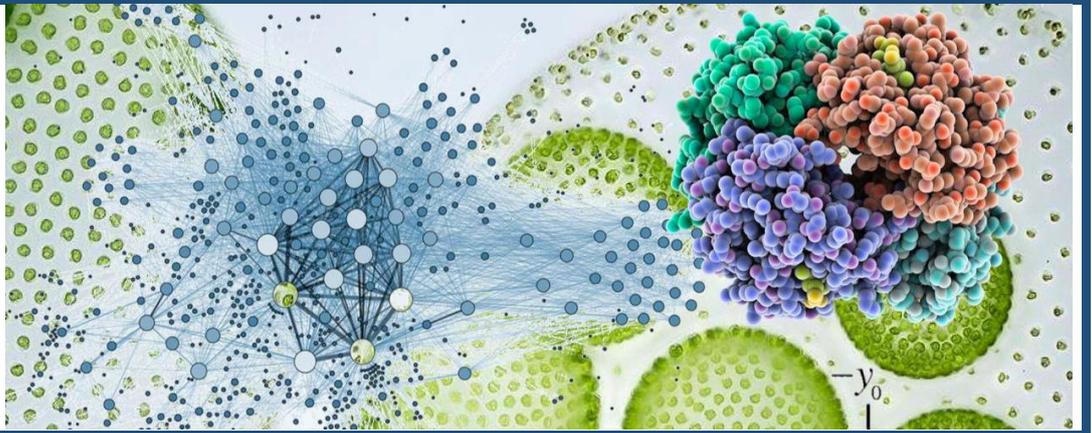


NEWSLETTER

Department of
Informatics



No. 02/2018, 16th May



Editor-in-chief: Pinar Heggernes. Contributions or comments to the newsletter are very welcome.

Dear colleagues,

Last week we celebrated that the government significantly increased the funding of Simula@UiB, ensuring it a stable and lasting existence. This excellent news will have a large positive impact on the University of Bergen and Simula in general, and on the Department of informatics and Simula@UiB in particular. Most of all, it will make a great difference for Norway, being a solid step towards continued excellent research and education in cryptography. There is no doubt that Simula@UiB and The Selmer Center of our department together provide the best research and education in cryptography and secure communications in Norway. Together they have received the highest possible grade in every international evaluation conducted by the Research Council of Norway so far. Furthermore, our bachelor program in information security made it to the top of the list in the 2017 evaluation of all higher education programs throughout Norway. With a significant increase in manpower, Simula@UiB will be able to become more integrated in our educational efforts, which will enable us to provide an even better education in information security. Bergen is clearly strengthening its position as the cryptography capital of Norway!



Celebrations are due also this week. Thursday is the 17th of May, the national day of Norway! Our new colleagues might like to know that this day is a holiday, and everybody in Bergen will be out in the streets to enjoy the parades and have fun. If you join the festivities, you will most likely experience a new side of Bergen and its people. You can either stand in the street to watch the parade, or you can even join the parade! All employees and students can walk in the parade behind the University of Bergen banner, led by our rector and the deans. See the related news item in this letter for details. May is perhaps the best month in Bergen, and the sun has been shining. I hope you take advantage of the nice weather to enjoy the outdoors, after an unusually long and cold winter.

Wishing you all a wonderful 17th of May!

-Pinar



Actualities [The Dean's blog](#) - [På Høyden](#) - [Khrono](#) - [Gemini](#)

Stefan Bruckner - ACM Distinguished Speaker

We are delighted to announce that our Professor Stefan Bruckner has been named a 2018 Distinguished Speaker for the Association for Computing Machinery - ACM. [Learn more.](#) Congratulations Stefan!

Founded over 20 years ago, the prestigious Distinguished Speaker Program brings together renowned international thought leaders to discuss the most vital challenges in computing. Lectures are delivered to ACM chapters, members, and the greater IT community in a variety of venues and formats.



