

NEWSLETTER

Department of
Informatics



No. 2/2020
31st January 2020



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

Dear colleagues,

Last week, Norway got a new government. Among the ministers who moved on to other duties were two of the most central ministers for our activities: former minister of research and higher education Iselin Nybø and former minister of digitalization Nikolai Astrup. Both of them are now responsible for ministries that are possibly perceived as more important by society in general, which is an evidence of the solid work they have delivered so far. Iselin Nybø is now the minister of trade and industry, and Nikolai Astrup is the minister of local government and modernization. The former ministry of digitalization was a part of the ministry of local government and modernization, and thus we can hope that Mr Astrup will still have a particular focus on digitalization. Unfortunately, there is no longer a minister that concentrates only on digitalization; this has been replaced by a minister of regional development and digitalization, Linda Helleland. The new minister of research and higher education is Henrik Asheim.



Our former ministers of research and higher education and of digitalization have made a very solid and positive impact for research, higher education and digitalization. Not only was each of them highly successful in their duties, but they also had a very promising and fruitful collaboration in the intersection of their fields, which was particularly relevant and important for our research and education. Ms Nybø had an impressive focus on the societal challenges and opportunities brought by digitalization. She made it one of her highest priorities for Norwegian research and education to gear up to meet the needs of tomorrow's society and to make the digital transformation and transition as smooth and successful as possible. Her curiosity and focus on dialogue resulted in many interesting meetings between her and academia, where she always had detailed and to-the-point questions about what we claimed to be important. She has been an exceptionally far-sighted and visionary minister of research and higher education, and she emphasized in particular the importance of fundamental research in informatics and computer science. It is therefore sad to lose her as our minister. At the same time, we have high expectations from Mr Asheim, and we are very much looking forward to collaborating and interacting with him.

When it comes to the changes in the ministry of digitalization, I must admit that I am more concerned. I think the appointment of a minister responsible solely for digitalization was a very timely and correct move by the Norwegian government a year ago. Mr Astrup achieved an impressive number of important results during 2019, of which the national strategy for artificial intelligence is one of the most prominent. I am very happy that he completed that work and launched the strategy just before his previous position ended. He showed a particular interest in artificial intelligence in a time where various universities and research institutions, as well as private companies and public sector in Norway are focusing on the topic, exemplified by the NORA collaboration. After such success of this ministry, I am surprised and disappointed that the new ministry bears the title "regional development and digitalization". The new minister Linda Helleland has made it clear in her first speeches that her main focus will be regional development, and that she will handle digitalization mainly within that concept. I am afraid that Norway is losing a very good momentum we had just started to gain in this direction.

Let us hope that I am wrong. ☺ 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: [Nye statsråder og nye muligheter](#) - [Kunnskap som former samfunnet](#) - [Det viktigaste for fakultetet i 2020](#) - [Julenissen kom ekstra tidlig i år](#)



Welcome new colleagues!



Paloma Lima

Paloma is definitely not new at our department, but she is now entering into a new position as postdoctoral research fellow in the algorithms group. She will be continuing working with Pinar on algorithms for and structural properties of graph classes.

Paloma is Brazilian. She did her Master's in Systems Engineering and Computer Science at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro in 2016. In 2019 she successfully defended her PhD thesis at the UiB, our Department.

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

Prof. Ernst Selmer 100 years!

Tuesday 11th February is Professor Ernst S. Selmer's 100 years birthday. The Selmer Center and Simula UiB are pleased to invite you all to a celebration seminar at the VilVite on February 11 at 09:00-16:00.

[Program and registration here.](#)

[Learn more about his life and research here.](#)

KOMMENTAR: ERNST SEJERSTED SELMER

Datapioneren Ernst Selmer gjorde Norge til en stormakt innen kryptering

Har fått et norsk forskningsenter oppkalt etter seg.



