Dear colleagues,

The Nygårdshøyden Sør (NGHS) project is a campus project aiming to re-shape a large part of the campus of the MatNat (mathematics and natural sciences) campus and make it suitable for the next 10-50 years. We want to make the campus attractive for students as well as staff, enable tighter integration with the society including the industry, and all in all better enable us to perform excellent research, innovation, and education in the coming decades.

The faculty sees digitalization, ICT and artificial intelligence as important across its departments – and wants to relocate our department to have a more central location on the campus. With the latest developments, it is likely (although not yet 100% certain) that a new building will be built with address Allégaten 64 and that our department will move into it once it has been built, likely in 2025.

I see this as a great opportunity for the department – to get areas and facilities better suited for our staff and to have all our teaching activity and student activity located more closely with the department and our research. And to get teaching rooms that are suited for the educational activities that we will do in the next years and decades. I hope the new building will have a more open architecture that better facilitates interaction between staff across the department and between students and staff – with areas facilitating both formal and social interactions and improved interactions with "the society".

The NGHS project is a large effort with many steps. At the moment, we are in a phase where different user groups are working to provide input on office areas, rooms for teaching and educational activities, as well as shared areas, and Pål, Noeska and Marta are doing important jobs on behalf of us all. Linda and I are engaged in a central user group and I take part in a strategic group together with the other department heads at MatNat. All of this relates to the NGHS campus project – and not only the new building.

Once the planning of the new building goes into a more concrete phase, we will again be able to influence the planning of our areas in the new building. We will engage and involve students and staff in the planning of the building. But it will be difficult for us to know the needs long into the future. Therefore it is important that the building is as made as flexible as possible so that offices, meeting rooms, teaching halls etc can be adjusted according to the needs in the coming decades, including a further growth in student and staff numbers.

Still, we will be in Høyteknologisenteret for a few years. And we will continue our efforts to make our offices and student areas as good as possible for the good of our department where we are now.

I wish you all a fantastic weekend!

-Inge

The Dean’s Blog – Gunn Mangerud

The Dean’s blog aims to inform us of ongoing work and processes at Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences.

Her latest postings:
- Fremragende utdanning kommer ikke av seg selv
- Likestilling i akademia
- En kollegial holdning – i praksis
Congratulations colleagues!

UiB won a bronze medal in the programming competition NWERC (Northwestern European Regional Contest) and became the best Norwegian university and number three in the Nordic region.

Our team “First class confusion” consisted of Magnus Hegdahl and Brigt Arve Toppe Håvardstun from the Department of Informatics, and Søren Dyhr who is an exchange student at the Department of Mathematics.

Torstein Strømme and Olav Bakken served as coaches for the team. Torstein reports: We participated in the final from a hub at BARC / University of Copenhagen, and we had a nice social gathering with teams from the NTNU and UiO who also participated from Norway. The picture shows the Norwegian delegation, with the First class confusion team in front (front from left: Brigt Arve Toppe Håvardstun, Søren Dyhr and Magnus Hegdahl).

Many thanks to Reykjavik University for arranging the competition, and the University of Copenhagen to welcome us as guests.

Welcome new colleagues!

Victor Lacerda Botelho

Victor is our new PhD student in Informatics - Knowledge Representation and Machine Learning in the Machine Learning group. Ana Ozaki will be his main supervisor.

The position is connected to the project “Learning Description Logic Ontologies” and financed by the Norwegian Research Council. The person appointed in this position will develop new strategies for discovering rules encoded in neural network models and represent them as an ontology formulated in description logic or a related formalism in knowledge representation.

Victor is Brazilian. He did his Master Philosophy of Law at the Legal Sciences Center, Federal University of Pernambuco, Brazil, in 2020.

Current Issues

**På Høyden - Khrono – News from NFR – News from UiB – Informatics on Facebook**

**Short overview of upcoming department events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 29</td>
<td>Defense Ksenia Lavrichenko</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 2</td>
<td>Teaching staff meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 6</td>
<td>Faculty&amp;Staff lunch (for permanent employees only)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 16</td>
<td>Christmas Party at Ørnen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 17</td>
<td>Group contact meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 4, 2022</td>
<td>Petter Bjørstad celebration in the University Aula</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**The Department Christmas Party**

The sign-up deadline has now expired, and we have almost reached the maximum of 150 participants 😊 Please contact Ingrid if you forgot to sign up – she may be able to sign you up or at least put you on the waiting list. If you have signed up, but out of illness or any other reason are not able to attend, please give notice to Ingrid.

