



GLOBAL CHALLENGES

ANNUAL REPORT 2019 // UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN

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GLOBAL CHALLENGES 2019

We can see improvements in the world. For instance, the number of people living in extreme poverty has clearly decreased the past years. Still, global poverty is one of the very largest problems that the world faces today.

The poorest in the world are often hungry, have no access to clean water, have minor access to education and suffer from poor health. The mentioned factors are examples of 'global challenges'.

Global Challenges is also the name of one of three priority areas at the University of Bergen (UiB), 2016-2021. The thematic priority areas in this strategy are Health, Migration and Inequality .

Our ambition is that the University of Bergen will be internationally recognized as an important contributor contributes to the understanding and solving of many of the challenges that the world society faces today. Our mission is to promote interdisciplinary research, innovative ideas and education relevant to global challenges at the University of Bergen.

We have the pleasure of supporting two interfaculty PhD scholarships annually, and look forward to follow the work of these PhD candidates in the coming years. Also, we have granted seed funding for several interdisciplinary research applications. There are many opportunities for interdisciplinary collaborative efforts at UiB, and our goal is to support and inspire the employees at UiB - we are proud of the global scientific activities we have seen at UiB this year!

Bergen, May 2020

Marit Bakke

Bente E. Moen

THE STRATEGIC WORKING GROUP



Chair
Marit Bakke
Professor, Vice Dean of Research
Department of Biomedicine
Faculty of Medicine



Director
Bente E. Moen
Professor
Centre for International Health
Faculty of Medicine



Henriette Sinding Aasen
Professor
Faculty of Law



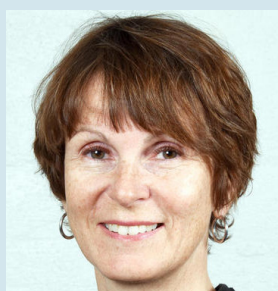
Anne K. Bang
Professor
Faculty of Humanities.



Anne-Helen Mydland
Professor, Vice Dean of Research
Faculty of Fine Art, Music and Design



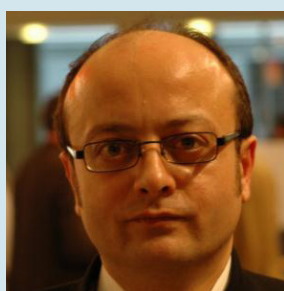
Haldis Haukanes
Professor
Faculty of Psychology



Guri Rørtveit
Professor, Head of Department
Department of Global Public Health and Primary Care
Faculty of Medicine



Gro Sandal
Professor, Deputy Dean for Research
Faculty of Psychology



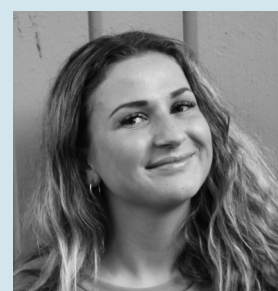
Hakan G. Sicakkan
Professor
Faculty of Social Sciences



Ørjan Totland
Professor, Head of Department
Department of Biological Sciences
Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences



Constance Gaard Storvestre
Student representative



Theresa Aarhus
Student representative

THE SECRETARIAT



Howaida Faisal Abdelrahman
Administrative Coordinator
Bergen Summer Research
School



Ingvild Hope
Coordinator



Ragnhild Osnes Legreid
Adviser



Thera Mjaaland (30 %)
Associate Professor / Scientific
Coordinator - Bergen Summer
Research School



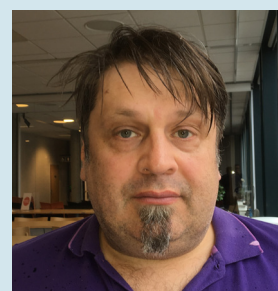
Professor Bente E. Moen
Director



Tord K. Rø
Adviser



Tore Sætersdal
Academic Coordinator



Inge Tesdal
Higher Executive Officer

ACTIVITIES AT THE FACULTIES

All faculties at UiB perform research in the area of Global Challenges. Many of the projects/studies are interdisciplinary, and collaborations across the different faculties are frequent. For simplicity however, the research activities are described in relation to each faculty.

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

Research regarding Middle East /Indian topics and South-Asian and Chinese topics are especially relevant. The Faculty has a number of collaborations with the Faculty of Social Science. It engages in research in the area of transnational studies and topics, including migration, Islam in Europe and social and cultural processes related to migration.

The Faculty's several research groups involved in inter-faculty research on global climate change and environmental discourses, including language studies/linguistics, cultural studies and archaeology. There are also research groups around the legacies of slavery, inequality and the decolonisation of higher education. The Department of Philosophy is involved in studies on global health priorities. The Centre for Women's and Gender Research (SKOK) is a part of the Faculty, investigating gender issues; a topic of great relevance to Global Challenges.

FACULTY OF LAW

Faculty of Law has several projects involving migration, health and social inequality. These research themes involve international and national public law regimes where the relationship between the state and the individual is at the core.

International human rights law provides an overall legal framework for analysing state obligations and individual rights in the area

of migration, health and social inequality. In the area of refugee law, several projects have been carried out the last years, including interdisciplinary projects studying refugee rights in the Middle East as well as the rights of migrants and refugees in Norway.

The Faculty also hosts an interdisciplinary research project on young women's access to adequate sexual and reproductive health services in South Africa, together with researchers at the Faculty of Psychology and the Faculty of Medicine

FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL SCIENCES

MatNat hosts the two other strategic areas at UiB besides Global Challenges, namely Marine Research and Climate and Energy Transitions. The topics of these areas overlap with Global Challenges. The Faculty has a number of projects relevant for Global Challenges, particularly those involving environmental changes.

In addition, the Faculty has a number of projects that focus on some of the drivers of challenges related to migration, health and inequalities, such as the availability of energy, climate change, food production and food safety, management of natural and mineral resources, environmental toxicology, and diseases.

FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

Most Departments at this Faculty are involved in research relevant for Global Challenges. The research explores the character of global

inequality, and also critically questions on basic assumptions underlying policies (such as 'modernisation', 'development', 'growth', 'sustainability').

Several studies are performed in co-operation with researchers in LMIC, and the Faculty has long traditions for participation in capacity building. In addition to this broad base of inequality-related research, the Faculty has a central role in the IMER-network and research organised under its umbrella.

