The Department of Biomedicine Newsletter

Issue 02/21
29 January 2021

Dear colleagues,

After being on a sabbatical in 2020, I am now back in my role as Vice Head for Research. I would like to thank Nils Halberg for stepping in for me in 2020, he has done an excellent job.

My sabbatical did not turn out as expected. Original plans were to stay large parts of my year at Qilu Hospital of Shandong University (Jinan, China), to continue developing my research lab at the university. Also, plans were made to further develop a collaboration with Suzhou Institute of Brainsmatics (near Shanghai), which has an exciting technique that can be used to study single tumour cell spread within the whole animal brain (see f.i. https://www.nature.com/news/china-launches-brain-imaging-factory-1.22456). Instead, most of the year was spent in home office, keeping contact with researchers and colleagues by digital media. On the positive side, myself as well as all employees at our department have become very proficient using these media, for research, teaching and other purposes during the last year!

I would like to remind you about the latest call from the Faculty of Medicine, where 2 open post doc positions and 9 PhD positions (6 open) have been announced. The deadline for both categories is February 14th, and I encourage everybody with suitable candidates to apply. We can expect to hear from the Faculty about their decisions in May, and the positions are expected to start September 1st. You can find more information on Jobbnorge and UiB web pages.

Also in 2021, there will be a hectic construction activity around our premises; the Incubator building, the Proton centre, the Ulriken funicular, new buildings within the hospital premises and the new "Bybane" stop. A good thing is that Ibsens gate has been opened, which hopefully has made life easier for those of you who commute to and from work.

Since we have a very stable and cold weather for the time being, the coming weekend should be good for doing outdoor winter activities. I wish you all a very good and safe weekend, whether you stay indoors or outside!

Regards
Frits

Human Resources

Events	**Benefits**	**Vacant positions**
for UiB employees	for employees at UiB	at the University of Bergen

We welcome these new employees:

Francois Pauzin started as Post Doctor in the Neuroscience Research Group, Bramham Lab, on 01 January.

Man Hung Choi started in a temporary position as Staff Engineer in the Cellular Networks Group, Halberg Lab, on 01 January.

Operations, Health, and Safety

🇳🇴 Midlertidig endring av rømningsveier i 6 og 7 etasje

Rømningsveiene ut i fra 6. og 7. etasje vil være stengt frem til juni 2021.

Bildene under viser hvilke rømningsveier dette gjelder.

Benytte **trappene** for å komme ut.

Utgangen i 8. etasje vil fungere som vanlig ved evakuering. Det vil også være merking ute i 8. etasje som viser evakueringsvei igjennom byggeplassen.

Samlingsplasser er som tidligere

- området ved **Ulriksbanens nedre stasjon** og
- plassen nedenfor utgangen i 2 etasje.

Stenging står i forbindelse med montering av ny fasade samt nye rømningstrapper i «buen» mot sør.

Ved spørsmål kontakt Bård Bard.Svari@uib.no.

🇬🇧 Temporary escape routes in the 6th and 7th floor

The escape routes from the 6th and 7th floor will be closed until June 2021.

See the map to see the affected areas.

Use the **stairs** to exit the building in an emergency.

