Newsletter

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATICS, UIB
No.14/2023, 15.09.2023

Editor-in-chief: Inge Jonassen. Editor: Randi Heggernes Eilertsen.
Contributions or comments to the newsletter are very welcome.
Old newsletters can be found here.

Dear Colleagues,

First, I must share with you the very sad news that our beloved colleague Ingrid Kyllingmark has passed away. We have already for some time missed Ingrid´s enthusiastic presence in our reception. Our thoughts go to her husband, family, and friends.

I would like to remind you of the survey that Linda sent out this week – linked with the GenderAct project. I know you get too many surveys, but if you are to fill out one survey this autumn, please let this be the one! The results of this survey will be important to help us understand the situation at our department when it comes to gender equality, sense of belonging and work environment – and to help guide our further actions linked with the gender act project and beyond. Many of you helped put together the survey questions at our last department retreat at Voss this spring. To help increase participation, we will draw gift cards for Sumo if the participation rate is at least 60%. The gift cards are waiting for you – so please do take the time to fill in the survey.

These days we are also finalizing the Strategy document for the period 2023-2030 for our department. As with the survey, many of you provided valuable input to this document during the Department retreat. And you will have a new chance to give your input when we send out a new version of the document shortly. I really appreciate all your engagement – including that of the writing group – and I must say I am very happy with the way the document is turning out. Please do take a few minutes to review the document and give your feedback and suggestions! Finally, the document will be on the agenda of a meeting in the Department Council at the end of the month, together with a formulation of the "terms of reference" for the EVALMIT assessment of our department.

I wish you all a very nice weekend!

Inge

The Dean's Blog - Gunn Mangerud

The Dean's blog aims to inform us of ongoing work and processes at The Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences. Her latest posts:

- Ikke krise, men alvorlig for realfagsrekrutteringen
- Vivat Academia

Welcome, new colleagues!

Kine Marie Fleime Møll

Kine has been an administrative apprentice at the Department of Global Public Health and Primary Care at UiB.

She is now taking May-Lill's tasks in the reception, where she will be working full-time.

Welcome, Kine!

Current Issues

Teacher's retreat

Save the date: 21th of March

To all teachers at the faculty

For the third time, the Faculty welcomes you to the MN teacher's retreat. The seminar will be held on 21 March on campus at UiB Læringsarena.

More information on the program and theme will be published later.

Sincerely

Sigrunn Eliassen, vice dean for education

Yoga

Yoga is back!

You can join a relaxing yoga session every Wednesday from 14:30 to 15:30. If you don't have your own matte, you can borrow one there.

ChatGPT i undervisning og vurdering ved UiB

Webinar: 27.09.2023 - 08.30–10.00

Korleis kan og bør ChatGPT brukast av studentar og tilsette ved UiB? I denne labfrukosten får vi ei kort innføring i kva språkmodellar som ChatGPT er og kva avgrensingar og mogelegheiter som kan finnast ved bruk i undervisning og vurdering. Kva retningslinjer finns det på fakulteta for bruk?

Innleiarar: David Grellscheid, Pinar Heggernes, Yael Harlap.

Les meir: ChatGPT i undervisning og vurdering ved UiB

Department Discord

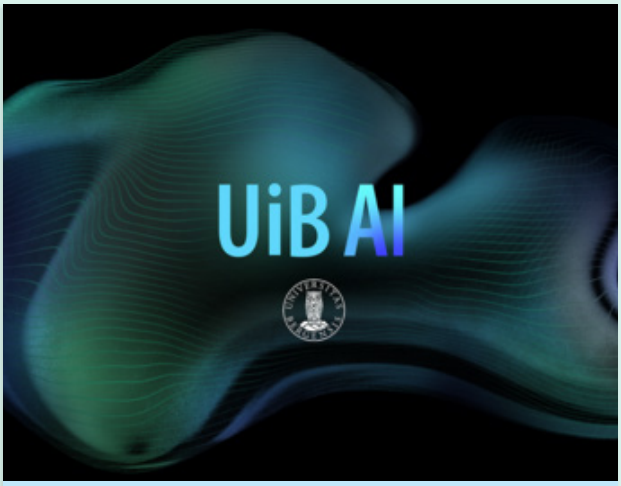
We have a department dicord channel, in which you can find notices about events, alerts about leftover cake, and generally great banter.

