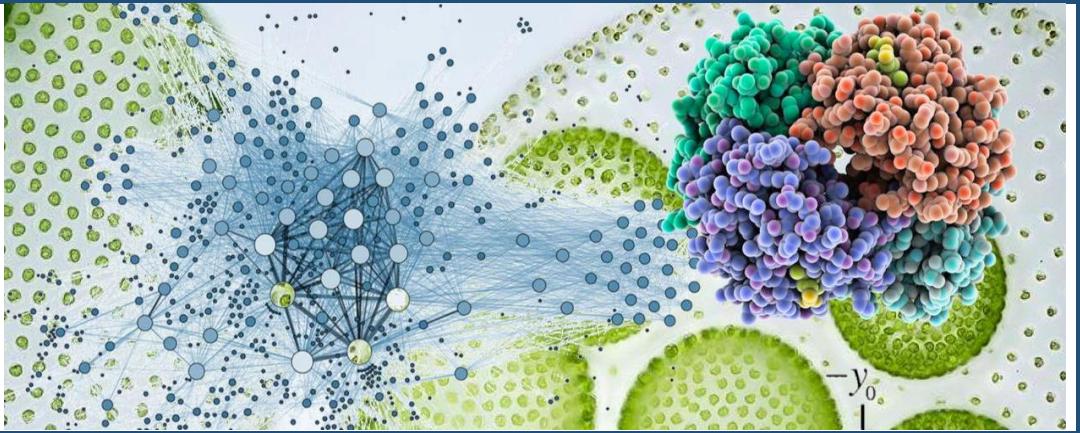


# NEWSLETTER

Department of  
Informatics



No. 2/2021  
29<sup>th</sup> January 2021



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

## Dear colleagues,

As the new semester is progressing, you might have noticed that many of our colleagues have got new names. As an unintended side effect of the frequently mentioned change of administrative systems at our university, in the emails and on the university person presentation pages, many people now appear with longer names. Somebody who perhaps was *June Hansen* before, could now have become *June Karoline Langhaugen Hansen*. It turns out that the new system collects the names from the central peoples' registry of Norway, and it does not allow each of us to simply change it on our university person presentation page. As much as I have found it amusing to see all the middle names of my colleagues, I understand that this has been frustrating for many, especially for scientists who appear with a shorter or different name on their research articles. As a computer scientist, I am following the unintended implications of the new system with particular interest. I think we can use some of these cases as examples in our education of future computer scientists. Fortunately, it is possible to go back to your preferred name, albeit through a somewhat winding path: you make an issue at <http://hjelp.uib.no/> under the *salary section*, and then your appearing name will be changed to your preferred name.



Speaking about new systems and computer science, another interesting event was the invitation from UiB to take an [online course on digital security](#). All employees must take [this course](#) and pass the test at the end. Again, as a computer scientist, it is of particular interest to check one's own knowledge about these things. I first took the test just to see how well I could do without reading the course material. Unfortunately, my score was OK but not impressive. Fortunately, one can take the test many times, and reading the course material I actually learned quite a few new things. I invite all of you to take the course. This knowledge that is required for all UiB employees is of particular importance for employees of our department, especially our educators.

I will close this leader with the mention of yet another system: our beloved [CRIStin](#). I kindly remind you that everybody should register and check their publications there at the latest this weekend. The good news is that you will find many of your publications already appearing there, automatically fetched from the publishers. You still need to check these and upload a pdf version of your article for Norwegian research archives. Here is a bonus for those who have projects funded by the Research Council of Norway: if all project members register the six digit project number from RCN in their publications, then when you write progress or final reports to RCN, you can simply click the "fetch from CRIStin" button and all the project publications will appear in your report!

I am sure I made your day with the mention of all these wonderful IT systems. ☺ I hope they can catch your interest at least from a professional point of view. We are, after all, educating the people who are making these systems. So, if we are not happy with the way the systems work, we should make sure to incorporate this insight into our education.

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: [Vi driver med informasjon, ikke propaganda](#) - [Selv når temaene er kontroversielle skal vi bidra til samfunnsdebatten på en saklig måte](#) - [Dette tenker jeg er viktig for alle når vi nå innleder 2021](#) - [Koronaåret 2020](#) - [Prestisjefylte prosjekt til fakultetet](#)



## Welcome new colleague!



### Philip Turk

Philip is our new PhD student starting in his position from Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February. He will be part of the Machine Learning group and Ana will be his main supervisor.

