

PhD News

4/2010

Dear all,

The Steering Committee Meeting of the EUA Council for Doctoral Education will be held in Berlin on 3 June in connection with the EUA CDE annual meeting. I am very much looking forward to participating in both. As a CDE Steering Committee member, I will have the opportunity to discuss the draft declaration from the Salzburg II Project.

The Salzburg Principles from 2005 made Europe a world leader in terms of reforming doctoral education. Based on these principles, the reforms of doctoral education in Europe have been one of the most dynamic elements in the European Higher Education Area and the European Research Area. While the principles have proven their worth as a foundation for doctoral education, it is time to re-affirm them in light of the experiences of Europe's universities.

The EUA-CDE therefore established the Salzburg II Project to gather knowledge about the reform of doctoral education in Europe. In 2010 it has carried out extensive consultations with EUA-CDE members in order to collect their experiences and bring forward their recommendations for the future reform of doctoral education. Important aspects of doctoral education that will be discussed include: research as the basis, differences in doctoral programmes, recruitment and admission, the crucial role of supervision and assessment, achieving a critical mass, an appropriate duration, increasing mobility and appropriate funding.

We address all these issues in UiB's action plan for doctoral education. It is important, however, that, after the introduction of the Salzburg II declaration later this year, we revise our own action plan in accordance with these principles. The great interest in doctoral education is illustrated by the number of EUA-CDE universities, which now number more than 180 all over Europe. This makes EUA-CDE the largest and most comprehensive organisation of its kind on the continent.



Berit Rokne
Deputy Rector

Update on EURAXESS

The EURAXESS web portal contains a lot of useful and important information about international/European research in general, and the recruitment and mobility of researchers in particular.

On the EURAXESS [Job website](#), for instance, you will find a list of Fellowships & Grants provided at the national and international levels and with European funding. If you go to the EURAXESS Services website, you will find all the [national EURAXESS](#) portals, with detailed information about all practical issues you want to know about if you are a mobile researcher. On the national portals, you will also find local information portals containing local information and contacts for the university you are going to.

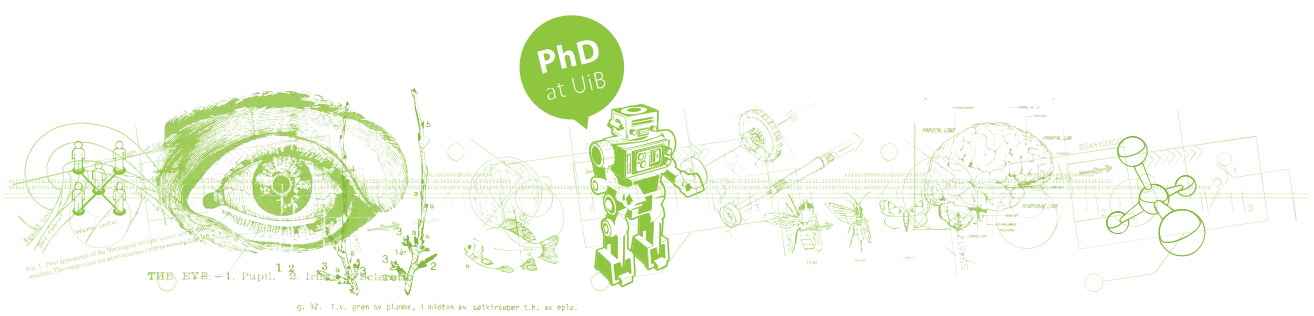
UiB has signed two important EURAXESS declarations. One is the European Charter for Researchers and the [Code of Conduct](#) for Recruitment of Researchers. The two EURAXESS declarations mentioned above, the Charter & Code and Services Local Contact Point, can be an important asset for UiB researchers when submitting applications for EU funding, particularly when the project includes mobility of researchers/post-docs/PhDs.



euraxess
RESEARCHERS IN MOTION

A project application to the EU will be evaluated positively now that the evaluation committee can read that the University of Bergen is committed to the principles in the Charter & Code documents and has allocated institutional resources to assisting mobile researchers.

The University of Bergen local services [website](#) (will be edited and updated soon).



Warsaw, 17-18 June 2010:

Bologna Seminar - Doctoral Studies in the European Higher Education Area

The Polish National Agency of the Lifelong Learning Programme: The Foundation for the Development of the Education System (FRSE) would like to invite you to the Bologna Seminar on Doctoral Studies in the European Higher Education Area, which will take place in Warsaw on 17 and 18 June 2010.

[The seminar](#) is organised as part of the activity of the Polish Bologna Experts Team. Its aim is to discuss the current condition of doctoral studies in Europe.

Its target group consists of everyone involved in the development and running of doctoral programmes in the European Higher Education Area, and especially directors of doctoral programmes, teachers and representatives of institutions/ bodies involved in doctoral education.

