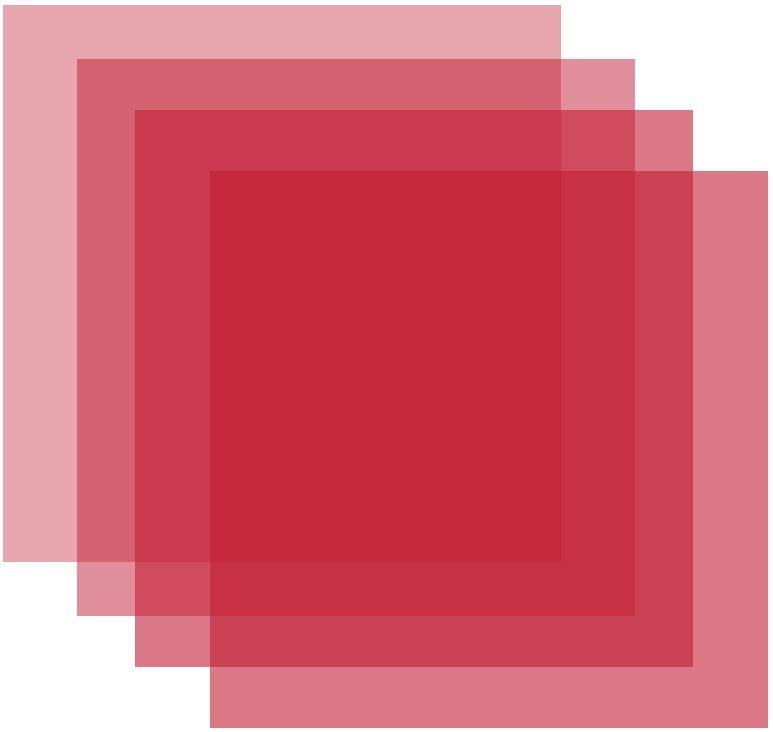
KØBENHAVNS UNIVERSITET

Society of Fellows Blue Book



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COHORT I

Name: Anders Bach

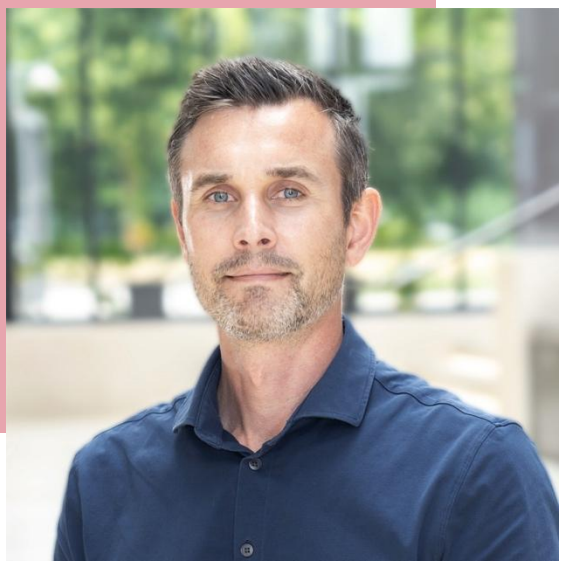
Mail: anders.bach@sund.ku.dk

Employment: Professor, Department of Drug Design and Pharmacology, University of Copenhagen

Link to research profile

Key Interests: Drug discovery, medicinal chemistry, biochemistry, pharmacology

Key Contributions: Novel molecules for studying and potentially treating diseases. My PhD/postdoc research on peptidomimetic inhibitors led to the spinout company Avilex Pharma in 2012 and later clinical development. My research group's work on small-molecule Keap1-Nrf2 inhibitors led to the founding of Alvara Therapeutics in 2026, and in the same year the launch of the open-access drug screening platform Frag2Drug



Profile

I earned my PhD in medicinal chemistry from University of Copenhagen in 2009, and after a postdoc at the Italian Institute of Technology, I established my research group at the University of Copenhagen in 2016, focusing on fragment-based drug discovery against protein-protein interaction targets involved in oxidative stress and inflammation. I was appointed professor in medicinal chemistry in 2023 and serve as study leader for the master programme in medicinal chemistry.

Name: Andrew Williams

Mail: arw@sund.ku.dk

Employment: Associate Professor , Department of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, University of Copenhagen

Link to research profile

Key Interests: Interactions between gut pathogens, dietary components, and the host immune system and microbiome

Key Contributions: My group applies animal models (pigs, mice) and in vitro systems to understand how the diet and gut environment shape the host response to infections



Profile

I am born and raised in Australia where I did my PhD, and following that I did postdoctoral work in the UK, the Netherlands and Denmark. I was appointed to the faculty at the University of Copenhagen in 2020. My research interests are infectious disease (particularly parasitic infections), immunology, and host-microbe interactions. Outside of work I am married with 2 children and live in Copenhagen's northern suburbs.

Name: Christina Gravert

Employment: Associate Professor , Department of Economics, University of Copenhagen

Key Interests: Behavioral economics, nudging and green transition

Mail: cag@econ.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: I am currently working on the question of why we see so little action in the Danish consumer energy market. Most people never switch their energy supplier despite many options on the market and regulation making it easy to switch



Profile

In my research, I study how insights from psychology and behavioral economics can enhance public policy. My core focus is improving decision-making to reduce society's climate and environmental impact, as well as health choices and charitable giving. My research approach employs field experiments, conducted in collaboration with public authorities and private firms, allowing the study of real behavior. A significant part of my work is the understanding of "nudging" as a policy tool, analyzing its costs, benefits, and limits relative to traditional methods like taxes and regulation. My aim is to bridge academia and policy implementation, shaping more sustainable and socially responsible decision-making.

Name: David Gloriam

Employment: Professor, Department of Drug Design and Pharmacology, SUND

Key Interests: Research leadership, computational drug design

Mail: david.gloriam@sund.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: Discovery of human receptors and hormones. Head of an online database, GPCRdb with over 60,000 users annually



Profile

David Gloriam is a Professor in Computational Receptor Biology at the University of Copenhagen. He heads the G protein-coupled receptor (GPCR) database, GPCRdb and the related online research resources

GproteinDb, ArrestinDb and Biased Signaling Atlas. He is a corresponding member of the nomenclature committee for drugs and targets of the International Union of Pharmacology. Gloriam got his PhD from Uppsala University identifying novel human GPCRs. He later discovered physiological hormones of such undercharacterized 'orphan' receptors. He was a postdoc at EMBL-EBI and GlaxoSmithKline. He has been awarded an ERC Starting Grant, Lundbeck Foundation Fellowship, Novo Nordisk Foundation Ascending Investigator and the Royal Danish Academy of Sciences and Letters special research prize within big data.

Name: Janus Mortensen

Employment: Professor and centre director at Centre for Internationalisation and Parallel Language Use

Key Interests: Sociolinguistics, language policy, university internationalisation, transient multilingual communities, English as lingua franca, text-generative AI in academia

Mail: jamo@hum.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: CoPilot says: "Janus Mortensen's Key Contributions include advancing the understanding of English as a lingua franca, language policy in multilingual settings, and sociolinguistic dynamics in transient multilingual communities. His work has significantly influenced sociolinguistic research and language policy discussions in academia"



Profile

I am professor of multilingualism and language policy and director at the Centre for Internationalisation and Parallel Language Use (CIP) at the University of Copenhagen. I enjoy conceptualizing and exploring new areas of research at the interface between language and social worlds, inspire others to explore them with me, and make meaningful contributions within and beyond academia. Examples of current research interests include the formation of social and linguistic norms in transient multilingual communities, English as an emergent everyday language in Denmark, the language of food waste, and the sociolinguistics of literacy and voice in the age of generative language technology, with a particular focus on the use of text-generative AI amongst university researchers and students.

