



CCBIO Newsletter

CAPTURING CANCER COMPLEXITY AND CLINICAL CHALLENGES

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DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Excellent networks are very important in science. We congratulate Oslo Cancer Cluster with their 10th Cancer Crosslinks meeting which took place on January 18, 2018. There was a strong program on various aspects of precision medicine, with Liv Cecilie Vestrheim Thomsen and Elisabeth Wik participating from CCBIO. Our centre has been a member of Oslo Cancer Cluster for several years. Further on networks, we are also proud to announce that CCBIO has entered into partnership with the Centre for Digital Life Norway.

Please be aware that we have now announced the 6th CCBIO Annual Symposium on May 23-24, as well as the satellite symposium May 22 on Liquid Biopsies organized by our affiliated professor Klaus Pantel and CCBIO (both at Solstrand). These events are open for registration. A range of international and national speakers have confirmed their participation.

Also in this issue of the CCBIO Newsletter: read about professor Donald Gullberg and his reflections while being on a sabbatical stay in Valerie Weavers lab in San Francisco. The CCBIO904 Course on Biomarkers and Tumor Biology in Clinical Practice is approaching (April 23-25), as is the next CCBIO Junior Scientist Symposium (April 26). Several PhD defences are coming up, and please attend to support the candidates. There is always a lot to learn!

Best regards, Lars A. Akslen, Director

CANCER CROSSLINKS FOR THE 10TH TIME



Photos: Ragnarok / Oslo Cancer Cluster

This year, Cancer Crosslink was organized for the 10th time, and top-notch international speakers attended the meeting entitled "Precision Treatment: Exploiting Recent Advances – Fast and Furious?". CCBIO postdoc and gynecologist Liv Cecilie Vestrheim Thomsen chaired the meeting together with Christian Kersten, oncologist at Center for Cancer Treatment, Sørlandet Hospital, Kristiansand.

Read more about the Cancer Crosslinks meeting [here](#).

CONTACT INFORMATION



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Lars A. Akslen (Director)
Bjørn Tore Gjertsen (Co-Director)
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Established by the Research Council of Norway

THE 6TH CCBIO ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM MAY 23-24 2018 IS OPEN FOR REGISTRATION



Photos: Ingvild Festervoll Melien

Registration is now open for this year's CCBIO Annual Symposium! Deadline is April 5th, but we strongly recommend early registration to ensure participation and lodging.

The symposium will be a combination of talks by invited international speakers such as **Richard Hynes**, **Bruce Zetter**, **Sui Huang** and **Ian Mills**, and other senior and junior researchers, extended poster sessions where younger researchers can present their work, and ample time for interaction between the participants.

Call for posters to younger researchers: If you wish to present a poster, please have the following information at hand before registration: Poster title, authors, whether you will present alone or with one of the co-authors, and size of the poster.

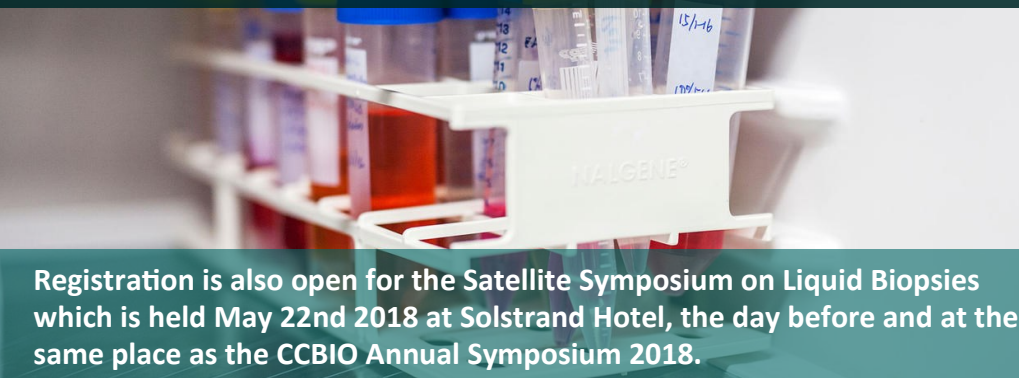
Symposium website: www.ccbiosymposium.no

Pre-final Program: Preliminary program will soon appear on the website.

Registration, within **April 5th 2018**: [registration link](#).

Practical information: [on this pdf](#)

PROGRAM UPDATE FOR THE LIQUID BIOPSIES SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM MAY 22nd



Registration is also open for the Satellite Symposium on Liquid Biopsies which is held May 22nd 2018 at Solstrand Hotel, the day before and at the same place as the CCBIO Annual Symposium 2018.