Philip is German. He did his Master's in Mathematics – topology and graph theory, at the University in Freiburg, Germany in 2018. Since then and up until now, he has been working as Researcher for SINTEF, and he is already fluent in written and oral Norwegian 😊

## Congratulations colleague!



### Saket Saurabh

Saket has been chosen as Recipient of 2020 [ACM India Early Career Researcher \(ECR\) Award!!](#)

Saket is recognized for his fundamental contributions to the area of Parameterized Complexity, including methods for showing algorithmic lower bounds, and meta-theorems for polynomial time preprocessing. His work over the last decade can be characterized by these contributions, establishing him as an outstanding researcher, educator, and scientific leader: performing research of the highest quality in multiple areas of algorithms, leading the field of parameterized complexity by initiating new research directions to the community, mentoring students pursuing undergraduate and graduate to postdoctoral fellowships, sharing his knowledge in the form of new courses, lecture notes, surveys, schools, and workshops and serving the community in conference program committees and journal editorial boards.

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

### Corona update

Our university's current regulations about digital teaching and recommended home office are extended until February 7. However, employees who need their campus offices to perform their work in a satisfactory way, can use their offices without asking for permission. Students have access to campus with their access cards. All bachelor and master study halls are open and in use; students do not need permission to use these areas.

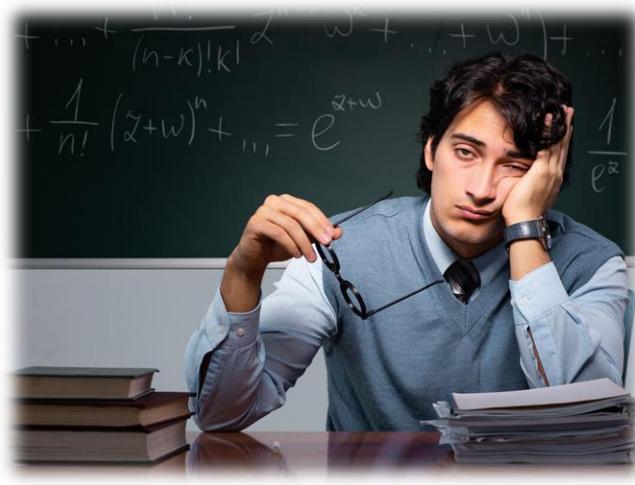
This week, a dramatic change was inserted in the rules from the government: all travel into Norway is restricted to Norwegian citizens and residents only. This means in particular that guest and visitors who had planned to come to Norway for research stays cannot enter the country at the moment. New employees who have not yet arrived in Norway, must also wait until the restrictions are lifted. At the same time, the government asks for all travel plans from Norway to abroad to be put on hold, unless they are strictly necessary.

More information about the travel restrictions can be found on the [government's information pages](#).

## **Department of informatics all meeting on the corona situation: February 11 at 14:15 – 15:00**

As much as we were optimistic about the start of this semester, the mutant coronavirus has made the authorities worried and the strict restrictions are continuing. How are we all coping with the situation, what challenges and frustrations do we have, what kind of good practices and positive experiences can we share with others?

To discuss all these things, to help each other with advice and recommendations and to detect possible problems and things that might not be working, we invite all colleagues to a digital meeting on Thursday February 11 between 14:15 and 15:00. [More details.](#)



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

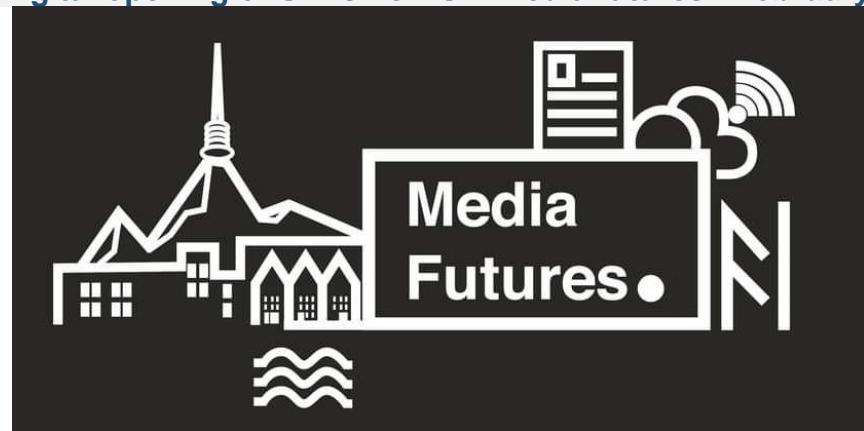
### **New at our department: Network for Postdocs!**

Next Friday 5.2.2021 at 11.00 the department kick starts a Network for Postdocs!

