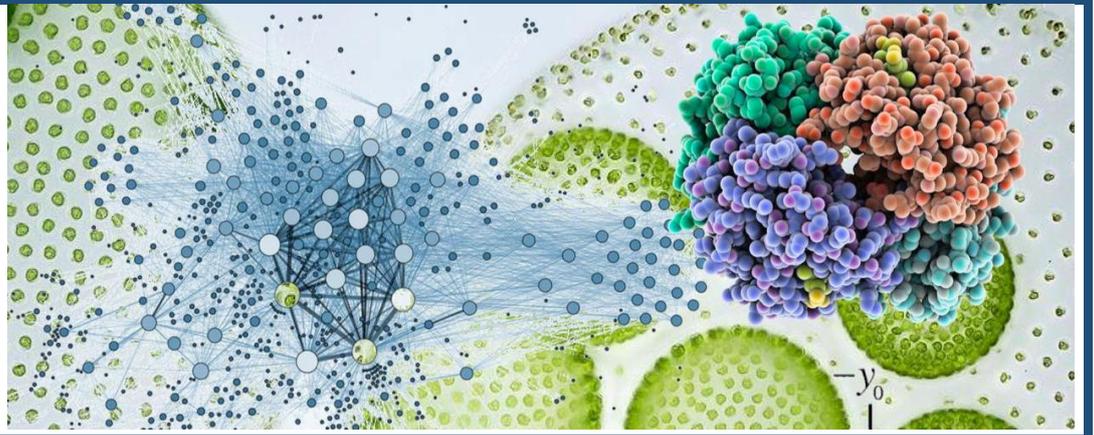


NEWSLETTER

Department of
Informatics



No. 10/2019
24th May 2019



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

Dear colleagues,

This week, Karen Uhlenbeck received the [Abel Prize](#) 2019 “for her pioneering achievements in geometric partial differential equations, gauge theory and integrable systems, and for the fundamental impact of her work on analysis, geometry and mathematical physics.” The Abel Prize recognizes contributions to the field of mathematics that are of extraordinary depth and influence. Although the prize ceremony is in Oslo, every four years the winner visits also our university and gives a lecture for our students and researchers. Yesterday, several of us had the pleasure to listen to Karen’s talk at VilVite, and a few of us had the honor of accompanying her at dinner in the evening.



The whole event around Karen’s talk was inspiring and motivating in many ways. She is the first woman to receive the prize and of course this was given a lot of emphasis. This fact is indeed a great inspiration for many women, both in mathematics and in all sciences.

However, there is a fine balance when we want to highlight successful women as role models. It is very important to understand that she received the prize because of the way her work has dramatically changed the mathematical landscape, and not because she is a role model for thousands of women. The latter is a consequence of, and not the reason for, her success as one of our time’s greatest mathematicians. Karen herself had a very humble and natural explanation to why she is the first woman to receive the prize. She simply belongs to the first generation of women who were given the same opportunities as men in academia. We might thus expect more women to receive such prestigious prizes in the future.

Another speech that was inspiring, just before Karen’s talk, was one by our prorektor Margareth Hagen. She reminded us all the importance of curiosity driven fundamental research, research that has no other motivation than the urge to know and learn. In a time when quite immediate impact is expected from research, and the emphasis that is given to innovation, it is a pleasure to be reminded of our own [university’s strategy](#). This strategy, that has recently been revised, emphasizes throughout the document, the importance of long term fundamental research. The same is true about the [strategy of our faculty of mathematics and natural sciences](#), and I would like to take this opportunity to encourage you all to read these two documents.

Moving to a quite different topic, we might have a strike at our university starting from later today. Our trade unions are negotiating with the Norwegian state about pension rules. The deadline for coming to an agreement was at midnight and the strike was supposed to start this morning. However, as far as we know, the parts are still negotiating. If you have not heard anything from your trade union or you are not a member of a trade union, then you simply continue your work as normal. Those who received a notification from their unions will leave their duties if the negotiations stop without an agreement. Unfortunately, a strike will have serious consequences for the students, since we will most probably not be able to perform the written exams. All oral exams, master thesis deliveries, and master presentations can go on as normal, as long as they do not involve people who are on strike. Please contact Linda or me if you are in doubt and need advice.