The Satellite Symposium is co-organized by the Centre for Cancer Biomarkers (CCBIO), the Bergen Health Strategic Program of Personalized Cancer Therapy (Liquid Biopsies) and Professor Klaus Pantel, University Klinik Hamburg. [Professor Klaus Pantel](#) will be Key Speaker with additional international speakers, such as **Professor Catherine Alix-Panabières**, **Dr. Costanza Paoletti** and **Professor Guido Jenster**.

The Liquid Biopsies Symposium will include presentations on Circulating Tumor Cells (CTCs), circulating nucleic acids (DNA, miRNA) and micro-vesicles, with emphasis both on clinical applications and the biology of metastasis.

Program and other information is available [on this webpage](#).

Registration: please use [this registration link](#). Deadline is **April 5th**.

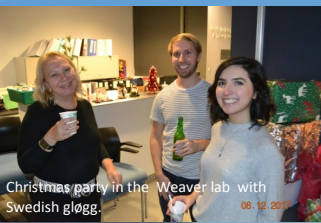
COMING CCBIO EVENTS

- April 23-25, [CCBIO904 Course- Biomarkers and tumorbiology in clinical practice](#). Open to CCBIO PhD candidates, other students, external PhD candidates and students attending the designated Medical Student Research Program (forskerlinjen).
- April 26, [CCBIO Junior Scientist Symposium](#).
- April 26th, CCBIO Seminar, speaker Professor **Ian Mackenzie**
- May 22nd, [Satellite Symposium on Liquid Biopsies](#), Solstrand.
- May 23rd and 24th, [CCBIO Annual Symposium 2018](#), Solstrand.

OTHER RECOMMENDED COMING EVENTS

- May 17th, [Knowledge for Growth](#), life sciences conference, in Ghent, Belgium. Oslo Cancer Cluster members (incl. CCBIO) are entitled to a [special rate](#).
- June 4th, [7th International Cancer Cluster Showcase](#), Oslo. Oncology partnering event showcasing cutting-edge innovations from leading industry clusters.
- June 7-8, the [SF Fibrosis Conference](#), (co-organized by Donald Gullberg). Topic is *the role of the fibrotic stroma - barrier or support?* [Registration](#) is open.
- June 14, [NTNU Symposium on Current and Future Clinical Biomarkers of Cancer](#), Trondheim.
- June 19, [37 °C Life Science Technology & Business Conference](#), Stavanger. OCC-members (incl. CCBIO) get a [discount](#) on registration.

SABBATICAL LIFE IN SAN FRANCISCO



Christmas party in the Weaver lab with Swedish glögg. 08.12.2017



Christmas party in the Weaver lab. 08.12.2017



Great surroundings for bike excursions.

CCBIO PI Donald Gullberg is currently on a research stay in San Francisco, at the UCSF and Valerie Weaver's lab, starting in August 2017. 2018

Professor Gullberg reports of a great focus on projects and results. When someone leaves the lab, the project is taken over by other colleagues, and several projects have been ongoing for 5-10 years, often with no publication. The focus is entirely on high quality work on long-term projects. When work is published, it is not uncommon that several "generations" of post-docs have worked on the project.

A big difference from his stay at UCSF in 2011-2012, Gullberg finds, is the current focus on detecting and treating mycoplasma infections.

See [Professor Gullberg's full report here](#).

Also note the [SF Fibrosis Conference June 7-8 2018](#), which Gullberg is co-organizer for. Topic is *the role of the fibrotic stroma - barrier or support?* [Registration](#) is open. Deadline is when the registration has reached the conference limit: 70 participants.

HONORARY MEMBER OF THE NORWEGIAN SOCIETY OF PATHOLOGY

The CCBIO Director Lars A. Akslen was recently awarded as Honorary Member of the Norwegian Society of Pathology (DNP). Akslen has former been chairman of the association during two periods, 2008-2012.



Photo: Cecilie Alfsen

In their [reasoning](#) for the distinction, the DNP explains: «Lars A. Akslen has made significant contributions to clinically oriented cancer research both nationally and internationally, and has gained international recognition through many years. He is a dynamic leader and strategic organizer of a particularly active and productive research community in cancer research, with substantial publishing activity in highly acclaimed journals. He has received a number of prizes, including the King Olav V's Cancer Research Prize (2009). He is an elected member of the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters from 2013. »

[Read more here.](#)

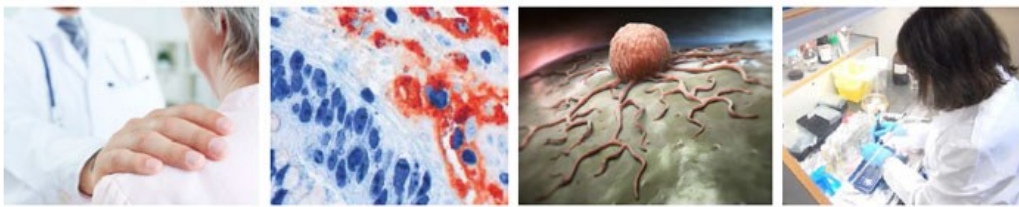


CCBIO SNAPSHOTS



Photos: Ingvild Festervoll Melien

CCBIO904 BIOMARKERS AND TUMOR BIOLOGY IN CLINICAL PRACTICE, APRIL 23-25 2018.

