

Siden sist!

Møterommene har fått navn

BIOs møterom har nå fått navn – etter funksjon, plassering eller inspirert av utsikten. Les mer under Siste nytt fra BIO nedenfor.

Lise Øvreås ny prodekan

Lise Øvreås er blitt fakultetets nye prodekan. BIO gratulerer og ønsker lykke til!



Ukens bilde



You are invited to submit photos (electronically!) for "Ukens bilde". Please include a very short description and credit information. Picture can be of researchers / students in action, technology, organisms, field sites ... Please send your pictures to Elinor Bartle

BIO ecology students build important time series data-sets

Today's picture of the week come from winter ecology course **BIO344**. They were sent to us by **Bjørn Arild Hatteland**. Research-based learning is highly valued at UiB. Fifteen years of data collection by BIO students taking a winter ecology course was used in a *Nature* paper in November 2008. The paper discussed lemming cycles. BIO associate professor **Torstein Solhøy** was one of the authors!

The course is led by researchers at **EECRG**. The leader of the winter ecology course at Finse (BIO344), Torstein Solhøy has introduced generations of BIO students to a wide range of methods and approaches to study the ecological consequences of the winter environment for alpine plants and animals. Read [Nature letter](#).



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Fra toppen

Fordelingen til gruppene er klar

Budsjettprosessen ved BIO nærmer seg en avslutning, og som nevnt tidligere har vi et meget stramt budsjett å forholde oss til. Dette betyr at fordelingen til gruppene blir på samme (lave) nivå som i 2009. I denne ukens BIO-info har vi lagt inn tabeller som viser grunnlaget for beregningen av gruppenes tildelinger samt den faktiske tildelingen som blir overført gruppene.

Selv om belønningen er liten, er det mye interessant som kan leses ut av tallene om gruppenes aktiviteter og produksjon. Ikke unaturlig stikker de store gruppene som EECRG og Fiskeriøkologi og havbruk av med mest penger, men målt pr. UiB-stilling er det fiskeimmunologi og generell mikrobiologi som kommer best ut. Mens Fiskeimmunologene (ledet av Heidrun Wergeland) er best på masterproduksjon, har de generelle mikrobiologene (under Nils-Kåre Birkeland) sin styrke i å produsere vitenskapelige publikasjonspoeng.

I den store sammenhengen og med dagens bevilgningssystem er dette et nullsumspill, slik at det ikke hjelper å være flinkere enn i fjor, hvis alle andre er flinkere. Det er først når BIO og resten av UiBs forskere sammen blir flinkere enn «de andre» at dette vil slå ut på de statlige overføringene. Den budsjettmodellen som fakultetet i dag bruker, omfordeler dessuten mesteparten av resultatmidlene inn i den ordinære rammen til instituttene, slik at det ikke lenger er like synlig hva effektene av en Nature-artikkel eller en doktorgrad faktisk er på instituttets budsjett.

Diskusjonen om budsjettmodell er noe som må føres videre på fakultetet. Det er viktig å analysere hva som er de rette insentivene for å få økt produktiviteten til våre forskere.

Hilsen Anders



Siste nytt fra BIO

Budsjettet for BIO i 2010, offensiv for BIO-sidene på eksternweben, møterommene har fått navn, promovideo for fiskehelse på YouTube...

Budsjettet for BIO i 2010: Tildeling til forskergruppene 2010

Fordelingen av midler til forskningsgruppene er nå ferdig utregnet. Ledergruppen har med instituttrådets godkjenning kommet fram til at i år som i fjor skal den totale tildeling av nye penger skal være 1,5 millioner, og årets nøkkel skal være lik fjorårets. Nye publikasjoner som dukker opp fra 2009 vil nå bli bokført i tildelingen til neste år.

