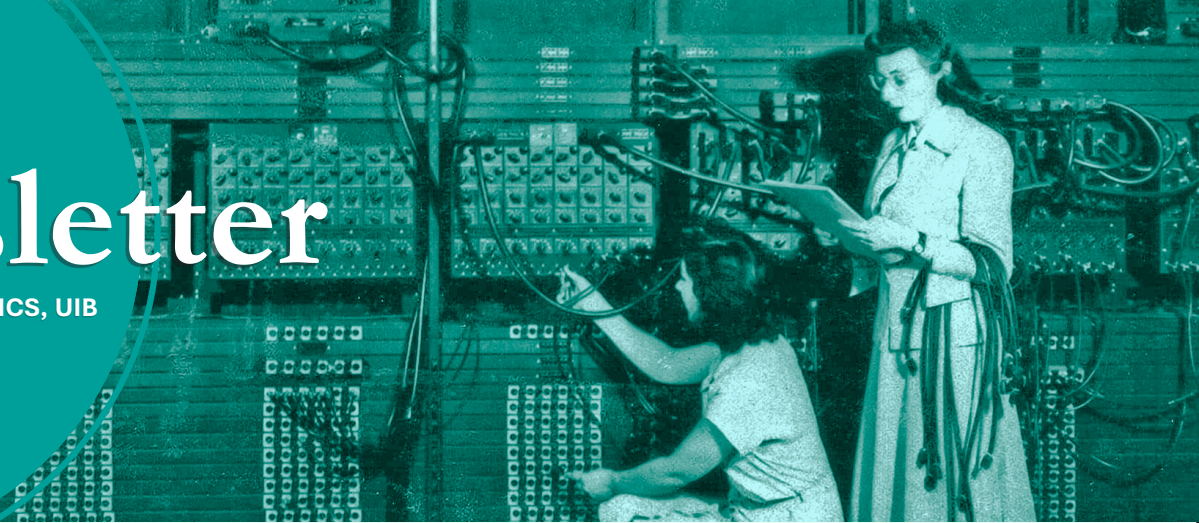


# Newsletter

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATICS, UIB  
No.18/2022, 21.10.2022



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,

Earlier this week I was at a meeting in the Ministry for knowledge and higher education meeting with Artificial intelligence researchers from US Department of Energy (DoE). There is a memorandum of understanding between Norway and US DoE aiming to increase collaboration within AI with focus towards climate, energy and health. DoE funds a number of national centers across the US with strong research groups and infrastructure including some of the world's most powerful supercomputers. Our ministry so far makes no promises, but hopefully there will be financial support for scaling up the collaboration going forward and may present opportunities for several of our research groups.

I write this while attending the annual conference of Digital Life Norway (DLN). DLN has an ambition to help transform Norwegian biotechnology research – to extend the collaboration across disciplines including informatics and mathematics as well as engineering sciences – and to promote responsible research and innovation. The center has a hub which includes staff at our department and more than 30 research projects. The activity is followed closely by the Research council of Norway and is seen as an instrument to explore new ways of organizing research activities. I think there is potential for more groups at the department to engage in cross-disciplinary research initiatives – and

we can build on the experience obtained through DLN and other efforts.

Our new “sivilingeniør-program” in data science has now been approved by all bodies but the university board and we are getting ready to start up the program from the autumn of 2023. Students of the program will get a solid education in data science and will also be able to specialize toward an application domain, which could for example be medicine, geo-sciences, or biology. The program is attracting attention already and of course we hope for a good number of applicants in the spring. Since the students will follow large courses in the first semesters, we are exploring how we can facilitate a “class feeling” for the students starting the program.

I would also like to express my sympathies for the people of Iran during this ongoing political crisis. Peaceful protests being met by violent force is never acceptable, and my thoughts are with the protestors and students who have been killed or arrested, as well as their friends and families.

I wish you all a very nice weekend!

Inge





## "Fakultetet får et nytt sivilingeniørprogram innen data science"

This week on, Gunn Mangerud has written about our new "Siv.ing" programme in Data Science.

You can read her post about the subject [here](#).