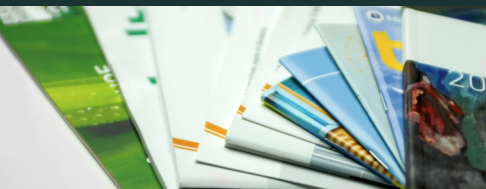


This is a highly recommended course for students who do cancer research. CCBIO904 covers tumorbiological aspects important for the understanding of why cancer develops and which mechanisms are important for tumor growth, metastases and morbidity in patients.

The course will focus especially on tumor biological changes that may have or already have significance for personalized cancer treatment and clinical trial studies of new diagnostics and treatment.

Read [more here](#), including preliminary program. [Use this registration link](#).

ADDRESSING AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SCIENTIFIC PAPERS



In order for the Research Council of Norway (RCN) to identify the results of CCBIO activity, it is important that CCBIO is addressed correctly.

We recommend the following example:

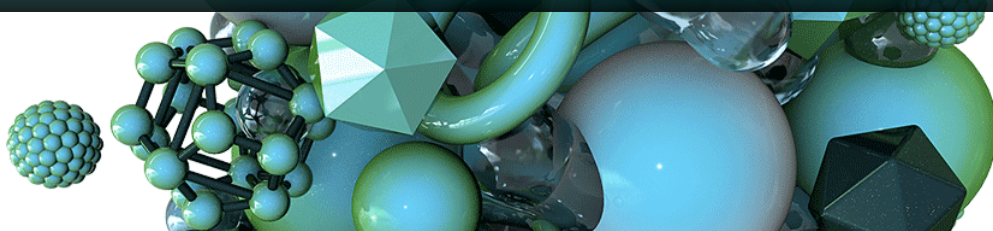
“N.N., Centre for Cancer Biomarkers CCBIO, Department of Clinical Medicine, University of Bergen”, etc.

The RCN also expects all authors of scientific papers to acknowledge the funding provided by RCN. The following acknowledge sentence are to be used in all publications:

English: “This work was partly supported by the Research Council of Norway through its Centres of Excellence funding scheme, project number 223250”

Norsk: “Dette arbeidet er delvis finansiert av Norges Forskningsråd gjennom ordningen Sentre for fremragende forskning, prosjekt nummer 223250”

PARTNERSHIP WITH DIGITAL LIFE NORWAY



CCBIO has entered into partnership with Digital Life Norway.

[Centre for Digital Life Norway](#) (DLN) is a national transdisciplinary research centre for biotechnology research and innovation. Their aim is to evolve new knowledge and methods to create value and address societal challenges. CCBIO’s students are recommended to keep an eye out for DLN’s courses, and they also host workshops aimed at researchers beyond PhD/postdoc level. See DLN’s [event list](#).



CCBIO SNAPSHOTS



Popular pizza get-together after the CCBIO seminars.



International colleagues and collaborative partners.



Tor Audun Klingens doctoral defense.



Tine Johannessen in another role, as custos.



Kristi Krüger's doctoral defense.

RECENT AND COMING CCBIO DOCTORAL DEFENSES



Tor Audun Klingen February 20th.

Title: "Vascular invasion by tumor cells, and other prognostic factors in a population-based breast cancer study". Supervisors: Professor Lars A. Akslen and Associate Professor Elisabeth Wik. See [press release](#).



Stein-Erik Gullaksen March 23rd.

Title: "Single cell signalling and immune profiles in chronic myeloid leukaemia". Supervisors: Professor Bjørn Tore Gjertsen, Associate Professor Jorunn Kirkeleit and Professor Emmet Mc Cormack. See [press release](#).



Henriette Christie Ertsås April 6th at 12.15, trial lecture at 10.15.

Title: "The effects of ageing on microenvironment-contextual epithelial cell signalling". Supervisors: Professor James B. Lorens and Professor Rein Aasland
[Find more information here](#) (place etc).



Maria Ramnefjell April 10th.

