



newsletter

Department of Biomedicine



No. 09/2017 – 12 May 2017

Editor in chief: Rolf K. Reed. Editor: Stian Krog. Published every second week through the year.

Dear colleagues,

A lot of changes are occurring, both administrative and scientific, in the near future.

First of all, it is a great pleasure to announce that Professor Mathias Ziegler at the Department of Molecular Biology, UiB, has accepted the position as new Head of Department for Department of Biomedicine, starting from the fall semester of 2017.

Furthermore, I have the pleasure of welcoming Professor Thomas Arnesen and his team, which will be assigned laboratories and offices in the 6th floor, to our Department from the fall semester. Arnesen is currently employed at the Department of Molecular Biology, and according to an agreement between the Faculty of Mathematics and Science and the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, the majority of Arnesen's position is transferred to us. Arnesen will play a key role in developing closer collaboration between the two faculties within the field of molecular biology.

The election for the University Board is in progress, and the election for the Faculty Board is coming up next week. It is important that everyone sets aside time to use their right to vote and influence in these elections for the ruling bodies at the university and faculty.

In this Newsletter, a reminder is issued to those with primary and secondary responsibilities for supervising PhD candidates. We recently had a visit from the Research Section at the Faculty, which revealed that barely 20 % of the registered supervisors for PhDs had taken the Mitt UiB (Canvas) test made for this purpose. We hereby encourage everyone with such duties to take this test. It contains vital information and is a useful update regarding the changes made to the doctoral programme over the last years.

*Sincerely,
Rolf K. Reed
Head of Department*



Staff Updates



Sunil Kumar Pandey is employed as researcher at the Department, financed by the Kristian Gerhard Jebsen Foundation and associated with the K.G. Jebsen Centre for Research on Neuropsychiatric Disorders. Welcome to the Department - we hope you will enjoy working with us!



Research, Science and Seminars

New publications at the Department of Biomedicine

This list is a result of the PubMed query "Bergen & Biomedicine". If someone misses their publications on the list, please send the link to it to the editor so it can be included in the next newsletter.



[Obesity is associated with depot-specific alterations in adipocyte DNA methylation and gene expression.](#)

Sonne SB, Yadav R, Yin G, Dalgaard MD, Myrmel LS, Gupta R, Wang J, Madsen L, Kajimura S, Kristiansen K.

Adipocyte. 2017 Apr 18:1-10. doi: 10.1080/21623945.2017.1320002. [Epub ahead of print]
PMID: 28481699

[Rotavirus infection and disease in a multi-site birth cohort: Results from the MAL-ED study.](#)

Mohan VR, Ramanujam K, Babji S, McGrath M, Shrestha S, Shrestha J, Mdumah E, Amour C, Samie A, Nyathi E, Haque R, Qureshi S, Yori PP, Lima AAM, Bodhidatta L, Svensen E, Bessong P, Ahmed T, Seidman JC, Zaidi AK, Kosek MN, Guerrant RL, Gratz J, Platts-Mills JA, Lang DR, Gottlieb M, Hout R, Kang G; MAL-ED Network Investigators..

J Infect Dis. 2017 May 3. doi: 10.1093/infdis/jix199. [Epub ahead of print]
PMID: 28472348

[Duplicated Enhancer Region Increases Expression of CTSB and Segregates with Keratolytic Winter Erythema in South African and Norwegian Families.](#)

Ngcungcu T, Oti M, Sitek JC, Haukanes BI, Linghu B, Bruccoleri R, Stokowy T, Oakeley EJ, Yang F, Zhu J, Sultan M, Schalkwijk J, van Vlijmen-Willems IMJJ, von der Lippe C, Brunner HG, Ersland KM, Grayson W, Buechmann-Moller S, Sundnes O, Nirmala N, Morgan TM, van Bokhoven H, Steen VM, Hull PR, Szustakowski J, Staedtler F, Zhou H, Fiskerstrand T, Ramsay M.

Am J Hum Genet. 2017 May 4;100(5):737-750. doi: 10.1016/j.ajhg.2017.03.012. Epub 2017 Apr 27.
PMID: 28457472

[Granin-derived Peptides.](#)

Troger J, Theurl M, Kirchmair R, Pasqua T, Tota B, Angelone T, Cerra MC, Nowosielski Y, Mätzler R, Troger J, Gayen JR, Trudeau V, Corti A, Helle KB.