Name: Jonathan Zvi Shik

Employment: Associate Professor, Department of Biology, University of Copenhagen

Mail: jonathan.shik@bio.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Interests: Evolutionary biology, ecology, nutritional and metabolic physiology, ethology, molecular approaches, entomology, symbioses, myrmecology, tropical ecosystems

Key Contributions: Nutrition touches all aspects of biology, but the study of nutritional adaptations has long been constrained by the physiological complexity of consumers and the chemical complexity of foods that organisms must consume. I have developed theoretical and empirical approaches for overcoming this complexity and studying how nutritional niches evolve—integrating data from the lab under controlled conditions to the field where free-ranging foragers must navigate complex nutritional landscape



Profile

My research is at the interface of evolutionary biology and ecology. I explore how physiological traits shape individual performance and species co-existence in the context of global change. My favorite organisms—ants—enable tests of hypotheses across levels of biological organization, from genes to genomes, to cells in multicellular bodies, to individuals and societies, and symbioses. Trillions of ants inhabit diverse ecosystems across the planet, providing a rich canvas on which I and my research group apply integrative approaches from metabolic respirometry, to stable isotopes, to comparative genomics. A current project explores how fungus farming ants were able to achieve crop domestication and innovate agricultural systems that thrive across diverse habitats from Texas to Argentina and across millions of years of climate change.

Name: Lourdes Cantarero Arevalo

Employment: Associate professor, Department of pharmacy, Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, Director, WHO Collaborating Centre in the Patient Perspective on Medicine Use

Key Interests: Pharmaceutical Ethics and Bioethics, Mental Health Research, Citizen and Patient Involvement, Sustainability in Healthcare and Innovative Teaching Methods

Mail: lou.cantarero@sund.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: Advancing Citizen and Patient Involvement in Healthcare Decision-Making, Ethical Frameworks in Pharmaceutical Policy and Practice and Integrating Health Economic Modeling in Education



Profile

Lourdes is an experienced academic and teacher specializing in pharmaceutical ethics, pharmacoeconomic, and mental health research. She is known for her innovative approaches to teaching and her commitment to advancing equity in healthcare. Her research focuses on citizen and patient involvement in healthcare

decision-making, with particular attention to mental health treatments, where she explores equitable resource allocation and the ethical dimensions of pharmaceutical policies. In her teaching, Lourdes integrates health economic modeling, bioethics, and qualitative research methods, presenting complex topics in an engaging and accessible manner. She is exploring using generative AI and interactive tools to enhance learning experiences and broaden accessibility for students. Her work reflects a deep dedication to sustainability, ethics, and inclusivity in healthcare, inspiring the next generation of pharmacy professionals to think critically and act responsibly in their practice.

Name: Maria Kristiansen

Mail: makk@sund.ku.dk

Employment: Professor, board member and vice chair, Department of Public Health, Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, UCPH. Appointment at the Mayo Clinic, US

Link to research profile

Key Interests: Participatory Research; Interdisciplinarity; Health Services Research; DEI; Person-centered Care; Partnerships

Key Contributions: I have developed approaches for participatory and inclusive interdisciplinary mixed-methods research within public health. Furthermore, I have contributed with recommendations for sustainable strategic public-private-academia partnerships in life science with national and international reach. As a leader, DEI has been at the forefront, in particular for younger researchers



Profile

Passionate about research leadership and strategic initiatives to enhance foundations for collaborative, mission- and curiosity-driven interdisciplinary research in broad partnerships; supporting sustainable careers for younger researchers; and advancing diversity, equity and inclusion in academia. Background in Public Health. Former Honorary Research Fellow at the Usher Institute of Population Health Sciences and Informatics, University of Edinburgh. Key in the initiation of the academic public health program in Qatar. Former Deputy Head of Department at Department of Public Health, and Deputy Director of Center for Healthy Aging.

Head of a research group that conducts interdisciplinary, collaborative and mixed methods research with the mission to enhance prevention and person-centered healthcare in the context of aging, disparities and diversity in broad national and international partnerships. Author/co-author of 130+ peer-reviewed articles and book chapters. Contribute with science communication e.g. reports, debate articles, blogs, talks at science and public festivals, interviews, and conference contributions incl. keynotes.

Name: Marianne Nissen Lund

Employment: Professor at Department of Food Science, University of Copenhagen & Co-Director of UCPH Forward

Key Interests: Food chemistry, process- and storage induced quality changes in foods, sustainable academic careers

Mail: mnl@food.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: Identification and quantification of protein modifications in food and how these modifications affect sensory, nutritional and functional properties of food



Profile

I am a food chemist. My work aims to understand how complex chemical interactions between food components affect food quality and implement this knowledge in rational, sustainable and healthy food design. I lead the Food Proteins research group where we conduct cross-disciplinary research in food science and utilize advanced analytical chemistry and biochemistry techniques in combination with data science to understand and improve quality, palatability, shelf-life stability, and health effects of all types of food. We utilize this knowledge to develop healthy and sustainable foods for the future and to upcycle side streams from food production in order to address the global food challenge. My research is a combination of basic and applied science, and I often collaborate with the food and ingredient industry.

Name: Michael Krabbe Borregaard

Employment: Associate Professor (Promotion Programme), Globe Institute

Key Interests: Biodiversity, Macroecology, Island Biogeography, Anthropogenic Extinction, Global Change

Mail: mkborregaard@sund.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: I have shown how island evolution is tightly linked to the geological evolution of islands; later work has shown how island extinctions affect the effectiveness of plant seed dispersal



Profile

My work focuses on understanding the dynamics of diversity on oceanic islands. My group combines local studies and field work with global analyses and multi-scale simulation models to understand species extinction on islands, and its implications for biodiversity in general. Overall, the research aims to unravel how Earth dynamics drive ecology and evolution. My main focus has for a long time been on islands over large time scales. I am increasingly focusing on understanding what drives anthropogenic extinction of species on islands – undeniably the global hotspot of the global extinction crisis.

Name: Nina Molin Høyland-Kroghsbo

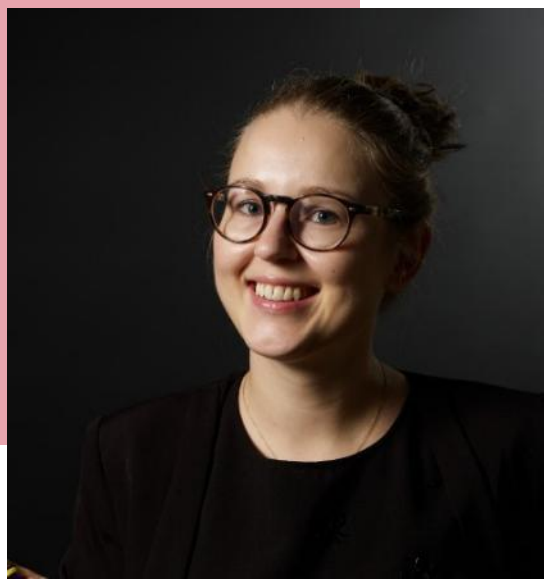
Mail: nmhk@plen.ku.dk

Employment: Associate Professor, Department of Plant and Environmental Sciences

Link to research profile

Key Interests: Microbiology, antibiotic resistance, bacteriophage therapy, quorum sensing, phage-bacterial interactions, biotechnology

Key Contributions: I have discovered that bacteria use the cell-cell communication process called quorum sensing to predict and respond to dangers they encounter in their environment, such as bac-teriophage viruses, competing bacteria, and anti-biotics. I transform this knowledge into concrete methods to block bacterial defense mechanisms to develop more effective phage therapy



Profile

Science is a collaborative effort, and I am incredibly proud of my group members and their contributions to my recently established Phage and Quorum Sensing group. Our main research focuses on the interactions between bacteriophage viruses and their bacterial hosts, aiming to tip the balance in favor of the phage to eliminate unwanted bacteria or manipulate bacterial behavior in desired ways. Recently, we have also begun exploring how molecular interactions with other organisms, including plants and larvae, influence bacterial behavior. Additionally, I am part of a new Danish AMR alliance, which aims to combat the global antibiotic resistance crisis. My hope is that my research group can transform our curiosity-driven fundamental research insights into effective biotechnological solutions to global challenges in both health and agriculture.

