FISH ROOM ROUTINES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

OVERFLOW AREA
An overflow area has been established in fish room 3 (across from the embryo zone, ‘rack 6’). The facility is not responsible for moving tanks within a user’s system to accommodate new tanks coming from the embryo zone. If new tanks do not fit they will be transferred to the overflow area. Users will be informed by email when a new tank has been transferred to the overflow area. It is the users’ responsibility to both create space and to transfer the overflow tanks into their own system(s). Tanks that remain in the overflow area for more than one week after the notification email has been sent will be counted as two tanks when accruing tank fees. If you anticipate the need for a greater tank allocation, please contact ebc_zf@ebc.uu.se to discuss current availability.

SPRING CLEANING
Work stations, benches and storage spaces (cupboards and fridges) are going to be cleaned at the end of the month. Please make sure that all of your belongings are properly packed and labeled with the responsible individual’s and PI’s name and date by May 25th. All items which are not properly labeled will be discarded.

USERS WITH FACILITY ACCESS
For security reasons, a list of active facility users and facility employees (with pictures) will be placed on the wall in the corridor where the facility is located. Pictures of active users will be obtained from official sources (university websites, LinkedIn, etc.). If you wish to use a different picture – please email it to our functional address: ebc_zf@ebc.uu.se

Additionally, one contact person per group should be designated and the appropriate contact details (phone number and email address) should be submitted to ebc_zf@ebc.uu.se

ANESTHESIA SOP
We have updated our anesthesia SOP. Please note that larvae should not be kept in petri dishes for the next day, but rather poured after 5 minutes into the bottles located next to the sink of every fish room. This will both reduce the number of forgotten petri dishes as well as ensure proper disposal. The amount of tricaine has also been reduced.
SUMMER FEEDING CHANGES

We will have at least two full-time facility staff members scheduled to work during the summer, however, during weeks 29 and 30 we will not schedule a weekday lunch feeding due to summer holidays.

NEW EMBRYO DISINFECTION PROTOCOL

Some recent literature has suggested that iodine may be a superior substance to disinfect zebrafish embryos as opposed to the traditionally used bleach. We have been working in close contact with the zebrafish facility at KI to develop a ‘double disinfection’ protocol which incorporates the use of both bleach and iodine.

ROTIFER CULTURE

We have improved and expanded our rotifer cultures which has resulted in a greater production of high quality rotifers. We have implemented new SOPs to monitor the density of the cultures and will soon be working on an automated feeding strategy to further enhance the stability of the rotifer cultures.

TANK SPLITTING

Tanks in the embryo zones will now be split to appropriate densities at 45 days. Users can write on each tank, or tank group, the maximum number of tanks they want to keep (as well as specify the size of tank(s) the fish are split into). If nothing is written, the facility will keep all larvae. Unless otherwise specified, fish will be kept in 10L tanks if there are more than 30 individuals and in 3L tanks if there are fewer than 30 individuals. As both environmental and genetic factors affect sexual determination, the facility cannot assume responsibility for the tank’s sex ratio.

NEW GROUP

Members of the GEZ facility are happy to welcome Kaska Koltowska and her group.
Kaska Koltowska obtained her PhD at National Institute for Medical Research and University College London in Developmental Biology in 2011, where she focused on liver development in zebrafish in a laboratory of Elke Ober. In 2011 she began her post-doctoral work at the Institute of Molecular Bioscience in Ben Hogan’s laboratory where she was supported by an international post-doctoral fellowship from the Lymphatic Education & Research Network (LE&RN, USA). She was investigating the cellular processes and molecular factors that are key in establishing lymphatic vessel identity.

In 2018 she relocated to Uppsala where she continues her research on lymphatic endothelial cell specification in her own laboratory at IGP. Her research is funded by Vetenslapsrådet, Ragnar Söderberg, Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation and Jeanssons Foundation.

More information:
http://www.igp.uu.se/research/vascular-biology/kaska-koltowska/

NORDIC ZEBRAFISH AND HUSBANDRY MEETING

The conference will be held at Karolinska Institutet in Stockholm, Sweden from Wednesday, November 7th to Friday, November 9th 2018.

The aim of the meeting is to create a network of zebrafish researchers in the Nordic countries, increase sharing of knowledge, and facilitate interactions among scientists in Northern Europe who use zebrafish as a model in their research.

This year’s conference is a continuation of a 2010 initiative that organized the first national Swedish meeting on zebrafish research. Last year’s Nordic Zebrafish Meeting took place during September in Uppsala, Sweden and gathered more than a hundred participants from Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Netherlands, Germany and France.
The registration will open in early June. More information can be found at the webpage: https://ki.se/en/km/nordic-zebrafish-and-husbandry-meeting-2018