



# newsletter

## Department of Biomedicine



No. 11/2017 – 16 June 2017

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

Dear colleagues,

*The University Board has appointed Professor Per Bakke as the new dean of our faculty. He will start in this new position on August 1, and is currently head of the Department for Clinical Science. It is a pleasure to congratulate him to this new position, and we are looking forward to good collaboration in the future. Read more at the [faculty's news item](#) (in Norwegian).*

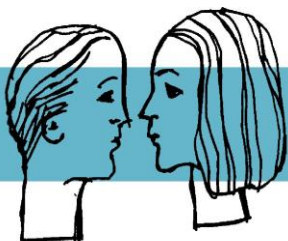
*The faculty has also been given a new name. The University Board decided on June 1 that the new name will be "Det medisinske fakultet" or "Faculty of Medicine" in English. This topic had been re-addressed by the University Board, which had now asked the faculty to discuss the matter and ensured a broad involvement preparing the new suggestion.*

*Please remember to answer the questionnaire that evaluates the faculty's reorganization. All employees should have received an email from the dean and are encouraged to reply.*

*We are approaching the summer holiday season. Less scientific, technical, and administrative staff will be available during these weeks, and it is therefore important to plan any orders and activities well in advance. At the same time, we can start to find solutions for supporting each other where needed.*

*I wish you all a good summer!*

Sincerely,  
Rolf K. Reed  
Head of Department



## 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.

### Retirement: Finn Strand og Arve Madsen



. Foto: Torstein Ravnskog

On May 30, the department held a ceremony for the two retirees, who have been associated with the technical support division (fellesavdeling). Arve has been responsible for the chemical supplies and played a central role in the department's health and safety work. Finn has been the one with good knowledge of machinery made at the department for many years and has worked much in the electronics workshop. The department wants to thank the two of them for a collective 90 years of good collaboration and wishes them good luck as pensioners.



**Ingeborg Winge** will leave her position as chief engineer from June 27. She has been Ph.D. student and technician in the neurotargeting group with Jan Haavik, and will now start a permanent position at CCBio.



**Hanne Hollås** will leave her position as chief engineer from June 30. She has been a member of the neurotargeting research group, with Anni Vedeler, for many years. She will continue as a professional tour guide, both in Norway and abroad.



**Margarethe Bittins** After many years in academic and technical positions, I am now starting a permanent position as chief executive officer. I am PhD- and research coordinator, contact person for PhD-students, responsible for administration of PhD-courses, editor of the newsletter etc. I am looking forward to exciting tasks and challenges

## Technician's Day 2017



It was the last day of May when we – the technical staff - held our annual whole-day seminar, this time in **Bikuben** conference center and at the football field on **Montana**.

**Bergit Brattekkås**, Post Doc at the Department of Physics and Technology, talked about her collaboration with MIC and the application of PET-CT technology to study fluid flow through rock samples from the North Sea. Biomed-alumnus **Tanja Kögel**, who is now a researcher at NIFES, addressed the question: «Is Norwegian seafood affected by plastic?» in a captivating lecture. Both speakers managed to communicate important issues that engaged the audience in a lively discussion. Our own **Hanne Hollås**, chief engineer in the neurotargeting group, concluded the morning with beautiful pictures from distant countries, high-mountain trips, and deep personal and philosophical insight.

The theme of the afternoon was: «together we will withstand any weather». In other words: teambuilding in the rain! There we were, cheering at each other at **archery** and solving a **giant tangram puzzle**. The winning team remembered that it was the fairy that set Pinocchio free, and created the very imaginative word “**burhvetekringler**”. In summary, we who are technical staff at the Department had a successful day filled with inspiration, good talks, new friends, and a revived sense of togetherness.

Text: Margarethe Bittins, Foto: Torstein Ravnskog



# 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.



### [Clear Cell Renal Cell Carcinoma is linked to Epithelial-to-Mesenchymal Transition and to Fibrosis](#)

Landolt L, Eikrem Ø, Strauss P, Scherer A, Lovett DH, Beisland C, Finne K, Osman T, Ibrahim MM, Gausdal G, Ahmed L, Lorens JB, Thiery JP, Tan TZ, Sekulic M, Marti HP.

Physiol Rep. 2017 Jun;5(11). pii: e13305. doi: 10.14814/phy2.13305.

PMID: 28596300

### [Predicting attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder severity from psychosocial stress and stress-response genes: a random forest regression approach.](#)

van der Meer D, Hoekstra PJ, van Donkelaar M, Bralten J, Oosterlaan J, Heslenfeld D, Faraone SV, Franke B, Buitelaar JK, Hartman CA.

Transl Psychiatry. 2017 Jun 6;7(6):e1145. doi: 10.1038/tp.2017.114.

PMID:28585928

### [EMT and MET-related processes in non-epithelial tumors: importance for disease progression, prognosis and therapeutic opportunities.](#)

Kahlert UD, Joseph JV, Krut FAE.