Name: Rune Iversen

Employment: Associate Professor of Archaeology (Promotion Programme) , The Saxo Institute, Faculty of Humanities, University of Copenhagen

Key Interests: Neolithic Europe, prehistoric mobility and migrations, archaeolinguistics, archaeogenetics, cultural encounters, social change, neolithic art

Mail: runeiversen@hum.ku.dk

Link to Research Profile

Key Contributions: Migration is a key feature of my interdisciplinary research collaborations with geneticists and linguists focusing on the Neolithic. Together, we have contributed significantly to the past years' revitalization of archaeolinguistics uncovering how the relationship between material culture and speech communities worked and provided significant insights into populational genomics, which has had a wider impact on the field



Profile

I am educated from UCPH and have a background in the Danish museum sector where I worked as a curator before starting my PhD in 2010. My research focuses on the Scandinavian and European Neolithic including migrations, cultural interactions, art and iconography. I am devoted to international and interdisciplinary research collaborations, and I strive to facilitate a creative and inspiring working environment within my research groups and in the department. I am currently PI of two research projects on the Early European Neolithic: Deep histories of migration financed by the Independent Research Fund Denmark and A World without Images supported by the Carlsberg Foundation. Since 2022, I have taken part in the development of the cross-faculty UCPH School of Archaeology as a member of the steering committee. I am also principal editor of the international Open Access Danish Journal of Archaeology. I joined the UCPH Forward Programme in 2019.

COHORT II

Name: Birgitte Rahbek Kornum

Mail: kornum@sund.ku.dk

Employment: Professor, Department of Neuroscience, UCPH and CEO of Ceremedy Aps

Link to research profile

Key Interests: Sleep regulation, non-restorative sleep, daytime sleepiness, infections, recovery

Key Contributions: I have demonstrated the importance of the immune system in the pathogenesis of the sleep disorder narcolepsy, and have shown how immune activation can impact the sleep regulating networks of the brain



Profile

The overall goal of my research is to understand the sleep-wake regulating mechanisms of the brain and what determines if you are staying awake or falling asleep at any given time point. The immune system can have a huge impact on sleep regulation and change the sleep/wake balance. We are studying the mechanisms behind this and why infections can lead to long term sleepiness. I am also interested in the other side of the coin. The mechanisms responsible for making a person feel awake and alert. An important reason for sleeping is to maintain mental energy and the ability to be awake and alert. At the same time, factors that cause you to be awake and alert can suppress sleep. This is a paradox. My research has a translational focus, and I often collaborate with clinicians. I also have started a spin-out company with the hope to create a new drug for the benefit of patients.

Name: Chiara Villa

Mail: chiara.villa@sund.ku.dk

Employment: Professor of forensic anthropology and forensic imaging, Department of Forensic Medicine

Link to research profile

Key Interests: Osteology, bone diseases, bone trauma, 3D technologies, mummies, forensic imaging

Key Contributions: I have shown how post-mortem CT scanning and 3D technologies can enhance the documentation, visualization, and analysis of forensic medical evidence



Profile

I am a forensic anthropologist specializing in medical imaging and 3D technologies. I have always been fascinated by the power of 3D imaging modalities and mathematical approaches in forensic anthropology and forensic pathology. I have actively advocated for using these approaches to solve diverse scientific questions throughout my career. The research vision I have pursued is to cross scales and merge evidence from the microscopic scale to whole-body 3D to provide new effective 3D tools to record, analyze and visualize forensic medical findings.

Name: Hannes Schroeder

Employment: Associate Professor, Globe Institute, University of Copenhagen

Key Interests: 1) ancient genomics, 2) bioarchaeology, 3) pathogen evolution

Mail: hschroeder@sund.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: 1) developing and refining methodologies for retrieving and analysing ancient DNA data, 2) advancing our understanding of past population histories and migrations, 3) promoting interdisciplinary approaches to the study of the human past



Profile

I am an ancient DNA researcher and group leader at the Globe Institute, University of Copenhagen. I have a background in archaeology and my research interests center on human population history, past health, and the evolution of human pathogens. Working at the intersection of archaeology, ancient genomics, and evolutionary biology, my group develops and refines methodologies for retrieving and analyzing ancient DNA to reconstruct migration histories and evolutionary processes. I currently lead the ERC-funded project AlpGen (www.alpgen.eu), which investigates the population history of the Alpine region between 4000–600 BCE.

Name: Ingo Zettler

Mail: ingo.zettler@sodas.ku.dk

Employment: Professor of Personality & Social Behavior , Copenhagen Center for Social Data Science (SODAS) & Department of Psychology

Link to research profile

Key Interests: Anti- and Prosocial Behavior, Job Performance, Personality, Person-Situation interplay

Key Contributions: Research in which I am involved often deals with the relationships between personality and social behavior, with a focus on aversive and prosocial aspects.
Among other things, we have introduced a conceptualization of the core of ethically/socially aversive traits (https://www.darkfactor.org/), added evidence regarding the HEXACO personality model, and examined dishonesty



Profile

Hi, I'm basically interested in how we as humans differ in our attitudes, cognition, and behavior, why this might be the case, and how these differences, in combination with social and environmental factors, shape our behavior. I have been lucky to conduct research on these issues with many excellent colleagues and across various topics (in more formal words: projects). Generally, I believe that science is better (and more fun) when done together and in a good working environment, so I aim not to make my colleagues' lives more cumbersome than Reviewer 2 does anyway.

Name: Marianne Vestergaard

Mail: mvester@nbi.ku.dk

Employment: Professor of Astrophysics , Niels Bohr Institute, SCIENCE

Link to research profile

Key Interests: Extragalactic observational astrophysics; Deep student learning in University teaching; Mental health in research; Personality Profiles and relations; Hiking; Origins of Danes and Denmark; Family & friends

Key Contributions: I have developed methodology to weigh supermassive black holes, that undergo rapid growth, in distant galaxies. This method, using easy to obtain data, is widely used in the science community. I have used this to obtain the first demographics of massive black holes (and their growth) across Cosmic history and found that black holes do not grow larger than 10 billion Suns. I have contributed to our understanding of the complex emission from quasars, powered by these supermassive black holes



Profile

I am an experimental astrophysicist focused on disentangling the physics of how black holes provide energy to quasars, the most persistently powerful objects in the Universe that reside in centers of young galaxies at cosmic distances. While I have broad scientific interests I have always been intrigued by this extremely complex problem that has direct impact on how our Universe came to be as we know it. In my research I use data from a wide range of ground-based and space-based telescopes that cover radio, infrared, optical, UV and X-ray wavelengths. I am excited to lead a new international collaboration (funded by a Carlsberg Semper Ardens grant) that has the potential for significantly advancing our understanding of the black hole central engine. During my PhD I spent 5 years at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Boston before graduating from UCPH. I held postdoctoral fellowships at Ohio State and University of Arizona before landing a tenure track faculty position at Tufts University in Boston. I returned to UCPH/SCIENCE as a Freja Fellow and Marie Curie Fellow after 16 years in the USA. Since 2011, I have been a full faculty member of the Niels Bohr Institute and a group leader, funded by national and private foundations. I enjoy working with students and early career scientists and discussing scientific ideas with colleagues.

