

Dear colleagues,

I have as you know, since September 2019, acted as interim Head of the Department. Mathias Ziegler is now back from his sabbatical. This has been a very rewarding period for me, since I have experienced a highly professional administration and supportive staff. In addition, in my period, I have recognized a high number of outstanding scientific activities within our research groups that has led to a considerable competitive funding that I hope will further increase in the coming year. In this context, I want to remind you of the forthcoming applications to the Research Council of Norway and the Cancer Society. There will be a faculty lunch this Wednesday on this issue, -and you should at this point think about putative project outlines that initially will be evaluated internally. A project outline form will be prepared and provided by the administration in the coming days.

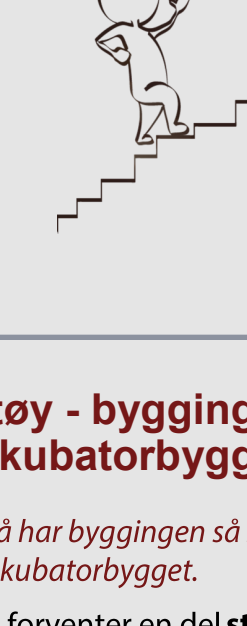
I will be this thank you all for the rewarding time I have had as interim director at IBM.

Ray Meyer

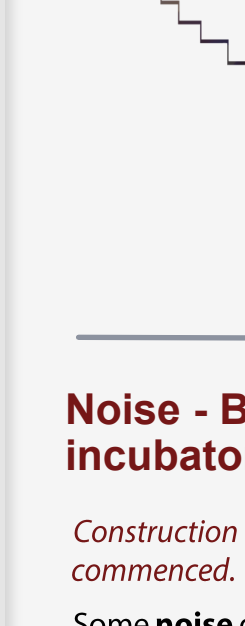
Human Resources

Events for UiB employees	Benefits for employees at UiB	Vacant positions at the University of Bergen
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We welcome these new employees:



Berit Skretting Solberg starts in a new 50 % position as researcher in the Neurotargeting group.



Marek Wagner is now employed in a 3-year position, supported by a mobility stipend of the Research Council of Norway. He is affiliated with the Cardiovascular Research group and will spend two years in Australia.

Operations, Health, and Safety

Trappetrim ved IBM

Går du trappen istedenfor å ta heis?

I perioden 2. mars til 3. april kan du bli premiert for nettopp dette!

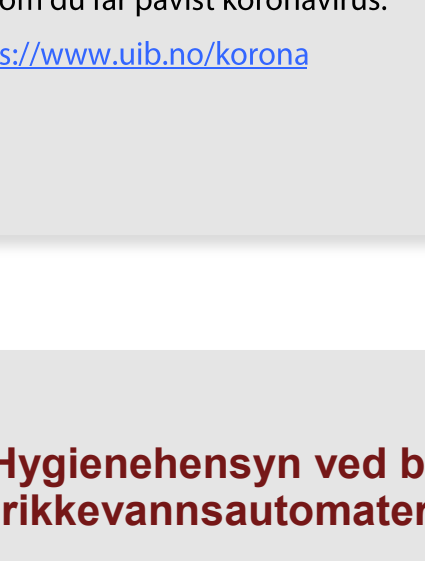
Kriteriene er som følger:

- Gå minimum 3 etasjer, oppover i trappen.
- Skriv navnet ditt på listen, og sett en strek i dagens dato.
- Trapper på Haukeland, og på utsiden av bygget gjelder selvstags.

Hver strek ved siden av et navn blir et lodd i potten, og det trekkes 10 premier i april.

Det er lov med flere streker per dag.

Så oppfordringen til alle er å ta trappen, og å bli med i trekningen!



Stairway to IBM

Do you walk the stairs rather than elevators?

From 2 March to 3 April, you could be rewarded!

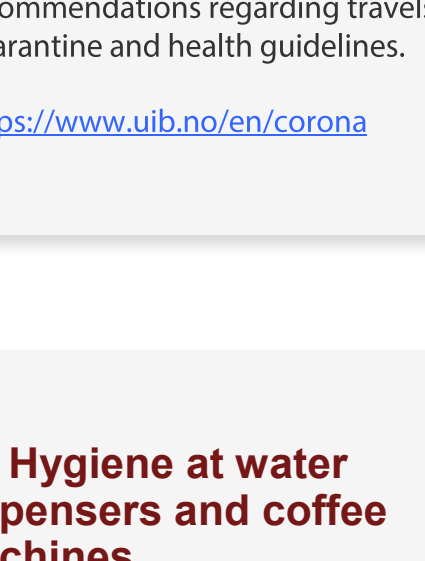
The criteria are:

- Walk at least three floors upstairs.
- Write your name on the list and put a dash in today's date.
- Stairs at the hospital, and on the outside of the building count.

