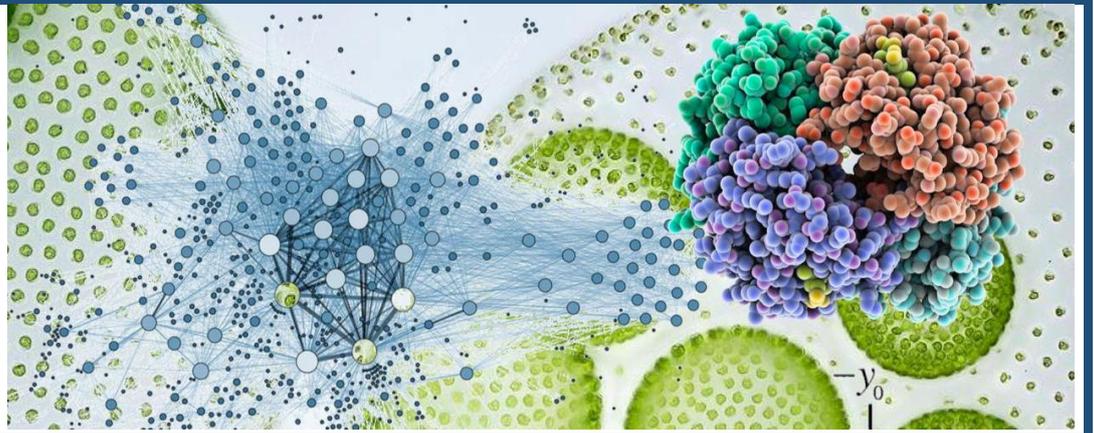


# NEWSLETTER

Department of  
Informatics



No. 08/2018  
28<sup>th</sup> September



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

## Dear colleagues,

We are a little more than a month into the academic year. While we might think that this academic year is still new, NTNU have already started their efforts to recruit next year's students. You might have seen their campaign "CHALLENGE" that has appeared in Bergen newspapers; check out ntnu.no if not. In fact the campaign is more unavoidable in Oslo than in Bergen. There, it appears at the airport, train stations and bus stops, even around the campus of the University of Oslo. It seems like NTNU are quite sure to get the best Bergen students anyway, and thus are concentrating on the students of the capital city instead. Their self-confidence might indeed be justified. Statistics show that students who graduate from the most competitive high schools in Bergen mainly prefer Trondheim for their university studies. Unfortunately we do not have a clear recruitment strategy at our university, neither do we have an enthusiastic and motivating slogan like NTNU's "knowledge for a better world". I think our university needs to invest substantial efforts into making University of Bergen an excellent brand. When it comes to quality of research and education, I am very proud of our department and our university. I dare say we are the best in the country in ICT. But we have a problem communicating this to the prospective students. A successful brand building for the whole University of Bergen will shine upon every department of our university.



Fortunately, our department is in a great position to help our university build such a brand. For several years now all our master graduates have been getting attractive job offers right after, many times even before, graduation. In a rapidly increasing way, companies are lining up to present themselves for our students, which shows that we are educating IT experts who are able to meet the needs of the business world, not only today but also for the future. A relatively new development is that the same is now happening with our PhD graduates. We used to think that a PhD is mainly an education for an academic career. However, these days almost all our PhD graduates in informatics are recruited to attractive jobs in leading companies right after graduation, no matter how theoretical their research might have been. Equinor in Bergen, for example, has 11 of our PhDs at the moment, with two more to start in November. Of these, 10 started there since 2016, either in direct positions or via consultancy companies. Traditional belief has been that only PhDs from NTNU or so-called "industrial PhDs" would be attractive for companies. Our department demonstrates that solid education and research in fundamental informatics are exactly what leading companies of Norway need to meet their current and future challenges. The most attractive asset of our PhDs is their ability to quickly dive into a large variety of application areas, grasp the related problems, and start producing solutions. After two decades of building new technology upon existing knowledge, finally there is understanding for the need to dive deep into the basics and develop new methods, algorithms and solutions for fundamental computer science problems, to advance the field itself rather than only its applications. We are happy to provide excellent research and excellent graduates at all levels to meet these challenges.

