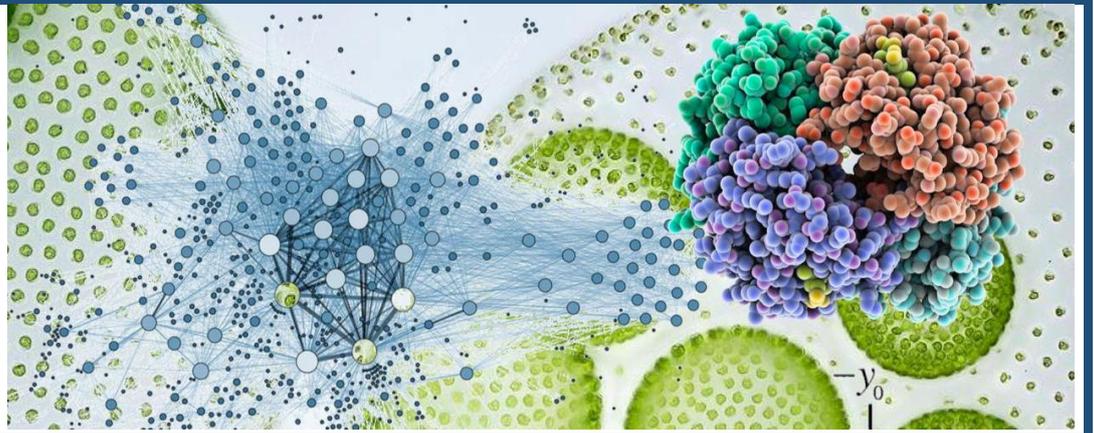


NEWSLETTER

Department of
Informatics



No. 17/2019
18th October 2019



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

Dear colleagues,

Two weeks ago the government of Norway announced the national budget for 2020. The budget suggests significant cuts for universities and the Research Council of Norway. The government emphasizes that the cuts are for a more efficient operation of these institutions and not cuts in research or education. Nevertheless, there is a general worry throughout our sector that this will have negative consequences for research and higher education.

Fortunately, there are good news as well. We are happy that the government suggests an increase of earmarked funds to fundamental research in informatics by 43 million NOK. Although the suggested amount is not huge, it gives a strong message. It is in particular very interesting and to note that they write “informatics”, and not only “ICT” as they usually do. ICT is a term that is used to cover a large variety of topics, whereas informatics is exactly our discipline. When the authorities normally write “ICT research”, they very often mean research in other fields that use information technology. The fact that this time they actually write “[fundamental research in informatics and ICT as a fundament for digital transformation](#)” gives hope that our message is reaching through: for Norway to prepare for a robust future without oil as the main income, research and education in informatics must play a central role.

Most of the good [news for our university regarding the national budget](#) concern digital resources that our university provides for society in general and for schools in particular. There are also new study slots for technologies and disciplines to promote a green transition. This should be good news for our Faculty of mathematics and natural sciences, with its main focus on research and education in energy transition. More good news from the government are for students. They get increased funding and loan during their studies, and the government proposes to conduct a nationwide welfare survey among students.

[IKT Norge](#), the interest group for the Norwegian ICT industry, has announced their disappointment in that there are no new designated study slots for study programs in informatics or IT in this national budget. They estimate that 5000 new study slots are needed in this government period, which means 1500 new study slots in 2020, to cover the needs of Norwegian industry and companies. Another reason for disappointment could be that artificial intelligence and machine learning are not given much attention in the national budget. This is somewhat surprising, since the minister of digitalization has been putting a significant effort in designing a national strategy in AI.

Regardless of the news, our job is to take the signals from the authorities into consideration when conducting our mission: excellent research and education in informatics. An increasing share of our job is also to explain to the authorities and the general public what Norway needs in the future and why. Increased funds to fundamental research in informatics give hope that our efforts in this direction are not in vein, and our voice is actually heard. This gives renewed and increased inspiration to continue our outreach activities. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who are active in this direction.

