eight other European research teams, receives more than DKK 22 million from the EU's 6th Framework Programme for a Marie Curie Research Training Network entitled *Disorders and Coherence of the Embodied Self – DISCOS*.

- 26-28.10.** The University of Copenhagen hosts the three-day seminar *Gender and Religion from a Global Perspective*, which is attended by researchers from more than 20 countries. The seminar is organised by the University's Religion in the 21st Century Research Priority Area and the Co-ordination for Gender Studies in Denmark.
- 26.10.** The findings of an international research project on the honey bee are published in *Nature*. 170 researchers from 16 countries – including researchers from the Department of Biology headed by Professor Cornelis Gimmelikhuijzen – have mapped the heredity of the honey bee.
- 30.10.** HRH Prince Hassan of Jordan visits Denmark and participates in a dialogue at the Faculty of Theology entitled *The Role of Interreligious Dialogue in a Global Peace Process*. (See page 41)
- 1.11.** Professor Per Soelberg Sørensen, Department of Clinical Neurosurgery and Psychiatry, receives a donation of DKK 5 million from the firm of Brdr. Rønje Holding, earmarked for research into so-called blood biomarkers capable of demonstrating the effectiveness of sclerosis treatment.
- 2.11.** The Rector's Office produces a draft strategy for the years up to 2012. For the first time in its history, the University is to pursue an overall strategy. The object is to position the University of Copenhagen as an institution with such a strong commitment to basic research that it is poised to emerge as one of the leading and most international universities in Europe.
- 3.11.** A collaborative project on a training programme for board members between the University of Copenhagen and the law firm Plesner is announced. *The Boardroom Academy* will be the first-ever training programme for board members at university level. (See page 27)
- 8.11.** The University of Copenhagen hosts three new basic research centres financed by the Danish National Research Foundation: *Centre for Comparative Genomics* headed by Professor Rasmus Nielsen, Biological Institute; *Centre for Epigenetics* headed by Professor Kristian Helin, Biotek Research and Innovation Centre, and *Centre for Interglacial Climate* headed by Professor Dorthe Dahl-Jensen, Niels Bohr Institute.
- 9.11.** The Ceremonial Hall at the University of Copenhagen hosts a debate with the President of the Czech Republic, Vaclav Klaus, which seeks to provide answers to how the EU can be debureaucratised and to where to strike the balance between free trade and social concerns.
- 9.11.** The Ice and Climate Research Group at the Niels Bohr Institute, headed by Professor Dorthe Dahl-

A century of Porsild and humpback whales

The University's most northerly outpost, Arctic Station in Qeqertarsuaq, rounded an important corner in August. The field station's first hundred years was celebrated with a "coffee-mik" and a new postage stamp – which was overtaken on the inside lane by events.



PHOTO: METTE DAMGAARD SØRENSEN

It's almost beyond belief – the bay before us in the golden rays of the morning sun, with lightly-baked meringue peaks drifting about on the shining blue water. A flock of white seabirds is floating on the surface among the bakery goods, and to the right, inland, cubist dabs of colour stand out against the grey backdrop.

And that's not the end of it. Two 15-metre humpback whales are giving a display of synchronised swimming in the bay. Like icebergs – only the top is visible. But that does not diminish their overwhelming magnificence.

In the Station common room, Reinhardt Møbjerg Kristensen, department head and member of the Arctic Station Board, stands beaming in an understated way. He had promised us whales, and we got them. Exactly on the 100th anniversary of the Station's topping-out ceremony – the day of celebration.

8 a.m.: Hoisting the flags

"Spot the mistake," jokes one of the guests.

He points at the first contribution to the gift table – a oversized version of a new postage stamp depicting Arctic Station. But it is already outdated, because the Mayor of Qeqertarsuaq, Augusta Salling, has just presented the Station with a new flagpole, so that the Greenlandic and Danish flags can flutter side

by side out in the front garden. The flags are hoisted, while embroidered kamiks, white anoraks and beaded collars that must weigh over three pounds are caught by the morning sun. Everyone joins in singing the Danish hymn "In the east the sun arises", even though the sun hardly sets at this time of year.

9 a.m.: Prayers

The red-painted church of Qeqertarsuaq is full. The pastor has gone reindeer hunting, so an assistant conducts the daily service. Naja Porsild rises. She is a grandchild of Arctic Station's founder, the botanist Morten Porsild. She thanks her grandfather for his great zeal in getting the Station established and for his 40 years of dedication to the area.