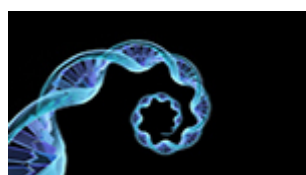
Mol Oncol. 2017 May 28. doi: 10.1002/1878-0261.12085. [Epub ahead of print] Review.

PMID:28556516

### [Plastic Heterogeneity of Innate Lymphoid Cells in Cancer](#)

Marek Wagner, Kazuyo Moro, Shigeo Koyasu

Trends in Cancer, Vol. 3, Issue 5



## [Epigenetics in Clinical and Translational Research](#)

6th Building Bridges Symposium - October 10-11, 2017, Biomedicum Helsinki, Finland

The Building Bridges symposia series is arranged to bridge clinical and basic/translational research. The course is targeted both as an introduction to epigenetics as well as a demonstration of advancements in epigenetics research, and open to the entire scientific community.

Doctoral candidates wishing to learn about epigenetics, especially in relation to human health and disease, are encouraged to attend.

Organizers: Institute for Molecular Medicine Finland (FIMM), Centre for Genomic Regulation (CRG, Barcelona), EU-LIFE, University of Helsinki Doctoral Programmes in Biomedicine (DPBM), Clinical Research (KLTO), and Population Health (DocPop)



## BIR Annual Congress

2-3 November, London

The British Institute of Radiology is looking for abstracts for iPoster presentations relating to all areas of medical imaging and radiotherapy, including educational, case reports, audits and research for their flagship event.



## Nordic PhD summit

21.-22. August 2017, Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm



The Faculty of Medicine is member of a Nordic network for research education in medicine and health sciences called [Nordoc](#). NorDoc is arranging a Nordic Ph.D. Summit on August 21-22. Ph.D.-students can have one ECTS credit approved for the taught part of the study programme. Please contact Kaia Nepstad or Roland Jonsson ([roland.jonsson@uib.no](mailto:roland.jonsson@uib.no)) for further details. Registration deadline is June 19, but it will still be possible to register after that (for a higher fee).



# Operations & HSE News

## The Faculty is changing its name

On 01 June, the University Board decided to change our faculty's name from the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry to the **Faculty of Medicine**. Read more about the process [here](#).

The new acronym will be MED.

The name change is already implemented, and we therefore ask all employees to:

1. Change the name of the faculty if it appears in e-mail signatures or letter templates.
2. Use the name «Faculty of Medicine» when mentioning the faculty.

## Evaluating of the new organization of the Faculty



It has been four years since the implementation of the "Faculty of the Future" («Framtidens fakultet»). What works better, or is there something that can still be improved? In order to answer this, we need your feedback. A questionnaire to evaluate the new organization has been sent to all by email on June 12. It is very important that you answer. Deadline is June 23. More information in Norwegian is [here](#).

## 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](#).



Congratulations to **Kathrine Sivertsen Åsrud** on a well-accomplished trial lecture and defense today, 16<sup>th</sup> of June.



# Funding Announcements

## Current funding announcements/deadlines

### 1. Norges Forskningsråd (NFR)

- ⇒ **NEW** [Aurora mobility grants for researcher exchange with France](#) Scientific staff/groups of researchers at Norwegian institutions may seek funding for short-term stays in France to launch and develop joint research projects.



**Deadline: 6 September**

- ⇒ **NEW** [IS-DAAD: researcher exchange with Germany](#). Funding is available for short-term visits in Germany for the purpose of launching and developing new joint research projects. **Deadline: 6 September 2017**

### 2. Horizon 2020 / UiB – Project Establishment Support (PES) and Positioning funding (POS)

- ⇒ **New conditions for support for establishment of Horizon 2020 projects**

For each submitted coordinator- or partner-proposal, the applicant's academic department will receive a grant (without having to submit a PES application) provided the submitted H2020 application is formally approved (so-called "eligible"). Read more at UiBs [employee pages](#).



- ⇒ Positioning funding (POS) You can apply for POS support by filling in [POS application form](#) and sending it to [Kristin.Hansen@uib.no](mailto:Kristin.Hansen@uib.no).

### 3. Horizon 2020 - European Research Council (ERC) *Frontier research grants*

*Local contact point at UiB: Anja Hegen*

- ⇒ **NEW** [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**.
- ⇒ **NEW** [Starting Grants](#) Upcoming call  
Are you a talented early-career scientist who has already produced excellent supervised work, is ready to work independently and shows potential to be a research leader? The ERC Starting Grant could be for you. Preliminary deadline: 17 October 2017
- ⇒ **NEW** [Financial support to submit a new ERC grant proposal](#) The Research Council is offering up to NOK 500 000 in support to applicants who submit a new proposal within two years of submitting the original one.

