

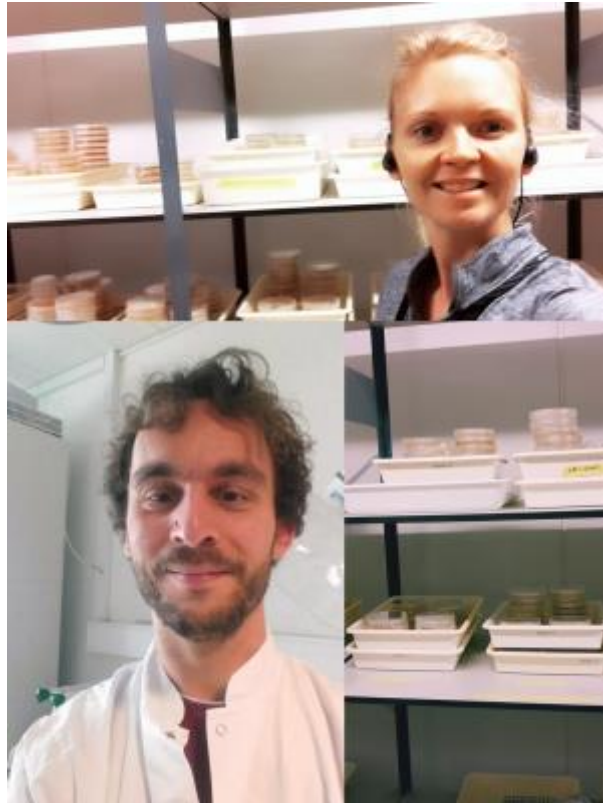


NW European IUSSI Newsletter: May
2020

The slow re-opening of UCPH labs



After around two months of working from home, researchers at the University of Copenhagen got permission to do a limited and structured reopening. Although all office work still has to be done from home, MSc and PhD students, as well as post docs can continue doing experimental work. For this, we have a detailed booking system per room in joint calendars, and use Facebook for checking in. Using this, it is known at any time how many people are in the building, where they are working and that they are safe! Furthermore, rooms, bathrooms and hallways are equipped with hand sanitizer to help prevent risks of exposure. This system has been in place for around two weeks now, and is working very well, keeping us below the maximum number of people that can be present in our building at any point in time. Although many projects are of course affected by COVID-19, being able to (albeit slowly) get experimental work going again helps a lot with alleviating the effects of the pandemic. The system was developed in close collaboration with our department leadership and in accordance with government regulations, and if it would be helpful for you to see these protocols, we can share them; just send an email to nbos [at] bio.ku.dk.



1 - PhD students Suzanne Schmidt and Nils Peereboom back in the lab attending fungus cultures in need!

EU-IUSSI 2020 will be 22-25th of August 2021



Dear colleagues and friends,

Given the progression of the coronavirus epidemics (COVID-19), the intensification of confinement measures in many parts of the world, and the lack of visibility about the end of the crisis, it now seems very difficult to maintain the organisation of the EU-IUSSI congress in Toulouse this August. Even after the end of specific confinement actions, probably at different times in different countries, it is likely that travels and human interactions will remain regulated for several months making it difficult to hold any meeting.

After discussing with delegates of all European sections and the International Union, we decided to postpone the congress to 22-25 of August 2021, hoping for better times. Plenary speakers, symposium organizers, and invited symposium speakers will be asked to contribute again, as in the initial plan.

Although many of you already submitted abstracts on the congress web site, normally no payment could have been done at this date. If you think you did so, please contact us (marie-angele.albouy@univ-tlse3.fr).

We are sure you will understand this difficult but important decision.

Please take care,

The organizing committee

Mathieu Lihoreau, Raphael Jeanson, Vincent Fourcassié, Marie-Ange Albouy, Aurore Avargues-Weber, Jean-Marc Devaud, Audrey Dussutour, Martin Giurfa, Tamara Gomez-Moracho, Christian Jost, Stéphane Kraus, Jean-Paul Lachaud, Gérard Latil, Coline Monchanin, Pierre Moretto, Guy Theraulaz, Séverine Trannoy and Antoine Wystrach.

Launch of the NW IUSSI Twitter account

Dear Members,

Today we have launched our new section Twitter account @IUSSI_NWES.

We have done this to increase the number of people we reach with news and achievements of our society to compliment the existing Facebook page. The aim is to use this platform to communicate events, recent publications and news from the society to a wider audience.

As we are just getting off the ground, we could use your help if you can:

- 1) If you are a Twitter user, please follow us so that we can follow you back. This will allow us to re-post your research/outreach activities as the society. You can also tag us in your posts if you want us to see it our handle is @IUSSI_NWES
- 2) Whether you use Twitter or not, please feel free to send us material (such as an event or a recent publication related to social insects) you would like to see posted on Twitter. To do this please email the social media team iussi.nwes.socialmedia@gmail.com.

Kindest regards

The IUSSI NWES social media team.

Become a NW IUSSI member!



Having a subscription to IUSSI is a great way to support the world of social insect research. Membership is cheap (£7.50 for students, £15 for full members). One additional perk of being a member is that it provides large discounts when registering for IUSSI conferences. Registrations can be done here: <http://www.iussi.org/NWEurope/subs.htm>.

Current job opportunities



Current vacancies on the section web site: <http://www.iussi.org/NWEurope/vacancies.htm>:

Do you have Ph.D. or Postdoc positions coming up? Email nbos [at] bio.ku.dk and we will add them to the newsletter. We also run the INSECTSmil mailing list, which distributes information about job and studentship opportunities, meetings, courses, and calls for information about social insects. See more on the section website: <http://www.iussi.org/NWEurope/INSECTSmil.htm> and send any information to be included (or subscription requests) to INSECTS [at] bio.ku.dk.

Looking for pictures!



All of the pictures in this newsletter were contributed by Quentin Willot from Stellenbosch University, who kindly allowed us to choose freely from his portfolio. Have a look at his great work here: <https://www.picuki.com/profile/qwilltn>

If you have pretty pictures to share, please send a link to nbos [at] bio.ku.dk and they might just be used for the next newsletter. Credits will be given of course!

Questions? [Contact Us!](#)

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions, please mail to nbos [at] bio.ku.dk.