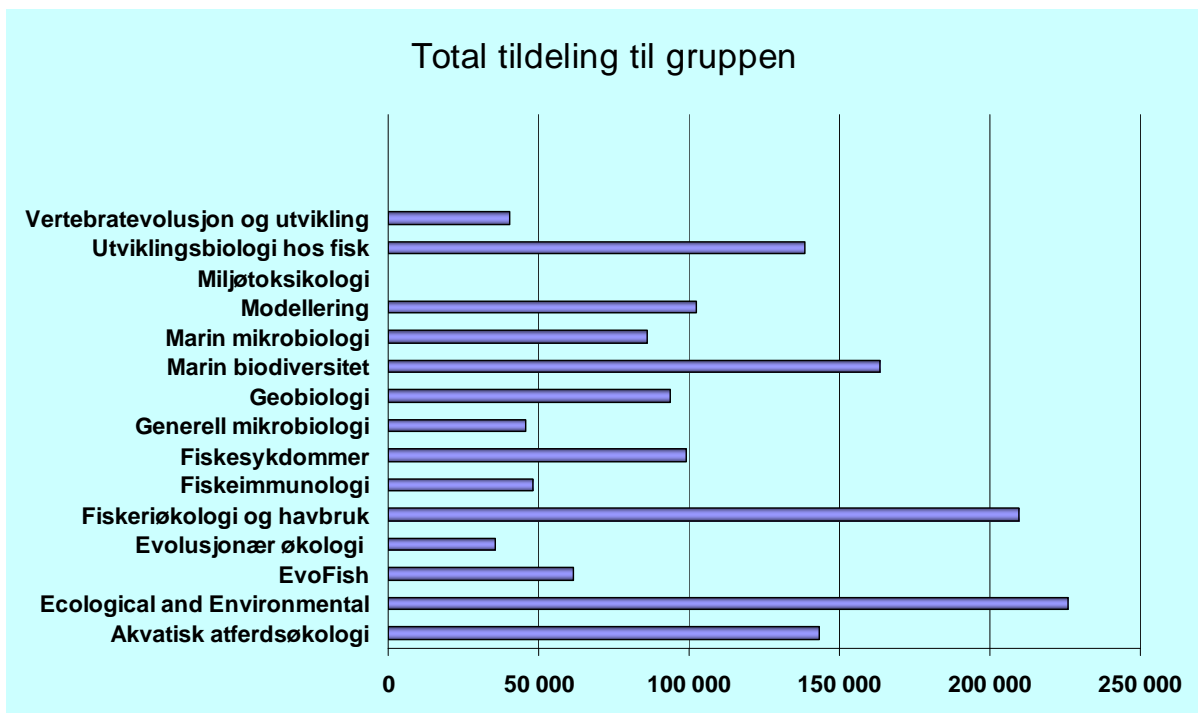
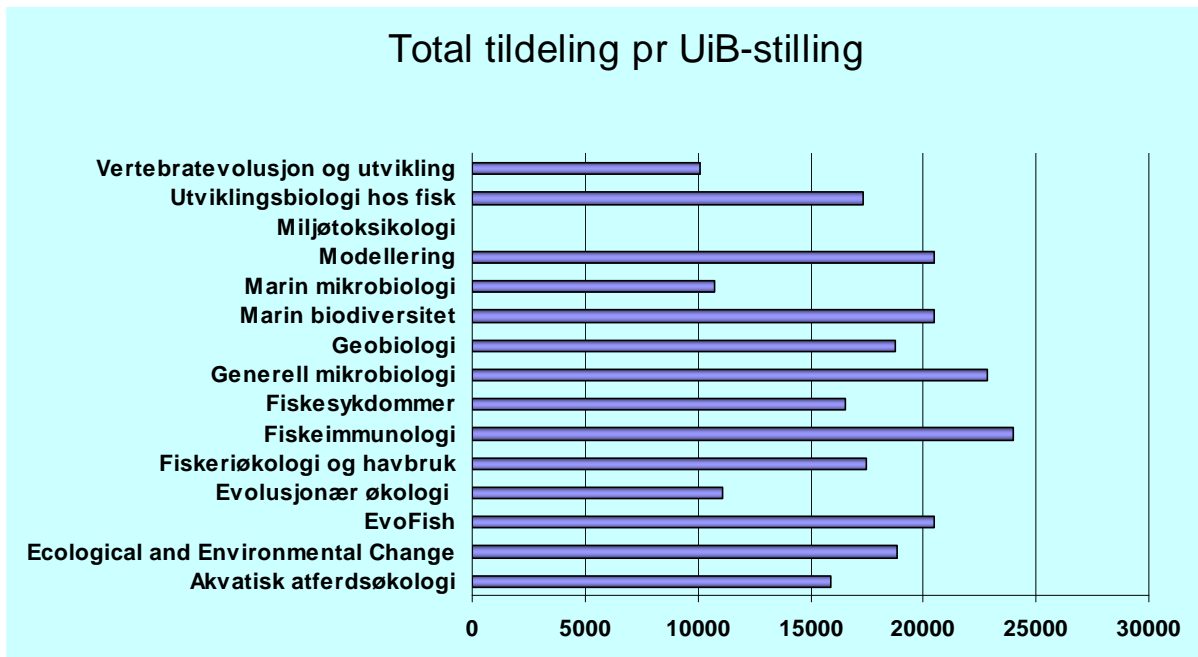
	2010	2009	2008
Total tildeling for antall artikler, kapitler og bøker	220 000	220 000	300 000
Total tildeling basert på JIF til artikler, kapitler og bøker	120 000	120 000	150 000
Total tildeling for bevilgningsfinansierte	350 000	350 000	700 000
Ekstra-tildeling pr kvote/UiB-stip	8 000	8 000	12 000
Ekstra-tildeling pr UiB-postdoc	16 000	16 000	24 000
Total tildeling for studiepoeng	100 000	100 000	200 000
Tildeling per ferdig MSc	4 000	4 000	5 000
Tildeling per disputas	8 000	8 000	11 000
Tildeling per tungt verv ved BIO	7 000	7 000	10 000
Planlagt tildeling til gruppene	1 500 000	1 500 000	2 400 000