Every dash next to a name is one entry into the competition, there will be 10 prizes in April.

You can have more than one entry per day.

We encourage everyone to take the stairs and join the competition!



Støy - byggingen av inkubatorbygget

Nå har byggingen så smått startet på inkubatorbygget.

Vi forventer en del støy i perioden, men dersom du opplever plagsomt mye støy i forbindelse med byggingen, ta kontakt med [Bård](#) eller [Emil](#).

Vi kan prøve å finne andre midlertidige kontorplasser, eller andre støyreducerende tiltak.

Noise - Building the incubator building

Construction of the incubator building has commenced.

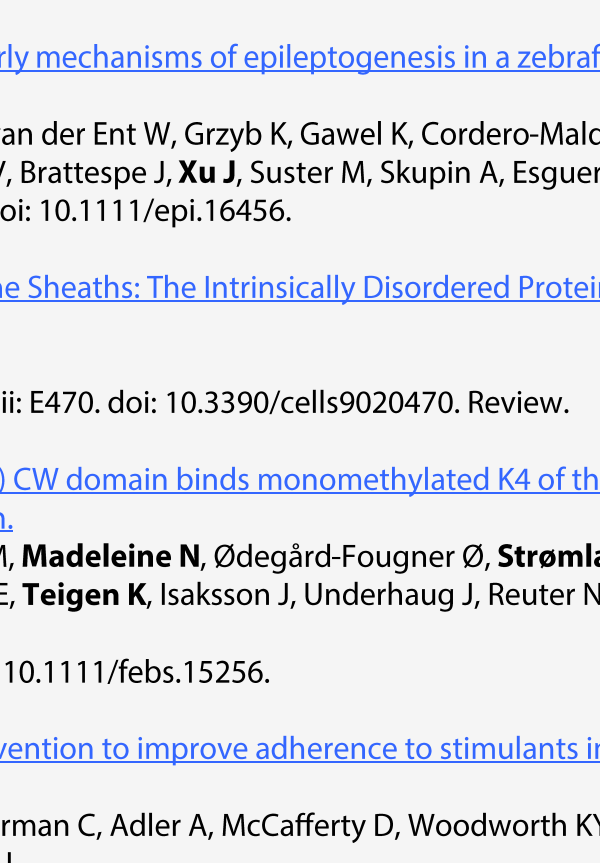
Some noise during the construction period is expected. If the noise related to the construction site is too disturbing please contact [Bård](#) or [Emil](#).

We can try to arrange an alternative temporary office space, or other noise limiting measures.

Fellesavdelingen

Dersom du opplever problemer med laboratorieutstyr eller instrumenter må dette rapporteres til Fellesavdelingen, slik at vi kan se på det så snart som mulig.

Målet med dette er å forhindre unødvendig nedetid på utstyret. Send oss en epost på fellesavdelingen@uib.no.



Fellesavdelingen

If you are experiencing issues with laboratory equipment or instrumentation, please contact Fellesavdelingen.

If this is done as soon as the problem arises, we might be able to avoid unnecessary downtime on equipment. Send us an email at fellesavdelingen@uib.no.

Koronavirus: Informasjon til ansatte og studenter

Her finner du oppdaterte reiseråd, info om karantene og kontakinfo som skal brukes dersom du får påvist koronavirus.

<https://www.uib.no/korona>

Corona: Guidelines regarding the current outbreak of corona

This page will be updated with the latest recommendations regarding travels, quarantine and health guidelines.

<https://www.uib.no/en/corona>

Hygienehensyn ved bruk av drikkevannsaumenter

Pga. midlertidig skjerpede smitteverntiltak som følge av Corona-viruset ber vi om å vise økt hensyn til hygiene:

- **Bruk engangsglass.** Ikke fyll på egen kopp eller drikkeflasker.
- **Ikke tøm væske-rester i risten på vannautomaten.** Restene fra en brukt kopp inneholder spor av spytt, som vil forbli i vannristen og kan være en smitekilde. Hell resten i en vanlig vask og skyll den grundig.

