AARHUS UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
Frederiksborgvej 399, 4000 Roskilde

EXTERNAL SEMINAR
27 September 2017,
11:00 – 12:00
Venue: The Pavilion

Title: The icy microbiome

Speaker: Alexandre Anesio, Professor of Biogeochemistry
Bristol Glaciology Centre, University of Bristol, UK

Abstract: It is now recognised that large expanses of ice in the polar regions are inhabited by active microbial communities forming one of the biomes of Earth. Microbes on ice are diverse, play an important role in the cycling of nutrients and can also modify the physical environment they live. For instance, microbial processes at the surface of glaciers and ice sheets can lead to the accumulation of labile dissolved and particulate organic carbon and this in turn have consequences to the delivery of nutrients to adjacent ecosystems. Furthermore, the accumulation of cells often seen at the surface of the ice clearly results in 'biological darkening' of glacier surfaces. Such darkening increases the amount of incident shortwave radiation available for ice ablation, and could be a contributing element to glacier thinning and wastage.

Host: Professor and Head of Department Carsten Suhr Jacobsen csj@envs.au.dk

External guests interested in attending the presentation should email Christel Ege-Johansen, cej@envs.au.dk