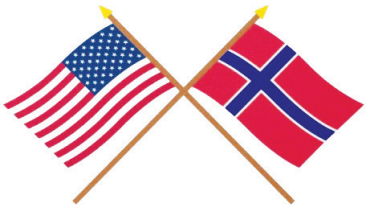
Peder Sather Center for Advanced Study

A Research and Educational Collaboration
between Norway and the
University of California, Berkeley



sathercenter.berkeley.edu

Peder Sather Center for Advanced Study

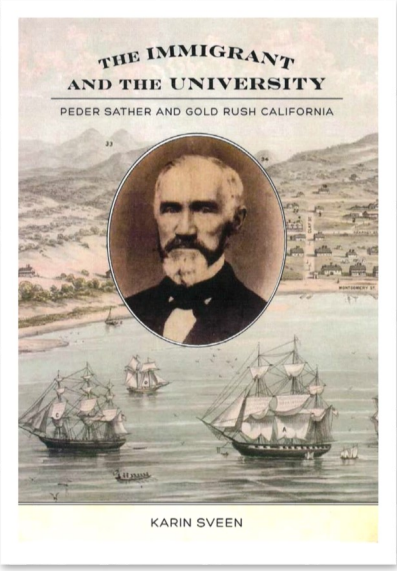
Background and Purpose

The primary mission of the Peder Sather Center for Advanced Study is to strengthen ongoing research collaborations and foster the development of new collaborations between the University of California, Berkeley and the consortium of nine participating Norwegian academic institutions. The Peder Sather Center for Advanced Study's funding enables UC Berkeley faculty to conduct exploratory and cutting edge research in tandem with leading researchers from the following nine Norwegian higher education institutions and the Research Council of Norway:

- BI Norwegian Business School (BI)
- Norwegian School of Economics (NHH)
- Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)
- University of Agder (UiA)
- University of Bergen (UiB)
- Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU)
- University of Oslo (UiO)
- University of Stavanger (UiS)
- UiT The Arctic University of Norway

The Peder Sather Center selects projects for support and serves as the administrative hub for these partnerships. The center uses its financial resources to support activities such as workshops, mini-conferences, virtual intellectual exchanges, Ph.D. student exchanges, postdoctoral fellow exchanges, exploratory and pilot studies, and research activities such as data collection and analysis.

The choice of the name – the Peder Sather Center for Advanced Study (also referred to as the Peder Sather Center) – drew inspiration from the life of Peder Sather (1810-1886), one of the earliest trustees of the University of California. Interest in this successful and public-spirited Norwegian immigrant was given new impetus in 2011 by the publication in Norway of the first authoritative Sather biography, *Mannen i Montgomery Street* by the noted Norwegian woman of letters, Karin Sveen (published in English as *The Immigrant and the University: Peder Sather and Goldrush California*, University of California Press, 2014).



Peder Sather (1810-1886)

Peder Sather, a farmer's son from Norway, emigrated to New York City in 1832. There he started up as a servant and lottery ticket seller before opening an exchange brokerage, later to become a full-fledged banking house. When gold was discovered in California, banker Francis Drexel offered Peder Sather and his companion, Edward Church, a large loan to establish a bank in San Francisco. From 1863 Peder Sather went on as the sole owner of the bank and in the late 1860's he had become one of California's richest men.

Peder Sather was a public-spirited man, a philanthropist and an eager supporter of public education on all levels and for both sexes. In 1860 he was elected member of the Board of Trustees of The College of California in Oakland. This board worked to establish the first university in California, today's University of California, Berkeley. Thus, he became one of the founding fathers of this institution.

Being deeply engaged in equal rights of blacks in the U.S., Peder Sather also supported an end to slavery, and helped secure housing, work and education for freed slaves after the Civil War.

Today Peder Sather's name is memorialized by the Sather Gate and the Sather Tower at the UC Berkeley campus.

Biographic summary by Karin Sveen, author of *The Immigrant and the University: Peder Sather and Goldrush-California,* 2014 UC Press. (originally published as *Mannen i Montgomery Street*, 2011 Oktober: Oslo), pictured above.

About the Peder Sather Center

The need for a center at UC Berkeley to foster and manage academic exchanges with Norway became increasingly apparent over the years. The number of Norwegian professors and students visiting, conducting research, and studying at UC Berkeley had been on the rise for several years. This included many who had been invited to campus by UC Berkeley Professor of Sociology, Trond Petersen, himself a native of Norway, who currently serves as the inaugural Academic Director of the Peder Sather Center.

