Dear Colleagues,

We are now getting close to holiday times, teaching and exams are already finalized, and most of us are going into the last working days before the break. I hope you are planning to take some time off to recharge your batteries for a new semester starting in January! And, again, I urge you to register your holidays in the DFØ system, and make sure that you have registered all days for 2022 before you take off on your holidays!

We have a lot to be happy about and proud of in 2022. We are teaching more students than ever before, producing around 47 000 study points! We are giving students across the faculty important knowledge and skills in informatics and programming that they will need during their studies and work life. Through the DiGi courses we do the same for students across all faculties. We are also contributing to continued education (EVU courses), an activity that I hope we can extend over the next years since this is both an important contribution to the society – and can help build more connections to government and industry.

The basis for our educational activities is our excellent research activities. While CBU is in the middle of the assessment of biosciences in Norway, the rest of the department will enter an important assessment process next year. We will use this as an opportunity to have strategic discussions both at the department level and with each research group, where we will summarize important achievements over the last decade and formulate the most important priorities for the coming years helping us to guide our choices and actions going forward.

An important aspect is career development and education of new research leaders. We are lucky to have the Trond Mohn Foundation also seeing this as important priority, and the department has been active in using their starting grants program. One of the prime examples is Lilya who gave a very interesting interview with the foundation recently, where she especially emphasizes the career development courses and the support for mentors as valuable for her own development. It is important for the department to work further with our young research talents and help develop them as researchers and research leaders, and we look forward to many more success stories in the years to come!

I would like to use this opportunity to thank each of you for all your efforts in the year that is coming to an end and wish you a very happy holiday and Christmas time!

For many of us there are still some working days before the holidays get started, and 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:
- Oppsummering av annerledes året 2022
- Norges største gjenbruksprosjekt
- Vår sektor er i endring igjen
Helleseth symposium

Prof. Tor Helleseth has made important scientific achievements in coding theory, sequence design, and cryptography; and he has been the major driving force for the excellence and international visibility of the Selmer Center.

On December 5-6, 2022, the Selmer Center organized a symposium at Solstrand, dedicated to Helleseth’s important works in the fields and celebrating his 75th anniversary.

Secret santas

Two mysterious figures were seen wandering the hallways and leaving gifts with various groups.

The two unidentified suspect have been described as “merry” and “wishing the department a great holiday”.
Christmas party

On the 9th of December, we finally experienced the return of our annual Christmas party!

A big thanks to May-Lill Helgesen for organizing a wonderful party, and to Sondre Bolland for the excellent quiz.
Welcome, new colleagues!

Boris Djalal

Boris has started as a researcher in the algorithms group, studying formalization of algorithms in proof assistants. Boris is originally from France, where he did his PhD at The National Institute for Research in Digital Science and Technology (Inria).

Welcome, Boris!

Current Issues

Teachers retreat

Save the date 28 and 29 March!
To all teachers at the faculty
The faculty’s teachers retreat will be held 28 March 12:00-17:00 and 29 March 9:00-12:00. It will take place on campus and will therefore not include an overnight stay.
More information on the program and theme will be published later.
Merry Christmas!
Best regards,
Sigrunn Eliassen, Vice-Dean for Education

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.
2023 NORA Awards - Call for Nominations

NORA is seeking nominations for their annual awards 2023! The NORA Annual Awards are given to recognise exceptional efforts of individuals and actors in the Norwegian AI community throughout the year.

Read more and submit your nomination here.

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Invitation to showcase your work at the SDG Conference 2023

Dear PhDs and postdoctoral researchers,

It is our pleasure to invite you to present your work at the upcoming SDG Conference 2023!

The sixth SDG Conference Bergen will take place 8-10 February 2023 with the theme “A just transformation to a sustainable future” (see SDG Conference Bergen | University of Bergen [uib.no] for details). This fully digital conference provides new opportunities to present emerging and important research by motivated PhD students and postdoctoral researchers addressing the conference themes. We therefore invite all PhDs and postdoctoral researchers that are interested to present a videorecorded poster on your research and how it relates to the theme of the upcoming conference.

The deadline for submitting a two-minute videorecorded poster is 31 January, 2023.

For more information on details on how to record your contribution and practical information regarding submitting, please see attached pdf flyer with information. Your poster videos will be showcased in the conference platform and available for all digital participants to view.

