

NEWSLETTER

Department of
Informatics



No. 06/2018
31st August



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

Dear colleagues,

This week we celebrated Magne and Michal who have served our department for many years, and we said farewell to Daniel, who is leaving tomorrow for US, to continue his career there. It is the nature of academic life that people change work place many times until they settle down with a permanent position. A large portion of our colleagues are on fixed term positions, like PhD students and postdocs, and we are used to saying welcome and good bye. Perhaps this is why it is particularly pleasant to celebrate colleagues who have been with us for a long time, and particularly sad to say farewell to colleagues whom we were hoping to keep with us for a longer time.



The past few months, we have said welcome to more new faculty than ever before during such a short time. We have several new young professors, like Pekka, Susanna and Tom, and we are in the process of announcing even more faculty positions. This is wonderful for our department, but it has been a challenging time for the administration. Ever since Linda started as the head of administration, we have been without a new HR person. This, at the same time as welcoming and hiring more people than ever before, has put quite a bit of strain on the administration. I am amazed by their performance, and how they have managed to keep things going so smoothly in this period. We had a lot of renovation going on, and we managed to launch several new social events, which I am extremely happy to see that you are appreciating and participating at the yoga and the Norwegian cake sessions turned out more popular than I dared to hope! Linda and I would like to thank you for your positive attitude, participation and involvement, and your kind feedback.

Still, the leadership of our department has a lot more plans, which we have not yet been able to set into action, due to lack of resources. The good news is that we are about to receive our new permanent HR person; she will arrive mid September! Consequently we hope to be fully operative at a level where we would like to be in just a few weeks. In a few months, the administration will be additionally strengthened with a new person helping us with research proposals, profiling, external contact, recruitment, and research school. I am sure that this will bring us to a level where the administration can to a larger extent make the life of scientific staff easier and enable them to focus more on research. Don't worry though that we will be an administration heavy department. We have the lowest administrative / scientific staff ratio at the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, and we are in the process of hiring at least five new tenure track or tenured faculty in the coming months. With even more to come during 2019, the future is bright, and I am looking forward to it!

I wish you all a very nice weekend!





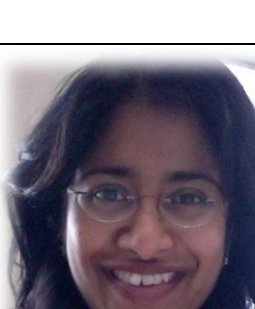
-Pinar



Talking about popular activities: last week's seminar held by our distinguished guest, founder of C++ Bjarne Stroustrup, gathered more than a full VilVite auditorium.



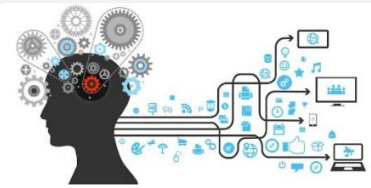
Welcome new employees!

	<p>Dandan Xue</p> <p>Dandan started in her new position as Staff Engineer 25th June. She will be part of Nathalie Reuters' group at the CBU.</p> <p>The position is attached to the project "<i>How do soluble proteins bind to biological membranes?</i>" funded by the Research Council of Norway.</p> <p>Dandan is from China. She did her Master's in Computer Science at the University of Copenhagen in 2017.</p>
	<p>Anagha Joshi</p> <p>Anagha is from India, and started her new position as an Associate Professor in Bioinformatics on 1st August. Anagha is formally employed by the Department of Clinical Sciences (K2), but as one of the new group leaders at CBU, she will share her time between K2 and CBU.</p> <p>Anagha received her doctoral degree in bioinformatics from VIB, University of Ghent, Belgium in 2010. Her latest position was a group leader in computational systems biology at The Roslin Institute, Edinburgh, UK.</p>
	<p>Johannes Kirchmair</p> <p>Johannes is from Germany and started his position as a Professor in Bioinformatics on August 15th. Johannes is formally employed by the Department of Chemistry, but as one of the new group leaders at CBU, he will share his time between K2 and Chemistry.</p> <p>Johannes received his doctoral degree in Cheminformatics from University of Innsbruck, Austria in 2007. His latest position was as Head of the Junior Research Group for Applied Cheminformatics and Molecular Design at the University of Hamburg, Germany.</p>
	<p>Yngve Sekse Kristiansen</p> <p>Yngve started in his new position as Research Fellow (PhD candidate) 20 August. He will be part of the Visualization research group, and Stefan Bruckner will be his main supervisor.</p> <p>Yngve is from Norway. He finished his Master's in visualization at the UiB, our department in June 2018.</p>
	<p>Sushma Grellscheid</p> <p>Sushma starts in her new position as an Associate Professor in Bioinformatics on September 1st. Sushma is formally employed by the Department of Biosciences (BIO), but as she is one of the new group leaders at CBU, she will share her time between BIO and CBU, and she will combine experimental and computational activities in her group.</p> <p>Sushma is from India. She received her doctoral degree in RNA biochemistry from the University of Cambridge in 2004. Her latest position was as group leader and Assistant Professor at Durham University, UK.</p>

