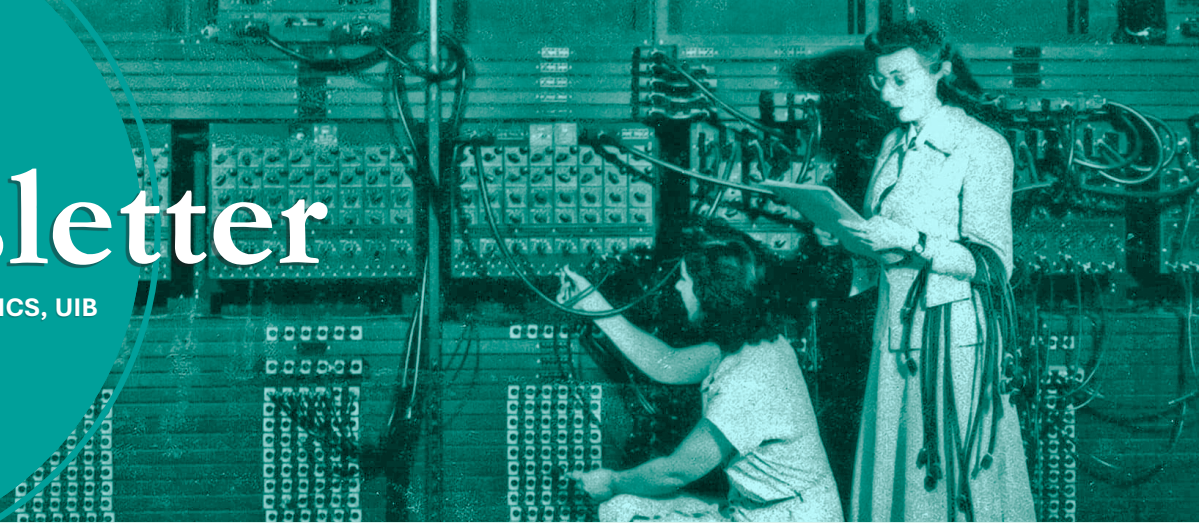


# Newsletter

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATICS, UIB

No.10/2025, 30.05.2025



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,

One of the things I appreciate the most with the University of Bergen and our department is the people – you! At work I am surrounded by hard-working knowledge-seeking, ambitious and curious colleagues – who all do their best to help each other and our students to learn more and to develop professionally and personally. This may sound like a utopian ideal, but my experience of the department is that we are not too far away from this situation. This is also to a large extent confirmed by the FAMU – felles arbeidsmiljø-undersøkelse – that we discussed at the department gathering at Solstrand.

There is of course still room for improvement. For example, the flow of information could be better, and involvement in decision making processes could be improved. As for the flow of information, this newsletter is meant to help. If you got this far, it does :)

And for involvement in decision processes, the group contact meeting as well as the formal department council are important venues. You should also feel free to contact me or the head of administration if you have questions or wish to discuss this issue. I try to have an open door and be open for dialogue and discussions.

As you may have seen, there is currently a debate about academic freedom and what professors (and others) are free to express themselves about. I am very much supporting academic freedom and that professors (and university staff and students) should feel free to express their opinions. But I also think that we should be careful to use our titles and authority as - for example - professors to give

our opinions weight, unless we talk about our own field of expertise. There are of course nuances, and a longer discussion might be needed. But today's geopolitics and the situation in the US, makes me value even higher the freedom of expression and academic freedom that we enjoy and normally take for granted! We should value this freedom and contribute our expertise and opinions in the public debate.

This spring there have been elections and appointments of various boards and roles at the university. I hope you all cast your votes for rector, and for faculty board and department council members. The elections are now completed and as you may know our Professor Sushma Grellscheid was elected to serve [on the faculty board for the next period](#). I'm very happy that Sushma wants to engage in faculty level matters. I'm also very happy to have a new department council to work with over the next period (see separate news item). At our faculty we have an appointed dean, as well as appointed heads of departments. I'm very happy that Gunn Mangerud will continue as dean for the next period and I'm also happy to be trusted to serve as head of department for the next four years.

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:

[Godt UHR MNT-møte i Tromsø](#)

[Flere unge velger realfag og teknologi hos oss – Gode søkertall til tross for nasjonal nedgang](#)

# Current issues

## Annual spring cleaning

**Friday the 6th of June, 13:00 to 15:00**

After lunch on the 6th of June, we will have our annual spring cleaning event, where we will make it easier for you to get rid of old equipment, furniture and electronics.

We hope everyone will take some time to help tidy up common areas and offices!