Hygiene at water dispensers and coffee machines

In light of the current viral outbreak, we ask all employees to practice the following hygienic measures:

- **Use disposable cups.** Do not refill personal cups or bottles.
- **Do not empty any liquid residue into the water trays.** Beverage leftovers contain traces of saliva, which remain in the water tray and may be contagious. Empty leftovers into the sink and rinse afterwards.

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.

[G Protein-Gated Inwardly Rectifying Potassium Channel Subunit 3 is Upregulated in Rat DRGs and Spinal Cord After Peripheral Nerve Injury.](#)

Lyu C, Lyu GW, Mulder J, **Martinez A**, **Shi TS**.

J Pain Res. 2020 Feb 17;13:419-429. doi: 10.2147/JPR.S233744.

[Magnetic resonance radiomics for prediction of extraprostatic extension in non-favorable intermediate- and high-risk prostate cancer patients.](#)

Losnegård A, Reisæter LAR, Halvorsen OJ, Jurek J, Assmus J, Arnes JB, Honoré A, Monsen JA, Andersen E, Haldorsen IS, **Lundervold A**, Beisland C.

Acta Radiol. 2020 Feb 28;284185120905066. doi: 10.1177/0284185120905066.

[Lipopolysaccharide induces filtrate leakage from renal tubular lumina into the interstitial space via a proximal tubular Toll-like receptor 4-dependent pathway and limits sensitivity to fluid therapy in mice.](#)

Nakano D, Kitada K, Wan N, Zhang Y, **Wiig H**, Wararat K, Yanagita M, Lee S, Jia L, Titzte JM, Nishiyaana A.

Kidney Int. 2019 Dec 16. pii: S0085-2538(19)31241-4. doi: 10.1016/j.kint.2019.11.024

[Integrin Binding Dynamics Modulate Ligand-Specific Mechanosensing in Mammary Lymphoblasts.](#)

Lerche M, Elosegui-Artola A, Kechagaj JZ, Guzmán C, Georgiadou M, Andreu I, **Gullberg D**, Rocas-Cusachs P, Peuhu E, Ivaska J.

iScience. 2020 Feb 13;23(3):100907. doi: 10.1016/j.isci.2020.100907

[Tumor-Derived Lactic Acid Contributes to the Paucity of Intratumoral IL2s.](#)

Wagner M, Ealey KN, Tetsu H, Kিনিwa T, Motomura Y, Moro K, Koyasu S.

Cell Rep. 2020 Feb 25;30(8):2743-2757.e5.

[Inflammatory Mediators in Saliva and Gingival Fluid in Children with Congenital Heart Defect.](#)

Mohamed Ali HMH, Mustafa M, Suliman SM, Elshazali OH, Ali RW, **Berggren E**.

Oral Dis. 2020 Feb 26. doi: 10.1111/odi.13313

[New insights into the early mechanisms of epileptogenesis in a zebrafish model of Dravet syndrome.](#)

Tiraboschi E, Martina S, van der Ent W, Grzyb K, Gaweł K, Cordero-Maldonado ML, Poovathingal SK, Heintz S, Satheesh SV, Brattespe J, **Xu J**, Suster M, Skupin A, Esguerra CV.

Epilepsia. 2020 Feb 24. doi: 10.1111/epi.16456.

[Flexible Players within the Sheaths: The Intrinsically Disordered Proteins of Myelin in Health and Disease.](#)

Raasakka A, **Kursula P**.

Cells. 2020 Feb 18;9(2). pii: E470. doi: 10.3390/cells9020470. Review.

[The Arabidopsis \(ASH2\) CW domain binds monomethylated K4 of the histone H3 tail through conformational selection.](#)

Dobrovolska O, Brilkov M, **Madeleine N**, Ødegård-Fougner Ø, **Strömeland Ø**, Martin SR, De Marco V, Christodoulou E, **Teigen K**, Isaksson J, Underhaug J, Reuter N, Aalen RB, Aasland R, Halskau Ø.

FEBS J. 2020 Feb 21. doi: 10.1111/febs.15256.

[An innovative SMS intervention to improve adherence to stimulants in children with ADHD: Preliminary findings.](#)

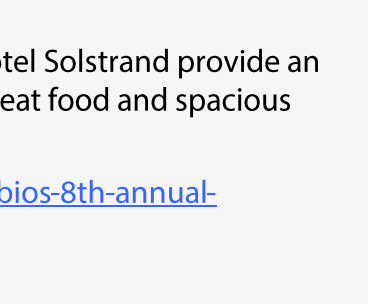
Fried R, DiSalvo M, Kelberman C, Adler A, McCafferty D, Woodworth KY, Green A, Biederman I, **Faraone SV**, Biederman J.