IMER is a network for International migration and ethnic relations that has been active for 20 years. Several migration-related projects are ongoing, and a large Horizon2020 study about migration is coordinated by UiB.

The Centre of Law and Social Transformation - a cooperation between UiB and CMI – is a part of the Faculty, and is engaged in Global Challenges.

FACULTY OF PSYCHOLOGY

At the Faculty of Psychology, a major bulk of globally-oriented research on migration, health and inequalities is carried out at the Department of Health Promotion and Development. Here, researchers are involved in projects on reproductive health and rights and acceptability of health interventions in Sub-Saharan Africa; resilience building among refugee children and their families; and migrant families in child protection, among others.

Global Challenges relevant research is also carried out at the Department of Pedagogy and the Department of Psychosocial science within areas such as migrants participation and experiences in education; diversity at the workplace; acculturation strategies in immigrant groups; refugees and mental health; and factors propelling and sustaining hazardous emigration

from Africa.

FACULTY OF MEDICINE

Most of the Global Health research at the Faculty of Medicine is performed by researchers at Centre for International Health (CIH). However, this research is performed in co-operation with a large number of affiliated researchers, employed at other Departments at the Medical Faculty or at other institutions. Most of the research activity at CIH is in close partnership with institutions in low- and middle-income countries.

Main research topics are: Mother and child health and reproductive health issues; infectious diseases (e.g. HIV, Tuberculosis, malaria); vaccines for childhood diarrhoea; global nutrition; health policy and health system research; disease prevention and health promotion; oral health and occupational health and surgery.

A research Centre of Excellence (SFF) funded by the Research Council of Norway, "Centre for Intervention Science in Maternal and Child Health" (CISMAC), started in 2013 and will continue until 2023.

BCEPS – Bergen Centre for Ethics and Priorities was established in 2019. This centre collaborate closely with CIH and studies the global burden of disease, inequality and poverty. Migration is a topic with increasing activity at the Faculty, in co-operation with the Faculties of Psychology and Law. A network group on Migration and Health is recently established in the Alrek Health Cluster.

FACULTY OF FINE ART, MUSIC AND DESIGN

The Faculty of Fine Art, Music and Design (KMD)

educates future artists, designers, performing musicians, composers, music therapists, musicologists, curators, and music and art teachers. Research fellows are affiliated with one of UiB's PhD programmes - either the new PhD in artistic research, or the scientific PhD programme.

KMD cooperates with many leading institutions on the local, national and international level. Many of the projects include perspectives of Global Challenges, and so is also GAMUT – The Grieg Academy Music Therapy Research Centre, affiliated both to KMD and to NORCE.

THE RIGHT TO INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION. A PENDULUM BETWEEN GLOBALISATION AND NATIVISATION?

EUR 3.3 million from Horizon 2020
Start 1 February 2020.

Leader

Professor Hakan G. Sicakkan (Sampol)

Involved UiB researchers

Professor Christine M. Jacobsen (SKOK)

Professor Stefan Dahlberg (Sampol)

Associate Professor Cornelius Cappelen (Sampol)

Researcher Marry-Anne Karlsen (SKOK)

Partner institutions

Queen Mary University of London (UK)

Justus Liebig Universität Giessen (Germany)

Universiteit Ghent (Belgium)

University of Surrey (UK)

Università degli Studi di Catania (Italy)

Ryerson University (Canada)

Univerza v Ljubljani (Slovenia)

Lund University (Sweden)

University of the Witwatersrand, (South Africa)

Universität Stuttgart (German)



LARGE EU-PROJECT ON MIGRATION TO UIB

Professor Hakan G. Sicakkan leads new Horizon 2020-funded project. PROTECT will closely follow the United Nations' two global compacts on migration and refugees.

"This is the first major international research project in the world to systematically study the new global compacts, which will give us an idea of which strategies work well - and which don't", says Sicakkan of the Department of Comparative Politics.

These compacts may lead to major changes in the global protection system. The project will enhance our knowledge of how society handles global migration.

The project includes partner institutions from Europe, Canada and South Africa. The Centre for Women's and Gender Research (SKOK) at UiB is also involved.

International protection

The two global compacts for migration and refugees were launched by the UN in 2018. They do not override national legislation, but are intended to form a common starting point for dialogue and cooperation between countries.

"Here we can see a new form of international cooperation. This project will enable us to see how these compacts affect people's right to international protection. In addition to seeing how the processes work in practice, we will also examine how the new compacts are used politically and how they are perceived by the population," says Sicakkan.

A multidisciplinary group of researchers will explore the topic using a variety of methods,

such as ethnographic fieldwork in border zones, analysis of multi-level governance of asylum policies, legal assessments of the new compacts, survey experiments on people's attitudes, and big data analysis of editor-controlled and social media.

The project will include a number of meetings with international decision makers, where the research team will share its findings. The researchers will examine the consequences at an early stage, so that any mistakes made can be quickly corrected.



"The most important thing we'll study in the project is how these new platforms affect migration policies and mobility rights, i.e. whether the world will still recognise the general right of refugees to protection."

A stronger academic environment

Sicakkan believes the project will strengthen the academic environment at UiB in an important priority area: Global Challenges, which has supported some of the activities necessary for developing the project.

"In addition to good research findings, I hope PROTECT will make UiB an important international hub for efforts to follow the further development of these global compacts," says Sicakkan.

Text: Ole Marius Kvamme
Photo: Eivind Senneset

INCENTIVES FOR COOPERATION ON EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

A major goal for Global Challenges is connecting people, across faculties and professions. This is the backdrop for two calls for funding Global Challenges announces annually. The purpose

of the funds is to stimulate inter-faculty educational and research cooperation.

Awarding criteria: The theme will be a global challenge in migration, health or inequality. At least two faculty will participate in the work. The activity must be carried out in 2019. The funds will go towards teaching and research-promoting inter-faculty initiatives.

In 2019 a total of 17 applications were submitted -- eight received funding.