Former Chancellor Bob Birgeneau with Crown Princess Mette-Marit, Crown Prince Haakon and Professor Liv Duesund in Berkeley, May 2013. Crown Prince Haakon earned a bachelors degree from UC Berkeley in political science. Photo: Bruce Cook

The idea for the center had early support from UC Berkeley's leaders, providing that sufficient funding could be secured to guarantee its success. Professor Petersen and his colleague, Professor Liv Duesund, of the Department of Special Needs Education of the University of Oslo, jointly took leadership for the project. They approached various government ministries and other potential sponsors in Norway over a period of years. Animated in particular by Professor Duesund's entrepreneurial spirit, the idea captured the imagination of academic and governmental leaders in Norway, and in May 2012, the Norwegian National Research Council and eight Norwegian institutions of higher education signed a formal agreement with UC Berkeley to create the Peder Sather Center for Advanced Study. The center became active in the 2012-2013 academic year. In 2016, the Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU) joined the consortium.

Leadership and Governance

Beginning a new phase of formal cooperation between UC Berkeley and the Norwegian academic community, the center was formally established in May 2012, with the signing of a partnership agreement. This agreement serves as the guiding document for both parties, outlining the center's operating principles, its leadership structures, and how its activities will be governed.

With respect to UC Berkeley, the Chancellor delegated authority for the program to the Deans of four of the academic divisions in the College of Letters & Science (Arts & Humanities, Biological Sciences, Mathematical & Physical Sciences, and Social Sciences), with the Executive Dean, Dean of Social Sciences, and Peder Sather Professor of History Carla Hesse, serving as their spokesperson and as lead for the project.

Staff

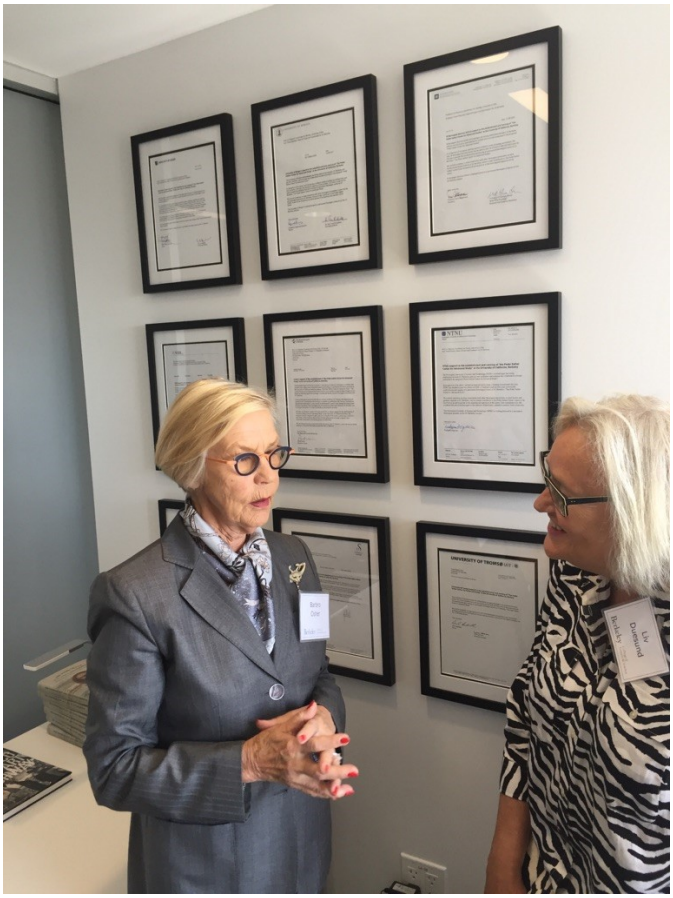
Professor Trond Petersen, a member of the UC Berkeley faculty, is the Academic Director of the Peder Sather Center. Professor Liv Duesund, of the University of Oslo, is Special Advisor to the center. The Executive Director of the Peder Sather Center is Jason Rozumalski.

Executive Dean and Dean of Social Sciences of the Berkeley College of Letters & Science, Professor Carla Hesse, thanks the Crown Prince and Princess for their visit to Berkeley in May 2013. Photo: Bruce Cook.

Activities and Benefiting Parties

The Peder Sather Center fosters scholarly activities that promote international cooperation, understanding, and the advancement of knowledge.

The Peder Sather Center also receives grant proposals for research activity outside the aforementioned themes. Examples are:



- group research awards
- special short-term visiting lectureships
- one-time workshops
- conferences and seminars
- visiting post-doctors, visiting scholars (e.g., faculty)
- visiting graduate students

Activities are developed to facilitate and promote true transatlantic collaborations in research and education. Awards are determined annually by the Executive Committee.

Above: Barbro Osher, Consul General of Sweden, and Liv Duesund visit the Peder Sather Center office in September 2017 for a talk by Knut Olav Aamaas, Director of Freedom of Expression (Oslo) and member of the board for the Holberg Prize. Photo by Knut Olav Aamaas.

