

Newsletter

from FUGE Mid-Norway

www.ntnu.no/fuge

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Editorial - From FUGE to Biotec2012?

We are well into the FUGE II period and its termination can soon be glimpsed in the horizon. Will there be a continuation of the program? Recent signals from The Research Council of Norway (NFR) indicate that we will never see a FUGE III. Instead, an initiative with a more applied focus is in the planning and is meant to replace FUGE. The work title for this program is "Biotec2012". What will be its content? The answer to this question is likely to be crucial for many of the activities currently supported by FUGE II. Initial statements from NFR say that politicians are likely to want more visible gain for the society from Biotec2012 than what has been seen from FUGE. In my view, this is a worrisome signal. Probably the main problem with research funding in Norway is the scarcity of money for basic research. We need more funding for projects with a long time horizon. The return to society from such research is overwhelming, but can not be easily predicted or promised. Through its support to individual research projects, FUGE II has been an important compensation for the lack of money in the free programs in NFR's portfolio. However, hopefully we influence the direction of Biotec2012. NFR asks what the research institutions and individual researchers want to see in Biotec2012. We should convey a strong message that we want a flow of money to researcher-initiated projects. If not, many strong groups with an excellent track record under the FUGE period are likely to wither.

Best regards, Magne Børset
Leader FUGE Mid-Norway committee

Vangslunds forskningspris i medisinsk teknologi 2009

Lars Hagen and Geir Slupphaug, Department of Clinical and Molecular Medicine, were awarded the Vangslund research award in medical technology for 2009. They received the award due to a paper published in a leading journal in molecular biology: Hagen L et al. "Cell cycle-specific UNG2 phosphorylations regulate protein turnover, activity and association with RPA". EMBO J, 2008;27:51-61.

This publication contributes to the understanding of DNA repair on protein level (UNG2 phosphorylation) which is of importance in cancer research and immunological research. In addition, they have established a FUGE-node within proteomics in Mid-Norway and made techniques in proteomics available for a number of research groups.

FUGE Mid-Norway congratulates with the award!

Norwegian Young Scientist award to Anastasia Dykyy

Anastasiya Dykyy was born in Ukraine in 1990. Since 2007, she lives in Trondheim, where she was previously a pupil at Trondheim Katedralskole, and this autumn she started her biology studies at NTNU. At the end of April 2009 Dykyy won the first prize at the Norwegian competition of Young Scientists (Unge Forskere Konkurransen). As a national winner she was selected to represent Norway at the European finals in September in Paris, France (<http://www.eucys09.fr/>) and at the world finals next spring in San Jose, USA (<http://www.isef2010sanjose.org/>).



Dykyy's research interest is within stem cell research and her project is called: "Differentiation of mouse embryonic stem cells into neural tissues". The project describes the differences in differentiation of two lines of mouse embryonic stem cells, D3 and CGR8. Dykyy found that the D3 cell line has the ability to form neural tissues, while the CGR8 line, under the studied conditions, has not.

To explain her project and the theory behind it Dykyy made a short animation movie. The animation movie will be used to present the project at both competitions and at the FUGE Mid-Norway Christmas seminar.

FUGE Mid-Norway congratulates Anastasiya with the award and wishes her the best for the international finals!

Novel PhD-candidates and Post doc supported by FUGE

PhD-candidates:

Yosuke Kodoma, Departement of Cancer Research and Molecular Medicine, DMF.
Project title: "Genetic mouse models to study gastric physiology and diseases"

Lene Christin Olsen, Departement of Cancer Research and Molecular Medicine, DMF.
Project title: "Are stellate cells grid cells? Silencing by microRNA-regulated transgenes can provide the Answer".

Post doc:

PhD Anna Maria Billing, Dept. of Biology, NT-faculty.
Project title: "The functional genomics of inbreeding depression"

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Upcoming Seminars

“Next generation sequencing” 29 September 2009, Lian Mansion.

The seminar is a network meeting between bioinformaticians and research environments at NTNU that use bioinformatics in their research.

For more information please see:
<http://www.ntnu.no/bioinformatics/events>

FUGE workshop 2009 27-28 October 2009

The workshop will focus on applications of in vivo small animal MR imaging and spectroscopy.

For more information please see:
http://www.ntnu.no/fuge_mr_workshop09

FUGE Mid-Norway award 2009

In December we are having our annual Christmas seminar and the announcement of the FUGE Mid-Norway award 2009. For more information on how to nominate researchers for the award please see <http://www.ntnu.no/research/fuge/announcements>.

Suggestions of invited speakers can be sent to janne.ostvang@nt.ntnu.no before 1 October 2009.



Upcoming Seminars

Human Cytomegalovirus seminar

23 November at 09.00-12.00, MTFs Auditoriet

More information will follow on FUGE's homepage:

<http://www.ntnu.no/research/fuge/seminars>

News from NFR (The Research Council of Norway)

The FUGE-NFR web page has been re-designed and is constantly updated with news related to functional genomics.
([Link to FUGE-NFR](#)).

Summary of news from NFR:

- [EU-midler til infrastruktur](#)
- [Ni millioner til innovasjonsprosjekter](#)