Name: Morten Skovdal

Mail: m.skovdal@sund.ku.dk

Employment: Professor, Department of Public Health, University of Copenhagen

Link to research profile

Key Interests: Global health and climate change; gender and HIV; children's geographies; participatory health research; community health psychology

Key Contributions: Applying and developing social theory and participatory research methods to challenge conventional global health science



Profile

I am a community health psychologist applying related theories to understand and address the social factors and structural injustices that influence people's different abilities to achieve health and wellbeing. My work spans a range of global health challenges, including HIV, mental health, climate change, and migration. As a scholar activist, I am particularly interested in involving underserved and socially marginalised groups in research—especially children and young people—to challenge dominant narratives and ensure that interventions are responsive to their lived experiences.

Name: Kristoffer Szilas

Employment: Curator and Associate Professor of Petrology, Natural History Museum Denmark

Key Interests: Archaean geology and early Earth evolution, geochemistry and petrology of ancient rocks, formation of the first continental crust, tectonic processes in the early Earth, and mineral systems in Greenland. Field-based studies integrating isotope geochemistry, petrography, and thermodynamic modelling

Mail: szilas@snm.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: My research has advanced the understanding of Archaean ultramafic and volcanic rocks in Greenland and their implications for early tectonic processes. I integrate geochemical and isotopic analyses to constrain crust formation, magma evolution, and the geological conditions that shaped Earth's earliest continents



Profile

I am a geologist and curator of petrology at the Natural History Museum of Denmark at the University of Copenhagen. My research focuses on some of the oldest rocks on Earth, particularly Archaean rocks from Southwest Greenland, where I have conducted extensive fieldwork for more than a decade. By combining geochemistry, isotope geochemistry, petrology, and thermodynamic modelling, I aim to reconstruct the processes that shaped the early Earth and led to the formation of the first continental crust. My work contributes to understanding when and how plate tectonics emerged and how early geological processes influenced the development of a habitable planet. I have previously held research positions at Columbia University, Stanford University, and at the Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland. I continue to lead field-based studies in Greenland investigating early Earth tectonics, crust formation, and mineral deposit-forming systems.

Name: Sandra Breum Andersen

Employment: Associate Professor, Center for Evolutionary Hologenomics Globe Institute

Key Interests: Host-microbe associations, evolutionary medicine, early-life events, social evolution

Mail: sbandersen@sund.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: I have shown for the first time that bacterial social interactions drive evolution during long-term human infection



Profile

I am an evolutionary biologist, working at the intersection of evolutionary and clinical microbiology, in the emerging field of Evolutionary Medicine. My research aims to understand the effects of microbial social

interactions within, and among microbial species, and between microbes and their hosts. Social Evolution theory provides a framework to understand interactions such as competition, cooperation and cheating. I was introduced to Social Evolution theory through my MSc and PhD work on ant microbes. I have since applied this theoretical framework to understand the dynamics of human associated bacteria. The research of my lab is focused on the bacterium Helicobacter pylori, an ancient inhabitant of the human stomach. We use mouse models, organoids, and clinical samples to study how infection affects host health. This approach is key at a time when the importance of microbes in health and disease is increasingly recognized, and the composition of our microbiomes are changing.

Name: Sorcha MacLeod

Mail: sorcha.macleod@jur.ku.dk

Employment: Associate Professor , Faculty of Law, University of Copenhagen

Link to research profile

Key Interests: International human rights law, mercenaries, private military and security companies, accountability, regulation, business and human rights, DEI



Profile

Dr Sorcha MacLeod is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Law at the University of Copenhagen. She is an expert in international human rights law with a particular focus on mercenaries and private military and security companies (PMSC), and she has published widely on this topic. In 2023 she was awarded a 5-year €2M European Research Council Consolidator Grant for her project MERCURY, on the accountability of mercenaries and related actors for human rights violations. Between 2018-24 she was a member of the UN Working Group on the use of mercenaries as an independent human rights expert. She holds a PhD from the University of Glasgow, and LLM in international natural resources law and policy and LLB(Hons) from the University of Dundee, and is a former Marie Skłodowska Curie Individual Fellow. Sorcha participated in the development of the Montreux Document on PMSC, as well as the International Code of Conduct for Private Security Providers. She sits on the International Code of Conduct Association's (ICoCA) Expert Advisory Group on Responsible Security and has been involved in the drafting of international management standards PSC.1 and ISO 18788 for private security operations. Sorcha is a Visiting Fellow at DCAF – Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance and a trustee of the British Institute of International and Comparative Law. She has advised governments, civil society organisations, intergovernmental organisations, and industry on human rights and security issues.

Name: Tais W. Dahl

Employment: Professor, Department of Geosciences and Natural Resource Management, UCPH

Key Interests: Early earth, history of life, geobiology, earth system feedbacks, geochemical proxies, geoengineering

Mail: twd@ign.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: Tais W. Dahl has pioneered heavy metal isotope-based redox proxies, linking global O_2 depletion to animal extinctions, refining paleo-CO_2 reconstructions, and advancing geo-chemical chronometry. His highly cited, internationally recognized work enhances understanding of Earth's climate and oxygenation history and informs future CO_2 management strategies



Name: Tim Rudbøg

Mail: timrudboeg@hum.ku.dk

Employment: Associate professor in the study of religions, Department of Cross-Cultural and Regional Studies, Faculty of Humanities, UCPH

Link to research profile

Key Interests: The history of esotericism (spirituality, mysticism, magic and occultism), H. P. Blavatsky and The Theosophical Society, theory and method in the Study of Religions, the relation between religion, science and philosophy, Indian religions and exchanges between Europe, the US and Asia

Key Contributions: Rudbøg has contributed to the study of religion and esotericism by emphasizing recontextualization as an important method in the study of H. P. Blavatsky and the contextual method in the construction of meaning more generally. Rudbøg has also helped theorize innovation and deviance as relevant for understanding discursive mechanisms



Profile

Dr. Tim Rudbøg is an Associate Professor at the University of Copenhagen, specializing in the history of religions with a focus on esotericism. He directs the Copenhagen Centre for the Study of Theosophy and Esotericism and serves as the head of education for the Study of Religions and the Scandinavian Network for the Academic Study of Western Esotericism (SNASWE). Rudbøg is also currently co-president for the Society of Fellows. In general, Rudbøg has widened the scope and demonstrated the cultural relevance of the study of theosophy and esotericism by highlighting their historical complexity and interconnectedness with other cultural domains. Rather than being confined to rigid frameworks such as 'religion,' 'science,' 'philosophy,' and 'art,' Rudbøg has shown how these areas overlap. He has published extensively on esotericism and religious traditions, including renaissance hermeticism, the research history of the study of esotericism, Helena P. Blavatsky, modern Theosophy and spirituality.

COHORT III

Name: Brian L. Due

Employment: Professor, Department of Nordic Studies and Linguistics, University of Copenhagen

Key Interests: Social interactions, new technologies and AI systems, Impairment and disabilities, sociological and anthropological theories and methods, process philosophy and new materialism, creativity and innovation, corporate communication

Mail: bdue@hum.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: Brian has won several prizes for best paper awards. He won the UCPH Innovation Prize in 2023 and the Vanførefonden Research Award in 2024. He has more than 150 peer-reviewed publications, and numerous non-peer-reviewed publications, and paper presentations. He has received more than 20 research grants. His Key Contributions relate to providing new basic knowledge on the intertwined practical nature of human-material assemblages



Profile

Brian studies social interaction and practical action in various contexts. Using a video ethnographic and ethnomethodological approach, he focuses on the ways humans entangle with their material environments. Theoretically, he is embedding process philosophy into an ethnomethodological framing, developing a new approach called 'post-praxeology'. He has focused on the everyday use of new technologies and AI systems in many research projects, particularly in settings where visually impaired people are mobile and navigate and manage everyday practical activities. Brian's empirical research leads to publications highlighting the minute details that matter for accomplishing social activities. His research is often embedded in an innovation framework, where empirical insights are used in a design thinking process, leading to innovative results relevant to practitioners through workshops, prototyping, and tests. Brian also has a long track record of working in the intersection with businesses and consultancies, providing advice on communication issues. Brian is the co-founder and co-editor of "Social interaction. Video-Based Studies of Human Sociality" and "Copenhagen Review of Communication".