Project title/theme	Applicant	Partner	Allocated sum
Seminars, meeting places for networking for PhD candidates with migration research as topic	IMER junior scholar network	PhD candidates from all UiB faculties	50 000 NOK
Workshop with the topic: Inequality in conservation of natural and cultural heritage	Professor Anne Bang, Faculty of Humanities	Professor Inger Måren, Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences	41 000 NOK
Workshop with the topic: Develop protocols and applications within the field of nutrition and health.	Professor Mari Hysing, Faculty of Psychology	Professor Tor Strand, Faculty of Medicine	50 000 NOK
Law and Inequality seminars at Bergen Exchanges 2019	Professor Siri Gloppen, Faculty of Social Sciences	Representatives from all UiB faculties	50 000 NOK
Capacity strengthening in molecular biology for surveillance of infectious diseases in Ethiopia	Professor Audun Nerland, Faculty of Medicine	Professor Inge Jonassen, Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences	50 000 NOK
Investigation and piloting of a Skills Lab for the use of interpreters in clinical practice	Professor Esperanza Diaz, Faculty of Medicine	Professor Per Einar Binder, Faculty of Psychology	65 000 NOK
Matter, Gesture and Soul: a cross disciplinary artistic research project that departs from several encounters with, and alignments between Art and Archaeology	Associate Professor Geir Harald Samuelsen, Faculty of Fine Art, Music and Design	Professor Christopher Henshilwood, Faculty of Humanities	60 000 NOK
Sounding philosophy	Associate Professor Dániel Péter Biró, Faculty of Fine Art, Music and Design	Professor Christhard Hoffmann, Faculty of Humanities	97 000 NOK

IMER JUNIOR SCHOLAR NETWORK CONFERENCE

The first national conference of the IMER Junior Scholar Network was one of the initiatives supported by Global Challenges' incentives funds. The newly formed network is engaged with topics of migration and ethnic relations in Norway. Organised by the local IMER junior scholar network, the conference was held at Bergen Global on 6 December 2019.

The 33 participants from eight Norwegian universities formed an interdisciplinary group from the fields of law, medicine, education, history, musicology, foreign languages, media and communication, social work and social policy, as well as from the field of diaconian values and professional practice.

The keynote by Professor Mette Andersson

(UiO), asked "What happens when migration research meets inequality research?" and guided the participants through the development of research on immigration and ethnic relations in Norway.

Associate Professor Laura Saetveit Miles (UiB) talked about professional development and provided practical advice on how to navigate academia as a junior scholar, and how to think about networking, which sometimes can be hard, but also a very rewarding part of being a researcher.

Participants expressed an wish to create an annual event, and to extend the conference to at least two days.



PHD SCHOLARSHIPS



As part of the University's commitment to research on global challenges, a call for two PhD scholarships are announced every year. These scholarships are open to all research groups at UiB. Two scholarships started in 2019, shortly presented here:

LEGALISATION AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR MATERNAL MORTALITY

The project "Accounting for maternal deaths in the era of SDGs: Legalisation, social practices and implications for maternal death audits in Ethiopia", combines law, anthropology and medical ethics, and looks at measures to reduce the 300,000 pregnancy-related deaths that occur in Ethiopia each year.

Maternal mortality is a key indicator when

comparing the quality of clinical care, health care systems in general, gender equality, and women's status, and is essential to follow the evolution of health and gender equality.

In Ethiopia, a system of monitoring, and subsequent measures to reduce, maternal mortality has been implemented since 2013. This involves ethical and legal issues regarding regulations for health care, confidentiality, consent and data access.

Health workers' fear of guilt and punishment in the wake of deaths are a major challenge when reviewing maternal deaths. This can lead to an unwillingness by front-line health professionals to fully participate and to provide accurate information in audit processes and thus act as a barrier to improving care quality.

There are no empirical studies of comprehensive national systems for monitoring the health

sector in resource-poor countries, and how the sector interacts with legal and political structures.

This interdisciplinary doctoral project, which combines law, anthropology and medical ethics, will explore this dynamic in Ethiopia, drawing on the ethnographic, context-based methodologies of anthropology, medical ethics and human rights.

The project is led by Professor Henriette Sinding Aasen, Faculty of Law, and Professor Astrid Blystad, Professor Karen Marie Moland and Associate Professor Ingrid Miljeteig, all at the Department of Department of Global Public Health and Primary Care. The PhD candidate is Mulu Kidanemariam at the Faculty of Law.

THE FUTURE ANTIBIOTICS

Antibiotics have been the corner stone of modern medicine, but the effect of antibiotics is now declining faster than we are able to find replacements. It is therefore critical to fill the antibiotic void, and researchers will play a crucial role in this work.

The project "Inhibitors of bacterial fatty acid synthesis" is led by Professor Bengt Erik Haug at the Department of Chemistry together with colleague Associate Professor Jarl Underhaug and Professor Ruth Brenk at the Department of Biomedicine. It will equip the next generation of researchers with interdisciplinary skills needed to meet this global challenge.

The project aims to inhibit an important enzyme in fatty acid metabolism (FabF), a promising strategy for developing new antibiotics. The multidisciplinary project will seek a deeper understanding of FabF with the aim of finding compounds that can prevent the function of the enzyme, thus killing bacterial cells and acting as

an antibiotic.

"According to the most recent UN-report, antimicrobial resistance (AMR) already causes at least 700.000 deaths globally every year — a figure that could rise to 10 million by 2050 if no action is taken. Since market forces seem incapable of meeting the urgent demand for new antibiotics, the involvement of academia and public funding is crucial for developing treatment options in time", says Ludvik Espeland, the PhD candidate attached to the project.

Espeland will work towards a deeper understanding of the different substances' binding to the FabF enzyme, and will utilise three national infrastructures located at the Faculty of Medicine and the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences: Nor-OpenScreen, NorCryst and the Norwegian NMR Platform. The project will be closely linked to an interdisciplinary international collaboration on the discovery of future antibiotics.



PHD SCHOLARSHIPS

Requirements include that the project involve research groups from at least two faculties, and that the PhD co-supervisor is employed by a faculty other than that of the main supervisor. The project sketch must also show new and innovative approaches and perspectives on some of the societal challenges facing the world.

“The projects awarded funding in this round are characterised by a fantastic ability to think across disciplines in order to acquire new knowledge. Common to the two doctoral projects is their innovative approach to key societal challenges”, says Professor Bente Moen, Director of Global Challenges at UiB.

