



# CCBIO Newsletter

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## Coming CCBIO events:

- 19-20 May, CCBIO's 3rd Annual Symposium
- 28 May, CCBIO Seminar, Neil C. Henderson
- 18 June, CCBIO Seminar, Gaoxiang Ge

## Director's comments

The 3rd CCBIO Annual Symposium is getting closer but you still have a couple of days to register for this important meeting. We have a very exciting program for you this year, including presentations on the tumor microenvironment, epithelial-mesenchymal transition, tumor plasticity and cancer stem cell phenotypes, various cancer models, imaging modalities, liquid biopsy, treatment and trials, and a very important session on ethics and economics. Do not miss this opportunity to meet the experts.

Also in this issue of the CCBIO Newsletter, you can read about the "Report on Ethical Issues Raised by Emerging Sciences and Technologies" by Kaiser and Strand.

See you at Solstrand!

Best regards, Lars A. Akslen, Director

## Last call of the CCBIO Annual Symposium

As last year, this year's CCBIOs symposium is a combination of invited international and national speakers and two long poster sessions during which younger researchers can present their research. The selection of which participants that can present their posters will be done on the basis of the submitted abstracts.

In addition to local speakers we have international names such as Jean Paul Thiery, Thomas Brabletz, Randolph Watnick, John Cairns, Thorarinn Gudjonsson, David Tuveson, Arne Östman, Ravi Bhatia and Klaus Pantel. [Find registration and programme here!](#)

And did you know that Solstrand Hotel & Bad has been elected as Norway's best hotel by Tripadvisor?

Extended  
registration  
deadline is  
May 10th



Snapshots from last year's symposium. Photo: Jørgen Barth

## UiB report to be presented by the Council of Europe

The Council of Europe, with its 47 member states, has for years been involved in international efforts for human rights and bioethics. In particular, it is known for the so-called Oviedo Convention that outlines ethical principles for biomedicine.



In 2014, the Council commissioned a report from the Centre for the Study of the Sciences and the Humanities, University of Bergen, on the

ethical issues also of other emerging sciences and technologies such as nanotechnology and ICTs, following a foresight study on such technologies performed by the Rathenau Institute in the Netherlands.

This work is highly relevant for CCBIO and particularly the focus in our PhD course 'CCBIO903: Cancer research: Ethical, economic and social aspects'.

Matthias Kaiser and Roger Strand, the latter an associate PI at CCBIO, submitted their report in January 2015, "[Report on Ethical Issues Raised by Emerging Sciences and Technologies](#)". The Rathenau and Bergen studies will be presented and discussed at the International Conference on «[Emerging Technologies and Human Rights](#)» (4-5 May 2015, Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg) which will be streamed by live broadcast. Video will also be available after the Conference.

[Read more here.](#)

## Next CCBIO seminar, Neil C. Henderson

Remember the next CCBIO seminar with pizza get-together afterwards, Wednesday, May 28th, 14.30, Auditorium 4, BBB.



Speaker: [Dr. Neil Henderson](#) from the MRC Centre for Inflammation Research, University of Edinburgh, UK.

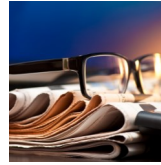
## Recent publications



You can find the last publications [on this link.](#)

## Recent CCBIO in the media

Date, media, title, person interviewed.



05.05.15, Aftenposten Viten, "[Kreft: Det evige såret](#)", Ida W. Sørensen, Donald Gullberg.

23.04.15, Helse Vest, "[Vekas innovasjon: Biomarkør finn kreft](#)", Helga

Salvesen and Lars Akslen.

02.04.15, Nordic Life Science News, "[Chemo Hits Cancer Stem Cells](#)", Xisong Ke, Karl-Henning Kalland.

01.04.15, Science Nordic, "[Attacking cancer's command centre](#)", Xisong Ke, Karl-Henning Kalland.