I wish everybody 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: [Vi kan ikke effektivisere administrasjonen inn i evigheten](#) - [Vi må også kunne undervise på norsk](#) - [Vi må strekke oss langt for å hindre frafall](#) - [Hun er en god rollemodell i vår satsing på IKT-fagene](#)



Current Issues [På Høyden](#) - [Khrono](#) – [News from NFR](#) – [News from UiB](#) – [Informatics on Facebook](#)

The Honorary Doctor week of Anne Canteaut

Distinction

16/10/2019

Anne Canteaut nominated Honorary Doctor at the University of Bergen, Norway.



@University of Bergen

Since 1951 the University of Bergen, Norway, has been nominating Honorary Doctors, the highest honor the University can award to people not employed at the University but that have distinguished themselves with their outstanding work in a particular field.

On October 15th 2019, Anne Canteaut, Research Director at Inria and head of the project-team SECRET had the honor of being nominated.

Anne Canteaut is of the world's leading expert in cryptology. Her research focuses on two main areas: mathematics and cryptology, dealing with computer and communications security. She has also done ground-breaking work on encryption algorithms, particularly in processes that ensure the confidentiality of data. She has designed cryptographic algorithms, and is one of the pioneers of cryptographic Boolean functions.

Anne Canteaut has been an active partner in research and international activities involving the Selmer Centre, a research center for secure and reliable communication, at the Department of Informatics in the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural sciences at the University of Bergen.

Keywords: Algorithm - Cryptography - Inria - Research - Distinction - Cryptology - University of Bergen - Reward

[Link to the Inria web news](#)

Monday: guest of honor during the opening of the University Museum



Tuesday: Professor in cryptography Anne Canteaut receiving a honorary doctorate from our rector Dag Rune Olsen, while our dean Helge Dahle is introducing her.



Photo credit Gunn Mangerud

Wednesday: VilVite lecture: [“Cryptanalysis – a Never-Ending Story”](#)



Public analysis is the only reliable security argument

Photo credit: Helwig Hauser

..and dinner in Knut Fægri's hus hosted by our department



Thursday: Department seminar “Lightweight cryptography - when cryptography meets mathematics”



...and in the afternoon, key note speaker and panel member in our women network seminar at Hotel Scandic Ørnen



Welcome new colleagues!



Farhad Vadiie

Farad started this week in his new PhD position in algorithms funded by the Research Council of Norway through the IKTPLUS initiative. Mateus de Oliveira Oliveira will be his main supervisor.

He will work on the project "*Automated theorem proving from the mindset of parameterized complexity theory*". The goal of the project is to develop faster algorithms for problems of relevance in the field of automated reasoning, and in particular, in the field of automated theorem proving.

Farhad is from Iran. He did his Master's in Theoretical Computer Science at the Sharif University of Technology in June 2019. The Master thesis is about dominating sets of graphs and its algorithms.

Congratulations colleagues!

Olav Bakken - Kirill Simonov - William Lochet

Congratulations Olav Bakken, Kirill Simonov and William Lochet!

Best Norwegian team in NCPC 2019, and number 3 among the Nordic teams!

[News in BT to be found here](#)



Siv Midtun Hollup

Congratulations Siv Midtun Hollup with the Patricia Aas-prize for female role-models within technology!

[News in digi.no to be found here.](#)

PhD Updates

There's a new PhD in town – congratulations Katarzyna Anna Chyzynska!



Katarzyna successfully defended her thesis "*Insights into translational regulation from ribosome profiling data*" on Tuesday 15th October.

[Here you can learn more about her project.](#)

Congratulations to Katarzyna, the Bioinformatics/CBU group and supervisors Sushma-Nagaraja Grellscheid and Eivind Valen!



ICT Research School Annual Meeting 2019 (31 October - 1 November, Solstrand)

Every year, the Research School in Information and Communication Technology invites to a seminar where the PhD candidates have the possibility to exchange research ideas and experiences, to build and broaden their research networks, and to improve their presentation skills. The ICT Research School's annual meeting is organized by and for PhD candidates enrolled in the PhD program at the Department of Informatics. This year's organizing committee includes Benjamin Chetioui, Isaac Andrés Canales Martinez, and Wrya Kadir.

If you have questions about the meeting, you can contact them and/or have a look at the following website: [ICT Research School Annual Meeting 2019](#).