Kryptologi er vitenskapen om sikre kommunikasjonssystemer. (Illustrasjon: Colourbox)

ARRANGEMENT

🕒 11.02.2020 - 09.00–16.00

📍 Auditoriet, VilVite

📅 Påmeldingsfrist
04.02.2020 - 12.00

[Påmelding til Selmer-jubileum](#)

📅 [Legg til i din egen kalender](#)



Foto/ill.: UiB

Conference Day Zero, February 5

We are approaching the time for UiB's great conference on UN's Sustainable Development Goals on the 6th and 7th of February. Like last year we have a day of events in advance of the conference, on the 5th, called Day Zero.

You can attend a number of very interesting seminars and workshops, all with different approaches to sustainability. If you teach students, perhaps it could be relevant to bring them to one of the events. Day Zero is of course free and a truly unique offer. There are more than 30 events to choose from, and the themes range widely. Take a look at the list of events by following [this link](#)

Please register and/or quality control your 2019-publications in the CRISTin database by 31 January! NEW this year: A full-text version of each peer-reviewed publication has to be uploaded to CRISTin!

As the department's budget is partly dependent on our staff's publications (both as main authors and coauthors), it is very important that all of your peer-reviewed publications are (correctly!) registered in CRISTin (Current research information system in Norway) and that a corresponding full-text version is uploaded in CRISTin.



Information on the [instruction and guidance on uploading publications in CRISTin](#) can be found by following the link. Furthermore, the project code (for projects funded by the EU, RCN, and others) must be registered in CRISTin for each relevant publication.

We ask you to kindly register and/or quality control all your publications from 2019 in the [CRISTin Database](#) by 31 January.

See which publications are missing and check the quality of those already included in CRISTin: search for your publications via "Search in results".

For registering new/missing publications: after logging in, please choose "Research results" and then "Register result".

General instructions: A publication shall only be reported once. Revised editions shall not be reported. To count as an academic publication, the publication has to fulfill certain criteria (see [here](#) for more information). Furthermore, in order for an institution to count a publication wholly or partially for reporting the name of the institution must be listed as an author's address in the publication itself.

Next Faculty & Staff lunch, February 5

The next Faculty & Staff lunch will be on Wednesday 5th February in the fourth floor lunch-room!



PhD Updates

There's a new PhD in town – congratulations Kornel Labun!



Kornel successfully defended his thesis "*In silico design and analysis of targeted genome editing with CRISPR*." on 27th January.

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

Congratulations to Kornel, the Bioinformatics group/CBU and supervisors Eivind and Pekka!



Research, Science and Seminars [ScienceNorway.no](https://www.science-norway.no) - [forskning.no](https://www.forskning.no)

Strategy of the Research Council

The Research Council of Norway have been working with a new strategy for the last months. A draft of the strategy is now out, and all researchers are [invited to give feedback](#). This is your chance to speak out. Your well thought through and well formulated opinion will be extremely valuable.

NORA PhD symposium, February 25-26



NORA is organizing an informative, exciting, two day lunch to lunch PhD symposium about AI-related topics for PhD students; followed by an informal dinner. This event will also serve as network meeting for establishing NORA's Research School in artificial intelligence.

Time and place: NORA PhD symposium Feb. 25, 2020 11:30 AM–Feb. 26, 2020 12:30 PM, Tøyen hovedgård. [Registration deadline 10th February](#). [Learn more](#).



List of speakers:

- [Klas H. Pettersen](#), CEO of NORA
- [Michael Riegler](#), SimulaMet
- [Hans Ekkehard Plesser](#), NMBU
- [Robert Jenssen](#), UiT
- [Valeriya Naumova](#), SimulaMet
- [Simon Wolfgang Funke](#), Simula research laboratory AS
- [Arngeir Berge](#), NORCE
- [Stefano Nichele](#), OsloMet
- [Anders Malthe-Sørenssen](#), UiO
- [Vinay Jayarama Setty](#), UiS
- [Tonje Hessen Schei](#), director of movie: iHuman movie
- [Christian Walter Peter Omlin](#), UiA
- [Nello Blaser](#), UiB
- [Leon Moonen](#), Simula research laboratory
- [Ivan Dragicevic](#), NORA

Sikkerhetskonsferansen 2020, March 25-26

Nasjonal sikkerhetsmyndighet (NSM) inviterer til Sikkerhetskonsferansen 2020, 25. og 26.mars.