Recipients of Global Challenges' PhD scholarships:

2019

Inhibitors of bacterial fatty acid synthesis' aims to inhibit an important enzyme in fatty acid metabolism (FabF)

Ludvik Olai Espeland, Department of Chemistry

Accounting for maternal deaths in the era of SDGs: Legalisation, social practices and implications for maternal death audits in Ethiopia

Mulu Beyene Kidanemariam, Faculty of Law

2018

Securing the future: Resilient cities in the context of migration

Anders Rubing, Centre for Women's and Gender Research

Nutrition policy and food systems recommendations anchored in the Sustainable Development Goals and Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) frameworks

Theogene Habumugisha, Centre for International Health

EDUCATION

TOWARDS A BERGEN SCHOOL OF GLOBAL STUDIES

In December 2019 Global Challenges presented a report on English-language Master education within the area of Global Challenges at UiB. The report came in response to a desire for more interdisciplinary cooperation in education between departments and faculties, and to strengthen the portfolio of relevant courses. The Education Committee of Global Challenges was appointed in 2018 with mandate:

To map existing English language courses and study programmes at the Master level at UiB relevant for global challenges and assess whether it would be suitable to coordinate some of these into joint, interdisciplinary courses/study programmes.

Persons appointed to the Committee: Haldis Haukanes and Marguerite Daniel (Dept of Health Promotion and Development), Astrid Blystad and Karen Marie Moland (Dept of Global Public Health and Primary Care), Ragnhild Overå (Dept of Geography), Ståle Knudsen and Cecilie Ødegård, (Dept of Social Anthropology). Haldis Haukanes was appointed to complete the work and to write up the report. The work was carried out by the Committee and Global Challenges' administration.

Data generation

Five relevant international Master programmes at UiB were examined in detail, both through investigation of their profiles and content and through group discussions with programme leaders and students:

- Master in Geographies of Sustainable Development
- Master in System Dynamics

- Master in Global Health
- Master in Public Administration
- Master in Global Development Theory and Practice.

The broader portfolio of Master level studies taught in English at UiB was also investigated in order to identify relevant courses. Moreover, data generation involved investigation into relevant English language master programmes in Norway to search for good examples of inter/cross-disciplinarity and to gain information about the "competition" for UiB's programmes.

Findings

Nationally: There are a number of relevant Master programmes (50 were examined). Quite a few have some level of overlap with those of UiB. With the exception of NTNU's Master in Globalisation and Sustainable Development, the Committee found few examples of extensive cross-programme or cross-faculty cooperation.

At UiB: The five programmes examined in detail vary in academic profile and organisation. Some are disciplinary focused, while others are interdisciplinary; some have a majority of 10-credit courses, while others have courses of varying length; some run block courses while others run semester-long courses. Still, there is great potential for increased cross-programme cooperation as programmes have courses which may be of relevance for the other programmes.

Programme leaders, and student representatives of the programmes, were interested in opening up for more cross-programme cooperation and exchange. The idea of merging programmes into a big interdisciplinary Global Studies programme, also briefly discussed with students and programme leaders, was by most not considered a good/realistic alternative. During interviews, both students and staff mentioned the need for a cross-faculty social science based course in climate change.

Beyond the five programmes, UiB has a number of global challenges relevant courses at master level—some of which could easily become part of a cross-faculty exchange system. The majority of these courses are found at the Faculties of Social Sciences and Medicine. There are also a couple of initiatives for new Master programmes in the pipeline; a Master in Sustainability (SDG-Master) and Master in Science, Policy and Global Challenges (organised by SVT).

Barriers to cooperation

One barrier to cooperation is the current financing system of the University, where funding is granted to individual faculties and departments, based on their “production” of ETCS and the number of graduating candidates. This makes interdisciplinary initiatives “unprofitable” and thus not attractive. Organising inter-faculty teaching is resource-demanding and may drain resources from already vulnerable environments.

Another barrier relates to incorporating guest students into 300-level courses which require a foundation of disciplinary knowledge. There are also barriers related to practicalities such as timing and length of courses.

Recommendations

Based on our analysis of the data from the local and national investigation, two different models were discussed:

1. Master in Global Studies with courses/specialisations from different environments. This model would require the coordination of (some of) the existing programmes into (a) joint, interdisciplinary programme(s).
2. Exchange of courses between programmes and faculties.

This model involves pooling courses deemed exchangeable into a portfolio from which students can choose as 2nd semester electives.

The model requires close coordination between the faculties and the various programmes, and guidance of students interested in courses outside their home environment.

This coordination could be organised as a Bergen School of Global Studies (BSGS) hosted by Global Challenges, providing a portal for prospective students to access information about courses and programmes, including the broad portfolio of exchangeable English-language courses available for Master students within the field of Global Challenges.

The recommendation of the Education Committee is to wait with alternative 1 for now, and focus on alternative 2. The Committee cautions against forgetting alternative 1. After a test period of implementing alternative 2, the question of an expanded Master programme should again be considered.

The Committee proposes the following steps to be taken by the leadership of Global Challenges to accomplish alternative 2:

- Start the formation of “Bergen School of Global Studies”, with the establishment of an Advisory Committee with a member from each of the relevant faculties to meet regularly. Staff from the Global Challenges administration will support this activity.
- Invite selected environments to suggest courses for a pool of relevant exchangeable English-language courses.
- Organise an initial meeting between representatives from these environments to familiarise themselves with each other’s courses and address challenges of timing, level of difficulty etc.
- Secure that a course in climate change for the social sciences is included in the pool of courses.



THE SALIH COLLECTION

The University of Bergen is responsible for the Salih collection, one of the most unique collections of prints, documents and paintings from the Sudan in the world. The collection is given to UiB on loan from the Salih family in London and is kept in Bergen Global/CMI premises in Jekteviken. The collection has been digitalised and is used for research and teaching purposes at UiB and elsewhere.

BERGEN GLOBAL

TEN YEARS OF BERGEN GLOBAL

In 2019 Bergen Global welcomed researchers, politicians, members of the civil society and the public to 107 events on international development, politics, and current affairs.

The events ranged from popular lectures and debates to academically narrow seminars, film screenings, exhibitions and conferences like the annual conference on law and social transformation, Bergen Exchanges.

