

# Newsletter

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATICS, UIB  
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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,

I hope you have all enjoyed the summer and had a good break from work! I hope you have all enjoyed the summer and had a good break from work! It is great to welcome our students – and certainly the new ones! I thoroughly enjoyed seeing all the eager faces at the welcome meetings, and I am so happy that we can now all be at campus! Meeting students as a “faddervakt” during the welcoming week was great as well!

This autumn, there are several processes that are important for our department. First, I want to mention that we are in the process of hiring three new faculty members through two tenure track positions in machine learning and visualization and one associate professorship in software development theory (PUT). The first two are already online and the third one will be shortly. Search committees are appointed for each that will in search for promising candidates with a particular focus on increasing the number of women applying. In addition, I hope everybody can help spread the word and help us attract the best applicants! Recruitment of new faculty members is one of the most important things we do!

This autumn is also when for the national assessment of research in the biosciences is getting

properly started, and our Computational Biology Unit will submit their self-assessment reports. This is itself of high importance and will help us prepare for the assessment that the rest of the department will go through next year.

Finally, there are strategy processes going on at the university and faculty level this fall. We are all invited to topical meetings at Muséplass – the next one on diversity (“mangfold”) will be on September 12th. There will also be a meeting about the faculty level strategy processes at our department on September 13th (more information later in this newsletter). At the department level, we will work out an “action plan” to improve our gender equality and balance – and step up preparations for the national assessment next year.

Most important, however, is to maintain focus on our primary tasks: education and research. I look forward to working with all of you to further improve the quality of our activities this fall and beyond!

I wish you all a good weekend!



## 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 posting:

- [“Studentene er fremtiden”](#)

# The students are back in town



*Pål getting ready to indoctrinate the new master's students*



*Inge and Linda as "Faddervakter", aka making sure we don't lose the new students to the partying lifestyle*

