

Dear colleagues,

What a coincidence that this newsletter comes out on the first anniversary of the lockdown! Nothing to celebrate, indeed, and let us hope that this will remain the only one. On the other hand, it is still astonishing what we could achieve and what huge jump into the digital world many of us have made. Of course, there have been significant challenges for some of us. However, generally, I am very proud of all of you, how these challenges were addressed and overcome, the constructive and supportive approaches, and, not least, the willingness to contribute. My sincere thanks on behalf of the entire management!

How are our students coping? Overall, they are coping well. The results on exams are just as good as B.C. (before corona), and we get positive feedback on the efforts and creativity from all our teachers converting their material to various digital platforms. One of them, namely Petri, made a particularly great effort. He was selected by the students as the best teacher in preclinical subjects this year! Congratulations! (more below in the Newsletter).

The students at our department have had at least a little bit of fortune as they can attend a variety of practical courses, and when the numbers allow, even lectures on campus. But they all miss being STUDENTS. Being able to do all the things that are not studying: meeting new people, the small talk in breaks, lunch in the cafeteria and parties in the evenings. Viewed with a solid portion of optimism, time is approaching to catch up!

As you may have been aware, the current 4-years term of the head of department position is running out in August. Therefore, the position had been recently advertised. The list of applicants will be made public soon, but anyway, it should not be a secret that I have not applied for a new term. After extensive discussions, particularly with the dean and my family, I concluded that, after this rather challenging year, it will be necessary to have more focus on important other parts of life. Nevertheless, I am determined to fulfil my job as best as I can, and I will enthusiastically contribute to the success of IBM in the time after.

Vennlig hilsen,
Håkons

Human Resources

Events for UiB employees	Benefits for employees at UiB	Vacant positions at the University of Bergen
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Foreslå medlemmer til fakultetsstyre ved Det medisinske fakultet

Det skal velges medlemmer til fakultetsstyret ved Det medisinske fakultet Valget foregår i perioden 27. mai–2. juni.

- Gruppe A: Fast ansatte i undervisnings og forskerstilling
- Gruppe B: Midlertidig ansatte i undervisnings og forskerstilling
- Gruppe C: Teknisk og administrativ ansatte

Stemmeberettigede i gruppe A, B og C har rett til å foreslå kandidater til valg i de gruppene de tilhører. [Les valgkunningtøring.](#)

Frist for innsending av kandidatforslag: 31. mars 2021

Foreslå medlemmer til instituttråd

Det skal velges medlemmer til instituttrådet ved Institutt for biomedisin. Valg foregår i perioden 27. mai–2. juni.

- Gruppe A: Fast ansatte i undervisnings og forskerstilling
- Gruppe B: Midlertidig ansatte i undervisnings og forskerstilling
- Gruppe C: Teknisk og administrativ ansatte

Stemmeberettigede i gruppe A, B og C har rett til å foreslå kandidater til valg i de gruppene de tilhører. [Les valgkunningtøring.](#)

Frist for innsending av kandidatforslag: 31. mars 2021

Nominate candidates for the Board of the Faculty of Medicine

Elections to the board of the Faculty of Medicine are to be held 27 May–2 June this year. You are invited to nominate candidates now.

- Group A Permanent academic staff
- Group B Temporary academic staff
- Group C Technical and administrative staff

Eligible voters in the groups A, B & C have the right to propose candidates for election in the groups to which they belong. [Read the election notice.](#)

Deadline for candidate nominations: 31 March 2021

Nominate candidates for the Council of the Department of Biomedicine

Elections to the council of the Department of Biomedicine are to be held 27 May–2 June this year.

- Group A Permanent academic staff
- Group B Temporary academic staff
- Group C Technical and administrative staff

Eligible voters in the groups A, B & C have the right to propose candidates for election in the groups to which they belong. [Read the election notice.](#)

Deadline for candidate nominations: 31 March 2021

Operations, Health, and Safety

PÅMINNELSE: Delta på ARK

Denne uken har du fått tilsendt en epost med lenke til å delta i ARK-undersøkelsen ved Universitetet i Bergen.

ARK er en arbeidsmiljø- og klimaundersøkelse som skal gjennomføres for alle ansatte ved universitetet i mars 2021.

Formålet med undersøkelsen er å få innsett i hvordan arbeidsmiljøene erfases, og hvordan vi kan legge til rette for å videreutvikle et godt arbeidsmiljø ved Universitetet i Bergen.