This year, we also ventured into helping people make more sustainable choices by using the venue to participate in live lectures and events at *other* institutions, as an alternative to attending them in person.

Bergen: A Global Challenges hub

Bergen Global has been a collaboration of Chr Michelsen Institute (CMI) and UiB since 2009. On August 26th 2019 the two institutions formally recommitted to the partnership.

Director of CMI, Ottar Mæstad, and UiB Rector, Dag Rune Olsen, both say that ambitions for the collaboration are higher than ever, and that their common goal is to make Bergen a national and international hub for working with global challenges.

Global challenges is one of three strategic areas at UiB, but also at the very core of CMI's research agenda. This gives Bergen Global a key role in research communication, networking and outreach to the public



At an event celebrating ten years of making sense of global challenges at their common meeting arena, Bergen Global, UiB Rector Dag Rune Olsen and CMI Director Ottar Mæstad renewed an agreement that bolsters this arena for science outreach. Photo: Martin I. Jamne / UiB

In addition to running events at its home in Jekteviksbakken 31, a series of events were also held at Christie Café in collaboration with Forum for Science and Democracy and SDG Bergen, Bergen Public Library, and the House of Literature. The events are announced in multiple channels online, by email and on posters displayed at 30 locations in central Bergen.

Bergen Global is equipped for streaming and podcasts, which help reach an even bigger audience through an online archive of knowledge accessible to everyone. Podcasts and video recordings are good ways to document research, but also a tool to be used in teaching. The YouTube channel contains a selection of events.

An international arena

Events at Bergen Global are generated by its editorial team through dialogue with researchers, as well as NGOs and other

institutions of higher education and research - often as an event in its series of 'breakfast forum', 'explained lecture, and ' literary salon'.

In addition the team receives requests from researchers at CMI and UiB for possible events, like workshops, guest lectures, mini conferences, lectures or panel debates. These can be network events, a way of documenting research findings or events that add perspectives to on-going courses at UiB. Bergen Global is constantly on the lookout for ideas and new partnerships in the research community in Bergen.

'Breakfast forum' is held at least twice a month as a moderated 60 minutes conversation between 2-3 experts around a current issue. 'Explained' is a 60 minutes low-threshold lecture on a theme central to understanding current affairs or societal challenges from a cross-disciplinary perspective. 'Literary salon' is a 90 minutes conversation with the author of a published



Professors Anne K. Bang (UiB), Marit Bakke (UiB), Siri Gloppen (UiB/CMI) and Gunn Mangerud (UiB/Chairwoman of CMI's Board) in panel debate on needs and possibilities for further collaboration around Bergen Global.

Photo: Martin I. Jamne / UiB

book. An 'SDG conversation' is a moderated debate or lecture with experts on central issues related to the Sustainable Development Goals. This series is a collaboration between the Forum for Science and Democracy, SDG Bergen, and Bergen Global.

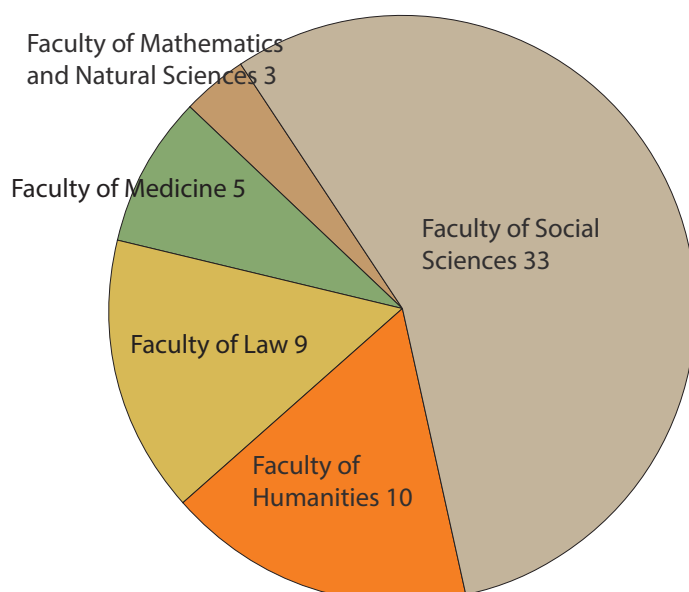
Type of events	
Explained	11
Breakfast forum	10
Literary salon	3
Book launch	6
Research ethics and politics	3
SDG conversation	7
IMER lunch seminar	8
Breakfast for democracy (LawTransform)	17
Bergen Exchanges	19
Other lectures/seminars/workshops	22
Exhibition	1

Making sense of global challenges

The 107 events at Bergen Global in 2019 had presenters or panel participants from 14 local, 14 national and 83 foreign institutions. Many events were rooted in the social sciences, but almost all had a cross- or multi-disciplinary nature -- responding to our motto: *making sense of global challenges*.

Events with presenter(s) from	
University of Bergen	52
Chr Michelsen Institute	43
Other Norwegian institutions	33
Regional/national authorities	6
Other European institutions	34
International organisations	6
Middle-Eastern institutions	6
Asian institutions	1
African Institutions	8
North American institutions	17
South American institutions	7

Events with presenter(s) from UiB



BSRS 2019

Bergen Summer Research School

17-27 June 2019

A central question for last year's research school was the role of the researcher in the interface between science and policy-making. Through plenary sessions and practical workshops, we worked with the participants to help them frame their research to make an impact on policies for a sustainable future.

Under the leadership of Professor Edvard Hviding, the emphasis was on the 2030 Agenda with six courses focusing on health, migration, climate change, poverty, water management, and cultural heritage.



The courses were tied together with common sessions on research tools, presentation skills, keynotes by high-profile researchers, plenary discussions. As previous years, we also organise an excursion into the Norwegian waterscape of Hardanger.



78 PhD candidates and junior researchers from 34 countries (location of their research institution) took part in the six courses.

Recruitment

Recruitment for BSRS is primarily done through the networks of course leaders,

Professor Edvard Hviding, scientific leader of BSRS 2019.