Student Affairs

Academic educational day 31 January

UiB's annual academic-educational day for teachers will be arranged on 31 January 2020. We invite all academic staff to contribute with lectures or other forms of disseminations. Please register your contribution before 15 November. Registration form and more information can be found on [this webpage](#)

My Space will be phased out

My Space will be terminated December 31 2019. My Space was phased out after the spring term of 2016 when our new learning management platform Mitt UiB started. Users could, and still can, log on and retrieve content. [Learn more here](#).

After December 31. the server will be terminated, and content will no longer be available. To avoid loss of important material, remaining content will be handled as follows:

- (1) UiB will make bibliographies, course descriptions and literature lists available at "Studiekvalitetsbasen".
- (2) Individual users can continue to download material until December 31.12. 2019.

Research, Science and Seminars [ScienceNorway.no](#) - [forskning.no](#)

Popular science writing course in Norwegian (16 January 2020)

The Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences' offers a one-day popular science writing course. The course will be in Norwegian and targets scientific staff members (PhD candidates, Postdocs, Associate Professors, Professors, forskere etc.) who want to learn more about how to best present their research in Norwegian media (newspapers, websites). You are required to submit a text before the course. If you are interested in attending the course, please register via [this website](#) by 3 January 2020.

Machine Learning Group Seminar 31st October

The machine learning group is announcing its seminar on **Thursday, October 31st at 11.00 in Lille Auditorium**.

If you would like to **register for the machine learning group seminar mailing list**, please send an email to nello.blaser@uib.no. Future machine learning seminars will be announced on the seminar mailing list and in the Newsletter from the Department of informatics.

The speaker for this installment of our seminar is associate professor **Nello Blaser**.

Title: Density-dependent topological data analysis

Abstract: Originally, topological data analysis has focused most on generalizations of single linkage clustering. More recently, interest in density-dependent versions of topological data analysis have gained more traction. Among other things, this has led to a new hierarchical densitydependent clustering strategy HDBSCAN. In this talk, I will introduce density-dependent topological data analysis and give an overview over the most important algorithms, their strengths and weaknesses. Then, I will quickly discuss some ongoing research within density-dependent topological data analysis.



Research data breakfast meeting 23rd October

Get breakfast and an introduction to open research data and how to prepare your data for sharing. Sign up today!

When: Wednesday 23rd of October at 08:30-09:30.

Where: Realfagbygget, Seminarrom 1 (first floor)

Who: Researchers and research administration that are relative new to open research data

[Calendar event and sign up](#)

The culture of how we treat research data is changing. It is (soon) expected that researchers in all research communities share and curate/review research data in order for others to use and reference to it in their research. Some research groups such as the Bjerknes Centre and CBU have come a long way. For others open research data is a relative new term. The University Library will therefore introduce open research data in general and UiB Open Research Data, an archive for open research data at UoB.

Agenda:

08:30-08:40 Breakfast time!

08:40-09:00 Introduction to open research data

09:00-09:00 Break

09:10-09:30 How to prepare your data for sharing

Science news from Norway

Visit ScienceNorway.no – a brand new online news service on research in Norway. Here you find news articles on many topics and research fields. You will also find op-eds, blogs and popular science articles written by scientists themselves. Tell us about your new research results – or write yourself. Attached is information on how researchers can contribute.

If you read and write Norwegian, you find more news on forskning.no. Here we have Forskersonen.no, where researchers write about their research in different formats.

If you or your colleagues want to learn more about research communication, we offer courses in writing skills and science communication. Or if you understand Norwegian, you can attend [Forskingskommunikasjonsdagene](#) in Oslo in November.

Funding opportunities [Research support services](#) - [Upcoming funding opportunities](#)

On a monthly basis, the department releases a comprehensive overview over [upcoming funding opportunities](#) on its website for [research support services](#).

Please inform research coordinator [Stefanie Meyer](#) about all planned and ongoing funding applications!

At this point, we would like to highlight the following upcoming calls and funding-related events:

Local funding

UiB SPIRE (Strategisk program for internasjonalt forskningssamarbeid)

[SPIRE-funds](#) are strategic funds that are meant to help facilitating international research collaboration. One can apply for funds in two different categories: 1) international research collaboration, and 2) invitation of guest researchers. **UiB application deadline: 1 December 2019.** Please note that the actual deadline for the departments/researchers may be a few days before the UiB deadline.