This is a great opportunity to share your research with a global audience and we hope to see your presentation at the conference!

Want to attend the conference? Register here!
UiB Ferd

“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:

- How to meet Open Science requirements
- Introduction to Data Management Plans (DMP) (Course)
- GIS-Workshop (Workshop)
- Research Data Management in the active phase of research (Course)
- Get a better overview of your research field (Workshop)

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.

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), robert.odowd@unileon.es
Dates: 7 / 9 / 14 / 16 February 2023

This course will have four contact days over a two-week period.

The course is a combination of live sessions via zoom and asynchronous tasks and discussions which will take place in a Virtual Learning Environment.

Read more.

Vacant positions

- PhD Research Fellow in Informatics – Didactics
- PhD Research Fellow in Informatics – Cryptology (up to 2 positions)
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

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

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

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

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 Researcher Project for Young Talents (FRIPRO):** The Research Council of Norway is planning to announce a call for funding to give talented young researchers the opportunity to pursue their ideas and lead a research project. This call is targeting researchers in the early stages of their careers, 2–7 years after their PhD defence, and under the age of 40.

Application deadline: 15 March 2023 (tentative date)

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**New TMS Starting Grants:** Funding is available for young international or national candidates with outstanding academic merit and research potential.

Before starting to write an application, please contact Stefanie Meyer. This type of grant requires a considerable own contribution from the department, and all applications need special approval from the respective groups and department leadership before commencing any proposal work.

Application deadline: 8 March 2023 (stage 1)

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**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

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**New ERC AdG:** ERC Advanced Grants are for established, leading principal investigators who seek long-term funding to pursue a ground-breaking, high-risk project.

Application deadline: 23 May 2023

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**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

New 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 and as such is used to organise and fund events, Short-term Scientific Missions, Training Schools, communication activities, and virtual networking tools.”

Application deadline: 25 October 2023
The European Commission has released the new work programs for Pillar II (Global Challenges) for the years 2023-2024. We have sent an email to all group contacts for further information about the research support services at the department for Pillar II proposals, as well as a list over potentially interesting topics (see also below). We encourage everyone/all our groups to look carefully at the work programs and identify relevant topics. For questions, please do not hesitate to contact Stefanie Meyer.

29.03.2023
Efficient trustworthy AI - making the best of data (AI, Data and Robotics Partnership)

13.04.2023
Integrated, multi-scale computational models of patient patho-physiology ('virtual twins') for personalised disease management

13.04.2023
Better integration and use of health-related real-world and research data, including genomics, for improved clinical outcomes

20.04.2023
Computational models for the development of safe and sustainable by design chemicals and materials

05.09.2023
Digital twin for forecasting of power production to wind energy demand

23.11.2023
Security of robust AI systems

19.03.2024
Fundamentals of Software Engineering

19.03.2024
Explainable and Robust AI (AI Data and Robotics Partnership)

05.09.2024
Critical technologies for the future ocean energy farms

20.11.2024
Post-quantum cryptography transition

You can find all work programs here: Horizon Europe Reference Documents
NORA Annual Conference 2023

NORA has announced that the NORA Annual Conference 2023 will take place in Tromsø, 5-6th of June at Scandic Ishavshotel.

Save the date!

The International Conference on Applied Artificial Intelligence (ICAPAI 2023)

“The International Conference on Applied Artificial Intelligence (ICAPAI 2023) provides an international forum for sharing knowledge and results in theory, methodology and applications of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning for the Digital Society.

The theme of the 3rd International Conference on Applied Artificial Intelligence (ICAPAI 2023) will be “Human-Centric AI for the Digital Society”. ICAPAI will provide an excellent international forum for sharing knowledge and results in theory, methodology and applications of Artificial Intelligence that enables a more Digitalized Society. The conference aims to provide a platform to researchers and practitioners from both academia and industry to meet and share information about cutting-edge developments in the field. ICAPAI 2023 welcomes papers in the following thematic areas:

- Al for digitalized health and welfare
- Al for digitalized education
- Al for digitalized work life and work organizations
- Basic research and technological foundations of AI for the digital society
- Al for energy technology
- Ethical and societal implications of AI in the digital society”

Event: 2 May 2023, hybrid event in Halden. Find more information here.