I wish you all a very nice weekend!

-Pinar

### The Dean's Blog – Helge K. Dahle

[The Dean's blog](#) aims to inform us of ongoing work and processes at the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences.

His latest postings: [Slik kan vi få til omstilling og forbedring](#) - [Derfor etablerer vi Bergen Offshore Wind Centre](#) - [Alle dyr er like, men noen dyr er likere enn andre](#) - [Slik blir årets lønnsoppgjør](#)



## Welcome new employees!



### Pierre Gillot

Pierre started in his new position as Research Fellow in Machine Learning in September. Pekka will be his main supervisor.

Pierre is French. He holds a Master's degree in mathematical research and a Master's degree in signal/image /video processing, both from the University of Bordeaux.



### Carl M. Jones

Carl is a visiting PhD in his second year and is mostly interested in modelling the properties of stress granules, but also in cell culture and microscopy. He will be continuing to work with Dr. Sushma Grellscheid in bioinformatics at the CBU.

Carl finished his integrated masters in physics from the University of Durham in 2012.

## Actualities [På Høyden](#) - [Khrono](#) - [Gemini](#)

### Congratulations Mike!



Mike has been awarded membership in [Academia Europaea](#)!

## Report from the Operations Research + Parameterized Complexity Workshop



About 50 researchers participated in [the Operations Research + Parameterized Complexity Workshop](#) held 17-18 September at Hotel Solstrand and for the remainder of the week at UiB. Keynote lectures were presented by Professors Kurt Mehlhorn (Max-Planck-Institut für Informatik, Saarbrücken, Germany), Irina Gribkovskaia (hiMolde, Norway), and Liming Cai (University of Georgia, USA).

In the evening, participants enjoyed a new Computer Science Unplugged! activity called "The Invisible Graph". The idea for the workshop came about when 8 researchers from the University of Kiel, led by Sebastian Berndt, proposed a research visit to UiB. A large amount of new ideas were discussed during the workshop. A good number of inspiring works and new connections will result.

## Report from Teacher BEBRAS Meeting

On Thursday 13th of September, Frances Rosamond and her Bebras-team invited teachers who teach children of the age 6 to 19 years old to an information meeting to Amalie Skram VGS.

Bebras is an international project and competition to promote computational thinking among school students, and UiB is the hub of the Bebras initiative in Norway!

We enjoyed waffles and a talk by our Bebras expert – Eljakim Schrijvers: "What is computational thinking, and why does it matter?". After the meeting we had a lovely dinner in town.

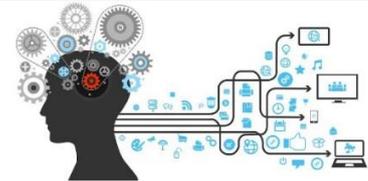


## Research, Science, and Seminars

### 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>.



### Workshop, web publishing on uib.no 12th October

#### WORKSHOP

🕒 12.10.2018 - 09.00–15.30

📍 Læringslaben i MCB, Lars Hilles gate 30, tårn 1, 3. etasje

All content providers on uib.no are invited to a [workshop](#) at the Learning Lab in Media City Bergen on 12<sup>th</sup> October between 09.00 and 15.30. People from the UiB Communication department will be available all day for answering questions and giving us assistance. At MCB there are no desktops, so bring your own laptop.

We run a quick review of features related to the revision of content at uib.no at 9am and after lunch, at 1215

All are welcome, and you are free to decide when to come and when to leave within the workshop hours.