As usual, there will be an area on the first floor (see photo) where you can put larger items that you don't need. These items will be picked up by a team who will send them to either be reused within UiB, or disposed of/recycled.

If you have electronics you want to get rid of, Randi will be in Skogen (4th floor).

General info about disposal at our department can be read here: [Waste at Informatics](#)

Pizza will be served in Skogen at 15:00 for all who participate!

More detailed information will be sent out on Friday.



## Disruption season!

### Chute down for maintenance

We have received a message from RC Rieber that the indoor garbage chute will be down for maintenance on **Monday and Tuesday (2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of June)** next week. Large waste bins will be placed outside the building in this period. The chute should be running normally from Wednesday.

### Outside area blocked

Due to construction work, the parking area between Høytek and Bybanen will be closed off next week (from the 2<sup>nd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> of June).



### Central heating downtime

The central energy system of our building will have downtime from Friday, 13.06 at 12:00. For more info, please read the email from Linda titled "Downtime heating system for 4-7 days, starting from June 13th at 12:00"



## New department council

[The results of the 2025 department council elections have been published.](#) The new council members are:

### **Group A representatives - Permanent faculty**

#### **Elected new members:**

- Anya Helene Skrove Bagge
- Dag Haugland
- Nikolay Stoyanov Kaleyski

#### **Elected deputies:**

- 1: Helwig Hauser  
2: David Grellscheid

### **Group B - Representatives of temporary staff in teaching and research positions**

#### **Elected new member:**

- Sondre Sæther Bolland

#### **Elected deputies:**

- 1: Nadiia Ichanska  
2: Aleksandr Popov

### **Group C - Administrative and technical staff**

#### **Elected new members:**

- Eirik Rekve Thorsheim
- Marte Hauge

#### **Elected deputies:**

- 1: Stefanie Meyer  
2: Sondre Batalden

### **Group D - Students**

#### **Elected new members:**

- Aimee Ka Ka Hong
- Henrik Nilsen-Lømo

#### **Elected deputies:**

- 1: Johanne Birkeberg Herheim  
2: Erik Fjelltvæit Nyhuus

The election result was announced at 28.05.2025, and any complaints must be received by the electoral board by 12 noon 2nd June 2025.



## “Stadig flere unge velger denne utdanningen”

Two current students, a former student and Inge (technically also a former student) are interviewed in this article on forskning.no: [“Stadig flere unge velger denne utdanningen”](#)

## Let us Calculate: Humanity and the Specter of AI

*Note: This guest lecture takes place at the humanities faculty.*

03.06.2025 - 14.15–16.00  
Sydnesplassen 12-13  
Seminar room, 1st floor

A guest lecture by professor Hamid R. Ekbia, Syracuse University.

Read the abstract on the event page: [“Let us calculate”](#)



## Kittens!

Jan Arne Telle has three adorable kittens that will be ready for adoption in a few weeks.

Please email him if you are interested.

# Collegial Teaching and Learning in STEM Education (MNPED660, 2025/26)

Are you and your colleagues interested in working on a small education project to develop teaching and learning at the NT Faculty?

Join us for the next offering of [MNPED660 – Collegial Teaching and Learning in STEM Education](#)! Many of your colleagues have successfully completed projects in the course, and shared their findings locally, nationally, and even internationally.

## Application/Admission

All NT-UiB staff are eligible to apply. You may apply as a group of colleagues with a common interest, or individually. If you apply individually, you will be assigned to a group of 3-5 others. Apply here: <https://skjemaker.app.uib.no/view.php?id=19510321> within 25 August 2025.

The course will be taught in English and runs over two semesters and has four scheduled activities in addition to individual assignments and the group project:

- 18 Sept 2025, 12:15-15:00
- 16 Oct 2025, 12:15-15:00
- 15 Jan 2026, 12:15-15:00
- 12 Mar 2026, 9:15-15:00

On completion of the course, you will receive a diploma that states the content and extent of the course (5 ECTS), which corresponds to three weeks full-time work. This course can also count as part of the basic pedagogical competence requirement at UiB.

## Course Information

[Collegial Teaching and Learning in STEM Education](#) is an elective teaching and learning course in higher education for all NT-UiB staff that will provide participants with a common language for teaching and learning, support collegial reflections and a scholarly approach to teaching and learning. The main component of the course is a group project, addressing a teaching and learning issue of relevance to your educational practice. The final project product is an artefact and public presentation of the project. You will also get the opportunity to work on a teaching portfolio.