Photo: Eivind Senneset / UiB

Course	Participants
Agenda 2030: Poverty, Climate Change and Sustainability. Alberto Cimadamore (Crop/UiB) and Noel Keenlyside (UiB)	16
Cultural Policy, Arts Heritage, and Sustainable Development. David Hebert (HVL)	9
Ocean, climate, society: Instabilities and mobilities on the climate change front-line Edvard Hviding (UiB)	8
Migration Processes and Practices: Theories, methods and ethical conduct Synnøve Bendixsen (HVL/UiB)	23
The unfinished agenda of maternal and child health. Thorkild Tylleskär (UiB) and Andrea Melberg (UiB)	13
Water management and Sustainable Development. Tore Sætersdal,	9
Total	78



formal and informal networks where UiB is a member, an extensive alumni network, BSRs' Twitter/Facebook and web-page. We print posters and distribute through alumni, selected institutions and Norwegian embassies.

Over the years, various activities has been tried to increase the total number of applicants and applications from certain countries, like direct mailing to select institutions and researchers, the use of online catalogues for university courses, close contact with embassy personnel responsible for higher education, UN networks, and the strategic use of social media.

Norwegian diplomat Marianne Loe and Professor Edvard Hviding (top).
Photo: Eivind Senneset / UiB

Science-diplomacy sessions with May-Elin Stener (MFA), Professor Edvard Hviding (UiB) and Svein Bæra (MFA) in the panel (middle).

Practicing science-diplomacy to the camera. Photo: Tord Rø / UiB

Science diplomacy

Norwegian diplomats and international researchers, prominent in their respective fields, were involved in eleven keynote lectures, two breakfast seminars and a "rector debate" open to the general public.

The summer school gave particular attention to exploring connections between research and the diplomatic and political efforts required to meet the Sustainable Development Goals. By setting the stage for a new experiment in science-diplomacy interaction, the summer school enabled participants to gain experience in



effectively communicating their research to diplomats. These science diplomacy sessions were filmed by Dragefjellet LearningLab. A documentary (28 minutes) was made by BSRS

scientific coordinator, Thera Mjaaland. It is available at <https://vimeo.com/386900681>.

Country of research institution	Participants
Australia	1
Bangladesh	1
Belgium	2
Brazil	2
Cameroon	1
Canada	2
Colombia	1
Congo (Democratic Rep)	1
Ethiopia	6
Finland	1
Georgia	1
Germany	4
Ghana	5
Iceland	1
India	4
Jordan	1

Kenya	1
Lithuania	1
Mexico	1
Nigeria	1
Norway	15
Poland	1
Portugal	1
Russian Federation	1
South Africa	13
Spain	1
Sweden	3
Switzerland	1
Taiwan	1
Uganda	2
United Kingdom	1
Uruguay	1
Total	78

Lunch in Rosendal during all-day excursion to Hardanger. Photo: Tord Rø / UiB



NETWORKING

DAY ZERO OF THE SDG CONFERENCE

Day Zero is the informal kick-off for the annual SDG Conference Bergen. Organised as an academic festival, Day Zero gathered students, scientists, educators, union representatives, university employees and the public to a sort of sustainable festival for the senses. Day Zero was organised by Global Challenges and Division of Research and Innovation.

Starting with a breakfast at Christie café and a panel discussion about global health priorities, the day was packed with more than twenty events, ranging from role-plays, workshops, presentations and practical exercises at Kvarteret and the Student Centre (Studentsenteret). Day Zero wrapped up with an informal drinks

reception a research exhibition at Media City Bergen.

A festival of the senses

The 21 individual events were organised by a range of institutions and organisations: UiB, SUM UiO, Studentersafunnet in Bergen, Restarters Norway, Tvergastein, NITO, Unio, Western Norway University of Applied Sciences, UiB Collaboratory, Bergen Global, The United Nations Association of Norway (FN-sambandet), Norwegian Students' and Academics, International Assistance Fund (SAIH), The Raoul Wallenberg Institute for Human Rights and Humanitarian Law (RWI) and the Rafto Foundation for Human Rights, Cet UiB, Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI), Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI), NMBU, Academia Europaea, The Student Parliament at UiB, SVT/UiB, Department of Biology at UiB.



Photos: Eivind Senneset / UiB

STRATEGIC SEMINAR: GLOBAL CHALLENGES IN BEKKJARVIK

The Strategic Leader Group for Global Challenges started 2019 in beautiful Bekkjarvik. On the agenda for the strategic seminar was the future of Global Challenges; how to develop our strategy; to become more visible; and ways to fulfil the mandate given to us by UiB.

We addressed challenges towards the communication platform at UiB, and how to overcome these obstacles. But most of all: To identify success criteria and goals for our work.

In this, we were lucky that we could lean on our observer in the leader group, Ottar Mæstad, Director at Chr. Michelsen Institute. As always, Mæstad inspired the group to look beyond boundaries and hindrances and set ambitious targets and goals.

And that is what we did. In the lovely surroundings of Bekkjarvik Gjestgiveri, enjoying the food in the restaurant that can list a world champion among the chefs. We set a high and ambitious standard for 2019 and promised to work hard to accomplish our aims: "Global Challenges at UiB as world champions."



EUROPEAN CONGRESS ON TROPICAL MEDICINE AND INTERNATIONAL HEALTH

Global Challenges at University of Bergen will host 12th European Congress on Tropical Medicine and International Health in 2021. As a preparation, we met with the organisers of the 11th Congress in Liverpool 16-20 September.

UiB's Centre for International Health was well represented, with several panels.

Professors Astrid Blystad and Karen Marie Moland chaired a panel on reproductive health and the politics on abortion, with Marte Haaland, Getnet Tadele (University of Addis Ababa), Richard Sambaiga (University of Dar es Salaam), and Haldis Haukanes (UiB).

Professor Thorkild Tylleskär chaired a panel on Konzo with colleagues and students of the late Hans Rosling.

Other PhD candidates from UiB who presented were Alemselem Zebdewos Orsang, Melf-Jakob Kühl and Thandile Gondwe.



12TH
**EUROPEAN CONGRESS ON
TROPICAL MEDICINE AND
INTERNATIONAL HEALTH**
BERGEN, NORWAY. 27 SEPT - 1 OCT 2021



Some of UiB's large delegation to ECTMIH 2019. Photo: Tord Rø / UiB

THREE STRATEGIC AREAS IN ULLENSVANG

The three strategic areas at UiB, Global Challenges; Marine Research; and Climate and Energy Transition, gathered in Ullensvang, November 19-20 to take stock and plan ahead.

