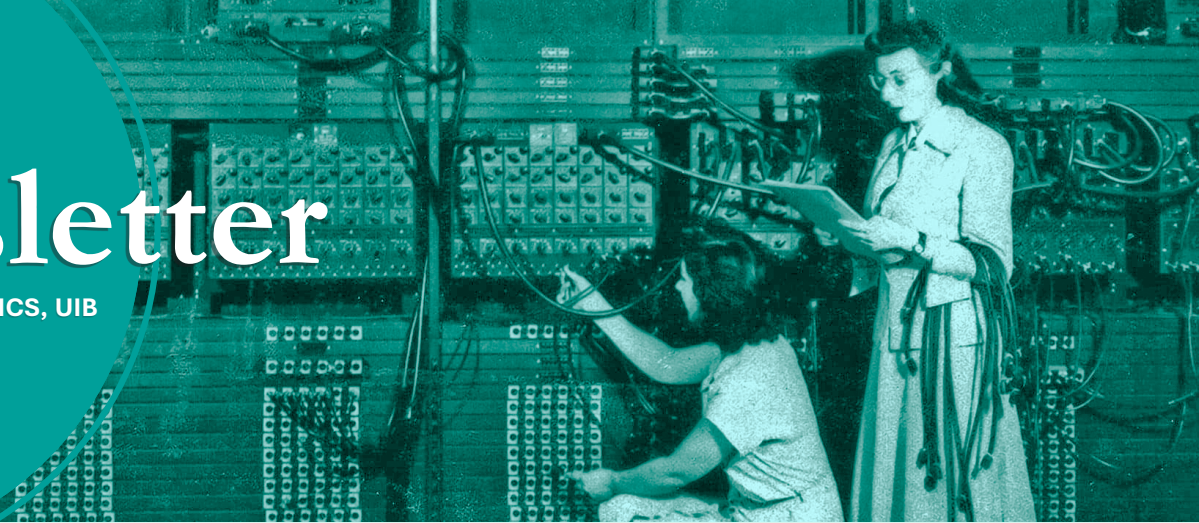


Newsletter

DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATICS, UIB
No.21/2022, 02.12.2022



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,

When I did my master studies in the early 90s, I was linked to an artificial intelligence (AI) group at our department (but did most of the work at the IBM Bergen Scientific Centre which then occupied the 6th floor of this building). When I started my PhD, the group was transitioning into a bioinformatics group with my master supervisor Ingvar Eidhammer as one of the first members. This was a courageous move, but AI and machine learning techniques were important within bioinformatics, and the group developed very well. Now when AI over the last few years have had a new boost, bioinformatics is naturally one of (many) fields where it is actively used – and developed. One example is the AlphaFold algorithm from DeepMind that (to a large extent) solves the protein folding problem. So, from a personal perspective, when I'm getting more engaged in AI (again), it feels quite natural, and not as a big step away from the field of bioinformatics which has been my focus for the last almost 30 years.

Now AI is also increasingly used to make or assist decisions directly affecting humans – for example in the banking, insurance, and government welfare settings (eg. NAV). Last month we had an inspiring and well received conference “Intelligent Bergen” in the University aula, where researchers from the university presented along with practitioners from industry and government. The meeting also included more critical and ethical aspects as well as issues linked with

privacy and legal aspects. These issues are important, and they are also important for our students. The students we educate are taking on important roles in ICT and AI development in Norwegian companies and society, and I think we again need to look at how we can increase our students' knowledge of ethics and responsible practices, so that they are well equipped to contribute to ethical and sustainable development. Our engagement towards the Trond Mohn funded call for projects in trustworthy AI – where we now have two projects led from the department in the finale (hurrah!) – together with other on-going projects, will contribute to our basis for doing this. And I also encourage all of you to think about how we best can integrate these aspects into our courses and study programs. And please share your ideas and thoughts, so we can find a good way forward together.

We are now in the darkest period of the year, and luckily the days will again start to get longer in a few weeks. I hope you will all have a nice December month and wish you a very good 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:

- [Norges største gjenbruksprosjekt](#)
- [Vår sektor er i endring igjen](#)
- [Fakultetet får et nytt sivilingeniørprogram innen data science](#)



NWERC gold!

Last weekend was the 2022 North west European finale of the International Collegiate Programming Contest, where one of our teams, \u1f0c\u03bb\u03b3\u03bf\u03c2 ("Algos", but in symbols which InDesign refuse to let me paste) qualified to the world finale!

\u1f0c\u03bb\u03b3\u03b3\u03bf\u03c2 consists of Andreas Alberg (UiO student who is taking courses here), Marius Binner and Magnus Hegdahl, coached by Brigt Håvardstun and Torstein Strømme.