### 4. Horizon 2020 - Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

*Local contact point UiB: Emmanuel Babatunde*

*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**

- ⇒ The [COFUND](#): aims at stimulating regional, national or international programmes to foster excellence in researchers' training, mobility and career development. **Deadline: 28 September 2017**

### 5. Horizon 2020 - Spreading Excellence and Widening Participation

*Local contact point at UiB: Anja Hegen*

- ⇒ [Twinning WIDESPREAD-05-2017](#): Twinning aims at significantly strengthening a defined field of research in a university or research organisation from a Widening country by linking it with at least two internationally-leading research institutions in other Member States or Associated Countries. In general, costs relating to administration, networking, coordination, training, management, travel costs are acceptable. **Deadline: 15 November 2017**

### 6. Horizon 2020 – Complementary Calls

- ⇒ [COST Action](#): 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.** *Local contact point at UiB: Anja Hegen.*
- ⇒ **NEW** [IMI](#) innovative medicines initiative. IMI is a joint undertaking between the European Union and the pharmaceutical industry association EFPIA. The following topics are under consideration for upcoming calls. *Local contact point at UiB: Sumathi Subramaniam/Katie Anders*
  - [European Health Data Network \(EHDN\)](#) (pdf)
  - [Analysing the infectious disease burden and the use of vaccines to improve healthy years in aging populations](#) (pdf)
  - [Discovery and characterization of blood-brain barrier targets and transport mechanisms for brain delivery of therapeutics to treat neurodegenerative & metabolic diseases](#) (pdf)
  - [European Screening Centre: unique library for attractive biology \(ESCulab\)](#) (pdf)
  - [Development of sensitive and validated clinical endpoints in primary Sjögren's syndrome \(PSS\)](#) (pdf)

## 7. EU Joint Programming Initiative "A Healthy Diet for a Healthy Live" JPI HDHL

- ⇒ **NEW** [Call for Joint Action Working Groups on diet-related chronic diseases](#). **Deadline: 29 August 2017**

## 8. The LEO-foundation

- ⇒ **NEW** [Grants for dermatological research projects](#). The LEO Foundation supports international dermatological research projects and activities that address issues in disease understanding, disease treatment, disease awareness and patient wellbeing. **Deadlines: 11 August and 6 October 2017**

# Fellowships and Personal Grants

## 1. Novo Nordisk Foundation

- ⇒ [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 Juni 2017**

## 2. NordForsk

- ⇒ [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. **Deadline: 30 August 2017**

## 3. EMBO (European Molecular Biology Organization)

*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.**



## 4.NFR [Scholarship for research stay abroad for PhD candidates and Post Doctors](#) (Link in Norwegian)

- ⇒ The offer for a scholarship for research stays abroad applies to PhD candidates and Post Doctors in projects with full or partial funding for the Research Council for a minimum of 24 months. The research stays abroad may last for a minimum of 3 months and a maximum of 12 months.

## 5. [Globalink – Scholarships to Canada](#) (Link in Norwegian)

- ⇒ Globalink allows for the Norwegian and Canadian master's and PhD students can apply for CAD 15.000 to conduct research practice in a business in the partner country.

# Meetings/Workshops/Conferences

- ⇒ [Information meeting about EØS funds in Oslo with streaming](#), The Research Council informs about the research programs under the EØS funds and answers questions, 19 June, Oslo.

- ⇒ [Brain Tumour: Research and societal need](#), Policy and Research seminar, Brussels, European Parliament, 27 June
- ⇒ [Nordic PhD summit](#), 21.-22. August, Stockholm
- ⇒ [Sean McCarthy Course: How To Write The Impact In H2020 Applications](#), Norway's Research Council, Lysaker, 31 August
- ⇒ [Horizon 2020 - Application support - Level 2](#), Norges forskningsråd, Drammensvn. 288, Lysaker - FRISCH 2, 29 September 2017
- ⇒ Conference organised by EATRIS, the European Infrastructure for Translational Medicine: [Translational Medicine 2017](#), 24-26 September, Prague
- ⇒ [Building Bridges](#) Symposium on Epigenetics, 10+11 October, Helsinki

## Finansiering for samarbeid om høyere utdanning

- ⇒ [NordForsk – Nordic Centre of Excellence – New learning and teaching environments and practices](#)
- ⇒ [Partnership Programme for North America](#) (Link in Norwegian)
- ⇒ [Eurasia Programme](#)
- ⇒ [InternAbroad](#) (Link in Norwegian)
- ⇒ [UTFORSK Partnership Programme – two-year projects](#)
- ⇒ [Mobility grants North America in educational research \(UTNAM\)](#)

### [Read more \(information and routines for application at UiB\)](#)

Ved spørsmål om utlysningene, kontakt [Kaia Nepstad](#) or [Ramune Midttveidt](#) ved Det medisinske fakultet.