Til grunn for fordelingen ligger dette datasettet:

Forskningsgruppe	Bøker, kap og artikler	sum JIF	# prof, 1. aman	UiB stip og kvote- PhD	UiB post-doc	Studiepoeng	Ferdige MSc (2008)	Disputaser 2008
Akvatisk atferdsøkologi	11	19.6	6	3	0	2705	6	1
Ecological and Environmental Change	42	167.0	8	4	1	1710	7	1
EvoFish	9	21.4	1	2	1	70	0	0
Evolusjonær økologi	6	14.9	3	0.2	0	505	2	0
Fiskerøkologi og havbruk	23	37.2	6	6	0	1440	10	4
Fiskeimmunologi	4	8.9	1	1	0	270	6	0
Fiskesykdommer	14	37	3	3	0	250	5	1
Generell mikrobiologi	9	23.8	2	0	0	910	2	1
Geobiologi	9	44.8	2	3	1	20	3	0
Marin biodiversitet	26	41.2	4	4	1	267	9	1
Marin mikrobiologi	10	38.4	5	3	0	123	1	1
Modellering	25	60.8	4	0	0	1080	3	2
Utviklingsbiologi hos fisk	31	57	5	3	0	1005	6	1
Vertebratevolusjon og utvikling	0	0	3	1	0	1150	0	0

Basert på denne nøkkelen og datasettene vi har, ender vi da med følgende tildeling fra hver gruppe:

Forskningsgruppe	Til-deling for vit. prod. (pr enhet + pr JIF)	Tildeling for bevilg- nings- finansierte	Ekstra- tildeling til kvote /UiB-stip	Ekstra- tildeling til UiB- postdoc	Til- deling for studie- poeng	Til- deling for MSc	Til- deling for disp	Til- deling for tunge verv ved BIO	Total tildeling til gruppen
Akvatisk atferdsøkologi	15162	34539	24000	0	23512	24000	8000	14000	143213
Ecological and Environmental Change	77229	49890	32000	16000	14863	28000	8000	0	225983
EvoFish	13540	15351	16000	16000	608	0	0	0	61499
Evolusjonær økologi	9153	12281	1600	0	4389	8000	0	0	35423
Fiskerøkologi og havbruk	30900	46053	48000	0	12516	40000	32000	0	209469
Fiskeimmunologi	5894	7675	8000	0	2347	24000	0	0	47916
Fiskesykdommer	21825	23026	24000	0	2173	20000	8000	0	99024
Generell mikrobiologi	14029	7675	0	0	7910	8000	8000	0	45614
Geobiologi	18441	23026	24000	16000	174	12000	0	0	93641
Marin biodiversitet	34756	34539	32000	16000	2321	36000	8000	0	163616
Marin mikrobiologi	18101	30702	24000	0	1069	4000	8000	0	85871
Modellering	37873	19189	8000	0	9387	12000	16000	0	102449
Miljøtoksikologi	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Utviklingsbiologi hos fisk	43098	30702	24000	0	8735	24000	8000	0	138535
Vertebratevolusjon og utvikling	0	15351	8000	0	9996	0	0	7000	40347
BIO totalt	340 000	350 000	273 600	64 000	100 000	240 000	104 000	21 000	1 492 600



15 May – BIO's external web will be up and going!

There is a growing activity going on in the research groups these days in getting information about the activity in the groups out on the external web pages.

Each group has their own page on the new external web, and by 15 May all groups should be "up and going" on the web. The deadline is set in order to have the pages ready before the application deadlines early June



BIO-info

Nyheter fra Institutt for biologi

to the Research Council, making it easy to link to relevant information. Having good web pages will save us a lot of work later, for example in application processes, and it is a tool for attracting good students interested in biology at all levels. They are the first place people turn to find out about what we are doing, what can be done here, how they could come here ...

BIO is offering help to the research groups when developing web pages. Today we organized a special course for BIO external web editors, and seven of the research groups sent editors: **General Microbiology, Aquatic Behaviour Ecology, EECRG, EvoFish, Marine Biodiversity, Fish Immunology**, and **Fisheries Ecology and Aquaculture**.