Name: Elizabeth Jakobsen Neilson

Employment: Associate Professor, Department of Plant and Environmental Sciences (PLEN)

Key Interests: Plant Physiology, Adaptation to Environmental Change, Metabolomics, Biosynthetic pathway evolution, Cross-kingdom communication

Mail: en@plen.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: My research demonstrates how evolution has shaped cost-effective mechanisms for plant adaptation and survival, including identification of novel metabolites and biosynthetic pathways involved in growth and defense



Profile

I'm an Australian expat, having moved here for a "two year" postdoc at UCPH over 10 years ago… I am motivated by "curiosity driven" research within fundamental biology to investigate how plants interact with their environment, with the long-term goal to improve sustainability within important environmental, agricultural and biotechnological systems. For example, I had a project investigating the interaction between koalas, their toxic eucalypt leaf diet and impacts of climate change, with the side benefit of field work in Australia during the Danish winter months. Beyond research, I wish to support structural changes and attitudes at the university, so it is a more inclusive, fair and safe place to work.

Name: Frido Welker

Employment: Associate Professor, Dr. , Globe Institute, SUND, University of Copenhagen

Key Interests: Human evolution, ancient proteins, biomolecular archaeology, zooarchaeology

Mail: frido.welker@sund.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: Developing and exploring the potential of palaeoproteomics in human evolution and archaeological research



Profile

Trained as an archaeological scientist, I am fascinated by ancient proteins, and how the study of these fragmentary biomolecules allows us to explore new areas of research in human evolution and archaeological contexts. By studying the protein fragments preserved in Pleistocene skeletal material, we reconstruct unknown parts of the human family tree, solving long-standing questions about the evolutionary relationships between extinct hominin taxa. Furthermore, by analysing ancient proteins preserved in faunal remains and integrating this with traditional (zoo)archaeology, we learn about hominin lifeways in the past. As a result, my research transcends traditional disciplinary boundaries by bridging archaeology and evolutionary biology with proteomic methods. My research has been supported by an ERC Starting Grant, the VILLUM Foundation, and MSCA funding, resulted in publications in Nature, Science, and PNAS, and been recognized for its creativity and interdisciplinarity by national and international prize committees.

Name: Henrik Munch Roager

Employment: Associate Professor,
Department of Nutrition, Exercise and Sports,
University of Copenhagen

Key Interests: Nutrition, Microbiome,
Digestion and Health

Mail: hero@nexs.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: I have identified key factors in the intestine that shape our collection of gut microbes and their responses to foods.
I have identified microbial molecules that may affect our immune system, and I have established Copenhagen Gut Microbiome Hub together with colleagues



Profile

I lead a research team dedicated to understanding the role of our gut microbes for our digestion and health. We conduct controlled dietary intervention- and cohort studies in both adults and infants, perform multi-omics analyses including microbiome and metabolomics, and carry out advanced data integration. Based on the observations seen in human studies, we generate hypotheses that we seek to validate and elucidate using in vitro and in vivo models together with collaborators. I strive to foster a research and educational environment that is collaborative, ambitious, and diverse, characterized by a positive and inspiring atmosphere where individuals can thrive and develop while maintaining a sustainable work-life balance.

Name: Julie Laursen

Employment: Associate Professor of Criminology Faculty of Law

Key Interests: Prisons, punishment, moral communication

Mail: julie.laursen@jur.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: Laursen, J (2023) Radical hope and processes of becoming – examining short-term prisoners' imagined futures in England & Wales and Norway. Theoretical Criminology 27 (1): 48–6



Profile

Julie is interested in prisons as moral institutions and how they are experienced by prisoners and staff. Julie has conducted ethnographic fieldwork and interviews in Danish, Norwegian and English prisons for over a decade, where she has investigated everything from cognitive skills programmes to the experience of imprisonment and release generally, and specifically how female prisoners and prisoners convicted of sexual offences, experience power and meaning in prisons. Julie received grants from the EU and Carlsberg (2021-2024) to study the experience of being sentenced and serve indeterminate sentences [forvaring] in Denmark. This project finishes in 2024, whereafter Julie will start her Sapere Aude: DFF-Research Leader grant 'Exceptional Prisoners in Exceptional Prisons - Understanding Order in the contemporary Danish Prison Service' working closely with a PhD student and a postdoc.

Name: Karen Vallgårda

Employment: Professor of History, University of Copenhagen

Key Interests: History of childhood and the family since the 19th century, emotions, gender, race, class, sexuality

Mail: karenva@hum.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: I have developed novel conceptual tools to examine the history of emotions in a variety of historical contexts. I have documented overlooked global connections in the cultural history of childhood. I have written the first comprehensive account of divorce in Denmark since the 19th century



Profile

I am a professor of history specializing in political family history, the history of childhood, and the history of emotions in the 19th and 20th centuries. My research examines how emotional cultures of the family have changed over time, how power is exercised in intimate relationships, and how these dynamics have both shaped and been shaped by broader societal transformations. While Denmark is my primary focus, I always incorporate international comparative perspectives—an approach that often reveals previously unrecognized connections and contrasts. In addition to research, I greatly enjoy teaching, supervising, and communicating to the broader public, all of which I find deeply rewarding and meaningful. When I am not working, I spend time with my family (my husband, three children, and dog), tend to my little garden, see friends, read fiction, go to the theatre, listen to music, cook, bake, and exercise.

Name: Kathrin Rousk

Employment: Associate Professor , Department of Biology, UCPH

Key Interests: Ecology, Symbioses, Biogeochemistry, Forests, Mosses

Mail: kathrin.rousk@bio.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: I have played a pivotal role in establishing an internationally recognised field in plant-microbe interactions that integrates ecosystem ecology, biogeochemistry, and microbiology across scales of organisation



Profile

I am an ecologist fascinated by the interactions between different organisms. I am particularly interested in understudied organisms and ecosystems. My research crosses scales of organisation, aiming to unravel how large-scale patterns emerge from small scale interactions. I completed my MSc in Germany, my PhD in the UK and am currently based at UCPH where I am leading a research group focussing on cyanobacteria-moss interactions. I am driven by curiosity and strive for a just and joyful research environment where we value integrity, respect, trust, fairness, and generosity. When I am not moss hunting in the tundra, tropical forests or drylands, I like to read, run, travel, cook and enjoy the small things.

Name: Liselotte Jauffred

Employment: Associate Professor, DTU Bioengineering, DTU

Key Interests: Bacteria and all they know about competition, motility, cooperation and promiscuity

Mail: liselotte.jauffred@nbi.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: Pin-pointing important features of cell-mechanics (nano to micron-scale) as determinants for complex spatial organization (macro-scale)



Profile

I am biophysicist and experimentalist working at the intersection of microbial ecology and complex physics to understand how the diversity of the microbial world arises through the interplay between growth, cell-cell interactions, evolution, and motility. I try to decipher population-level phenomena, such as competition and cooperation, to create comprehensive models of microbial communities and enhancing our understanding of both fundamental and applied aspects of microbial ecology and complex physics. I am driven by high ambitions for my research lab -- as well as my field -- and I strive for a fair, transparent, solidary, and diverse research environment.

Name: Luise Ørsted Scharff Brandt

Mail: luise.brandt@sund.ku.dk

Employment: Associate Professor, Globe Institute, SUND

Link to research profile

Key Interests: Ancient proteis, archaeological textiles, leather and fur, zooarchaeology, archaeological science, organic materials and preservation

Key Contributions: I am driven by breaking down interdisciplinary boundaries to extract and reveal as much information as possible from organic, archaeological materials. My goal is for my research and teaching to promote the importance and value of cultural history and to excite by unveiling lost stories



Profile

Over the last 15 years I have established myself as a world leading expert in archaeological science and archaeological skin, textile and fur. The red thread throughout my career has been to develop novel methods to explore these rarely preserved, organic materials and their significance. This interdisciplinary research in 2016 won me L'Oréals and UNESCOs For Women in Science Award. The search for unveiling otherwise unobtainable molecular information and answering archaeological questions has led me to visit world-leading teams such as the archaeological science group BioArch at University of York and The McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, University of Cambridge.