Her previous postings:

[Strategi 2023-2030](#)

[Har studenter tid til å være fulltidsstudenter lenger?](#)



### ICT Research School PhD Meetup

On the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of October, the ICT Research School had their annual PhD-meetup, where PhD candidates could exchange ideas and experiences, as well as building and broadening their research networks.

A big thanks to Farhad Vadiiee and Mariyam Khan for helping organising this wonderful event!





## Energy Informatics Lab

The newly launched Energy Informatics Lab has reached the point where we are showing them off to the public!

Thursday [an article](#) was published featuring both staff and a student.

Please have a look, and feel free to share with anyone who might have an interest in sustainable energy production, distribution and saving.

More info is also available on [their website](#).



*Above: Magne Haveraaen, Ahmad Hemmati and Nello Blaser showing off their best pose.*

*To the left: Student Lars Oddne Ramstad Juvik and PhD candidate Mauro Ghirardelli showing off one of the few drones that hasn't been featured on norwegian news this week.*



## Norwegian Bioinformatics Days

The first ever Norwegian Bioinformatics Days were held on at Sundvolden Hotel 28-30 September. The event was a big success with workshops, posters and friendly discussion.

This meeting was a collaboration between Centre for Digital Life Norway, NORBIS, Computational Biology Unit (UiB), ELIXIR Norway, RSG-Norway and Tekna.



# Current Issues

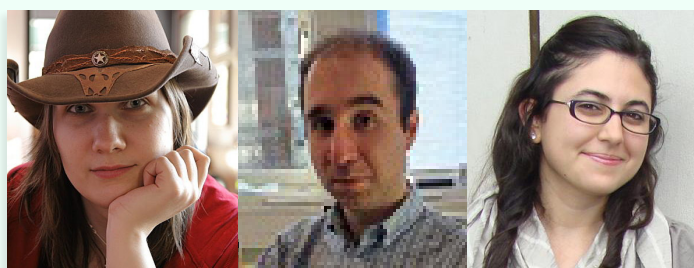
## Christmas party - Register now

The legendary Informatics Christmas Party is finally back on the 9th of December on Scandic Ørnen!

We can promise a great atmosphere and a feast with enough calories to cover all of December!

Please register [here](#) before the 21st of November.

We look forward to seeing loads and loads of you there!



## Speed talks

Speed talks are back next week on the **27<sup>th</sup> of October!**

This Department seminar is composed by 3 speed talks given by our own in-house researchers.

The goal is to make us a bit better informed on what our department colleagues are focusing on in their research.

This edition will feature:

**Anya Bagge:** “Interactive online programming and learning with TurtleDuck”

**Nikolay Kaleyski:** “Equivalence testing through deduction and guesswork”

**Samia Touileb:** “Measuring Harmful and Toxic Representations in Scandinavian Language Models”

Refreshments will be served at 12:45, while the talks will start from 13:00. The event is held at Stort Auditorium on the second floor.

## International Open Access Week

The [International Open Access Week](#) takes place from 24 - 30 October. As part of this year's OA Week, several Norwegian academic libraries present a number of events with topics related to open publishing, open science and research data management. All webinars are digital and open to anyone interested.

Are you wondering about the status of Plan S and the vision of full and immediate open access to scientific publications? Do you have questions regarding who will pay the bill for open access publishing? Are you interested in knowing more about data stewards and how they contribute to good data management? And what about climate research, is it really accessible for the public?

Open Access Week 2022 in Norway:

- 24.10: [Åpen publisering av søkestrategier](#)
- 25.10: [Panelsamtale om publiseringskostnader: Hvem skal betale for åpen tilgang?](#)
- 26.10: [Conducting Open Research](#)
- 26.10: [Åpne, men usynlige? Hvordan kan vi gjøre åpen klimaforskning mer tilgjengelig?](#)
- 27.10: [The Road to Open Access](#)
- 28.10: [The Rise of the Data Stewards](#)



## Energisparetiltak ved UiB

A note has been sent out by the central administration, asking us to consider energy saving measures in our day to day working lives. (The note is currently only available in Norwegian, but will be shared in English when available)

“Universitetet i Bergen ligger an til svært høye strømregninger i inneværende, neste og kommende år. UiB har allerede iverksatt en rekke tiltak for å redusere energiforbruket for å gjøre universitetet klimanøytralt innen 2030. Dette er gjort gjennom å satse på målrettede tiltak som sjøvannsanlegg, solcellepanel og utvikling og oppgradering av bygg.