Congratulations, and good luck in Egypt!

Photos are from today's celebration in the bachelor's student's room.





Julegateåpning

On the 25th of November, the faculty opened their Christmas so-called street at Realfagsbygget.

The programme offered the opportunity to challenge Torstein in a chess match. Although he fought valiantly to defend our departments honour, he has stated that he would prefer to be challenged in a game of ping pong next time. *Photo by Jin Sigve Mæland*



Women's network seminar

On the 28th of November, women from the department met up to share experiences and network. The event included a talk with Lilya Budaghyan and Nathalie Reuter, and a visit from our old friend Pinar Heggernes!



Ka vil DU bli?

If you have seen any large group of teenagers hanging out in our building lately, it's probably just some of the pupils we have invited as a part of the [“Ka vil DU bli”](#) arrangement. Over the last few weeks, we have had around 100 9th grade pupils visiting us from schools all over Bergen, allowing us to start indoctrination early.

A big thanks to the students from Gnist (some of whom are pictured), Elise Fiskeseth, Pål Drange, Brigt Håvardstun and Sondre Bolland who have helped us in our mission!

PhD Updates



There's a new PhD in town...

Congratulations, Thomas Bernhard Trautner!

Thomas successfully defended his thesis, “Visualization Hybridization with Spatialization Cues” on the 24th of November.

Congratulations, Thomas!

Current Issues

New guest routine

Inviting and hosting guest researchers is a natural and welcomed part of our academic work. It is still crucial to act according to our routines and procedures when planning to invite a guest.

If you are inviting a guest researcher to our department, you must now follow the new guest routine found [here](#).



Yoga break

Yoga sessions are on hold until February 2023 while our instructor is in Indonesia.



UiB Ferd Christmas 2022: Of course you would never publish in a predatory journal... or would you?

UiB Ferd Career Centre's first Christmas lecture ever, is about predatory publishing. Henriette Christie Ertsås/ Science to the people humbly asks if scientific discovery can ever be compatible with the reigning publishing model, without science and society falling prey.

Language: English

The lecture will last approx. one hour. There will be served Christmassy refreshments. After the lecture, we open up for discussions about UiB Ferd Career Centre and what we have done in 2022. You will also have the possibility to add on Santa's Wish List what activity you want UiB Ferd Career Centre to offer next year.

[Read more and register.](#)



Workshop: Virtual Exchange and Blended Mobility

The Utrecht network is happy to announce the workshop on Virtual Exchange and Blended Mobility in University Education: An Introductory Course for University Educators and International Officers.
Trainer: Dr. Robert O'Dowd (University of León, Spain)
Dates: 7 / 9 / 14 / 16 February 2023

This course will have four contact days over a two-week period, and is a combination of live sessions via zoom and asynchronous tasks and discussions which will take place in a Virtual Learning Environment.

[Read more.](#)



“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:

05.12.22: [Software Carpentry course in research computing skills: Shell, R for reproducible analysis, Git \(Course\)](#)

08.12.22: [UiB Ferd Christmas 2022: Of course you would never publish in a predatory journal...or would you?](#)

09.12.22: [How can you make your research data open and FAIR?](#)

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.

Vacant positions

- [PhD Research Fellow in Informatics – Didactics](#)

CRISTin registration of 2022 publications

To all scientific staff at the Department of Informatics!

We kindly remind you to...

- check that all of your 2022-publications are (correctly!) registered in CRISTin*,
- to add missing publications to the system,
- to make sure that a full-text version is uploaded for all research *articles*, and
- to register the project code for publications that are a result of projects funded by the EU, RCN, or other funders that require open access

The deadline for completing those tasks is **31 January 2023!**

General instructions: A publication shall only be reported once. Revised editions shall not be reported. To count as an academic publication, the publication has to fulfill certain criteria (see [here](#) for more information). Furthermore, in order for an institution to count a publication wholly or partially for reporting, the name of the institution must be listed as an author's address in the publication itself.

Please note: The department's budget is partly dependent on the number of publication points generated by our scientific staff's publications. If the full-text version of a research article has not been uploaded to CRISTin, we are not allowed to approve and report the respective publication. Hence, this article will not generate any publication points, having a negative impact on the department's future budget.

Where to find more information: How to [register publications](#) in CRISTin. Guidance for [uploading full-text versions of articles and registering project codes](#) in CRISTin, and [Frequently Asked Questions](#) regarding the uploading of a full-text version in CRISTin.

Main contact person at the Department of Informatics: Ragna Breines

*Current research information system in Norway

Upcoming Funding Opportunities

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.



Meltzer funds: 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 thematic priority calls for researcher projects ([renewal](#) & [young & large-scale interdisciplinary researcher project](#)).

