Minutes for PEP meeting 09.11.2015
Written by Gustav

**General information and practical issues**

* New PhD student –Biomim – Olav, working at NIBIO with Gry Alfredsen (working with redox enzymes, LPMOs ++). Vincent and Aniko as supervisors at NMBU.
* Group activity is planned to take place in spring – talk to Anne Cath if you have ideas.
* New group baby – Phil became father to Leo – Congratulations!
* Remember to contribute to the group piggybank (to purchase stuff for group babies, weddings etc)
* Cleaning day went well, thanks to everyone for their contributions.
* Remember that consumables in the basement rooms are not for us to use!
* Vincent will invite most group members (especially PhD student) for “personal conversations” during December. If you are not invited to such a conversation, but feel the need for one please contact Vincent.
* Biorefinery is soon up and running – talk to Kiira or Bjørge if you want to use the equipment.
* Practical lab-related issues
	+ Last person to leave the lab must check all the labs making sure water baths are shut down, that fridges and freezers are properly shut etc..
	+ Make sure that other people’s samples are removed from a centrifuge before using it.
	+ Remove your old samples/cultures from the shaking incubators so they don’t take up space.
	+ One laminar flow hood (sterile hood) will be designated for short time use (but can also be used for long lasting experiments). Remember that when inoculating cultures where the bacterium contains antibiotic resistant genes, you can do this on the bench employing a propane burner for sterilizing surfaces (using appropriate sterile techniques of course). Be careful with the Teflon lining of the blue-top bottles (excess heat will destroy it, giving leaky bottles)!

**Research**

* Dejan: Identification of putative xylan-active LPMO9s. Cloned a series of LPMO9s from *N. crassa* and *Fusarium sp.* Interesting results for activity towards xyloglucan. Also worked on optimization of protein expression in Pichia. Played with signal peptides and codon harmonization. Neither strategy gave improved LPMO expression.
* Dayanand: Making biochar (produced by pyrolysis – good soil improving agent). Multidisciplinary project involving NMBU, NIBIO and NTNU. NMBU perform pretreatment (steam explosion), enzymatic treatment and fermentation. Looking into SSF for production of ehanol and downstream methane (biogas).
* Jenny: Investigating the use of CDH as electron donor for LPMO10s, characterizing CBP21 mutants and the domain specific activity of GbpA, the LPMO of *V. cholerae*.

**Literature**

Marianne: Domestication of dogs (PNAS). Domesticated from the grey wolf (15.000 years ago). Authors argue that dog domestication originated in Central Asia.

**Cake**

Sophanit (apple & nuts cake + vanilla ice cream) and Ben (lime cheese cake with strawberries). Excellent sweet stuff!

***Meeting calendar***

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| **Date:** | **Research** | **Literature** | **Minutes** | **Cake** |
| ~~17/08~~ | ~~Jeremy~~ | ~~Aniko~~ | ~~Vincent~~ | ~~Geir~~ |
| ~~07/09~~ | ~~Phil, Magnus, Trine~~ | ~~Sandeep, Jul20– Aug15; Lasse, Aug16 – Sep6~~ | ~~Vincent~~ | ~~Trine, Bjørge~~ |
| ~~28/09~~ | ~~Rianne, Marianne, Kasia~~ | ~~Jenny~~ | ~~Vincent~~ | ~~Piotr, Lasse~~ |
| ~~19/10~~ | ~~Sophanit, Aniko, Bjørge~~ | ~~Dayanand~~ | ~~Svein~~ | ~~Leszek, Magnus~~ |
| ~~9/11~~ | ~~Dejan, Dayanand, Jenny~~ | ~~Marianne~~ | ~~Gustav~~ | ~~Sophanit, Ben~~ |
| 30/11 | Zarah, Lasse, Adrian | Vincent | Geir | Dayanand, Zarah |
| 18/12 | Madhu, Laura, Leszek | Kasia | Vincent | Kiira, Dow |

”Cake” also means making coffee and tea. ”Research” also means being responsible for having a computer+beamer.