Name: Mariaceleste Aragona

Employment: Associate Professor , Novo Nordisk Foundation Center for Stem Cell Medicine (reNEW), Department of Biomedical Sciences, Faculty of Health, KU

Key Interests: Mechanobiology, stem cells, tissue architecture

Mail: mariaceleste.aragona@sund.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: Regulation of tissue architecture and stem cell dynamics to sustain homeostasis and repair in the skin epidermis. Mechanisms of stretch-mediated skin expansion at single cell resolution. Defining stem cell dynamics and migration during wound healing in mouse skin epidermis



Profile

In the body, cells are precisely organised to form architectures essential for tissue and organ functions. Maintaining these architectures is crucial for healthy tissues, especially in organs exposed to the environment (such as the skin) or under constant mechanical stress (such as the bladder). Stem cells play a vital role in this process. I study the 'resilience' of stem cells: how stem cells handle mechanical stress (such as stretching) and maintain tissue architecture in regenerating adult epithelia. The same mechanisms can be exploited when using stem cells to repair tissues and rebuild organs for transplantation purposes. The long-term goal of my team is to develop new treatments and replacement tissues for regenerative therapies.

Name: Morten Arendt Rasmussen

Employment: Professor in Computational Food-and Health Science , Department of FOOD science and COPSAC at Herlev- Gentofte Hospital

Key Interests: Data Science, Bioinformatics, Food-4medicine, Gut Microbiome

Mail: mortenr@food.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=znmjM3UAAAAJ&hl=en



Profile

My research focuses on development- and application of data driven mathematical and statistical methods for the modeling of complex biological systems with special emphasis on chemometrics, metabolomics and microbiome within the area of health and nutrition. This research is naturally interdisciplinary, and I find the translational aspects of bridging research communities to be inspiring and personally as well as scientifically fruitful.

Name: Morten Tønsberg Limborg

Employment: Associate Professor, Globe Institute, Faculty of Health UCPH

Key Interests: Leadership, evolutionary hologenomics, fish, sustainable food production

Mail: morten.limborg@sund.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: My research program is deeply rooted within the application of population genomics for the study of population structure and local adaptation processes ultimately leading to the creation of new biological functions or even species. More recently I have expanded my research by proposing a new 'Hologenomics' framework embracing novel metagenomic tools to better integrate data on host-microbiota interactions to advance our evolutionary understanding of life.



Profile

From my responsibility as a group leader and Head of a Section, I have experienced the responsibility of leading people from BSc. students to Full Professors, and more importantly, different personalities and leadership needs. My leadership is inspired by the NFL coach Pete Caroll, who I have followed since I moved to Seattle, and his philosophy of coaching people based on their own aspirations to become the most successful version of themselves. Indeed, I have seen far too many talented young researchers end their academic careers too early due to stress and low wellbeing, which has motivated me to nurture a work environment with psychological safety and wellbeing as people that thrive will always produce better science.

Name: Niels Valdemar Vinding

Mail: nvv@teol.ku.dk

Employment: Associate Professor , Faculty of Theology

Link to research profile

Key Interests: Islam and Muslims in Denmark and Europe, law and religion



Profile

I am associate professor at the Faculty of Theology at the University of Copenhagen, where I research and teach Islamic studies, but also cultivate the research field 'law and religion'. My general research is on Islam and Muslims in Denmark and Europe, but with strong emphasis on the current legal and sociological aspects. I continue as head of the Sapere Aude project 'Producing Sharia in Context' well into 2025, and I will be chairing an exploratory network on law and religion through to 2028.

Name: Stine Lomborg

Employment: Professor,
Department of Communication

Key Interests: Datafication, digital tracking, digital technology use, people-centered AI, human capabilities, welfare automation

Mail: slomborg@hum.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: I co-founded and direct the Center for Tracking and Society, dedicated to advancing interdisciplinary research and procuring empirical evidence on how digital tracking and datafication permeates everyday life and society at large. I am dedicated to promoting collective thriving and shared leadership in science



Profile

My work combines the study of digital infrastructures and experiences of tracking and datafication across personal, work, and institutional life in the welfare state. At the heart of my research is the question of how we come to live good datafied lives, and how empirical research on datafication and automation can inform regulation and foster human flourishing.

Name: Trine Mygind Korsby

Employment: Assistant Professor , Department of Anthropology, University of Copenhagen

Key Interests: Transnational crime, criminal livelihoods, human trafficking, sex work, sex work facilitation

Mail: trine.korsby@anthro.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: Shedding light on how transnational crime – such as human trafficking – happens on the ground, through in-depth, long-term fieldwork among criminal groups



Profile

I am an anthropologist working within the field of anthropological criminology. I am specialized in the research areas of transnational crime, human trafficking, sex work facilitation, pimping and sex work, and I am one of the first anthropologists to do ethnographic fieldwork among human traffickers. Since 2007 I have carried out long-term ethnographic fieldwork among victims of human trafficking, sex workers, pimps, and human traffickers in Romania, Italy, and in prisons in Portugal. I completed my PhD at University of Copenhagen, and after a postdoc at Stanford University, I returned to Denmark to be part of developing the field of anthropological criminology. I am particularly interested in the complex social relationships among people involved in human trafficking and the selling of sexual services, as well as the moral worlds and family relationships of people identified as criminals and perpetrators. Beyond academia, I collaborate with and advise stakeholders in this field, such as governmental agencies, policy makers, and international organizations.

Name: Vanessa Hall

Employment: Aarhus University

Key Interests: Modeling Alzheimer's disease with stem cells, entorhinal cortex in brain

Mail: vh@anivet.au.dk

Key Contributions: Founded DANWISE (Danish Society for Women In Science), cloned first cow in Australia, discovered new pattern of brain development in the entorhinal cortex



Profile

I am a biologist with specialization in pluripotent stem cells and the neurosciences. I have a broad spectrum of interests including, studying the cause Alzheimer's disease as well as developing greener solutions for feeding the planet. I enjoy working on innovative projects that develop new tools and products for the stem cell and neuroscience fields.

Name: Wiebke Marie Junk

Mail: wiebke.junk@ifs.ku.dk

Employment: Associate Professor in Public Policy, Department of Political Science

Link to research profile

Key Interests: Lobbying, Interest Groups, Political Representation, Public Policy, Comparative Politics & EU



Profile

My research examines how different social and economic groups try to influence political decision-making. Put differently, I study "lobbying", "political advocacy", or "public affairs", all of which I see as different terms for the activities used by interest organizations or hired representatives aimed at having a say in public policy and political debates. My work is primarily qualitative, for instance assessing patterns in mobilization, strategy choice, political access and lobbying success across communities of interest organizations in European countries and at European Union (EU) level. I am also increasingly interested in exploring how evidence of biases in different stages of influence production can inform the regulation of lobbying.

COHORT IV

Name: Anne Tietjen

Mail: atie@ign.ku.dk

Employment: Professor in Landscape Architecture and Transformation, Department of Geosciences and Natural Resource Management, SCIENCE

Link to research profile

Key Interests: Long-term landscape transformation, climate heritage, strategic design and planning, design-based research methods, democratic knowledge production, teaching-research-practice integration

Key Contributions: Her current and recent project portfolio includes a pilot study on Climate Heritage Futures for Mandø (2024–25), Quality of Life in Peripheral Rural Areas (2018–23) leading to the book publication Rural Quality of Life, PUSH: Public Space in European Social Housing, and Reconfiguring Welfare Landscapes



Profile

Anne Tietjen is a Professor in Landscape Architecture and Transformation at the University of Copenhagen. Her work bridges theory and practice across landscape architecture, urban design and planning with a particular focus on the strategic transformation of existing built environments. She deliberately combines research, teaching and practice to examine the politics and agency of design for sustainable urban and rural development and quality of life for more than humans. Anne has a long-standing interest in collaborative, interdisciplinary research and exploring ways to democratize knowledge production through design-based approaches and tools as a basis for creating more sustainable and just futures. Since 2014 she has been teaching the MSc Transformation Studio as a design research laboratory for strategic rural transformation in collaboration with Danish municipalities.