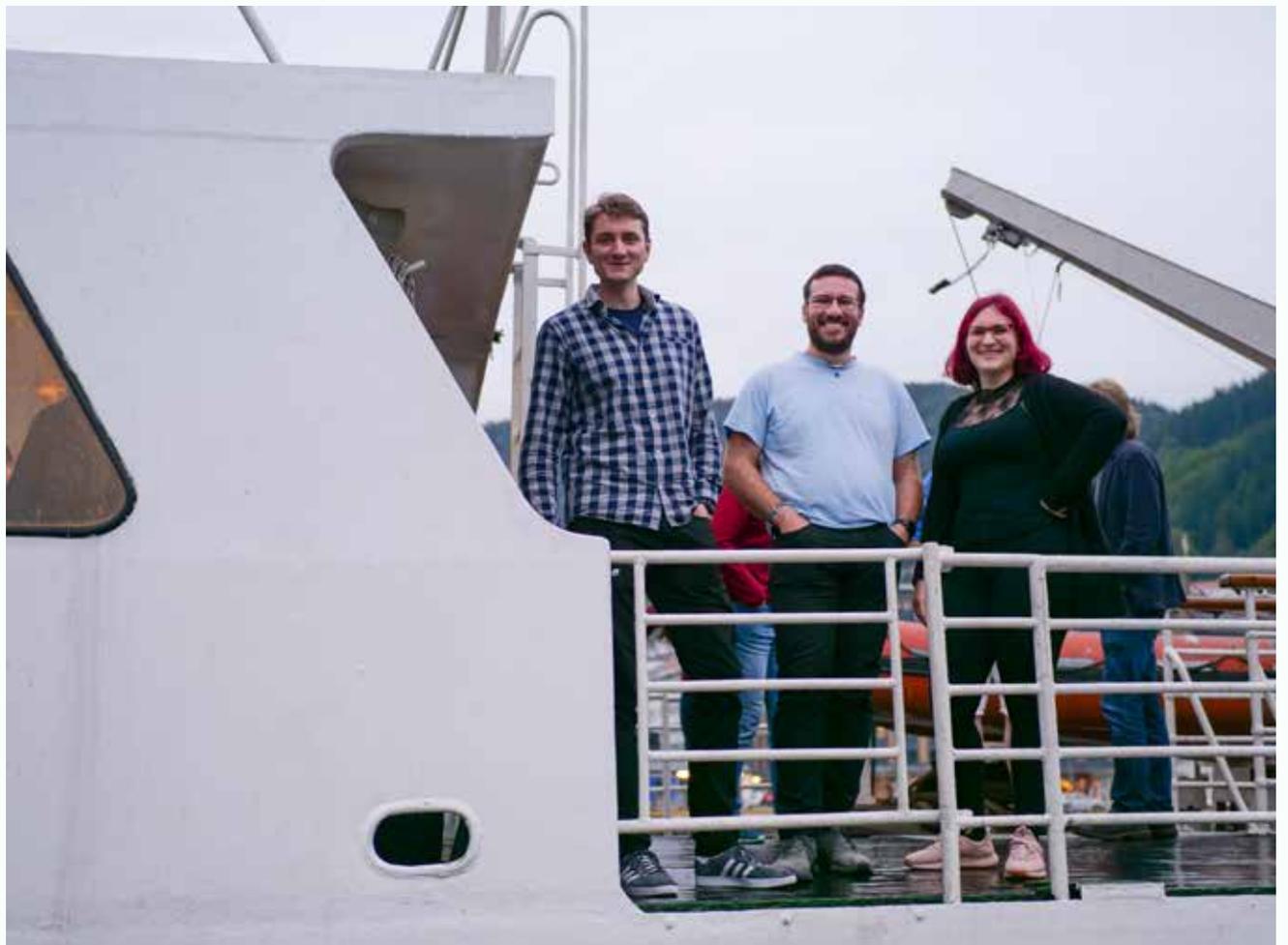


# We're on a boat

Take a good hard look at these photos from our annual boat trip!

More photos from the trip will be uploaded to [this OneDrive folder](#) (only available to people from UiB).







PS: The answers to the quiz are available [here](#).

Congratulations to the winners:

- Cosimo Persia
- Philip Turk
- Odin Hoff Gardå
- Pierre Gillet



# Welcome, new colleagues!



## Emmanuel Arrighi

We already know Emmanuel, as he has been doing his PhD in our Algorithm group, and is now starting a new position as a PostDoc. Emmanuel is originally French, and did his Master's at École Normale Supérieure Paris-Saclay. He will be working with Machine Teaching to explainable AI (XAI) with Jan Arne Telle.



## Odin Hoff Gardå

Odin has started a PhD in the machine learning group. Odin is Norwegian and has done his Bachelor's and Master's degree at NTNU, where he specialised in algebraic topology. Odin has already marked himself out as a top intellectual in the department by winning yesterday's boat quiz.



## Brigt Arve Toppe Håvardstun

Brigt is another familiar face, as he has done both his Bachelor's and Master's degree at our department, and is now settling in as a PhD Research fellow, working with AI and algorithms. He has been a very active student, participating in the student council, been a founder of Programmerbar, contributed to Scale IT, been a teaching assistant, and the list goes on.



## Nadiia Ichanka

Nadiia has been working as a Research Assistant at the Selmer Center since november and will now be starting a PhD in Applied Cryptology at the Department of Informatics. Nadiia is originally from Ukraine, and has both her Bachelor's and Master's degree from the University of Kiyv.



## Adnan Niazi

Adnan is another familiar face, as he has been doing his PhD at CBU. He will continue working with the NFR-project “Decoding the mRNA capping code”, now as a PostDoc. Adnan is originally from Pakistan, and has a Master's degree in CS from the University of Twente in the Netherlands.



## Lene Tøftestuen

Lene has been working here since january, filling in for Ragna Breines when she was on leave. We now get to keep her a bit longer, as she will be working 60% filling in for Ingrid. She and Ingrid will be in the reception somewhat irregularly as needed, so it may be a good idea to send an email if you can't find them.