Right: The 2014 Nobel Laureate, Professor Edvard Moser of the Kavli Center of Systems Neuroscience in Trondheim, Norway, visited with distinguished colleagues in Berkeley following his keynote address at a day-long conference held in honor of comparative psychologist Edward Tolman. He is pictured here with 2013 Nobel Laureate Randy Schekman, Berkeley professor of molecular and cell biology. The Peder Sather Center co-sponsored the dinner celebrating Professor Moser's visit.

Areas for Research Collaboration

The proposals funded by the Peder Sather Center cover the broadest academic disciplines and have included:

- Studies of Educational Systems, Principles and Practices
- Ezra Pound: Propaganda, Poetry, and Fascist Faith
- Assessing Intermediary Expertise in Arctic Energy Development

Academic Director Trond Petersen.
Photo: Jim Block

Executive Director Jason Rozumalski.

- Audio-Visual Temporal Misalignment as a Factor In Historical Sound Change
- Efficiency and Equity in Economics Based Tools for Climate Change Policy
- Empirical Analysis of Firm Incentives and Moral Hazard in Vertical Relations
- Role Of Nature Versus Humans in Shaping Fish Populations
- Trapped in Treatment: The Effects of Sick Leave on Long Term Labor Market

Two Cutting-Edge Fields for Enhanced Programming at Berkeley

Berkeley will continue to pursue collaborative research with Norwegian universities on the topics named above. However, in the coming years, there is an extraordinary opportunity to concentrate very substantial resources on achieving progress in two areas of great interest to Berkeley — and of the greatest consequence to the world. These are neuroscience and the development of efficient and environmentally sound sources of energy.

In Neuroscience, the Brain Initiative, announced in 2013 by U.S. President Barack Obama, offers the possibility to concentrate the energies of Berkeley's world-renowned scientists in a field that holds enormous promise. The National Institutes of Health has recently announced that three of these awards would go to Berkeley campus projects. This is another sign of the great progress of Berkeley researchers in areas such as computational neuroscience, neural engineering and neural prostheses, addressing traumatic brain injury, and working on neuro-psychiatric disorders.

In the development of efficient and environmentally sound energy, Berkeley is a leader in both biologically based alternative fuels as well as in the development of photovoltaics, efficient and stable battery technologies, and a host of other promising areas. Opportunities for significantly increasing our contributions in this area are enormous.

Berkeley Advisory Board

(*denotes members of the Executive Committee)

Michael Botchan*
Dean, Biological Sciences
Professor of Biochemistry, Biophysics, and Structural Biology

Anthony Cascardi*
Dean, Arts & Humanities
Professor, Comparative Literature and Spanish

Carla Hesse*
Executive Dean, College of Letters & Science
Dean, Social Sciences
Peder Sather Professor of History

Glynda Hull
Professor, Graduate School of Education

Rich Lyons*
Bank of America Dean, Haas School of Business

Trond Petersen
Academic Director of the Peder Sather Center, *Ex Officio*
Professor, Sociology

Mark Sandberg
Professor, Scandinavian Studies
Professor, Film and Media

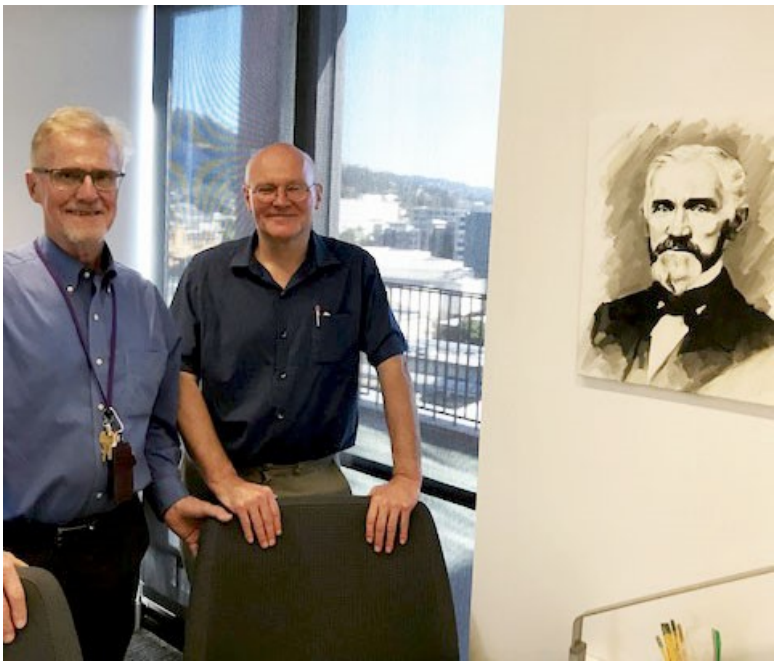
Anno Saxenian*
Dean and Professor, School of Information
Professor, City and Regional Planning

Elliot Turiel
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Professor, Graduate School of Education

Paul K. Wright
Professor, Mechanical Engineering

Special Advisor

Professor Liv Duesund
Faculty of Education, University of Oslo



Above: Gudmund Hernes, former Minister of Education in Norway, meets with Academic Director Trond Petersen at the Peder Sather Center in September 2017. Photo by Liv Duesund.