Meanwhile, Naja's cousin Aksel, a pensioner from Canada, clearly moved, places a plastic wreath on the grave of Morten and his wife Johanne. It is the first time in 50 years that the family has been gathered across the Atlantic. It is also the first time they will be at a coffee-mik together, and see the Station's pride: Morten Porsild's impressive herbarium.

1 p.m.: Open house and coffee-mik

Three hundred guests attend the coffee-mik, which goes entirely by the book. They arrive, present their gift if they

have brought one, sit for ten minutes with their coffee and cake, and then wave goodbye. In that way 24 batches of homebake and bucketfuls of coffee are quickly disposed of. Reinhardt presents Augusta Salling with a special edition of the new book about the Station, bound in sealskin, with thanks for good working relations over the years.

5 p.m.: Celebration dinner

During the celebration dinner at the local school, Pro-Rector Lykke Friis comments on how Morten Porsild was ahead of his time. He understood the importance of the interdisciplinary approach, of external financing and of breaking down barriers between the world of research and the outside world.

Dean Nils O. Andersen, emphasised the Station's importance for climate research – now and in the future, and the importance of passing on science to coming generations. Ane Mærsk Mc-Kinney Uggla, Deputy Chair of the A.P. Møller and Chastine Mc-Kinney Møller Foundation for General Purposes, which helped to finance the Jubilee book, was present on behalf of the Foundation and expressed her thanks for the very beautiful book.

8 p.m.: Dance

The day is brought to an end in the hall, with the whole town invited.

"I'll never get the hang of it," says Reinhardt during the up-tempo Greenlandic folk-dancing. We are saved by Erik Wille, one of the Station's seamen, who plays the guitar and performs Greenlandic pop songs. And by the Twins – three (!) dancing girls in pink – and by a boy who impresses us with his self-taught Irish Riverdancing. Outside, it is still light. The icebergs continue to drift past Arctic Station, and the mosquitoes await their evening meal. A new century has begun. ■

Arctic Station – a century of research

Arctic Station is located on the island Qeqertarsuaq (Disko), near the town of Qeqertarsuaq (Godhavn) in Greenland. It was founded by the botanist Morten Porsild – with much help from Knud Rasmussen, Greenland's great explorer, who persuaded Counselor Holck to finance its establishment. Holck donated DKK 35,000 to establish the station, after which it was added to the Danish National Budget, with an allocation of DKK 9,000 a year. Morten Porsild remained head of the station for 40 years. It was taken over by the University of Copenhagen in 1953, and belongs to the Faculty of Science.

A commemorative book, "Arktisk Station 1906-2006", has been published by Forlaget Rhodos.

Jensen, is part of an international research team that publishes new research results on the climate in the Northern and Southern Hemispheres in *Nature*. The studies indicate a direct correlation between the climate of the two hemispheres – the cold and the hot weather 'sloshes' back and forth between north and south.



PHOTO: HEINE PEDERSEN

- 13.11.** Professor Lisbeth Ehlert Knudsen, Institute of Public Health, receives the *Nordic Research Prize for Alternatives to Animal Testing* for her commitment to developing and diffusing alternative methods to animal testing.
- 16.11.** The Annual Commemoration festivities are launched and the year's honorary doctorates are announced: Professor Dr. Ingolf U. Dalferth, Institut für Hermeneutik und Religionsphilosophie an der Theologischen Fakultät der Universität Zürich; Professor, dr. juris. Viggo Hagstrøm, Faculty of Law, University of Oslo; Professor, juris dr. Kaarlo Tuori, Faculty of Law, University of Helsinki; Professor, ph.d. Yihai Cao, Microbiology and Tumor Biology Center, Karolinska Institutet; Professor Benjamin Rampton, Department of Education and Professional Studies, University of London; Professor Dr. Erika Fischer-Lichte, Institut für Theaterwissenschaft, Freie Universität Berlin; Professor Riccardo Giacconi, Dept. of Physics & Astronomy, Johns Hopkins University, and Dr. Timothy John Wallington, Scientific Research Laboratories, Ford Motor Company. Professor Vincent Gabrielsen of the Saxo Institute is voted *Teacher of the Year*. For more information visit www.ku.dk/aeresdoktorer. (See page 35)



