



CCBIO Newsletter

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DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Thank you very much to all of you for making the 5th CCBIO Annual Symposium a success! This is an important gathering and retreat for the CCBIO family, and a place for international presentations at the highest level, for small-talk and networking, for project meetings, and for pure pleasure. Be sure to tick off the dates for next year's meeting. A special thanks to all "on the ground" for helping out and solving issues before and during the meeting. And congratulations to the three winners of the poster awards – well deserved. Take a look at the link in the article below and the last pages of this newsletter for pictures.

More news: The first CCBIO-based book was launched during the meeting, edited by Anne Blanchard and Roger Strand. Read more about the associate and junior investigators presented in the annual report. And congratulations to Emilia Hugdahl for receiving the YDF-award from the Norwegian Society for Dermatology and Venereology for her work on BRAF mutations in cutaneous melanoma. And PhD-student Eirik Tranvåg has been recruited as a regular columnist in Dagens Medisin.

Last but not least: Please do remember to register for the CCBIO Junior Scientist Symposium on June 15th.

Best regards, Lars A. Akslen, Director

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Karl Henning Kalland

James Lorens

Rolf Reed

Oddbjørn Straume

INSPIRATIONAL MEETING AT SOLSTRAND



CCBIO met for the 5th time at the Annual Symposium at Solstrand 19-20 April. "We wish to motivate, especially the younger researchers, to perform excellent cancer research," says Center Director Lars A. Akslen.

"The purpose of our annual symposium is to give people an update on the latest in cancer research, and motivate them in their work. It should be fun to do research. In addition, it is important to acquire an international network to do cancer research at elite level", emphasizes Professor Akslen.

Read about the symposium [in this article](#).

You can also find lots of photos at this newsletter's last 2 pages. Maybe you'll find yourself?

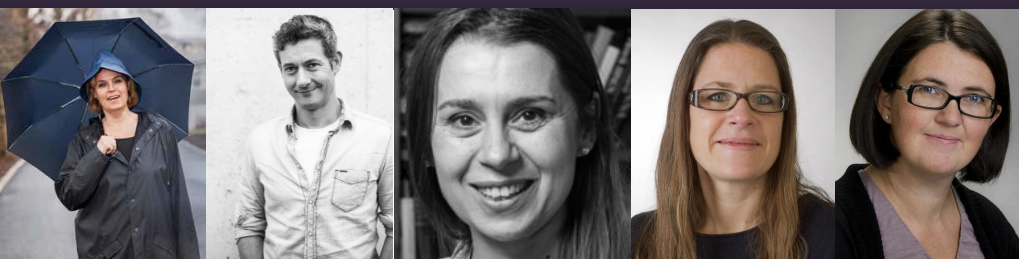
Make a note of the dates for next year's symposium: **May 24-25, 2018**.

We continue the success at Solstrand!



Established by the Research Council of Norway

NEW CCBIO ASSOCIATE AND JUNIOR INVESTIGATORS



Meet CCBIO's newly recruited Associate Investigators and Junior Investigators!

CCBIO has initiated recruitment of selected investigators with complementary expertise. The purpose is to further strengthen our research activities and to increase internal collaboration.

Read about the projects of the Associate Investigators **Line Bjørge** and **Emmet McCormack**, and the Junior Investigators **Daniela Elena Costea**, **Camilla Krakstad** and **Elisabeth Wik** [on this link](#).

AWARD TO CCBIO PHD CANDIDATE

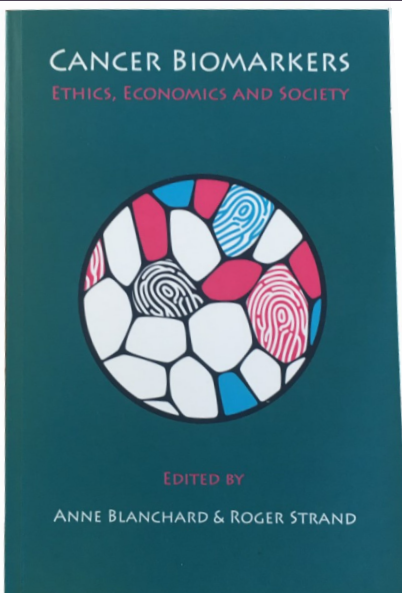
Congratulations to **Emilia Hugdahl** for the YDF-award from the Norwegian Society of Dermatology and Venereology!