Universitetsledelsen orienterte universitetsstyret om de økte energikostnadene i møte 15/9. Styret ga universitetsledelsen fullmakt til å iverksette sparetiltak for å håndtere energikostnader på kort og lang sikt. UiB har også mottatt brev fra Kunnskapsdepartementet om å iverksette tiltak som gir effekt på kort og lang sikt.

Tiltakene som iverksettes har vært presentert for de tillitsvalgte og verneombud i Forhandlingsutvalget, studentene og har som forutsetning at de ikke skal gå utover kjernevirksomheten eller et forsvarlig arbeidsmiljø.

Eksempel på tiltak som iverksettes av alle enheter i dialog med lokal ledelse:

- Informere og motivere egne ansatte til å bidra slik at vi sammen kan redusere energiforbruket.
- Respektere driftstidene og at bygg blir stengt driftsmessig i helger, på kveldstid og i ferier.
- Bruke mindre varmtvann, fyller oppvaskmaskiner og autoklaver helt opp før start
- Lukke dører og vindu, slå av lys, projektorer, skjermer etc når ikke i bruk.
- Optimaliserer bruken av rom.

Eksempel på tiltak som iverksettes:

- Redusere driftstider på ventilasjon i byggene med ca 10%.
- Senke innnetemperatur (NB: ikke til under anbefalt grense).
- Stenge tekniske anlegg i bygg driftsmessig i ferier, spesielt viktig i den kalde årstiden.
- Redusere vanntemperatur i svømmebassenget til laveste anbefalte (26°C) og ventilasjon i svømmehallen tilsvarende.”

Vennlig hilsen

Universitetsdirektør Robert Rasta og rektor Margareth Hagen”

## Pandemisenterets januarkurs

Pandemisenterets januarkurs ([ELMED328 Læring fra COVID-19: En tverrfaglig tilnærming](#)) er nå åpent for [påmelding](#). Kurset går over de første to ukene av januar, og bygger på tilsvarende kurs holdt i fjor. Fjorårets kurs fikk [gode tilbakemeldinger](#), og vi håper at neste kurs blir minst like vellykket. Hemmeligheten er, selvfølgelig, at vi lykkes i å rekruttere de rette studentene.

Kunne vi be om deres hjelp til å spre informasjon om at det nå er mulig å melde seg på?

Kurset egner seg for studenter på Mastergrad- eller PhD-nivå, og er også åpent for studenter ved andre partnerinstitusjoner/fakultet. PhD-kandidater fra UiB (alle fakultet) vil ha førsteprioritet.

Beste hilsen,  
Magnus Vollset



### **“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.](#)

[See upcoming UiB Ferd events here.](#)

## **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](#)

## **International Newsletter**

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

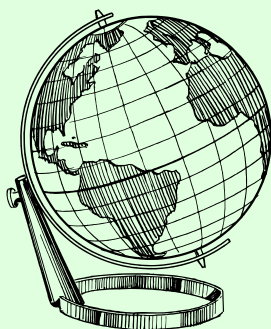
If you have moved to Bergen from a different country, we highly recommend subscribing to the newsletter [here](#).

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:

[“Working with Norwegians”](#)

[“Paying tax in Norway”](#)

[See all upcoming events at the International Centre here](#)



## **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.

[Read more.](#)

## **Vacant positions**

- [Associate Professor in Informatics – Programming Theory](#)
- [MSCA SEAS postdoctoral research fellow in bioinformatics for marine sustainability](#)
- [PhD Research Fellow in Informatics – \(energy informatics, optimization and data science\)](#)
- [Tenure Track Associate Professor in Informatics – Visualization / Visual Data Science](#)

# Upcoming Funding Opportunities



**AIM SQuaREs: [Program](#)** “to allow a dedicated group of four to six mathematicians to spend a week at AIM in San Jose, California.”

