

Meeting on: 3 November 2015
The library, AU Flakkebjerg
PATENT section meeting

Minutes

1. **Guests, new students or employees**
2. **Lab (safety, investments, etc.)**
3. **MUS**
4. **News from the PhD committee**
5. **Preliminary programme for SeniorVIP meeting**
6. **Myndighedsbetjening – new tasks**
7. **Torsten Rødel will present his tasks/thoughts regarding international collaboration from Agroecology**
8. **Horizon 2020, new proposals, granted proposals, etc.**
9. **AOB**

Bende Astrup

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First, Mogens Nicolaisen welcomed Torsten Rødel Berg, who recently started as advisor in research internationalization in AGRO. Torsten Rødel Berg will give a presentation about his work (item 7 on the agenda).

1. **Guests, new students or employees**
No new guests, students or employees.

2. **Lab (safety, investments, etc.)**

At the latest coffee meeting, Jørgen Christiansen gave an update on the process so far concerning the UNILAB renovation of labs – all items on the wish list have been met. Detailed plans will be sent to us for approval later. Mogens Nicolaisen summed up the items relevant for PATENT.

- Swap between extraction room and radioactivity room into a DNA extraction room on the first floor including height-adjustable fume cupboards
- Microscopy room – grants and also offer for purchasing of microscope have already been received according to Mogens Hovmøller. The second lab behind the pigeonholes will be converted into a microscopy room. Detailed planning is, however, dependent on the overall UNILAB renovation planning.
- Rooms for teaching

Steen Meier has placed an order for two climate chambers.

A good full-frame camera will be purchased together with CROP. The camera will mainly be used for macro photography.

One of the centrifuges in the extraction room has broken down and it must be replaced by a new centrifuge with cooling. The list price is DKK 38,000. A price reduction is being negotiated. The cost will be shared between 4 projects and probably also CROP will pay a 5th share of the cost.

News from the safety and health representative Anne-Pia Larsen:

- News about autoclave and instructions about autoclaving of waste. Please read the information and instructions which can be found in the O-drive.
- The results from the physical APV (workplace assessment) are available now. The response rate for AGRO is approx. 70%.

3. MUS

MUS conversations (staff development dialogues (SDD)) will be held from now on and up until Christmas. Mogens Nicolaisen will start with the technicians and invitations for the MUS conversation will be made in Outlook. There is an electronic system, but Mogens Nicolaisen will only use the printed agreement form, which will be filled in and signed during the conversation. There is no overall theme for the MUS conversations this year.

4. News from the PhD committee

José Gil defended his PhD thesis successfully on 28 October.

In connection with PhD defences it was discussed that several people enter the auditorium after the defence has begun, which was referred to as bad manners. Mogens Nicolaisen will discuss with Henrik Skovgård and Bernd Wollenweber if it is possible to prevent this in the future.

5. Preliminary programme for SeniorVIP meeting

Mogens Nicolaisen presented the programme for the SeniorVIP meeting (still subject to change). On the first day, each section will make scientific presentations. From PATENT the presentations will be made by Tove Steenberg, Mogens Hovmøller (a short presentation of 5 minutes) and Julian Rodriguez Algaba, 30 minutes in total. On the second day, the main subject will be strategy and Mogens Nicolaisen will make a short presentation about the crop protection flagship.

6. Myndighedsbetjening – new tasks

There are two major tasks at the moment: one about potato wart, there has been an outbreak in Jutland. Bent J. Nielsen is the main person involved in this task, and Mogens Nicolaisen is involved in the virus parts. The deadline has been postponed till

shortly before Christmas. The second task is an emergency plan made by NaturErhvervstyrelsen for outbreaks like the potato wart outbreak in Jutland. NaturErhvervstyrelsen asks for our comments on the plan. Together with Annie Enkegaard a plan is being made on how our part of the emergency plan is organized, including a description of an emergency staff that can even during e.g. summer holidays respond within a short time and prepare a pest risk assessment (PRA) for NaturErhvervstyrelsen.

7. Torsten Rødel will present his tasks/thoughts regarding international collaboration from Agroecology

Torsten Rødel Berg introduced himself and his background. Torsten Rødel Berg gave a presentation of the activities that he has been and will be involved in. Torsten Rødel Berg will come to Flakkebjerg regularly, twice a month, and bit by bit learn more about the sections.

Mogens Hovmøller asked if there were any conclusions concerning Danida. Torsten Rødel Berg answered that grants from Danida had been suspended, so at this point there was no news.

Mogens Nicolaisen asked about which procedure to follow if interesting ideas or possibilities turn up: Will Torsten Rødel Berg invite us or should we contact Torsten Rødel Berg ourselves? Torsten Rødel Berg answered that the contact will work both ways. Not being aware of the possibilities, Mogens Nicolaisen found it difficult to be proactive in the process of searching for funding. Torsten Rødel Berg suggested contacting him, as he may be able to give an indication as to whether it would be worthwhile exploring the opportunities further.

Mogens Hovmøller asked if Torsten Rødel Berg's role in coming EU projects would mainly be related to developing projects, which Torsten Rødel Berg confirmed since his field of experience to a great extent was within developing and emerging economies.

8. Horizon 2020, new proposals, granted proposals, etc.

For the Horizon 2020 call concerning emerging diseases in plants, Mogens Hovmøller is considering or looking into the possibilities of establishing a consortium which will focus on rust in wheat. Deadline for application is February 2017.

Annie Enkegaard is considering an application for the Horizon 2020 call concerning functional biodiversity.

The Horizon 2020 call concerning bees may also be relevant for PATENT.

Also, involvement in the Horizon 2020 call "Validation of diagnostic tools for animal and plant health" is under consideration.

Among other Horizon 2020 calls that may be of interest, Mogens Nicolaisen mentioned one concerning Xylella, which is a problem in southern European countries, but there is a growing concern about Xylella also in the northern countries due to climate change. Deadline in February 2016.

9. AOB

The AGRO business committee (erhvervsudvalg) is collecting information about research collaborations. Michael Kristensen will send out a form and asked the scientists to fill in the requested information about research collaborations and projects. Michael Kristensen is the PATENT representative in the AGRO business committee, which is chaired by Birte Boelt.

Michael Kristensen gave a summary of a visit from the company Novozymes at Flakkebjerg. Novozymes is interested in establishing collaborations about biologicals, both in relation to testing/certification and actual research projects. The collaboration may also include PhD projects. Novozymes has over the past 2 years set up a research facility in North Carolina, USA, and is in an alliance with Monsanto screening new microorganisms/biologicals. In Denmark, Novozymes has a small department that is working on entering the European market in this area. Jeanne Kjær is the coordinator of the activities in biologicals. Jeanne Kjær's contact details can be obtained from Mogens Nicolaisen.