UiO

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The University of Oslo (UiO) was established in 1811 as Norway’s first university and continues to be Norway’s highest ranked institution of education and research. UiO’s vision is to challenge the boundaries of knowledge and to provide individuals and society with insight and competences.

UiO offers research-based education and attracts highly qualified students from all over the world. Students at UiO learn from Norway’s leading researchers, with excellent facilities in the beautiful city of Oslo. UiO has a special national responsibility for basic research and researcher training, and for managing research libraries and museums with scientific collections and public exhibitions. We believe that our breadth is our strength. New possibilities arise when knowledge from different disciplines meet.

UiO: Life Science is our biggest truly interdisciplinary undertaking. A new building for life science, pharmacy and chemistry will facilitate first-rate research, teaching and innovation in close cooperation with health trusts, local authorities and businesses. Life sciences have great business potential and will provide workplaces and the necessary adaptation to a greener economy.

UiO has ambitious goals for increasing its contribution to academic developments internationally, and addressing societal challenges of our time.

Preface

One of Europe’s most innovative universities

Only Norwegian university on the Thomson Reuters list of Europe’s 100 most innovative universities

Ranked number 32

Rector
Svein Stølen

University Director
Gunn-Elin As. Bjørneboe
Of these students, around 14,500 are at the bachelor’s level, 6,400 are at the master’s level and 7,000 are in professional programmes and integrated master’s programmes.

2,000 events – debates, seminars and conferences – arranged by UiO are open and free to all.

UiO was ranked as the world’s 62nd best university, Europe’s 22nd best university and Norway’s best university in 2017. Shanghai Ranking of World Universities.

Three-quarters of our staff are in research and teaching positions, the rest are support or administrative personnel.

Fridtjof Nansen
Peace Prize, 1922

Odd Hassel
Chemistry, 1969

Ragnar Frisch
Economics, 1969

Ivar Giæver
Physics, 1973

Trygve Haavelmo
Economics, 1989

Our breadth is our strength. New possibilities and solutions arise when knowledge from different subject areas and disciplines meet.
Oslo is Europe’s fastest growing capital and is recognized as progressive and creative. 2.1 million people live in the Oslo region, among these 104,000 students. Oslo is one of the regions in Europe with highest R&D expenditure pr. capita and the population is among the highest educated in the world. A good work-life balance is an integral part of the culture, and Oslo offers excellent kindergartens and schools, also international ones.

Oslo has a vibrant cultural scene, ethnic diversity, and a unique proximity to nature. Go skiing in winter, and swimming, sailing or hiking in the summer. Cultural activities and events rival those in larger European capitals, with close to 5,000 live concerts a year.

It’s easy to get to Oslo; there are direct flights from most places in the world and the airport express train takes you from the airport to the city center in 18 minutes.
Education & student life

UiO is the most attractive comprehensive research-based university in Norway and has experienced a steady increase in the number of applications in recent years.

8 out of 10 bachelor's programmes

61 bachelor's programmes

105 master's programmes

UiO’s candidates are attractive on the labour market. Eight out of ten are employed three months after completing their education.

5,261 candidates graduated in 2016

2 Centres for Excellence in Education
The University of Oslo currently offers 655 courses particularly aimed at exchange students and 34 Master’s degree programmes taught in English.

Exchange students normally study at UiO for one or two semesters and most exchange programmes have admission twice a year. You apply through your home university. Erasmus+ offers opportunities for student, staff, and PhD exchanges with partner universities throughout Europe. UiO has more than 400 exchange agreements with approximately 200 partner universities in Europe.

In UiO’s applicant surveys, applicants respond that high academic quality of the education, personal interests and many opportunities for in-depth study are the most important reasons for choosing UiO.

Higher education at public institutions in Norway is free, and UiO does not charge tuition fees for studies. A full semester workload amounts to 30 ECTS credits. The academic year is divided into two semesters: autumn semester from August until December and spring semester from January until June.