**NASJONAL
SIKKERHETSMYNDIGHET**

Sikkerhetskonsferansen 2020 har et overordnet fokus på helhetlig forebyggende sikkerhet. Vi byr på internasjonale gjester som forteller om erfaringer og utsikter i cyber, og to store norske virksomheter med erfaringer fra uønskede hendelser som rammet virksomhetene hardt.

Ett år med ny sikkerhetslov har gått, og vi vil se nærmere på hvordan begreper og avhengigheter kan omsettes til praktisk sikkerhetsarbeid i virksomhetene. NSM presenterer også grunnprinsipper i alle våre fagområder – for helhetlig forebyggende sikkerhet i alle ledd. Videre vil konferansen ta for seg temaer som personellsikkerhet, ny teknologi, risikoforståelse, et spor er om og med Nasjonalt cybersikkerhetssenter, globalisering og teknisk sikkerhet. Avslutningsvis vil vi tradisjonen tro se fremover. Vi byr på foredrag om verdenssamfunnets «uorden», NATO og dets rolle fremover, og avslutter med Jessica Barker og «the human side of cybersecurity».

Flere spennende foredrag og temaer blir lansert etter hvert som konferansen nærmer seg. Program finnes [her](#).

Fjorårets Sikkerhetskonsferanse hadde over 150 personer på venteliste, og var fulltegnet allerede 7.mars. Vi anbefaler derfor å være tidlig ute med påmelding for å være sikret plass i år. Påmelding til årets konferanse finner du [her](#). (Påmeldingslenken leder til tredjepartsløsning)

UiBdoc – interest organization for PhDs, postdocs and other temporary scientific staff at UiB



UiBdoc is a non-profit interest organization for PhDs, postdocs and other temporary scientific staff at UiB. If you have such a position you're automatically a UiBdoc member and may participate in all of our events

Our feeling is that UiB academic staff are too isolated from each other. One of the primary ambitions of UiBdoc is to change that by connecting people from across the university.

Other ambitions include assisting our members with career development, influencing university policy in favor of our members and connecting any of our members that experience issues with the supporting structure of UiB.

Upcoming events are announced via our Facebook Page and in the Facebook Group for PhDs and postdocs at UiB. You can also be notified by signing up for our email list. More information.

Cheers,
The UiBdoc Board

Workshop “A date with the future”, February 14

UiBdoc proudly presents the workshop “A date with the future” together with [VIS](#), Vestlandets Innovasjonsselskap AS. This course will focus on conferring skills to approach complex problems and come up with innovative ideas to solve them. We will hear about the methodology of systems thinking and creative problem solving and learn how to evaluate and share our ideas so that they impact society.

UiBdoc_Career development

A DATE WITH THE FUTURE

Curious on how your research can benefit society?
Learn how to build, share and realize your ideas.

February 14th
11:30 - 16:00
Studentsenteret
Auditorium Egget
301.08H3

Presented by



VIS

VIS supports scientists, entrepreneurs and students in the development of their ideas.

Come for an introduction to design thinking and innovation methodology to get from idea to business!

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

Meeting: ERC advanced grant information, February 18

I år er det siste frist for ERC Advanced Grant i Horizont Europa (26.8.2020) og ERC vil ha ca.15% mer midler tilgjengelig - det betyr at suksessraten kan komme over de vanlige 11-13%.

Vi har satt opp et kurs for de som vil søke AdG enten i år eller til neste år. Kurset er 18.2. på Hotell Ørnen.