The goal is to socialize on a regular basis (once a month), to polish the presentation skills and to learn something new! The preliminary plan is that the meetings will alternate between scientific presentations and informal discussions. The first meeting will be opened by our Head of Department Pinar :)

Here is the Zoom link: <https://uib.zoom.us/j/67399306817?pwd=VC8vdG14QXB2eTRyUVVUSnMzRWt5Zz09>  
Meeting ID: 673 9930 6817. Password: RC0yyuC5

## **Digital opening of UiB's new SFI MediaFutures: February 2 at 14:00 – 15:00**



Our department is a partner in one of the new SFIs (Research based innovation centers) of UiB: [MediaFutures](#).

The center will have its opening ceremony digitally on Tuesday February 2 at 14:00 – 15:30. There will be speeches by the minister of education and research, our rector, and others.

[Full program for the event](#)

## **Invitation SDG Conference Bergen, February 10 - 12**

We are approaching UiB's conference on [UN's Sustainable Development Goals on the February 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>](#). This year the conference will be digital and free to attend. Like previous years we repeat the success of arranging Day Zero on February 10<sup>th</sup>.

On Day Zero, you can attend a number of very interesting seminars and workshops, all with different approaches to sustainability. If you teach students, many of the events could also be relevant to attend with your students. There are more than 30 events to choose from, and the topics are varied. Take a look at the [programme for Day Zero here](#)

This year's fully digital conference also provides us with new opportunities to present emerging and important research by motivated PhD candidates and postdoctoral fellows addressing the conference themes. We invite all those interested – from any disciplinary or cross-disciplinary field – to present digital posters on your research. [Read more here.](#)

# Publishing Open Access

The University of Bergen Library has prepared very good websites on the current status of local, national and international open access (OA) policies as well as their services related to OA publishing. Please have a look at their websites and make yourself familiar with the different policies as well as the existing publishing deals with several of the academic publishers. [UiB's new policy for Open Science](#) can be found by following the link. Furthermore, UiB has a publication fund for OA that can cover the article processing charges (APC) when publishing in eligible open access journals.

Before you (your group) pay(s) any fees for making an article openly available, please consult the webpages to see if you are entitled to a discount, may get the fees refunded through the publication fund, or maybe don't even have to pay anything based on an existing agreement with the publisher!

If you have questions, please contact the department's research coordinator [Stefanie Meyer](#).



[Publication fund for  
Open Access at UiB](#)



[Open access  
publishing deals](#)



[Open Access - what,  
why and how](#)



**CRISTIN**

Current Research Information System in Norway

**Please check and register your publications in the CRISTIN database by 31<sup>st</sup> January!**

CRISTIN (Current research information system in Norway) is a research information system for hospitals, research institutes, and universities and university colleges. One of the primary purposes of the system is to collect all the registrations and reporting of research activities of institutions within the three sectors in a common system.

As every year, we ask you to log into CRISTIN and check if your publications for the last year (2020) are complete and correctly registered. Please correct potential errors and inconsistencies and add missing publications. In addition, UiB requires a full-text version of all research articles to be uploaded to the database. You should also register the project code for publications that are a result of projects funded by the EU, RCN, or other funders that require open access. The deadline for completing those tasks is **31 January 2021**.

More detailed information on how to register publications in CRISTIN, as well as guidelines on how to upload the full text, can be found here:

<https://www.uib.no/en/ub/79539/cristin>

<https://www.cristin.no/english/researcher-pages/register-publications-nvi.html>

Please note, that the budget of our department is partly dependent on the publications that our scientific staff are authors and coauthors of. The research groups will be rewarded according to their registered publication points.



**Plan S requirements.** For calls for proposals from and including 2021, the [Research Council of Norway](#) (RCN) will require **full and immediate open access to all articles from projects that receive funding from the Council**. According to the [Plan S requirements](#), there are **three main ways to OA**: publishing in OA journals, publishing in venues under a transformative arrangement, or making a version (either the AAM or final version) of the article available by depositing it in an open archive. For any chosen route to compliance, the publication must be **openly available immediately** with a Creative Commons Attribution license (**CC BY**). Coalition S has recently launched a [journal checker tool](#), where you can check whether your chosen journal/venue is Plan S compliant and which routes are available. Currently, the requirements apply only to scientific articles. During 2021, cOAlition S will develop joint open access requirements for scientific books and book chapters (monographs and anthologies). When this has been done, the RCN will introduce requirements for scientific books in line with the recommendations made by cOAlition S. Please also note that the **RCN requires all articles to be archived** in a suitable open archive (no matter which OA route was used). We recommend to use CRISTIN for this purpose.