PHOTO: CHRISTOFFER REGILD

- 17.11.** The Danish Research Council for Culture and Communication announces its funding allocations for 2006, and research projects at the University of Copenhagen receive approximately DKK 52 million. The largest award of DKK 7 million is made to the *Centre for Studies of Equality and Multiculturalism*, Department of Media, Cognition and Communication, which is headed by Associate Professor Nils Holtug and Associate Professor Kasper Lippert-Rasmussen.
- 22.11.** The National Agency for Enterprise and Construction awards DKK 2.3 million to the Faculty of Humanities to be used in establishing a student hothouse for the experience economy and

Students were ready with their questions and expectations when Javier Solana, the EU's Foreign Policy Coordinator, visited the University of Copenhagen in September – and he obviously enjoyed the debate in the Ceremonial Hall as much as the audience did.



PHOTO: HEINE PEDERSEN

Dialogue with Solana

Friday 8 September, 10:03 a.m. Javier Solana, the EU's Foreign Policy Coordinator, is on an official visit to Copenhagen. He has been knighted at Amalienborg Palace, has spoken with the Prime Minister at Marienborg and has visited Tivoli. Later Pro-Rector Lykke Friis will reveal that he also found time to buy spectacles and new shoes in the Danish capital, thus securing Denmark a place both over and under the negotiating table in Brussels. However, his motorcade has now reached the historic University buildings at Frue Plads. Behind the ancient walls, in the Ceremonial Hall, more than 450 students and guests are in their seats, letting their gaze wander as they wait for the EU's head of foreign policy to take his place on the empty rostrum.

The topic for discussion is "Europe in the world's hotspots", and everyone is waiting to hear what the Spanish professor of physics, who is currently the EU's "foreign minister", has to say. Some of the students are holding papers with questions to be raised during the discussion.

Priyanka Ghosh, an international student from the USA, has been looking forward to the meeting.

"Solana is an important person, and the EU is involved in many international decisions. As an international student, it is fantastic to be able to be here. I would never have had this opportunity in the US."

Sebastian Brun, an international student from Germany, shares her enthusiasm:

"In the four years I have been a student in my own country, I have not had such an opportunity. It's really an experience."

Solana enters the hall, and the Pro-Rector thanks him for agreeing to come and speak.

"It is the University's job to promote debate and study the details."

The EU's missions

In his address, Solana talks about how a united Europe can contribute to peaceful solutions to the world's conflicts. He highlights missions where the EU's contribution has made a difference, and briefly takes his listeners to Bosnia, the Maldives, Darfur, Congo, Gaza, Iraq and Asia. He concludes with the words, "The world needs Europe." A student takes this up with the comment, "The Middle East also needs Europe." She asks why the EU does not use Turkey as a bridge to the Middle East. Solana refers to the crisis in Lebanon as an example of EU cooperation with the Middle East. He diplomatically emphasises that the EU must not use, but cooperate with the Middle East. In reply to the question of how Denmark's opt-out on defence affects its position in the Union, Solana replies that it is not an obstacle to Denmark's participation in EU missions. He respects Denmark's decision, and highlights the value in the country's contributions, small and large, to the EU.

After an hour, the Pro-Rector rounds off the discussion, thanking Solana for making a stop at the University. Outside, the starting signals are heard from the motorcade that a few minutes later will set course for the airport. Solana stands quietly for a moment, taking in the hall with his eyes. He nods to the salvos of applause, and through his smiles we can see that



PHOTO: HEINE PEDERSEN

it has been good to be back in the academic environment. It is 11:34 a.m. His next stops are Vienna and Montenegro. ■

Europe up for debate

In 2006 the University of Copenhagen opened its doors for a series of meetings with prominent politicians. One such event was held on 21 April by the University's Research Priority Area "Europe in transition", with Anders Fogh Rasmussen, the Danish Prime Minister, as guest speaker. In his address, the Prime Minister presented his views on how the EU might tackle the challenges that Europe will face in the coming years.

Other guests during the year included:

- Margot Wallström, Vice-President of the European Commission, who came, on 19 May, to discuss the EU and the future of the EU constitution.
- Per Stig Møller, Danish Foreign Minister, who presented, on 6 November, his views on how Denmark can respond to the global challenge.
- Vaclav Klaus, President of the Czech Republic, who spoke, on 9 November, on matters including how Europe can change course away from state-building and over-regulation towards cooperation, with emphasis on free trade.

Speeches, video clips and photos can be found at www.ku.dk/satsning/europa

global communication. The hothouse will give students the opportunity to try out and develop business concepts.