## International Conference, "The tumor stroma- friend or foe?", October 22-23

**The Marie Curie ITN Network CAFFEIN, [caffeine.ku.dk](#), arranges it conclusive international conference in in Bergen 22nd-23rd October 2015.**

The conference is titled "The tumor stroma- friend or foe?" and all are welcome to attend. The following international and national speakers have confirmed their attendance: [Eric Sahai](#), [Arne Östman](#), [Cedric Gaggioli](#), [Ryan Driskell](#), [Lars Akslen](#), [Bjørn-Tore Gjersten](#), [Marion Kusche-Gullberg](#), [Emmet McCormack](#), [Helga Salvesen](#).

Save the dates, further information will follow!

## CCBIO Mini-biographies

**Part III of presentation of CCBIO's junior researchers (PhDs and PDs). The aim is to increase knowledge about CCBIOs junior staff and their research focus, the latter also reflecting the research of CCBIOs various groups.**

**Elise Asebø:** Born 1986, holds a M.S. in Medical



Cell Biology from UoB. She is currently a PhD candidate in the acute myeloid leukemia (AML) group at PROBE and connected to the Gjertsen group.

She applies quantitative mass spectrometry-based proteomics on AML cells, and the aim is to identify biomarkers which can improve prognostication of AML patients.



**Lavina Ahmed:** Born 1983, holds an M.S. in Molecular Medicine from the University of Sussex and in 2011 started as a PhD in the Akslen group. This is a combined academic-industrial PhD project, in collaboration with BerGenBio AS, focused on the validation of Axl antibodies and studies of Axl expression in breast cancer and other tumors.



**Jenny Husby:** Born 1973, M.D. from UoB. After completing her degree, she focused on radiology and nuclear medicine. Currently she is a PhD candidate in the Salvesen group. Her research focuses on functional imaging to promote individualized and targeted therapy in endometrial cancer.



**Frederik Holst:** Born 1971, received his M.S. in molecular biology and his PhD at the University of Hamburg in Germany. Currently he is a post-doc in the Salvesen group. He studies the somatic genetics of gynecological and other cancers with a special focus on cancer biomarkers.



**Yaping Hua:** Born 1986, holds a M.S. in Pharmaceutical Chemistry and is a PhD candidate in the Kalland group. Her project is focused on discovery of leading compounds and their molecular targets in prostate tumor initiating cells.



**Emilia Hugdahl:** Born 1980, M.D. from UoB. She is a PhD candidate in the Akslen group. Her project is focused on biomarkers for aggressive cutaneous melanoma, especially related to proliferation, BRAF mutations, and metastatic spread.



**Gøril Knutsvik:** Born 1971, holds a M.D. from UoB, and is currently a PhD candidate in the Akslen group. She is working on proliferation biomarkers in breast cancer subtypes and how these can be used in molecular grading based on different tissue categories.



**Ingrid Moen:** Born 1982, holds a M.S. in experimental- and human physiology from UoB and finished her PhD at UoB in 2011 on the influence of oxygen in breast cancer development, using hyperbaric oxygen treatment. She is now a post-doc in the Reed group and is investigating the effect of a novel focal adhesion kinase inhibitor on metastasis.



**Maria Negahdar:** Born 1973 in Iran, holds an M.S. in medical biochemistry and in 2012 received her PhD at the UoB with a focus on targets for diabetes treatment. She is now a post-doc in the Akslen group. Her research is focused on cell line studies of angiogenesis in breast cancer subtypes.



**Jørn Skavland:** Born 1972, holds a technical education in electronics and automation, a M.S. in Immunology and in 2013 gained a PhD at UoB. In his post-doc project in the Gjertsen group, he is aiming to monitor and evaluate signaling related patterns in leukemia.



**Elisabeth Wik:** Born 1971, M.D. from UoB, earned her PhD (2013) with focus on biomarkers in endometrial cancer with emphasis on gene expression microarray analyses. She is now a post-doc in the Akslen group. Her present research focus is on biomarkers in breast cancer subtypes, gene expression analyses, and exploring transcriptional alterations related to the tumor microenvironment.



**Henrica Werner:** Born 1976 in the Netherlands, is a M.D. and earned her PhD in 2014 at UoB with a focus on clinical and molecular features that can function as prognostic and predictive biomarkers to improve therapeutic decisions in connection with endometrial cancer. She is currently a post-doc in the Salvesen group. Her main focus is on the analysis of reverse phase protein array data of endometrial cancer samples including primary tumors and metastases.