# 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! **This includes both applications you coordinate yourself, and those where you are included as a partner/collaborator!** At this point, we would like to highlight the following upcoming calls and funding/research-related events:



Forskningsrådet

**IKTPLUSS.** There is an open call for Collaborative Projects on Digital Security and Artificial Intelligence, Robotics and Autonomous Systems. “The objective of this call is to generate new knowledge in the thematic areas digital security and artificial intelligence, robotics and autonomous systems. [...] The project must involve two or more Norwegian partners that are not research organisations. Partners that are not research organisations must together participate with a minimum of 10 per cent of the total project costs.” **Application deadline:** open-ended.



Forskningsrådet

**Researcher Projects 2021.** There are 4 open calls for Researcher projects, which “are to contribute to important new insights, scientific publication, researcher training and international research collaboration.” Currently, the following calls are announced:

- [Researcher Projects for Scientific Renewal,](#)
- [Researcher Projects for Young Talents,](#)
- [Three-year Researcher Projects with International Mobility,](#)
- [Large-scale Interdisciplinary Researcher Project.](#)

**Application deadline: 10 February 2021.**



Forskningsrådet

**Pre-project for Health Pilot.** “Pilot Health is a new initiative that gives public sector bodies and businesses the opportunity to establish coordinated, needs-driven innovation together. [...] The innovation processes shall be based on the needs of patients, inhabitants or the public health services. [...] This call for proposals concerns pre-projects that can lay the ground for main projects. The pre-projects can have a duration of up to six months and can receive up to NOK 300,000 in funding. The funding can cover up to 100 per cent of costs eligible for funding.” Research organizations are eligible to apply, but need to work together with other relevant health service actors and industry.  
**Application deadline: 5 May 2021.**



**Trond Mohn Stiftelse (TMS) Starting Grants.** “The Trond Mohn Foundation Starting Grant programme aims to assist the University of Bergen (UoB) in recruiting young national or international candidates with outstanding academic merit and research potential. [...] TMS now calls for proposals for four-year grants beginning in 2022.” **Application deadline stage 1 (pre-qualification): 8 March 2021.**

As this type of grant requires considerable contributions from the faculty and department, **all applications must be approved by the head of department before starting the application process!**



### Peder Sather Grant Applications.

"The primary mission of the Peder Sather Center for Advanced Study (the Center) is to strengthen ongoing research collaborations and foster the development of new research collaborations between faculty at the University of California, Berkeley (UC Berkeley) and from the consortium of eight participating Norwegian academic institutions. [including UiB] Applications from all fields and disciplines are welcomed."

**Application deadline: 8 April 2021.**



**ERC.** The European Research Council has announced the tentative application deadlines for 2021 on their [website](#):

- Starting Grant, **24 March 2021**
- Consolidator Grant, **20 April 2021**
- Advanced Grant, **31 August 2021**
- No Synergy Grant call is planned for 2021 (foreseen again in 2022, possibly with an application deadline in late 2021).

**NB:** The ERC expects some delays in the calls.  
More information will be available soon.



**HERAnet call.** "The CHANSE (Collaboration of Humanities and Social Sciences in Europe) consortium will soon announce a call for international research projects on 'Transformations: social and cultural dynamics in the digital age'. CHANSE will support new and innovative research into the workings, meaning and consequences of transformations and innovations in the present digital age, viewed through the lens of the social and cultural dynamics. The objective of the call is to help understand how digital innovations give rise to social and cultural changes, and are also influenced by society and culture." **Application deadline: 7 May 2021.**



### EMBO Postdoctoral Fellowships.

"The EMBO Postdoctoral Fellowships are awarded for a period of up to two years and support excellent postdoctoral researchers in laboratories throughout Europe and the world. International exchange is a key requirement. [...] Research proposals must be within EMBO's scientific scope. EMBO is no longer exclusively dedicated to the promotion and funding of molecular biology and has opened to fields in the life sciences that traditionally have not explored biological questions at the molecular level. However, applications to the EMBO Fellowship Programme are expected to explore the mechanisms behind biological phenomena rather than remaining at the descriptive or observational level. These mechanisms may involve molecules, but they may also involve higher levels of organization, such as cells, tissues, organisms, populations or ecosystems." **Application deadline: open-ended.**

### Need help?

Please contact research coordinator Stefanie Meyer if you have questions with regard to your planned and ongoing funding applications as well as all contractual work related to external funds! All applications and agreements/contracts need to be approved by the department leadership. In addition, you can have a look at our websites for research support services. There you will find a list of our services.