### Reminder: Nomination of journals to level 2

Journals and other publication channels classified as "level 2" give more publication points than "level 1". You can read about this national classification system at <https://npi.nsd.no/>. We can all suggest which journals should be lifted to level 2 and which should be taken down to level 1. If you have suggestions in this direction, please give your feedback using the following procedure:

- gå til <https://npi.nsd.no> og registrere seg som bruker, eller logge seg inn hvis man allerede har en brukerkonto
- velge fagfelt «Informatikk» eller «Datateknikk og datavitenskap» og deretter publikasjonskanal man ønsker å foreslå  
direkte link til **Informatikk**: <https://npi.nsd.no/fagfeltoversikt/fagfelt?id=1039>  
direkte link til **Datateknikk og datavitenskap**: <https://npi.nsd.no/fagfeltoversikt/fagfelt?id=1045>
- klikke på tannhjul ved siden av publikasjonskanalnavn
- skrive inn forslag til nivå-2 med begrunnelsen som faglig kommentar og kom også med forslag hvilke kanaler evt. skal ned fra nivå-2 til nivå-1; kommentaren er ikke anonym, og alle kan lese kommentaren
- frist: 5. oktober**

## Academic affairs and PhD Updates

### PhD defence – Tetiana Yarygina



Tetiana Yarygina will defend her thesis "Exploring Microservice Security" on October 1st at 12.30, Large Auditorium. All are welcome!

- Opponent: Professor, Doctor in Sciences, Coen De Roover Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium
- Opponent: Fagansvarlig for applikasjonssikkerhet, ph.d Tor Erling Bjørstad, mnemonic
- Committee member: Førsteamanuensis, ph.d Noeska Smit, Department of Informatics, University of Bergen
- Custos: Associate Professor Uwe Egbert Wolter, University of Bergen

Please find [the press release here](#).

### PhD trial lecture and defence – Siddhartha Kumar



Siddhartha Kumar will hold the trial lecture "Age of information" on 3<sup>rd</sup> October at 13.00 at Simula@uib conference room, 7<sup>th</sup> floor

She will defend her thesis "Privacy, Security, and Repair in Distributed Storage Systems" on 17<sup>th</sup> October at 10.15, ViIVite auditorium. All are welcome!

- Opponent: Associate Professor, ph.d Salim El Rouayheb, Rutgers University, Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering, USA
- Opponent: Professor, ph.d Camilla Hollanti, Aalto University, Department of Mathematical Systems Analysis, Finland
- Committee member: Senior Researcher, ph.d Håvard Raddum, SIMULA@UIB, Norge
- Custos: Professor Stefan Bruckner, University of Bergen

Please find [the press release here](#)

### PhD defence – Sergej Stoppel



Sergej Stoppel will defend his thesis "User-Centric Parameter Specification for Interactive Virtual and Physical Visual Representations" on Friday 19 October at 10:15, Large Auditorium, Datablokken, HIB. All are welcome!

- Opponent: Associate Professor, PhD Pere-Pau Vázquez, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Spain
- Opponent: Associate Professor, doc. Ing. PhD Daniel Sýkora, Czech Technical University in Prague, Czech Republic
- Committee member: Professor, Dr.rer.nat. Jan-Joachim Rückmann, Department of Informatics, UiB
- Custos/ Leader of the defence: to be decided

As soon as the press release is available, it can be found [here](#).

### Reminder: 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](#).

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.

## Excellent Teaching Practitioner (ETP)

New application deadline for the [Excellent Teaching Practitioner](#) reward system (*Framragende underviser/ETP*) at the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences at UiB is 10<sup>th</sup> October 2018. 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. [Learn more.](#)

## Kommunikasjonsfrokost 4. oktober kl. 08.00 i Media City Bergen

Møt tre forskere som bruker film som en viktig del av både undervisning, forskning og formidling.

Film kan være et redskap for å gjøre forskning mer tilgjengelig, både i undervisning og i forskningsformidling. De fleste forskere ønsker at deres forskning skal bli sett av flest mulig. Men det er ikke alltid lett å fange oppmerksomheten i et stadig mer krevende medielandskap. Og egner all forskning seg like godt på film?

Dette frokostseminaret gir deg smakebiter på hva film og levende bilde kan brukes til: Hvor vanskelig er det egentlig å lage en filmsnutt selv? Tre forskere fra tre ulike forskningsmiljø gir deg tips og råd, og deler av sine erfaringer fra bruk av kamera.

Frokost serveres fra kl. 08 og programmet starter 08.30-09:30.

