



Society of Fellows Blue Book



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**COHORT
I**

Name: Andrew Williams

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

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

Title: Associate Professor

Mail: arw@sund.ku.dk

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: Department of Economics, University of Copenhagen

Key interests: Behavioral economics, nudging and green transition.

Title: Associate Professor

Mail: cag@econ.ku.dk

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 decisionmaking 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

Title: Professor

Employment: Department of Drug Design and Pharmacology, SUND

Mail: david.gloriam@sund.ku.dk

Key interests: Research leadership, computational drug design

Key contributions: Discovery of human receptors and hormones. Head of an online database, GP-CRdb 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 with-in 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

Title: PhD, Professor

Mail: jamo@hum.ku.dk

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: Department of Biology,
University of Copenhagen

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

Title: Associate Professor

Mail: jonathan.shik@bio.ku.dk

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 landscapes.



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: 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

Title: Associate professor, Department of pharmacy, Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences

Mail: lou.cantarero@sund.ku.dk

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, pharmacoeconomics, 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

Employment: Department of Public Health,
Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, UCPH.
Appointment at the Mayo Clinic, US.

Key interests: Participatory Research; Interdiscipli-
narity; Health Services Research; DEI; Person-cen-
tered Care; Partnerships.

Title: Professor, board member and vice chair

Mail: makk@sund.ku.dk

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: Michael Krabbe Borregaard

Employment: Globe Institute

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

Title: Associate Professor (Promotion Programme)

Mail: mkborregaard@sund.ku.dk

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

Employment: Department of Plant and Environmental Sciences

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

Title: Associate Professor

Mail: nmhk@plen.ku.dk

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 bacteriophage viruses, competing bacteria, and antibiotics. 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: 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

Title: Associate Professor of Archaeology (Promotion Programme)

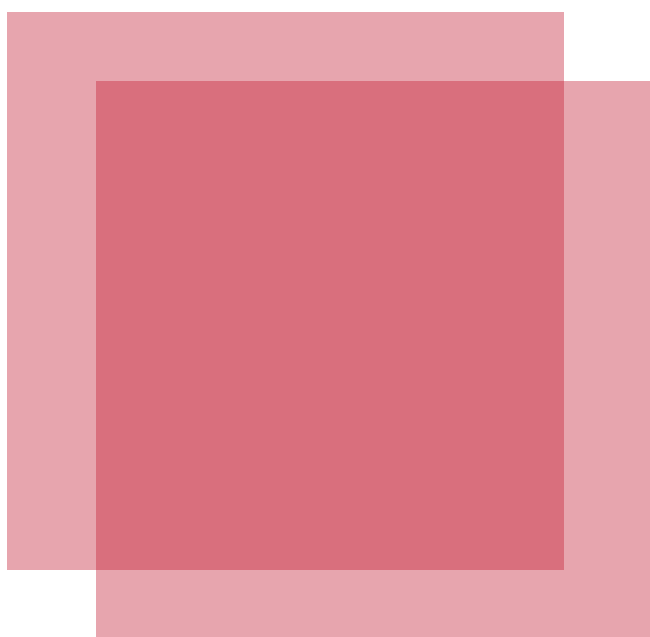
Mail: runeiversen@hum.ku.dk

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

Title: Professor

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

Mail: kornum@sund.ku.dk

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

Title: Associate Professor on the Promotion Programme

Employment: Department of Forensic Medicine

Mail: chiara.villa@sund.ku.dk

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: Globe institute,
University of Copenhagen

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

Title: Associate Professor

Mail: hschroeder@sund.ku.dk

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



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

Employment: Copenhagen Center for Social Data Science (SODAS) & Department of Psychology

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

Title: Professor of Personality & Social Behavior

Mail: ingo.zettler@sodas.ku.dk

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

Employment: Niels Bohr Institute, SCIENCE

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.

Title: Professor of Astrophysics

Mail: mvester@nbi.ku.dk

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 anywhere in the Universe. 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

Employment: Department of Public Health,
University of Copenhagen

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

Title: Professor

Mail: m.skovdal@sund.ku.dk

Key contributions: Applying and developing social
theory and participatory research methods to chal-
lenge 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 of Petrology at the Natural History Museum of Denmark

Key interests: The early geological evolution and mineral deposit formation of Greenland.