The course requires no previous pedagogical training and welcomes both experienced and more novice teachers and staff working with education, teaching and learning. See course page for more information: <https://www4.uib.no/en/studies/courses/mnped660>

## Course team

The course is offered by NT-UiB through The STEM Education Research Center ([SERC](#)):

- Sehoya Cotner, [sehoya.cotner@uib.no](mailto:sehoya.cotner@uib.no), Professor and Director SERC, UiB
- Oddfrid Førland, [oddfrid.forland@uib.no](mailto:oddfrid.forland@uib.no), Senior Advisor, SERC, UiB
- Roy Andersson, [roy.andersson@uib.no](mailto:roy.andersson@uib.no), Associate Professor II, Dept. of Informatics, UiB

Have any questions? Don't hesitate to get in touch with the course team!



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 read more and sign up for the UiB Ferd newsletter here.](#)

Upcoming events:

[Pitching workshop](#) (Course)

Registration deadline: 09.06.2025 at 23:31

[See full UiB Ferd calendar.](#)

## Our competitors in newsletterology

Did you know there are other people who also make newsletters?

Here are a few that may be relevant to you:

- [UiB Ferd newsletter](#)
- [Nytt fra W4-prosjektet \(In Norwegian, only available to UiB employees\)](#)
- [Eitri Medical Incubator](#)
- [Newsletter for international UiB staff](#)

## ESSCaSS 2025

18-21 of August, 2025 (Mon-Thu), University of Tartu

University of Tartu Institute of Computer Science invites you to participate in the 22nd Estonian Summer School on Computer and Systems Science (ESSCaSS 2025).

Read more: <https://courses.cs.ut.ee/t/esscass2025>

## International HR Newsletter

Are you an international researcher or staff member?



Read about upcoming events that may be relevant to you in the [May edition of the international newsletter.](#)

### Pssst..... Check out this OsloMet course

If genomics/HTS methods are within your field of interest, [PHVIT9560 Bioinformatics with emphasis on analysis of high throughput sequencing data](#) may be relevant to you.

# Vacant positions

[Postdoctoral Research Fellow position within Algorithms and Extremal Combinatorics](#)  
[PhD Research Fellow in Computational Biology](#)

[See all vacant positions at UiB](#)

Please visit the [HSE page on uib.no](#) for info about health and safety efforts at our department, as well as info about your representatives



## UPCOMING FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### CONTACT

E-MAIL:  
Stefanie.Meyer@uib.no

WEBSITE:  
[Research support services](#)

**New**

### Want to know more about COST actions?

Then join the Research Council's webinar about COST on 27 August.  
[More information can be found here.](#)



### **Stay tuned** CAS Research

**Grant:** "All faculty members who hold permanent, full-time, tenured academic positions at CAS' partner institutions can apply for a [CAS Research Grant](#) and receive funding for a one-year stay at the Centre together with their handpicked team of internationally renowned researchers. [...] The project should be a contribution to basic research, blue-sky, challenge given truths and have the potential to advance the research frontier in the relevant field(s). Scholars in all fields can apply but note that laboratory-based research is not possible at CAS."

Application deadline: The next call will be announced in June 2025.

**New NordForsk - Nordic research networks within natural science and related engineering fields:** "The aim of a [Nordic initiative for research networks within natural science and related engineering fields](#) is to promote research collaboration and support the establishment of new research networks in the natural sciences and engineering in the Nordic countries, which seek to explore novel research directions, build a strong Nordic platform at the cutting edge of emerging fields, or form new and potentially transformative links across what is usually considered distinct disciplines. [...] Network activities should include a strong component in the training of the next generation of researchers with interdisciplinary skills in natural sciences and related engineering topics in the Nordic countries. [...] To ensure the novelty of the network, the network's researchers should not have existing active collaboration."

Application deadline: 14 August 2025





# UPCOMING FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

**COST:** [“COST funds interdisciplinary research networks called COST Actions.](#) These Actions bring together researchers, innovators and other professionals including industry specialists, who are based in Europe and beyond, to collaborate on research topics for a period of 4 years. The funding a COST Action receives covers the expenses of networking activities rather than research. As such is used to organise and fund events, Short-term Scientific Missions, Training Schools, communication activities, grants to attend interesting international conferences, and virtual networking tools.”

