



# CCBIO Newsletter

CAPTURING CANCER COMPLEXITY AND CLINICAL CHALLENGES

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## DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Dear all

Today is your last chance to register for the 6th CCBIO Annual Symposium at Solstrand in just a few weeks, as well the satellite symposium on Liquid Biopsy organized by professor Klaus Pantel and CCBIO. If you have not signed up for these events, please do so.

In this issue, you can also read about research on oral cancer in Sudan, upcoming CCBIO courses, other events, and the recent doctoral defenses. Congratulations to Vibeke Fosse and collaborators for the EMIM 2018 Poster Award. Also, professor and CCBIO investigator Line Bjørge is now the new chair of Onkologisk Forum.

Best regards, Lars A. Akslen, Director

## ORAL CANCER IN SUDAN



Photos: Anne Christine Johannessen

The Johannessen group has a clear vision of the need to collaborate with researchers in the countries where oral cancer is the biggest burden. Therefore they have selected three countries: India, Nepal and Sudan. Recently, the group went to Khartoum, Sudan, to follow up on a longstanding collaboration on oral cancer between Bergen and Khartoum. We asked Anne C. (Tine) Johannessen to tell us a little about the collaboration.

The UiB-Khartoum relationship dates back 55 years, Tine explains. Now oral cancer is a large field of collaboration, as the use of smokeless tobacco is strongly embedded in the Sudanese culture, leading to oral cancer as a substantial social burden. Sudanese PhD candidates are training at UiB with the goal to build up a platform of research competence in their home country.

[Read more here.](#)

## CONTACT INFORMATION



[www.ccbio.no](http://www.ccbio.no)

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Donald Gullberg  
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Karl Henning Kalland  
James Lorens  
Rolf Reed  
Oddbjørn Straume



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# THE 6TH CCBIO ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM MAY 23-24 2018: REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MAY 7



Photos: Ingvild Festervoll Melien

If you have not yet registered for this year's CCBIO Annual Symposium, we can still squeeze you in. We trust Solstrand and the fjord will show their very best in the lovely May weather, and so will our speakers!

The symposium will be a combination of talks by invited international speakers such as **Richard Hynes, Bruce Zetter, Frederick Locke, Thomas F. Meyer, Carina Strell, Leonard Fleck, Mark LaBarge, Fanny A. Vatter, William N. William Jr., Christina Fotopoulou, Ursula Klingmueller, 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 let us know at the registration form. Also submit a one page abstract to [eli.vidhammer@uib.no](mailto:eli.vidhammer@uib.no) as soon as possible, May 7th at the latest.

Symposium website: [www.ccbiosymposium.no](http://www.ccbiosymposium.no)

Scientific Program: [can be viewed here](#).

Registration, within **May 7th 2018**: [registration link](#).

Practical information: [on this pdf](#)

## STILL POSSIBLE TO REGISTER FOR THE LIQUID BIOPSY SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM MAY 22<sup>nd</sup>



Registration deadline is also May 7th for the Satellite Symposium on Liquid Biopsy which is held May 22nd 2018 at Solstrand Hotel, the day before and at the same place as the CCBIO Annual Symposium 2018.

The [scientific program](#) for the **Liquid Biopsy Satellite Symposium May 22nd** should be of great interest.

We start off with a lovely lunch, and then prominent international experts on Liquid Biopsy such as **Klaus Pantel, Catherine Alix-Panabières, Costanza Paoletti, Guido Jenster** and **Ulf Landegren** will present data on the latest developments of the field and future possibilities. The Satellite Symposium has updates on circulating tumor cells (CTCs), circulating nucleic acids and microvesicles, with emphasis on practical and clinical applications and the biology of metastasis. We will also get an insight into local Stavanger and Bergen projects, with **Bjørnar Gilje** and **Randi Hovland**.

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

Registration: please use [this registration link](#). Deadline is **May 7<sup>th</sup>**.

