

# BioTalks: Biokemisk Forening's new Event Calender for Bio-Events

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Ever missed a talk you would have loved to hear because you only learned about it after it had already taken place? We have, and Biokemisk Forening is therefore proud to present a solution to the problem: an open, nation-wide event calender for bio-oriented public talks, seminars, conferences, symposia and the like. Meet your new favorite link: BioTalks.dk

## What is it?

BioTalks.dk is an event calender listing all public events (symposia, conferences, seminars, talks, presentations, etc.) within the biological sciences. The goals is to create a one-stop-shop for information on talks to supplement the considerable efforts being put into forwarding emails from colleagues about events. No fee, login or membership is required. It is created by Biokemisk Forening, hosted online at [www.biotalks.dk](http://www.biotalks.dk) and offered free to everyone for the benefit of science at large. All we ask of you is to post information about your events and to help promote the culture of sharing science.

## How does it work?

BioTalks.dk is a cronological calender showing bio-events from today and roughly a month into the future. You can expand the calender futher into the future (link at the bottom) as well as go back in time to see past events. The talks are colored by the area they are happening in:

Blue: Copenhagen area (includes all of Sjælland)

Green: Odense area (includes Fyn and Sønderjylland)

Red: Aarhus area (includes Midtjylland)

Orange: Aalborg area (includes Nordjylland)

Yellow: Malmö area (includes Malmö and Lund)

If the coloring is not enough, there is a little dropdown menu next to the print button (yes, you can print it too), which allows you to filter the events to show only those for an area of interest (see screenshot).

The screenshot shows the BioTalks website in a Windows Internet Explorer browser window. The address bar displays <http://www.biotalks.dk/>. The page features the BioTalks logo and the text "by Biokemisk Forening". A navigation menu includes "Convert", "Select", "Favorites", and "Udskriv". The main content area displays a calendar of events for November and December 2011. The events are listed by date and time, with some events including speaker names and titles. A dropdown menu on the right side of the page allows filtering events by area, with options for Aalborg area, Copenhagen area, Malmö area, Odense area, and Århus area, all of which are currently checked.

Date	Time	Event Title
<b>mandag, 28. november</b>		
		2nd Nordic Proteomics Symposium
	08:00	6th European Symposium of Enzymes in Grain Processing
	09:40	Dansk fedmeforskning: Hvor er vi og hvor vil vi hen?
	11:00	Dr. Gurcharan Kaur: Intermittent fasting as an intervention to retard age-associated brain impairments
	15:00	Cell and Molecular Biology Seminar Series - Matthew Whitby: Crossover promotion and prevention in <i>S. pombe</i>
<b>tirsdag, 29. november</b>		
	» 16:30	2nd Nordic Proteomics Symposium
		6th European Symposium of Enzymes in Grain Processing
	13:00	Ph.D. Defense: Regulating cell envelope stress response in Firmicutes bacteria
<b>onsdag, 30. november</b>		
	» 13:00	6th European Symposium of Enzymes in Grain Processing
<b>torsdag, 1. december</b>		
	13:00	BRIC/MoMed Seminar - Nicolas Thoma: The molecular basis of CRL4 ligase architecture, recruitment and regulation
<b>fredag, 2. december</b>		
	15:00	Seminars at the Carlsberg Laboratory - Alain Buleon: Structural origin of starch properties
<b>tirsdag, 6. december</b>		
	11:00	Dr. Chad Leidy: The physical state of bacterial membranes as regulator of resistance towards membrane targeted antimicrobial proteins.