Name: Adam B. Evans

Mail: abe@nexs.ku.dk

Employment: Associate Professor, Department of Nutrition, Exercise and Sports

[Link to Research Profile]

Key Interests:
1) Sports development, Leadership and Governance and
2) Sport and Health, particularly amongst older adults and groups with non-communicable diseases.
3) I also have experience of evaluation in the fields of sport for development, including many projects at the European level

Key Contributions: Advancing Qualitative research on embodied experiences of physical activity, including the use of Figurational theory to: i) reconceptualize older adults as interdependent with others, and ii) to rethink the meaning of 'patient centered approaches.' Our 'Consensus Statement on physical activity and Ageing' and 'Consensus statements on Physical Activity in the Workplace' have influenced policy and research agendas, including European Level health promotion initiatives



Profile

Adam B. Evans obtained his doctorate from the University of Hull in the United Kingdom in 2012, having studied or worked at 5 other Higher Education institutions before joining the University of Copenhagen in2015. A sociologist of Sport, Dr. Evans has research interests focusing upon fi elds such as active ageing, exercise-based rehabilitation, health promotion, equity and inclusion, governance and disability. Much of his recent work focuses upon Sport for Development projects at the European level, including supporting the formulation and implantation of strategies and programs such as the Euro Hockey Institute, Workplace Active Certification, and leadership programs such as Aspiring and Inspiring Youth Leaders and the 'Love is All' framework for supporting athletes with intellectual disabilities to participate in sport. He is former editor of the European Journal for Sport and Society.

Name: Céline Galvagnion-Büll

Employment: Associate Professor, Department of Drug Design and Pharmacology, Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, University of Copenhagen

Key Interests: protein/lipid biophysics, stem cell biology, neuroscience, biochemistry, lipidomics

Mail: celine.galvagnion@sund.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: I have deciphered the mechanism by which protein and lipid can co-assemble into toxic aggregates found in the brain of patients with Parkinson's Disease and identified lipid changes associated with the disease



Profile

Passionate about protein and lipids and their role in health and disease, I was first trained as a chemist at the École Nationale Supérieure de Chimie de Rennes (France) and then as a protein/lipid biophysicist at the University of Waterloo (Canada) and Paris Sorbonne (France), where I did my MSc and PhD, respectively. After two post-docs at the University of Cambridge (UK) and the German Centre for Neurodegenerative Diseases (Bonn, Germany), I moved to Copenhagen where I have established my current research line aiming at investigating the role of lipids in the initiation and spreading of Parkinson's disease using a combination lipidomics, proteomics, stem cell biology, biochemistry and lipid/protein biophysics. I am a strong supporter of the freedom of research and teaching in academia crucial for the well-functioning of our societies and the thriving of our democracies. In my free time, I practice Ashtanga yoga and enjoy reading, cooking and spending time with my family.

Name: David Duchene

Mail: david.duchene@sund.ku.dk

Employment: Associate Professor, Section of Health Data Science and AI, Department of Public Health

Link to research profile

Key Interests: Understanding how and why genomes change across time, both in pathogens and across broader biodiversity. His core interests include phylogenetic modelling, comparative methods, molecular clocks, molecular epidemiology, and phylodynamics, using pathogen genomes to study transmission and epidemic dynamics

Key Contributions: A visible contribution is methodological work extracting evolutionary signals from large genome resources — highlighted by a University of Copenhagen initiative using extensive bird genomic data to identify multiple drivers of genomic change, with implications for understanding adaptation and potentially infectious-disease evolution. His output spans infectious-disease and evolutionary methods, including nationwide Danish work on SARS-CoV-2 reinfections and post-acute sequelae risk (2020–2022), and scholarly synthesis in phylogenetics (e.g., reference work on models of molecular evolution



Profile

David A. Duchêne is an Associate Professor in the Section of Health Data Science and AI at the University of Copenhagen's Department of Public Health. Trained as an evolutionary biologist, he now works at the intersection of evolutionary genomics and public health, spanning molecular evolution and phylodynamic. His current direction emphasizes machine learning in public health, especially using computer-vision approaches to detect infection signals in livestock and wildlife, linking animal movement/behavior with epidemiology and genomics.

Name: Dean Cooper-Cunningham

Employment: Tenure Track Assistant Professor of International Relations, Department of Political Science, University of Copenhagen

Mail: dcc@ifs.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Interests: My main research interests are in identity politics, international order, gender and sexuality, and discourse

Key Contributions: My research has provided a new theorization of discourse in international relations encompassing words, images, and bodies. My recent book connects political science literature on security, shame, and stigma with queer cultural studies, introducing sexual geopolitics and heteronormative internationalism as frameworks for understanding international power games. I have pioneered visual genealogy as method in my field. And my work on queering atrocity prevention has influenced UN, UK, and Australian government polic



Profile

My research focuses on gender, sexuality, visual politics, and international security. I am particularly interested in how global political actors strategically mobilize pro- or anti-queer agendas in domestic and foreign policy. Some of my more recent work focuses on atrocity prevention, US foreign policy, and how 'anti-woke' political projects are shaping future international order. I was part of a pioneering project with Jess Gifkins and the NGO Protection Approaches, which focused on integrating queer experiences and perspectives into atrocity prevention frameworks in order to better prevent mass atrocity and violence.

Name: Jacob Ørmen

Employment: Associate Professor, University of Copenhagen

Key Interests: Digital economy, authority, opinion leadership, expertise

Mail: jacob.oermen@hum.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: In my Sapere Aude research project (2026-2029), Finfluence, I explore how young adults navigate the plethora of financial advice circulating on social platforms, in media coverage, and among their friends and family.
This research builds on my earlier studies of media audiences, digital economy, and social media creators



Profile

I am a communication scholar fascinated by how people and organizations manifest authority in social interaction. I am inspired by foundational questions in communication research around expertise, influence and opinion leadership and explore these in interdisciplinary projects. Currently, I pursue this agenda in studies of finance communication across social platforms, on digital media, and in everyday encounters

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Name: Katrine Barnekow Rasmussen

Employment: Assistant professor, Copenhagen Centre for Criminology (CCC), Faculty of Law, University of Copenhagen and Chief consultant, Crime Prevention, Albertslund Municipality (co-financed position)

Mail: katrine.barnekow.rasmussen@jur.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Interests: Youth offending and desistance, the creation and prevention of crime in context of the welfare state, conflicts and exclusion, restorative justice and practice

Key Contributions: Based on international research results and experiences, I have developed a Danish model for relational and restorative practice in schools, youth arenas, and residential areas. I consider my main academic and scientific achievement to be the creation of a strong, knowledge-based connection between research and crime prevention practice. Through solid research efforts, practical engagement, and the teaching and supervising of practitioners, I have influenced and will be influencing how youth offending in Denmark is addressed in a direction, which is likely to reduce future (re)offending



Profile

I am born in 1980, in the no man's land between idealism and pragmatism. I met my husband David early, and we are now the relatively young parents of three very cool adult children. Every morning I enjoy being greeted by my horses in our garden as I serve them breakfast. I have a sociological background, and I have been working with young people in vulnerable societal positions for almost two decades. I went into research in my mid 30ties, and in 2020 I got a PhD in law (criminology) from the University of Copenhagen, focusing on access to restorative processes. In my current research, I have discovered that there is a massive overrepresentation of formerly registered victims among the children and young people referred as offenders to the Danish Youth Offending Boards. How should our knowledge of this vast overlap between victims and offenders inform our approach to youth offending in the future?