Join our discord here.

Reminder: Guest routine

Inviting and hosting guest researchers is a natural and welcomed part of our academic work. It is still crucial to act according to our routines and procedures when planning to invite a guest.

If you are inviting a guest researcher to our department, you must follow the guest routine found here.



Drømmer androider om digital opphavsrett?

Om opphavsrett og frembringelser generert ved hjelp av kunstig intelligens

Tid: 22. September 10.00 – 12.00

Sted: Universitetsaulaen

Velkommen til vårt neste UiB AI-seminar om opphavsrett og frembringelser generert ved hjelp av kunstig intelligens.

Tjenester som ChatGPT, DALL-E og Midjourney har åpnet døren for å generere tekst og bilder ved hjelp av kunstig intelligens som til dels kan erstatte tilsvarende frembringelser gjort av mennesker. Men hva gjør dette med opphavsretten? Trening av slik generativ kunstig intelligens skjer ved bruk av enorme mengder eksisterende tekst og bilder. Hvilke rettigheter har opphavere til slike åndsverk som blir brukt i opptrening av kunstig intelligens? Og kan den som frembringer tekst og bilder ved hjelp av kunstig intelligens selv få opphavsrett til resultatet.

Medvirkende: Torger Kielland og Jill Walker Rettberg

Registrering og mer informasjon: UiB AI #7

NIKT 2023

call for papers (deadline extension)

The deadlines for submitting abstracts and papers to the NIKT 2023 conference are extended one week. New deadlines are given below.

Invitation to the NIKT2023 conference and call for papers:

The Norwegian ICT Conference for Education and Research (NIKT) is the main annual meeting venue for ICT academia in Norway. NIKT 2023 takes place in Stavanger from November 27th to November 30th 2023. The conference is hosted by the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at the University of Stavanger.

The conference provides opportunities for meeting colleges, building networks, and publishing scientific work. Accepted papers give credits (level 1) in the Cristin system.

NIKT2023 consists of four tracks that cover a wide range of interesting topics within ICT research and education:

- Norwegian Informatics Conference (NIK)
- Norwegian Conference for Organizations' Use of IT (NOKOBIT)
- Norwegian Information Security Conference (NISK)
- Norwegian Conference for Education and Didactics in IT subjects (UDIT)

November 30th will be reserved for workshops. Paper sessions will be Tuesday November 28 and Wednesday November 29.

You can find more information and specific call for papers within each track at the NIKT conference website.

IMPORTANT DEADLINES:
Abstract submission deadline: September 1
Paper submission deadline: September 8
Conference registration deadline: October 27
Conference dates: November 27 – November 30

Collaborate with Germany's top-notch data science community

Last date to submit your application: 26 September 2023

Germany is one of the world's top spenders in terms of R&D budget. One of the leading industrial countries in the world with a thriving research ecosystem. It is also Europe's leading country in AI research.

We are collaborating with Helmholtz Information & Data Science Academy (HIDA) for a research exchange between Germany and Norway. All 18 research centres of the Helmholtz Association are open for collaboration with us.

Read full post on Nora.ai: GERMANY EXCHANGE PROGRAM (2023)

NORA.ai

UiB FERD
career center for early stage researchers

"UiB Ferd supports early stage researchers in their career development"

UiB Ferd Career Centre supports doctoral candidates, postdoctoral fellows, researchers and associate professors. We offer a range of services designed to help you develop your career within or beyond the university.

You can sign up for the UiB Ferd newsletter here.

Upcoming UiB Ferd events include:
Career days 2023 - Tuesday 26th-28th of September
When we talk about career, what are we talking about then? UiB asks researchers, managers and editors how they understand the term and how they assess skills and competence. The aim is to create debate and reflection, but also to provide space for networking and new ideas.

