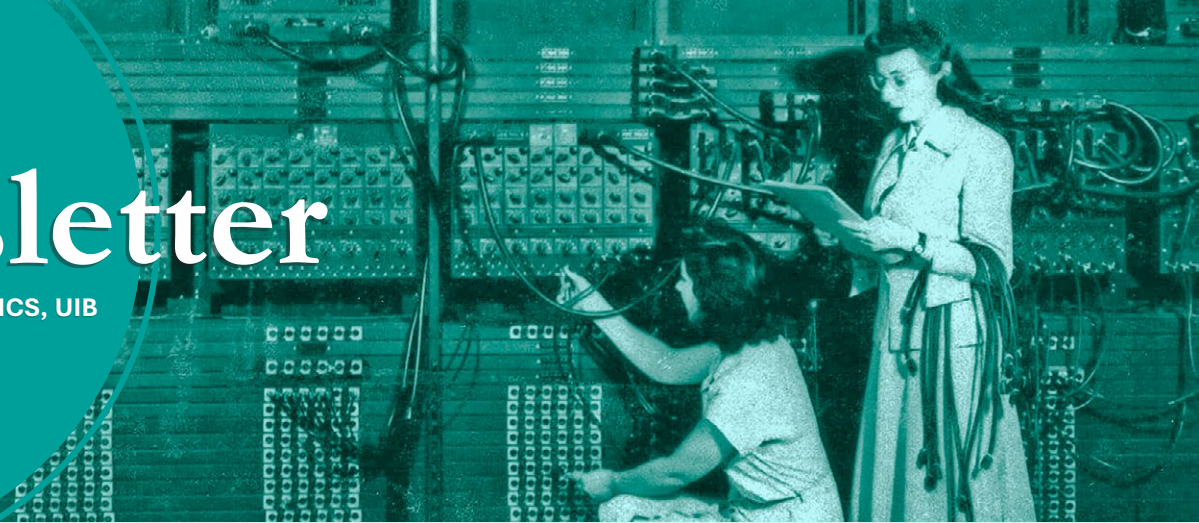


Newsletter

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATICS, UIB

No.12/2025, 15.08.2025



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,

I hope you all had a good break during the summer and were able to enjoy some of the good weather we had in Bergen – or elsewhere. Now the semester is starting, offices are filling up, students are coming! Our study programs are popular, and we have more than 200 new students at the bachelor level and 151 new at master level!

It has also been a pleasure to welcome new members of staff joining us for this semester! One of these is our new head of administration Espen Rotevatn who joined us at the start of August. It is good to have him on the team, and I am sure you will all get to know him quickly. You can find him near the expedition office on the fourth floor.

This week I spent a couple of days at the Arendalsuka – a gathering bringing together academia, government, and industry with around 2000 events happening this week. With a parliament election coming up in a few weeks, politicians are extra eager to attend and show off as future-oriented and supportive of research and innovation. There were a lot of events with Artificial Intelligence as the main topic – and our

national consortium NORA had its own tent this year featuring AI events all week. The six new centers in AI were presented and there were discussions about what extra efforts will be funded by the “AI billion”. I do hope this will present opportunities for both us and our students going forward. A number of events in Arendal focused on use of medical and biological data – and our own professor Sushma Grellscheid played a central role in one of these events (recording available [here](#)).

I look forward to meeting you all and working together this semester! As announced later in this newsletter, we’ll have a gathering next Thursday where I hope to see you all (remember to sign up!)

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:

- [God rekruttering og studiestart!](#)
- [Godt UHR MNT-møte i Tromsø](#)

Welcome, new colleagues!



Elise Perrotin

Elise is from France where she did her PhD at the University of Toulouse. She is now joining the algorithms group as a LEAD AI postdoctoral fellow, working on the Trustworthy AI project.

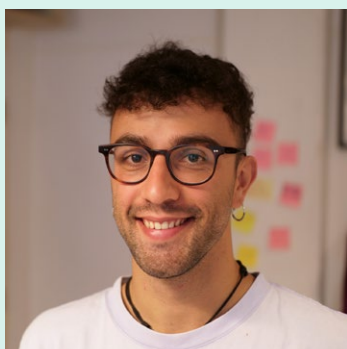
Welcome, Elise!