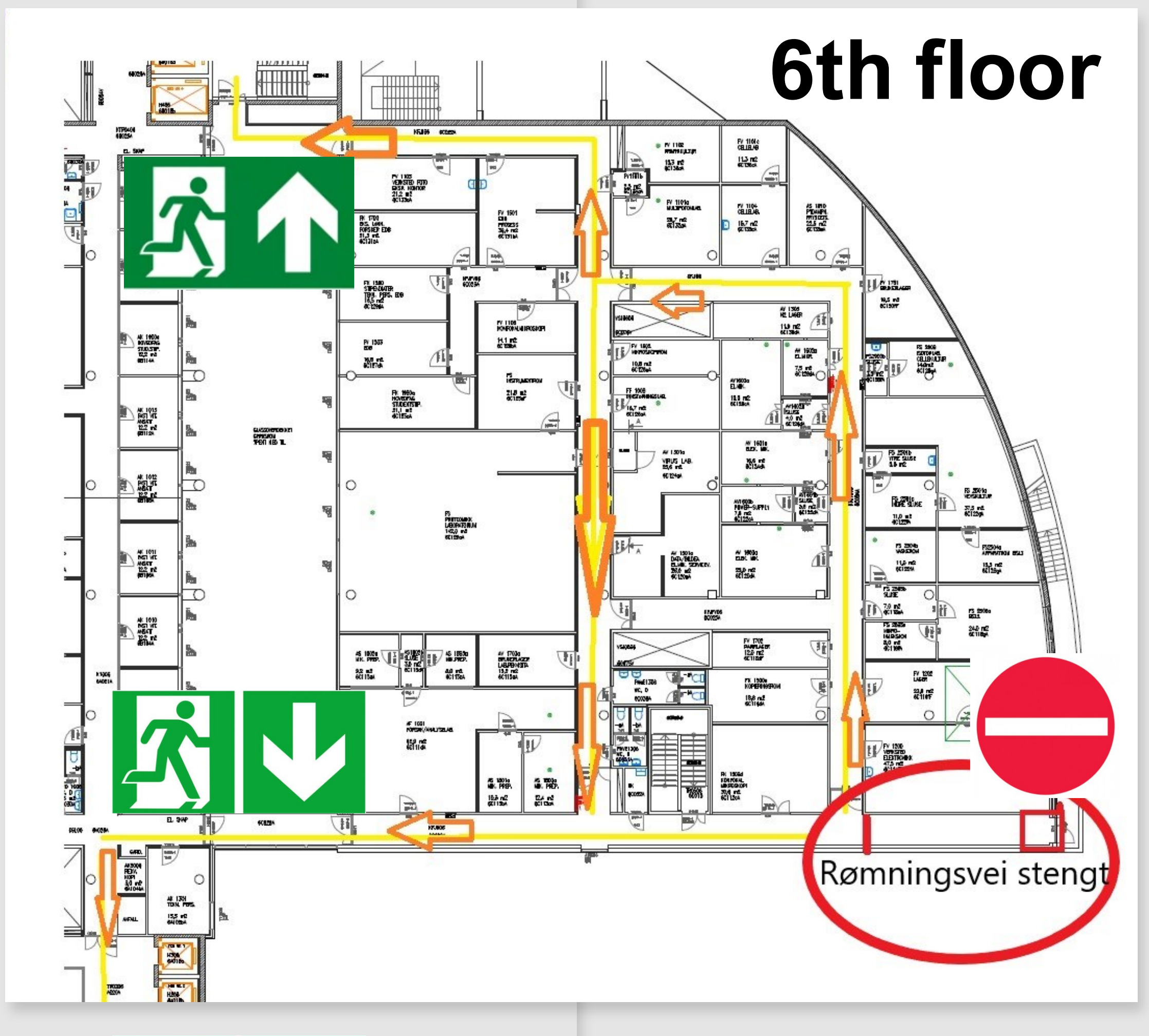
The exit on the **8th floor** will be open for evacuation, and the path through the construction site will be marked.