### Program:

- Kort intro ved produsent [Tane Holm Høisæter](#) fra Kommunikasjonsavdelingen/DigUiB lærings- og formidlingslab.
- Tre forskere om sine erfaringer med produksjon og bruk av film i forskning og undervisning:  
[Scott Bremer](#) er forsker i samfunnsfag ved Senter for vitenskapsteori (SVT), og jobber mest med klimatilpasning som en sosial prosess. Han har brukt film for å stimulere og kommunisere forskning om klima i Bangladesh på TRACKS prosjektet.  
[Anne Blanchard](#) er forsker ved Senter for Vitenskapsteori (UiB), og har i fire år forsket på de sosiale og etiske aspektene rundt kreftmarkører. Hun har brukt kameraet i et prosjekt om olje og fisk i Lofoten i 2014, som en måte å dele meldinger fra lokale beboerne direkte til politikerne.  
[Håvard Hallås Stubseid](#) er stipendiat ved Institutt for geovitenskap. Våren 2018 startet han en ph.d i geokjemi i tilknytning til K.G. Jebsen senter for dyphavsforskning ved UiB. Doktorgradsprosjektet hans omhandler studier av vulkansk aktivitet i dyphavet, med fokus på de Arktiske Midthavsryggene mellom Norge og Grønland. Håvard har brukt video i undervisningen og brukt kamera på forskningstokt i Norskehavet.

**Møtet er gratis og åpent for alle interesserte UiB-ansatte.** [Påmelding](#) innen mandag 1. oktober på grunn av matbestilling. [Kalenderevent på uib.no/ansatt](http://uib.no/ansatt)

## “Shut up and write”

*Are you a PhD or Postdoc, and struggling with finding the time to sit down and write? Come and join us for **Shut up and write** at the science library!*

Shut up and Write is an informal gathering with the aim of giving you **a dedicated time and space to focus on writing**. It consists of:

- A distraction-free workspace: no phones, no emails, no interruptions.
- Structured working blocks: 45 minutes writing, 15-minute break
- Coffee, biscuits and chat with other writers during the break

The event will be run every **Wednesday, 14.00-16.00 (-18.00) at the Library for Mathematics and Natural Sciences** (ground floor, Realfagsbygget/the Science building, Allégaten 41). While the main event is 14.00-16.00, the workspaces will be reserved for SUaW until 18.00, and you are welcome to join at any break (the first 10 mins of every hour e.g. 14.00-14.10, 15.00-15.10, etc. – doors close and writing begins at 10 past!). Begins **26<sup>th</sup> September**.

There are Shut up and Write events in libraries, universities and cafes all over the world, with the aim of helping people to get writing. The idea is that writing along with others in a structured and relaxed environment with defined periods of active writing and breaks, gives you increased inspiration to write yourself. See <http://www.shutupwrite.com/>, and <https://thesiswhisperer.com/shut-up-and-write/> for more information.



## Funding

### Idea Competition 2018

Win 500.000,- to the development of an innovative idea! Sparebanken Vest and BTO gives researchers in Bergen a unique opportunity to win 500.000,- in the Idea Competition 2018. This can be the kick-start your idea needs. Fill out a short form to submit an idea today! [Learn more](#)

#### Application process

1. Fill out the [short idea description form](#) according to the best of your knowledge.
2. Send the form to [idea@bergento.no](mailto:idea@bergento.no) **Deadline:** 18th October 2018



## Vacant positions

### PhD positions (2) in information theory

Closing date: 15.10.2018. Please find [the announcement here](#).

### PhD position in Software Language Engineering

Closing date: 10.10.2018. Please find [the announcement here](#).

### Tenure Track Associate Professor in software

Closing date: 25.11.2018 Please find [the announcement here](#).

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

### Department HSE-seminar 11 October: “Working in a multicultural environment”



This year's Department HSE-seminar theme will be “Working in a multicultural environment”. The speaker will be Karin Ellis from [Ellis Culture](#). Ellis Culture aims to simplify the daily lives of people working across cultures. You will learn some of the codes of conduct and unwritten rules of the culture you are going to interact with. You may achieve improved communication and co-operation with people from other cultures in just a few hours! Her course in intercultural communication is practically oriented, based on her 30 years' work experience from international environments.

