

# In memory of Ingrid Susann Gribbestad

01.12.1961 - 20.04.2013

It was with sadness we received the message. Ingrid passed away, only 51 years old, after fighting a serious cancer diagnosis for more than a year. She died peacefully, with all her closest around her.

Ingrid has been a pioneer in the use of MR technology for cancer diagnostics. For more than 25 years, she has actively contributed to bring the clinical, basal and technology research environments together for a common goal.

Her research career started in 1987 in SINTEF, the largest independent research organization in Scandinavia, where she first as research scientist and later on as research manager, was among the first to establish dynamic contrast enhanced MR imaging for breast cancer diagnostics. She was also among the first to show how MR spectroscopy could be used to differentiate breast cancer. She received the Bill Negendank Award for this work in 1998.

Ingrid has since 2005 been a full professor at the Department of Circulation and Medical Imaging at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU). She established the MR cancer group, which counts more than 25 scientists and students at the moment. The activity of the research group now covers work within several aspects of biomedicine, but she always kept a focus on the use of MR technology for cancer diagnostics and treatment – and she wanted the work to be performed in close collaboration with the clinicians at the hospital. Ingrid has been central in the establishment of the metabolomics lab at the Faculty of Medicine, NTNU – and she has also been eager to introduce the use of relevant animal models for translational research. A clear aim has been to develop new methodology for personalized cancer care. Through her scientific skills and results, and also her enthusiasm, Ingrid has established international networks and tight collaborations throughout the world.

We had the pleasure of visiting her several times throughout her last year, first at her farm 4 hours' drive outside Trondheim, and later at the nursing home close to her farm. She was always eager to hear news from the group and our collaborators, and she would take part in discussions and plans. She really appreciated the greetings that were collected during the study group meeting in Valencia earlier this year.

Ingrid had so much undone; she was full of creativity and energy. We hope to carry out some of her dreams and visions through the ongoing work and future projects in our research group.

We miss Ingrid sincerely, not only as colleague and head of the group, but also as a friend and a person full of warmth and care for those around her. A respectful funeral was held Friday 26<sup>th</sup> of April, 2013.

On behalf of all colleagues and students in the MR Cancer group at NTNU, Trondheim, Norway

Tone F. Bathen