

# Department of Biology Annual Conference 2026

**Date:** June 16<sup>th</sup> 2026

**Venue:** Auditorium F, building 1534-125

**08.30-09:00 COFFEE/TEA AND BREAD ROLLS (1534-125 Auditorium F)**

**09:00-09.10 WELCOME** by Kasper Kjeldsen, Biology Research and Business Committee

**09.10-10.25 TALK SESSION, chaired by Stina Kolodzey and Jeppe Aagaard Kristensen**

- **Thiago de Oliveira, Assistant Professor:** *Asgard archaea in the context of early eukaryotic evolution*
- **Celina Aznarez, Postdoc:** *Biodiversity, ecosystem services and environmental justice in urban landscapes*
- **Anna Neuheimer, Associate Professor:** *Combining field studies and mechanistic modelling to characterize habitat use by early-stage larval fishes in the Kattegat Sea*
- **Nathalie Ibsen, PhD student:** *Dispersal ability modulates genomic response to habitat fragmentation*
- **Jasper Carlsen, Postdoc:** *Lysine carboxylation mediates metabolic signaling by CO<sub>2</sub> in the mouse brain*

**10.25-10.45 2 MIN MADNESS SESSION**

- **Carlos Arias, Senior researcher:** Green beats grey
- **Nathalie Rosenberg Bach, PhD Student:** Cod Spots: Finding Future Refugia
- **Stina Kolodzey, Postdoc:** Does population size structure affect larval viability in marine fish? Insights into maternal effects using stable isotopes
- **Antti Miettinen, Postdoc:** Too inbred to fail? A story of invasive mussels
- **Eva Egelyng Sigsgaard, Assistant Professor:** The importance of filter pore sizes for allowing PCR-free eDNA monitoring of aquatic eukaryotes
- **Jilong Ma, Postdoc:** From post-glacial to the Anthropocene: the adaptation landscape dynamics of arthropod species in Denmark
- **Mads Kuhlmann Andersen, Postdoc:** A uniform cold stress response defines insect chill tolerance
- **Kristian Beedholm, AC-TAP:** Why do porpoises use such a weird echolocation click?
- **Michael Bjerre Pedersen, Postdoc:** Light and ultrasonic noise pollution displaces trawling Daubenton's Bats

**10.45-11.05 COFFEE BREAK**

## 11.05-11.55 INVITED SPEAKER LECTURE

- **Introduction of invited speaker by Kasper U. Kjeldsen**
- **Ronnie N Glud, Professor, Department of Biology, University of Southern Denmark**

### **Life and element cycling in the deepest oceanic realm**

*The hadal zone represents the deepest and most scantily explored marine habitat on Earth. The hadal ocean covers >2 million km<sup>2</sup> and includes about 30 long, narrow trench systems, that stretch along tectonic subduction zones. Hadal exploration is challenging, but recent technical advances have provided new possibilities to explore the deep and have drastically enhanced our knowledge on life and biogeochemistry in the deepest oceanic realm*

*It has now been documented that trenches act as depocenters for organic material, and represent important sites for carbon sequestration, but at the same time they act as biological hot spots for deep sea life flourishing at extreme hydrostatic pressure. Microbial mineralization rate along trench axes is highly intensified as compared to adjacent abyssal plains, and in the most active trench systems early diagenesis includes the complete redox sequence of anaerobic mineralization known from coastal sediments. The intensified mineralization is mediated at extreme hydrostatic pressure by largely unexplored communities and preliminary investigations suggest that hadal biomes are distinct but surprisingly diverse. Recent findings also document that trench acts as depositories for anthropogenic pollutants and can hold surprisingly high inventories of persistent organic pollutants.*

*Hadal trenches are unique but highly dynamic deep-sea environment, and their function or importance cannot be understood by extrapolating our insights from the ambient ocean. The presentation will provide an overview of the status of hadal biogeochemical research and discuss the many unresolved questions and paradigms that will spark hadal research in the coming years.*

## 11.55-13.15 BUFFET AND POSTER SESSION (Vandrehallen)

## 13.15-14.30 TALK SESSION, chaired by Eva Egelyng Sigsgaard and Justus Amuche Nweze

- **Tenna Riis, Professor:** How climate change alters seasonality of nitrogen export in a large river basin in NE Greenland
- **Emil Sloth Thomassen, Postdoc:** Large herbivore effects on vegetation and dung-associated biodiversity in European Rewilding areas
- **Ciska Bakkeren, PhD Student:** Multilevel Physiological Analysis of Myoglobin Knockout Zebrafish
- **René Gier Vemmelund, PhD Student:** Opposing nutrient-associated patterns in plant and soil prokaryotic co-occurrence networks
- **Ya-Jie Knoebl, Postdoc:** Soil Engineering from a Chemical Perspective

#### 14.30-14.50 2 MIN MADNESS SESSION

- **Hanchen Shuai, PhD student:** What drives range size in Malagasy palms?
- **Hanna Tuomisto, Professor:** Exploring the fern diversity of Amazonia
- **Jessica Lira Viana, Postdoc:** Spectral Insights into Danaea Species Identification
- **Kalle Ruokolainen, Teaching Associate Professor:** Bamboo and people in southwestern Amazonia
- **Ian Marshall, Associate Professor:** Aerobic methanotrophic bacteria in anoxic places
- **Kasper Urup Kjeldsen, Associate Professor:** Electrically conductive particles wire the seabed for microbial interspecies electron exchange
- **Miya Tseng-West, PhD student:** Defining the boundaries of cable bacteria cathodic metabolism - oxygen as both substrate and stressor
- **Raphaëlle Péguilhan, Postdoc:** Integrons in Arctic Air
- **Simon Fruersgaard, Postdoc:** Dissecting Butane Oxidising Archaea-Bacteria Aggregates

#### 14.50-15.00 CLOSING REMARKS and award for best poster, by Kasper Urup Kjeldsen

#### 15.00-16.30 COFFEE, CAKE, SOFT DRINKS AND BEERS

#### 16.30- **BIO summer party: Games, dinner and fun (Registration required)**

The programme includes outdoor games on the lawn from 16:30 (including a super fun surprise game this year!), followed by dinner in the Chemistry Canteen from 18:30. During the evening, there will be refreshments, a buffet and karaoke.

**The event is free of charge and open to all staff at Biology who have registered by the **deadline of 4 June 2026**. Register [here](#).**