J Psychopharmacol. 2020 Feb 20;269881120908014

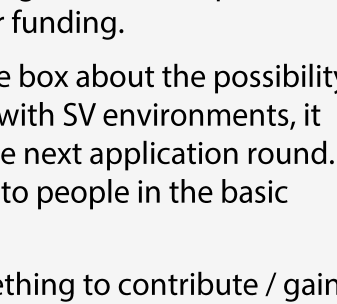
[Targeting the Class A Carbanepemase GEF-5 via Virtual Screening.](#)

Klein R, Cendron L, Montanari M, Bellio P, Celenza G, Maso L, Tondi D, **Brenk R**.

Biomolecules. 2020 Feb 14;10(2). pii: E304. doi: 10.3390/biom10020304.



BBB seminar



Bruce Mayer from the University of Connecticut School of Medicine (UConn SoM), Farmington, USA, will give a talk entitled "Using phosphotyrosine binding domains to interrogate the state of cell signaling".

Bruce Mayer is a Professor and Vice-Chair in the Department of Genetics and Genome Sciences at UConn SoM. His laboratory studies mechanisms of cell signaling based on tyrosine phosphorylation, taking advantage of a variety of biochemical, imaging, and computational approaches to understand the molecular basis of phosphotyrosine signaling, and how its dysregulation can lead to diseases such as cancer. He is also interested more broadly in the fundamental principles underlying cell signaling mechanisms, and is co-author of the popular textbook *Cell Signaling*.

Thursday, March 12, 14.30, Auditorium 4

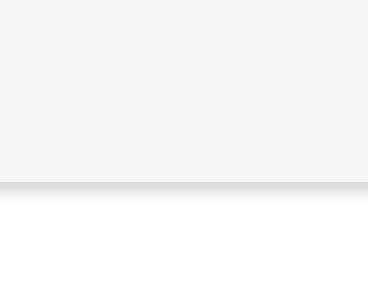
CCBIO seminar

Akinyemi Ojesina from the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), USA, will give a talk entitled "Microbes and mutations in cancer: not-so-strange bedfellows".

Akinyemi Ojesina is an Assistant Professor and Head of the Oncopathogenomics Laboratory at UAB. The interdisciplinary research in his laboratory combines genomic analyses with functional experiments in primary human tissues, cell lines and animal models, to investigate how genomic alterations synergize with microbial influences to modulate tumor initiation, progression, response to therapy and prognosis. This work aims to facilitate the development of diagnostic biomarkers and predictive models for early detection, prevention and treatment of various cancers.

Thursday, March 19, 14.30, Auditorium 4

CCBIO Satellite Symposium on Biomarkers in Immunotherapy



Save the date for a Satellite Symposium May 11th 2020 at Solstrand Hotel, the day before and at the same place as the CCBIO Annual Symposium 2020.

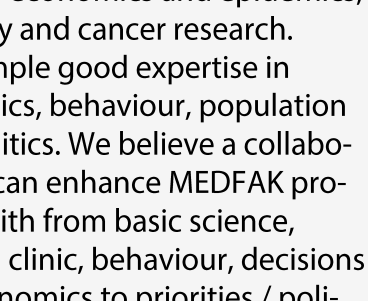
This year's overarching topic is Biomarkers in Immunotherapy.

Registration is now open!

Information and registration: <https://www.uib.no/en/ccbio/121000/ccbio-satellite-symposium-biomarkers-immunotherapy>

11 May 2020, Solstrand Hotel

The 8th CCBIO Annual Symposium



Save the date: The 8th CCBIO Annual Symposium will take place at Solstrand Hotel May 12-13 2020. Registration is now open!

With so many participants in a very international mix, this is a great opportunity for international networking within the field of cancer research. The beautiful surroundings at the historical hotel Solstrand provide an ideal frame for the symposium with the serene fjord views, fresh air, great food and spacious areas, with a little touch of Norwegian history.

Information and registration: <https://www.uib.no/en/ccbio/120991/ccbio-8th-annual-symposium-2020>

12-13 May 2020, Solstrand Hotel

SV + MED = SANT

Onsdag 3.6. kl 9-12 med gratis lunch etterpå vil det bli arrangert et møte for forskere fra Det samfunnsvitenskapelige fakultet og Det medisinske fakultet for å se på spennende mulighet for samarbeid innen forskning, utdanning og innovasjon.

En gruppe med deltakere fra de to fakultetene vil utfordre potensielle interessenter og lage en kreativ møteplass.

