

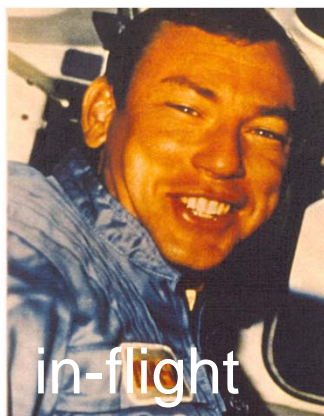
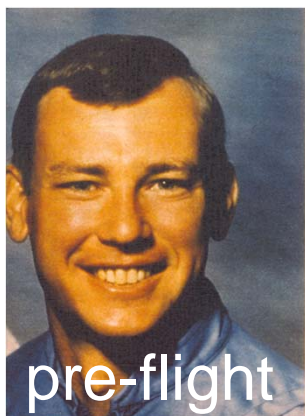


What can Giraffes on Earth Teach Astronauts in Space?

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Giraffes give unique insights into the “physiology of being tall” in a terrestrial environment. Dependent edema is prevented in giraffe legs despite locally-high blood pressures, while their hearts pump against gravity to maintain brain blood flow. Astronauts lose blood pressure gradients in space and need countermeasures to maintain their adaptations to gravity. Our 1985 Giraffe Physiology Team in South Africa included a Viking explorer, Kjell Johansen, who still inspires comparative physiologists today. From a comparative physiology view point, astronauts who explore beyond Earth’s gravity during prolonged missions can learn from principles taught by giraffes on Earth.



Friday March 18th
at 16.00
In lecture hall G1
Building 1532
(matematisk institut