



newsletter

Department of Biomedicine



No. 18/2017 – November 10, 2017

Editor in chief: Mathias Ziegler. Editors: Margarethe Bittins/Stian Krog. Published every second week through the year.

Dear colleagues, IBMers,

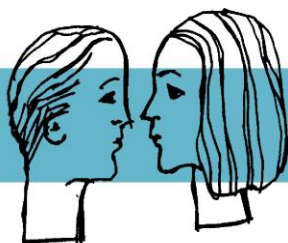
In this – almost - pre-christmas time, we are all anxious to hear what the outcome of our applications to the various funding bodies will be. Last Monday, the Norwegian Cancer Society awarded a number of projects and we congratulate Martha and Jim on their awards. Funding announcements from Helse Vest and the Norwegian Research Council are expected in late November / early December.

Many of us are facing a hectic period of submission of exam papers and examinations. Thank you to all of you who contribute.

We also welcome Heidi Anette Espedal as a new faculty director with effect from 1 January 2018. She is currently working as acting director of the Department of Research Administration.

Christmas is rapidly approaching, and we remind you all of the annual christmas party on Friday 01 December. As tradition dictates, the HSE day precludes the christmas party. Well-being is essential for a high productivity level, and we kindly ask you all to set aside 01 December in your calendars for a nice social event with your colleagues. A link to the of the christmas party can be found in this issue of the Newsletter.

Best wishes,
Mathias



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.

These people are leaving us:



Thomas Daubon finished as Post Doc, October 31. We thank him for his effort and wish him the best of luck with his future career.



Research, Science and Seminars

New Publications at the Department of Biomedicine

When your articles are published, please send an email to the communication coordinator Margarethe Bittins with the reference. Everything will be included in the newsletter, and we will announce the most exciting findings on our homepage.



We congratulate Gry and Jim on their paper published in *JAMA Internal Medicine*

They found that the use of the blood thinner warfarin was associated with a lower risk of new cancers in people over 50. This is an observational study using Norwegian national registry data. Warfarin use was associated with lower risk of any cancer and of three of the most common cancers (prostate, lung, female breast) compared to warfarin non-use. Aftenposten and Bergens [Tidende](#), and international press [The Sun](#) and [The Daily Mail](#) also report on this spectacular finding.

For all who are interested to hear this first hand: Gry Sandvik Haaland, first author on this work, will defend her PhD-thesis on November 17.

[Association of Warfarin Use With Lower Overall Cancer Incidence Among Patients Older Than 50 Years](#)

Gry S. Haaland, MD^{1,2}; Ragnhild S. Falk, PhD³; Oddbjørn Straume, MD, PhD^{2,4,5}; James B. Lorens, PhD^{1,2}
JAMA Internal Medicine, November 6, 2017

From PubMed:

[Selecting the correct cellular model for assessing of the biological response of collagen-based biomaterials.](#)

Davidenko N, Hamaia S, Bax DV, Malcor JD, Schuster CF, Gullberg D, Farndale RW, Best SM, Cameron RE.
Acta Biomater. 2017 Oct 26. pii: S1742-7061(17)30663-3. doi

[Asparaginase-like protein 1 is an independent prognostic marker in primary endometrial cancer, and is frequently lost in metastatic lesions.](#)

Fonnes T, Berg HF, Bredholt T, Edqvist PD, Sortland K, Berg A, Salvesen HB, Akslen LA, Werner HMJ, Trovik J, Tangen IL, Krakstad C.
Gynecol Oncol. 2017 Oct 30. pii: S0090-8258(17)31447-6

[An Accessible Proteogenomics Informatics Resource for Cancer Researchers.](#)

Chambers MC, Jagtap PD, Johnson JE, McGowan T, Kumar P, Onsongo G, Guerrero CR, Barsnes H, Vaudel M, Martens L, Grüning B, Cooke IR, Heydarian M, Reddy KL, Griffin TJ.
Cancer Res. 2017 Nov 1;77(21):e43-e46. doi:

Norwegian Biochemical Society: Bergen Christmas beer tasting and Kahoot!'ing

Prepare for the Christmas beer searson and challenge your brain with NBS Bergen. This is a social event held by the Bergen joint of the Norwegian Biochemical Society.