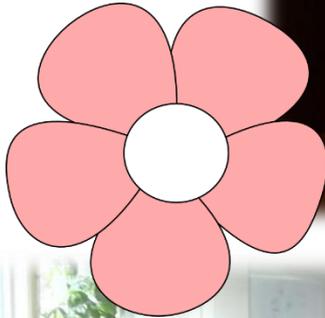
Picture report from our first Faculty and Staff Lunch

Thank you all for coming and giving our newborn "Faculty and Staff Lunch" a good start! Approximately 30 colleagues were gathered for lunch and chatting in our "Green-room" last Wednesday, and Pinar had the pleasure to open the show with the great news that the government significantly increased the funding of Simula@UiB.

Pinar also presented some nice tools offered by the UiB:

[Talida](#) - Teaching and Learning in the Digital Age

and office365.uib.no



The next Faculty and staff lunch will be held on Tuesday 12th June at 12.00



Torstein Strømme elected to the Faculty Board



Our PhD-student, Torstein Strømme, is elected as representative for group B (temporary scientific staff) to the Faculty Board for the next academic year.

Please find detailed information [here](#) (Norwegian only)

Research, Science, and Seminars

Department seminar 24th May

The next department Thursday seminar will be held on the 24th of May.

Automating Testing of Programming Assignments

Anya Helene Bagge, w/Håkon Heggernes Lerring & Knut Anders Stokke

Programming courses typically emphasize practical exercises, since experience is crucial to learning the craft; and to become effective developers, students need to learn not just programming, but also how to use at least some of the wide range of tools a modern programmer relies upon. At the same time, the conscientious lecturer or teaching assistant, will want to keep track of the students' work, in order to offer help, feedback and occasional nagging. In this talk I'll describe the automated programming assignment management and testing system that we've been using for INF101 and INF102 for the past few years, and discuss our experiences with it.

-anya

Workshop in Bergen on Combinatorial Scientific Computing June 6 – 9

The Algorithms group is arranging the SIAM Workshop on Combinatorial Scientific Computing June 6 to June 9. The workshop centers around solving practical combinatorial problems often motivated from linear algebra and in many cases using parallel methods. Invited presenters include Alex Pothén, Åke Björck and Sherry Li.

The workshop will be held in the student center. [Information about the meeting and schedule.](#)

Course on ERC training, Tartu in Estonia



TARTU ÜLIKOOL
arvutiteaduse instituut

The University of Tartu in Estonia is organizing a course on ERC training for ICT PIs from EU-13 in Tartu, May 23-24. The aim is to encourage and help PIs to apply for ERC starting and consolidator grants in the area of computer science and informatics. The organizers have attracted a number of high-quality experts in the area - from the ERC, grant evaluation panel, research offices and ERC holders themselves to discuss how to succeed in ERC. Participation is free of charge! [More information.](#)

Horizon Lecture: Plasmonics: Photonic Nanoscience for Sustainability and Societal Impact

Photothermal effects can have a positive impact both on society and sustainability.

Professor Naomi Halas sheds light on the field of plasmonics in her Horizon lecture on 24 May at 16-18, Egget, The Student Centre.

Please find [more information here](#).

[Join the event on Facebook!](#)



New e-learning portal

The new e-learning portal gives you access to a range of different e-learning courses in Skype for Business, Microsoft Office and Office 365. The e-learning portal is an overview of different courses in digital tools.

The e-learning courses that are available are based on micro-learning. This means that the courses are divided into several short lessons. Each lesson takes maximum five minutes to complete. You have the opportunity to distribute the lessons over time by weekly receiving lessons by email.

The target group for the courses is all students and employees at UiB. [Learn more.](#)



Academic affairs and PhD Updates

Mitt UiB – introduction course for employees

New with Mitt UiB? Sign up for an introductory course on 12th June! The target group is new employees and other employees who have not started using Mitt UiB yet. Please find detailed information and link for registration [here](#).

Reminder: Master's Ceremony 13 June

We remind you that all Master students who complete their degree in the academic year 2017/18 are invited along with supervisors to the Master's Ceremony 13 June 2018 in the University Aula.

[More information.](#)

Important: Supervisor must use [this link for registration](#)



Short report from information meeting: PhD is the new Master?

The 7th May, the department organized an information meeting for students «PHD is the new Master?», aiming to inform the students about what doing a PhD in informatics implies. Please find the [detailed program here](#). Around 20 students showed up, and the informal feedback indicates that the students found the information useful. From now on, we plan to run this kind of information meeting as a yearly event.