We are all so much looking forward to the Christmas Party!
The department invites all teaching staff to a meeting about current issues regarding teaching in our department:

1) Starting autumn 2022, it is required by law (Universitets- og høyskoleloven) that all exams have two examiners, where one should be external. What does this mean for our department and how we do teaching and assessment?

2) Most of our courses have experienced students, group leaders, as a part of the teaching team. In this meeting we will try to find common ground on how to best make use of this important resource.

Fredrik Manne, our Head of education, will lead the meeting.

Refreshments will be served before the meeting.

And the new names of our internal meeting rooms are…

- **Kastanje** ⇒ Seminar room, 2nd floor in the Selmer group area
- **Molte** ⇒ Seminar room, 3rd floor in the Vis group area
- **Rips** ⇒ Seminar room 3rd floor in the Algo group area
- **Rogn** ⇒ Seminar room 3rd floor in the Algo group area (small room, 304O1)
- **Kantarell** ⇒ Seminar room 4th floor in the Optimization area – today called “Kroken”
- **Skogen** ⇒ Lunch room 4th floor, Administration area
- **Kremle** ⇒ Seminar room 4th floor in the PUT area – today called “Akvariet”
- **Fluesopp** ⇒ Recording room, 4th floor in the PUT area
- **Blåbær** ⇒ Seminar room 5th floor, south end
- **Tyttebær** ⇒ Seminar 5th floor, north end – today called “Styrerommet”
- **Bregne** ⇒ Seminar room 6th floor in the Machine learning group area

Thank you all who participated in the name contest!
PhD updates

There’s a new PhD in town - Congratulations Asieh Abolpour Mofrad!

Asieh successfully defended her thesis ""Clique-Based Neural Associative Memories" on 15th November.

Congratulations to Asieh, the Selmer center and supervisor Matthew Parker!

[Here you can learn more about her project]

There’s a new PhD in town - Congratulations Kristine Vitting Klinkby Knudsen!

Kristine successfully defended her thesis "Parameterized problems on (Di)graphs" on 26th November.

Congratulations to Kristine and the Algorithms group!

[Here you can learn more about her project]

PhD defense - Ksenia Lavrichenko

Ksenia will defend her thesis "Computational methods for DNA Copy Number Variation Analysis" on 29th November at 09:00 at Høyteknologisenteret, Stort auditorium.

Opponent: Adjunct Professor Anna Lindstrand, Karolinska Instituttet
Opponent: Group leader Robert Lyle, Oslo University Hospital
Committee member: Professor Tom Michoel, UiB
Leader of the defense: Associate Professor Håkon Robbestad Gylterud

[Please find the press release here]

All are welcome!

NORBIS courses:

Metabolic pathway analysis

Dates: November 29 – December 3. Location: NTNU, Trondheim
This course will provide an introduction to the computational analysis and reconstruction of both small and genome-scale metabolic networks. The goal is to make students familiar with state-of-the-art computational tools and databases, as well as providing the students with hands-on experience. Furthermore, we will cover the mathematical basis of constraint-based analysis of genome-scale metabolic models and provide a foundation for stability and control analysis of dynamic models. [More information and registration here]

Modern methods for analyzing survival and time to event data – imb9335

Dates: December 6-10, 2021. Location: Domus Medica, Runde Auditorium, University of Oslo
The analysis of survival data and other types of time-to-event data are central in modern medical research and a number of other fields. A large number of methods for analysing time-to-event data have been developed, but many researchers have no knowledge of survival analysis, or they only know the most basic methods. The aim of the course is to give PhD-students and other researchers
in biostatistics, bioinformatics, epidemiology, and related fields an up-to-date overview of statistical methodology for analyzing time-to-event data. More information and registration here

We have several courses coming up in 2022 and two of them are now open for registration! For the full list of upcoming courses, please visit our webpage. Hurry up if you like to join any of the following courses:

**Statistical methods in relatedness and pedigree analysis**

**Dates:** 10\(^{th}\)-14\(^{th}\) January 2022. **Location:** University of Oslo. **Organizer:** Magnus Dehli Vigeland. **Credits:** 4 ECTS. **Evaluation:** The students will do a project after the course, delivering a written report within a month. The report will be marked as passed/not passed. **Lecturers:** Magnus Dehli Vigeland, PhD (UiO) and Thore Egeland, Professor (NMBU)

**Short description:** The course introduces statistical methods used in relatedness and pedigree analysis, with applications in forensic genetics, medical genetics and pedigree reconstruction. More information and registration here

**Population genomics**

**Dates:** 28\(^{th}\) February-4\(^{th}\) March, 2022. **Location:** North University, Bodø. **Course responsible:** Joost Raeymaekers. **Lecturers:** Joost Raeymaekers, Lars Martin Jakt, Irina Smolina, Alexander Jüterbock, Britta Meyer, Mark Ravinet, Emiliano Trucchi, Oscar Gaggioti, Bart Peeters, Anja Westram, Kostas Sagonas. **Credits:** 5 ECTS. **Evaluation:** The evaluation will be report-based. The students will analyze a population genomic dataset (preferably their own data or data related to their own research topic), interpret and write a report. The students deliver the report within a month after the end of the course.