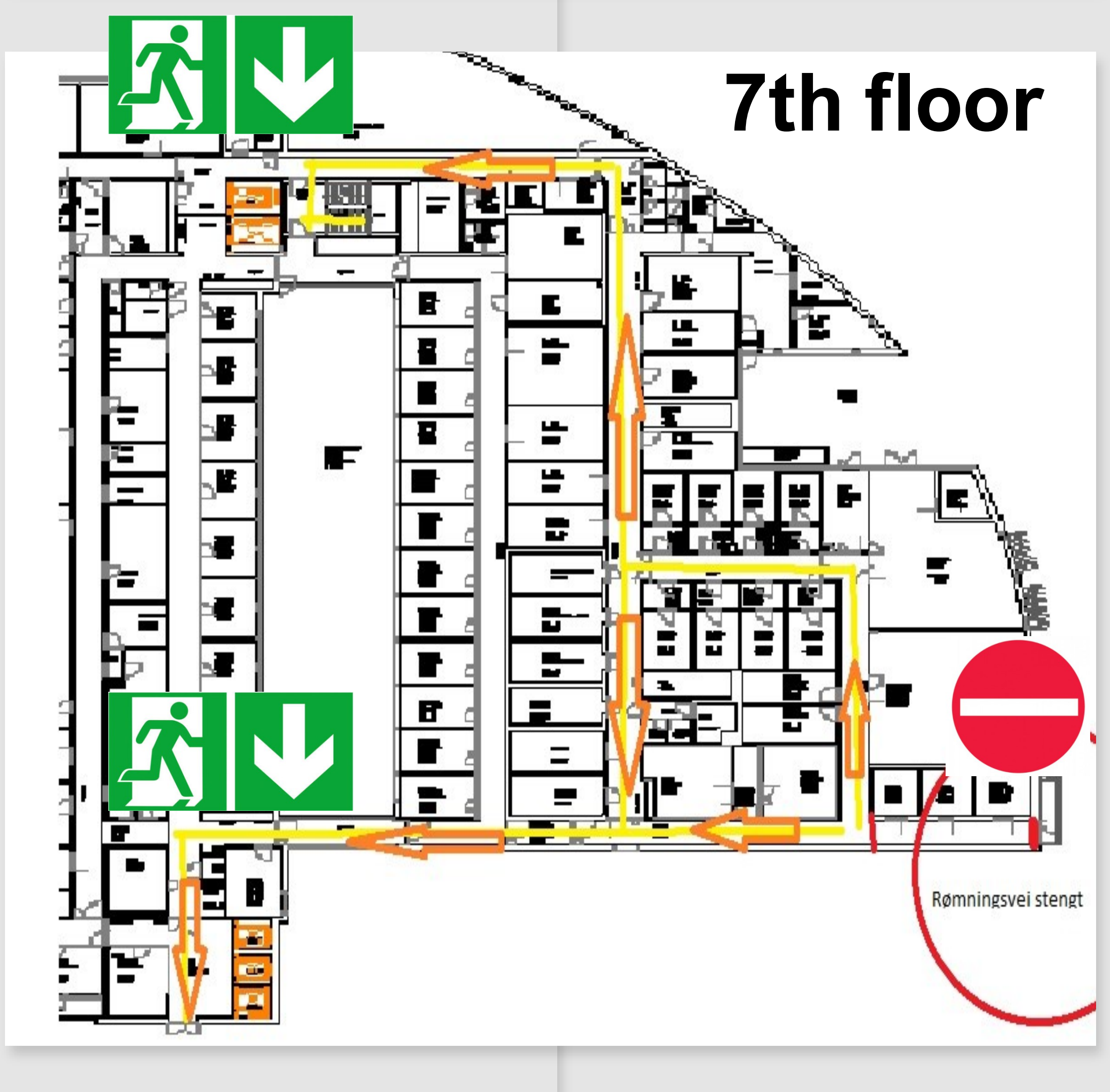
Meeting points are as before:

- areas near the cable car station and
- outside the main entrance (2nd floor).

These temporary changes are related to the construction of the incubator building on the 8th floor.

If you have questions contact Bård Bard.Svari@uib.no.





Research, Science, and Seminars

REMINDER: Update your Cristin account!

The Department of Biomedicine usually has around 120 articles per year; **yet only 100 articles** are registered for 2020.

Please log on to your Cristin account, and check that there is a record of each publication.

Deadline: 31 January 2021
(12 February if you are writing an NFR-application)

Cristin log in

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.