## COMING CCBIO EVENTS

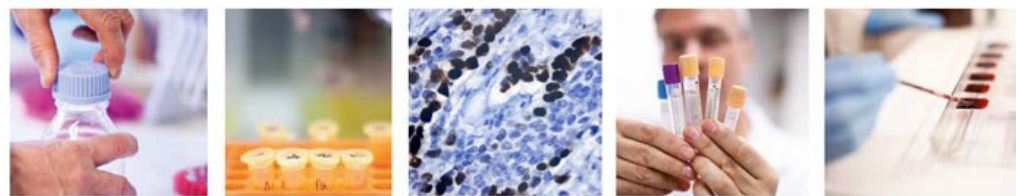
- May 22nd, [Precision Medicine, Ethical Ambiguity: Rough Justice, Ragged Edges](#), guest lecture by prof. Leonard M. Fleck, Michigan State University. At 10:15-12:00, Parkveien 9, Bergen.
- May 22nd, [Satellite Symposium on Liquid Biopsies](#), Solstrand. Deadline is May 7th.
- May 23rd and 24th, [CCBIO Annual Symposium 2018](#), Solstrand. Deadline is May 7th.
- May 31st, [CCBIO Seminar](#), speaker Aurora Martinez, title: "Pharmacological chaperoning: a potential treatment for genetic diseases, including some cancer syndromes".
- June 7th, [CCBIO Seminar](#), speaker Arvid Lundervold, title: "Computational imaging and machine learning in biomedicine".
- August 27-29, [CCBIO905 – Methods in Cancer Biomarker Research course](#).

## OTHER RECOMMENDED COMING EVENTS

- May 17th, [Knowledge for Growth](#), life sciences conference, in Ghent, Belgium. Oslo Cancer Cluster members (incl. CCBIO) get a [special rate](#).
- June 4th, [7th International Cancer Cluster Showcase](#), Oslo. Oncology partnering event.
- 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.
- June 20-22, the [7th Norwegian Cancer Symposium on Tumor-Host Relationship](#), Oslo University Hospital.



# CCBIO905 COURSE IN AUGUST



The CCBIO course "CCBIO905 – Methods in Cancer Biomarker Research" is now available for the fall term, August 27-29, 2018. This 5 ECTS credits course has focus on methods relevant for basic and translational cancer biomarker research.

The thematic parts include methods ranging from basic techniques on nucleotides and proteins to more advanced approaches, as well as bioinformatics and biobanking supplemented by presentations on ethics and economics of cancer biomarkers.

The students are required to prepare group presentations on important scientific papers describing results from clinical trials that have led to approval of new cancer treatments.

Lars A. Akslen and Jim Lorens have the academic responsibility and Ingeborg Winge is the course coordinator. The course is primarily intended for PhD candidates who are affiliated with CCBIO, but is also open to other students, researchers and students attending the designated Medical Student Research Program.

You can register on [this registration form](#).  
Program will be available [on this web page](#).



## CCBIO SNAPSHOTS



From Maria Ramnefjell's doctoral defense.  
Photo: Ole J. Halvorsen

### My mentors



## NEW LEADER OF ONKOLOGISK FORUM

CCBIO's Associate Investigator Line Bjørge is from 01.01.18 the new leader of Onkologisk Forum.

Note that Onkologisk Forum 2018 will be held in Bergen, November 15-16.

Program and registration will be available [on this web page](#).



Inspirational speech from Anne Christine Johannessen to the young researchers at the Junior Scientist Symposium.  
Photo: Ingvild Løberg Tangen.

## EMIM 2018 POSTER AWARD



Vibeke Fosse (left) and Katrin Kleinmanns (right) with the award winning poster. Photo: INOVA.

**Congratulations to Vibeke Fosse for the poster award at the European Society for Molecular Imaging Conference – EMIM 2018 in San Sebastian, Spain, 20-23 March 2018.**

Vibeke Fosse was presenting author of the poster, which was entitled "Improved Cyto-reduction of Ovarian Cancer using CD24-targeted Fluorescence Image Guided Surgery in a Preclinical Murine Model".

Authors are Katrin Kleinmanns, Vibeke Fosse, Katharina Bischof, Shamundeswari Anandan, Line Bjørge and Emmet McCormack.