**Short description:** This course brings together an international collection of lecturers and course participants to study techniques for the analysis of population genomic data. The course consists of a series of lectures, demonstrations and computer laboratories that cover theory and practice of population genomics analyses. More information and external link to registration here

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**Research, Science and Seminars** [ScienceNorway.no](http://www.sciencenorway.no) - [forskning.no](http://www.forskning.no)

**MMIV Conference 2021, December 9-10**

Welcome to the MMIV Conference!

- Exciting program focused on cancer imaging, advanced neuroimaging, machine learning, and visualization
- Poster program and image contest!
- Register for free by Dec 1\(^{st}\): [http://mmiv.no](http://mmiv.no)

**MMIV Conference 2021**

December 9-10, 2021

Precision Imaging Advancing Patient Care

Welcome to the fourth MMIV conference on December 9th and 10th in a hybrid format.
The main theme of the conference is *Precision Imaging Advancing Patient Care*. International and local researchers will present the state of the art in topics around this core theme. The conference will be open to everyone, and there is no admission fee.

More information and registration here.
Data Management Planning workshop for Life Science Projects, December 6 and 7

Generate a data management plan for a Life Science research project that will meet the requirements of the Research Council of Norway. We would like to invite researchers (PhD candidates, Post Doctoral Fellows, Researchers, Associate Professors and Professors) in existing and upcoming Life Science projects to develop their DMP in this workshop.

Time and place: Dec. 6, 2021 9:00 AM–Dec. 7, 2021 1:00 PM, online.

More information and registration

The fifth SDG Conference Bergen, 9-11 February 2022

The annual national SDG Conference Bergen was initiated by the University of Bergen and the annual event is planned in dialogue with the other Norwegian universities, the Ministry of Education and Research, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation.

For more information about the conference in 2022, please visit the dedicated event website.
Publishing Open Access and Data Management Plans

The University of Bergen Library has prepared very good websites on the current status of local, national and international open access (OA) policies as well as their services related to OA publishing. Please have a look at their websites and make yourself familiar with the different policies as well as the existing publishing deals with several of the academic publishers. **UiB’s policy for Open Science** can be found by following the link. Furthermore, UiB has a publication fund for OA that can cover the article processing charges (APC) when publishing in eligible open access journals.

Before you (your group) pay(s) any fees for making an article openly available, please consult the webpages to see if you are entitled to a discount, may get the fees refunded through the publication fund, or maybe don’t even have to pay anything based on an existing agreement with the publisher!

If you have questions, please contact the department’s research coordinator [Stefanie Meyer](mailto:stefanie.meyer@uib.no).

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**Data Management Plans**

A data management plan, or DMP, is a formal document that outlines how research data are handled throughout the whole project life cycle – including the planning phase, the operational phase, and project conclusion – as well as beyond the lifetime of the project. DMPs are a key component of Open Science practices, where the overall principle is that research data should be “as open as possible, as closed as necessary”.

UiB has its own [Open Science policy](mailto:openscience@uib.no), where it is stated that all research projects led by UiB researchers shall have a DMP. For externally funded projects, also the funding agency’s Open Science principles and DMP requirements have to be followed.

In principle, project leaders should strive to manage their research data according to the FAIR principle. FAIR means that research data have to be findable, accessible, Interoperable and reusable.

The exact content of a data management plan will vary according to research field and type of project. It is important to determine what “research data” actually entails. The University of Bergen Library (UB) has included some comments regarding this on their [website](http://ub.uib.no), showing that both entirely new data and data generated through the analysis of existing data (secondary data) need to be described. Analysis software/program code created in the research process could also be relevant to consider. Special rules apply to sensitive data.