Application deadline: 1 November 2022



**New DKNVS prices for Young research talents:** “Det Kongelige Norske Videnskabers Selskab (DKNVS) deler årlig ut [vitenskapelige priser](#) innen naturvitenskap og humaniora til yngre forskere. De to prisene er på kr 75.000 hver. Foreslåtte kandidater må oppfylle alle fire kriterier:

- være under 35 år ved utdelingen (mars 2023)
- være norsk eller utenlandsk forsker ved en norsk forskningsinstitusjon
- kunne dokumentere fremragende talent, originalitet og innsats
- ha oppnådd særdeles gode resultater innen sine fagfelt”

Nomination deadline: 1 November 2022



**NordForsk University Cooperation:** “The aim of the [call](#) is to strengthen international competitiveness and facilitate the development of excellent Nordic research environments. The call is open to all themes and disciplines.” This is a call for pre-proposals.

Application deadline: 2 November 2022



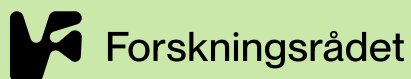
**ERC Synergy Grant 2023:** “Are you a researcher that wants to address a research problem so ambitious, that can not be dealt with you and your team alone? The Synergy Grants could be for you!” In Synergy Grants, 2-4 PIs at ERC level apply together.

[Application](#) deadline: 8 November 2022

## ERC proposal course for CoG and AdG applicants on 8-9 Nov 2022

“Find out how to best prepare your application with this digital workshop. The Consolidator Grant stipend is for mid-career researchers (7-12 years after their PhD is defended), researchers with more than 12 years of experience are eligible to apply for the Advanced Grant.”

For more information and the link to registration, please have a look at the [website](#). Registration deadline: 7 Nov 2022



**Enabling technologies:** The Research Council has announced a call for [Researcher Projects for Technological Convergence Related to Enabling Technologies](#), and a call for [Collaborative Projects for Technological Convergence Related to Enabling Technologies](#).

Application deadline: 16 November 2022



**New Meltzer funds:** Usually, researchers can apply for financial support for academic travels and sabbaticals, while students and PhD cand. can apply for project stipends. At the moment, we are still waiting for more information about the next round of applications. We will inform you as soon as we know more.

Application deadline: to be determined



**Young CAS Fellow:** “The Centre for Advanced Study (CAS) in Oslo is now accepting applications for the [Young CAS Fellow programme](#) for the period of August 2023 to June 2025. CAS’ mission is to further excellent, fundamental research. By providing our scholars with optimal working facilities and uninterrupted time for research, we pave the way for groundbreaking scientific results.”

Application deadline: 9 December 2022



**ERC Consolidator Grant 2023:** “Are you a scientist who wants to consolidate your independence by establishing a research team and continuing to develop a success career in Europe? The ERC Consolidator Grant could be for you. You can also apply if you have recently created an independent, excellent research team and want to strengthen it.”

[Application](#) deadline: 2 February 2023



**Researcher projects:** The Research Council of Norway is planning to announce calls for researcher projects ([renewal & young](#)) targeting pre-defined focus areas. Even though free, groundbreaking research will not be among the topics, several other areas may be relevant.

Application deadline: 8 February 2023 (tentative date)



**New Collaborative projects:** The Research Council of Norway is planning to announce a call for [Collaborative Projects to Meet Societal and Industry-related Challenges](#) targeting pre-defined focus areas, incl. energy, transport, enabling technologies and more.

Application deadline: 15 February 2023 (tentative date)



Please contact research coordinator Stefanie Meyer if you plan to apply. All applications need to be approved by the department leadership. An overview over our [research support services](#) is also available online.



Forskningsrådet

**New Knowledge-building projects:** The Research Council of Norway is planning to announce a call for [Knowledge-building Projects for Industry](#) targeting pre-defined focus areas, incl. energy and transport.

Application deadline: 15 February 2023  
(tentative date)



## Prosjektverkstad - Vestland

Når: 2. november 2022 kl 11.00 - 15.00

Arrangementstype: Kurs

Passer for: Bedrifter og offentlig sektor i Vestland og deira FoU-samarbeidspartnarar og rådgjevarar.

Pris: Gratis

Påmeldingsfrist: 28. oktober 2022

☐ Arrangementet strømmes

Meld deg på ➔

«Prosjektverkstaden [på 2. november] er eit tilbod til aktørar i Vestland som vil lære meir om å strukturere og planlegge eit forskings- og innovasjonsprosjekt i næringsliv eller i offentlig sektor. I forkant av prosjektverkstaden vil det vere eit kort informasjonsmøte om moglegheiter for finansiering av FoU-prosjekt.

