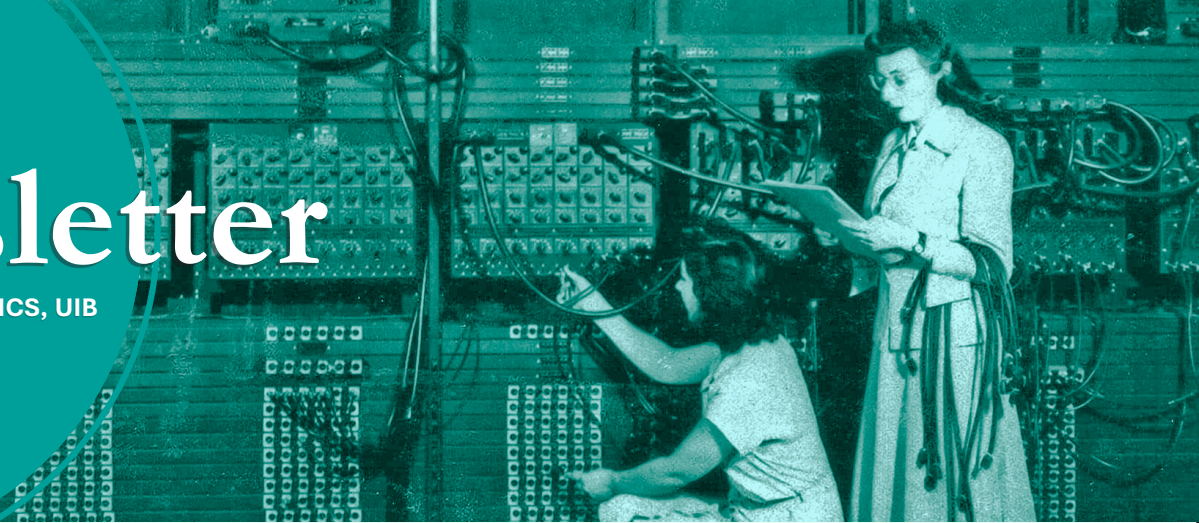


Newsletter

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATICS, UiB
No. 19/2022, 04.11.2022



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,

I know many of you are following the news and debates in the media and have seen that research and the university sector have been more visible in the news lately than it usually is. For example, our rector was at the front page of the local newspaper *Bergens Tidende* earlier this week. The reason was that the proposed national budget includes no support for further planning of a new building for the Grieg Academy, the department for music at UiB, and also direct messages from the Ministry that giving little hope for funding over the coming years. I must say I am also concerned about the signals coming from the Ministry of research and higher education. Norway should invest in research and education now to help meeting the climate and nature crises, develop new sustainable industries in Norway etc. Instead, the government seems to see research and education activities as expenses that need to be cut.

Another story receiving a lot of attention is around a guest researcher at UiT the Arctic University that is believed to be a Russian agent disguising as Columbian researcher. This has raised discussions about whether there needs to be stricter controls within the sector. In fact, we also had a journalist visiting our department last week and publishing an article in the weekend. There, Linda and I, as well as Pinar as former head of department, were interviewed about our department having leading research environments in for example computer security and artificial intelligence while also having a very international staff with 36 nationalities

represented. We expressed that we fully trust our colleagues from all over the world. Our main focus in this respect is that all staff should trust us in the department leadership so that they will come to us if there should be any concerns.

I would encourage everybody to try and stay updated about what is happening around us. I think it is part of our responsibility as researchers and as members of society, to keep informed and to engage. One “paper” worth following is [Khrono](#), an online news outlet dedicated to the higher education and research sector, where you can also sign up for email updates. And I would like to encourage at least those of you who plan to stay in Norway for a longer period, to learn Norwegian! This makes it easier to engage in the society and is in practice also required for engaging in faculty and institutional discussions and leadership roles.

We are now in the middle of the autumn season, the evenings are getting darker and the rain and winds keep coming. It is a good period for focusing on work and inside activities, but I would still encourage you to get proper clothing (and “refleks” helping visibility!) and also enjoy the outdoors!

I wish you all a nice weekend!

Inge



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

Her latest posts:

- [Fakultetet får et nytt sivilingeniørprogram innen data science](#)
- [Har studenter tid til å være fulltidsstudenter lenger?](#)
- [Strategi 2023-2030](#)
- [Hva ser vi etter i et forskningstalent?](#)
- [En seilas som gir minner for livet](#)



8th and last annual NORBIS conference

24-28 October

This year the NORBIS conference was arranged in collaboration with the Swedish research school MedBioInfo. Close to 100 participants, including invited international guests, PhD students, postdocs, supervisors from NORBIS and MedBioInfo gathered in beautiful Rosendal in Hardanger for a five-day conference. The program was filled with keynote lectures, student talks, hands on workshops, poster sessions, a balloon car race and much more.



Welcome, new colleagues!



Rikke Aas

Rikke Aas did her Bachelor's degree in data technology at our department, and her Master's degree at the visualization group. It is our pleasure to welcome her (back) as a PhD candidate.

Welcome, Rikke!



