

Ås 14/05/09

Hi to all of the participants of the N transformations course,

First of all, there is some information that will help you to prepare for the course. Information can also be found on the course website which we will update regularly. See:

<http://www.helsinki.fi/soi/soc/courses/coursesSoi/Soc/2009nitrogen.html>

Accommodation

All participants will be accommodated in student rooms at the university campus. Sheets and a towel will be provided. Cleaning of rooms at departure is included in the price, i.e. you don't have to do that. The rooms are of normal student room standard, and have access to a kitchen. All meals will be provided by the organizers and served in the canteen or in other rooms at the university (a hot meal will also be served at the welcome party on Sunday). However, if you want you can buy some extra food yourselves in local shops situated at 15 min walking distance (closed on Sundays).

Cash – Norwegian crowns

The best is to use the minibank upon arrival at the airport or at Oslo central train station. There is a minibank in Ås also. Please note that some cash will be needed to buy beer and wine in our "open bar" in the evenings (low prices, just to cover actual costs).

Preparatory reading

An email will be sent with relevant articles that connect to the lectures and practical exercises.

Oral presentations

A list of the oral presentations to be given by the students is found on the course website. All students should prepare a short presentation of their work. There will be 12 student presentations per evening Monday-Wednesday. Each talk will take 10 minutes including 2 minutes for questions.

Facebook

Also, a Facebook group called "Microbial N transformations NOVA course 2009" has been started to facilitate getting to know the other participants and their work. We would like everyone to join this group. You can search for the group under that title and request to join. It is a closed group (for privacy), so you will need to request to be admitted by the group administrator (Karen Adler). Once you are in the group, it will be possible to have discussions about the course, upload relevant links, share information etc.

Photograph of yourself

We would also like to make a pamphlet with the names and pictures of all the participants that will be available when you arrive. To do this, we need everyone to send a picture of themselves to Karen Adler so that she can prepare the

booklet. If you join the Facebook group, she can also download your photo from Facebook, so just let her know your preference.

Arrival

Information about how to get to Ås from Gardermoen by bus or train has been given previously. We recommend the express bus to Korsegården (Ås):
<http://flybussekspressen.no/wsp/flybuss/frontend.cgi?session=147f7da336b587e1b7b72b21016b14&func=frontend.show&template=main&language=UK>. Make sure you enter Korsegården as your destination.

Please send information about your arrival time to Karen (karen.adler@umb.no). We will have cars picking people up at the train station in Ås and at the express bus station (Korsegården) from 13.00 – 17.00 on Sunday 7 June. We will take you directly to the student housing area where you will get your keys and can get settled. Registration is scheduled from 15.00 to 18.00 pm in the main hallway at Bioteknologibygningen, a 5-10 min walk from your rooms. Signs will be put up to help you find your way. If you arrive outside 13.00 to 17.00, please tell us. We may be able to help you, or you will have to take a taxi. You can get information about this from us upon request.