Kurset vil vere nyttig ved søknader til Regionalt forskingsfond Vestland eller Forskningsrådet om forprosjekt og innovasjonsprosjekt, men også til kompetanse- og samarbeidsprosjekt.

Det er Vestland fylkeskommune, Regionalt forskingsfond Vestland, prosjekt FORREGION Vestland (Vestland fylkeskommune, Høgskulen på Vestlandet og Vestlandsforskning), KS Vest-Norge og Forskningsrådet som inviterer til prosjektverkstad.»

[Registration deadline:](#) 28 October 2022



## A.3 - Looking for partners and joining consortia (short webinar)

Når: 14. november 2022 kl 08.45 - 11.00

Arrangementstype: Kurs

Pris: Ingen kursavgift, men påmeldingen er bindende.

Påmeldingsfrist: 9. november kl.12.00

☐ Arrangementet strømmes

Meld deg på ➤

«This webinar [on 14 November] will help you to understand what type of partners to look for in Horizon Europe, if you are proposing a joint project in Horizon Europe or simply are looking for a consortium to join. You will understand what characterizes a winning consortium in Horizon Europe, and you will get practical advice and tools that you can use when searching for project partners.»

[Registration deadline:](#) 9 November 2022, 12.00 Norwegian time



## Energiforskningskonferansen 2022

Når: 6. desember 2022 kl 10.00 - 15.00

Hvor: Forskningsrådet, Lysaker

Arrangementstype: Konferanse

Passer for: Alle som er interessert i betydningen av FoU i utviklingen av framtidens energisystem og markeder.

Meld deg på ➤

«På Energiforskningskonferansen [6. desember] 2022 ber vi forskere og representanter fra næringslivet forklare og diskutere disse spørsmålene fra et forsknings- og innovasjonsperspektiv. Årets Energiforskningskonferanse er et samarbeid mellom Forskningsrådet og Energi21.»

[Registration deadline:](#) 2 December 2022, 23.00 Norwegian time



# NORBIS activities

## 8<sup>th</sup> and last annual NORBIS conference

The last annual NORBIS conference will be taking place this October. Registration is closed but send an email to [contact-norbis@uib.no](mailto:contact-norbis@uib.no) if you like to join.

**Dates:** October 24-28, 2022. **Location:** Rosendal Fjordhotel, Rosendal.

**Organizers:** NORBIS in collaboration with MedBioInfo. **Invited speakers:**

Alexander Schug (Steinbuch Centre for Computing), Harald Binder (Institute of Medical Biometry and Statistics, University of Freiburg), Barbara Bakker (University of Groningen), Andreas Raue (HiFiBiO Therapeutics), Thomas Rattei (University of Vienna), David Páez-Espino (Joint Genome Institute, Lawrence Berkeley National Lab), Milan Malinsky (University of Bern), Kara Dicks (Royal Zoological Society of Scotland), Marcin Wojewodzic (FHI).

**Short conference description:** A five-day NORBIS conference with Student talks, poster sessions, keynote lectures and workshops. The conference will this year be in collaboration with the MedBioInfo research school based in Sweden. Our focus will be on the students and their research, with four themed days from the core of NORBIS topics: Statistical methods and machine learning, systems biology and modelling, metagenomics, and population genetics. We will also have a session on careers outside of university, and teambuilding with VilVite. [More information and link to registration here.](#)



## Modern methods for analyzing survival and time to event data (IMB9335)

**Dates:** 5-9 December, 2022. **Location:** University of Oslo. **Organizer:** Morten Valberg. **Lecturers:** Morten Valberg, Håkon K. Gjessing, Ørnulf Borgan, Odd O. Aalen. **Credits:** 4 ECTS. **Evaluation:** The exam will be a home exam in the form of project work. The students should deliver their written project report within a month after the end of the course. The exam paper will be provided in English and should be answered in English.

**Short course description:** 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 analysing time-to-event data. The course is given over five days and computer exercises will be an integrated part of the course. [More information and link to registration here.](#)