At today's seminar we learned valuable tips about twinning pages (between languages), importing news and calendar items from other places at UiB (sharing content), managing URLs and more. Thanks to Helge Olsen and Bodil Kjelstrup for coming to share their expertise.

As described above, the pages are our face to the external world. Each group needs to assess its own external face priorities and produce the contents. In addition to the course held today, BIO's external web working group offer help. You can book a session with the EW working group ([see the calendar](#) and/or send a mail to [Elinor](#)).

Useful links:

Log on to your personal page for editing: <http://uib.no/login> (NB if you are an editor, this also logs you on to your editing area)

EW Wikip: https://wikihost.uib.no/ewwiki/index.php/Main_Page

EW blog: <http://webred.b.uib.no/>

Studér fiskehelse!

See the [video about the course on YouTube!](#)



BIOs møterom har fått navn

Romkomitéen har nå navnsatt møterommene på BIO - ett rom har navn etter funksjonen til rommet, tre rom har navn etter plassering i bygget mens resten har navn etter utsikten (eller nesten-utsikten) fra rommet. Vi takker romkomitéen for innsatsen! Rommene kan bestilles med hjelp fra ekspedisjonen på BIOs [rombookingssystem](#). Her er navnene:

Mellombygget

214G2: Møllaren, 215G1: Florida, 314H2: Kroken

Bioblokken

320A2: Parken, 329C1: Knekken, 342A2: Ulriken, 436A1: Vidden

A-blokken

2A07.3: Svingen, 2B05.2: Styrehuset, 3C14.1: Sundet, 4B02: Straumen, 4C02: Tunet, 4C14.1: Løvstakken

B-blokken

3G01: Pyramidene, 5G01: Store Puddefjorden, 5H01: Lille Puddefjorden

Second hanging-up day

The second day for getting things hung on the walls is Tuesday 23 February. Please register your needs [here](#) (if you registered before the first day, you don't have to do it again).

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Nyheter fra Institutt for biologi

Tåler ikke kulden

Torstein Solhøy fra **EECRG** sier til [BA](#) at brunsneglbestanden kan ha blitt halvert.



Leter høyt etter lav

– En milepæl i norsk arktisk forskning, kaller **Dag Olav Øvstedal** sin nye lavflora. Hele syv arter som er beskrevet i boken er nye for vitenskapen. Les mer fra [På Høyden](#)

BIO's book exchange

BIO has a book exchange outside the library on the second floor in the A-building. Have some spare books? Bring them so others can read them. See something you like? Read it!

Siste nytt fra verden rundt oss

Ugleprisen, Miljeteig i UiB-styret, Ny husleiemodell, Bioprospektering...

Fikk Ugleprisen

Utdanningskvalitetsprisen for 2010 gikk til to fag som engasjerer studentene på nye måter. Les mer fra [På Høyden](#)

Nytt medlem i styret

Oddny Miljeteig tek Grete Faremo sin plass i universitetsstyret. Les mer fra [På Høyden](#).

Vil ha ny husleiemodell

Eiendoms- og økonomiavdelingen vil ha ei bedre utnyttning av UiB sine bygg, og oppmodar fakultet og avdelingar til å kvitta seg med overflødig areale. Les mer fra [På Høyden](#) også et leserbrev: [Ny husleiemodell - Kor mykje kostar det?](#)

INN Club: Taxation seminar

INN Bergen invites you to taxation seminar Wednesday March 3 from 17.30 – 19.30, Grand Selskapslokaler, Ole Bulls plass.

Bente Frøyland, Attorney of Law, at Deloitte will give a brief introduction of the Norwegian taxes during your stay in Norway. She will also give an overview of the items you must include in your tax return, and what deductions you can claim. During the session she will also inform you how to coordinate your Norwegian social security issues. The topics that will be highlighted are: Tax liability in Norway, Tax rates, Tax return – time for filing, process etc., Deduction for foreigners, Avoidance of double taxation, Social security membership, Avoidance of double Social Security Contribution

Free admission for INN Bergen members, NOK 350,- for other participants. Everyone is welcome to attend! Please sign-up for the Taxation Seminar using the link below or at our website: www.bergen-chamber.no, or by email to gunn.fossen@bergen-chamber.no by March 1.