Galderma awards a prize for best article written by a young dermatologist each year at the annual meeting of the Norwegian Society for Dermatology and Venereology (NFDV). The prize is awarded for the article: "BRAF-V600E expression primary nodular melanoma is associated with aggressive tumor features and reduced survival" published in the British Journal of Cancer 2016.

[Read more here.](#)



LAUNCH OF CCBIO BOOK



Note the release of the first CCBIO-based book! Title: Cancer Biomarkers: Ethics, Economics, and Society, edited by Anne Blanchard and Roger Strand.

"The book should be required reading for oncologists, medical students, graduate students and especially for those who make policy decisions regarding the use and reimbursement of cancer biomarkers," says Bruce Zetter, Charles Nowiszewski Professor of Cancer Biology in the Department of Surgery, Harvard Medical School.

[Read more here.](#)

COMING CCBIO EVENTS

- 11.05.17, [CCBIO Seminar](#), speaker: [Ulf Landegren](#). Bergen
- 15.05.17, [CCBIO Special Seminar](#), speaker [Bruce Baguley](#). Bergen.
- 15.06.17, [CCBIO Seminar](#), speaker: [Ryan Driskell](#). Bergen
- 12.-16.06.17, BMED904 - [Graduate Course in Extra-cellular Matrix](#).Bergen
- 15.06.17, [CCBIO Junior Scientist Symposium](#). Bergen
- 18-21.06.17, The [3rd International p53 Isoforms Conference](#) in Bergen.
- 23.-25.08.17, Norbis/CCBIO workshop "[Network Biology/Integromics Bioinformatics- Applications towards medicine](#)"
Registration deadline is June 15th 2017. Bergen.

OTHER RECOMMENDED COMING EVENTS

- 18.05.17, [Knowledge for growth](#), one of the leading life sciences conferences in Europe. Ghent, Belgium.
- 19.05.17, [Nordic Model for Personalized Medicine](#). Exploring issues such as data sharing, privacy, innovation, stakeholder engagement, and cross-border studies from an interdisciplinary perspective. Oslo.
- 23.05.17, [R&D Network in Oslo – Haematologic oncology](#). (Haematologic cancer, including Chronic Lymphatic Leukaemia (CLL) and Myelomatosis. Oslo.
- 24.05.17, [Biomed Informatics: Match-making, Acceleration & Funding Opportunities for Health and ICT](#). Oslo Cancer Cluster and Smart Innovation Norway & Oslo Medtech, Oslo.
- 06.-07.06.17, [37 °C Life Science Technology Conference & Exhibition](#), Stavanger.
- 24.08.17, [R&D Summer Networking Event](#), Oslo Cancer Cluster.
- 24.-26.09.17, [Translational Medicine Conference 2017](#). Prague. Abstract and poster submission is now two weeks away from closing.

UIB ALUMNUS OF THE MONTH



The University of Bergen recently selected CCBIO's Director Lars A. Akslen as Alumnus of the Month. «Seek international experiences» recommends CCBIO Director Lars A. Akslen to the students of today.

[Read interview](#) with Lars A. Akslen, who recollects his student days, considers what was most important in his learning, gives good advice to the students of today, and talks about the research performed at CCBIO.

CCBIO PHD IS COLUMNIST IN DAGENS MEDISIN



Eirik speaking at this year's CCBIO Annual Symposium. Photo: Ingvild Festervoll Melien

CCBIO's PhD candidate Eirik Tranvåg is recruited as a regular contributor to the column Young Voices in Dagens Medisin.

This is a column where young researchers give their views on current issues in the health services. Dagens Medisin is Norway's largest independent news channel for health care, a newspaper and a journal for health professionals and other employees in the health services.

His latest contribution is on the challenges of the government's e-health program. [Read the article here](#) (in Norwegian only).