The overall aim of the retreat was to establish contact between the PhD candidates who have received stipends through the three priority areas and to discuss mandates, common goals, criteria, projects and communications.

The priority areas

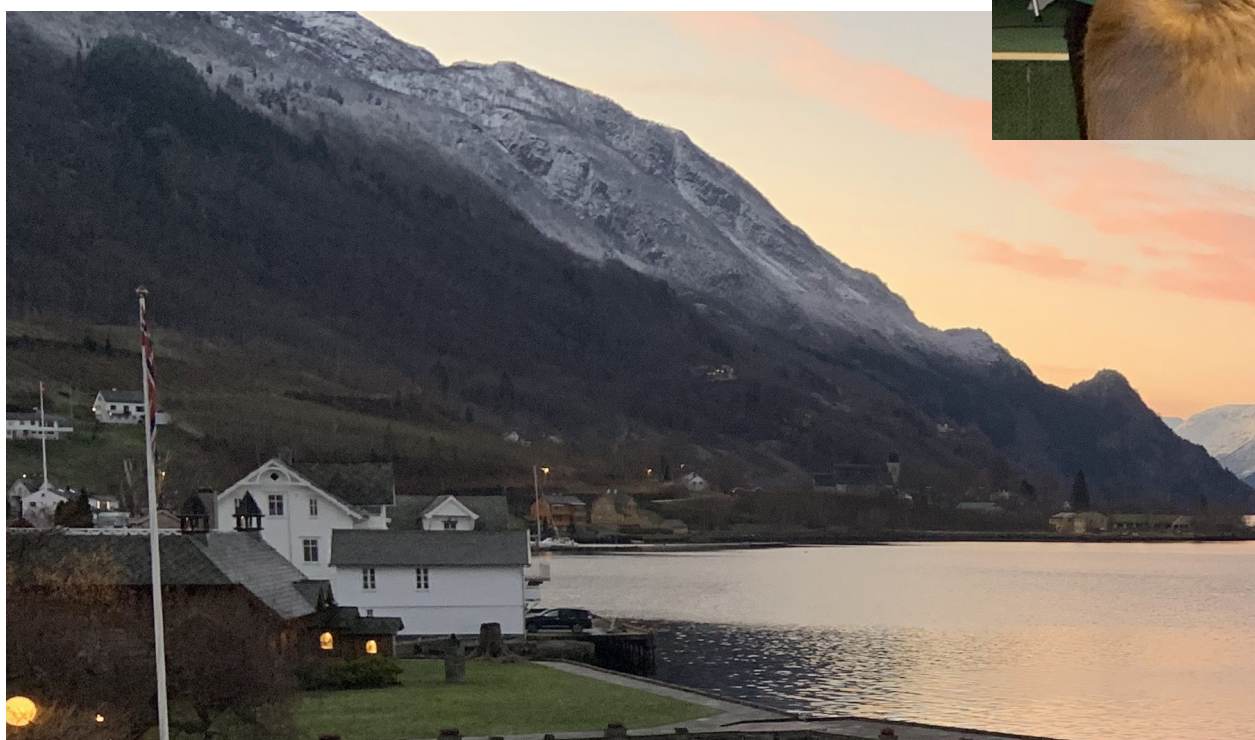
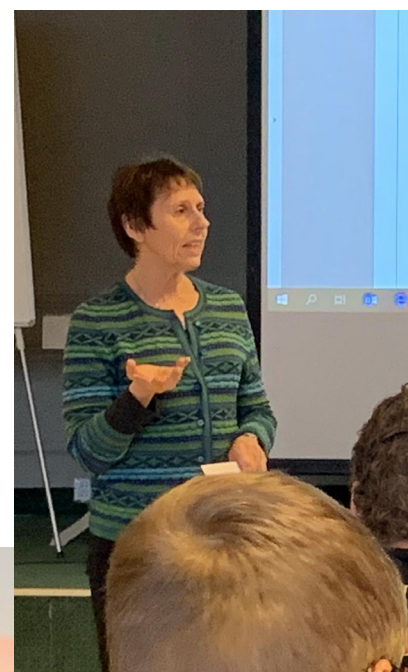
Robert Bjerknes, Vice Rector of interdisciplinary affairs and large projects, and Rector Dag Rune Olsen discussed the division between the priority areas and the University's work with Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals. While the priority areas remain a constant initiative to "break the silos" of the disciplines and put focus on the big complex challenges that require cross-disciplinary collaboration.

While the focus on the SDGs is a means to create additional activity at the University, Rector expects that the priority areas will create a "radical inter-disciplinary approach to global new challenges -- a systems approach that leads to a new paradigm".

There is a need to clearly communicate these expectations, focus on developing new leaders and to dare to innovate.

PhD network

By the end of 2019, the priority areas have allocated funds for 12 PhD candidates. Four of them participated at the meeting and presented their projects. In a break-out session, they discussed ways to draw on each others' experiences and support each other. They identified a need to create a joint "home" since they



are spread though-out the University. A formal network with an annual event, as well as regular informal lunch meetings at each other's institutes, was suggested. Tore Sætersdal at Global Challenges will follow up and support this initiative.

Communications

With the UiB strategy of visibility, branding and focus on external funding, the communications staff for the three priority areas, chose to study the internet presence of the immediate competitors to see how UiB own web-page communicate its priority areas.

The areas are not given any prominences on the web-page, as they are listed next to the University's organisational chart, how to find people and the Museum (which looks confusingly similar to the Storting).

UiB uses many buzzwords (too many?) which compete and confuse even people working in the institution. This makes it hard to communicate what separate "Ocean", "Life", "Society", "marine Research, Climate and energy transition", "Global Challenges", "SDG Bergen", "Ocean City Bergen".

It is hard to brand something if there is too much going on. Do we need something that unifies all these in a simple slogan?



SOUTHERN AFRICAN NORDIC CENTRE (SANORD)

University of Bergen is one of seven founding institutions in SANORD, a network designed to further academic cooperation between Southern Africa and the Nordic countries. It seeks to strengthen the capacity of all member institutions to address new local and global challenges of innovation and development. The leadership of the member institutions meets annually to discuss and plan joint endeavours.