Espen Rotevatn

Espen is from Bergen, but has spent the last 14 years living on Svalbard. Since 2019, he worked as a Rector at Svalbard Folkehøgskole. He is now joining us as the new head of administration.

Welcome, Espen!



Gorka Abad

Gorka is from Spain, but he did his PhD at Radboud University. He is now joining the Selmer Centre as a LEAD AI postdoctoral fellow, working on the CryptAI project.

Welcome, Gorka!



James Hobson

James is from all over Britain, but he did his master's at our department. He will now be doing a PhD with the programming theory group, where he will be focused on functional programming for embedded systems.

Why won't you just leave us alone, James?*



Jenny Kristine Thunes

The last five years, Jenny has been simultaneously doing a master's degree in history while working various jobs at UiB. She is now joining our administration where she will be working in the study section.

Welcome, Jenny!



Sophie Martina Blum

Sophie did her master's degree at the machine learning group, and after a stint as a consultant at Bouvet, she is now back to do a PhD at the optimization group.

Welcome (back), Sophie!

**editor's note: Upon discovering he would be welcomed back, James insisted we needed to be ruder as he "works better in an adversarial environment".*

Current issues

Upcoming trial lectures



[Algebraic Cryptanalysis and How to Break and Design Cryptographic Algorithms for the Future](#)

18.08.2025 - 10.15–12.00, Blåbær

Trial lecture by Morten Øygarden for a tenure track position in information security.



[Provably Quantum-Secure](#)

20.08.2025 - 10.15–12.00, Blåbær

Trial lecture by Hans Heum for a tenure track position in information security.



[Towards Extensible and Reproducible Visual Analytics: Frameworks for Collaborative System Authoring](#)

05.09.2025 - 12.15–14.00, Stort auditorium

Trial lecture by Fabio Miranda for a professor/associate professor position in Visual Data Science/Visualization.

[Louis Deslauriers: Beyond the Lecture \(Seminar\)](#)

11:00–12:00, Auditorium 5, Realfagbygget (3rd floor)

The Illusion of Learning, What to Do About It, and How AI Can Help

Louis Deslauriers is the Director of Science Teaching and Learning in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and a Senior Preceptor in Physics at Harvard University. His academic career began in experimental atomic physics and now includes research in astrophysics, alongside his work in physics education.



Cake's back on the menu

Come and join Kakeklubben; an opportunity to get free cake, get to know colleagues from the whole building, and practice speaking Norwegian!

We start again on Wednesday, August 20th, at 12:00 PM in [Kantarell](#) on the 4th floor. Come along, no matter how much Norwegian you speak. Bring your lunch if you like, we provide the cake.

See you there!



Happy new academic year!

The didactics group have prepared some presents for the beginning of new academic year and would be happy to share them with you.

Grab your free calendar at the administration desk!



Semester kick-off for staff

21st of August, 17:00 in Programmerbar

Welcome to the semester kick-off for all staff at the department on Thursday, August 21st at 5:00 PM in Programmerbar.

Sign up [here](#) by Tuesday, August 19th at 12:00 PM.

There will be free pizza and the bar will be open for buying drinks.

We hope to see lots of new and familiar faces!

Intergalactic Staircase Cup 2025

Do you want to have fun, improve your office body, and save the planet, all at once? And a chance to win wonderful prizes? Join the Staircase Cup!

The cup is open for everyone and will run from 1 September to 28 November.

Rules and registration form is posted on the wall outside of the reception.

Your shelf has been seized

Due to low demand, the mail shelf system in its current form has been dismantled. If you receive anything in the post, you will be notified via email, and the mail can be picked up from Kine.

