



Newsletter, March 2020

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## News

### Working at NTNU in times of COVID-19

You have probably received many updates and guidelines from your department already. However, here are key updates from NTNU:

- [Absence and home office](#) (Including absence due to child care and contract extension for PhDs)
- [PhD defense \(disputas\) during confinement](#) and [defense Q&A](#)
- Teaching: [Teaching online](#); [Using PhD candidates and postdoctoral fellows for teaching](#)
- [Reimbursements for corona-canceled travel and events](#)
- [Lab work](#)
- [Guidelines for working from home](#)

Follow [NTNU Innsida channel on coronavirus](#) for updates.

For internationals who have questions about their immigration status and procedures, NIRS is putting together a list of useful links for you to check:

- [Q&A for non-EU/EEA nationals](#)
- SUA office in Trondheim is closed. Check the [SUA website](#) for updates and information

Check out the corresponding post at our website: <https://org.ntnu.no/dion/2020/03/working-at-ntnu-in-times-of-coronavirus/> The post will be updated regularly as more information becomes available.

DION is also collecting information about how this situation will impact PhDs, post-docs and temporary scientific staff's contracts. We have recently organized *e-lunch consultation* with members (corresponding Facebook event: <https://www.facebook.com/events/294074048242825/>). In case you missed the event and you still have any work-related inquiries your department cannot answer, please contact us at [post@dion.ntnu.no](mailto:post@dion.ntnu.no).

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### Surviving Confinement

Check out our latest post at: <https://org.ntnu.no/dion/2020/03/surviving-confinement/>

You will find a few things to help you survive these days and stay sane: some tips & tricks for socializing, staying in shape and fighting boredom!

## DION e-Grants – Confinement Special



The special call for the unusual situation we are all going through these days.

If you have a cool idea for an ONLINE event, this call is for you!

Organizing the event might or might not be related to particular costs, but if any expenditures are needed to make the event happen (e.g. ingredients for an online cooking class), DION is happy to provide reimbursement of the costs up-to 1000 NOK for all approved applications.

Still not encouraged to apply? Here comes the surprise..... the organizers of an approved event will receive a 500 NOK GIFT CARD from DION. Bring your great ideas together and send the completed application form to: [post@dion.ntnu.no](mailto:post@dion.ntnu.no)

Check out the **Rules** below:

1. The deadline for sending the application is 23:59 CET 02 April, 2020. Applications will be evaluated by DION board members. You can apply via this form filling out all mandatory fields.
2. Funding should be used during the confinement period, i.e. until 13.04.2020 23:59 CET.
3. The event must take place online and should NOT imply physical attendance of the participants.
4. The organizers are expected initially to cover the costs related to the organization of the event (if any, e.g. ingredients for online cooking class) and then seek reimbursement of the costs from DION. No a priori funding is given.

Please note that the receipts and all reimbursement documents should be submitted to DION at the LATEST two weeks after the event, but before the 28.04.2020. Otherwise, reimbursement of the costs is not guaranteed.

5. If the grant is approved and the event takes place, the organizers will receive a gift card worth of 500 NOK. The gift card is a motivating incentive for their contribution and initiative, and is NOT related to reimbursement of the event costs. One gift card per event is given regardless the number of organizers of the particular event.

6. In case of approval of the grant, the organizers should promote DION by making it a co-host of the Facebook event.

7. Please note that the maximum amount DION can reimburse is 1000 (one thousand) NOK. If overall cost of the event exceeds 1000 NOK, it is organizer's sole responsibility to get extra funding from other sources. Any requests for more than 1000 NOK from DION will be automatically declined.

**Application Form:** <https://org.ntnu.no/dion/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/DION-E-Grant-Application-Form-Spring-2020.docx>

**Corresponding Facebook event:** <https://www.facebook.com/events/1056457578057927/>

**Corresponding website post:** <https://org.ntnu.no/dion/2020/03/dion-e-grant-confinement-special/>

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## Call for DION Board Members



Are you interested in a leadership position representing around 3000 of your colleagues? Do you want to influence the working situation of the academic temporary staff and get insights into how the university works?

Then the **DION board** could be just the thing for you!

DION is the only organization at NTNU which represents PhDs, post-docs and temporary academic staff from across the university. We are a contact point for PhDs, Post-Docs and other temporary scientific staff, sit in important committees and hold social events. And now is your chance to become part of this!

How can you become part of the DION board?

A new board will be elected at the online annual general meeting (**AGM**) on the **28<sup>th</sup> of April 2020**. We encourage all PhD candidates, post-docs and temporary scientific employees from across NTNU to consider joining the board! If you are interested in running for the board, email us at [post@dion.ntnu.no](mailto:post@dion.ntnu.no) or introduce yourself at the meeting. A board position on DION can be credited

as up to one month of duty work, or one month extension of the PhD project period; whilst the president receives two months (Forskrift om stipendiater ved NTNU, §2). More details about the board election will be published in the discussion board.

The DION Board consists of 5 to 8 members, including DION president, who serve for 12 months (until spring 2021). We hold monthly board meetings and discuss wide-ranging questions we receive from PhD students, post-docs, institutes, and the NTNU Board. This is an opportunity to influence the work situation of academic temporary staff and get insights into how the university works. We also serve as an important social arena, and hold events targeted at different groups throughout the year. All PhD students, post-docs, and temporary scientific employees are eligible to run for a DION board position! What is needed from the candidates is:

- All candidates must be employed at NTNU as a temporary scientific employee (such as PhD student and Post-doc) and have a contract for at least until spring 2021;
- For the president position, Norwegian proficiency is required.