**Networking workshop on SDG4: Quality Education.** “The Worldwide Universities Network (WUN) – of which [UiB] is a member - in collaboration with the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Education Section, is holding a series of free virtual networking workshops, each thematically focused on a UN Sustainable Development Goal.” The next workshop will focus on Sustainable Development Goal 4: Quality Education. The **registration deadline** for this event is **31 January at 12 noon GMT**. As this event is for WUN members only, a University of Bergen email address (uib.no) is required for successful registration! **Virtual event: 2 February 2021.**

**SDG Conference Bergen: The SDGs after the crisis.** The annual national SDG Conference Bergen was initiated by the University of Bergen and is planned in dialogue with the other Norwegian universities, the Ministry of Education and Research, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Ministry of Local Government and Administration. **Registration** is now open. **Virtual event: 10-12 February 2021.**

**CEDAS conference.** The Center for Data Science (CEDAS) will hold its first conference in June 2021. Save the date! **Event in Bergen: 1-2 June 2021.**

**NORA annual conference.** Early registration will open soon. Save the date! **Event: 3-4 June 2021.**

## HR – HSE (Health, Safety and Environment) – Welfare

[Sikresiden.no](#) – [UiB employees welfare benefits](#) - [Credit card UiB](#) –  
[Fire extinguishing courses](#) – [Reporting of Deviations](#)



### Opplæring i den nye Selvbetjeningsportalen for vitenskapelige ansatte 2. februar

Webinaret er en gjennomgang av den nye selvbetjeningsportalen (tidligere HR-portalen) for alle vitenskapelige ansatte 2. februar 2021.

Her får du en gjennomgang og fremvisning hva hvordan du skal bruke de ulike funksjonalitetene i nettløsningen (Selvbetjeningsportalen) og i mobil appen (DFØ-app).

Det vil bli gjennomgang av: Innkurv, Fraværssøknad, Godtgjørelse, Reisesøknad, Reiseregning, Utgiftsrefusjon, Utbetaling, Mine opplysninger, E-skjema

[Mer informasjon og påmeldingslenke her.](#)



## Det gode arbeidsmiljø

### Arbeidsliv i endring – hva med arbeidsmiljøet?

Digitalt frokostseminar tirsdag 16.februar på Zoom kl.0830-1000

#### Mangfold - likestilling - inkludering

*Et godt arbeidsmiljø kjennetegnes av god ledelse, medvirkning fra ansatte og tydelige organisatoriske rammer. Kompetanse, god kommunikasjon, mestring og anerkjennelse gir både trygghet og trivsel.*

*Strategien til UiB slår fast at vi skal ha et inkluderende arbeidsmiljø, og at dette skal bygge på det kunnskapsmessige og kulturelle mangfoldet som kjennetegner vår institusjon. Gjennom frokostseminarserien Arbeidsliv i endring – hva med arbeidsmiljøet? ønsker vernetjenesten ved UiB å sette fokus på betydningen av faktorer som bygger et godt arbeidsmiljø.*

«Mangfold, likestilling og inkludering» er tema for årets første frokostseminar.

Likestilling, kjønnsbalanse, muligheter og rettferdig fordeling. Vi har invitert viserektor [Annelin Eriksen](#) til å innlede om arbeidet med nye handlingsplaner for likestilling mellom kjønnene og for mangfold og inkludering. UiB har nedsatt en arbeidsgruppe som arbeider med dette våren 2021.

Perspektiver fra sosialpsykologi og organisasjonspsykologi er det faglige bakteppet når Førsteamanuensis [Hege H Bye](#), institutt for samfunnspsykologi, vil belyse mangfoldsbegrepet og dilemmaer i mangfoldsarbeid

Gender Act er et prosjekt for kulturendring og kjønnsbalanse som nå er satt i gang ved Det matematisk-naturvitenskapelige fakultet. [Kristine Breivik](#), assisterende fakultetsdirektør, vil gi oss ett innblikk i prosjektet, hvorfor og hva de håper å oppnå.

Norsk når du kan, engelsk når du må? Hvilke språklige utfordringer skaper det når flere av våre ansatte blir rekruttert internasjonalt? Førsteamanuensis [Ann-Kristin Helland Gujord](#), Institutt for lingvistiske, litterære og estetiske studier, vil sette fokus på språk som binder oss sammen, og som skaper utfordringer.

Seminaret arrangeres **digitalt torsdag 16.februar kl. 0830-1000 på Zoom**, og du melder deg på [her](#)

Informasjon med lenke og program vil bli utsendt til alle påmeldte noen dager før seminaret.

Møteledere: June-Vibecke K. Indrevik, universitets hovedverneombud (UHVO) UiB og Michael P. Riisøen, vara UHVO UiB.

**Velkommen!**