Riboswitches as Drug Targets for Antibiotics.
Panchal V, Brenk R.
Antibiotics (Basel). 2021 Jan 5;10(1):45.

PFN2 and NAA80 cooperate to efficiently acetylate the N-terminus of actin.
Ree R, Kind L, Kaziales A, **Varland S, Dai M,** Richter K, **Drazic A, Arnesen T**.J Biol Chem. 2020 Dec 4;295(49):16713-16731.

Acute Intermittent Porphyria: An Overview of Therapy Developments and Future Perspectives Focusing on Stabilisation of HMBS and Proteostasis Regulators.
Bustad HJ, Kallio JP, Vorland M, Fiorentino V, Sandberg S, Schmitt C, Aarsand AK, **Martinez A.**
Int J Mol Sci. 2021 Jan 12;22(2):675.

BBB webinar

Stein Ove Døskeland from the Department of Biomedicine, University of Bergen, will give a talk entitled "Cyclic AMP signaling, with emphasis on the role of Epac (RapGef 3,4,2) in Epac KO mice".

Stein Ove Døskeland is Professor Emeritus at the Department of Biomedicine. He has contributed to the field of cAMP effector systems since the late 70'ies, focusing on the activation mechanism and biological roles of PKA. An important part of his recent research has been to understand cAMP action mechanisms, particularly the role of the Rap activators Epac 1 and Epac 2 (RapGef 3,4), based on novel cAMP analogs and experiments with Epac KO mice.

Thursday, February 4, 14.30, online

BBB webinar

Piotr Mydel from the Department of Clinical Science, University of Bergen, will give a talk entitled "Carbamylation as a modulator of the immune response".

Piotr Mydel is a Professor at the Department of Clinical Science. His research focuses on the role of inflammatory driven post-translational modifications (citrullination and carbamylation) as an etiologic factor and drug target in chronic inflammatory diseases (rheumatoid arthritis, periodontitis) and the development of new treatment strategies in chronic periodontitis targeting the keystone pathogens – *Porphyromonas gingivalis*.

Thursday, February 11, 14.30, online

PhD updates

New doctoral degree: Pablo Beltrán Matas

Pablo held a trial lecture on 27 January and defended his thesis on 29 Januar 2021. We congratulate him to the approved defense and wish him all the best for his future career!

BioCat Graduate School for PhD candidates

BioCat is a community for all PhD candidates working in the field of Biocatalysis and Molecular Medicine in Norway.

The graduate school offers scientific training, financial support, and networking possibilities to help PhD candiates reach their scientific goals and guide with career development.

Members of BioCat can frequently enjoy:

- Soft-skill workshops (academic writing, scientific illustrations/presentations...)
- ECTS credit-based courses on scientific subjects and methodological training
- Outreach events with the Norwegian life science industry
- The annual BioCat conference
- Travel grants for external courses and conferences, or long-term research stays
- A vibrant community of young researchers and local social events at the partner universities

Are you interested in becoming a BioCat member?
Visit the webpage https://biocat.no and register for free. PostDocs and Master students are also admitted on a limited basis.

In case of questions, feel free to contact the UiB BioCat student ambassador Laura Kind (Laura.kind@uib.no) or the BioCat administration (Jessica.green@uit.no).

Funding Announcements

Current funding announcements/deadlines

NOTE:

If you plan to apply for external funding, **please always send a short notice** to the Department administration: https://skjemaker.app.uib.no/view.php?id=8157307

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 administration: Janne.Gotaas@uib.no, cc: Margarethe.Bittins@uib.no

University of Bergen, Faculty of Medicine

Stipendiat (9 stillingar)
Postdoktor (2 stillingar)
Deadline 14 February 2021

Horizon Europe—European Research Council

Starting Grant For Researchers of any nationality with 2-7 years of experience since completion of PhD (Extensions are possible) a scientific track record showing great promise and an excellent research proposal. Up to € 1.5 million for a period of 5 years.
NEW deadline 24 March 2021