Send your short application including name, affiliation, short bio and motivation (1 page max) to [post@dion.ntnu.no](mailto:post@dion.ntnu.no) if you'd like to join next year's DION Board. This information will be published on our website. Due to the current situation we strongly encourage you to do this well ahead in time.

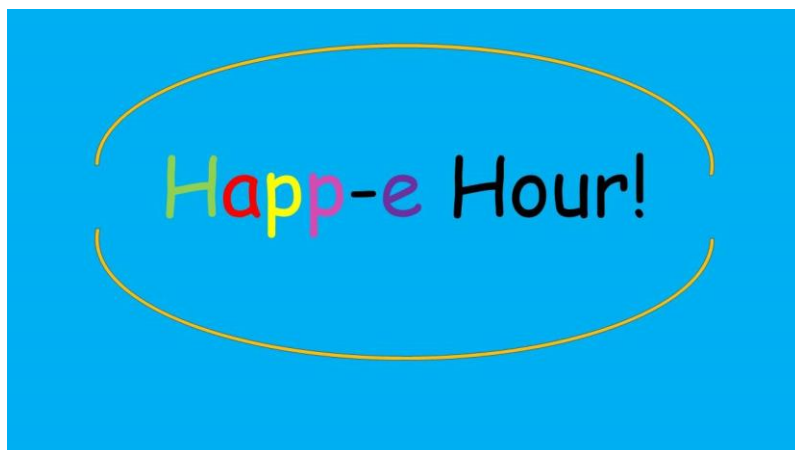
This year the AGM will take place online. Candidates will have the opportunity to present themselves. To make sure that everything goes as smoothly as possible and that no one struggles with technical issues, we strongly encourage you to send us a short video (1-2 min max) by Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2020. In this video you can state why you would like to become a board member, what your plans for the future of DION would be, a fun fact about yourself, etc. We will show all of the videos of the candidates at the AGM.

## Upcoming Events

### DION Happ-e Hour

**When:** Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> of March, 18:00 – 19:00 (**happening tomorrow**)

**Where:** Online event



Coronavirus? More like corona-BYE-rus, amirite? No but terrible jokes aside, here is a little respite from all the wonderful confinement we have been dealing with these weeks. DION Happy hour is now online!

So how does this work? We will send a hangout link on the Facebook event page (<https://www.facebook.com/events/2477849635877941/>) for a video hangout and some much needed socializing.

That will be followed by some fun games. There will be rounds of quizzes and pictionary, with gift vouchers for the winners!

Participants will need two screens, so a laptop and a mobile (or two mobiles or two laptops etc.) for the quizzes. The pictionary will be held on Skribbl.io, an online multiplayer website (no annoying sign ups required). We will give you more details during the hangout.

Will limit the number of people in the hangout by creating two groups, so that the video conference doesn't get too crowded (in case there are a lot of people).

So join us this weekend! We cannot really provide snacks, so you can join with your own snacks and drinks XD

P.S. This is the first edition of Happy Hour where people from **all three campuses** – Trondheim, Gjøvik and Ålesund can have fun together. Pretty cool, yay? 😊

**Corresponding Facebook Event:** <https://www.facebook.com/events/2477849635877941/>

## DION Virtual Break Room

**When:** Up at all times (with a DION board member present 15:00 every day)

**Where:** Virtual Break Room (<https://meet.jit.si/DIONbreakroom>)



Need some social interaction and a (coffee) break?

Follow us into this virtual break room: <https://meet.jit.si/DIONbreakroom>

Here you can relax and talk to people, have a cup of coffee together. Let's try to keep sane in the current situation! 😊

The virtual break room is up at all times, you can drop in at any time. We will try to have a board member present every day at 15:00.

See you in the break!

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## AGM – The Annual General Meeting and Board Election

**When:** Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> of April

**Where:** Seemingly, the AGM will be organized as an **online** event this year. Although arrangements might change, depending how the situation develops.

**Mark your calendars!** All PhD students, post-docs and temporary scientific employees at NTNU are invited to attend DION's Annual General Meeting! Although physical meeting is NOT possible this time, the AGM is still a central place for the temporary academic staff to share experiences and grow stronger as a group!

A detailed program of the event will be posted shortly.

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<sup>1</sup> [Icon made by Freepik](#) from [www.flaticon.com](http://www.flaticon.com)

Are you interested in a leadership position representing around 3000 of your colleagues? The AGM will include an election for a new board for 2020-2021. We encourage all interested PhD candidates, post-docs and temporary scientific employees from across NTNU to consider joining!

**P.S.** As of now, we consider organizing the entire event online on April 28<sup>th</sup>. However, all the arrangements are subject to the development of the current situation. Follow our social media channels to stay updated!

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## ***DION Board Meetings***

### Next DION Board Meeting

**When:** Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> of April, 10:00 – 13:00

**Where:** Online meeting

DION's board meetings are open to all PhD Candidates and Post-docs. More information on agenda will be made available on *Innsida* and our website the week before the meeting.

Do you have something to add to the agenda or want to join the online meeting? **Send the DION board an e-mail: [post@dion.ntnu.no](mailto:post@dion.ntnu.no)**



Email: [post@dion.ntnu.no](mailto:post@dion.ntnu.no)

Web: <http://org.ntnu.no/dion>

Innsida: DION

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