Mailing list in Artificial Intelligence

There is a new UiB-wide mailing list about talks, seminars, events and research on AI at UiB and in Bergen.

You can subscribe the list at <https://mailman.uib.no/listinfo/uib-ai>.



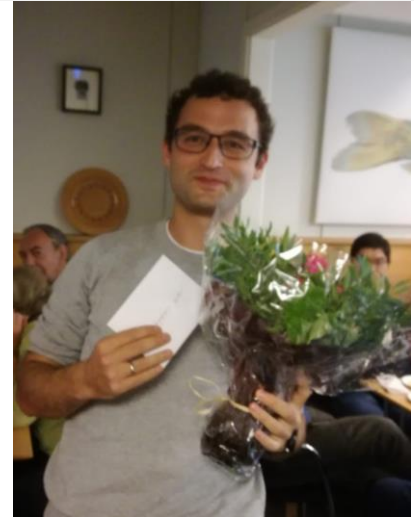
Picture report from Faculty & Staff lunch 29 August



Happy 60th birthday, Magne! And welcome back from your sabbatical.



Congratulations with your 25 anniversary (PAGA says ☺) as employee at the UiB, Michael.



Farewell Daniel, and all the best of luck in your new position at the University of California, Santa Barbara

Next Faculty & Staff lunch: 19 September.

...and in the series of congratulations:

To Jan Arne – Norwegian Veteran Champion in tennis 2018!



Inge Odland visiting from Bergen Technology Transfer (BTO)

BTO works to develop innovation and commercialization of research results in the Bergen region. We help researchers and students develop their innovative idea:

- Apply for funding to optimize or verify your research results
- Patenting considerations
- Establishing contacts with industry
- Market evaluation
- Agreements and contracts



About me: I have a Master of Science in informatic from NTH - 91 and MBA in Strategic Management from NHH - 2012. I have worked over 10 years as an IT consultant, 11 years as CIO in Sparebanken Vest, 4 years as department manager for a consultant company and the last year as business developer at BTO.

I will be present at the Informatics department every Thursday, starting the 6th of September. You will find me next to Linda Vagtskjold's office on 4th floor.

I really look forward to learning more about the various research projects at the Department, and I wish to welcome all to come have a chat! BTO might have more to offer than you know, and I hope that my presence will make BTO's services better known and more accessible to you!

Inge Ådland, (cell: +47 93 00 37 30; email: inge.aadland@bergento.com)

Research, Science, and Seminars

Welcome to Mobility seminar 13 September

International Centre UiB invites researchers, post doctors and PhD candidates who are going on research mobility in 2019 to seminar on 13 September 12.30-14.30 at the Student Centre, International room. This is also a nice opportunity to get to know other outbound researchers and share experiences. The seminar will be held in English.

The mobility seminar will cover the following topics: Financial support, Membership in NIS, Tax, Insurance, Practicalities [Please sign up here](#).

Tenure track position in machine learning: welcome to trial lecture on 17 September

Hamed Rezazadegan Tavakoli is giving a trial lecture in connection with his application for the open tenure track associate professor position in machine learning on Monday 17 September at 09:15 – 10:00 in the large auditorium, Datablokken 2nd floor. The trial lecture will be on a topic which reflects the candidate's research and is relevant for the open position. The trial lecture should be accessible for a general computer science audience, including students at master study level. All are welcome!

NTVA lecture by Noeska 18 September: *"Medical Visualization: Visualizing the Invisible"*



Time: Tuesday, 18 September at 19:00-22:00. Venue: Nansensenteret, Marineholmen.