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: [Er karakterer et hinder for læring?](#) - [Akademisk frihet, etikk, prioriteringer og oljepenger](#) - [Dette er tendensene i årets studierekruttering](#) - [Hva kan vi gjøre for å rekruttere de dyktigste kvinnene?](#)



Congratulations colleagues!

Vincent Rijmen is elected as IACR!



Our adjunct professor in security, Vincent Rijmen, is elected as IACR (The International Association for Cryptologic Research) fellow for outstanding contribution to cryptographic community: *“For co-designing AES, contributions to the design and cryptanalysis of symmetric primitives, and service to the IACR.”*

[Learn more here.](#)



Actualities [På Høyden](#) - [Krono](#) – [News from NFR](#) – [News from UiB](#) – [Informatics on Facebook](#)

National survey of bullying and harassment

In the period from 20 May to 31 May 2019, a comprehensive national survey of bullying and harassment among staff in universities and colleges is being carried out, and our institution is part of the survey. You have all received an email with instructions to participate in the survey, and we encourage you all to take part.

Why are we doing this?

Until now there has been little knowledge about the extent of bullying and harassment in the higher education sector. The ARK intervention programme asks questions concerning the work environment but does not ask explicitly about bullying and harassment. We take bullying and harassment seriously and are conducting this survey in order to gather data. The collected data will provide the basis for measures to help prevent and follow up cases of bullying and harassment. Greater awareness of the issue will hopefully lower the threshold for reporting unwanted incidents and ensure that everyone is familiar with our [reporting procedures](#)

We are asking you to participate

Your participation is important to ensure that the information collected by the survey is as reliable and accurate as possible. A survey is only useful if the response rate is high. We hope everyone responds as frankly as possible and, in that fashion, contributes to the gathering of reliable and accurate information. All responses are equally important even if you have not experienced any form of bullying or harassment.

You are anonymous

The survey is anonymous and is conducted at a national level. No names are given and the link between the e-mail address and responses will be deleted immediately after the survey is completed. No staff at individual institutions have access to the data. The collected data and subsequent analysis will be managed by Ipsos Norway. Ipsos read and analyse the data in a way that ensures anonymity in compliance with the personal data protection legislation.

What about the results?

This is a national survey and the results will be presented in June. A national-level report will be produced. Universities and colleges receive a report at institutional level. This means that we will receive results for the whole university, but not at Faculty or department level. The survey results will attract attention both at the national and local level.

Helpline

If you need someone to talk to in connection with this issue, a helpline will be in operation for the duration of the survey. The Clinic for Crisis Psychology in Bergen is responsible for the helpline. Their phone number can be found on the questionnaire. You can also contact your immediate manager, the Division of Human Resources, and/or the university healthcare provider.

The survey – not a whistleblowing system

If you have experienced bullying or harassment in the workplace, we ask you to report it and follow our complaints procedures. Reporting through the survey is not possible since it is anonymous, and no one can track who responded in what way.

Pride-parade with UiB June 8



Saturday June 8 is the annual Pride-parade in Bergen. Come along to celebrate that diversity enrich research and education.

“The University of Bergen (UiB) is actively engaged in promoting equality and diversity. No-one shall experience discrimination on the basis of gender, ethnicity, national origin, language, religion and beliefs, functional abilities, sexual orientation, gender identity or age.” (Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan)

Welcome to the Pride Parade! We walk under the banner “Diversity that shapes society”.

Meet at: Skur 7 by Festningskaaien / Bradbenken at 12 AM. Participants will receive a t-shirt and a rainbow flag. The Parade leaves at 13 PM and finishes in Pride park at Festplassen.