See [www.uio.no/english/studies](http://www.uio.no/english/studies) for overview over study programmes and admissions information.

**Student life:** There is much more to UiO than studies and research. More than 300 student organizations contribute to a rich social life for students. At the beginning of each semester you are introduced to a Buddy - a student who has taken responsibility for introducing you to UiO and the city.

UiO has a special events programme for international students. You can choose from 60 different sports activities in four training centres and eat at more than 40 on-campus restaurants and cafes.

All international students are given priority for reasonably priced student housing and will receive guidelines on how to book student housing after admission. However, UiO does not control sources of student funding and cannot assist students financially. On this website you can read more about student life in Oslo and at UiO.

[www.uio.no/english/student-life/](http://www.uio.no/english/student-life/)
Research

Key figures

- UiO's share of the overall results from the public university and college sector for selected indicators.
- Total appropriations from the Storting: 16%
- Publication points: 28%
- Funding from Research Council of Norway: 29%
- EU funding: 34%
- Centres of Excellence: 43%
- ERC grants: approx. 50%
- Doctoral degrees: 34%
- The share of appropriations relates to UiO’s share of the Storting’s (Parliament) total appropriations to the public higher education sector.

Norwegian Centres of Excellence

Pr. 1.9.18
As a broad research-based university, the University of Oslo has a special responsibility to generate new ideas. New and radical solutions often originate in free basic research.

UiO coordinates almost half of the Centres of Excellence (SFF) in Norway. These centres are time-limited research centres characterized by focused, long-term research efforts of a high international calibre, and where researcher training is an important aspect. High scientific quality is the main criterion for the selection of the centres by the Research Council of Norway. UiO also accounts for around a third of the completed doctorates in Norway, as well as funding from the Research Council of Norway and publication points. Figures for 2016 show a significant increase in both the number of points and publications. The share of international co-publications is increasing steadily and was close to 60 per cent in 2016.

Researchers at UiO cooperate with colleagues all over the world and connect with the best and most relevant institutions for their research. UiO recognizes the fundamental role of interdisciplinary research in addressing the major challenges facing society today. To encourage top level academic collaboration, three strategic initiatives have been established: UiO: Life Science, UiO: Energy and UiO: Nordic.

UiO prioritises participation in the EU framework programme, and application activity from UiO to Horizon 2020 has been stable at a higher level than in the previous framework programme.
Innovation

UiO has the largest number of business ideas and patent applications among the Norwegian universities

Status Report for Research and Higher Education

UiO has the largest number of co-authorships with the business sector (measured in the number of articles) among Norwegian universities

Research Barometer

1 center for Research-based Innovation (SFI)

In addition, UiO participates in six such centres

18 19
Oslo is growing fast, and fostering knowledge, innovation and creativity in its students is a first priority. Oslo is emerging as an international city and a technology hub. There are tens of thousands of jobs related to the development of technology, innovation and research.

The Research Park, which houses our innovation company Inven2, as well as Oslo Tech, Startuplab and Norway Health Tech, is located next to Blindern Campus. This is Oslo’s new central cluster with Norway’s foremost innovators. Our ambition is to create more commercial business from research and ideas from UiO.

Oslo Cancer Cluster, Norway Health Tech, Nansen Neuroscience Network, and the Life Science Cluster play an important role in the development of new business and are therefore key partners for UiO, especially in the life sciences and the health industry.

UiO is the only Norwegian university on the Thompson Reuters 2018 list of the 100 most innovative universities in Europe. Most of the institutions on the list are technical universities, so UiO’s ranking as number 32 shows that it is possible for an institution firmly anchored in basic research to assert itself in innovation. The university’s innovation company Inven2 has a leading position at the Nordic level.

Prime Minister Erna Solberg visits The School of Health Innovation. The aim of the school is to provide healthcare and life science researchers with tools and insight into how innovation can be put to work for the benefit of patients and society. This is an initiative between the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Oslo, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, and Karolinska Institutet in Sweden, and has been developed in cooperation with Nansen Neuroscience Network.

