DIRECTOR’S COMMENTS

Last week’s 4th CCBIO Annual Symposium was a success, with great presentations from our international and national speakers. This year we also had two sessions with young investigators, both from CCBIO and outside. And equally important—we all had time to interact and develop new contacts and potential collaborations, in the beautiful surroundings at Solstrand! I would like to thank those of you who attended and particularly actively, and made this the “best CCBIO symposium ever”.

I would also like to remind you of the upcoming course CCBIO903. Registration deadline is tomorrow, so please register if you did not attend last year.

Best regards, Lars A. Akslen, Director

NATIONAL PHD COURSE

Have you ever struggled to cope with the complexity of cancer biology, while also trying to produce results that are relevant for the research community? Or maybe you’ve thought about the difficult gap between patients' expectations and what your science can actually provide? Have you thought wider about how your science can contribute to debates on what is good for society? And if everyone should have access to the newest cancer therapy? If these questions have crossed your mind, this course is made for you!

The PhD course CCBIO 903 Cancer Research: Ethical, economical and societal aspects runs May 23rd to 27th and June 13th to 17th 2016.

Registration for vacant places until May 19th. All PhD students in cancer research (in Norway and abroad) are welcome to apply.

Read more here.
Outside the birds are twittering in the warm sun. Inside are cold facts on biomarkers and immuno therapy, including research which may lead to cancer testing through urine samples. CCBIO’s Annual Symposium offers a widespread program.

"CCBIO are doing impressive research, they are at the level of the best in the USA", says cancer researcher Marsha Moses. She is from Harvard Medical School and world leading in her field - cancer detecting biomarkers in urine.

Moses is one of more than 200 cancer researchers gathered at Solstrand Hotel outside Bergen at the CCBIO Annual Symposium. The meeting serves as breeding ground for sharing knowledge on biomarkers, or the unique fingerprint of tumors.

"Meeting like this is very important for us as cancer researchers to keep updated", says CCBIO Director Lars A. Akslen.

Read article here about the CCBIO Annual Symposium May 10th and 11th.

Snapshots from the symposium:

PUBLICATIONS

You can find the last publications on this link.

The last 5 are:

**Expression of Heat Shock Protein 27 in Melanoma Metastases Is Associated with Overall Response to Bevacizumab Monotherapy: Analyses of Predictive Markers in a Clinical Phase II Study.**


**Recurrent hormone-binding domain truncated ESR1 amplifications in primary endometrial cancers suggest their implication in hormone independent growth.**


**Five endometrial cancer risk loci identified through genome-wide association analysis.**


**Safety and efficacy of the combination of pegylated interferon-α2b and dasatinib in newly diagnosed chronic phase chronic myeloid leukemia patients.**


**Nanodiamond modified copolymer scaffolds affects tumour progression of early neoplastic oral keratinocytes.**

Onkologisk Forum awards annually a research prize to a young researcher. The candidate must be a cancer researcher working with basal, clinical, epidemiological or translational research and provide research of high quality. The winner must be under 40 years of age and generally have finished his/her PhD. The prize money should be used for research, equipment or an educational journey.

Read the interview here.

You can also see a video of Henrica’s award lecture Predicting survival and response. Prognostic and predictive biomarkers in endometrial cancer.
The play "Stop the cancer cell Gloria Glutton!" is perfect for schools, as it is appropriate for children in the age of 4 to 13. The lecture/stand-up routine "Christine the Cancer Cell – A sociopath in the body" is suitable for youth and adults. Something for your next meeting?

Both are free of charge. Performer is Henriette Christie Ertsås, PhD fellow at the Department of Biomedicine and CCBIO. Henriette stages stories that takes place inside the body, more specifically within the individual cell, and introduce that teeny tiny biology not visible even in the microscope. She is a molecular biologist who works with age-dependent cancer at CCBIO. She is absolutely horrified by the total lack of common decency she has discovered among cancer cells. Having also studied acting she is well suited to tell the story of the wondrous biology of cells.

Fanny Péllissier defended May 9th her dissertation: “The Role of Age in Cellular Responses to Microenvironmental Cues as a Breast Cancer Susceptibility Factor”. Supervisors: Professor James B. Lorens and Dr. Mark LaBarge. See press release.


We congratulate Fanny Péllissier and Himalaya Parajuli with their disputationes for the PhD degree at the University of Bergen!