23.11. Professor Poul Erik Petersen, Department of Odontology, is awarded DKK 3,632,330 by the Danish Council for Strategic Research under Danida/ the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the project *Oral Health and HIV/AIDS – Strengthening HIV/AIDS Prevention in Africa*.

25.11. Professor Hans Thybo, Geological Institute, receives DKK 3 million as an adjustable grant from the Danish Natural Science Research Council for the project *Dynamic Topography (TopoScandes.dk). Uplift, subsidence and inner Earth structures in the North Atlantic region*.

27.11. Professor Flemming Balvig, Associate Professor Lars Holmberg, and Anne-Stina Sørensen, research assistant, from the University of Copenhagen, receive the prominent *European Crime Prevention Award* of EUR 20,000 for their results from the Ringsted Project which elucidates young people's use of alcohol and drugs and criminal conduct in the age-range 11-24.

27.11. In association with the Statens Serum Institut and the British Embassy, the *BioLogue* biomedical network holds a symposium on future Danish biobanks to determine which types of biobanks Denmark should be invested in and how best to structure them.

29.11. Professor Claus Thustrup Kreiner, Institute of Economics, is presented with the teaching award *The Invisible Hand* at the annual general meeting of the Association for Social Economics. The prize is awarded by the Association for Social Economics and the Institute of Economics and consists of a trophy and DKK 15,000. On the same occasion, Claus Bjørn Jørgensen, an instructor at the Institute of Economics, receives the Zeuthen Prize of DKK 10,000.

1.12. With a grant of just under DKK 30 million, a new EU research network will be investigating the regulation of hereditary material in mice and humans. Sakari Kauppinen, a visiting professor at the Department of Medical Biochemistry and Genetics, and his research team from the University of Copenhagen participate in the network with the Danish biotech firm of Santaris Pharma A/S.

1.12. Associate Professor Anja C. Andersen, Dark Cosmology Centre at the Niels Bohr Institute, receives the year's *Rosenkjær Prize* of DKK 25,000. The Prize is awarded by the Danish Broadcasting Corporation and requires her to deliver six radio lectures in February and March 2007.



PHOTO: MORTEN MEJNECKE



PHOTO: LIZETTE KABRÉ

Double royal visit

The Crown Prince and Princess visited the University of Copenhagen for an informal tour in April. And the Crown Princess returned the next day to present the Crown Princess Mary Scholarship awards in person.

It was morning coffee with home-made *petits fours* in the Rector's apartments, when the Royal Couple visited the University together on 24 April. They were received on the Lindegården steps by Rector Ralf Hemmingsen and Bodil Nyboe Andersen, Chair of the Board. Afterwards, there was a guided tour of the historic University buildings in inner Copenhagen, and a visit to the Faculty of Science.

It was here that the Crown Princess's father, John Donaldson, professor of mathematics, used to work, and the family visited the H.C. Ørsted Youth Laboratory together. A handful of students who had attended the Professor's course in applied mathematics happily recounted their experiences with the subject and their teacher.

On Tuesday, Princess Mary returned, this time alone, to present the Crown Princess Mary Scholarship awards.

"Thank you for your hospitality yesterday," she said, smiling, in faultless Danish, pressing the Rector's hand.



PHOTO: LIZETTE KABRÉ

The scholarship is part of the University's wedding present to the couple. Awards will be made annually to two exchange students from the University of Copenhagen's Australian partner universities. The scholarships are of DKK 10,000,

Jordanian Prince in dialogue on religion and society

Crown Prince Frederik was not the only prince to be seen at the University in 2006. Prince Hassan Bin Talal of Jordan also visited. In October he gave a talk at the University on religious dialogue, emphasising that many of the conflicts in modern times arise because political interests are concealed behind religious ideologies.

According to Prince Hassan, it is neither possible nor desirable to have a completely clear separation of religion and state, even though many politicians argue for it. It must be recognised that there is a connection between belief and practice, he said, also asserting that the values of Islam and Christianity were fundamentally the same.

