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Jan Müller

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Possible petroleum educations

We will monitor developments within the oil industry very closely and if these are positive, we are always open for the possibility of new educational venues at the Faroe University, says Mr Sigurd í Jákupsstovu, the newly appointed Dean. Oil and the University Many of us remember the large oil industry activities comprising various surveys and exploration in the Faroes in the mid-90ies. This had very positive spin-off effects regarding higher education in the Faroes at the time. New exciting hydrocarbon and offshore related educational venues were established at the University. Oil companies were also eager to pledge their financial support. As exploration has slowed somewhat over the later years, contrary to what many had hoped for, this has also affected the interest among the youth to seek these educations. Now however, things may be set to change and we may well see a renewed interest among the young for this new industry venue. Approximately at the same time as the largest ever investment in the Faroes is about to get underway the pending Statoil exploration well estimated to cost in excess of one billion Danish kroner the Faroe university has appointed a new management team. The Dean is not unfamiliar with the oil industry, as he himself has an oil-related education and has been employed for a large part of his life in the oil industry. He is Mr Sigurd í Jakupsstovu and he was head of the Faroe Petroleum administration for a short period. He was asked if his former employment within the oil industry will follow him into the university. Oil companies eager to support -It is very possible, as the Natural Science dept. already provides education within geology and marine biology and have provided several Faroese with a Bachelor degree, within petroleum engineering and they are today employed in the industry. If the interest re-emerges, we will begin upon these educations once again, but we will have

to look in more detail at this first, says Mr í Jákupsstovu. He makes no secret of the fact that the oil companies have been very supportive of the university. Oil industry developments and education hand in hand -We are most likely to see an increased oil industry activity in the Faroes and would it not be quite natural if we also were to see the educational offers at the university follow suit? It would be a natural spin-off effect at the university to provide oil related educations, if an oil industry emerged People were very excited about an oil industry, at the time and it was estimated that there was a requirement for associated educations. This interest has waned somewhat over the years, in conjunction with exploration taking more time than at first anticipated. We do of course have the option to prioritise oil related education higher in the future, not least if oil industry developments become positive and continual, concludes Mr Sigurd í Jákupsstovu.