Considering tissue samples. Photo: Ingvild Festervoll Melien



Success! Photo: Ingvild Festervoll Melien



# GUEST LECTURE MAY 22ND BY LEONARD FLECK

Professor Roger Strand at CCBIO and the Centre for the Study of the Sciences and the Humanities invites to a guest lecture May 22nd by Professor Leonard M. Fleck, Michigan State University.



## RECENT CCBIO IN THE MEDIA

03.05.18, Bergens Tidende, "[Uheldig hemmelighold](#)", Ole Frithjof Norheim interviewed on his view of the pharmaceutical industry's demands to keep the price negotiations with governments exempt from public disclosure.

25.04.18, Science Newsline, "[Changes in Breast Tissue Increase Cancer Risk for Older Women](#)", James Lorens, Mark LaBarge, Fanny Pelissier.

24.04.18, MedicalXpress, "[Changes in breast tissue increase cancer risk for older women](#)", James Lorens, Mark LaBarge, Fanny Pelissier.

20.04.18, Dagbladet, "[Det lille implantatet skal redde liv: Får du en flekk på huden, kan du ha kreft](#)", Oddbjørn Straume interviewed about his thoughts on a Swiss research project.

19.04.18, Bergens Tidende, "[Lovende resultater for bergensk kreftvaksine](#)", Karl-Henning Kalland.

03.04.18, Vi Menn, "[Hemmer kreft](#)", Karl-Henning Kalland.

19.03.18, LMI Nyheter, "[Fem kjiappe 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.

## RECENT CCBIO DOCTORAL DEFENSES



**Henriette Christie Ertsås** April 6th.

Title: "The effects of ageing on microenvironment-contextual epithelial cell signalling". Supervisors: Professor James B. Lorens and Professor Rein Aasland. [See press release.](#)



**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.

[See press release.](#)

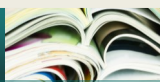


**Emilia Hugdahl** April 20th.

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

[See press release.](#)

## PUBLICATIONS



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

- Jokela TA, Engelsen AST, Rybicka A, Pelissier Vatter FA, Garbe JC, Miyano M, Tiron C, Ferariu D, Akslen LA, Stampfer MR, Lorens JB, LaBarge MA. [Microenvironment-Induced Non-sporadic Expression of the AXL and cKIT Receptors Are Related to Epithelial Plasticity and Drug Resistance](#). *Front Cell Dev Biol*. 2018 Apr 17;6:41. doi: 10.3389/fcell.2018.00041. eCollection 2018.
- Pelissier Vatter FA, Schapiro D, Chang H, Borowsky AD, Lee JK, Parvin B, Stampfer MR, LaBarge MA, Bodenmiller B, Lorens JB. [High-Dimensional Phenotyping Identifies Age-Emergent Cells in Human Mammary Epithelia](#). *Cell Rep*. 2018 Apr 24;23(4):1205-1219. doi: 10.1016/j.celrep.2018.03.114.
- Ladds MJGW, Pastor-Fernández A, Popova G, van Leeuwen IMM, Eng KE, Drummond CJ, Johansson L, Svensson R, Westwood NJ, McCarthy AR, Tholander F, Popa M, Lane DP, McCormack E, McInerney GM, Bhatia R, Lain S. [Autophagic flux blockage by accumulation of weakly basic tenovins leads to elimination of B-Raf mutant tumour cells that survive vemurafenib](#). *PLoS One*. 2018 Apr 23;13(4):e0195956. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0195956. eCollection 2018.
- Åström P, Heljasvaara R, Nyberg P, Al-Samadi A, Salo T. [Human Tumor Tissue-Based 3D In Vitro Invasion Assays](#). *Methods Mol Biol*. 2018;1731:213-221. doi: 10.1007/978-1-4939-7595-2\_19.
- Wang B, Tian T, Kalland KH, Ke X, Qu Y. [Targeting Wnt/ \$\beta\$ -Catenin Signaling for Cancer Immunotherapy](#). *Trends Pharmacol Sci*. 2018 Apr 17. pii: S0165-6147(18)30060-9. doi: 10.1016/j.tips.2018.03.008. [Epub ahead of print] Review.



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