Application deadline: 21 October 2025

## **New EU - Potential EU topics in Climate, Energy and Mobility:**

- [Improved reliability and optimised operations and maintenance for wind energy systems](#) (17 February 2026)
- [Innovative tools and services to manage and empower energy communities](#) (17 February 2026)
- [Critical elements for energy security of grid and storage technologies](#) (2 September 2025)
- [Knowledge sharing and dissemination to support road transport R&I in EU and around the world increasing global EU competitiveness](#) (4 September 2025)

## **New EU - Potential EU topics in Digital, Industry and Space:**

- [Software Engineering for AI and generative AI \(RIA\) \(AI/Data/Robotics Partnership\)](#) (2 October 2025)

**EU - MSCA Postdoctoral Fellowships (PFs):** “The objective of PFs is to support researchers’ careers and foster excellence in research. The [Postdoctoral Fellowships](#) action targets researchers holding a PhD who wish to carry out their research activities abroad, acquire new skills and develop their careers. PFs help researchers gain experience in other countries, disciplines and non-academic sectors.”

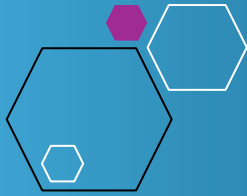
Application deadline: [10 September 2025](#)

## **New EU - Potential EU topics in Health:**

- [Leveraging artificial intelligence for pandemic preparedness and response](#) (16 September 2025)
- [End user-driven application of Generative Artificial Intelligence models in healthcare \(GenAI4EU\)](#) (16 September 2025)
- [Leveraging multimodal data to advance Generative Artificial Intelligence applicability in biomedical research \(GenAI4EU\)](#) (16 September 2025)

## **New EU - Potential EU topics in Civil Security for Society:**

- [Open topic on testing / validating tools, technologies and data used in cross-border prevention, preparedness and responses to climate extreme and geological events and chemical, biological or radiological emergency threats](#) (12 November 2025)



## UPCOMING FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

**Research Council of Norway – ICT research:** The Research Council of Norway has a call for [Researcher Project for ICT Renewal and Development](#). «The purpose of this call is to promote innovation and development in research that can contribute to advancing the international research front in ICT, including digital security and sovereignty, the next generation of data processing/ICT systems and other ICT research areas.»

**New** Application deadline: 2 July 2025

**Research Council of Norway – Groundbreaking research:**

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

Application deadline: open-ended

**Research Council of Norway – Radical Research Ideas for Early Career Scientists:** This call is aimed at [early career researchers \(2-7 years after PhD\) who want to test particularly bold research ideas](#). “The purpose of this call is to fund curiosity-driven and bold research that can contribute to advancing the state-of-the-art. This call is the first step in phased funding and is aimed at researchers who want to test particularly bold research ideas. The ideas must be so bold that the risk of failure is too high to justify starting a large project, but where the research could have a significant impact on the field if the project is successful. Project managers for successful research idea projects may later apply for larger FRIPRO projects and be prioritized there.”

Application deadline: open-ended

**Research Council of Norway – Top Researchers: Researcher Projects to Develop World Leading Research Communities:** This call will support [projects where collaboration between two or more researchers is a prerequisite for achieving the project’s research objectives](#). “The purpose of this call is to fund curiosity-driven and bold research that can contribute to advancing the state-of-the-art. This call aims to give good, Norwegian research environments the opportunity to develop into being world-leading within their fields.” It is expected that project leaders will, later on, also apply for an ERC grant.

Application deadline: open-ended

**Research Council of Norway – Support for events:** You can apply for [funding to organize conferences, workshops and seminars](#). **NB: There is no funding left for events within ICT.**

Application deadline: open-ended





## UPCOMING FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### Research Council of Norway – Research

**Infrastructures of National Importance:** The published information is still preliminary. The [announcement will most likely be divided into two parts](#): Part 1 will be aimed at named research infrastructures with particular strategic importance for Norway. Part 2 will be open to all other research infrastructures.

Application deadline: 12 November (tentative)

### Research Council of Norway – Center for Quantum

**Technology Research:** “The purpose of this announcement is to [build strong Norwegian research communities at a high international level within quantum computing, quantum sensors, and quantum communication](#).”

Application deadline: 24 September (tentative)

### Research Council of Norway – Norwegian Centres of Excellence (SFF, stage 1):

“[The SFF scheme gives Norway's leading scientific communities the opportunity to organize themselves into centers to achieve ambitious scientific goals](#) through collaboration and long-term basic funding. The research at the centers should be innovative and have great potential for groundbreaking results that advance the international research frontier. The centers should work with ambitious ideas and complex problems where coordinated and long-term research efforts within or across disciplines are important to achieve the goals.” Centres are funded for up to ten years (six + four years).

Application deadline: 12 November (tentative)

### Abel Prize: “[The Abel Prize recognises pioneering scientific achievements in mathematics](#). [...]

The right to nominate is open to anyone. Nominations are confidential and a nomination should not be made known to the nominee. The prize can be awarded to a single person or shared for closely related fundamental contributions.”

Nomination deadline: 1 September