SANORD's strategy seeks to "address sustainable development and the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals through joint activities of research, education and other activities relevant for the member institutions2 -- goals that fit well with UiB's own strategy 2019–2022.

SANORD augments the many bilateral agreements and collaborative projects. A Board of the Vice-Chancellors directs the centre. The first Chairperson was Professor Brian O'Connell, Rector of the University of the Western Cape, and the first Vice-Chairperson was UiB's Rector at the time, Professor Sigmund Grønmo.

SANORD is based at the University of the Western Cape, where the secretariat is established. Activities associated with the Centre, such as specialist workshops and seminars, take place in various locations depending on the members organising them.

The annual meeting coincides with project workshops and seminars, as a major conference with 350 participants from the



22 Nordic institutions and the 29 counterparts from Southern Africa. The last conference took place at University of Botswana, Gaborone, Sept. 11-13, 2019 (<http://conferences.ub.bw/>).

Global Challenges is part of the organising committee for the 2020 conference, together with HVL (postponed until 2021). Ingvild Hope attended the conference in Gaborone to connect with the SANORD secretariat and to get inspiration for the next annual event.

See <http://sanord.uwc.ac.za> or get in touch with the secretariat at UWC, Maureen Davis, mdavis@uwc.ac.za, +27 (0)21 959 3802 or UiB's contact persons Ingvild Hope or Tor Halvorsen.

Linn Jeanette Fylkesnes, HVL, Ingvild Hope and Bjørn Erik Andersen at the 2019 SANORD Conference in Gaborone, Botswana.



WORLD UNIVERSITIES NETWORK (WUN)

The World Universities Network consists of 23 member universities from all continents. UiB is the only Scandinavian member.

The network promotes networking and research initiatives among its members and encourage collaboration through an annual call for small collaborative Research Developments Projects (max 10 000 GBP). It also funds researcher- and PhD mobility between member institutions.

The Annual General Meeting takes place over a week in May each year with seminars, workshops and meetings. It is attended by 250-300 participants. I took place in Dublin 19-24 May 2019.

Global Challenges' Tore Sætersdal and Ann Singleton, University of Bristol, organised the workshop "Changing world and changing perspectives– is it possible to decolonise the UC Agenda – and what would this mean?" for



approximately 40 participants at the AGM in Dublin.

The network has four Global Challenges Groups with a researcher from each member institution. The groups meet regularly online and arranges seminars and discussions during the AGM.

For more information, contact the WUN secretariat at UiB, Bjørn Erik Andersen.

Global Challenges Groups	UiB representative
Responding to Climate change	None in 2019
Global Higher education and Research	Tor Halvorsen, Adm.Org.
Understanding Cultures	Tore Sætersdal, Global Challenges/SiH (Chair)
Special Interest Groups	
Global Africa Group	Anne Bang, AHKR
Committees	
Academic advisory Committee	Annelin Eriksen, Vice-Rector for Global Relations
WUN Secretariat at UiB	Bjørn Erik Andersen, FIA

GLOBAL HEALTH NORWAY

Global Health Norway was established in 2017 with a focus on research, education and development cooperation. It includes the main universities, the regional health trusts, hospitals, and large research institutions around Norway. While most global health research is concentrated at the universities, there is significant competence strengthening activities on-going at the hospitals and regional health trusts.

The network worked closely with the Research Council of Norway in 2019 in the planning of a new programme on global health issues. The network is central to research in global health in Norway, and collaborates with the Norwegian

Forum for Global Health Research (Forum), which has a joint secretariat with GHN, located at UiB's Centre for International Health.

In April 2019, GHN organised a two-day conference on global health in Bergen: 'Competence building for impact - time for revolution', with about 120 participants.

An important characteristic of this conference is the associated PhD conference. This two-day activity is now the responsibility of the Norwegian Research School of Global Health. This year about 60 PhDs attended.

The conference filled the grand hall at Scandic City Hotel. Photos: Elinor Bartle / UiB

GLOBAL HEALTH NORWAY



WATER AND SOCIETY (WASO)

The NORHED-project “Water and Society (WaSo) – Institutional Capacity Building in Water management and Climate Change adaptation in selected countries in Asia and Africa” involves partners from eleven institutions in Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Bangladesh, Uganda, South Sudan, Ethiopia and Norway.

The 38 million NOK project seeks to strengthen supervisory capacity and graduate/post-graduate programme content at the participating universities within water and society (climate change) related disciplines. Having run since 2014, this year, the project saw a range of training activities and academic conferences in the two regions in the south, but also in Norway and in international networks like the International Water Association (IWA).

The project is coordinated by Dr Tore Sætersdal together with Professor Harsha Ratnaweera, NMBU, Professor S.B. Weerakoon, University of Peradeniya and Dr Ronald Semyalo, Makerere University. <https://www.wasoproject.org/>



PhD supervision training for lecturers at University of Nairobi. Nairobi Safari Club, 27. March 2019.
Photo: Tore Sætersdal / UiB

PARTNERSHIP FOR POVERTY & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

This UTFORSK-project (2017-2020) was initiated by the Comparative Research on Poverty (CROP) at UiB. CROP has since closed and in late 2018 the project was transferred to Global Challenges, headed by Dr Tore Sætersdal and Professor Oliver Mtapuri at University of Kwa-Zulu Natal (UKZN), with Dr Howaida Abdelrahman as administrative coordinator.

Some activities that had been planned as part of CROP normal activities, such as a seminar in Durban in October 2019, was abandoned as they were dependent on CROP funding and administrative follow-up.

However, several planned activities were undertaken and will be followed up in 2020. Ten PhD candidates from UKZN attended the Bergen Summer Research School in June together with Professor Mtapuri and Professor Claudia Loggia, who both taught in the Sustainability Science course.

In October Dr Abdelrahman and Dr Sætersdal visited UKZN for an intensive week of meetings with staff and department leaders and the mid-term evaluation of the project. The Library at UKZN received special attention from the project and has created a virtual space with input from the project.

The mid-term evaluation was satisfactory, but noted that due to the changes that had occurred valuable time was lost and it would be important to use 2020 to catch up with some activities.



uib.no/en/globalchallenges

University of Bergen / Post box 7800, 5020 Bergen, Norway
post@uib.no / +47 55 58 00 00