Fra MED deltar Becky Cox, K2, Kristin Mohn, K2 og Bjarne Robberstad, IGS.

Eksempler på berøringsflater mellom SV og MED er helseøkonomi og epidemier, men også register- og kreftforskning. SV har for eksempel god kompetanse innen helseøkonomi, adferd, befolkningsstudier og politikk. Vi tror et samarbeid med SV kan tilføre prosjekter som utgår fra MEDFAK et kontinuum fra basalfag, via klinikk, adferd, beslutninger og helseøkonomi til prioriteringer/politikk. Vi tror slike kunnskapskontinuum vil kunne øke samfunnsnyttene av prosjektene våre og styrke mulighetene for finansiering.

Tenk utenfor boksen på mulighet for samarbeid med SV miljøer, det kan lønne seg i neste søknadsrunde. Det gjelder også folk i basalfagene.

Hvis du tror at du kan ha noe å bidra med/ tjene på et slikt samarbeid, ta kontakt med:

Fra MED: becky.cox@uib.no

Kristin kristin.greve-isdahl.mohn@helse-bergen.no

eller Bjarne Bjarne.Robberstad@uib.no

eller bare sett av datoen og møt opp 3/6. Sted blir annonsert.

SV + MED = TRUE

On the morning of Wednesday 3 June from 9 to 12 with a free lunch afterwards, we will arrange a meeting for researchers from the Faculty of Social Sciences and the Faculty of Medicine to look at exciting opportunities for research collaboration, education and innovation.

A working group from the two faculties aims to develop a creative meeting place for exchange of ideas with potential stakeholders. From MED, Becky Cox, K2, Kristin Mohn, K2 and Bjarne Robberstad, IGS will be participating.

Examples of interfaces between SV and MED are health economics and epidemics, but also registry and cancer research.

SV has for example good expertise in health economics, behaviour, population studies and politics. We believe a collaboration with SV can enhance MEDFAK projects starting with from basic science, through to the clinic, behaviour, decisions and health economics to priorities / policies. We believe that such knowledge could increase the social benefits of our projects and strengthen the competitive opportunities for funding.

Think outside the box about the possibility of collaboration with SV environments, it may pay off in the next application round. This also applies to people in the basic sciences.

If you have something to contribute / gain from such a collaboration, please contact:

Becky becky.cox@uib.no

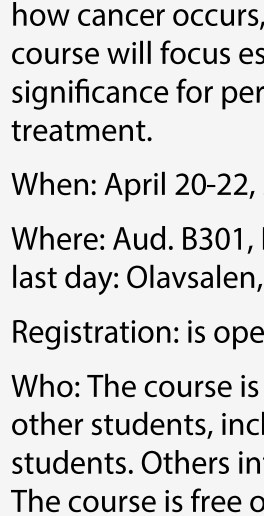
Kristin kristin.greve-isdahl.mohn@helse-bergen.no

or Bjarne Bjarne.Robberstad@uib.no

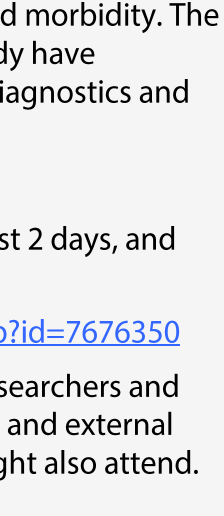
or just keep the date free and come on 3/6. The meeting will be advertised in due

PhD updates

New doctoral degree: Tore Reikvam



Tore held a trial lecture and defended his thesis on 21 February. We congratulate him to the approved defense and wish him all the best for his future career!



CCBIO course CCBIO904 – Biomarkers and tumor biology in clinical practice

CCBIO904 covers tumor biological aspects important for the understanding of why cancer develops and which mechanisms are important for tumor growth, metastases and morbidity in patients.

This 4 ECTS course covers broad tumor biological topics that are important for understanding how cancer occurs, the mechanisms that control tumor growth, proliferation and morbidity. The course will focus especially on tumor biological changes that may have or already have significance for personalized cancer treatment and clinical trial studies of new diagnostics and treatment.

When: April 20-22, 2020

Where: Aud. B301, Haukeland University Hospital, Main building 3rd floor the first 2 days, and last day: Olavsalen, old main building.

Registration: is open, please use this link: <https://skjemaker.app.uib.no/view.php?id=7676350>

Who: The course is primarily intended for PhD candidates, but is also open to researchers and other students, including the Medical Student Research Program (forskerlinjen), and external students. Others interested in single lectures and not interested in the ECTS, might also attend. The course is free of charge.