Where and when: November 15th, BBB; 5th floor seminar room

Faculty Lunch

The Department of Biomedicine will pick up on the successful concept of “Faculty Lunch”. Once a month, all PIs of the Department should gather to discuss burning matters and present their own research to their peers.

Upcoming meetings:

November 22nd, Topic: Snapshots from the Cardiovascular Research Group, Helge Wiig

December 13th, Topic: Web-publishing at the Department – tips, tricks and guidelines for a unified image, speakers from the University communications section

Where and when: 7th floor seminar room 11:30

Awards from the Norwegian Cancer Society

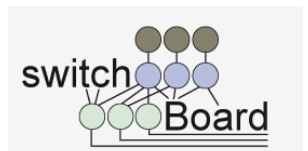
On Monday, November 6th, the Norwegian Cancer Society held the official ceremony, awarding among others **Martha Chekenya Enger** and **Jim Lorens** with substantial funding for their cancer research projects. Enger received 8,9 million kroner for clinical research using a new drug for treatment of glioblastoma, and Lorens received 6 million kroner for translational research into cancer immunotherapy.



Neural Networks Group: a Retina Exhibit for VilVite

European early stage researchers of the Innovative Training Network “switchBoard” opened the inauguration of their exhibit at VilVite science show last Monday. Rémi Fournel, Phd-candidate under supervision of Meg Veruki, is one of 15 ESRs who designed and developed this exhibit together with science teachers at VilVite. The exhibit is a jigsaw-puzzle with “bricks” of neurons in the retina. They are coupled to a monitor that will show you how your vision would change, if any of those neurons were missing.

Read more here: <http://www.uib.no/en/med/112179/opening-new-eye-exhibition>





Operations & HSE News

The department of biomedicine has the pleasure of inviting employees, guest researchers, emeriti and masterstudents to

Xmas-party

**Friday 1th of December
19:30h**

We start with a reception at the 2nd floor, BBB, and continue with food and dance in the cantina. You can choose either traditional Christmas food or a vegetarian meal. This is a great opportunity to meet colleagues from all floors of the department.

WELCOME!

The xmas-party is free – BUT you need to bring your own choice of drinks for the evening.

Registration within 26th of November via the link:
<https://skjemaker.app.uib.no/view.php?id=2733063>

-or you can register in the expedition

OBS! Link for registration is [here](https://skjemaker.app.uib.no/view.php?id=2733063).

The University of Bergen introduces a new time scheduling system

The University of Bergen is now launching a new time scheduling system for the technical and administrative employees. [Min Tid](#) (My Time) is a time scheduling module on our HR Portal. It is a digital solution that should be easy, accessible and straightforward to use by all technical-administrative employees. The Faculty of Medicine is scheduled to introduce Min Tid in February 2018.



Academic Affairs

OSCE-trial exam was conducted on November 8th

On 20 June 2018, the first ordinary OSCE (Objective structured clinical examination) will be conducted for medical students in the 6th semester. In short, OSCE is a practical station exam that will test the students in the skills and knowledge they have learned during the course of the study. The main focus is on practical clinical skills, but basic knowledge can also be tested in this form of examination.

Wednesday, November 8, a final pilot was conducted on the OSCE, and the Department of Biomedicine contributed this time with a task in circulation physiology. Three parallel loops were run with identical task sets for around 40 volunteer students. Tine Veronica Karlsen was responsible, and co-examiners on the assignment were Martha Enger and Frits Thorsen.

A new computer system was tested for scoring and examining results on the exam, and due to technical problems the start was postponed, but when the exam first started, the implementation went well.

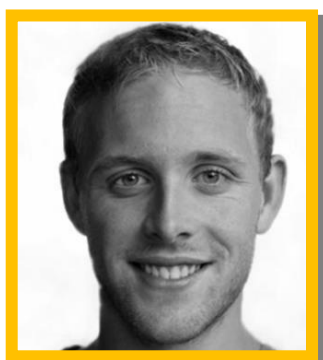
Format, tasks and results will now be evaluated before the first official OSCE will be completed June 20, 2018



PhD Updates

New Doctoral Degree

We congratulate **Miro Eigenmann** to a successful trial lecture and defense on Friday, October 27th!