The Jordanian Prince visited the Faculty of Humanities and the Faculty of Theology as part of his official visit to Denmark. He gave several talks at the University and spoke from the rostrum of the Danish Parliament about the Nordic region and globalisation, at the 58th session of the Nordic Council.

and the hope is that they will help make the students' time in Denmark even better. This year, scholarships were awarded to Danielle Conlan, from the University of Tasmania, and Joseph Kelly, from Queensland University of Technology, who have been studying law and mathematics, respectively, at the University. ■



PHOTO: LIZETTE KABRÉ

- 7.12.** Jeppe Holm, student of physics at the Niels Bohr Institute, wins the year's entrepreneurship competition, *Venture Cup*. He developed the *Nanoslim* tablet which prevents fat from being absorbed by the body if the tablet is taken with a meal.
- 8.12.** Professor Birte Glenthøj, Department of Clinical Neurosurgery and Psychiatry, receives DKK 1,104,000 from the Lundbeck Foundation to be used to develop new techniques for recording the way in which the brain processes information in schizophrenics.
- 12.12.** Professor Bente Klarlund Pedersen, Clinical Institute of Internal Medicine, is presented with the *Danish Ministry of Culture Sports Prize 2006* – DKK 200,000 and a work of art – for her work in placing sports and physical exercise on the health policy agenda.
- 18.12.** The University of Copenhagen announces that 53-year-old Jørgen Honoré will be appointed the new University Director as of 1 February 2007 on a five-year tenure. Jørgen Honoré holds an MSc and an MPA in economics, politology and organisation. Previously he held the position of University Director at the Technical University of Denmark (DTU).



- 20.12.** The Institute of Preventive Medicine, attached to the Faculty of Health Sciences, receives a joint grant with other research units within and outside of the University of Copenhagen worth DKK 40 million from the Programme Commission on Food and Health under the Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation's Council for Strategic Research for the creation of a *Danish Obesity Research Centre* that will investigate whether specific nutrients affect the development of obesity and its sequelae.
- 22.12.** Professor Bodil Norrild, Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine, receives an award of DKK 100,000 from the health foundation of the private health insurance company Sygeforsikring Danmarks Sundhedsfond for her research into cervical cancer and other types of genital cancer.
- 22.12.** An investigation into the origin of insects conducted by a team of researchers from the Center for Ancient Genetics at the Biological Institute led by Professor Eske Willerslev, is published in the prestigious journal *Science*. The study demonstrates that insects in all probability evolved 100 million years later than so far assumed – and did not arise in the sea as science has previously believed, but in fresh water.

Organisation as of 1 February 2007



Faculty of Health Sciences

Theoretical Departments:

- Department of Biomedical Sciences
- Department of Cellular and Molecular Medicine
- Department of Forensic Medicine
- Department of Health Science
 - Medical Museion
- Department of International Health, Immunology and Microbiology
- Department of Neuroscience and Pharmacology
- School of Dentistry

Clinical Departments:

- Department of Diagnostic Sciences
- Department of Gynaecology, Obstetrics and Paediatrics
- Department of Neurology, Psychiatry and Sensory Sciences
- Department of Orthopaedics and Internal Medicine
- Department of Surgery and Internal Medicine

Centres:

- Centre of Inflammation and Metabolism (CIM)
- Centre for Integrated Molecular Brain Imaging
- Centre for Neurovascular Signalling
- Copenhagen Muscle Research Centre (CMRC)
- Danish Arrhythmia Research Centre (DARC)
- Wilhelm Johannsen Centre for Functional Genome Research

Faculty of Humanities

- Department of Arts and Cultural Studies
- Department of Cross-Cultural and Regional Studies
- Department of English, Germanic and Romance Studies
- Department of Media, Cognition and Communication
- Department of Scandinavian Research
 - Centre for Language Change in Real Time
- Department of Scandinavian Studies and Linguistics
 - Centre for Reading Research
- Saxo-Institute
 - Centre for Textile Research

Centres:

- Centre for Cultural Analysis
- Centre for Language Technology
- Centre for Subjectivity Research

Faculty of Law

The Faculty is organised as a unitary faculty without departments and with sections directly under the Faculty.

Faculty of Life Sciences

- Department of Agricultural Sciences
- Department of Basic Animal and Veterinary Sciences
- Department of Ecology
- Department of Food and Resource Economics
- Department of Food Science

- Department of Human Nutrition
- Department of Large Animal Sciences
 - Veterinary Historical Museum
- Department of Natural Sciences
- Department of Plant Biology
 - Centre for Molecular Plant Physiology
- Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences
- Department of Veterinary Pathobiology
- Danish Centre for Forest, Landscape and Planning

Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences

- Department of Medicinal Chemistry
- Department of Pharmaceutics and Analytical Chemistry
- Department of Pharmacology and Pharmacotherapy
- Drug Research Academy (DRA)

