Department of Biology
Strategy 2018-2023

Expert knowledge and technology
With a tenured staff of around 90 associate and full professors, 100 technical staff, 100 post-docs, 175 PhD students, and approximately 2000 BSc and MSc students, the Department of Biology (BIO) is the largest research and teaching department in Denmark within the biological sciences.

BIO works across disciplines and integrates curiosity driven research with more applied research. BIO embraces most disciplines of biology – from computer modelling and bioinformatics, over the organisational levels of molecules, genes, organisms, populations and entire ecosystems.

University rankings place the field of biology and biochemistry at the University of Copenhagen first in Denmark and among the top 30 universities internationally. BIO delivers world-class research with a high scientific output and a significant number of publications in high-impact journals.

**MISSION**

BIO’s mission is to be a knowledge and culture-bearing institution that creates new biological insights through excellent research, educate highly qualified candidates through research-led teaching, and engage with society.

**VISION**

BIO is recognized as world-leading within the biological sciences – as measured by the quality of the research and the graduates – and deployed as a preferred partner by research collaborators, students, present and future employees, the private and public sectors, and opinion leaders.

**DELIVERING THE STRATEGY**

Biology and life sciences play a key role in tackling the global challenges, and the 21st century has been called the Century of Biology. BIO is devoted to its obligation to contribute to societal development, hence, to fulfill its mission, and to meet the global challenges, BIO will deliver its strategy through a series of initiatives within research, research-led teaching, public engagement and own organisation that will underpin the four strategic themes of the University’s Strategy 2018-2023: 1) Attracting, developing and retaining academic talent, 2) Education with closer ties to research and practice, 3) Collaboration and societal commitment – nationally and globally, and 4) One unified and focused university.
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**PRIMARY GOALS OF RESEARCH STRATEGY**

**We will**

- Establish new Centers of Excellence within Computational Biology, Structural Biology, Genomics and Microbiology
- Strengthen specific research areas key to meeting future trends and developments within e.g. Community ecology, Modelling of complex biological systems and Bioinformatics
- Establish a competitive and unbiased recruitment programme of excellent researchers and PhD students
- Strengthen existing, and establish new cutting-edge core facilities such as e.g. a new 1.2 GHz NMR instrument
- Promote the establishment of a new Biology/Ecology building

**PRIMARY GOALS OF TEACHING STRATEGY**

**We will**

- Improve the study environment
- Secure high employability of candidates of all study programmes
- Strengthen data science and Big-data competences in the Biology, Biochemistry and Molecular Biomedicine study programmes, and the recruitment to the Bioinformatics study programme
- Secure pedagogical development of teachers, and development of teaching skills and activating teaching styles
- Ensure a large curriculum of PhD courses

**PRIMARY GOALS OF INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP STRATEGY**

**We will**

- Enhance collaboration with industry and government agencies
- Promote innovation and entrepreneurship among scientific staff, student and postdocs

**PRIMARY GOALS OF OUTREACH STRATEGY**

**We will**

- Work to ensure that BIO is acknowledged and deployed as an expert within its areas of competency by research collaborators, the private and public sectors and opinion leaders
- Enhance the awareness of BIO’s research and teaching amongst high school students
- Make BIO’s research well-known to the general public

**PRIMARY GOALS OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH STRATEGY**

**We will**

- Increase job satisfaction
- Secure effective lines of communication
- Provide a supportive and respectful workplace
- Strive to enforce a safe working environment