PhD Trial Lecture/Public Defence: Gry Sandvik Haaland

Trial lecture: Friday, November 17, 10.15 h, Auditorium 1

Topic: "The Role of Cancer-associated Fibroblasts (CAFs) in Tumour Progression"

Public defense: Friday, November 17th, 12.15, Auditorium 1

Thesis title: "Investigations of the cancer therapeutic and protective effects of warfarin mediated inhibition of the receptor tyrosine kinase AXL"

Early Stage Researcher Seminar: Superresolution Imaging in the City of Wine

Maria Steene Eriksen is Phd-candidate in the group of Clive Bramham. She will present her project and talk about her three months research stay in Bordeaux where she learned a super-resolution imaging technique (uPAINT) for studying receptor movement in cultured cells. Chair: Oleksii Nikolaienko

All early stage researchers at the Department of Biomedicine are invited: PhD-candidates, master students, post docs and researchers. There is no registration. There will be pizza for lunch after the seminar.

Where and when: **November 23rd, 3rd floor conference room, 11:30**

BBB young scientists on facebook



Phd-candidates and Post Docs at on the 5th floor have had their own facebook group for a while, and now want to include colleagues from the other floors in a new group. This is the place where pub-visits and beer tastings are announced and discussed.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/135247877196204/>



Funding Announcements

Current funding announcements/deadlines

Norwegian Research Council NFR)

- **NEW GLOBVAC** Funding is available for Researcher projects within all thematic areas of the GLOBVAC work programme. Research that sheds light on new questions and challenges related to the transition from the Millennium Development Goals to the Sustainable Development Goals is encouraged. **Deadline: 14 February 2018**
- **FRIMEDBIO:** The funding scheme for independent projects (FRIPRO) comprises a national competitive arena for research funding for projects in all fields and disciplines. There will be funding for Researcher Projects, Young Research Talents, FRIPRO Mobility Grants and Support for Event. **Deadline: 25 April 2018**
- **NEW** Pre-announcement **BEDREHELSE** Until 150 million kroner to environmental support for research towards better public health. **Deadline: 25 April 2018**

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

Each H2020 coordinator-submitted, and formally approved/eligible proposal, will receive a PES grant without submitting a PES-application.

Each submitted and formally approved/eligible partner proposal will receive a minimum of NOK 20,000 without submitting a PES-application. Read more at UiBs [employee pages](#). You can apply for positioning funding by filling in [POS application form](#) and sending it to Kristin.Hansen@uib.no.

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](#) and [Amra Grudic-Feta](#).



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

Local contact point at UiB: Anja Hegen

- [Synergy Grant](#) ERC Synergy Grants are intended to enable minimum two to maximum four Principal Investigators and their teams to bring together complementary skills, knowledge, and resources in new ways, in order to jointly address ambitious research problems. **Deadline: 14 November 2017**
- [Consolidator Grant](#). The aim of this grant is to give the most prominent junior researchers the opportunity to consolidate their research, and to expand and broaden their research activities. **Deadline: 15 February 2018**
- [Financial support to submit a new ERC grant proposal](#) The Norwegian 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.

Horizon 2020 – Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA)

NEW Innovative Training Networks (ITN) aim to train a new generation of creative, entrepreneurial and innovative early-stage researchers, able to face current and future challenges and to convert knowledge and ideas into products and services for economic and social benefit.

Deadline: 17 January 2018.

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**

Horizon 2020 - Complementary Calls - [COST Actions](#)

COST does NOT fund research itself, but supports networking via different tools such as meetings, short term scientific missions, training schools and dissemination activities part of COST Actions. 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). Relevant actions are:

- Maximising Impact of research in **NeuroDevelopmental Disorders** MINDDS
- **Leukemia** Gene Discovery by data sharing, mining and collaboration LEGEND
- Realising the therapeutic potential of novel **cardioprotective therapies** EU-CARDIOPROTECTION
- European Cleft and **Craniofacial Initiative** for Equality in Care
- European network for the promotion of portable, affordable and simple analytical platforms

If interested please contact Hans Hellebostad, best before 15th of September, hh@forskningsradet.no

More information can be found [here](#) and you can use this [application form](#).