## Petra Wolf

Petra is starting a postdoc position in the Algorithms group. She is from Germany and finished her PhD in Computer Science at University of Trier in January this year and visited our Algorithm group in February. Luckily for us, she enjoyed her stay and has decided to join our ranks.

# PhD updates



There's a new PhD in town...

## Congratulations, Muhammad Ammar Malik!

Muhammad successfully defended his thesis “Machine learning approaches for high-dimensional genome-wide association studies” on the 24th of August.

Congratulations, Muhammad!

## Upcoming PhD defences



### Defence: Alessandro Budroni

Alessandro Budroni will defend his thesis “Notes on Lattice-Based Cryptography” on the 9th of September at 10:00 [on zoom](#).

- Opponent: Associate Professor Simona Samardjiska, Digital Security Group, ICIS, Radboud University
- Opponent: Professor Damien Stehlé, École Normale Supérieure de Lyon
- Committee leader: Associate Professor Nikolay Stoyanov Kaleyski
- Leader of the defence: Professor Jan Arne Telle

[Read the announcement here](#)



### Defence: Eric Mörth

Eric Mörth will defend his thesis “Scaling Up Medical Visualization Multi-Modal, Multi-Patient, and Multi-Audience Approaches for Medical Data Exploration, Analysis and Communication” on the 2nd of September at 10:00 in Stort Auditorium, Høyteknologisenteret 2nd floor.

- Opponent: Professor Ingrid Hotz, Linköping University, Sweden
- Opponent: Associate Professor Thomas Holt, Netherlands
- Committee leader: Associate Professor David Grellscheid
- Leader of the defence: Professor Eivind Valen

[Read the announcement here.](#)

# Current Issues

## 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. Here are some upcoming events:

[“Paying tax in Norway” - Zoom info meeting](#)

[“Introduction course for new employees”](#)

[“Mobility seminar for researchers” - Seminar for those planning a research stay outside of Norway](#)

[“Working with Norwegians” - Crack the hidden codes of Norwegian workplaces and social life](#)

[See the full calendar here.](#)



## Strategy meeting

13.09.22 - 10:00-11:00 - Blåbær

This autumn the faculty is initiating a process to form a strategy for 2023-2030, which will run in parallel with the University strategy. Our department is invited to an informational meeting the 13th of September. More information to come.



**Reboot healthcare  
through Data Collaboratives**  
Hack with world leaders

MIT | University of Singapore | Mayo clinic | Harvard | Imperial | ++



**What impact will you make?**  
[www.eitri.no/datathon2022](http://www.eitri.no/datathon2022)

DOCTORS | NURSES | DATA SCIENTISTS | DATA STAKEHOLDERS

[Read more on www.eitri.no](http://www.eitri.no)



## Rent a Cabin!

UiB owns four cabins that can be rented by employees. However, due to high demand, only a lucky few are selected in a raffle.

If you want to rent a cabin this late autumn, submit an application [here](#) before the 11th of September,

(The website unfortunately only has information in Norwegian because they assume only Norwegians enjoy spending a weekend getting lost in the mountains and losing a toe to frostbite. This is your chance to prove them wrong.)

## Department seminars: Suggest speakers!

Department seminars are back, and Mikhail Barash and Pål Drange are open for suggestions.

If there's someone who you think would make a great speaker, let Mikhail and/or Pål know.



## Yoga is back!

**Wednesdays at 14:30-15:30  
in Blåbær**

No signing up, no fee. You can borrow a mat if needed.

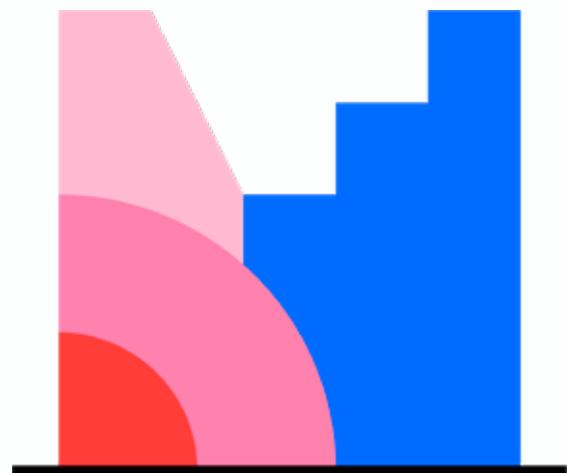
## Advanced Mentimeter course

Læringslab is holding a Zoom-course on advanced use of Mentimeter.

