

# HIGHLIGHTS 2016

UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN



EMERGING  
KNOWLEDGE CLUSTERS

BERGEN STUDENTS  
MOST INTERNATIONAL

ON TOP FOR  
ARCTIC RESEARCH

# GREETINGS FROM THE RECTOR

2016 was an eventful year, with a number of important decisions. Many of these will also form and influence the University of Bergen (UiB) in the years to come.

The process and the resulting decision that, as from 1 January 2017, the Bergen Academy of Art and Design (KHiB) will be part of the University is to be mentioned in particular. By combining KHiB and the Grieg Academy, UiB will gain a new Faculty of Fine Art, Music and Design. The development of a separate PhD programme for the arts will give us a new power centre for artistic development, research and education, and will also help to strengthen Bergen's position as a city of culture.

Following up on UiB's strategy for 2016–22 – “Ocean, Life, Society” – action plans and the development of knowledge clusters started taking shape in 2016. The climate research environment is being gathered in the recently renovated Geophysical Institute, and the media cluster Media City Bergen will open in the autumn of 2017. During the coming years, the health cluster, marine cluster, climate cluster and several other knowledge clusters will be established, and will become important contributions to the development of UiB as an international research university.

2016 was also the year of the first admission of students to a civil engineering programme at UiB. In autumn 2016, 25 students started the integrated Master's programme in aquaculture and seafood,

developed in cooperation with Bergen University College, NHH (Norwegian School of Economics) and the industry. At its last meeting in 2016, the University Board adopted the creation of three new programmes. These programmes within energy, marine technology and medical technology will all be important contributions to our initiatives and to achieving our goal of educating Norway's most talented graduates.

It is also pleasing to note that UiB continues to make its mark in various academic rankings and that we have the highest success rate among Norwegian universities in the competition for funds from the EU's Horizon 2020 research programme. The high quality of the research at UiB is shown by how we achieve the best results in Norway and also perform best among the Norwegian institutions in terms of international research impact.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Dag R. Olsen". The signature is fluid and cursive.

**DAG RUNE OLSEN**, RECTOR





## CLIMATE RESEARCH ENVIRONMENT GATHERED UNDER ONE ROOF

The Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research has allocated NOK 35 million for the renovation of the Geophysical Institute.

- The left wing of the building will gather important elements of the climate research environment in Bergen under one roof.
- This building will be the natural location for the climate cluster to be established as part of UiB's strategy for 2016 to 2022.
- Climate research is one of UiB's three focus areas.
- The building will house the Bjerknes Centre for Climate Research and Uni Research's climate researchers.

## EMERGING KNOWLEDGE CLUSTERS

In line with the university's "Ocean, Life, Society" strategy for 2016–2022, UiB will establish six cross-disciplinary knowledge clusters.

- In 2017, Media City Bergen will open, as a cluster of media companies and education institutions with the ambition of creating an internationally leading environment for innovation and knowledge development within the media field.
- In 2016, the University Board adopted the establishment of Health Campus Årstadvollen as a knowledge cluster for medicine and dentistry. The aim is to make the health cluster an international powerhouse to create innovative medical and healthcare solutions for the whole person.
- During 2016 the establishment of the marine knowledge cluster also made progress. This will gather the key players within marine research and education, in order to strengthen their cooperation with the business community and various public bodies.





## ALGAE CULTIVATION AT MONGSTAD

In 2016, the University of Bergen commenced the construction of a pilot plant for microalgae production at Mongstad. The aim is to cultivate omega-3 rich microalgae for use in fish feed, based on CO<sub>2</sub> capture from the Mongstad Technology Centre.

## TAKING RESPONSIBILITY FOR NATIONAL LANGUAGE

In 2016, the University of Bergen took over Norway's language dictionary collections, ensuring that anyone in need of linguistic help can continue to use the popular dictionaries. 70 tonnes of material were moved from Oslo to Bergen, and is now located and archived at UiB. The dictionaries also have an online UiB address: **[ordbok.uib.no](http://ordbok.uib.no)**

## FOCUS ON DATA SECURITY

In 2016, the University Board adopted the creation of an independent research centre for ICT security: Simula@UiB. The centre is supported by UiB with NOK 5 million per annum and has arisen from the strong academic environment at UiB's Department of Informatics.

## UiB AS AN ECO-LIGHTHOUSE

In the spring of 2016, the University of Bergen was certified as an Eco-Lighthouse, which is Norway's most widely used certification scheme for enterprises seeking to document their environmental efforts and demonstrate social responsibility. UiB fulfils around 120 environmental requirements within waste handling, purchasing, transport, energy, HSE systems and working environment.



A photograph of a middle-aged man with glasses and a purple shirt, holding a human brain in his hands. He is standing in front of several wooden shelves filled with stacks of papers or books. The background is slightly blurred, focusing attention on the man and the brain.

## TOP GRANT FOR THE SECOND TIME

Professor Kenneth Hugdahl of the Department of Biological and Medical Psychology held an Advanced Grant from the European Research Council (ERC) between 2010 and 2015. This is the highest-ranking grant awarded by ERC. In 2016, Hugdahl achieved the incredible feat of gaining a new grant, which places him among the global elite of Norwegian researchers. Nobel Price winner Edvard Moser from NTNU (Norwegian University of Science and Technology) is the only other researcher at a Norwegian research institution to have received an ERC Advanced Grant in two instances.