Consolidator Grants Researchers of any nationality with 7-12 years of experience since completion of PhD (Extensions are possible under certain circumstances — see the latest ERC Work Programme), a scientific track record showing great promise and an excellent research proposal. up to € 2 million for a period of 5 years.
Deadline 20 April 2021

Advanced Grant
Applicants for the ERC Advanced Grants - called Principal Investigators (PI) - are expected to be 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 a period of 5 years
Deadline 31 August 2021

ERA-Neuron Neurodevelopmental disorders

Call for Proposals for Transnational Research Projects on Neurodevelopmental Disorders.
The aim of the call is to facilitate multinational, collaborative research projects that will address important translational questions relating to the **neurodevelopmental nature of neurological and mental disorders.** This call is limited to disorders, which show their first manifestations before the end of adolescence and impair the development and the function of the nervous system.
Preproposal deadline: 9 March

EU Joint Programme – Neurodegenerative Disease Research JPND

Linking pre-diagnosis disturbances of physiological systems to neurodegenerative diseases.
This transnational call invites proposals for ambitious, innovative, multinational and multidisciplinary collaborative research projects with a view to promoting research aimed at the **detection, measurement and understanding of early disease indicators related to neurodegenerative diseases**, with potential for the development of new diagnostics or interventions.
Preproposal deadline 2 March

Research Council of Norway

Researcher Project for Scientific Renewal.
Up to-12 Million NOK, up to six years
Deadline 10 February 2021

Researcher Project for Young Research Talents.
Up to 8 million NOK, up to four years
Deadline 10 February 2021

Three-year Researcher Project with International Mobility
Up to 3,9 million NOK, 3 years.
Deadline 10 February 2021

Large-scale Interdisciplinary Researcher Project
12-25 million NOK, 4-6 years.
Deadline 10 February 2021

Collaborative Project to meet Societal and Industry-related Challenges
Min. 4 Mio NOK, 24-48 months Projects are to be carried out by one or more research organisations with relevant actors from public sector entities, non-governmental organisations, Norwegian trade and industry and/or other private organisations.
Deadline: 17 February 2021

K.G. Jebsen Centers 2021

The Kristian Gerhard Jebsen Foundation announces funding for new K.G. Jebsen Centers in medicine. They plan to fund 2 new centers early in 2022.
https://stiftkgj.no/hvem-vi-er/utlysninger/
Application deadline: **06 May 2021**.
Internal sketch deadline: **1 March**.

The Norwegian Cancer Society

The Norwegian Cancer Society announces 10 million NOK for research proposals with a clear cancer relevance within prevention. We particularly welcome proposals which focuses on primary or secondary prevention. More information at The Norwegian Cancer Society´s webpage.
Time frame: 1 to 4 years
Funding scale: 1 to 5 million NOK
See full call announcement and apply through the ApplicationWeb
Deadline: 10 March 2021

DAM-foundation

The application must be submitted in collaboration with a volunteer organization.
This can be applied for

- Research relating to physical and mental health, coping and quality of life (with the exceptions described below)
- One of the following types of positions related to a Norwegian institution:
- Doctoral Fellow (with an annual round sum of 781,000, see appendix for more info)
- Postdoctoral fellow for named researcher who has not previously held a postdoctoral position (with an annual round sum of 922,000, see appendix for more info)
- Salary / funds for up to three full-time equivalents

Deadline: 17 February 2021

DIKU UTFORSK

The Directorate for Internationalization and Quality Development in Higher Education (Diku) has now launched a new and revised UTFORSK program.
1) NOK 100 million for projects of up to 4 years duration with partner institutions in Brazil, Canada, India, Japan, China, Russia, South Africa, South Korea and the USA. The project period can be between 1 August 2021 and 31 July 2025.
2) NOK 3 million for cooperation projects with South Korea lasting up to 2 years.
Read the letter from the University management (in Norwegian)
Deadline: 1 February 2021

Travel 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

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