Application deadline: 8 February 2023 (tentative date)



Forskningssrådet

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)



Forskningssrådet

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)



New Akademiaavtale: As part of the Academia Agreement between Equinor and UiB, UiB has now opened [calls for seed funding and funding of field trips](#). Applications need to be within (at least one of) the strategic focus areas of the agreement.

Application deadline: 6 January 2023



New Peder Sather: The Peder Sather Center for Advanced Study supports projects carried out by researchers at UC Berkeley in collaboration with researchers from eight Norwegian universities. The Center offers grants between \$10K and \$25K. Funds are made available for two academic years.

Grants can support activities such as workshops, mini-conferences, virtual intellectual exchanges, the undertaking of exploratory and pilot studies, activities such as PhD student exchanges, longer-term stays for Principal Investigators, the collection and analysis of data, and other core research activities.

Interested applicants should visit the [Proposal Application Guidelines](#) on the Peder Sather Center Website.

Application deadline: 3 April 2023



New CAS project: The Centre for Advanced Study (CAS) invites researchers to pursue excellent, fundamental, curiosity-driven research in Oslo for one academic year. Assemble your international dream team of prominent researchers and apply for a [research stay at CAS](#).

Application deadline: October 2023



The Norwegian Cancer Society's Prize for Young Cancer Researchers 2023

The Norwegian Cancer Society's awards a prize to a young cancer researcher who has contributed to furthering the quality and scope of cancer research in Norway. The candidate to be nominated must be under 40 years old by the nomination deadline, hold a PhD, be associated with a Norwegian university, university college, hospital, any other institution with research as part of its noncommercial activities, and have documented talent (shown extraordinary effort and achieved results of high quality for cancer research in Norway).

[Nomination](#) deadline: 5 January 2023, 13:00



King Olav Vs Cancer Research Fund's prize 2023

The fund awards a prize to a cancer researcher, or a group of researchers, who have contributed to furthering the quality and scope of cancer research in Norway.

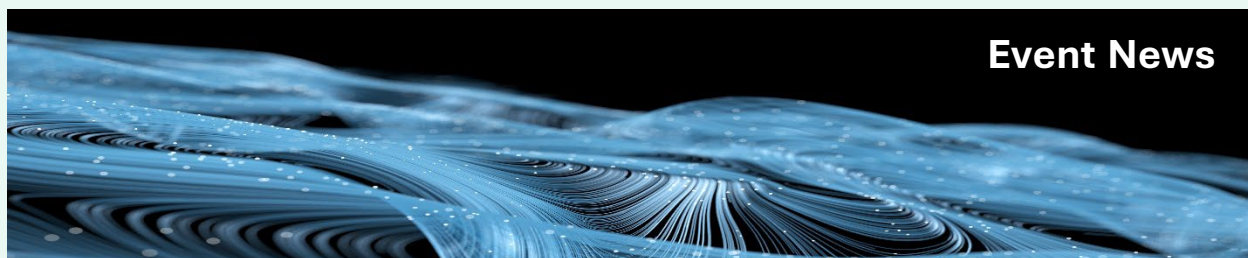
[Nomination](#) deadline: 5 January 2023, 13:00



News from the Research Council of Norway – there will likely be a bottom-up call for Young Research Talents in early 2023!

Regjeringen foreslår nå 1,64 milliarder kroner til Forskningsrådet i nysalderingen av statsbudsjettet. Med dette slettes det resterende underskuddet i Forskningsrådet, og det vil ikke være behov for nye innstramningstiltak i forskningsfinansieringen fremover. Tvert imot; regjeringen sikrer nå at det også kan gjennomføres tildeling til Unge Forskertalenter i 2023. Dette har enorm betydning for norske forskningsmiljøer, og regjeringen har med dette satt punktum for den krisen vi har stått i, og sikrer at forskningsfinansieringen vil være høy og stabil fremover. [...] Grepet i nysalderingen gjør at det allerede tidlig i 2023 vil bli lyst ut midler til FRIPRO for yngre forskere, med tildeling på høsten 2023.

Read the [full news article here](#) (Norwegian only).



Citizen Science and Frontier Research: ERC Annual Event 2022

Citizen science refers to activities conducted by scientists in collaboration or consultation with the public at any stage of a research project. This event aims at sharing lessons learnt and discussing best practices within and across scientific domains.

Event: 7 December 2022. Register [here](#).

EU - Webinar: Impact and Innovation in EU funded projects - A guide for proposers

This webinar addresses different ways to define professional and systematic IP management in Horizon (2020/HEU) projects. From finding the right management framework for one's activity to the question of how to develop a credible strategy focused on the management and exploitation of the research results.

Event: 7 December 2022. Register [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.](#)