5 TIPS TO CANCER RESEARCHERS



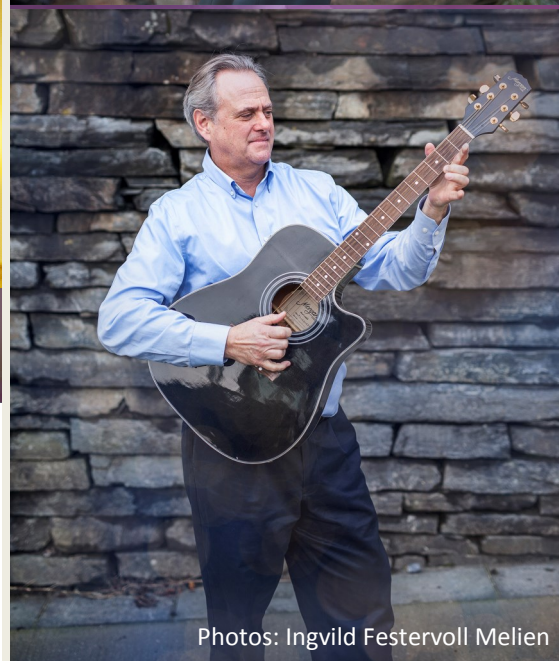
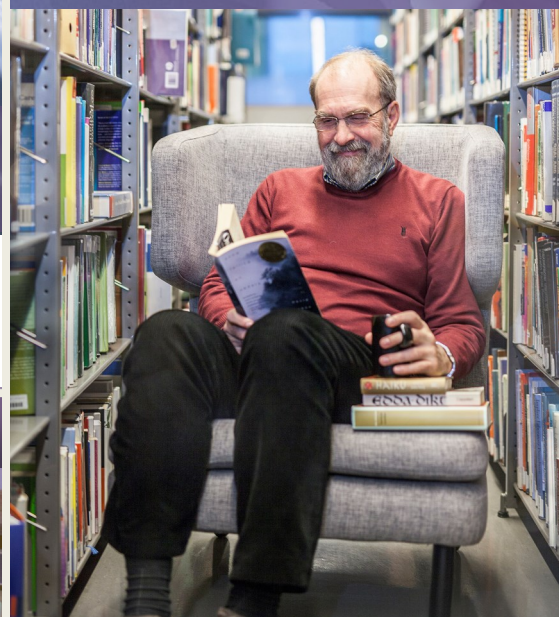
Heldin at this year's CCBIO Annual Symposium. Photo: Ingvild Festervoll Melien

Carl-Henrik Heldin, Vice-President of the European Research Council and Chairman at the Nobel Foundation reveals 5 tips on how to become a successful cancer researcher, at the 5th CCBIO Symposium.

1. Select interesting projects, something new and innovative
2. Contact experts when formulating projects
3. Select an excellent place with successful research
4. Get access to infrastructure necessary for your research
5. Have fun!

See a short video interview [here](#).

CCBIO SNAPSHOTS



Photos: Ingvild Festervoll Melien

NEXT CCBIO JUNIOR SCIENTIST SYMPOSIUM IS JUNE 15TH

We have a very exciting program with presentations from the Bergen-based company BerGenBio and from a Bergen-initiated clinical study, and more exciting project updates from CCBIO's young researchers. NORBIS will also give a presentation, so the program should certainly be of great interest!

Note that the CCBIO Junior Symposium is postponed from May 11th to **June 15th**. See [program and registration link here](#). Register before June 14th.

All are welcome, there is no charge, and that includes lunch! The coordinators [Agnete](#) or [Erling](#) encourages students who wish to participate in coming symposias to contact them, and urges CCBIO PIs to suggest projects and candidates.

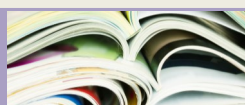
This is an arena where students will gain valuable experience with oral presentations and academic discussions, and training to communicate and to carry out independent research. Read more about the symposia [here](#).

CCBIO DOCTORAL DEFENCE



Pugazendhi Murugan Erusappan defended May 5th his dissertation "Molecular Aspects of Integrin $\alpha 11$ Function" at the University of Bergen. Pugazendhi is a candidate from the Department of Biomedicine/CCBIO. Supervisors: Professors Donald Gullberg and Helge Wiig. See [press release](#).

PUBLICATIONS



You can find the CCBIO publications [on this pubmed link](#).
See the last 5 below.