Faculty of Science

- Department of Biology
 - Centre for Ancient Genetics
 - Centre for Comparative Genomics
 - Centre for Macroecology
 - Centre for Social Evolution
 - The Øresund Aquarium
- Department of Chemistry
- Department of Computer Science
- Department of Exercise and Sport Sciences
- Department of Geography and Geology
 - Nordic Center for Earth Evolution (NordCEE)
- Department of Mathematical Sciences
- Department of Molecular Biology

- The Bioinformatics Centre
- Danish Arche Centre
- Department of Science Education
 - Copenhagen Centre for Atmospheric Research (OCCAR)
 - Danish Center for Scientific Computing
 - Nano-Science Centre
- Natural History Museum of Denmark
 - Arctic Station, Greenland
 - Botanic Garden & Museum
 - Geological Museum
 - Zoological Museum
- Niels Bohr Institute
 - Centre for Ice and Climate
 - Centre for Models of Life
 - Centre for Molecular Movies
 - Centre for Philosophy of Nature and Science Studies
 - Centre for Quantum Optics (Quantop)
 - Danish Centre for Biophysics - BioNet
 - Danish Centre for Grid Computing
 - Dark Cosmology Centre (DARK)

Faculty of Social Sciences

- Department of Anthropology
- Department of Economics
 - Center for Industrial Economics (CIE)
 - Centre for Applied Microeconometrics (CAM)
 - Development Economics Research Danida
 - Economic Policy Research Unit (EPRU)
 - Finance Research Unit (FRU)
 - Laboratory for Experimental Economics (LEE)
 - Centre for Applied Computer Science
- Department of Political Science
- Department of Psychology
- Department of Sociology
 - Centre for Housing and Welfare
 - Centre for Research in Existence and Society
 - Centre for Sexuality Studies
 - Co-ordination for Gender Studies
 - Employment Relations Research Centre
- Nordic Institute of Asian Studies (NIAS)

Faculty of Theology

The Faculty is organised as a unitary faculty without departments and with sections directly under the Faculty.

Centres:

- Centre for African Studies
- Centre for Christianity and the Arts
- Centre for the Study of the Bible in Theology and Culture
- Centre for the Study of the Cultural Heritage of Medieval Rituals

Outside the Faculties

- School of Oral Health Care

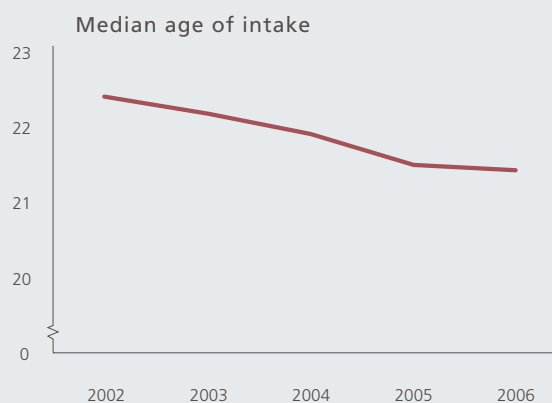
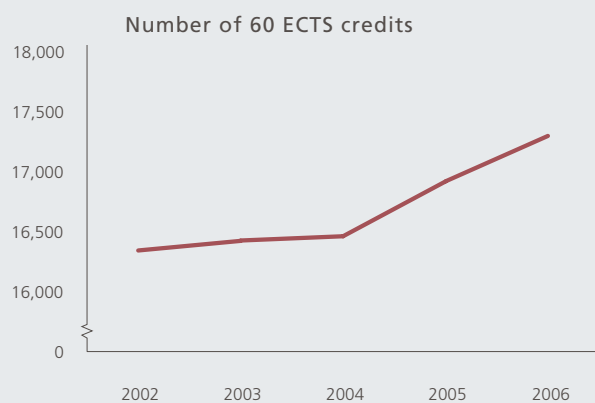
Organisational changes at the turn of the year 2006-2007

- The Danish University of Pharmaceutical Sciences and the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural University have been merged with the University of Copenhagen and are now the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences and the Faculty of Life Sciences, respectively.
- At the Humanities, the Department of Musicology has been brought in under the Department of Art and Cultural Studies.
- At the Faculty of Science, the Department of Geography and the Geological Institute have merged to form the Department of Geography and Geology; the Centre for Science Education has become the Department of Science Education; and the Institute of Molecular Biology and Physiology now has the shorter name of Institute of Molecular Biology.
- A completely new departmental structure has been introduced in Health Sciences. Only the Institute of Public Health, the Department of Odontology and the Department of Forensic Medicine have been retained from the old structure.