**mandag, 28. november**

2nd Nordic Proteomics Symposium

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**tirsdag, 29. november**

» 16:30 2nd Nordic Proteomics Symposium

Hvornår      søn., 27. november, 18:00 – tir., 29. november, 16:30

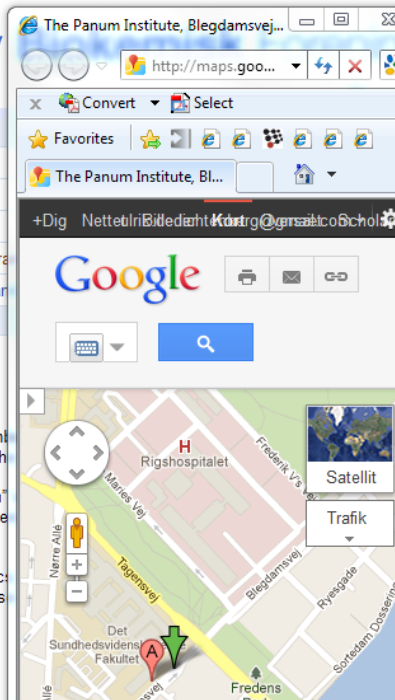
Hvor          The Panum Institute, Blegdamsvej 3, 2200 København N, Danmark ([kort](#))

Beskrivelse    The 2nd Nordic Proteomics Symposium is held in Copenhagen on 27-29 Novem  
, Danish-, Norwegian-, and Finnish Proteomics Societies and is organized by Th

The overall theme of this Nordic meeting will be "Functional Proteome Research" scientific interactions, discussions and debates, challenging the scientific frontie proteomics research.

Important Life Science developments and research trends like clinical proteomic target inhibition, and compound characterizations, pathophysiology-, and disease presented. The meeting covers different challenging Proteomics Topics.

[www.lakemedelsakademien.se/nordicproteomics2011](http://www.lakemedelsakademien.se/nordicproteomics2011)  
[flere detaljer](#) [kopier til min kalender](#)



Clicking an event expands the view to show additional information such as abstract, links to the organisers homepage or contact information. The location information is automatically integrated to Google Maps. Just write the address and the calendar creates a link to it (see screenshot).

### What types of events?

BioTalks.dk is intended for public events dealing with topics in the biological sciences. The events could be single talks/presentations, symposia, seminars, conferences, PhD defenses, etc. Only criteria is that it is an open event; it doesn't make sense to advertise an event unless guests are welcome. The event does not have to be free but remember to mention if registration is required. We are rather open to topics as long as they are related to the biological and biomedical sciences. For instance, molecular biology, microbiology, biochemistry, bioinformatics, biomedicine, genetics, drug discovery, biotechnology, or systems biology.

### How to put events in?

To put talks in, you have to become a registered administrator of one or more of the area specific calendars. We recommend selecting a single (or a few) designated people at your institute or research centre to update the calendar with the events organized by your organization. We have found that many organizations (for instance, Kræftens Bekæmpelse, BRIC, CPR, etc.) already have this role set up for updating their own online page with events. We already have several of these key contributors (typically the Institute/department secretaries, personal assistants, etc.) on board. And we are waiting for your input too!

### The Inspiration

The idea originated more than 5 years from the inspiring environment at the European Molecular Biology Laboratory (EMBL) in Heidelberg where we we have both worked. EMBL is a very vibrant international environment humming with leading edge research in Molecular Biology. Apart from doing great research, however, they were also great at sharing it. They had a system where all the group leaders (Principle Investigators) took turns at presenting their research and the rest of the staff-scientists, post docs and PhD students frequently gave talks too. An additional stream featured invited distinguished speakers, and there was a culture of asking guest visiting EMBL (e.g. collaborators) to also give a talk. All the talks were neatly organized in a big table available to everyone. The result? You could attend research presentations, often of the highest quality, 2-3 times a week and it was like living next to a conference venue all year long. The same type of culture exists at many other high-end institutions like Harvard and MIT.

### What we are trying to achieve

Denmark is rich in research groups, institutes, and research centres within the biological sciences who organize exciting public lectures and presentations. There are plenty of interesting talks to attend but many of us lack to overview of what is available. If we can create better transparency in this "market" we believe that we can promote a culture of knowledge sharing and inspiration that will benefit the bio-sciences in Denmark.