Our own Noeska Smit is the invited speaker in the first lecture of the autumn 2018 series of NTVA lectures. The NTVA lectures in Bergen are organized in cooperation with Tekna, and they are open to everybody who is interested. This particular lecture is a part of the Innovation Week OPP, which is held in Bergen by BTO this week. Those who want to attend a free meal after the lecture must sign up to post@ntva.no by Friday 14 September.

In the field of medicine, there has been a tremendous growth in the amount of medical imaging data that is acquired, such as computed tomography (CT) or magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scans. In medical visualization, computer-based interactive visual representations of such data are made, often aiming at improved diagnosis, treatment planning, treatment guidance, and/or doctor-patient communication.

At times, there are structures that are not visible in the original medical imaging scans. When these invisible structures are nerves, and they are at risk for damage during surgery, visualizing these invisible structures can be crucial to avoid such damage. In this talk, I will present several examples of my research, aiming at enhancing medical imaging data by integrating information from various sources into a combined visual representation for surgical planning and education purposes.

Academic affairs and PhD Updates

ICT Research School: Seminar 4th – 5th October

Department of Informatics



ICT Research School 2018

The PhD education at the Department of informatics is organized under The Research School in Information and Communication Technology. Every year the school invites to a seminar where the PhD students learn presentation techniques and learn about each other's research.



Date: 4th-5th October

Venue: Fjordslottet Hotell Osterøy

For more information : Marika.Ivanova@uib.no or Martha.Nordberg.Hovd@uib.no

The ICT research school is an annual event organized by PhDs for PhDs. The purpose is to attend talks on various topics and to meet colleagues from other research groups.

Most of the talks this year are planned to be self elected topics given by some of the participants.

There will also be talks given by senior research staff and other faculty members on various topics useful for PhD students.



bioSEMINAR 5 September



Sentre for
fremragende
utdanning



bioSEMINAR
5. september 2018
Klokken 11:00-12:00

Vurdering av, for og som læring.
Hvor står vi, hvor går vi?
Professor Arild Raaheim, Institutt for pedagogikk

Vurderingspolicy ved UiB.
Rapport fra pågående utviklingsarbeid
Rådgiver Magnus Svendsen Nerheim, Prosjektleder DigUiB

Seminarrom K3/K4 Biologen (B), Thormøhlensgt 53A



bioCEED - Sentre for fremragende utdanning i biologi

Enkel servering – [påmelding](#) Alle interesserte er velkommen!

The International Learning Conference ISSOTL2018 Toward a Learning Culture



[Learn more her.](#)

[Sign up for pre-conference workshop here.](#)

Questions? Please contact [Kåre Helleve](#),

We are also invited to [sign up](#) for the [full conference](#).

Deadline Early Bird: **1st September.**

UiB organizes the International Learning Conference ISSOTL2018 Toward a Learning Culture 24-27 October 2018. Employees at the UiB are invited to attend one of the conference's pre-conference workshops free of charge. Since UiB hosts ISSOTL2018, this offer will replace the UiB Learning Conference in 2018. Please note that there are limited seats on each workshop, and are assigned according to the first-come-first-served principle.

The conference's main theme is Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SOTL) - a research approach to teaching and learning in higher education. On October 24, six pre-conference workshops with different themes are offered by experienced and talented international experts.

Funding

Utlysning av Olav Thon Stiftelsens nasjonale faglige priser i naturvitenskap og medisin 2019

Prisene deles ut torsdag 7. mars 2019 i Universitetets aula i Oslo. Fagmiljøene oppfordres til å nominere til Stiftelsens priser. Fristen er 15. september 2018. Kontaktinformasjon, øvrige opplysninger og adresse for innsending går frem av [utlysningen](#).

Vacant positions

Forskningskoordinator (rådgiver)

Closing date: 16.09.2018. Please find [the announcement here](#).

HR, Operations, Health, Safety and Welfare [sikresiden.no](#) – [UiB welfare offers](#)

TABLEAU

TABLEAU is UiB's new financial report system for projects. Some of the reports are particularly tailored for project leaders. Henriette Gallefoss gave us a nice introduction yesterday, and the project leaders will now be able to check the economy and the transactions of their projects whenever they want. For those of you that did not come to the introduction course yesterday, [please find her presentation here](#).