Funding Announcements

Excellent Teaching Practitioner (ETP) - Teaching Portfolio Workshop 25 May

The MN Faculty invites teachers to the workshop: *How to write a well-structured teaching portfolio*

The workshop is led by Anders Ahlberg (Centre for Engineering Education, LTH, Lund University).

Time and place: Fri 25 May 2018, 13.15-16.00, Conference room A (ViVite, Thormøhlens gt 51) There is a limited number of places for the workshop so [please sign up here](#)

University teachers have different pedagogical skills and show pedagogical abilities in different ways. This is underpinned by the assessment criteria of the Pedagogical Academy and [Excellent Teaching Practitioner](#) reward system (*Framragende underviser/ETP*) at the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences at UiB. In the ETP process academics apply for the ETP status through the submission of a teaching portfolio which is assessed by an evaluation committee with peers.

The workshop is based on nearly two decades of developing and researching scholarly underpinned reward systems, mainly in STEM disciplines at Lund University [1]. It departs from the notion that it may be a considerable and unusual personal challenge to expose ones own teaching practices to peer review.

The workshop revolves around structured ways to document and analyse teaching practices in ways that both support ones own pedagogical development and helps portfolio reading and assessment. A portfolio must thus be written in a trustworthy and readable manner. To achieve this, the university teacher should problematize teaching and learning observations, demonstrate problem solving through teaching design, and establish how this has influenced student learning. Typically such a portfolio also displays

- teaching career developments from intuitive reactive to deliberate proactive teaching;
- teaching team collaborative efforts; and
- building of useful local or public knowledge of student learning

However, some portfolios are not well structured and thus fail to show the required aspects. In the workshop we will therefore demonstrate typical portfolio writing problems and share a portfolio structure that appears robust with respect to such pitfalls. Further, during the workshop participants will analyze previously assessed sample portfolios in order to develop ideas for their own future portfolio. There will be optional possibilities for workshop participants to engage in peer portfolio feedback and workshop.

Vacant positions

Tenure Track Associate Professor in Machine Learning

Closing date: May 23, 2018. Please find [the announcement here](#)

PhD positions (4) in computer science

Closing date: June 3, 2018. Please find [the announcement here](#)

PhD position in computer science (machine learning)

Closing date: June 3, 2018. Please find [the announcement here](#)

HR, Operations, Health, Safety and Welfare sikresiden.no -

17th of May



[Join the parades!](#)



Fire extinguishing

All employees at our university are required to attend a fire extinguishing course at least once. There are several courses in May, and one in June which is held in English. You can get information about the courses and sign up using [this link](#).

Please notice that there are offering a course in English only once per semester. This semester the course in English will be held on 21st June.



Reminder: Have you registered vacation days?

Summer is soon upon us, and whether you are planning on spending all of it in sunny Bergen or making other arrangements, there is one thing you have to do right away: Register your vacation in PAGA. It is a requirement that everyone registers their holiday, and it is the general rule that all vacation days has to be taken within the year.

Not sure when you'll be going? Register it anyway (you can change it later), and avoid running the risk of someone else deciding when you're going on holiday. You will also be relieved from the stress of being followed up through emails and visits from the administration.

The deadline for registering the summer vacation has already passed, so please make it a priority. Further information on how to register vacation can be found here: <http://pagaweb.b.uib.no/ansatte/5-ferie/>

If you have any questions regarding vacation or the registration of vacation I PAGAWEB, please contact our local HR professional, Linda Vagtskjold, linda.vagtskjold@uib.no

Muscle therapy at BIO

As an HSE measure, our neighbor department BIO offers muscular therapy once or twice a month. The muscular therapist Lars Kallevåg brings his own bench, paper and oil (which does not contaminate clothing) for treatment. A treatment session = 30 min and costs 350 kr. You can book as many treatment hours as you wish. If you are sick or for another reason can not make it to your appointment, you must find a replacement yourself. He prefers payment ahead of the treatment and via Vipps.

The next session is on 22nd May. [Please register on Doodle here](#)