Our Department is composed by employees from 35 different nations. Moreover, about 70% of us is not originally from Norway. This makes intercultural communication a very relevant theme for us. Welcome all on 11 October at 14-16, large auditorium.

### Reminder: Fire extinguishing



All employees at our university are required to attend a fire extinguishing course at least once.

There are several courses offered this semester: 4<sup>th</sup> October, 18<sup>th</sup> October and 25<sup>th</sup> October (in English).

[Learn more.](#)



## "Do you know what to do in case of an emergency?"

[Sikresiden.no](http://Sikresiden.no) (On the Safe Side) is a mobile-optimised website. It provides you with user-friendly training and advice on what you should do in emergency situations. Sikresiden.no is specially adapted to students and staff at universities and university colleges, among other things, by making the local emergency number at their institutions easily available. The information is available in Norwegian and English.

## 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Reminder: Kakeklubben on Mondays

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. 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, 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Have you registered vacation days?

Autumn is upon us and soon it will be a new year. And whether you are planning on spending the rest of your 2018 vacation days under the sun or in the snow, there is one thing you have to do right away: Register your rest-vacation for 2018 in PAGA. It is a requirement that everyone registers their vacation, and it is the general rule that all vacation days has to be taken within the calendar year.

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

Further information on how to register vacation can be found here (in Norwegian): <http://pagaweb.b.uib.no/ansatte/5-ferie/> If you have any questions regarding vacation or the registration of vacation I PAGAWEB, please contact your local HR professional at your department, [Lene Engelsgjerd](#).

## Bergen International Film Festival (BIFF): Discounted Tickets

Bergen International Film Festival will take place from September 26<sup>th</sup> to October 4<sup>th</sup>.

Employees at UiB can buy discounted tickets for all regular festival screenings. The ticket price for UiB staff is 65 NOK and tickets are on sale now. Please remember to bring your staff ID.



Read more about [the program here](#)

## 1980 Aker Brygge - eller kunsten å selje si eiga mor

«1980 Aker Brygge» has been played with great success in Oslo and Stavanger. We now invite you to experience the esteemed theatre-company Statsteatret at Hordaland Teater, Logen.

The company's project on Norwegian history has now reached the 1980's; a decade where dreams are made and bubbles burst. This is the story of how the trading market and commercial interests boosted expressions like "corruption", "inside trading" and "milking the cow" in Norwegian language.

We meet two brothers trying to make a fortune in a new time of possibility. Their journey from mums homecooking to exotic restaurants and luxurious apartments at Aker Brygge inhabits both heartbreaks and great comic relief.

Welcome to Statsteatrets «Norwegian history, chapter 8»!



Billettpris kr. 250 (ord.pris kr. 350). Billetter kan du bestille her:

[Laurdag 20. oktober, Hordaland Teater i Logen](#)

[Torsdag 25. oktober, Hordaland Teater i Logen:](#)

Du kan også bestille billetter på mail til [publikum@hordalandteater.no](mailto:publikum@hordalandteater.no) Hugs på å vise til tilbudet til UiB.

## Welfare offers DNS: Gitaristene og Folk og røvere i Kardemomme by på DNS

### Gitaristene:

Musikals komedie om livet. Og døden

Torsdag 4.oktober kl 19.00. Lille Scene. **UiB pris kun 190,-**

[Bestill her](#) eller ring 55 60 70 80:

### Folk og røvere i Kardemomme by:

Fredag 26.oktober. Store Scene. **UiB pris kun kr 100,-**

[Bestill her innen 5.oktober](#)

### Folk og røvere i Kardemomme by:

Lørdag 10.november. Store Scene. **UiB pris kun kr 100,-**

[Bestill her innen 20.oktober](#)

### Folk og røvere i Kardemomme by:

Lørdag 24.november. Store Scene. **UiB pris kun kr 100,-**

[Bestill her innen 3.november](#)