Results from Inven2 in 2017

Inven2 is UiO’s and Oslo University Hospital’s innovation company

- 205 new ideas
- 6 new companies established
- 35 new licence agreements
- 84 new patent applications
- 160 new clinical trials
- 405 ongoing clinical trials
- 9 NOK 8 billion in total value of portfolio companies
- 83 NOK 70 million for new research
- 698 NOK 698 million in private capital acquired

83 NOK 70 million for new research

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205 new ideas

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160 new clinical trials

405 ongoing clinical trials

83 NOK 70 million for new research

698 NOK 698 million in private capital acquired

9 NOK 8 billion in total value of portfolio companies

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405 ongoing clinical trials

83 NOK 70 million for new research

698 NOK 698 million in private capital acquired

9 NOK 8 billion in total value of portfolio companies
The Guild was established in 2016, and is a transformative network of 19 European research-intensive universities. The Guild engages with policy-makers, enhances public debate, promotes excellence in higher education, and collaborates with private and public institutions to solve global problems.
UIO has established an academic voluntary effort for refugees and asylum seekers. The aim is to help refugees with an academic background into relevant study programmes and employment in Norway. UIO has also expanded the Scholars at Risk scheme to help researcher in countries where academic freedom is threatened.

UIO has established an academic voluntary effort for refugees and asylum seekers. The aim is to help refugees with an academic background into relevant study programmes and employment in Norway through networking, internships, information and language initiatives.

A new Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) for refugees and other migrants to Norway, “Introduction to Norwegian”, has been developed by the Department of Linguistics and Scandinavian Studies. It received the university’s Education Award in 2017.

UIO has also expanded the Scholars at Risk scheme to help more researchers in countries where academic freedom is threatened.

Many of the 21st century’s global challenges associated with areas such as climate, energy, health, poverty and violation of human rights observe neither disciplinary boundaries nor geographic borders. UIO aims to make significant contributions to the knowledge base that is needed in order to address the major global challenges of today.

UIO has a strategic focus on further strengthening its excellent partnerships, networks and cooperative activities with institutions in partner countries and regions as well as on further developing its strong EU portfolio. These countries and regions are:

- Brazil
- China
- Europe
- The Global South
- India
- Japan
- The Nordic countries
- South Africa
- Russia
- USA
- The Arctic

Every summer we welcome over 550 students from up to 90 countries to our International Summer School.

In total, UIO’s researchers have contributed to 11,690 joint publications with 3443 different international partner institutions.
The University of Oslo aims to enhance the quality of research, education and innovation through long-term strategic partnerships with world-leading universities and active participation in international university networks:

- The Guild of European Research-Intensive Universities
- UNICA – Networks of Universities from the Capitals of Europe
- The European University Association (EUA)
- NUAS – The Nordic Association of University Administrators

Norwegian Centres of Excellence (SFF)
- Hylleraas Centre for Quantum Molecular Sciences
- CanCell – Centre for Cancer Cell Reprogramming
- RoCS – Rosseland Centre for Solar Physics
- RITMO – Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Rhythm, Time and Motion
- HTH – Hybrid Technology Hub
- MultiLing – Center for Multilingualism in Society across the Lifespan
- NORMENT
- PLURICOURTS
- Centre for Earth Evolution and Dynamics

Centres for Research-based Innovation (SFI)
- Centre for Scalable Data Access (SIRIUS)

Centres for Excellence in Education Initiative (SFU)
- ProTed – Centre for Professional Learning in Teacher Education (in partnership with UiT)
- Center for Computing in Science Education

University Management
- Rector
  Svein Stølen
- Pro-Rector
  Gro Bjørnerud Mo
- Vice-Rector
  Åse Gornitzka
- Vice-Rector
  Per Morten Sandset
- University Director
  Gunn-Elin Aa. Bjørneboe
- Deputy University Director
  Tove Kristin Karlsen

UiO and the Norwegian Excellence Scheme