May-Lill Helgesen

May-Lill has stepped in as Ingrid's substitute in our reception. She will only be working 50%, so send an email if you want to be sure to reach her.

Welcome, May-Lill!

There's a new PhD in town...



Congratulations, Arne Tobias Ødegaard!

Arne Tobias is currently (at the time of "printing") defending his thesis; "Assumptions, Efficiency and Trust in Non-Interactive Zero-Knowledge Proofs".

We would like to congratulate him in advance and wish him a great celebration this weekend!

Current Issues

Christmas party!

Registration has opened for the annual Christmas dinner for the department on December 9th, and there are still some spots available!

If you haven't already done so, please [sign up here](#) to secure your spot.



Department seminars: Suggest speakers!

Do you know someone who would be a good speaker for one of our department seminars? 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.

Innspillsmøte

Invitation from the rectorate:

Stipendiater, forskere og teknisk-administrativt ansatte: Menneskene er universitetets viktigste ressurs. Hvordan skal UiB utvikles for å bli en best mulig arbeidsplass?

Som et ledd i arbeidet med den nye universitetsstrategien som skal gjelde fra 2023-30 ønskes alle kollegaer velkommen til innspillmøte om UiB som arbeidsplass.

Møt opp 7. november og gi dine innspill.

Tid: Mandag 7. november kl 1400-1600

Sted: Sydneshaugen skole, Auditorium B

Her vil inviterte innledere dele sine perspektiver på hvordan UiB kan bli en enda bedre arbeidsplass. Det er satt av tid til innspill og spørsmål fra salen.

[Meld deg på her](#)

Har du ikke mulighet til å delta på innspillmøtet 7. november? Send gjerne innspill på e-post til strategi@uib.no

Hold deg oppdatert på arbeidet med ny strategi på [UiB.no/strategi](https://uib.no/strategi).

Med vennlig hilsen,
Julianne Skille



“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.](#)

Upcoming UiB Ferd events include:

- 11.11.22: [Finding & reusing research data](#)
- 18.11.22: [Applying for academic jobs in Norway and abroad](#)
- 23.11.22: [How to write a competitive CV for a non-academic audience?](#)
- 25.11.22: [Introduction to Data Management Plans \(DMP\)](#)



Nå ut med forskningen i media

30.11.2022 - 12.30–15.00

Kursbeskrivelse: Slik finner du nyhetspoenget og når ut i media. Du lærer om hvordan du finner den gode historien i forskningen din, og hvordan kople deg på nyhetsbildet. Kurset passer for deg som trenger starthjelp til den gode mediekontakten og til å få budskapet tydelig frem.

Kurset har begrenset antall plasser, påmelding innen 17.november. Gi beskjed så snart som mulig om du ikke kan delta slik at andre kan få overta plassen.

Mediakurset passer for forskere på alle nivåer, fra doktorgradskandidater til erfarne forskere. Kurset vil bli holdt på norsk.

Kursansvarlig: Kommunikasjonsavdelingen, UiB.
[Les mer og meld deg på her.](#)

Collaborate with researchers in the UK

UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) and Research Council of Norway (RCN) have signed a Money Follows Cooperation agreement to reduce barriers to cross-border collaboration.

This enables eligible UK principal investigators to submit collaborative applications with co-investigators employed by Norwegian institutions.

This agreement enables Norway co-investigators to be included in UK-led applications and to receive funding from the participating UKRI Councils.

[Read more and search funding opportunities.](#)

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 \(Seminar\)](#)
- [Paying tax in Norway \(Seminar\)](#)
- [Introduction course for new employees \(Course\)](#)

[See the full calendar here.](#)

Vacant positions

- [PhD Research Fellow in Informatics – \(energy informatics, optimization and data science\)](#)
- [Senior engineer/ Chief Engineer](#)
- [Tenure Track Associate Professor in Informatics – Visualization / Visual Data Science](#)
- [Researcher within machine learning](#)

Upcoming Funding Opportunities



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



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. This year, there will be a delay in launching this call as UiB will set up a new technical solution for submitting applications. It is expected that the new system will open on 2 January 2023, and that the application deadline will be later in January. You can follow future updates on the following websites:

- [Project stipends for PhD cand. and students](#)
- [Support for travel and sabbaticals for research staff](#)

Application deadline: January 2023



Forskningssrådet

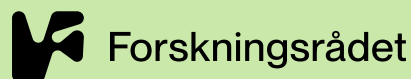
Researcher projects: The Research Council of Norway is planning to announce calls for researcher projects ([renewal](#) & [young](#)) targeting pre-defined focus areas. Even though free, groundbreaking research will not be among the topics, several other areas may be relevant.

Application deadline: 8 February 2023
(tentative date)



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)



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)

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.



For participants attending the **Nordic AI Meet conference** (14-15 November 2022, Oslo):

New image generation methods with text prompts like seen in DALL.E, Stable Diffusion and Midjourney have become more commonplace as well as open. We encourage you to use these tools with both a critical and creative mind to create images inspired by Munch. There is no monetary reward for this competition, yet we will display a selection of these images at our scientific conference, the Nordic AI Meet, on the 14th and 15th of November in Oslo.

Find more information [here](#).

NORBIS activities

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.](#)