Course in fire protection 6 September



All staff at UiB must complete a course in fire protection every 5 years. Courses are regularly offered by the UiB each months during the semesters. However, quite many of us has not yet taken the course. We therefore aim to give ourselves a "kick-start" by organizing a course only for staff members at our department.

The course is composed by one hour theory and one hour of practical training that will take place outside the building.

Date and time: 6 September, 14-16

Place: Large Auditorium, 2nd floor, and outside Datablokken

Please [sign up here](#) (max 25, first come, first served)

Reminder: Yoga on Wednesdays!

Yoga is a great way to reduce stress and tensions from work. We invite you all to Yoga classes on Wednesdays at 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 pm at the Meeting room in 5th floor.

Our professional yoga instructor, Kjersti Næss, is teaching in English. No signing up, and no participatory fee will be charged. Please bring your own yoga mat. We also have some mats for loan.



The first two weeks, 10 employees joined in each time. There is room for many more. Welcome all!

Kakeklubben

Kakeklubben hadde sitt første møte mandag 27. august. Det var flott oppmøte (13 stk), god stemning, god kake, og vi gleder oss til fortsettelsen ☺

Kakeklubben møtes til lunsj hver mandag kl. 12.00 i spiserommet i 4. et. Alle tar med sin egen lunsj. Vi spiser kake, snakker norsk sammen og kanskje vi også bryner oss på noen quiz-spørsmål fra Bergens Tidende. Marta tar med kake til oss kommende mandag. Alle er velkomne!



Kakeklubben aims to help our international colleagues to practice Norwegian while spending nice time together with people across group borders. Club meetings are held on Mondays at 12 o'clock in the lunchroom, 4th floor. You bring your own lunch, and we share a cake. We hope for volunteers among the club members to bring cakes, and we plan to make a department cake recipe book after some time. All are welcome! We hope to see you there, both internationals and Norwegians!

Christmas Party 23 November – save the date!

This years' Christmas Party will be on Friday 23 November at the Scandic Hotel, Haakonsgaten. Please save the date. More information will follow.

New application period for the cottages at Ustaoset and Tingviken – late autumn 2018

It is now opened to apply for U-heimen, Ottesheimen and Butten at Ustaoset and Tingviken at Utne for the autumn period from 14 October until 31 December 2018.

Please use the [UoB electronic cabin system](#) by logging in with your registered username and password. Upon initial application you must enter some information. All applications must be registered in the electronic cabin system to be included in the draw.

The application deadline is 14 September. Drawing will be done 17 September.



Free concert in the University Aula 5 September



A "drop-in concert" in the beautiful University Aula in Bergen.

Welcome to a piano recital with six outstanding young pianists from all over the world, in Bergen to participate in The Edvard Grieg International Piano Competition 2018.

The concert takes place in the University Aula on Wednesday 5 September. The pianists are among the 12 participants who have been selected by the jury to enter the second round of the competition.

The concert is a "drop in"-arrangement where the audience can enter every 15 minutes between 11.30 and 13.00, with free admittance. Time will show who is playing and what they will play!

The Edvard Grieg International Piano Competition 2018 takes place 1 to 9 September, arranged by KODE Edvard Grieg Museum Trolldhaugen, on co-operation with The Grieg Academy - Institute for music (UiB) and Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra. The first three rounds are free and takes place in Troldsalen (Edvard Grieg Museum Trolldhaugen), and the final concert is Sunday 9 September at 18.00 in the Grieg Hall with Bergen Philharmonic Orchestra.

Place: The University Aula, Muséplassen 3 (entrance Christie Café):

Wednesday 5 September, "Drop-in" every 15 minutes between 11.30 and 13.00.

Stiftelsen Kristian Gerhard Jebsen is the competition's main sponsor and sole private contributor.

Velferdstilbud fra UiB: Putti Plutti Pott



Fredag 30/11 kl. 19.00

Lørdag 01/12 kl. 18.00

Søndag 02/12 kl. 18.00

Sted: Grieghallen

Pris per billett: 285,- (ord.kr. 365,-)

[Mer informasjon.](#)

Bestilling av billetter via billettkontor ved Grieghallen eller telefon: 55216150

Ved bestilling/betaling må en oppgi referanse for UiB pris: Ansattkortet