Innbruddsbølge ved UiB

I 2009 var det over dobbelt så mange innbrudd ved UiB sammenlignet med de siste tre årene før. Nå setter Eiendomsavdelingen inn tiltak. Les mer fra [På Høyden](#)

Verdiskaping fra havet

Regjeringen vil satse på marin bioprospektering. Om lag 80 personer var samlet i Forskningsrådet i begynnelsen av februar for å diskutere hvordan Norge best kan etablere et nasjonalt samspill på dette området. Satsingsområder og samarbeidsformer var sentrale diskusjonstemaer på møtet. [Les mer](#)



Interesting! Nature's choices

Exploding the myths surrounding how and why *Nature* selects their research papers. [Read more.](#)

BIO-info

Nyheter fra Institutt for biologi

We are holding our annual Night at the Museum: The Museum Awakens!

Date: Wednesday, March 3rd Time: 6-9 p.m.

Place: [Cultural History Collections](#) near the Maritime Museum at the University of Bergen (Det Kulturhistoriske samlinger), Haakon Shetelig's plass 10 (not the museum with the animals, the one sort of behind it.)

It is FREE! Lots of activities for the entire family.

Er utdanning irrelevant? Nasjonal konferanse 17. mars 2010

Universitetet i Bergen inviterer til nasjonal konferanse onsdag 17. mars med tema "Er utdanning irrelevant? En debatt om verdien av dannelse og samfunnets forventninger...". Påmeldingsfrist 10. mars. [Les mer](#).

Ledige stillinger for biologer

Sjekk oversikten på [jobbnor](#)!

22.02	Associate professor plant ecology, Universitetet for Miljø- og biovitenskap, Ås, Norge
01.03	Postdoc , plant macrofossils and pollen in sediment cores, Dept of Ecology and Evol. Biol, Brown University
15.03	PhD Molecular Ecology , Bodø University College, Norway
15.03	PhD position : Geology/Geography/Biology, Dept. of Geosciences & Geography, Univ. Helsinki, Finland
?	Faculty position Biogeology , Université Libre de Bruxelles
?	Postdoc position on biogeochemical modelling, Brest, France
Spring 2010	10 post doctoral positions at The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and the Cluster of Excellence „The Future Ocean” at the Christian-Albrechts University in Kiel, Germany
Until filled	Several positions in Physical, Chemical and Biological Oceanography, Marine Biology/Marine Ecology, Genomics, and Ecosystem Modeling at KAUST (the King Abdullah University of Science and Technology)
Until filled	Several Graduate and Post-doctoral Fellowships in ocean observation, modeling and data assimilation at Dalhousie University

Forskning: utlysninger, nye satsinger og prosjekter

Meso-aqua - ny utlysning, Martek ERA-NE, økologipris,

MESO-AQUA – second call for participation

In 2008, researchers at BIO were awarded FP7-Infrastructures funding to coordinate a network of European mesocosm facilities. The network has six partners: UiB, Leibniz-Institut für Meereswissenschaften an der Universität Kiel, Germany, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, France, Hellenic Centre for Marine Research, Greece, Umeå Universitet, Sweden, and Kings Bay AS, Svalbard, Norway.

Mesocosm facilities require significant investments on the part of a given institution. By building a network, researchers gain easier access to a variety of mesocosms capable of addressing a variety of research questions in marine ecology. The network provides funding to encourage access. The second call is now open for access in 2010. The deadline for applications is 15 March 2010. [Read more](#).

Martek ERA NET

Martek ERA NET for research in marine technology has launched a new call for proposals. Deadline is March 31st. Supported areas for Norway are: Shipbuilding - design, Shipbuilding - production, Maritime equipment and services, Ship and port operation services, Inland water and intermodal transport, Offshore industry / offshore technology, Polar technology, Fishing/ aquaculture, Safety Security Environmental and climate impact, Human elements. If you are interested, contact th

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edepartment of Research management or the representative of the research council of Norway Mr. Sigurd Falch Email: SF@RCN.NO Phone: +47 22 03 73 02. [Read more](#)

6th Premi Ramon Margalef

The call for submissions to present candidatures for the 6th Premi Ramon Margalef of Ecology and Environmental Sciences went out on 2 February. The candidatures must reach the Technical Secretariat of the Prize before 30 April 2010 and must be submitted by qualified representatives from universities, schools of higher learning, research centres, academies of science, or by persons who have been awarded the Prize or who have been members of the Jury of the Prize. The Prize is awarded annually and is endowed with 100,000 euros. [Read more](#)

Deltaking på Norsk Selskap for Farmakologi og Toksikologi sitt Vintermøte 2010

Forskere samt PhD og masterstudenter fra Universitetet i Bergen og NIFES var godt representert på det 38. Vintermøtet til Norsk Selskap for Farmakologi og Toksikologi (NSFT). Møtet vart, som tradisjon tru, avvikla på Beitostølen siste helg i januar, 28. til 31. januar 2010. BIO var representert med Miljøtoksikologigruppa. Prisen for beste føredrag til Marte Haave og prisen for beste posterpresentasjon til Marta Eide (bildet). [Les mer.](#)