Vå håper du kan sette av **10 minutter** til å svare på spørsmålene i undersøkelsen. Resultatene vil gi oss verdiful informasjon om hvordan arbeidsmiljøet og klimaet er rundt omkring på de ulike avdelingene og instituttene våre.

Svarfrist 28. mars.

REMINDER: participate in the ARK survey

This week, you have received an email with link to participate in the ARK survey at the University of Bergen.

ARK is a working environment and - climate survey that will be conducted for UiB employees in March 2021.

The purpose of the survey is to gain insight into how the working environments are experienced, and how we can facilitate the further development of a good working environment at the University of Bergen.

We hope that you will spend **10 minutes** to answer the questions in the survey. The results will provide us with valuable information about how the working environment and - climate at our institution.

The survey closes 28 March.

Research, Science, and Seminars

Publications

The following list is the PubMed search result for "Bergen AND Biomedicine" since the last newsletter. Authors who attribute the Department are shown in bold.

[Human NAA30 can rescue yeast mak3Δ mutant growth phenotypes.](#)

Brosic A, Varland S. Biosci Rep. 2021 Mar 26;41(3):BSR20202828

[High dimensional immunotyping of tumors grown in obese and non-obese mice.](#)

Wogstad CT, Lien HE, Pedersen L, Hanjra P, Grondal SM, Brekken RA, Lorens JB, Halberg N. Dis Model Mech. 2021 Mar 2; dmm.048977. doi: 10.1242/dmm.048977

[How Frequent Is Switching From an Initial Stimulant Family to the Alternative One in the Clinical Setting? A Pilot Study of 49 Consecutively Referred Medication-Naive Adults With Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder.](#)

Biederman J, DiSalvo M, Green A, Woodworth KY, Law C, Gabrieli JDE, **Farane SV** J Clin Psychopharmacol. 2021 Feb 27. doi: 10.1097/JCP.0000000000001374.

[Assembly and Cellular Exit of Coronaviruses: Hijacking an Unconventional Secretory Pathway from the Pre-Golgi Intermediate Compartment via the Golgi Ribbon to the Extracellular Space.](#)

Saraste J, Prydz K. Cells. 2021 Feb 26;10(3):503. doi: 10.3390/cells10030503

[Blocking Aerobic Glycolysis by Targeting Pyruvate Dehydrogenase Kinase in Combination with EGFR TKI and Ionizing Radiation Increases Therapeutic Effect in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer Cells.](#)

Dyrstad SE, Løtsberg ML, Tan TZ, Pettersen IKN, Hjellbrekke S, Tusubira D, Engelsen AST, Daubon T, Mourier A, Thiery JP, Dahl O, Lorens JB, Tronstad KJ, Rosland GV. Cancers (Basel). 2021 Feb 24;13(5):941. doi: 10.3390/cancers13050941

BBB SEMINARS.

BBB webinar

Terje Johansen from the Department of Medical Biology, University of Tromsø (UIT) – The Arctic University of Norway, will give a talk entitled "CALCOCO1: A novel soluble ER-phagy and Golgi-phagy receptor".

Terje Johansen is a professor and group leader at the Department of Medical Biology, UIT. He and his coworkers contributed significantly to a breakthrough in the field of autophagy by their discovery of mammalian selective autophagy receptors. His group has identified a number of novel interaction partners for the ATG8 family proteins present at the inner membrane surface of forming autophagosomes.

Several of these ATG8 interacting proteins are members of the basal autophagy apparatus instrumental in forming the autophagosomes. Dr. Johansen aims in his research to elucidate molecular mechanisms of selective autophagy of various organelles and protein aggregates.

Thursday, March 18, 14.30

CBBIO webinar

Randolph Watnick from the Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA, will give a talk entitled "Identification of a novel paracrine acting stimulator of tumor growth and progression via modulation of Tsp-1 in the tumor microenvironment".

Randy Watnick is currently assistant professor at the Department of Surgery, Harvard Medical School, and research associate in the Vascular Biology Program at Boston Children's Hospital. Dr. Watnick's expertise is in tumor stromal interactions, regulators of metastasis and gene regulation in epithelial and mesenchymal cells. His research group studies the regulation of angiogenesis, proliferation and motility in both epithelial cells and fibroblasts, and has also developed a therapeutic peptide derived from prosaposin. This has been licensed to Viggo Therapeutics Inc. and is currently in clinical trials in the United States.

Thursday, March 25, 14.30

N:B:S Bergen – Science & Social

The Norwegian Biochemical Society will hold an online Science and Social event open for all.