UiB POS: Positioning funding for Horizon 2020/Horizon Europe

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.). The [PES2020 scheme at UiB](#) involves support for the following categories: PES - Project Support for researchers and POS - Positioning funding (including category 1: POS for researchers who are positioning themselves towards a H2020/Horizon Europe-application). **The next UiB POS application deadline is 1 December 2019.** Please note that the actual deadline for the departments/researchers may be a few days before the UiB deadline.

National funding

Research Council of Norway: Funds for research stays abroad and for inviting guest researchers

[For researchers going abroad](#): The RCN funds research stays with a duration of minimum three months, and maximum 12 months at research organizations abroad. [For PhD candidates and Postdocs going abroad](#): The RCN funds overseas research stays for PhD candidates and Postdocs that are financed by the Research Council (for at least 24 months) as part of an ongoing project with a Norwegian research organization as the project owner, or under the Industrial Ph.D. Scheme or the Public Sector Ph.D. Scheme. The research stays abroad need to be between 3 and 12 months. [For inviting researchers to Norway](#): Funding is available for researchers from other countries to carry out a research stay at a Norwegian research organization that has a duration of minimum one month, and maximum 12 months. **RCN application deadline: open-ended**

International funding

Horizon 2020: FET Proactive: emerging paradigms and communities

“Proposals are sought for cutting-edge high-risk / high-reward research and innovation projects that aim to demonstrate a new technological paradigm within the scope of [several] sub-topics, [including] a. [Future technologies for social experience](#). This sub-topic explores new technologies for interaction that are based on new kinds of immersion for virtualised or augmented social interaction and that will lay the basis for the social media in 10-20 years from now. [...] c. [Digital twins for the life-sciences](#). The sub-topic aims at the close integration and real-time interaction of dynamical models of biological structures (from biochemical pathways to cells, tissues, organs and individuals), with imaging and sensing technologies for biological mechanisms and processes.” **Application deadline: 22 April 2020**

Events

ERC Proposal Reading Day in Bergen

Participants will have the opportunity to [read successful ERC grant applications](#) in order to see how a proposal might be structured. The event will take place at UiB on 6 November 2019. **Registration deadline: 27 October 2019**

Seminar on challenges for health research arising from the GDPR (in Brussels)

“The seminar will take place 18 months following the application of the regulation on 25th May 2018 and just over a year in advance of the launch of the Horizon Europe research programme on 1 January 2021. The meeting therefore will provide an [opportunity to raise key issues with policy and decision-makers](#) in advance of Horizon Europe and other EU and EU Member States/Associated Countries funded research programmes. The seminar will include participants from the EU, European Free Trade Associations Countries, the United States, South Africa, Canada, amongst others.” **Meeting date: 19 November 2019**

Vacant positions

Postdoctoral Research Fellow position in informatics: logic and graph theory

Closing date: 20th January 2020. Here you will find [the announcement](#)

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

Next Faculty and Staff lunch 14th November

The next Faculty & Staff lunch is on 14th November in the fourth floor lunch room!

Datablokken is 30 years old! Save the date November 29 for celebrations!



This fall, we are celebrating the 30th anniversary of the Department of informatics moving to the Datablokken of Høyteknologisenteret, which was completely new in 1989.

Save the morning of Friday November 29, between 09:00 and 13:00 for a celebration which will end with lunch. There will be special guests, old stories, new stories, long lost friends and colleagues, and many more things.

A detailed announcement will come later.

Fire Safety course

All employees at the UiB are required to complete a fire safety course. The course lasts two hours – 1 hour of theory and 1 hour of practice. If you have not attended a course previously, you are required to do so as soon as possible. Please notice that this fall there will be one course in English intended for non-Norwegian speaking staff: Thursday December 5th - 09:00-11:00. [Follow this link to sign up](#). For «Fakturadresse» use this code: 121200

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. All employees are welcome – also those of you who never tried yoga before.

Putti Plutti Pott i Grieghallen



Det er reservert billetter til årets Putti Plutti Pott i Grieghallen:

Fredag 29.november kl 16:30
Lørdag 30.november kl 12:00
Søndag 1.desember kl 15:00

Pris per billett er kr : 305,-
(ordinær kr 380,-)

Billetter kjøpes i billettkontoret i Grieghallen
Telefon nummer 55 21 61 50
UIB ansatt kort må fremvises ved kjøp

Varighet 1 time & 50 minutter, inkl 20.min pause
Passer fra 3 år

Velferdstilbud: Collegium Musicum kor og orkester 27. oktober

På vegne av Collegium Musicum kor og orkester sendes det ut tilbud om rabatterte billetter for UiB-ansatte.