The course will be held in Swedish, but questions can be asked in Norwegian and English.

[Read more.](#)

[Read more about Mentimeter \(in English\).](#)



# Mentimeter

# Invitation: Norwegian Bioinformatics Days 2022

Dear everyone,

We invite you to present talks and posters at Norwegian Bioinformatics Days 2022 taking place September 28-30, 2022, at Sundvolden Hotel (~one hour drive from Oslo).

[Visit the website](#) and sign up for updates if you haven't yet.

Registration deadline: **5th of September**.

We are looking forward to seeing you all in Sundvolden in person!

- The NBD Organizing team



## Nordic AI Meet

**14 and 15 November 2022, Oslo, Norway**

Join us for a conference with some of the world's brightest minds in the field of AI to learn, inspire and build a community. The NordicAIMeet symposium provides a platform for young AI researchers to exchange ideas, build collaborations and form a nordic approach to building AI solutions for the societal good.

Following the successful conference last year with a lineup of excellent speakers, we are happy to share the news that our keynotes for the NordicAIMeet 2022 will be Professor [Anders C. Hansen](#), Cambridge University & University of Oslo, Professor [Christian Igel](#), University of Copenhagen, and Professor [Amy Loutfi](#), Örebro University, Professor [Nitin Sawhney](#), Aalto University.

Important Dates:

29th of August: Deadline to submit abstracts

16th of September: Notification of shortlisted abstracts

31st of October: Registration closes

1st of November: Submit your paper if you opt to publish it in the Nordic Machine Intelligence Journal

14th and 15th of November: Nordic AI Meet Conference Dates

## Portfolio workshop: Excellent Teaching Practitioner

Workshop: "The well-structured teaching portfolio"

The workshop is especially intended for those considering applying for the Pedagogical Academy (Excellent Teaching Practitioner) now, or in the future. It is also relevant for teachers, leaders and teaching/education staff that will write or read teaching portfolios.

In addition, Harald Walderhaug (vice dean education, Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences) will contribute around the open application process to the Pedagogical Academy at the Faculty and Stein Dankert Kolstø (professor at the Department of Physics and Technology and ETP 2018) will contribute around his own application process.

Date: 29.10.2020

[Read more](#)

# Open source - Autumn 2022

The UiB University Library continues its popular webinar series on the principles of Open Science in autumn 2022. Open science is a research practice where processes and results are openly available under conditions that promotes sharing, use, cooperation, and societal responsibility.

Starting Friday August 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 CET, the Open Science webinar series will take place every other week during the autumn semester. Please follow the links for more information and to sign up for the webinars. We are looking forward to seeing you!

The UiB University Library and its [Digital Lab](#) offer a wide range of interesting courses and events – please find more information in the [calendar](#).

## Data management Plans

A data management plan (DMP) describes how data in a research project will be collected, processed, and made available. Writing a DMP is good scientific practice which helps structuring the data management in a research project and a requirement by research funders, e.g. The Norwegian Research Council or Horizon Europe. See also our information page [UiB Library - Data Management Plans](#).

- August 19<sup>th</sup> 10:00-11:00 CET: [Introduction to Data Management Plans \(in Norwegian\)](#)
- September 30<sup>th</sup>, 10:00-14:00 CET: [Data Management Plan Workshop](#)

Following an introduction to data management plans, you will be able to work on your own DMP and receive feedback.

- November 25<sup>th</sup>, 10:00-11:00 CET: [Introduction to Data Management Plans](#)

## How to make your data open & FAIR

Researchers are encouraged to make their data openly available as early as possible in the research process, and most funders, e.g. Norwegian Research Council or Horizon Europe, and publishers require that the research data from a project is made openly available. In the course you will get an introduction to how you can make your research data open and FAIR, and how to archive your data in our institutional archive UiB Open Research Data. See also our information page [UiB Library - Open Access to Research Data](#).