Mer info om følgende utlysninger og mange flere (inkl. løpende, dvs. uten frister) finner du [her](#)

Husk å sende søknadsutkastet til post@bio.uib.no 1 uke i forveien (gjelder ikke mindre bevilgninger som legater og fonds)

28. feb	IIASA Post-doctoral program
28. feb	ABEL EXTRAORDINARY CHAIR – funding exchanges learn more
1. mar	INTERNFRIST – BIO Skisse til Bergen Forskningsstiftelse - rekrutteringsprogrammet
5. mar	Living labs samarbeidet (LILAN) (RCN and NordForsk)
8. mar	BTO-VisjonVest stipendkonkurranse
12. mar	Bergen Forskningsstiftelse - rekrutteringsprogrammet
15. mar	MESOAQUA : second call for participation in trans-national access at one of the network's mesocosms
17. mar	ERC Advanced Grants, Life sciences
17. mar	Research Training Courses (NordForsk)
22. mar	HFSP preregistration
25. mar	Marie Curie International Research Staff Exchange Scheme (IRSES)
25. mar	Researcher Networks 2010 (NordForsk)
26. mar	COST pre-proposal
31. mar	HFSP Submission deadline
01. apr	Nordic Marine Academy : siste organisering av forskerkurs og støtte til konferanser og workshops
21. apr	SFI Endelig søknad
01. mai	Nordic Marine Academy : siste mobilitetstipend
02.juni	Aurora-programmet . Forskerutveksling mellom Norge og Frankrike (IS-AUR)

Forskerutdanning / PhD training

Prøveforelesning Tröbe

Christiane Tröbe PhD Forelesning

Christiane Tröbe vil torsdag 25. februar holde forelesning over oppgitt emne for PhD graden.

Tittel: Oxidative stress and protective mechanisms in diseased fish

Tid: Torsdag 25. februar Kl. 10:15

Sted: Møterom Sildetønnen, Nasjonalt Institutt for ernærings- og sjømatforskning(NIFES), Nordnesboder 2, Nordnes
Bedømmelseskomite: Forsker Lisbeth Dahl, Professor II Amund Måge, Forsker Robin Ørnstrud, NIFES
Alle interesserte er velkommen

Faglige møter

Ny sommerskoleutlysning: ClimECO2; Felles Nordisk Havforsker møte i september og annet

Felles Nordisk Havforsker møte i september

Svenska Havsforskningsforeningen, Dansk nationalråd for Oceanologi og Norske Havforskeres Forening arrangerer [Nordic Marine Sciences Conference 2010](#) i Strømstad i september.

IMBER IMBIZO II - Second announcement

Integrating biogeochemistry and ecosystems in a changing ocean: Regional comparisons
10 - 14 October 2010, Crete, Greece
Deadline to submit your abstract: 15 April 2010 [Read more](#)

Conferences on Natural Computation and on Fuzzy Systems and Knowledge Discovery

6th International Conference on Natural Computation (ICNC'10) and the 7th International Conference on Fuzzy Systems and Knowledge Discovery (FSKD'10) is extending the submission deadline to 10 March 2010. We cordially invite you to submit a paper or invited session proposal. [Read more](#)

Historical and Contemporary Uses of Biopolitics

Centre for the Studies of the Sciences and the Humanities (SVT) welcomes everyone to the guest lecture: "Historical and Contemporary Uses of Biopolitics" **Lecturer:** [Prof. Dr. Thomas Lemke](#), Goethe-Universität, Frankfurt am Main **When:** Monday 22 February 2010, 13:15-15:00 **Where:** Aud. U.Phil.

Summer school programmes

Date	Location	Course title	application deadline
May 18-June June 1	University of Iceland	Introduction to Hydrodynamic Modelling	20 February 2010
May 31-July 10	University of Hawaii	Microbial Oceanography: Genomes to Biomes	29 January 2010
June 15-29	University of Iceland	Ecological Modelling	20 February 2010
June 20 – July 20	USC Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies	GeoBiology 2010: An International Training course in a Rapidly Evolving Field	5 March 2010
June 21 – 2 July	UiB	Bergen Summer Research School 2010	1 March 2010
July 1-22	University of Iceland	Fisheries Ecology: Management and Conservation of Marine Resources	20 February 2010
July 4-20	White Sea Biological	Embryology of marine invertebrates	31 January
August 23- 27	Brest, France	ClimECO2 Oceans, Marine Ecosystems, and Society facing Climate Change	15 April

Nye artikler og bøker

Birks, Willis, Reigstad/ S. Jørgensen/ Schleper, Birks, Fernø/Utne Palm

John Birks: hva forårsaket avskoging i Tibet i midt-Holocen?