Key Figures

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Student intake as of 1 October	4,857	4,843	4,889	4,946	4,865
Median age of intake	22.5	22.3	22.0	21.7	21.6
Number of first-priority applicants	8,449	8,357	8,124	8,248	8,467
Number of applicants		14,355	14,351	14,879	15,416
Number of students	32,940	32,649	32,413	32,656	33,359
Number of 60 ECTS credits*	16,502	16,493	16,478	16,987	17,345
Number of resource-triggering students				25,428	26,359
Number of Bachelors	2,774	2,753	2,958	2,904	3,101
Number of Masters	2,631	2,560	2,604	2,963	3,089
Median age, Bachelors	25.7	25.7	25.5	25.5	25.6
Median age, Masters	28.7	28.8	29.1	28.9	28.9
Number of tuition-paying students	2,934	3,095	3,075	2,841	3,847
Number of tuition-paying full-time equivalents, part-time students	1,151	1,178	1,073	1,280	836
Masters – full course of study (Bachelor+Master)	161	153	245	154	188
Outgoing exchange students	732	803	767	722	818
Incoming exchange students	730	756	924	1,024	1,121
International students, ordinarily enrolled				1,795	1,978

* Sixty ECTS credits represent the workload of a full academic year of study.



More – and younger – new students

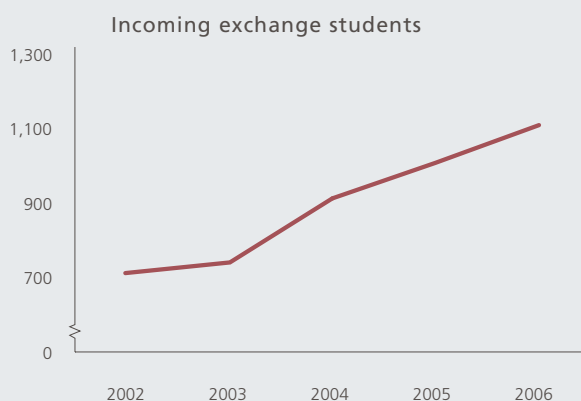
The University of Copenhagen remains a popular educational institution. The number of applicants continues to grow, exceeding 15,000 in 2006. About one in three were accepted. The annual student intake at the University remains fairly constant, being around 4,800. However, the new students are getting younger and younger. Age at admission has fallen by almost a whole year over the last five years, and a first year student is now typically 21½ years old.

In 2006, the number of students at KU rose above 33,000, and the number of students who sat examinations also increased. This was reflected in a rise in the numbers of both Bachelor's and Master's degrees awarded. Certificates for more than 3,000 of each were presented in 2006. Age at graduation has not changed – typically about 25 for a Bachelor-level degree, and 29 on average for a Master's.

International activity among students is at a high level. Internationalisation grants were received by 1,100 students from abroad and by 800 students wanting to study outside Denmark. Accordingly, the University still attracts more students than it sends abroad. The University's aims include attracting students from the best universities, especially those

on our own students' top-priority list of exchange universities. Interest in study abroad has increased in recent years, and has centred on English-speaking countries such as the USA, Canada and Australia.

In only one area has there been a downward trend. In 2006 it became substantially more costly to study part-time at the University. This resulted in numbers attending the University's courses falling by a third. So far this has not hit the University's Master's and Diploma programmes. For both of these, the number of programmes completed again increased.



Leader in the Nordic region, 54th in the world

The University of Copenhagen is the only Nordic university to make it into the *Times Higher Education Supplement's* ranking of the 100 best universities in the world, where it takes 54th place.

The Faculty of Humanities and the Faculty of Social Sciences are ranked best in the Nordic region, among the ten best in Europe and 26th and 40th, respectively, in the world. The Faculty of Health Sciences is 13th in Europe and 44th in the world, while the Faculty of Science is 16th in Europe and 47th in the world.

The ranking is based partly on evaluations by researchers in the fields concerned. A total of 3,700 researchers from all over

the world participated. The ranking also takes into account the teacher-student ratio and the number of citations of the universities' researchers in scientific journals.

Another survey, by *Shanghai Jiao Tong University*, ranked the University of Copenhagen as 13th best in Europe and 56th in the world.

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