Prog Neurobiol. 2017 Apr 22. pii: S0301-0082(16)30111-3. doi: 10.1016/j.pneurobio.2017.04.003. [Epub ahead of print] Review.
PMID: 28442394

Reminder: Official opening and seminar: Global Challenges

To celebrate the launch of UiB's multi-disciplinary strategic focus areas, «Global Challenges», UiB invites staff, students and other interested parties from other institutions to a full day-seminar in the University Aula on **Monday 15 May**.

See full program [here](#).

Biomedical Network: meeting invitation

Results from clinical research – what is the output value for us, and how can we get better at planning and execution of clinical research studies? We present experiences and challenges, and look at which values clinical studies represent to the field of biomedicine.

It is a political goal from national government agencies, communities in health sciences and medical companies to increase the number of clinical studies. Through our engagement we wish to facilitate a higher level of involvement in clinical studies from researchers, companies, academic staff and patients. This will happen through local and national efforts and across a spectrum of institutions who hold vital roles in the organization, financing or development regarding clinical studies.

Date: **29 May 2017**

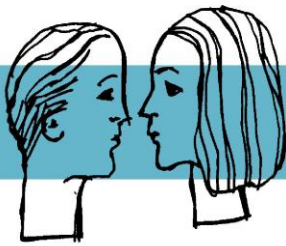
Time: **15:30 – 19:30**

Place: **HUS – H113**

Registration deadline: 22 May.

There are limited seats for this event.

Free registration and more information about the programme can be found [here](#). (Norwegian only)



HR News

[This page](#) gives an overview of courses, seminars, information meetings and similar events organized at UiB.

[This page](#) gives an overview of welfare offers for employees at UiB, such as cinema tickets, cultural events, guest accommodation, etc.

Candidates for the Faculty Board – election starts on Monday 15 May

[Here](#) is a list of proposed candidates for the Faculty Board election.

The election opens on Monday 15 May, 09:00, and all staff eligible to vote will receive an e-mail with a link to the online polling station.



The Section for Tuition and the Section for Academic Affairs merge

Our two sections for Tuition («Undervisningsavdelingen») and Academic Affairs («Studieseksjonen») have been assigned increasingly overlapping fields of responsibility over the years, and for that reason we have decided to merge these two sections into one. The new section will be called the Section for Academic Affairs («Studieseksjonen»). Staff at the section will be responsible for administrating all courses run by the Department as well as the Master's Programme in Biomedical Sciences. It will also be having technical-administrative responsibility for practical courses in chemistry, physiology and anatomy for these different study programmes.

Bianca Nygård will be the new section leader of the Section for Academic Affairs at the Department, and we wish her all the best with new and exciting work tasks.



Operations & HSE News

Reminder: UCI 2017 Road Championship to Bergen

In the period 16-24 September, the UCI 2017 Road Championship ("Sykkel-VM") will be held in Bergen. This means quite a bit of challenges regarding goods delivery and access to the BB-building.

UiB encourages all employees and students to inform themselves properly on how to access work and places of study during this time. A general recommendation is to use public transportation, walk or use a bicycle to work – and set aside plenty of time!

Other consequences for UiB's daily operations

We encourage everyone not to plan any seminars, lectures, conferences or other major events in the period 16- 24 September 2017.

There will be numerous challenges associated with transport in and out of all central areas of Bergen, as well as relating to accommodation options for the entire Bergen area. During the championship, UiB will allow work from home to a greater degree than usual. Each employee must make appointments regarding such solutions with her or his closest supervisor. Also, arrangements need to be made in advance regarding increased need for flexibility when it comes to delivering and picking up children from day care or schools.

More information and links are available at UiB's [Staff pages](#).



PhD Updates

An overview of available PhD and postdoc positions supported by the Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions can be found [here](#).



Elham Nikpey

Trial lecture:

"Salt consumption in various population groups: Focus on intake values and methodology"

Time and venue:

Monday, 22 May 2017 at 10:15, Auditorium 4, BB-building

Defense:

"Role of the extracellular microenvironment and lymphatics in electrolyte and blood pressure regulation"

Time and venue:

Monday, 22 May 2017 at 12:15, Auditorium 4, BB-building

1.opponent:

Professor Christian Aalkjær, Aarhus University, Denmark

2.opponent:

Professor Per Ole Iversen, University of Oslo

Leader of the Committee:

PhD Agnete Engelsen, University of Bergen

Custos:

Professor Emeritus Boleslaw Srebro, University of Bergen



Congratulations to **Panagiota Papadakou** with a well-accomplished trial lecture and defense on the 04th of May!



