



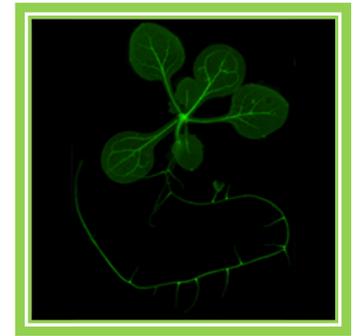
Knowledge is best generated between people: DynaMo members at the annual off-site retreat in Sweden, September 2016

DYNAMO YEAR 5 & HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2016

DynaMo Center began 1 January 2012 with a vision to discover universal principles underlying the higher order of structure that enables a multicellular organism to function and to respond to the environment. For DynaMo, 2016 was a year of successes and sensational results. Our results have given us visibility in the international research community; we have become an attractive collaborator for projects that appear in high impact journals; and we are repeatedly invited to present our findings at important conferences. In short, 2016 has been a year full of excitement and it is a great pleasure to report about our ambitious research program that has substantially propelled state-of-the-art.

EXCITING RESEARCH RESULTS

DynaMo is anchored within plant biology. Working with plants as model organisms is time demanding and an experiment easily takes 2-3-4 years before publishable data is produced. Even so, several of our high-risk projects have already paid off five years into the first funding period. In 2016, we made significant progress within all areas of our research plan and many projects showed conclusive results. PhD student Sebastian Nintemann graduated in January with a thesis about the localization of biosynthetic enzymes from the whole plant to the subcellular levels. Looking back it is clear that our biggest impact to date is that our work is changing the conceptual and theoretical understanding of plant defense metabolism and - more broadly - plant fitness at the whole organism level. 2016 was also the year of the midterm evaluation of our center and we are thrilled that we received a very affirmative evaluation and that our center will be extended until the end of 2021.



Bioimage of a 12-day-old plant with fluorescence-tagged enzymes (from Sebastian Nintemann's PhD thesis).



Meike Burow (center) at the award ceremony for the Villum YIP grant.

APPRECIATIONS

We see DynaMo as a training ground for the next generation of scientists within the field of systems and cell biology, and we are proud each time our younger members are recognized and receive their own grants. In 2016, DynaMo partner Meike Burow was awarded 7 million kr. from the Villum Foundation Young Investigator Program, which will enable her to increase her research group with two postdocs and one PhD student. Our second-year PhD student Lea Gram Hansen was awarded a 6-month fellowship at Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) by The Danish Agency for Science, Technology and Innovation, and our postdoc Morten Egevang Jørgensen received a Sapere Aude Talent Award Grant in addition to the 2-year postdoc grant he received from the Danish Council for Independent Research. Also in 2016, Associate Professor Hussam Nour-Eldin received a grant from the Danish Council for Independent Research as well as a grant from the Augustinus Foundation.