- September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10:00-11:00 CET: [How to make your data open & FAIR](#)
- December 9<sup>th</sup>, 10:00-11:00 CET: [How to make your data open & FAIR \(in Norwegian\)](#)

## Open Access publishing step-by-step

Governments, institutions, and research funders expect researchers to make their research openly available. What is open access, why should you make your research publications openly available and what services and support is available at UiB? See also our information page: [UiB Library – Open Access Publishing](#)

- September 16<sup>th</sup>, 10:00-10:45 CET: [Open Access publishing step-by-step](#)

## Make your research visible using researcher profiles

Having a researcher profile is a great way to showcase contributions to your field and open science engagement. This seminar will demonstrate how to use ORCID and other researcher profiles to showcase your work. See also MittUiB online course [UBB103 Profiles and Publishing Statistics](#) and our information page [UiB Library – Bibliometric services and analysis](#).

- October 14<sup>th</sup>, 10:00-10:45 CET: [Make your research visible using researcher profiles](#)

## Open Access Week

Open Access Week is an annual scholarly communication event focusing on open access and related topics. The national Norwegian program is the result of a collaboration between UiB and several other institutions and infrastructures. Stay tuned!

- October 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>: [Open Access Week 2022](#)

## Finding & reusing research data

Reusing published research data can open new avenues of research and avoids unnecessary duplication of efforts. The webinar will give an introduction to FAIR research data as a resource, explain data citation, and demonstrate strategies to efficiently discover datasets in your discipline.

- November 11<sup>th</sup>, 10:00-11:00 CET: [Finding & reusing research data](#)

# Employee handbook changes

*(This info is unfortunately not yet available in English)*

## Retningslinjene for velferdspermisjon er endret:

[Universitetet i Bergen :: Medarbeiderhåndbok ::](#)

[Velferdspermisjon med lønn \(compendia.no\)](#)

En viktig endring her er at det nå gis inntil to dager permisjon for planleggingsdager i barnehage og skole for barn (til og med det kalenderåret barnet fyller 12 år). Grensen på 2 dager gjelder uavhengig av antall barn.

## Retningslinjene for jul- og nyttårsaften og romjulen er endret:

[Universitetet i Bergen :: Medarbeiderhåndbok :: Arbeidstid dagen før helligdag \(compendia.no\)](#)

Endring: Så fremt tjenesten tillater det, kan ansatte ved UiB ta fri jul- og nyttårsaften samt en dag i romjulen.



“National Science Week (Forskningsdagene) takes place at the end of September every year. The festival presents a superb opportunity to showcase research in general and its impact on society.

[Read more and see available opportunities here.](#)

# NORA Research School

If you are a PhD student within the field of AI from a NORA-partner institution (that includes us), we encourage you to become a member of the [NORA Research School](#).

NORA is in the process of establishing research school for PhD students at our partner institutions. However, membership in NORA's Research School is already open to any PhD student from a NORA partner institution with a project related to artificial intelligence, machine learning and/or robotics.

You can be a member of several research schools simultaneously, and there are no obligations, costs or commitments to being a member. Through membership in NORA Research School you will be the first to receive relevant information about and the opportunity to participate in courses, lectures and events.

# Vacant positions

## Staff Engineer

[Please find the announcement here.](#) Closing date: 05.09.2022

## Tenure Track Associate Professor in Informatics - Machine Learning

[Please find the announcement here.](#) Closing date: 30.09.2022

## Senior engineer/ Chief Engineer

[Please find the announcement here.](#) Closing date: 01.10.2022

## MSCA SEAS postdoctoral research fellow in bioinformatics for marine sustainability

[Please find the announcement here.](#) Closing date: 31.10.2022

## Tenure Track Associate Professor in Informatics – Visualization / Visual Data Science

[Please find the announcement here.](#) Closing date: 30.11.2022