Name: Nicole R. E. Posth

Employment: Associate Professor, IGN – Dept of Geosciences & Natural Resource Management

Key Interests: Geomicrobiology, biogeochemistry, bacterial and fungal ecophysiology, life and Earth evolution, ecosystem processes and health, coastal pollution and the Anthropocene

Mail: nrep@ign.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: My research advances understanding of microbial processes in aquatic environments, spanning early Earth systems and modern environmental challenges. My current work examines how contaminants influence microorganisms and biogeochemical cycles, as well as the role of bacteria and fungi in the remediation of coastal plastic and metal pollution



Profile

I am a geomicrobiologist and biogeochemist studying how microorganisms drive biogeochemical processes in aquatic environments. I am keenly interested in the interaction of biological and the abiotic factors, and how these interactions evolve through microbial innovation and environmental perturbations over time. I am fascinated by how the smallest life forms can influence processes across vast temporal and spatial scales.

This perspective leads my research to address fundamental questions about life in the evolution of Earth, including potential microbial processes in ancient oceans. It also motivates my work on modern societal challenges, such as microbial mediation of coastal pollutants and their impact on ecosystem health. I lead and work in interdisciplinary teams, greatly enjoy how our research bridges laboratory and field work, and thrive in an international network of inspiring colleagues.

Name: Nina Grønlykke Mollerup

Employment: Associate Professor, Department of Cross-Cultural and Regional Studies

Key Interests: Visual knowledge production, justice, human rights, image technologies

Mail: ninagm@hum.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: Images play an unprecedented role in how we establish knowledge about violent events and concurrently it has become exceptionally difficult to establish veracity of images. In this context, I research how images can support justice



Profile

My research investigates the role of images, image technologies, and justice in the context of war, human rights abuse and other forms of state-sanctioned violence. I seek to understand and address the implications of changing image technologies for justice through a conceptual and methodological expansion of the people, places, and times that are considered part of image-making (for instance, bringing camera designers and software into questions of images' legal and social valence). I work through close collaboration with civil society actors, ensuring not only practice integration in research, but practice-driven and -integrated theorization (by co-writing, co-organizing events, and doing research projects with civil society actors). While studying justice, I also strive to make justice a research practice, challenging conventional ethics and hierarchies of science.

Name: Qian Janice Wang

Mail: qjw@food.ku.dk

Employment: Associate Professor, UCPH Food Science

Link to research profile

Key Interests: Multisensory perception; sensory learning, training, and expertise; virtual and augmented reality; consumer behavior change

Key Contributions: I am a key researcher in the field of multisensory food research by integrating psychological theory with immersive technologies and biometric methods. My work explores how flavor is constructed in the brain and how sensory and digital contexts shape health, behavior, and experience



Profile

I have always been fascinated by how something as simple as a bite of food or a sip of wine can become a rich, multisensory experience in the brain. Trained originally in computer science and psychology (Caltech, MIT, Oxford), I now work at the intersection of sensory science, technology, and consumer behavior. My research explores how flavor is constructed in the mind, and how environments (digital and physical) and cognition(imagination, expertise) shape what and how we eat. I combine immersive technologies, neuroscience, and behavioral experiments to better understand why we crave, choose, and remember certain foods. Alongside my academic work, I am the first Master of Wine residing in Denmark, so I put my research on smell and taste expertise into good use!

Name: Tibor V. Varga

Employment: Associate Professor, Deputy Director, Copenhagen Health Complexity Center (Department of Public Health, SUND)

Key Interests: Algorithmic fairness, AI in healthcare, clinical decision making, complexity science, interdisciplinarity, cardiometabolic diseases, academic publishing

Mail: tibor.varga@sund.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: Embedding algorithmic fairness research in complexity science via practical and conceptual work & advocating for better publishing practices



Profile

I am an Associate Professor in Epidemiology and Health Equity at the Department of Public Health, University of Copenhagen, and Deputy Director of the Copenhagen Health Complexity Center. My research focuses on algorithmic fairness, clinical prediction modelling, and interdisciplinary public health, with a particular interest in how data-driven methods can be applied responsibly in complex health systems. I have established an independent, externally funded research program and have authored more than 70 peer-reviewed publications. Beyond research, I hold formal teaching responsibility across BSc, MSC, and PhD levels and contribute to academic leadership through research group supervision, pedagogical mentorship, and other organizational roles. My work is characterized by bridging epidemiology, data science, and complexity-informed perspectives, with an emphasis on fostering well-functioning and collaborative academic environments. Through interdisciplinary collaborations and engagement with clinicians, researchers, and stakeholders, I aim to advance responsible and impactful use of AI in public health and medicine.

Name: Yong Everett Zhang

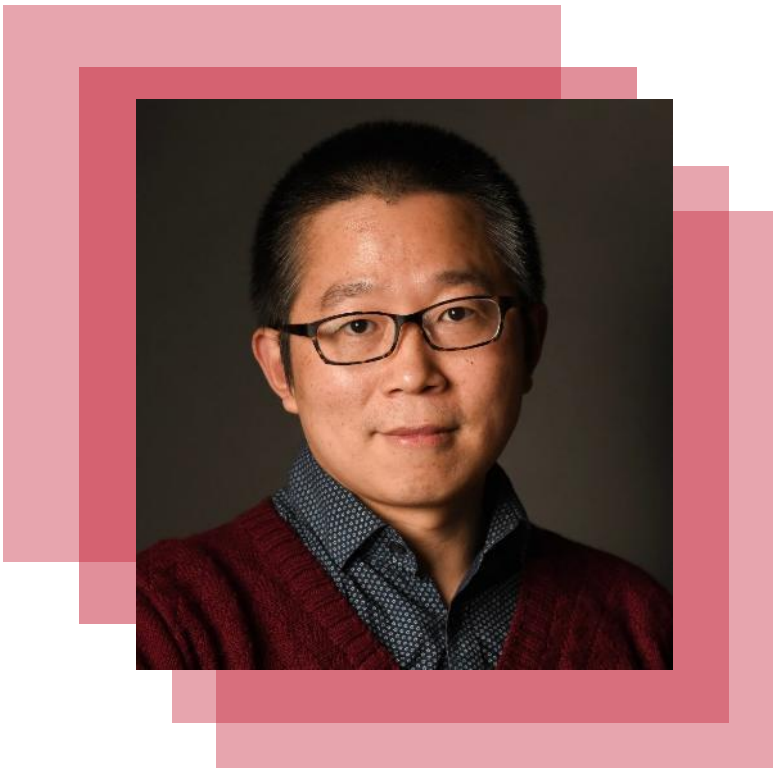
Employment: Associate Professor, University of Copenhagen

Key Interests: Antibiotic-resistance superbugs infection, bacterial stress physiology, phage-bacteria interaction, phage therapy

Mail: yong.zhang@bio.ku.dk

Link to research profile

Key Contributions: Systematic identification of novel targets of the bacterial universal stress alarmones ppGpp, mechanistic dissection of alarmone-driven metabolic and antibiotic tolerance regulation, discovery of basal ppGpp as a distinct physiological regime integrating metabolism and acid stress, and revelation that phage portal proteins moonlight as suppressors of host alarmone signaling



Profile

I study the molecular arms race between bacteria and the viruses that infect them—bacteriophages. My lab discovered that bacteria use a stress signal called (p)ppGpp to defend themselves, and that phages have evolved clever ways to hack this alarm system using their own structural proteins. By understanding how bacteria survive stress and how phages counterattack, we aim to harness these insights for new treatments against antibiotic-resistant infections. Our work bridges fundamental biology and real-world applications in medicine and agriculture.