New courses!

The research school is excited to introduce a few new courses our members can attend with our travel grants. Stay tuned for our December newsletter in a few weeks, where even more courses will follow!

Science, Technology and Society: RRI course Digital Life Norway

Dates and places
Trondheim: 11.04.-13.04.2018
Bergen: 18.06.-20.06.2018
Registration deadline: 28 February 2018

Registration and more information

This course prepares PhD candidates and early career researchers within biotechnology, life science and neighbouring scientific fields to adopt Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) in their research practice. We introduce the body of academic knowledge underpinning the RRI concept, namely Science and Technology Studies (STS) and history, philosophy and sociology of science.

The main course objective is to enhance participants’ knowledge on how scientific work is intertwined with changes in society and to introduce them to ideas of democratization of science and current international discussions on RRI. We will combine theoretical insights with long group discussions and hands-on exercises of applying RRI-methods in the context of participants’ research projects. Discussions on strengths of limitations of the concept of RRI in research practice will be included.

Science Communication course

Dates 24-26 January 2018
Place Bergen (Geophysical Inst.)
Registration deadline: 18 December 2017

Registration and more information

An essential part of being a researcher is to communicate your research ideas and findings – providing society with new knowledge and directions for future solutions. But how to do this successfully? And how do you reach the right target groups?

This course is a collaboration between 7 national research schools, and Digital Life only has 4 places available. These will be distributed by first-come-first-serve basis.
Modelling in Systems Biology – Metabolic Pathway Modelling

Dates 5-9 February 2018
Place Tromsø
Registration deadline: 1 December 2017
If you do not need ECTS, you can register later by sending an e-mail to Ines Heiland
(We do not offer travel grants for this course)

Modelling is an important tool in current biology. It is widely used to help experimental design, in drug target prediction and in the prediction of disease related changes. We will focus on the modelling of metabolic pathways in this course, especially on the reconstruction of kinetic models and simulation techniques. We will discuss limitation of modelling approaches due to limited parameter availability and perform parameter estimation based on available experimental data. In the practical part students will be introduced to different programs available for stoichiometric and kinetic modelling. The integration of gene expression data into the modelling approach will be an essential part of the course. Furthermore, several related databases such as BioCyc, KEGG, BRENDA and Biomodels will be introduced during the course.

More information about the course

Other events

The 2nd annual conference of Digital Life Norway Research School

Dates 30 May-1 June
Place Stiklestad Hotel

The focus of 2018’s conference will be
- Communicating your research: Scientific, transdisciplinary, and popular.
- The future: The impact of your research, and your career.
- Where to look: General trends in digital biotech.

The research school covers all cost for members, PhD students and postdocs.

More information will follow soon!

NBS Contact Meeting

Dates 18-21 January
Place Hafjell, Øyer
(The research school does not offer travel grants to this event)
**DigitalLife 2018**

Dates 20-21 March  
Place Bergen, Hotel Terminus  

Scientific sessions:  
- Enzyme targeting & engineering  
- Synthetic biology and biological engineering  
- Trust and accountability - do science deliver?  
- Blue Bio - An ocean of opportunities  

Registration opens soon.

**Volterra Lecture: Basic research and industrial translation – the ultimate blend**

Date 7 December  
Place Tromsø  

Prof Inger Sandlie, who successfully has combined the role as innovator and researcher, gives the invited Volterra Lecture at UiT (co-hosted by DigiBiotics).  
(The research school does not offer travel grants to this event)

**News from the board**

**PhD students in the board**

The research school is now in the process of including PhD students in the board, and there are plans to have one PhD student per partner university. We are proud to announce that the following members have been included in the board so far:

**University of Oslo:**  
**Eva Lena Fjeld Estensmo**

**University of Bergen:**  
**Shirin Fallahi**

Board members from Norwegian University of Science and Technology, UiT – The Arctic University of Norway, Norwegian University of Life Sciences, and University of Stavanger will be announced soon.

**Course portfolio 2018**

The board has decided which courses will receive financial support for 2018, and which courses will be supported by travel grants to our members. Course organizers will receive their allocation letters these days, and the full portfolio for 2018 will be revealed in the December newsletter and on our website.