## CENTRE WITH EU SUCCESS

During 2016, the Centre for the Study of the Sciences and the Humanities (SVT), headed by Matthias Kaiser, achieved financing of five projects by the EU. This is an impressive achievement, since the centre has an academic staff of only eight people. This demonstrates the centre's strong international position.

## OUR MAN IN BRUSSELS

Kristof Vlaeminck took up the post as head of UiB's Brussels office in May 2016. His most important role will be to keep UiB researchers informed about the great opportunities presented by Horizon 2020, the EU's largest-ever research programme. UiB opened its Brussels office in September 2015.

## STRONGER FOR EXTERNAL FINANCING

In 2016, UiB further strengthened its work of ensuring external financing of major research projects and cooperation. One element of this was setting up a separate administrative team to support the researchers' work during the application process.

# FACTS & FIGURES

## 7 FACULTIES

- Faculty of Law
- Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry
- Faculty of Humanities
- Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences
- Faculty of Social Sciences
- Faculty of Psychology
- Faculty of Fine Art, Music and Design

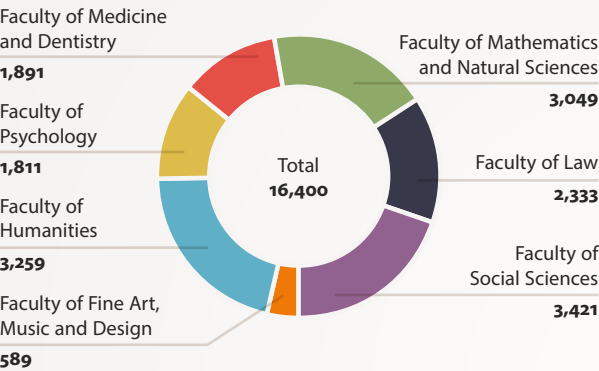
## STUDENTS AND EMPLOYEES



## CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE (SFF)

- Birkeland Centre for Space Science (BCSS)
- Centre for Intervention Science in Maternal and Child Health (CISMAC)
- Centre for Geobiology (CGB)
- Centre for Cancer Biomarkers (CCBIO)

## STUDENTS PER FACULTY



## EDUCATION PROGRAMMES

- 70 Bachelor programmes
- 100 Master’s programmes and professional study programmes
- More than 2,200 subjects
- Around 250 PhD students per year
- 30 research schools at PhD level



# UiB IS NORWAY’S MOST CITED

Among Norwegian institutions, researchers at the University of Bergen (UiB) are most often cited by other researchers worldwide. This is shown by the figures from a report presented by the Research Council of Norway in the autumn of 2016. The report provides a comprehensive overview of the status and development of activities within research, innovation, science and technology.

# ON TOP FOR ARCTIC RESEARCH

Arctic research at UiB has the greatest international impact among the Norwegian universities. The university is the seventh most cited in the world within Arctic research. The study was published by the University of the Arctic, which is a cooperative network with members from 170 universities and research institutes.







## FIVE RESEARCHERS GAINED A RECRUITMENT SCHOLARSHIP

Five young researchers together received NOK 103 million from the Bergen Research Foundation (BFS). The scholarships were awarded at a ceremony in the university's ceremonial hall in Bergen at the beginning of December 2016. Every year, BFS awards recruitment scholarships to young researchers at UiB. The aim is for the researchers to build up and lead centres of research excellence at the university. Applicants can apply for up to NOK 20 million over four years. UiB and the academic environments contribute the same amount as BFS.

## UiB RECRUITING TOP RESEARCHERS

In January 2016, Professor Michael Fellows took up his post at the Department of Informatics via UiB's and the Bergen Research Foundation's (BFS) Elite Research programme. Professor Fellows is a world-leading, internationally recognised pioneer within algorithm research.

Professor Valeriya Lyssenko, world-leading diabetes researcher, was appointed to the KG Jebsen Centre for Diabetes Research via the programme. In 2015, neuroscientist Stefan Kölsch was appointed by the world-leading fMRI Group in Bergen. In 2017, a further two researchers will take up positions as part of the Elite Research programme: anthropologist Don Kalb and philosopher Michael Baumgartner.

The Elite Research programme is based on the Norwegian government's wish to establish several world-leading research environments at Norwegian universities. A five-year agreement is established with each of the elite researchers, so that they can set up an elite research team at UiB. The overall framework for the Elite Research programme is supported by the government, UiB and BFS, at an amount of NOK 137 million.




## STUDENTS WITH FUTURE VISION

UiB's new students are passionate about solving society's major challenges. Practical media subjects, technology, health and education studies had the most applicants under the coordinated admission in 2016. Norway's only civil engineering programme in aquaculture and seafood, which started up in August 2016, had 193 applicants for 26 places on the programme.

## SUCCESS OF OPEN ONLINE COURSES

A total of 8,000 people enrolled for the university's second online course, a six-week course in occupational health in developing countries. Online courses are part of UiB's digitisation strategy that was adopted by the University Board in October 2016. This is part of UiB's main strategy – "Ocean, Life, Society" – for 2016–2022, of which one objective is for UiB to be the leading university in Norway for digital communication.

## BERGEN STUDENTS THE MOST INTERNATIONAL



Three out of ten students who study at UiB take part in an exchange programme. Norwegian School of Economics (NHH) students participate most frequently, followed by UiB students. This makes Bergen the city from which the most students travel abroad on exchange programmes. UiB also achieved the target for the previous action plan for internationalisation, which expired in 2015. In the new internationalisation action plan for the period from 2016 to 2022, the aim is for four out of ten students to study abroad.



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