Incoming mail can be placed in the mail tray on the sideboard in Kine's office. If she is not present, the mail can be placed in the mailbox outside her office. Please clearly label the envelope as follows:

Internal mail to the department:
Recipient's name

Internal to UiB:
Recipient's full name
Department the recipient belongs to

External mail:
Full name
Address and postal code
Sender's address on the back



Erasmus staff mobility + teaching mobility

All employees at the University of Bergen can receive a grant for a mobility to an institution, organization or university in Europe through Erasmus+.

Application deadline for both programmes is 15th of September.

Erasmus+ staff mobility for training (both technical-, administrative- and academic staff):

[Erasmus+ tilsettmobilitet](#) | [For ansatte](#) | [UiB](#)

Erasmus+ mobility for teaching: [Erasmus+ mobility for teaching](#) | [Employee Pages](#) | [UiB](#)

Ask Marte Hauge if you have questions.

FeedbackFruits

Translated with copilot

Are you teaching subjects with peer review or Team-Based Learning (TBL), or considering using these methods?

Then FeedbackFruits might be a tool worth trying in MittUiB. UiB has access to a pilot of this tool in Fall 2025 to evaluate whether it should be purchased. The tool is already available for use. You can access it by creating a new assignment in MittUiB and selecting the external tool FeedbackFruits.

FeedbackFruits offers 17 tools that can be used when creating assignments in MittUiB. These include features for TBL, such as iRAT/tRAT and digital scratch cards, as well as robust peer review functionalities between students.

Note: You should use Chrome or Firefox browsers—Safari will not work with FeedbackFruits.

Feel free to get in touch if you'd like to learn more or need help getting started!

More information about available tools:

Peer Review: Students review each other's work. You can use group divisions from MittUiB, assign manually, or automatically.

Team-Based Learning: A tool designed to enhance student engagement and collaboration through structured team activities and quizzes. It automates processes like readiness assurance tests, team discussions, and peer evaluations.

Group Member Evaluation: After a group activity, each student can give feedback on the contributions of their group members. This can be anonymous, graded, and use rubrics. Students can also evaluate their own contributions.

Assignment Review: The instructor outlines the activity and explains the evaluation criteria. Students upload their assignments in various formats (e.g., written reports, essays, video recordings, podcasts). The instructor provides both qualitative and quantitative feedback directly on the submissions. At the end, students reflect on their performance based on the feedback received.

Skill Review: A tool designed to streamline the evaluation of skill-based student assessments in practical activities

like presentations, oral exams, and interviews. It provides a step-by-step setup for tasks focused on specific skills.

Automated Feedback: Helps instructors save time by automating routine review tasks. Students receive real-time feedback on the quality of their academic writing using an AI-powered tool.

Interactive Document / Video / Audio: These three similar tools allow instructors to make documents, videos, or audio files interactive by adding question cards or discussion prompts. Students can also highlight text and submit their own questions.

Comprehension: Turns study material into a more guided and interactive experience. Helps students break down complex texts and videos, focus on key concepts, and respond. Includes analytics to help tailor teaching.

Interactive Presentation: Instructors upload presentations (PDF, DOC, DOCX, etc.) and add questions for student engagement. Settings allow control over when questions and answers appear and whether results are visible to all.

Discussion on Topic: A discussion tool that supports group discussions, student participation analytics, filtering and sorting, anonymity, and self-assessment.

Discussion on Work: Students submit individual or group work and participate in discussions about their peers' submissions, guided by instructor instructions. Instructors can customize settings like deadlines, peer assignment, and evaluation criteria to match learning goals.

Quiz: A quiz tool that supports uploading audio, video, and documents. Includes a scratch-off mode important for TBL, and some analytics on student performance.

Group Formation: Automatically divides students into groups based on criteria you set (algorithm-based).

Self-Assessment of Work: Students can review their own work or their group's work using criteria and rubrics set by the instructor.

Self-Assessment of Skills: Students assess their own skills and efforts.