Responsible: Oddbjørn Straume has the academic responsibility, and Reidun Kopperud is the coordinator.

More information: at [CCBIO's web pages](#).

Funding Announcements

Current funding announcements/deadlines

NOTE:

If you plan to apply for external funding, **please always send a short notice** to the Department's administration (Janne.Gotaas@uib.no, cc Margarethe.Bittins@uib.no).

For applications for international funds (EU, EEA, others) you will need approval from the Head of the Department and the University's division of research- and innovation. **Fill in this short statement (PDF)** and send it to the Department's administration (Janne.Gotaas@uib.no, cc Margarethe.Bittins@uib.no).

Horizon 2020 – European Research Council ERC Frontier research grants

[ERC Advanced Grant](#) - This year is the last call for ERC Advanced Grant in Horizon Europe and ERC will have approx. 15% more funds available - this means that the success rate may exceed the usual 11-13%. Active researchers who have a track-record of significant research achievements in the last 10 years. The Principal Investigators should be exceptional leaders in terms of originality and significance of their research contributions. Up to €2.5 Million for 5 years.

Deadline: 26 August 2020



Horizon 2020 – ERA-Net Neuron

• Call for Proposals for Research Projects on [Ethical, Legal, and Social Aspects \(ELSA\) of Neuroscience](#) address important questions regarding ethical, philosophical, legal and socio-cultural aspects related to the neurosciences and their recent advances.

Deadline (pre-proposal): 28 April



Horizon 2020 Innovative Medicines Initiative (IMI)

Public-private partnership aiming to speed up the development of better and safer medicines for patients. It is a partnership between the European Union and the European pharmaceutical industry. All interested parties from academia, SMEs, mid-size companies, patient organisations, regulatory agencies, health technology assessment bodies, etc. are invited to form consortia and submit a short proposal, via the Funding & Tenders Portal, in response to the Call.

Future topics:

- [Tumour plasticity \(PDF\)](#) The overall objective of the Call topic is to use state-of-the-art single-cell sequencing to understand and overcome drug resistance in cancer by characterising the biology of **drug tolerant** persister cells, building the capability for such studies across Europe.
- Neurodegeneration and other neuroscience priorities: Rare neurodegenerative and neurocognitive diseases clinical platform development
- Big data, digital health, clinical trials and regulatory research Data lakes, Personalised endpoints, Returning clinical trial data to patients
- Oncology: Real-world clinical implementation of liquid biopsy, Microbiome
- Translational safety: Pharmacodynamic drug-drug interaction predictive testing by learning algorithms to enhance safety, Digital vivarium

Europe: Clinical outcomes assessments for rare diseases, Defragmenting and shortening the path to rare disease diagnosis by using genetic screening and digital technologies



Research Council of Norway

Upcoming calls for researcher projects:

- [Researcher Project for Scientific Research](#)
- [Researcher Project for Young Talents](#)
- [Three-year Researcher Project with International Mobility](#)

Deadline: 6 May 2020



European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP)

In 2019, EDCTP's supports clinical research and related activities on **poverty-related diseases**.

[Bacterial drugs for poverty-related diseases \(B&A\)](#)

Deadline: 16 March 2020

Peder Sather Center

The Peder Sather Center for Advanced Study supports projects carried out by researchers at **UC Berkeley** in collaboration with researchers from nine Norwegian universities. The Center offers grants of between \$10K and \$25K. Funds are made available for one academic year. Grants can support activities such as workshops, mini-conferences, virtual intellectual exchanges, the undertaking of exploratory and pilot studies, activities such as PhD student exchanges, longer-term stays for Principal Investigators, the collection and analysis of data, and other core research activities.

Deadline: 1 April 2020

Personal Grants

Research Council of Norway TRAVEL GRANT

Scholarship for research stays abroad for 3-12 months for PhD candidates and Post Doctors in projects with funding from the Research Council. **Deadline: continuing**

Helse Vest TRAVEL GRANT

granted for 6 or 12 months. Postdoctoral fellowship applicants are especially encouraged to apply for an overseas fellowship over the course of their fellowship period. **Continuing deadline**

ERASMUS+ staff mobility TRAVEL GRANT

Subsidising mobility of up to two months, for UiB staff including PhD-candidates and post docs, to attend courses or individual laboratory visits. Also have a look at the list of organized [staff mobility weeks](#).

Deadline: 20 August and 20 January