Title: "Prognostic biomarkers and clinico-pathologic characteristics in non-small cell lung cancer". Supervisors: Professor Lars A. Akslen and Associate Professor Lars Helgeland.



Emilia Hugdahl April 20th.

Title: "Prognostic and molecular markers in primary and metastatic cutaneous melanoma". Supervisors: Professor Lars A. Akslen and Associate Professor Rita Ladstein.

PUBLICATIONS

You can find the CCBIO publications [on this pubmed link](#).
See the last 5 below.

- Ytre-Hauge S, Esmæili M, Sjøbakk TE, Grüner R, Woie K, Werner HM, Krakstad C, Bjørge L, Salvesen ØO, Stefansson IM, Trovik J, Bathen TF, Haldorsen IS. [In vivo MR spectroscopy predicts high tumor grade in endometrial cancer](#). *Acta Radiol*. 2018 Apr;59(4):497-505. doi: 10.1177/0284185117733297. Epub 2017 Sep 19.
- Lidén Å, Karlén TV, Guss B, Reed RK, Rubin K. [Integrin \$\alpha_v\beta_3\$ can substitute for collagen-binding \$\beta_1\$ -integrins in vivo to maintain a homeostatic interstitial fluid pressure](#). *Exp Physiol*. 2018 Mar 10. doi: 10.1113/EP086902. [Epub ahead of print]
- Lønning PE, Berge EO, Bjørnslett M, Minsaa L, Chrisanthar R, Høberg-Vetti H, Dulary C, Busato F, Bjørneklett S, Eriksen C, Kopperud R, Axcróna U, Davidson B, Bjørge L, Evans G, Howell A, Salvesen HB, Janszky I, Hveem K, Romundstad PR, Vatten LJ, Tost J, Dørum A, Knappskog S. [White Blood Cell BRCA1 Promoter Methylation Status and Ovarian Cancer Risk](#). *Ann Intern Med*. 2018 Mar 6;168(5):326-334. doi: 10.7326/M17-0101. Epub 2018 Jan 16.
- Reisæter LAR, Fütterer JJ, Losnegård A, Nygård Y, Monssen J, Gravdal K, Halvorsen OJ, Akslen LA, Biermann M, Haukaas S, Rørvik J, Beisland C. [Optimising preoperative risk stratification tools for prostate cancer using mpMRI](#). *Eur Radiol*. 2018 Mar;28(3):1016-1026. doi: 10.1007/s00330-017-5031-5. Epub 2017 Oct 6.
- Widschwendter M, Jones A, Evans I, Reisel D, Dillner J, Sundström K, Steyerberg EW, Vergouwe Y, Wegwarth O, Rebitschek FG, Siebert U, Sroczynski G, de Beaufort ID, Bolt I, Cibula D, Zikan M, Bjørge L, Colombo N, Harbeck N, Dudbridge F, Tasse AM, Knoppers BM, Joly Y, Teschendorff AE, Pashayan N; FORECEE (4C) Consortium. [Epigenome-based cancer risk prediction: rationale, opportunities and challenges](#). *Nat Rev Clin Oncol*. 2018 Feb 27. doi: 10.1038/nrclinonc.2018.30. [Epub ahead of print] Review.



RECENT CCBIO IN THE MEDIA

- 19.03.18, LMI Nyheter, "[Fem kjappe om kliniske studier](#)", Bjørn Tore Gjertsen.
- 15.03.18, LMI Nyheter, "[Få kliniske studier gjør at norske pasienter ikke får rask nok tilgang til «state of the art»-behandling](#)", Bjørn Tore Gjertsen.
- 06.02.18, World Health Network, "[Drug For Tapeworm May Fight Prostate And Colon Cancer](#)", Karl-Henning Kalland.
- 03.02.18, Dagbladet, "[Gjennombrudd i kreftforskningen](#)", Lars A. Akslen.



- 31.01.18, Helse Bergen News, "[Kjempestas å få pris](#)", Katharina Bischof.
- 26.01.18, Vox Publica, "[Niels Chr. Geelmuyden: Pillebefinnende \(podkast og video\), Hvilke interesser styrer utviklingen av kunnskap om legemidlene og deres virkninger?](#)", Roger Strand.
- 26.01.18, Vi Over 60, "[Krefthemmende parasittmedisin](#)", Karl-Henning Kalland.
- 22.01.18, Vi Over 60, "[Alderen du er mest utsatt for brystkreft](#)", Fanny Pélissier.
- 06.01.18, Cordoba Buenas Noticias Argentina, "[Un fármaco utilizado contra los parásitos intestinales muestra eficacia contra el cáncer de próstata y colon](#)", Karl-Henning Kalland.



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