21.09 Course in Copyright for Photographs (Course)
Registration deadline: 20.09.2023 at 12:00
22.09 Open Access - step by step (Course)
Registration deadline: 21.09.2023 at 12:00

International Newsletter

UiB has a newsletter made especially for internationals, where you can find useful tips and news about upcoming events.

If you have moved to Bergen from a different country, we highly recommend subscribing to the newsletter here.

You can also follow the International Centre calendar to find events that are of particular interest to international staff and students.

Vacant positions

- PhD Research Fellow in Informatics – Cryptology (up to 3 positions)
- Senior Engineer/Chief Engineer (DevOps system administrator)
- Senior Engineer/ Chief Engineer (System Developer)
- PhD Research Fellow in Causality and Reinforcement Learning
- Researcher in Informatics: Algorithmic foundations of DataScience

See all open positions at UiB

Upcoming Funding Opportunities

Please contact research coordinator Stefanie Meyer if you plan to apply. All applications need to be approved by the department leadership before submission. By following the link, you can find out more about our research support services.

Sabbatical: All at least 50%, permanently employed professors and associate professors can apply for a sabbatical and, if relevant, related travel funds.

Application deadline for the next academic year: 1 October 2023

TMS Starting Grants 2024 - Nomination of applicants at the Department of Informatics: The TMS Starting Grant programme is a highly competitive and prestigious funding mechanism designed to help UiB in recruiting and/or retaining talented young researchers. The application process has several stages, starting with the nomination of applicants by the department (and faculty). We ask all research groups to send their suggestions for applicants to the head of department, who will select up to two candidates that will get the opportunity to apply for a TMS Starting Grant the following year (2024).

More detailed information has been sent to all scientific staff and Postdocs at the department via email.

Deadline: 1 December 2023. Please send the required documentation via email to the head of department, cc head of research section.

Forskningsrådet

FRIPRO: The Research Council of Norway has published information about the upcoming FRIPRO (groundbreaking research) calls on their website.

- Researcher Project for Experienced Scientists (FRIPRO)
- Researcher Project for Early Career Scientists (FRIPRO)
- Three-year Researcher Project with International Mobility (FRIPRO)

It is anticipated that there will be an info meeting in September, and that the calls will open in October (see the timeline in the calls). These calls will have no explicit submission deadline. Please also note the new criteria regarding waiting period after submission and quarantine depending on the evaluation score. In addition, there are new eligibility criteria for the applicant PI as well as restrictions for researchers who have an ongoing FRIPRO project.

New Application deadline: open-ended (to be opened on 18 October)

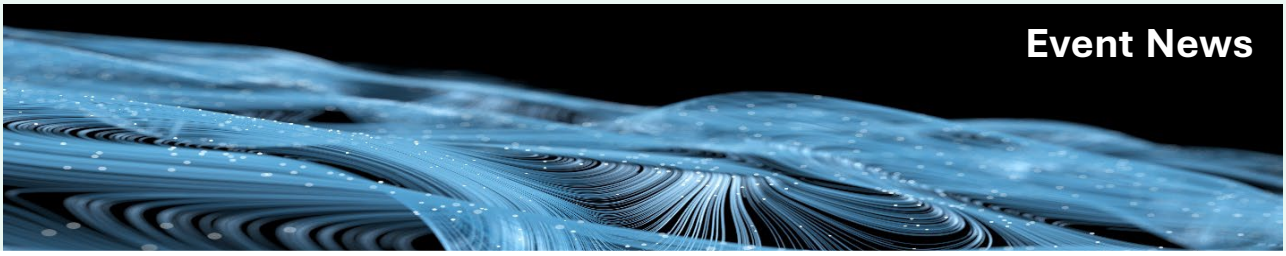
New **UH-nett Vest:** You can apply for funds supporting project and network development, as well as outreach and communication activities.