Dagen etter (19.2.) kan man lese innvilgede ERC søknader her ved UiB. NFR tar med en stor koffert og rådgivere kan nå også delta på [lesedagen](#). Våre trenere fra Enspire Science er ekstremt dyktige. Vi har fått mange gode tilbakemeldinger fra faglige ansatte som deltok i fjorårets kurs.



[Påmeldingslenke](#). [Lenke til kalenderoppføring](#).

Your Department Head says:

I encourage all of you to attend this meeting. I think we should try to submit many more proposals to ERC than we have done so far, and the department is planning many incentives to encourage for that. For example that one can be off teaching one semester to work on the proposal. Even if one does not succeed with ERC the first time, we have many examples of succeeding at second or third trial. Even more important, we have many examples of succeeding at FRIPRO and other programmes of NFR with proposals that were first/simultaneously submitted to ERC.

Industrial Ph.D. scheme – Doctoral projects in industry

Do you have a master graduate who now works at a company and would make a great PhD student? Then perhaps, your former student, yourself and the company together could apply for this? Several of our research groups have used this opportunity with great success. [Please find more information here](#).

Upcoming funding opportunities

Local funding

TMS Starting Grants, call 2020

"The [Trond Mohn Foundation Starting Grant programme](#) is open to departments and faculties at the University of Bergen (UiB) aiming to recruit young national or international candidates with outstanding academic merit and research potential. [...] TMS now calls for proposals for four-year grants beginning in 2021. Cross-disciplinary project proposals and proposals from all disciplines are welcome, if they correspond to the research strategies and recruitment needs at UiB. [...] UiB faculties may nominate candidates that meet the eligibility criteria as follows: (i) Candidates who hold a permanent position as an associate professor or professor at UiB are not eligible for nomination. (ii) A candidate cannot be nominated two consecutive years. (iii) Candidates who have reached the age of 40 by 16 March 2020 are normally not eligible. The age limit may be extended for a maximum of two (2) years [under certain] circumstances." **Application deadline for the prequalification: 16 March 2020.**

PhD positions in Climate and energy transition

Also this year you have the opportunity to apply for PhD-funding from UiB within the university's strategic area "Climate and energy transition". The university's deadline is 15 February, which is a Saturday. As we cannot just send the application to UiB via email but have to upload it in our archiving system ePhorte, we need to receive your proposals **LATEST BY 13 February!** Please send the proposals and CVs as one pdf to Stefanie.Meyer@uib.no.

National funding

Research Council of Norway: Student entrepreneurship

Students who have recently received their master degree can, in collaboration with a Norwegian university or university college, apply to the RCN to get funding for [realizing a "business idea"](#) or to carry out crucial activities that will mitigate technology- and concept-related risks by providing the answers to uncertainties that are preventing the project from moving forward in the commercialisation process". UiB has initiated an [innovation hub for students](#) where those who want to apply can get help. **RCN application deadline: 12 February 2020.**

Research Council of Norway: Annual eScience Event from 2020 to 2025

The RCN has announced funding for an annual eScience event. The event shall provide a meeting place for young researchers to “learn about new ideas, methods, and theories within eScience as well as build a professional network”.
RCN application deadline: 12 February 2020.

Research Council of Norway: Application deadline 2020 for researcher projects

Do not forget: Next year's main application deadline for researcher projects (including young research talents projects) will be **6 May 2020!**

International funding

COST

COST is the [European Cooperation in Science and Technology](#). The organization provides funds for researchers from all fields to set up international, interdisciplinary research networks (so-called COST Actions). COST Actions run on average for 4 years and require the participation of at least seven COST Members. **Application deadline: 29 April 2020.**

Events

ERC info event (at UiB)

UiB offers an [information event about ERC Advanced Grants](#) on 18 February 2020. “The workshop is divided into two main sections. First, we will lay the foundations of the ERC grant. Then, we focus on conveying to the participants information which cannot be found in the ERC official documentation. This training will clarify the basic knowledge and requirements of ERC alongside the more elusive and conceptual parts of this unique grant.” The course language will be English. **Registration deadline: 13 February 2020.**