Collegium Musicum kor og orkester fremfører W. A. Mozarts Messe i c-moll, under ledelse av dirigent Bjarte Engeset. Solister er Alison Langer (sopran), Ingvild Schultze-Florey (mezzosopran), Erlend Tvinnereim (tenor), og James Berry (bass).

Tid og sted: 27. oktober 2019, Korskirken, kl. 18:00

UiB ansatte kan kjøpe billetter til redusert pris a kr. 250,- (Ordinær 300kr) Billettene kan enten kjøpes gjennom Ticketmaster ved å velge billettkategori "UiB-ansatt", eller ved dørsalg mellom kl 17:15 og 18:00 på konsertdagen. Billettgebyr a kr. 25,- vil tilkomme.

[Du kan kjøpe billetter her](#)

Dere kan lese mer om Collegium Musicum kor og orkester ved å følge lenkene under:

<https://www.collegiummusicum.no/>
<https://www.facebook.com/CollMusicum/>

A vertical poster for a concert. At the top, it says 'COLLEGIUM MUSICUM' in a stylized font, with 'KOR & ORKESTER' to the right. Below that, it says 'W. A. MOZART Messe i c-moll'. The names of the performers are listed: Bjarte Engeset (Dirigent), Alison Langer (Sopran), Ingvild Schultze-Florey (Mezzosopran), Erlend Tvinnereim (Tenor), James Berry (Bass), Chien-Yu Chu (Orkesterleder), and Håkon Matti Skrede (Kormester). At the bottom, it says 'Korskirken | Søndag 27. oktober 2019 kl. 18'. There is also a small text at the bottom left: 'Kr 300,- | 250,- honnør/stud./BT-kort/ungdom m/kulturkort | Barn u/14 år gratis. Billett kjøpes i dører eller på Ticketmaster.no | collegiummusicum.no facebook.com/collmusicum'. At the very bottom, there are logos for ASGAR, NCF, NSF, BERGEN KOMMUNE, and Ticketmaster.

UiB velferdstilbud | Årets musikalske festforestilling "Å Bergen Bergen"

Å Bergen Bergen er Teatersjef Agnete Haaland sin siste forestilling på Den Nationale Scene. Etter åtte år som teatersjef avslutter hun med en storslått teaterkonsert.

Kom og opplev nye hits og gamle slagere, hvor frodige karakterer og gjenkjennelige episoder bindes sammen på finurlig vis og gir oss skråblikk på byen vi bor i. Møt buekorpsgutten, brannsupporteren, hip hop-dronningen m.fl i en helt ny teaterkonsert, med og for bergensere i alle fasonger.

UiB-pris kun 290,- (ord 480,-)

Fredag 15.november kl. 20.00. Store Scene

[Klikk her for å bestille billetter til 15.november](#)
eller ring oss 55 60 70 80 innen 1.november.

[Klikk her for å lese mer om Å Bergen Bergen og de medvirkende](#)



UiB-tilbud - 2010 Lollywood - Det Vestnorske Teateret



Fredag 1. november og torsdag 7. november kl. 19.00

Tilsette ved UiB kan få kjøpe billetter til kun kr. 250 (ord. kr. 350) fredag 1. november og torsdag 7. november kl. 19.00. Kjøp billetter her eller send e-post til publikum@detvestnorsketeteateret.no:

[1. november](#)
[7. november](#)

DET
VESTNORSKE
TEATERET

Svartnissen på Ole Bull Scene - UiB tilbud - 23. og 24. nov.

Det er en forestilling som skal gå på Ole Bull Scene 23.november – 15.desember. Har spilt i mange år for fulle hus i Stavanger.

Tilbud: Pris per billett kr: 200,- (Ordinær kr : 280,-) på følgende forestillinger:
Lørdag 23.november kl 13:00
Søndag 24.november kl 13:00

UiB ansatt kort må fremvises ved billettkjøp

[Info om forestillingen](#)