Title: Associate Professor

Mail: pzk408@ku.dk

Key contributions: My key contributions have been to improve our understanding of Archean ultramafic rocks in Greenland, which can tell us about the earliest tectonic processes on Earth, as well as providing critical insights on the delivery of water to our planet.



Profile

I am a geologist who has carried out more than a dozen field expeditions to Greenland to study the oldest rocks and minerals on Earth. I combine geochemistry, geochronology, and isotopic tracers, with thermodynamic modeling to develop and refine a holistic model for the geological evolution of Greenland. My research contributes to understanding our planet's tectonic evolution and the formation of its continents. These key features were essential for Earth becoming a habitable planet, and for its ability to sustain life on geological timescales. Such ancient rocks inform us on when and how plate tectonics began on Earth, and they can be used to unravel the processes that caused melting of the lithosphere to form the first continents. Furthermore, the above fundamental research also provides insights on the processes that were responsible for the formation of the metal deposits that are the foundation of the green energy transition.

Name: Sandra Breum Andersen

Title: Associate Professor

Employment: Center for Evolutionary
Hologenomics Globe Institute

Mail: sbandersen@sund.ku.dk

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

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: Sorch MacLeod

Title: Associate Professor

Employment: Faculty of Law,
University of Copenhagen

Mail: sorch.macleod@jur.ku.dk

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



Profile

Dr Sorch 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. Sorch 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. Sorch 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: Department of Geosciences and Natural Resource Management, UCPH

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

Title: Professor, Geology

Mail: twd@ign.ku.dk

Key contributions: Tais W. Dahl has pioneered heavy metal isotope-based redox proxies, linking global O₂ depletion to animal extinctions, refining paleo-CO₂ reconstructions, and advancing geochemical chronometry. His highly cited, internationally recognized work enhances understanding of Earth's climate and oxygenation history and informs future CO₂ management strategies.



Profile

Name: Tim Rudbøg

Employment: Department of Cross-Cultural and Regional Studies, Faculty of Humanities, UCPH

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

Title: PhD, Associate professor in the study of religions

Mail: timrudboeg@hum.ku.dk

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: 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.

Title: Professor of communication

Mail: bdue@hum.ku.dk

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: Department of Plant and Environmental Sciences (PLEN)

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

Title: Associate Professor

Mail: en@plen.ku.dk

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 UPCH over 10 years ago... I am motivated by "curiosity driven" research within fundamental biology to investigate how plants to 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: Globe Institute, SUND,
University of Copenhagen

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

Title: Associate Professor, Dr.

Mail: frido.welker@sund.ku.dk

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: Department of Nutrition, Exercise and Sports, University of Copenhagen

Key interests: Nutrition, Microbiome, Digestion and Health

Title: Associate Professor

Mail: hero@nexs.ku.dk

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: Faculty of Law

Key interests: Prisons, punishment, moral communication

Title: Associate Professor of Criminology

Mail: julie.laursen@jur.ku.dk

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 Vallgård

Employment: Professor of History, University of Copenhagen

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

Title: MA, PhD

Mail: karenva@hum.ku.dk

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: Department of Biology, UCPH

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

Title: Associate Professor

Mail: kathrin.rous@bio.ku.dk

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: DTU Bioengineering, DTU

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

Title: Associate Professor

Mail: lisjadt@dtu.dk

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

Employment: Globe Institute, SUND

Key interests: Ancient proteins, archaeological textiles, leather and fur, zooarchaeology, archaeological science, organic materials and preservation

Title: Associate Professor

Mail: luise.brandt@sund.ku.dk

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

Key interests: Mechanobiology, stem cells, tissue architecture

Title: Associate Professor

Mail: mariaceleste.aragona@sund.ku.dk

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: Department of FOOD science and COPSAC at Herlev- Gentofte Hospital

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

Title: Professor in Computational Food- and Health Science

Mail: mortenr@food.ku.dk

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: Globe Institute, Faculty of Health
UCPH

Key interests: Leadership, evolutionary holo-
genomics, fish, sustainable food production

Title: Associate Professor

Mail: morten.limborg@sund.ku.dk

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 Carroll, 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

Employment: Faculty of Theology

Title: Associate Professor

Mail: nvv@teol.ku.dk

Key contributions:

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: Trine Mygind Korsby

Employment: Department of Anthropology, University of Copenhagen

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

Title: Assistant Professor

Mail: trine.korsby@anthro.ku.dk

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,

Title: Professor

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.