Check out the whole route: <http://bergenpride.no/> Interested? Let us know in our [Facebook Event](#)

Optimization group – first monthly lunch seminar

Yesterday, the Optimization group had their first monthly lunch seminar. They hope to make it a regular and popular one!

Their master students are included, and they will also give talks about their projects. In particular when the masters are giving a talk, the group plan to send an invitation to all students to come.

The first seminar talk was given by Ahmad Hemmati, on Multimodal transport planning.

If you are interested in receiving updates about this seminar, please let Ahmad know. If there is enough interest, they might make an emailing list.



Next Faculty & Staff lunch is on Tuesday 18th June

We will meet in the lunch room on the fourth floor at 12:00 as usual.

Master's Ceremony 2019

The Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences invites students who will complete a master's degree in the academic year 2018/19 to the **Master's Ceremony 6th of June, 2:30 PM, University Aula**. Supervisors are also invited. Please [register](#) by the deadline today 24th May.



Program

- Opening - musical performance - Bergen Trumpet Ensemble
- Welcome
- Greetings from the dean, Helge K. Dahle
- Speech by Jannicke Hilland, CEO of BKK and leader of the faculty board.
- **Student speaker - Ragnhild Aalvik, master's candidate from the Department of Informatics**
- Musical performance - Bergen Trumpet Ensemble
- Celebration of the candidates
- Ending - musical performance - Bergen Trumpet Ensemble
- Group photo session

PhD Updates

Summer School on the Future of Computing, July 1st-5th, Porto, Portugal



We invite candidates to register for the 2nd UPTec School on the Future of Computing, to be held from July 1st to 5th 2019 in Porto, Portugal

We hope that this school provides students with a productive combination of technical knowledge, hands-on experience and insightful outlooks about the major trends in computing technologies, so that they can become themselves active participants in the construction of their future. [Learn more.](#)

Summer School "Challenges in data science: big data, artificial intelligence and communication"- University of Valencia

The University of Valencia will be hosting its 2nd Summer School "Challenges in data science: big data, artificial intelligence and communication". This Summer School faces the present data driven revolution with a view to understanding its scope. The aim is to provide students with advanced knowledge in the exponential increase in data management and applications: big data, cloud computing, text mining, gamification, artificial intelligence, smart cities.

University of Valencia, 1st July – 5th July 2019, for Master's degree and PhD students in Economics, Engineering, Journalism, Sciences, Computing and Telecommunications, Marketing and Communication.

Deadline for the online application: 15th June 2019. [Learn more here.](#)

Research Science and Seminars

Workshop on Kernelization (Worker), June 3-7



The Algorithms group will host the **Workshop on Kernelization (Worker)** on June 3-7. This is a biennial meeting of the kernelization community. [Learn more here.](#)

Header image credit: [KJØKKENUTSTYR](#), provided under license [CC BY-SA 2.0](#).

Workshop on causal inference in complex marine ecosystems at IMR on 11-12 June

Date: 11-12 June 2019

Venue: Institute of Marine Research, Bergen. Tuesday: Nordishavet. Wednesday: Pynnten

Funding opportunities [Research support services](#)

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions: Research Fellowship Programme

The Individual Fellowship (IF) Programme within the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) is a bottom-up, excellence funding program which aims to support the career development and training of researchers through international and intersectoral mobility. One can apply in two main categories: (i) **European Fellowships** are held in EU Member States or Horizon 2020 Associated Countries and are open to researchers either coming to Europe from any country in the world or moving within Europe. The researcher must comply with the rules of mobility in the country where the European Fellowship is held.[1] (ii) **Global Fellowships** are based on a secondment to a third country and a mandatory 12 month return period to a European host. The researcher must comply with the rules of mobility in the country where the Global Fellowship secondment takes place, not for the country of the return phase.[1]; [1] [MSCA-IF-2019](#); Further reading: [MSCA-IF general information](#)

Please note that this program is targeting Experienced Researchers, i.e. researchers that at the date of the call deadline are in possession of a doctoral degree or have at least four years of full-time equivalent research experience.