Herzschuh Ulrike, H. John B. Birks, Xingqi Liu, Claudia Kubatzki and Gerrit Lohmann. 2010. What caused the mid-Holocene forest decline on the eastern Tibet-Qinghai Plateau? *Global Ecology and Biogeography* 19: 278-286. DOI: 10.1111/j.1466-8238.2009.00501.x

Abstract: We apply a modern pollen-precipitation transfer function from the eastern and north-eastern Tibet-Qinghai Plateau to fossil pollen spectra from Qinghai Lake to reconstruct annual precipitation changes during the Holocene. The reconstructions are compared to a stable oxygen-isotope record from the same sediment core and to results from two transient climate model simulations. The pollen-based precipitation reconstruction covering the Holocene parallels moisture changes inferred from the stable oxygen-isotope record. Furthermore, these results are in close agreement with simulated model-based past annual precipitation changes.

In the light of these data and the model results, we conclude that it is not necessary to attribute the broad-scale forest decline to human activity. Climate change as a result of changes in the intensity of the East Asian Summer Monsoon in the mid-Holocene is the most parsimonious explanation for the widespread forest decline on the Tibet-Qinghai Plateau. Moreover, climate feedback from a reduced forest cover accentuates increasingly drier conditions in the area, indicating complex vegetation-climate interactions during this major ecological change.

Kathy Willis: hva utryddet megafaunaen på Madagaskar – folk eller miljøendringer?

Virah-Sawmy M, Willis KJ, Gillson L 2010. Evidence for drought and forest declines during the recent megafaunal extinctions in Madagascar. *JOURNAL OF BIOGEOGRAPHY* 37: 506-519

Aim There remains some uncertainty concerning the causes of extinctions of Madagascar's megafauna. One hypothesis is that they were caused by over-hunting by humans. A second hypothesis is that their extinction was caused by both environmental change and hunting. This paper systematically addresses the second hypothesis through examination of two new pollen records from southeastern Madagascar alongside other published records across the island.

Location South-eastern Madagascar.

Methods We reconstructed past vegetation and fire dynamics over the past 6000 years at two sites in south-eastern Madagascar (Ste-Luce) using fossil pollen and charcoal contained in sedimentary sequences. We investigated drivers of vegetation changes and how these, in turn, influenced faunal species in the southeast, using published climatic, archaeological and faunal records. Further, we also used published records to provide a synthesis of environmental changes on the whole island.

Results Vegetation reconstructions indicate that the mosaic vegetation in the region of Ste-Luce was highly dynamic in response to climatic changes. The open woodland, surrounding the littoral forest, transformed into an ericoid grassland between c. 5800 and 5200 cal. yr bp, possibly in response to a moderate drought recorded during this period. The littoral forest was more stable between c. 5100 and 1000 cal. yr bp, with only some minor compositional changes c. 2800 cal. yr bp and between c. 1900 and 1000 cal. yr bp. Significant forest decline, however, is observed at c. 950 cal. yr bp, coinciding with a drought and a marine surge. A comparison of these results with a synthesis of published vegetation records across the island shows asynchronous vegetation changes in response to various droughts during the Holocene, except for the 950 cal. yr bp drought event, with evidence of widespread vegetation transformations and fires across the island.

Main conclusions Pronounced climatic desiccation between 1200 and 700 cal. yr bp may have been the slow driver framing and triggering vegetation transformations and decline in megafaunal populations. In addition, hunting by drought-impacted human inhabitants and competition with newly introduced cattle would have amplified the impacts on megafaunal populations, leading to numerous extinctions in this period.

Laila Reigstad, Steffen Jørgensen og Christa Schleper: arker i varmekilder i Island og Kamchatka

Reigstad LJ, Jørgensen SL, Schleper C. 2010. Diversity and abundance of Korarchaeota in terrestrial hot springs of Iceland and Kamchatka. *The ISME Journal* 4: 346-356.