Vacant positions

Senior engineer/ chief engineer (System Developer)

Closing date: 15th February 2020. Please find [the announcement here](#)

Postdoctoral Research Fellow position in informatics – optimization

Closing date: 1st February 2020. Please find [the announcement here](#)

Associate professor in Algorithms

Closing date: 31st January 2020. Please find [the announcement here](#)

Postdoctoral research fellow in informatics - programming theory

Closing date: 31st January 2020. Please find [the announcement here](#)

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

Fire Safety courses, spring semester 2020

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.

Thursdays March 19, April 23, May 28 and June 25.

Please notice that this spring semester there will be one course in English intended for non-Norwegian speaking staff: Thursday June 25, 09:00-11:00.

[Follow this link to sign up.](#) For «Fakturadresse» use this code: 121200

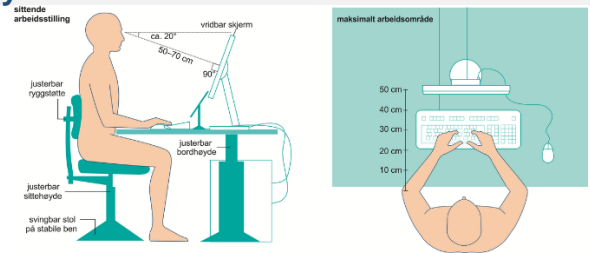


Brannøvelse

Ergonomic assessment of office workplace, February 4

UiB's physiotherapist will visit us on Tuesday 4th February at 09.00-12.00. Her mission is to help us with ergonomic assessment of our new employees' office workplaces.

If you are not among the new employees since September 2019, but still want us to visit you for an ergonomic assessment of your office workplace – please sign up by sending an email to [Linda Vagtskjold](#).



Rules for use of premises outside normal working hours

Specific rules have been adopted concerning the use of the University's premises for social gatherings, parties and informational/promotional activities. Because of considerations such as fire safety, security and cleaning schedules, the Department of Estate and Facilities Management (EIA) must be notified of any academic/social event or party that takes place or continue after 8pm. Please read the [Rules for use of unit's own premises outside normal hours](#) if you are planning an event. [Learn more and find link to the notification form here.](#)

How to register demand notice for building operations (Lydia)

Operations / Transport and supplies / Cleaning / Outdoor areas: is there anything that you think we (the UiB Department of Estate and Facilities Management (EIA)) should do or know about? [Here](#) you can register non-conformance, requirements or questions that can arise. [Learn more](#)

You have the opportunity to report the following through the Lydia-portal:

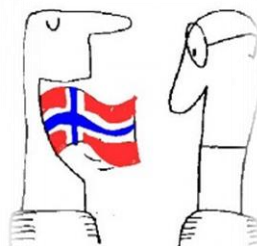
- Lighting, broken electrical outlets and other electrical issues (not IT which is reported to BRITA)
- Heating and ventilation
- Cleaning and waste
- Doors and windows
- Leaking taps and toilets
- External: graffiti, loose paving stones, holes in asphalt, park, stairs and ramps, etc.
- Transport and supplies (Employees only)

Welcome to the cake club (Kakeklubben) – now on Wednesdays!



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 Tuesdays at 12 o'clock in the lunchroom, 4th floor.

You bring your own lunch, and we serve cake and coffee. Everyone is welcome, no matter how much Norwegian you speak. We hope to see you there, both internationals and Norwegians!



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.

And remember: When you are too busy to go to the yoga class – then is when you need it the most!

Breakfast seminar “Det gode arbeidsmiljø”, February 18



UNIVERSITETET I BERGEN

Det gode arbeidsmiljø

Arbeidsliv i endring – hva med arbeidsmiljøet?

Frokostseminar 18. februar

Sikkerhet – kompetanse – trygghet

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.