- Krüger K, Wik E, Knutsvik G, Nalwoga H, Klingen TA, Arnes JB, Chen Y, Manneqvist M, Dimitrakopoulou K, Stefansson IM, Birkeland E, Aas T, Tobin NP, Jonassen I, Bergh J, Foulkes WD, Akslen LA. [Expression of Nestin associates with BRCA1 mutations, a basal-like phenotype and aggressive breast cancer](#). Sci Rep. 2017 Apr 24;7(1):1089.
- Phelan CM, Kuchenbaecker KB, Tyrer JP...Bjorge L,... Gayther SA, Antoniou AC, Pharoah PD. [Identification of 12 new susceptibility loci for different histotypes of epithelial ovarian cancer](#). Nat Genet. 2017 May;49(5):680-691.
- Valla M, Engstrøm MJ, Ytterhus B, Hansen ÅK, Akslen LA, Vatten LJ, Opdahl S, Bofin AM. [FGD5 amplification in breast cancer patients is associated with tumour proliferation and a poorer prognosis](#). Breast Cancer Res Treat. 2017 Apr;162(2):243-253.
- Riihilä P, Nissinen L, Farshchian M, Kallajoki M, Kivisaari A, Meri S, Grénman R, Peltonen S, Peltonen J, Pihlajaniemi T, Heljasvaara R, Kähäri VM. [Complement Component C3 and Complement Factor B Promote Growth of Cutaneous Squamous Cell Carcinoma](#). Am J Pathol. 2017 May;187(5):1186-1197.
- Löwenberg B, Pabst T, ...Gjertsen BT, ...Swiss Group for Clinical Cancer Research (SAKK). [Therapeutic value of clofarabine in younger and middle-aged \(18-65 years\) adults with newly diagnosed AML](#). Blood. 2017 Mar 23;129(12):1636-1645.



RECENT CCBIO IN THE MEDIA

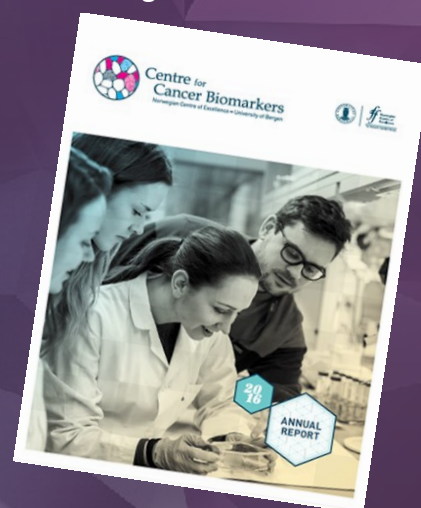
- 25.04.17, Dagens Medisin, "[E-helse er ikke svaret](#)", Eirik Tranvåg.
- 20.04.17, Targeted Oncology, "[BGB324 With Pembrolizumab or Dabrafenib/Trametinib in Melanoma](#)", video interview with Oddbjørn Straume.
- 20.03.17, Tidsskriftet, Den Norske Legeforening, "[Raskere på laben](#)", Ying Chen.
- 12.03.17, Bergensavisen, "[Danseren ble forsker](#)", Amalie Svanøe.
- 08.03.17, BT, "[Nå vil Bergenbio på børs](#)", James Lorens, Oddbjørn Straume.

CCBIO'S ANNUAL REPORT 2016 IS AVAILABLE

Now you can read the brand new CCBIO Annual Report 2016!

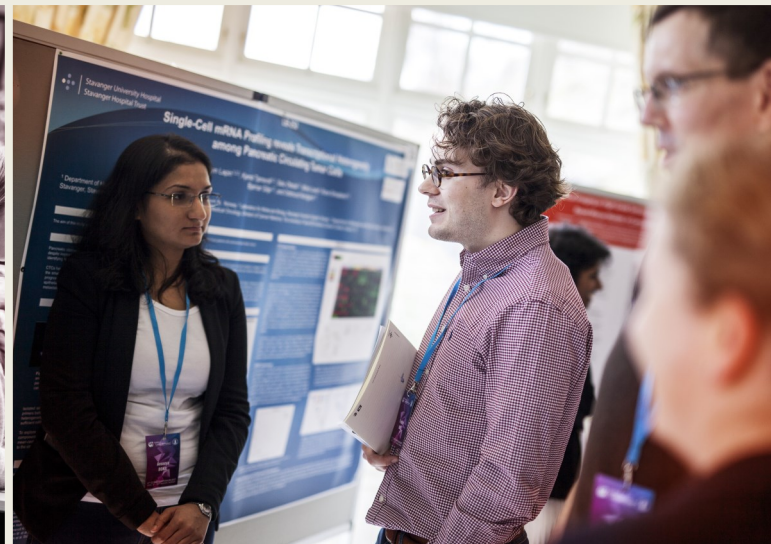
You can find the report [on this link](#). (Give it a minute to download, it is a large pdf document, full of all the exciting research CCBIO has done during the last year!) If you would like to have it in paper, let us know.

Good reading!



SNAPSHOTS FROM THE 5TH CCBIO ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM AT SOLSTRAND

Photos: Ingvild Festervoll Melien



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