Deadline: 25 April 2018

NEW Horizon 2020 – Societal challenges (SC): Collaborative breakthrough research and radical innovation

Pre-announcement Selected deadlines calls:

SC1-2018-2020: Health, demographic change and wellbeing

- **Call: Digital Transformation in health and care**
[SC1-HCC-03-2018: Support to further development of international cooperation in digital transformation of health and care](#)
- **Call: Better health and care, economic growth and sustainable health systems**
[SC1-BHC-02-2019: Systems approaches for the discovery of combinatorial therapies for complex disorders \(Two-stage\)](#)

[SC1-BHC-03-2018: Exploiting research outcomes and application potential of the human microbiome for personalised prediction, prevention and treatment of disease](#)

[SC1-BHC-05-2018: International flagship collaboration with Canada for human data storage, integration and sharing to enable personalised medicine approaches](#)

[SC1-BHC-09-2018: Innovation platforms for advanced therapies of the future](#)

[SC1-BHC-14-2019: Stratified host-directed approaches to improve prevention, treatment and/or cure of infectious diseases \(Two-stage\)](#)

[SC1-BHC-15-2018: New anti-infective agents for prevention and/or treatment of neglected infectious diseases \(NID\) \(Two-stage\)](#)

[SC1-BHC-16-2018: Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases \(GACD\) - Scaling-up of evidence-based health interventions at population level for the prevention and management of hypertension and/or diabetes](#)

[SC1-BHC-26-2018: HTA research to support evidence-based healthcare](#)

[SC1-BHC-27-2018: New testing and screening methods to identify endocrine disrupting chemicals](#)

[SC1-HCO-04-2018: ERA-NET to support the Joint Programming in Neurodegenerative Diseases strategic plan \(JPND\)](#)

Deadline: 18 April 2018. Deadline for pre-projects in two-stage proposals is 2 October 2018

YoungCAS Summer 2018

YoungCAS offers a unique opportunity for postdocs and other young scholars to do group-based research with colleagues from around the world during a one-week stay at the Center for Advanced Study in Oslo.

Deadline: 13 November 2017

NEW Nasjonalforeningen for folkehelse

[Through the National Association for Public Health's Dementia Research Program](#), it is now possible to apply up to 300,000 NOK to strengthen ongoing research and/or contribute to research networks within dementia.

Deadline: 8 December 2017

NEW INCOBRA call for EU-Brazil Cooperation Networks

The main objective of this call is to foster and strengthen the mutual cooperation of Brazilian and European R&I actors through the support of bilateral networks by providing a grant (€19,500) for the implementation of mutual bilateral visits and workshops. **Deadline: 15 December 2017.**

Centre for Advanced Study (CAS)

The agreement between UiB and CAS gives researchers with a permanent scientific position an opportunity to apply for their **own research group** for a one-year stay at the center in Oslo. They choose their own theme and specialization, and invite researchers from all over the world to participate in the project. **Deadline: January 2018**

NEW Novo Nordisk Foundation:

For young researchers doing excellent research projects within the fields of basic, translational and/or clinical endocrinology or metabolism research. The Foundation will award up to four 5-years projects.

Deadline: 30 January 2018

European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP)

EDCTP is launching 11 calls for proposals in 2017 to [support clinical research and capacity building in sub-Saharan Africa](#). Proposals are invited for funding for the clinical evaluation development of new and innovative drug candidates for **HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, diarrhoeal infections or lower respiratory infections, including co-infections.**



and

EDCTP

Some of the calls are single stage and some are in two stages. For more information please have a look at the website given above. Deadlines: from **19 September 2017** (stage 1, letter of intent) to 2 February 2018

SIU Center for International Cooperation in Education - Russia program

Up to NOK 21 million for three-year project cooperation between higher education institutions in Norway and [Russia](#). Support of up to NOK 2 million per project can be applied.

Deadline: 1 November 2017

Barnekreftforeningen

wants to support relevant projects in children oncology where the results of the projects are going to benefit children in Norway. More information [here](#).

Deadline: 1 December 2017

Fellowships and Personal Grants

Harkness Fellowship

The Commonwealth Fund's Harkness Fellowships in Health Care Policy and Practice provide a unique opportunity for mid-career health services researchers and practitioners to spend up to 12 months in the United States, conducting original research and working with leading U.S. health policy experts. Deadline: 13 November 2017.

NEW INT-BILAT Post-doctoral fellowships in Japan.