Gjennom frokostseminarserien ønsker vernetjenesten ved UiB å sette fokus på betydningen av godt arbeidsmiljø. Her ønsker vi å belyse arbeidsliv og arbeidsmiljø under endring og omstilling. Hvordan tar vi vare på arbeidsmiljøet vårt og hverandre i en verdens om stadig er i endring? Hvordan løser vi fokus på effektivitet, kompetansebygging, fleksibilitet, bærekraft og nye digitale løsninger i arbeidslivet?

Målgruppen er alle ansatte og ledere. Samlingene vil bli holdt ulike steder på campus.

Det første frokostseminaret i 2020 som handler om sikkerhet, kompetanse og trygghet arrangeres tirsdag 18. februar kl. 0830-1000 i Stort auditorium, Lauritz Meltzers hus (SV-bygget). Dørene åpner kl. 0800 med enkel servering av kaffe/te og ett halvt rundstykke fra kl. 0815.

HUSK å ta med kopp til å få servert kaffe/te i.

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

Program

0830 – Velkommen, universitetets hovedverneombud June-Vibecke K Indrevik

0835 – Sikkerhet – systemer og suksessfaktorer, ved seniorrådgiver ved eiendomsavdelingen Steffen Hauge Wolff

0850 – Bygging av sikkerhetskultur – hva kan du selv bidra med? Ved seksjonssjef ved HMS seksjonen, HR avdelingen Roar Nese

0910 – Du og jeg – en fare for sikkerheten? ved sjefsingeniør ved IT- avdelingen Sidsel Storebø

0925 – Brannsikkerhet ved UiB, ved overingeniør, brann- og sikkerhetsingeniør ved eiendomsavdelingen Tore Reigstad

0940 Dialog og diskusjon, innspill til senere frokostseminar

Meld deg på her: <https://skjemaker.app.uib.no/view.php?id=7826961>

Velkommen!

Internt seminar 11. februar:

SPILLAVHENGIGHET: Hvordan oppdage problemet og hva kan gjøres?

INVITASJON

Akan-utvalget ved UiB
har gleden av å invitere til seminar med
tema spillavhengighet

TIRSDAG 11. februar

Kl. 08 – 12

Juss 2, Auditorium

Du vil møte:

JARLE WANGEN fra Akan kompetansesenter.
Han er seniorrådgiver som har spillavhengighet
som ansvarsområde og kontaktperson for
Vestland. <https://akan.no/?s=spillavhengighet>

*Alle våre foredragsholdere fra UiB er tilknyttet
Nasjonalt kompetansesenter for spillforskning –
SPILLFORSK <https://www.uib.no/spillforsk>*

- **HELGE MOLDE**, instituttleder ved klinisk psykologi
- **STÅLE PALLESEN**, professor på institutt for samfunnspsykologi, leder for SPILLFORSK
- **RUNE MENTZONI**, førsteamanuensis ved institutt for samfunnspsykologi

Fra «Spillavhengighet Norge»:

<https://spillavhengighet.no/>

- **Dan Karlsson**, tidligere Spilleavhengig forteller sin historie
- **Malin S. Arefjord**, kommunikasjonskonsulent, Spillavhengighet Norge

Ramme for formiddagen, tirsdag 11. februar:

08.00-08.15	Frokost: Rundstykker og varm drikke
08:15	Oppstart Faglige bidrag fra innleiderne Formiddagen avsluttes med paneldebatt mellom innleiderne og bedriftslege Stein-Inge Stigen
12:00	Avslutning

Påmelding innen 4. februar:

<https://skjemaker.app.uib.no/view.php?id=7475414>



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New application period for the cottages at Ustaoset and Tingviken - spring 2020 incl. Easter



It is now opened to apply for U-heimen, Ottesheimen and Butten at Ustaoset and Tingviken at Utne for the spring period from 5th April until 21st June 2020.

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

The application deadline is **14th February**. Drawing will be done 18th February.