Best regards,
Birthe Gjerdevik



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:

29.08: [Make your research visible using researcher profiles](#) (Course)

Registration deadline: 27.08.2025 at 23:00

08.09: [Software Carpentry course in research computing skills](#) (Course)

Registration deadline: 22.08.2025 at 12:00

12.09: [How and where to archive your research data](#) (Course)

Registration deadline: 11.09.2025 at 12:00

12.09: [Software Carpentry course in research computing skills](#) (Course)

Registration deadline: 22.08.2025 at 12:00

17.-19.09: [Postdoc Appreciation Week](#) (Event)

Registration deadline: 12.09.2025 at 23:21

26.09: [Stay in control: Research Data Management in active projects](#) (Course)

Registration deadline: 25.09.2025 at 10:00

[See full UiB Ferd calendar.](#)



[UiB AI #16 Trustworthy AI](#)

02.09.2025 - 09.00–12.00, Storsalen (Nygårdsgaten 5)

This UiB AI seminar is about AI and trustworthiness. Can we trust AI?

The series provide a meeting point for UiB colleagues and students, as well as external partners, whose interests coincide in themes related to artificial intelligence.

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](#)

Vacant positions

[PhD Research Fellow in Quantum Technology](#)

[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](#)

ERC news

Work Program for 2026 has been adopted!

These are the [key novelties](#):

1. **Changes to the templates:**

"From 2026, applicants will be asked to structure their proposals into [...] a concise five-page Part I outlining the scientific idea and objectives, and a more detailed Part II focused on implementation and methodology." Applicants are to use the updated proposal templates. The new page limits for Part II are 7 pages for StG, CoG, and AdG; and 10 pages for SyG.

2. **Changes in the evaluation:**

Evaluation in Step 1 will emphasize novelty, ambition, vision and research strategy, while Step 2 will additionally focus on implementation and feasibility. Note: "Feasibility will now only be assessed at Step 2 of evaluation."

The indicative schedule for the upcoming 2026 calls is as follows:

[StG \(14 October 2025\)](#), [SyG \(5 November 2025\)](#), CoG (13 January 2026), AdG (27 August 2026).

Opened 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: 12 October 2025

New UiB – Seed funding within Global Challenges: Funding is provided for events and guest research stays that help to position UiB as a university with a strong commitment to solving global challenges. Please contact the department's Research Section for further details.

Application deadline: 1 September



UPCOMING FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Research Council of Norway – Funding for

Research Stays Abroad: “The scheme applies to doctoral and post-doctoral research fellows who are wholly or partly funded by the Research Council and affiliated with an ongoing project for a minimum of 36 months. The research stay abroad can be a minimum of 3 months and a maximum of 12 months.”

Application deadline: open-ended

Research Council of Norway – Groundbreaking research:

- Researcher Project for Experienced Scientists (FRIPRO)*
- Researcher Project for Early Career Scientists (FRIPRO)*
- Researcher Project with International Mobility (FRIPRO)*
- Radical Research Ideas for Early Career Scientists*
- Top Researchers – Researcher Projects to Develop World Leading Research Communities*

Application deadline: open-ended

New These* calls have been updated before the summer!
Please read through the new guidelines carefully.

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

Research Council of Norway – Center for Quantum Technology Research:

“The purpose of this call is to build solid Norwegian academic communities at a high international level in quantum computing, quantum sensors and quantum communication.”

Application deadline: 24 September (tentative)

New Research Council of Norway – The Aurora

Mobility Programme: “Support through AURORA will help to establish and expand contact between Norwegian research organisations and similar organisations in France. The purpose is to strengthen European research collaboration under Horizon Europe. Researchers from Norway can receive support for short stays in France to start up and develop joint new research projects.”

Application deadline: 24 September (tentative)

New Åsgard Horizon: “Åsgard Horizon is a French-Norwegian program to support the organization of scientific conferences, workshops and meetings of experts.”

Application deadline: 24 September 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

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)

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

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](#)

EU – MSCA Doctoral Networks (DN): “MSCA Doctoral Networks will [implement doctoral programmes, by partnerships of universities, research institutions and research infrastructures, businesses including SMEs, and other socio-economic actors](#) from different countries across Europe and beyond.” This funding scheme supports standard academic DNs, industrial doctorates and joint doctorates.

Application deadline: 25 November 2025

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)

EU - Potential EU topics in Digital, Industry and Space:

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