



newsletter

Department of Biomedicine



No. 13/2017 – 31 August 2017

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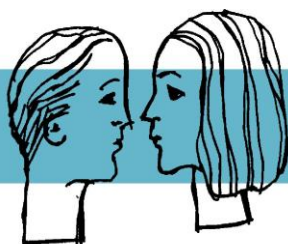
Dear colleagues,

This will be the last editorial in the newsletter authored by me. Today is my last day after 12 exciting years, and I think we have accomplished a lot together. First, by advancing the three former preclinical departments from practicing separate disciplines to collaborating on problem solving; this occurs perhaps mostly within research, but also within education, where each contributes with their specific knowledge. Prior to that, establishing the BB-building has been a lengthy endeavor, both, as replacement for the building that had housed the preclinical departments, and as a means to establish a close scientific connection with the clinical research at Haukeland University Hospital. We were successful with this integration process, such that most permanent scientific staff today has research collaborations with clinicians at Helse Bergen. The new teaching curriculum for the medical students lays the foundation to also collaborate closer in education. At the same time, we have been able to maintain - and solidify - the axis towards important collaboration partners at the Faculty of Mathematics and Science.

Some key words on academic achievements would be: stable and good publishing rates, with well over 100 publications per year, between 15 and 20 PhD degrees each year, in addition to solid research infrastructure such as MIC and PROBE. Furthermore, two KG Jebsen Centers are located at the department, and we are heavily involved in the CCBIO-SFF. We have also had strong results within innovation through the establishment of the incubator, that has allowed BergenBio to evolve. In total, the department has contributed to starting up 3 companies, 16 innovation projects, 87 patents and 9 licenses.

Mathias Ziegler will be taking over tomorrow, and I wish him all the best in his position as Head of Department.

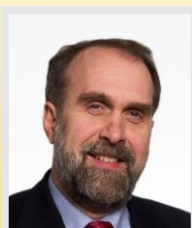
*Sincerely,
Rolf K. Reed
Head of Department*



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.



Invitation

We invite you to a social gathering to mark Rolf K. Reeds 12 years as Head of Department, today, August 31st, at 15.00. There will be musical entertainment by students from Bergen Kulturskole, and we will serve tapas and cake.

We welcome our new employees:

	Peter Szigetvari started a temporary position as Department Engineer in the Neurotargeting Research group.		Kathrine Åsrud , who defended her PhD dissertation in June, has now started a position as Staff Engineer in the Translational Signalling Group as part of the project "Cancer Therapy Relevant Cell Death Signaling". The project is financed by the Cancer Society.
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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.



[Oxygen-dependent regulation of tumor growth and metastasis in human breast cancer xenografts.](#)

Yttersian Sletta K, Tveitarås MK, Lu N, Engelsen AST, Reed RK, Garmann-Johnsen A, Stuhr L.
PLoS One. 2017 Aug 23;12(8):e0183254. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0183254. eCollection 2017.
PMID: 28832662

[BRAF Mutation as a Novel Driver of Eosinophilic Cystitis.](#)

Choi MY, Tsigelny IF, Boichard A, Skjevik ÅA, Shabaik A, Kurzrock R.
Cancer Biol Ther. 2017 Aug 22:0. doi: 10.1080/15384047.2017.1360449. [Epub ahead of print]
PMID: 28829677

[Epac1-deficient mice have bleeding phenotype and thrombocytes with decreased GPIIb/IIIa expression.](#)

Nygaard G, Herfindal L, Åsrud KS, Bjørnstad R, Kopperud RK, Oveland E, Berven FS, Myhren L, Hoivik EA, Lunde THF, Bakke M, Døskeland SO, Selheim F.
Sci Rep. 2017 Aug 18;7(1):8725. doi: 10.1038/s41598-017-08975-y.
PMID: 28821815

[Predictors of quality of life and survival following Gamma Knife surgery for lung cancer brain metastases: a prospective study.](#)

Bragstad S, Flatebø M, Natvig GK, Eide GE, Skeie GO, Behbahani M, Pedersen PH, Enger PØ, Skeie BS.
J Neurosurg. 2017 Aug 18:1-13. doi: 10.3171/2017.2.JNS161659. [Epub ahead of print]
PMID: 28820304

[1,25-Dihydroxyvitamin-D3 induces brain proteomic changes in cuprizone mice during remyelination involving calcium proteins.](#)

Oveland E, Nystad A, Berven F, Myhr KM, Torkildsen Ø, Wergeland S.
Neurochem Int. 2017 Aug 14. pii: S0197-0186(16)30462-4. doi: 10.1016/j.neuint.2017.08.008. [Epub ahead of print]
PMID: 28818673

[Glomerular abundance of complement proteins characterized by proteomic analysis of laser-captured microdissected glomeruli associates with progressive disease in IgA nephropathy.](#)

Paunas TIF, Finne K, Leh S, Marti HP, Mollnes TE, Berven F, Vikse BE.

Clin Proteomics. 2017 Aug 14;14:30. doi: 10.1186/s12014-017-9165-x. eCollection 2017.