Abstract: Korarchaeota constitute a recently proposed and little characterized kingdom of Archaea that might have diverged before the lineages of Crenarchaeota and Euryarchaeota split. To assess the diversity, distribution and abundance of Korarchaeota, we analysed 19 terrestrial hot springs in Hveragerdi and Krysuvik, Iceland, and in Kamchatka, Russia. The springs were 70-97 °C with pH 2.5-6.5. Out of 19 springs, 12 tested positive for Korarchaeota with specific primers. A Korarchaeota 16S rDNA library was made from each of these. From the 301 clones sequenced, 87 unique sequences were obtained from Iceland

and 33 from Kamchatka. The similarity between Kamchatkan and Icelandic 16S rDNA sequences and that of *Candidatus Korarchaeum cryptofilum* was 93.5 %. Phylogenetic analyses revealed a clear separation between sequences retrieved from terrestrial and marine habitats. Within the terrestrial sequences, four clusters could be recognized showing a

geographic distribution with surprisingly low diversity. Furthermore, the abundance of Korarchaeota 16S rDNA in the 12 environmental samples was analysed using quantitative PCR (qPCR), showing that Korarchaeota represent only a minor fraction of the microbial community in hot springs; however, in some cases they constitute up to 7 % of all Archaea. Taxonomic profiling of an Icelandic Korarchaeota-positive habitat revealed an Aquificales-dominated community. In fact, Aquificales were dominating or present in high numbers in all 12 positive sites. Chemical analyses of three Korarchaeota-positive hot springs showed their occurrence in variable water chemistry. Our data provide new information on Korarchaeota habitats and shed light on their abundance, diversity, distribution and coexisting organisms.

John Birks: monsunen og vegetasjonsendringer i Tibet

Herzschuh Ulrike, H. John B. Birks, Jian Ni, Yan Zhao, Hongyan Liu, Xingqi Liu and Guido Grosse. 2010. Holocene land-cover changes on the Tibetan Plateau. *The Holocene* 20: 91-104. doi: 10.1177/0959683609348882

Abstract: Information on changes in land-surface features on the Tibetan Plateau (TP) during the Holocene may help our understanding of the forcing of monsoonal circulation. We analyse vegetation changes during the last 9000 years from pollen records of four lakes (Hurleg Lake in the Qaidam Basin; Qinghai Lake on the northeastern TP; Zigetang Lake on the central TP and Koucha Lake on the eastern TP) which represent different regions and vegetation types on the Plateau today. A set of modern pollen assemblages from 111 lake sediment samples originating from different vegetation types is used for the interpretation of the Holocene pollen records. Four types of numerical analyses are used to infer different aspects of pollen-stratigraphical and inferred vegetation changes: biome reconstruction; ordination (to infer palynological compositional turnover); rate-of-assemblage-change analysis, and a pollen-LAI (leaf area index) transfer function. Our results show strong regional differences in inferred vegetation change in terms of timing, strength and the nature of change. The greatest changes in compositional turnover and LAI are found in the Qinghai Lake record, indicating that forests were replaced by steppe vegetation in a step-wise fashion since the mid Holocene. Alpine steppe vegetation on the central and eastern TP was relatively stable throughout the Holocene, only showing a gradual replacement of temperate steppe by high-alpine meadows. The Qaidam Basin was dominated by temperate desert throughout the Holocene. The documented palynological and inferred vegetation changes can be most parsimoniously explained by climate change, although human impacts cannot be excluded as a contributing factor. Comparison of our findings with sensitivity analyses of numerical climate simulations suggests that longterm vegetation change may have had only a weak influence on regional climate change on the Tibetan Plateau.

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Anders Fernø og Anne Christine Utne Palm: Zebrafiskatferd

Ogwang Sam Patrick, Anders Fernø, Anne Christine Utne Palm and Josefin Titelman 2010. Inspection Behaviour of Zebrafish: The Interaction of Alarm Pheromone and Domestication 68 pages VDM

Verlag Dr. Müller (January 20, 2010) ISBN-10: 3639217616, ISBN-13: 978-3639217612 ;
http://www.amazon.com/Inspection-Behaviour-Zebrafish-Interaction-Domestication/dp/3639217616/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1265137574&sr=8-1

Abstract: Zebrafish has become a model organism for the study of developmental biology and genetics. Less is, however, known about the behaviour of this cyprinid fish. A zebrafish is exposed to many unfamiliar objects during its lifetime, and the response to these stimuli is critical for an adaptive behaviour. This book presents a master thesis from the University of Bergen in Norway on the behaviour of zebrafish of different origin and background towards a novel object and how the alarm pheromone released by this species upon predator attack modifies the response. In this study we found that laboratory fish inspected the novel object earlier, whereas the presence of a novel object and also alarm substance increased shoaling more in the wild strain. Overall, laboratory zebrafish were bolder than fish from the wild strain. This book provides valuable knowledge on how genetics and experience interact to shape the behaviour towards a potential threat in different strains of zebrafish. It is an essential purchase for fish biologists, aquarist, ethologists, Lecturers, fisheries students, and Universities and Research libraries.