The seminar's specific objectives are to:

- Discuss the latest developments in doctoral studies in Europe
- Exchange experience of present models for doctoral studies
- Discuss the pros and cons of the introduction of ECTS for doctoral programmes
- Discuss quality indicators for doctoral studies and possible models for accreditation and quality assurance.

Click here for the [programme](#) and here for [registration](#).



SiN

Stipendiatorganisasjonene i Norge

Get to know SiN!

The association of doctoral organisations in Norway (SiN) was officially founded in Oslo on 26 January 2003. SiN is an association of local organisations for PhD candidates and post-docs at Norwegian colleges and universities.

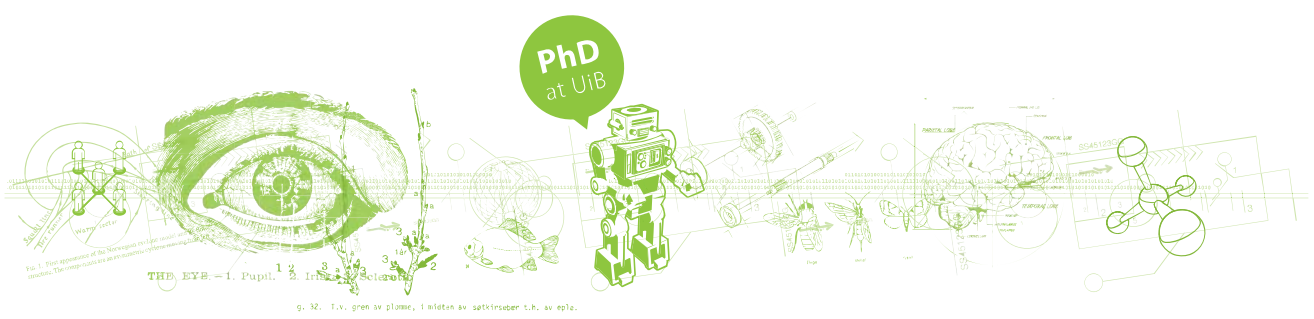
SiN is a free and politically independent organisation. The board of between four and seven volunteers, which is elected at the annual general meeting, manages SiN's day-to-day activities in close contact with its member organisations. SiN is a member of the European Council of Doctoral Candidates [EURODOC](#).

SiN is hosting its annual general assembly on Friday 28 May at Domus Theologica, Blindernveien 9, University of Oslo. Register for the meeting by sending an email to stipendiatene@gmail.com no later than 25 May. On the same date, SiN will host a seminar 'Norsk doktorgradsutdanning fram mot 2020' (it will be held in Norwegian).

Update from EURODOC:

Izabela Stanisławiszyn, President of Eurodoc, attended the conference 'ERA 2030. Preparing Europe for a new Renaissance', which was jointly organised by the ERAB and the Spanish presidency on 6-7 May 2010 in Seville.

'Junior researchers and doctoral candidates represent a great potential for research and are one of the driving forces behind the creation of ERA,' emphasised Stanisławiszyn. She offered Eurodoc's assistance in the elaboration of the European Research Area with regard to doctoral candidates and junior researcher issues and called for the inclusion of Eurodoc in further ERAB work. [Click here](#) to read this and more news from EURODOC.



Post-doctoral research grants in Romania

Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iasi has launched a new project, intended to offer support to 80 post-doctoral researchers in their advanced research activities.

The project entitled *'Developing the Innovation Capacity and Improving the Impact of Research through Post-doctoral Programmes'*, will last for a period of three years.

The programme is expected to improve the competitiveness of post-doctoral research and the visibility of academic research, overcoming the difficulties of attracting and motivating young doctors to develop research careers in different fields.

The specific activities will mainly consist of:

- 60 courses and workshops
- 80 post-doctoral research/documentation stages or transnational/internal mobilities
- One workshop organised with the participation of ISI-rated journal editors
- Two training sessions on gender equality and sustainable development.

Each post-doctoral researcher will receive a grant of EUR1,000 a month.

Candidates can register for the post-doctoral programme starting 17 May. Please find the selection calendar and all the necessary information at this [link](#).

Representative for Group B elected to the University Board

Group B employees are temporary staff, employed in academic positions. They include research fellows. Sigrunn Eliassen, researcher at the Department of Biology, was re-elected for another year. [Click here to read more about Ms Eliassen and her priorities on the University Board](#)

Yggdrasil - young guest and doctoral researchers' annual scholarships for investigation and learning

The Yggdrasil mobility programme promotes the internationalisation of Norwegian research by offering grants to international PhD. students and younger researchers in connection with research stays in Norway.

The [programme](#) seeks to make Norway an attractive research destination for highly qualified international PhD. students and younger researchers in all subject areas, thus strengthening the Norwegian research communities involved.

Several PhD candidates and early-stage researchers affiliated with or undertaking their training at UiB have been awarded funds from this prestigious programme.