Below: The Peder Sather Center offices at UC Berkeley opened in December 2014. They are located on the top (8th) floor of Barrows Hall within the Social Science Matrix (SSM).

The newly renovated space is graced with sweeping views of the UC Berkeley campus, the Berkeley hills to the east, and San Francisco Bay to the west. It is a stunning and inspiring site for the location of the Peder Sather Center.

Norwegian Advisory Board

Representing the institutions of the Norwegian Consortium

Rectors:

Gunnar Bovim
Norwegian University of Science and Technology

Marit Boyesen
University of Stavanger

Frøystein Gjesdal
NHH Norwegian School of Economics

Inge Jan Henjesand
BI Norwegian Business School

Anne Husebekk
UiT The Arctic University of Norway

Dag Rune Olsen
University of Bergen

Svein Stoelen
University of Oslo

Frank Reichert
University of Agder

Mari Sundli Tveit
NMBU Norwegian University of Life Sciences

Advisory Board:

(*denotes Executive Committee members)

Gunnar E. Christensen*
Vice Rector for Faculty Affairs
NHH Norwegian School of Economics

Anne Halvorsen*
Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences
University of Agder

Halvor Hektoen
Prorector/Vice President
Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU)

Dag Husebø
Prorector/Vice President
University of Stavanger

Bjøn Tore Kjellemo
Norwegian Research Council

Nina Langeland*
Dean, Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry
University of Bergen

Sten Runar Ludvigsen*
Dean, Faculty of Educational Sciences
University of Oslo

Sonni Olsen
Dean, Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences and Education
UiT The Arctic University of Norway

Ulf Henning Olsson
Provost
BI Norwegian Business School

Marit Reitan*
Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences and Technology
Norwegian University of Science and Technology

Nobel Laureates

University of California, Berkeley

2014 Eric Betzig *(Chemistry)*
2013 Randy Schekman *(Physiology or Medicine)*
2011 Saul Perlmutter *(Physics)*
2009 Oliver E. Williamson *(Economics)*
2006 George Smoot *(Physics)*
2001 George A. Akerlof *(Economics)*
2000 Daniel L. McFadden *(Economics)*
1997 Steven Chu *(Physics)*
1997 Stanley B. Prusiner *(Physiology or Medicine)*
1994 John C. Harsanyi *(Economics)*
1986 Yuan T. Lee *(Chemistry)*
1983 Gerard Debreu *(Economics)*
1980 Czeslaw Milosz *(Literature)*
1968 Luis Alvarez *(Physics)*
1964 Charles H. Townes *(Physics)*
1961 Melvin Calvin *(Chemistry)*
1960 Donald A. Glaser *(Physics)*
1960 Willard Libby *(Chemistry)*
1959 Owen Chamberlain *(Physics)*
1959 Emilio G. Segre *(Physics)*
1951 Edwin M. McMillan *(Chemistry)*
1951 Glenn T. Seaborg *(Chemistry)*
1949 William F. Giauque *(Chemistry)*
1946 John H. Northrop *(Chemistry)*
1946 Wendell M. Stanley *(Chemistry)*
1939 Ernest O. Lawrence *(Physics)*

Sather Tower (Campanile)

Contact Information

Peder Sather Center for Advanced Study

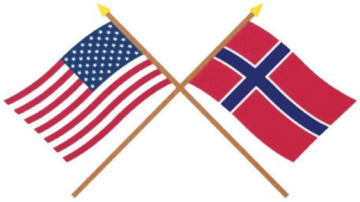
sathercenter.berkeley.edu

Lead Letters & Science Dean
Carla Hesse
Executive Dean, College of Letters & Science
Dean of Social Sciences, UC Berkeley
chesse@berkeley.edu

Academic Director
Trond Petersen
Professor of Sociology, UC Berkeley
trond@berkeley.edu

Executive Director
Jason Rozumalski
Lecturer in History, UC Berkeley
director.sathercenter@berkeley.edu

Special Advisor
Liv Duesund
Professor Liv Duesund, University of Oslo, is special advisor for UC Berkeley
Faculty of Education University of Oslo
Liv.duesund@isp.uio.no
Liv.duesund@berkeley.edu



sathercenter.berkeley.edu