On behalf of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS), the Research Council is announcing funding for two post-doctoral research fellowships in Japan in all fields of the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences and technology

Deadline: 22 November 2017

NEW Melzers project fellowships for students and PhD candidates

(Link in Norwegian) Deadline: 1 December 2017

European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP)

EDCTP supports clinical research and capacity building in sub-Saharan Africa, and offers individual fellowships for [African researchers](#) who want to develop their skills and career at European host organizations. Different categories, **deadlines: October 13, November 21, February**



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.**



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.

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

NEW Novo Nordisk Foundation: postdoctoral fellowships

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.

Meetings/Workshops/Conferences

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| • Healthcare Brokerage Event MEDICA 2017 The aim is to assist enterprises, universities and research institutions in finding partners in Europe for product development, manufacturing and licensing agreements, joint ventures or other types of partnership, Düsseldorf, Germany, Registration | 14 November |
| • 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, Research council, Lysaker | 18 November |
| • First Aid in the laboratory , UiB | 21 November |
| • NEW Webinar: IP Management in H2020 – with aspecial focus on MSCA , 10.30-11.45 | 21 November |
| • Open Seminar: Educational Competence Building at The Arctic University of Norway (Norwegian), Armauer Hansens Hus, Bergen | 29 November |
| • NEW ECNP Neuroscience applied: New Frontiers Meeting , Nice | 18-19 March 2018 |

Funding for cooperation in higher education

[Research and Innovation in the Educational Sector \(FINNUT\) \(Link in Norwegian\)](#)

- Announced: 72 million NOK for research project about and for the education sector (final call on 10 October 2017). Funding available for research projects that will contribute to the renewal of education research through international and interdisciplinary research cooperation. Deadline: 22 November 2017 (13:00)
- Announced: 24 million NOK for young research talents about and for the education sector (final call on 10 October 2017). Funding available for young researchers with research projects that can contribute to the renewal and development of education research. Deadline: 22 November 2017 (13:00)

NEW [DNSZ Seed Money 2018](#) (Link in Norwegian)

The German-Norwegian Study Centre in Kiel (DNSZ) provides funds within the framework of its Seed Money Budget, in order to support cooperation between German and Norwegian academics in all fields. The present call for proposals applies to projects that are to be realised in the period August 2017 until March 2018. Deadline: 8 December 2017

[EURASIA Programme](#) (Three-year projects) [\(Link in Norwegian\)](#)

The Eurasia Programme supports project cooperation between institutions in Norway and Armenia, Ukraine, Moldova, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. Deadline: 15 December 2017 (15:00)

NEW [Capacity Building in the Field of Higher Education 2018](#)

This action which aims to support the modernisation, accessibility and internationalisation of higher education in the Partner Countries is to be carried out in the context of the priorities identified in the Communications “Increasing the impact of EU Development Policy: an Agenda for Change” and “European Higher Education in the World”. [Advisory body: SIU \(Link in Norwegian\)](#) Deadline: 8 February 2018

NEW [E+ Joint Master Degrees](#) (Link in Norwegian)

E+ Joint Master Degrees aims to promote cooperation to increase academic quality and that this in turn will increase attractiveness towards students, primarily from countries outside Europe. Deadline: 15 February 2017

NEW [Erasmus+ Knowledge Alliances](#)

Knowledge Alliances between higher education institutions and enterprises aim to foster innovation, entrepreneurship, creativity, employability, knowledge exchange and/or multidisciplinary teaching and learning. [Advisory body: SIU \(Link in Norwegian\)](#) Deadline: 28 February 2018

[Research and Innovation in the Educational Sector \(FINNUT\) \(Link in Norwegian\)](#)

FINNUT is a long-term program for research and innovation in the educational sector. The program funds research on a wide spectrum from early childhood education and care to higher education and adult learning. Deadline: Continuing

[Mobility grants North America in educational research \(UTNAM\)](#)

The aim of the mobility grant is to contribute to increased cooperation between Norwegian and North American educational researchers through supporting visits to Norway for the purpose of research or dissemination for top North American educational researchers. The scheme will also contribute to the dissemination of results of North American research to Norway and furthermore contribute to competence building in Norwegian research communities. Grants will be awarded for visits of shorter or longer duration. Deadline: Continuing

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

Ved spørsmål om utlysningene, kontakt [Kaia Nepstad](#) or [Ramune Midttveidt](#) ved Det medisinske fakultet. 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 Midttveit](#), [Itana Sloper-Krivokapic](#) and [Amra Grudic-Feta](#)