Congratulations to **Pugazendhi Murugan Erusappan** with a well-accomplished trial lecture and defense on the 05th of May!

New e-learning course for PhD supervisors

The work on developing an e-learning course for supervisors was initiated by the Programme Board for the PhD programme at the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry. A separate committee was set up to develop the content of the course. The course was launched in spring 2017 – at first to internal main supervisors (but all supervisors are welcome). In short, the course covers the rules and practices of the PhD programme at the Faculty, from admission to completion of the PhD degree. It consists of six modules, with six corresponding quizzes. All modules must be passed and the participant must have obtained a score of at least 80 % in order to pass the course. The course is conducted online via Mitt UiB, click [here](#) (requires login) to take the test.



Funding Announcements

Current funding announcements/deadlines

Norges Forskningsråd (NFR)

⇒ RCN is planning [a joint call of the four programs \(BEDREHELSE, HELSEVEL, KVINNEHELSE, BEHANDLING\) within Health](#). One P.I. may submit one application only, i.e. will have to choose between the four programs.



- [BEHANDLING](#): NOK 150 million for research on diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation
- [KVINNEHELSE](#): Until 60 million to projects on women's health.
- [HELSEVEL](#): 80 million for research on health and welfare services.
- [BEDREHELSE](#): Up to 100 million to research for better health
-

Deadline: 26 April

⇒ BEDREHELSE: NOK 40 million to joint [Indo-Norwegian researcher projects on antimicrobial resistance](#).

Deadline: 26 April 2017

- ⇒ Pre-announcement [FRIPRO](#) funds bottom-up, basic research with bold hypotheses. 4 types of research application: [FRIPRO Toppforsk Researcher Project](#), [Young Research Talents](#), [FRIPRO mobility grant](#). **Deadline: 24 May**, and it will be possible to create an application from 12 April.
- ⇒ [NANO2021](#): Nanotechnology, microtechnology and advanced materials for better health and new medical technologies. **Deadline: 24 May**

Horizon 2020

- ⇒ [Horizon 2020](#) and [news](#)
- ⇒ Project establishment support [PES](#) and POS (posisjoneringsmidler) for Horizon 2020 applicants: open-ended during Horizon2020 Call period.
- ⇒ On the following page the [local contact points](#) are listed where every call has a responsible research advisor. You can contact them or faculty advisors, [Ramune Middtveit](#), [Itana Sloper-Krivokapic](#).
- ⇒ [Read more \(information and routines for application at UiB\)](#).



Selected H2020 deadlines 2017:

European Research Council (ERC) *Frontier research grants*

- ⇒ [Advanced Grants](#): are designed to support excellent Principal Investigators at the career stage at which they are already established research leaders with a recognized track record of research achievements. **Deadline: 31 Aug 2017, call opens 16 May 2017**

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

Excellent and innovative research training plus attractive career and knowledge-exchange opportunities through cross-border and cross-sector mobility, no thematic priorities.

- ⇒ [Individual Fellowships \(IF\)](#): aims to help experienced researchers to advance their careers and gain new skills through advanced training, international mobility, and optional intersectoral secondments. The host organization can be universities and research institutes in addition to a company or other non-academic sector organizations. **Deadline: 14 September 2017**
- ⇒ **NEW:** The [COFUND](#): aims at stimulating regional, national or international programmes to foster excellence in researchers' training, mobility and career development.

NEW! The Division of Research Administration organises MSCA road-show 2017. The goal is to identify potential researchers, research groups for the coming ITN, IF applications. The division will visit our faculty in **week 18**. For more information please contact **Emmanuel Babatunde**

Spreading excellence and widening participation

- ⇒ Pre-announcement [Twinning WIDESPREAD-05-2017](#): The specific challenge is to address networking gaps and deficiencies between the research institutions of the Widening countries and internationally-leading counterparts at EU level. CSA Coordination and support action. **Deadline: 15 November 2017, open around 11 May**

Horizon 2020 – Complementary Calls

- ⇒ [COST Action](#): open Call - funding for research networks. Proposals should reflect the main characteristics of COST Actions, namely providing for knowledge sharing, creation and application, being open and output-oriented while aiming at strengthening the scientific and technological basis of the proposed topic(s). **Deadline: 7 September 2017**

Norwegian Cancer Society/Kreftforeningen

- ⇒ Pre-announcement: [Open Call 2017 for cancer research projects within all research topics under the Norwegian Cancer Society's aims](#). **Deadline: 1 June 2017, call opens mid-April**

[Info meeting – Open call 2017](#), 24 April, Oslo. Registration is open!