If you have a researcher in mind that could be relevant for one of the two funding schemes and/or are interested in applying yourself, please contact Stefanie.Meyer@uib.no. Early planning is crucial as this is a highly competitive program.

Application deadline: 11 September 2019

UiB is offering a one-day course for MSCA-IF applicants on 28 May. Please [register for the event via this link](#) by 24 May, 5 pm.

Project Establishment Support (PES) and Positioning funding (POS) for Horizon 2020

The PES2020 scheme is designed to relieve the cost burden related to the preparation of project proposals to H2020 (including ERC applications, MSCA applications, COST applications, Societal Challenges applications etc.). For more information about the current support rates and funded activities, please have a look at [UiB's website](#).

The **POS funds'** next (department) application deadline is **3 June 2019 (10 am Norwegian time)**! Please send your applications to the department's research coordinator (Stefanie.Meyer@uib.no).

Call for CMI and UiB Collaboration Funds 2019

The Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI) has announced a call for funds that shall help to promote research collaboration between CMI and UiB within relevant strategic areas. Questions about the application process can be directed to Project Director, Steinar Hegre, CMI, e-mail: Steinar.hegre@cmi.no, Ph. +47 45865426, or Deputy Director Tore Sætersdal, Center for International Health, Global Challenges, University of Bergen, Ph. +47 55589323 or e-mail: tore.satersdal@uib.no.

Vacant positions

Postdoctoral Research Fellow position within Machine Learning

Closing date: 01.06.2019. Please find [the announcement here](#).

Kommunikasjonsmedarbeider ved MN-fakultetet (dedicated to our department 40%)

Closing date: 31.05.2019. Please find [the announcement here](#).

HR, Health, Safety and Welfare sikresiden.no – [UiB employees welfare benefits](#) - [Credit card UiB](#) - [Fire extinguishing courses](#)

Reminder - smoking is not allowed in the entrance areas of the university buildings

The MN-Faculty has had some complaints regarding people smoking in the entrance areas of our buildings. We would like to remind you that smoking is not permitted in these areas by law and ask all students and employees to comply with this.



Department Boat Trip and Summer Party – save the date 22nd August!



On the 22nd of August, in the afternoon, we are planning a summer party combined boat trip for all our employees together with all our new bachelor and master students of the fall semester of 2019!

Two boats will come and pick us up from Marineholmen, close to the department building. Food and refreshments will be served. There will be games and entertainment.

Reminder: Yoga on Wednesdays

Yoga is a great way to reduce stress and tensions from work. Yoga classes are held at our department 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 participation fee. Please bring your own yoga mat. We also have some mats for loan.



Reminder: Kakeklubben on Mondays



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 or fresh baked waffles. All are welcome! We hope to see you there, both internationals and Norwegians!

Welfare offer from the UiB: NATTJAZZ 2019

Som ansatt ved UIB får du *studentpris* på alle ordinære billetter til Nattjazz 2019. 24. mai - 1. juni - Bergen - USF Verftet. Velkommen til Norges beste jazzfestival!

Begrenset antall - max to pr ansatt pr festivaldag. Førstemann til mølla.

Billettene kjøper du på nattjazz.no Bruk promokoden: **nj2019edu**



Welfare offer from the UiB: "Svar på brev frå Helga"



Tilsette ved Universitetet i Bergen kan få kjøpe rabatterte billetter til [fredag 24. mai](#) og [torsdag 28. mai](#) kl. 19.00 i Logen. Billettpris kun kr. 270 (ord. kr. 420).

Du kan også sende ein epost til publikum@hordalandteater.no



New application period for the cottages at Ustaoset and Tingviken- Autumn 2019



It is now opened to apply for U-heimen, Ottessesheimen and Butten at Ustaoset and Tingviken at Utne for the autumn period from 18 August until 13 October.

Please use the [UoB electronic cabin system](#) by logging in with your username and password.

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