

PhD News

6/2010

Dear all,

First, I would like to congratulate all 126 candidates who received their diplomas at the graduation ceremony in August.

The number of doctoral candidates is increasing both in Norway and internationally. There is therefore increasing interest in systematic information about the career paths of doctoral candidates. How many are recruited to further research and how many find other jobs outside academia? For those outside academia, what jobs are available? How can the institutions prepare doctoral candidates for different careers and to what extent are they responsible for doing so? This topic was also discussed by the Salvanes committee, which submitted its report in September. It will be very important for the University to look seriously at the committee's suggestions for actions.

Another important topic that has been in focus in various arenas is research communication. First, a seminar was organised by the University's Committee for Integrity at which integrity in research communication was in focus. Maintaining integrity as a researcher is a challenge when communicating results and taking part in public discussions.

Research communication was also in focus at the 'Forskningsdagene 2010' (Research Days) events in September, which aim to share researchers' knowledge with the public. This year, a 'Researcher Grand Prix' was also held at which 10 young researchers had four minutes to present their research in a way that gripped the public and got them interested. There were three finalists, who were given six more minutes to go into their research in more depth. The winner was Ann-Kristin Molde, who presented her project in a simple, humoristic and lively fashion. We congratulate Ann-Kristin on her fantastic contribution.

Communicating the importance of research through presentations of research results and the competence required to do research helps to highlight the usefulness of doctoral candidates in the development of society in different fields.



Berit Rokne
Deputy Rector

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ACA members work together to promote European doctoral education

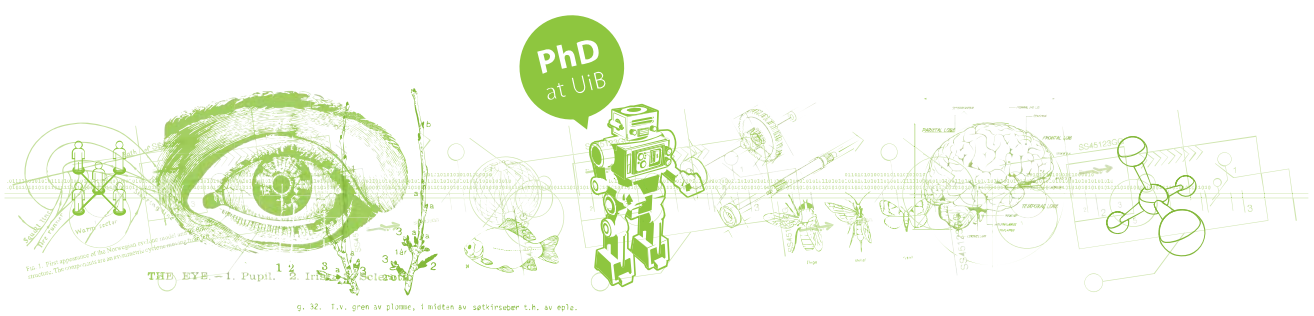
Several of ACA's member organisations have banded together on a new project, PromoDoc, for the promotion of European doctoral education.

As part of the Erasmus Mundus Action 3 programme, this project aims to enhance the attractiveness of doctoral level studies in Europe, to raise awareness of opportunities for doctoral studies and facilitate access to European doctoral programmes among students in third countries and territories, especially Canada, Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan and the USA.

The three-year project, which is due to start in December 2010, will be carried out by a consortium comprising several of ACA's members: CampusFrance (project leader), DAAD (Germany), NUFFIC (the Netherlands), the British Council and the Institute of International Education (USA), with the cooperation of EURODOC - the European Council of Doctoral Candidates and Junior Researchers (Belgium).

The Academic Cooperation Association (ACA) is a dynamic think tank in the field of international cooperation in higher education. Its goal is to promote innovation and the internationalisation of European higher education while maintaining a global outreach. ACA's activities include research and analyses, evaluations, consultancy for private and public bodies, advocacy, publications and much more.

To read more about ACA click [here!](#)



Premiere of the new fanfare

A new feature of the graduation ceremony was the new fanfare that premiered at the graduation ceremony on 27 August. Composed by 21-year-old Emil K Borø, the fanfare won a tough competition to become the new permanent fanfare for the ceremony.