Novo Nordisk Foundation Symposia

- ⇒ **NEW:** [Project grants within basic and clinical research in endocrinology and metabolism](#). The objective of this call is to support young and promising researchers as well as established scientists, to carry out research projects of 1 to 3 years' duration. Additionally, the best application received in this call may be selected for the Novo Nordisk Foundation's "Advanced Grant". **Deadline: 1 June 2017**
- ⇒ **NEW:** [Postdoctoral fellowship program within endocrinology/metabolism at international elite research environments](#). The fellowship offers an opportunity to carry out a research project where a minimum of 3 years are dedicated to work at a university, hospital or other research institution abroad, followed by up to 1 year at a university, hospital or other research institution in a Nordic country. **Deadline: 21 June 2017**

NordForsk

- ⇒ [New instrument for Nordic University Cooperation: Nordic University Hubs](#): The overall goal of the new funding instrument is to strengthen international competitiveness and facilitate the development of world leading research environments in the Nordic region. **Deadline: 3 May 2017**
- ⇒ [Nordic Graduate Education Courses within register-based research](#): The aim is to support the next generation of researchers utilising data from Nordic registers in health and welfare research, by providing high-quality education and training as well as networking platforms. **Deadline: 21 June 2017**
- ⇒ **NEW:** [International Postdoctoral Research Fellowships within the Nordic Neutron Science Programme](#). The call is thematically open and supports fellowships within any scientific field using neutron scattering techniques, including instrument and method development. **Deadline: 30 August 2017**

Fellowships and Personal Grants

- ⇒ [EMBO \(European Molecular Biology Organization\) Fellowships](#). *Research on the molecular mechanisms of life at all levels.*
 - ⇒ [Short-term](#) (postdocs and advanced PhD students) fellowships fund research visits of up to three months to laboratories in Europe and elsewhere in the world. The aim is to facilitate valuable collaborations with research groups applying techniques that are unavailable in the applicant's laboratory. **Deadline: throughout the year.**
 - ⇒ [Long-term](#) **Deadline: throughout the year.**



Meetings/workshops/conferences

- ⇒ Sean McCarthy course: [How to Write the Impact of a Horizon 2020 Proposal](#), **9 May**, Oslo
- ⇒ The international training event "[Exploitation of EU project results with a focus on IP in the field of health and biotechnology](#)", 10-11 May, Prague
- ⇒ [Biomedica 2017 Networking Event](#): The main topics 2017 are smart diagnostics, cardiac monitoring, perinatal development, regenerative medicine and precision medicine, **9-10 May**, Eindhoven, Netherlands
- ⇒ [Meet2Win in the Oncology Business Convention](#), **11 May 2017**, Bordeaux, France.
- ⇒ [EUDAT & Research Data Management Summer School](#), 3-7 July, Heraklion, Greece. Deadline for submission is 17 April.
- ⇒ Forum: "[Health Research in a Connected and Participative Society](#)" 9 June, Brussels
- ⇒ Conference organised by EATRIS: [TRANSLATIONAL MEDICINE 2017](#), 24-26 September, Prague

Funding for cooperation in higher education

You can find an updated overview of calls for cooperation in higher education [here](#). Relevant calls for researchers from our department are **Partnership Programme for North America**, **INTPART** and more.

For questions on the calls, please contact [Kaia Nepstad](#).



A million for project establishing support within Erasmus+

Do you want to reach further in the competition over funding within European educational collaborations?

At SIU, you can apply for funding to develop your application through what is known as Project Establishing Support (PDS) for 2017. These funds are connected to centralized efforts under Erasmus+ and

we have gathered 1 million NOK to the establishing of new projects.

About the Project Development Support

SIU offers a total sum of up to 100 000 NOK per project in support, which may cover salaries, travels and external support connected to shaping and developing applications. Organizations and companies aiming to develop a project within some of the following centralized efforts within Erasmus+ may apply for support:

- Knowledge alliances
- Sector alliances
- Capacity building
- Joint degrees
- Jean Monnet
- Sports

Two application deadlines

There are two separate application deadlines for 2017:

The first application deadline is **01 June 2017** and the other at **01. November 2017** – both at 15:00 (Norwegian time zone).

Best of luck with your application!

Read more here: [Application for Project Establishing Support 2017](#)