PMID: 28814945

[Phosphorylation at serine 31 targets tyrosine hydroxylase to vesicles for transport along microtubules.](#)

Jorge-Finnigan A, Kleppe R, Jung-Kc K, Ying M, Marie M, Rios-Mondragon I, Salvatore MF, Saraste J, Martinez A. J Biol Chem. 2017 Aug 25;292(34):14092-14107

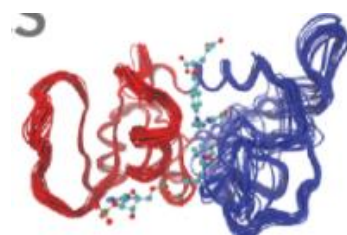
Workshop in Applied Structural Bioinformatics

We are happy to announce the 3rd workshop in [Applied Structural Bioinformatics](#) organized at the University of Bergen by the [Department of Biomedicine](#), as a part of the [National Research School in Bioinformatics](#).

The workshop will provide practical introduction to popular tools for biomolecular visualisation, analysis and simulations. Lectures will be given by both international and local speakers from the research fields of structural bioinformatics and computer-aided drug design.

Major topics include:

- Protein structure visualization and analysis (PDB, PyMOL)
- Structure prediction and homology modelling (Swiss-Model)
- Computer-aided drug design (Schrödinger)
- Protein dynamics and flexibility (Bio3D, Amber)
- Data visualization and analysis with R (R-studio)



Credits: Estimated to 2 ECTS points. Note that the course has a maximum capacity of **20 participants**.

Time and place: 16 - 20 October 2017, Bergen, Norway. Stay tuned through our [website](#).



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!

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

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

Reminder from the Faculty: home office use during UCI 2017

Employees at the Faculty of Medicine are obliged to show up for work at their workplace as normal during this period.

A greater degree of lenience regarding the use of «flexible hours» will be shown in this period, but this must be in accordance with agreements with local unit leaders.

Reminder from the central procurement office

We kindly ask all of you to assess your storages and stocks for products you will need during the time of the race, and order any goods ahead of the start of the UCI 2017 Road Championship.



Academic Affairs

Teaching in the fall semester? Look here!

The IT Department is responsible for operations and user support in the auditoriums and teaching rooms:

https://it.uib.no/Undervisningsrom_ved_UiB

Your own class schedule can be seen here: <https://tp.uio.no/uib/timeplan/fagperson.php> (search by using username or last name).

Information and tutors about the learning management system/portal Mitt UiB:

<http://www.uib.no/foransatte/97623/mitt-uib>



PhD Updates



PhD Defence: Haruna Muwonge

Trial lecture: Monday 04 September 2017 at 10:15, Auditorium Barne- og ungdomssjuehuset, Haukelandsbakken 15

Topic: "The new faces of cAMP signaling."

Public Defence: Monday 04 September 2017 at 12:15, Auditorium Barne- og ungdomssjuehuset, Haukelandsbakken 15

Dissertation: "Exchange Proteins directly Activated by cAMP (Epac): Physiological roles and Regulation of Expression"



PhD Defence: Stefan Hinz

Trial lecture: Friday 08 September 2017, 10:15, Auditorium 4, BBB, Jonas Lies vei 91

Topic: "Intercellular communication via extracellular vesicles in cancer development"

Public Defence: Friday 08 September 2017, 12:15, Auditorium 4, BBB, Jonas Lies vei 91

Dissertation: "Mechanisms of AXL mediated cell plasticity and drug resistance"



Funding Announcements

Current funding announcements/deadlines

1. Norges Forskningsråd (NFR)

- ⇒ [FORNY2020](#) The main objective of FORNY2020 is increased commercialization of promising research results from publicly funded research institutions. **Deadline: 11 October 2017**
- ⇒ [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**
- ⇒ [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.



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

Local contact point at UiB: Anja Hegen

- ⇒ [Starting Grants](#)
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
- ⇒ [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.*
- ⇒ [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. The LEO-foundation

- ⇒ [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. **Deadline: 6 October 2017**

9. Olav Thon Stiftelsen

- ⇒ Support for Nordic research projects in medicine 2018, supports research projects that have focus on either 1) mechanisms of antibiotic resistance or 2) development of new antibiotics or 3) strategies to combat antibiotic resistance. **Deadline: 15 September 2017**



Fellowships and Personal Grants

2. 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.**



3. 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.

4. [Globallink – 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

- ⇒ [Horizon 2020 - Project Development - Level 2](#), Stavanger, 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

- ⇒ [Horizon 2020: Society challenges, ICT and digitization](#). The objective of the event is to inform about a new work program in Horizon 2020. Selected areas are health, safety, transport, energy and social science, 18 November 2017, Research Council, Lysaker.

Finansiering for samarbeid om høyere utdanning

- ⇒ [NordForsk – Nordic Centre of Excellence – New learning and teaching environments and practices](#), Deadline: 13. September 2017
- ⇒ [Partnership Programme for North America](#) (Link in Norwegian), Deadline 22. September 2017
- ⇒ [Eurasia Programme](#), Deadline 22. September 2017
- ⇒ [InternAbroad](#) (Link in Norwegian), Deadline 22. September 2017
- ⇒ [UTFORSK Partnership Programme – two-year projects](#), Deadline 22. September 2017
- ⇒ [Programme for coopeation on higher education with Russia \(Russlandsprogrammet\)](#) (Link in Norwegian)
Deadline: 23 October 2017

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

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