'My goal for the composition was to write an uplifting fanfare, with a certain solemnity,' says Borø. He is taking a Bachelor's degree in composition, and his composition drew inspiration from both Mahler and the music from Star Wars.

The composition will now be a permanent part of every graduation ceremony, as it will be played when the new PhDs enter the Håkon's Hall. *'It was obviously great to attend the premiere performance at the doctoral promotion ceremony. The musicians were very talented, and the acoustics in Håkon's Hall were excellent for the musicians. It's not every day your music gets played to such a large audience!'* says Emil Borø.

Borø wrote the fanfare for trumpets, trombone and percussion. *'Trumpets are almost mandatory in a fanfare, while the trombone and drums are intended to provide more depth and punch, so that the sound does not become too monotonous in the long run,'* concludes Emil Borø.



Photo: private



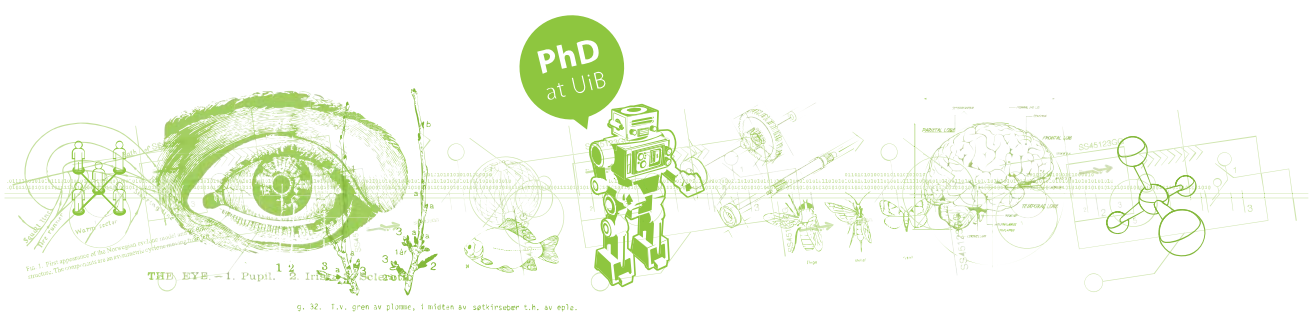
Photo from "På Høyden"

Graduation ceremony for new PhDs on Friday 27 August

A total of 126 candidates completed their doctoral degrees during the spring semester 2010. They defended their dissertations in the first half of 2010. In accordance with tradition, the new PhDs were presented with their doctoral degrees at a formal ceremony in the Håkon's Hall.

Another regular feature of the ceremony was the speech made to the new PhDs by Rector Sigmund Grønmo. *'We are happy and proud to see that so many foreign students have chosen to join a doctoral programme at the University of Bergen,'* he said. Forty-one foreign candidates defended their dissertations this spring. They were from 26 different countries.

Mr Grønmo underlined how important this contribution is to the university: *'You are clear evidence of the fact that the University of Bergen is becoming more and more visible internationally as a research university.'* Mr Grønmo also talked about how important this diversity is as an indicator of academic quality, something that is especially true for research-intensive universities like UiB.



PhD EXCHANGE PROGRAMME BETWEEN

THE UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN AND THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON, USA / MEMORIAL UNIVERSITY, CANADA



Mer informasjon på www.uib.no/international

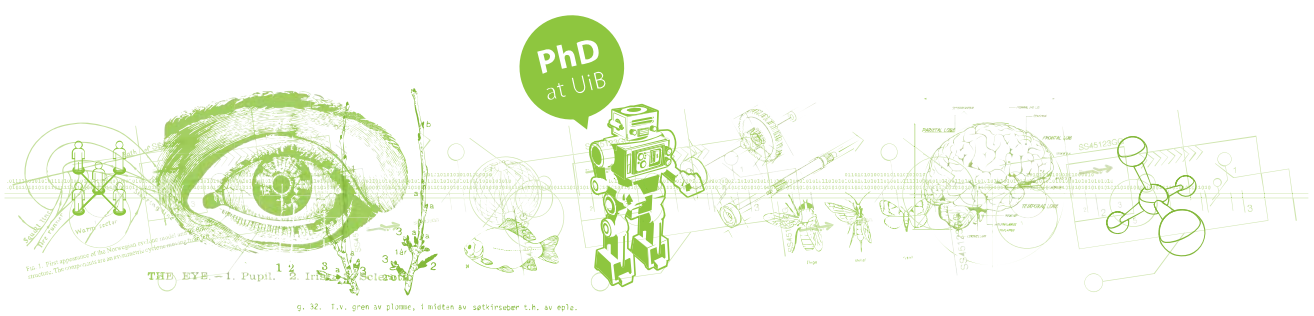
Spørsmål? Vennligst ta kontakt med Kristin Hansen på Internasjonalt Kontor:

Kristin.Hansen@fa.uib.no, eller ring 555 84984



PhD candidates from all fields are encouraged to apply provided that they are employed at UiB. The research stay should be focused on research, teaching or a combination of both, subject to agreement with the host university. The duration will usually be one term of approximately 10 weeks. Over the years, more than 100 researchers have participated in this exchange programme.

For more information, please contact Kristin Hansen at the Department of Research Management: Kristin.Hansen@fa.uib.no, or call 555 84984



Evaluation of research schools

UiB is gathering experience from other universities before starting on an internal evaluation of research schools at UiB. Research school leaders met on 7 September to listen to Jarle Breivik from the University of Oslo (UiO) talk about UiO's process of evaluating its research schools.

UiO has not decided on any new criteria for the research schools, but the evaluation was clear about the necessity of evaluating the different models for research schools.



National qualification framework and PhD seminar on 16 November

The Norwegian Association for Higher Educational Institutions is holding a seminar on the implementation of the national qualification framework in doctoral education.

The seminar will be held at Gardermoen on 16 November. Check [this](#) website for more information and an updated programme.

PhD progress report

This year, all PhD candidates and supervisors will submit their annual progress reports using an electronic survey tool in which they can report on the progress of their research projects and candidates' progress in doctoral education.

All active PhD candidates and supervisors will receive an e-mail with a personal progress report form in week 41. The deadline for submitting the progress report is 1 November.

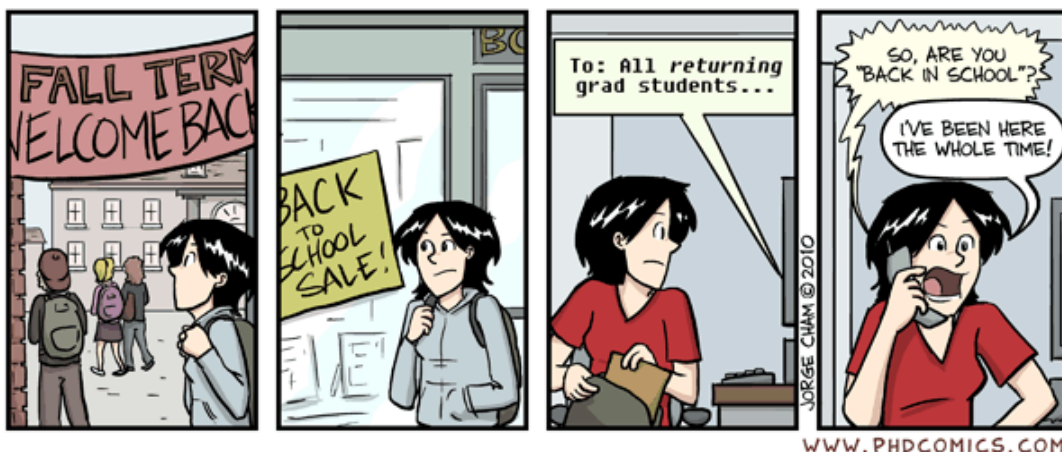
CalMarO Workshop, 4 – 6 Oct. 2010:

'Understanding Science in Policy, Industry and the Media'

This workshop is being offered to help participants consider and develop the transferable and professional skills needed by future research leaders in issues relating to marine systems and climate change. We plan to give participants the tools, as well as an opportunity and a forum, required to put their results in a wider scientific and societal context.

The workshop is offered to PhD candidates in marine and climate studies. To find out more and to register, go to:

<http://biologi.uib.no/calmaro.php>



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