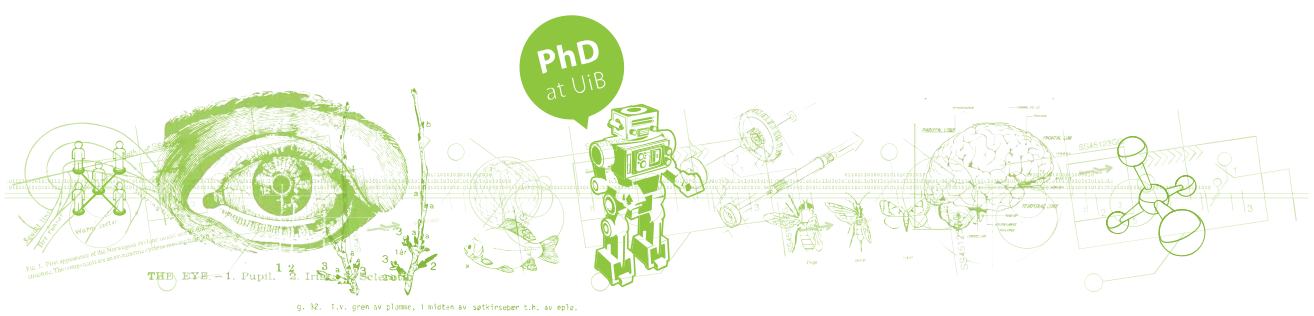
At UiB, however, it is the Faculty of Humanities and the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences that have made most frequent use of the [Yggdrasil](#) programme. We encourage everyone to get to know Yggdrasil and we congratulate the recipients of this year's grants!

Featured statistic:

Languages and doctoral theses

This short statistic presents the various languages that have been used by UiB PhD candidates in their doctoral theses.

| UiB doctoral theses 2000- 2009: languages | | | | |
|---|----------|-----------|-------|-------|
| Language | Articles | Monograph | Other | Total |
| Danish | 1 | 2 | | 3 |
| English | 1231 | 179 | 2 | 1412 |
| Faroese | | 1 | | 1 |
| French | | 9 | | 9 |
| German | 1 | 8 | | 9 |
| Italian | | 1 | | 1 |
| Norwegian | 18 | 164 | 1 | 183 |
| Spanish | | 6 | | 6 |
| Total | 1251 | 370 | 3 | 1624 |



4 – 5 June 2010, Free University Berlin

Third Annual Meeting of the EUA Council for Doctoral Education

The EUA-CDE invites its members and stakeholders to meet in Berlin to discuss the future of the doctorate, in the light of the fifth anniversary of the Salzburg Principles.

The conference aims to bring together CDE members and a wide range of stakeholders in European doctoral education in order to share experiences and discuss. PhD news will follow up with an extensive feature from this event. If anybody is interested in attending please follow [this link](#) to learn more.

Implementation of plans for the training component for PhD candidates

All of the faculties are now creating and using plans for UiB PhD candidates. Starting in autumn 2010, all candidates will be expected to register at 'kandidatweb' and to use this registration to update their plans for the training component and register for courses. This is one of the measures from the action plan for doctoral education. More information about this measure will follow.

Meeting of the University's Research Committee

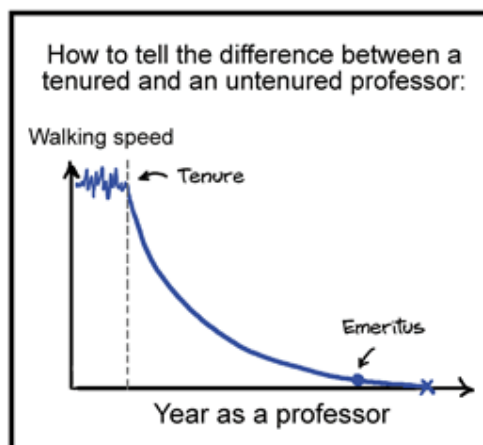
The meeting of the University's Research Committee ('Forskningsutvalget'), which took place on the 18 May, had several important topics on the agenda.

The annual report on the university's doctoral education, 'forskerutdanningsmeldingen', was broadly discussed. Based on the annual reports from the faculties the overall report summarises and provides an overview of the status of UiB's doctoral education and implementation of the action plan for doctoral education.

UiB's goal is to produce 250 doctoral degrees a year, and the action plan has laid the foundation for meeting this goal in the years ahead. Measures taken to improve guidance and counselling, and to shorten the time between the submission and public defence of theses aim to bring the overall time spent on doctoral degrees down to the intended three years.

The committee also agreed to start a process to evaluate the faculties' research schools. All of the faculties point out that the research schools contribute in a positive way for doctoral candidates. There are still some challenges, however, relating to candidates who are employed and funded externally.

Follow [this link](#) to go to the committee's web page, where you can find all of the documents and the full agenda of the meeting (in Norwegian).



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