For more details and guidance, please have a look at UB’s website on [Data Management Plans](http://ub.uib.no) (DMPs). Here you can find information on what should be included in a DMP, how to write it, where one can get support when developing it, upcoming training events and a list of links to several online tools that can help you to structure your DMP.
Upcoming funding opportunities
On a monthly basis, the department releases a comprehensive overview over upcoming funding opportunities on its website for research support services. Please inform research coordinator Stefanie Meyer about all planned and ongoing funding applications! This includes both applications you coordinate yourself, and those where you are included as a partner/collaborator! At this point, we would like to highlight the following upcoming calls and funding/research-related events:

Enabling technologies. There is an open call for Collaborative Projects on Digital Security and Artificial Intelligence, Robotics and Autonomous Systems. “The objective of this call is to develop new knowledge within one or both topics for the call: Digital security and/or AI, Robotics and Autonomous Systems. [...] The project must involve two or more Norwegian partners that are not research organisations. Partners that are not research organisations must together participate with a minimum of 10 per cent of the total project costs.” Application deadline: open-ended.

Collaborative Project to Meet Societal and Industry-related Challenges. The Research Council of Norway has issued a preliminary call “to develop new knowledge and generate research competence needed by society or the business sector to address important societal challenges. The projects are to encourage and support collaboration between research organisations and stakeholders from outside the research sector that represent societal and/or industry-related needs for knowledge and research competence.” Projects are required to include at least two Norwegian partners from the non-academic sector. “The partners from the business sector or other parts of society must participate actively in the project. At least 10 per cent of the project’s total costs must be used by these partners.” Application deadline: 9 February 2022.


ERC. Call deadlines for the 2022 calls are:
- Starting Grant ’22, 13 January 2022
- Consolidat. Grant ’22, 17 March 2022
- Advanced Grant ’22, 28 April 2022

ERC funding explained: Watch the ERC’s instructional videos.

INTPART. The RCN has published a “notification of the upcoming call for proposals. Norwegian research organisations may apply for funding for partnerships with Brazil, Canada, India, Japan, China, Russia, South Africa, South Korea, the USA, Germany and France. Other countries may be added in the final call for proposals.” Application deadline: 16 March 2022.
Welcome to the cake club (Kakeklubben) on Wednesdays!

Kakeklubben aims to help our international colleagues to practice Norwegian while spending nice time together with people across group borders. Club meetings are held on Wednesdays at 12 o'clock in Akvariet, 4th floor.

You bring your own lunch, and we serve cake and coffee. Everyone is welcome, no matter how much Norwegian you speak. We hope to see you there, both internationals and Norwegians!

**SPIRE.** SPIRE-funds are strategic funds that shall help to facilitate international research collaboration. One can apply for funds in two different categories: 1) proposal support (you can apply for up to 200 000 NOK per application), and 2) invitation of guest researchers. Please send your applications to Stefanie.Meyer@uib.no Application deadline: 1 December 2021.

**Meltzer Research Fund.** Researchers* at the University of Bergen can apply for financial support for academic travels and sabbaticals. In addition, the fund supports talented students and PhD cand. with project stipends that can be used for covering costs in connection with their projects, for example research travel, field work, equipment, materials etc. Application deadline researchers: 1 December 2021. Application deadline project stipends: 10 December 2021. *Please also have a look at UiB’s website.


**Webinar for applicants: Researcher projects.** This webinar will be held in English and targets those who want to apply for a researcher project (deadline 2 February 2021). Webinar: 7 December 2021. Registration is open.

**Need help?**

Please contact research coordinator Stefanie Meyer if you have questions with regard to your planned and ongoing funding applications as well as all contractual work related to external funds! All applications and agreements/contracts need to be approved by the department leadership. In addition, you can have a look at our websites for research support services, where you will also find a list of our services.

**HR – HSE (Health, Safety and Environment) – Welfare** Sikresiden.no
Employees welfare benefits - Credit card UiB – Fire extinguishing courses – Reporting Deviations

På den sikre siden
Welcome to Yoga on Wednesdays!
Yoga is a great way to reduce stress and tensions from work. Yoga classes are held at our department on Wednesdays at 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 pm at the CBU seminar room in 5th floor.

Our professional yoga instructor, Kjersti Naess, is teaching in English. No signing up, and no participation fee. Please bring your own yoga mat. We also have some mats for loan. All employees are welcome – also those of you who never tried yoga before.

And remember: When you are too busy to go to the yoga class – then is when you need it the most!

Fire prevention course autumn 2021
All UiB Employees must complete a fire prevention course which consists of a digital part, and a practical part on how to put out fires. This is required by law.

The digital part of the course will be sent to all participants by email. It takes approximately 30 minutes to complete. Employees are required to sign up for the practical part of the course themselves. You can do this by following the link to the form for your preferred date and time below (Note: the forms are in Norwegian).

The practical course takes 1 hour to complete. Place of assembly is the square between Sjøfartsmuseet and Sydnesplass 7 (the HF-building).

UiB have hired Teknisk Industrivern AS to hold our fire prevention courses.

More information, course dates and sign up here.