Application deadline: 15 October 2023

ERC 2024: The ERC has published their Work Programme for 2024. Please note that it contains a few substantial changes as compared to previous years, as you can find out more about by reading this press release and/or by contacting Stefanie Meyer.

The upcoming submission deadlines for ERC proposals are:

- StG-2024: 24 Oct 2023
- SyG-2024: 8 Nov 2023
- CoG-2024: 12 Dec 2023
- AdG-2024: 29 Aug 2024



Your Pathway to Collaborative Projects

"This event aims to motivate researchers to get involved in collaborative research projects and will provide information about the specific logic of collaborative projects. The event will include presentations from researchers sharing their advice and experiences, and from research advisers working with application support. The program will also include mingling sessions where researchers can ask questions and discuss with research advisers and other support staff. The event is open to researchers at all faculties and at all career levels." **Event**: 3 October 2023, Bergen. Registration deadline 26 September, 12.00.

Intelligente Bergen 2023

"Konferansen Intelligente Bergen har som mål å samle næringsliv, offentleg sektor og studentar for å styrke og framme vår regions posisjon som nasjonalt leiande innan forsking og bruk av kunstig intelligens." **Event**: 3 November 2023, Bergen. Registration is open!

NORBIS activities

Upcoming activities

Course: Microbiome data science with R/Bioconductor

Time: October 9-12, 9 am-4pm

Place: University of Bergen

Course responsible: Dr. Rajesh Shigdel and Prof. Leo Lathi

Registration form: HERE

Program: This course provides an introduction to microbiome data integration and analysis with R/Bioconductor, a popular open-source environment for scientific data analysis.

Target audience: PhD, Postdoc, and researchers who wish to develop their skills in microbiome data science.

More information about this on our course website: https://norbis.w.uib.no/activities/courses/

MOL8008 - Bioinformatics methods for next generation sequencing analysis

Dates: 2 – 6 October 2023.

Location: St.Olavs Hospital/NTNU, Trondheim.

Course responsible: Morten Beck Rye, NTNU.

Evaluation: Report based with grade pass/fail.

Course code: MOL8008

Registration: HERE. If you wish to earn credits, you will find information about this HERE.

Course description

The course will introduce bioinformatic approaches, tools and pipelines for computational analyses of Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) data. Focus will be on analysis methods for coding and non-coding RNA from RNA-seq, and transcription factors and epigenetic markers from ChIP-Seq. The course will cover strategies, methods and workflows used for analyses of such data, including mapping to reference genomes, feature extraction, and statistical analysis.

For more information: https://norbis.w.uib.no/activities/courses/

SAVE THE DATE!

Workshop: Comparing genomes: Genome assembly and annotation, and hypothesis testing in comparative genomics.

Time: 1-5 April, 2024

Location: University of Oslo or University of Bergen

Workshop responsible: José Cerca (UiO), Ole Tørrensen (UiO), Inge Jonassen (UiB)

Workshop description

In this workshop, we will cover the technical principles of genome assembly, annotation, and genome comparison. We will explore the techniques related to genome sequencing, the software and strategies used for genome assembly and annotation. Following that, we will delve into comparative genomics, focusing on fundamental concepts such as genomic structural features (transposable elements, genes, centromeres), orthologs, and functional characterization of genes. Through this, participants will gain the necessary skills to test hypotheses in the field of comparative genomics.

For more information, visit our workshop website: https://norbis.w.uib.no/activities/workshops/

We have more courses that will be opened for registration soon so save the date!

- **Metabolic pathway analysis** - January/February 2024 at University of Tromsø, two weeks by Ines Heiland.

Travel funding from NORBIS

Are you NORBIS member and in need funding to go to an international course or conference? NORBIS are happy to announce that we have a limited fund available for travel for our members for these activities. If you like to know more, please visit our website: https://norbis.w.uib.no/travel-funding-f...-and-conferences/

Funding for arranging courses and workshops

Do you have a course you like to organize under the NORBIS umbrella but in need of funding? Our call for courses is open now: https://norbis.w.uib.no/activities/proposals/

For more information, please see our webpage: https://norbis.w.uib.no