The speaker is Nathalie Reuter from Computational Biology Unit (CBU) and Department of Chemistry, University of Bergen. She will give a talk entitled **"Binding of peripheral proteins to membranes: what do molecular simulations teach us?"**

Abstract:

Peripheral membrane proteins (PMPs) include enzymes (phospholipases, etc.), membrane targeting domains (PH, C2, etc.), lipid transfer proteins (START, PRELI, etc.) and many more. PMPs are key players in signalling processes. They bind only superficially to cell and organelle membranes and the membrane-protein interface is restricted to a few loops or amphipatic helices. Contrasting with protein-protein or protein-DNA interfaces, interfacial peripheral protein-membrane interfaces have been poorly characterized and are challenging to identify using structural biology techniques.

I will explain why molecular simulations are a valuable tool to predict membrane-binding sites of PMPs, to explain PMPs lipid specificity, and to get detailed insights into mechanisms and thermodynamics of peripheral membrane association. I will illustrate these points with examples taken from recent work of my research group on Loxosceles spider venom phospholipases D, a Bacillus phospholipase C, and STARD lipid transfer proteins.

Zoom meeting id: 657 7052 7647

Pasword: 6FXnS&fJ

17 March, 15.00, Zoom

Academic Affairs

Petri Kursula er kåret årets preklinisk underviser

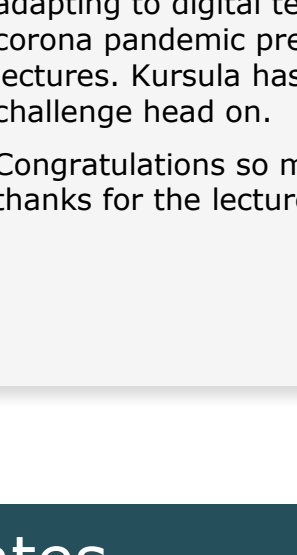
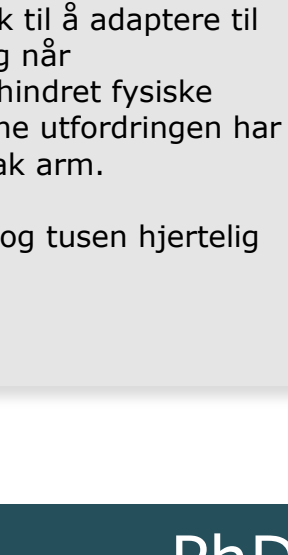
Hvert år deler organisasjonen for medisinstudenter, Medisinsk fagutvalg ut priser for god undervisning: Årets prekliniske underviser og årets kliniske underviser. Vinnerne blir valgt gjennom en avstemning blant alle medisinstudentene.

Petri Kursula har fått prisen for beste prekliniske underviser i 2020, som en underviser som har vært særlig flink til å adaptere til digital undervisning. Takk til Petri for godt arbeid i MEDOD1 i høst! Vi håper at dette kan inspirere oss til enda bedre undervisning, og at vi kan få lov til å lære av Petris erfaringer.

Petri Kursula is best lecturer for preclinical studies

The student organization for medical students awards two prizes for good teaching each year: the best lecturer for preclinical studies and the best lecturer in clinical studies. The winner is determined through a poll among all medical students.

Petri Kursula has now won the prize as best lecturer for preclinical studies in 2020, as a teacher who has been particularly good at adapting to digital teaching. Thanks to Petri for good work in MEDOD1 this fall! We hope that this can inspire us to even better teaching, and that we can be allowed to learn from Petri's experiences.



Dette skriver MFU på sin instagram side:

Petri Kursula har gjennom sin undervisning tildeelt studentene kunnskap på en konkret og anvendelig måte. Han har gjort digitale forelesninger mer interaktive ved å jevnlig lage "poller" med spørsmål før og etter forelesningene for å kartlegge hva studentene kan for forelesningen sammenlignet med etter. Petri er god på å ta i bruk eksempler dersom begreper og fenomener skulle være vanskelig å forstå rent teoretisk, og har gjort en fantastisk jobb på den pedagogiske siden. Han har også synt stort ansvar for studentene ved å lage ekstra oppgavesett, grundige pensumgjennomganger og godt tilpassede forelesninger. I år ville studentene at prisen skulle gå til noen som var særlig flink til å adaptere til digital undervisning når koronapandemien hindret fysiske forelesninger. Denne utfordringen har Kursula tatt på strak arm.

Gratulerer så mye og tusen hjertelig for undervisningen

This is a translation of MFUs Instagram post:

Through his teaching, Petri Kursula has provided the students with knowledge in a concrete and applicable way. He has made digital lectures more interactive by regularly creating "polls" with questions before and after the lectures to map out what the students can do before the lecture compared to after. Petri is good at using examples if concepts and phenomena should be difficult to understand in theory, and has done a fantastic job on the pedagogical side. He has also shown great responsibility for the students by creating extra sets of assignments, thorough syllabus reviews and well-adapted lectures. This year, the students wanted the award to go to someone who was particularly good at adapting to digital teaching when the corona pandemic prevented physical lectures. Kursula has taken this challenge head on.

Congratulations so much and many thanks for the lectures.

PhD updates

Early Career Researchers Networking Workshops about SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities

The Worldwide Universities Network (WUN) – of which the University of Bergen is a member – cordially invites you to register for the next in our series of Early Career Researchers (ECR) Networking Workshops focusing on the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

Although this program is designed to provide benefit to Early Career Researchers (defined as researchers in the final year of their PhD or within five years of having been awarded the degree), we also welcome middle and senior career colleagues to join as the diversity of participation makes the event even more valuable.

The focus area of this third ECR Networking Workshop is SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities.

Registration (**deadline 21 March at 12:00**): <https://www.accelevents.com/e/WUNECRSDG11>

NOTE: University of Bergen email address (@uib.no) is required for successful registration!

PROGRAMME

PART 1 (45 min): INTRODUCTORY SPEAKERS (click on name to view full bio)

Mr. Raf Tuts Director - Global Solutions Division The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) in Nairobi, Kenya

WUN Research Snapshots:

Associate Professor Sylvia Ying He He Urban Studies Programme, Chinese University of Hong Kong PI: Low-Carbon Transport, Individual Wellbeing & Planetary Health in the Era of Smart Cities & New Mobilities

Professor Shyma V. Raman School of Governance, UNU-MERIT, Maastricht University PI: A Cross-National Study of Urban Solid Waste Management: Learnings and Way Forward

Associate Professor Hongdick Tieben Director, School of Architecture, Chinese University of Hong Kong PI: Analyzing the Role of Urban Forms in Making Sustainable, Healthy Cities

PART 2 (45 min): NETWORKING BREAKOUT ROOMS (according to participants research interests indicated in the registration process)

Wednesday 24 March, 15:00 – 16:30

Funding Announcements

Prosjektskisser for to ledige ph.d.-stillinger ved Pandemisenteret, UiB

Pandemisenteret, Universitetet i Bergen, inviterer til prosjektskisser for to stipendiatstillinger.

Pandemisenteret er et tverrfaglig senter og alle fakulteter ved UiB er representert i den strategiske arbeidsgruppen og invitert til å søke.

Stillingene er åpne for alle fagområder ved UiB. Prosjektleder/hovedveileder må være fast ansatt ved UiB i vitenskapelig stilling i hele stipendiatperioden. Den ene stillingen skal ha hovedveileder ved Det medisinske fakultet. Den andre stillingen skal ha hovedveileder ved Det matematisk-naturvitenskapelige fakultet.

[Les hele utlysningen.](#)

Frist 31. mars 2021

Submit project sketches for two PhD positions at the Pandemic Center

The Pandemic Center, UiB, invites to project sketches for two PhD positions.

The Pandemic Center is an interdisciplinary center where all faculties at UiB are represented and invited to apply.

The positions are open to all subject areas at UiB. The main supervisor must be a permanent employee at UiB in a scientific position throughout the PhD period. One position will have a main supervisor at the Faculty of Medicine. The second position will be the main supervisor at the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences.

[Read the call \(in Norwegian\)](#)

Deadline: 31 march 2021

Qualification Project (former Milestone Project) – Research Commercialisation from Publicly Funded Research

NOK 200 000-500 000, 3-12 months

The aim of the application type Commercialisation Project is to contribute to increasing commercial exploitation of publicly-funded research in Norway.

The purpose of a qualification project is to undertake **initial investigations into the commercial potential of research results** that aim to clarify which course to pursue as regards the direction of research, technology development or strategic decisions. The results from a completed Qualification Project will often form the basis for decisions on the subsequent course of commercialisation, and the results can be used to support an application for commercialisation funding in the form of a Proof-of-Concept.

<https://www.forskningsgradet.no/utlysninger/2020/kvalifiseringsprosjekt/>

Deadline: continuous