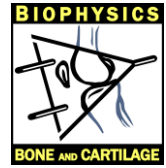


## "6th Nordic Meeting on Quantitative Imaging of Cartilage"



### 1. Background

Osteoarthritis (OA) is one of the most common joint disorders due to ageing that causes long term pain, disability and premature retirement. Doctors are poorly equipped to treat the disorder as current diagnostics are quite insensitive. Improving the diagnostics of osteoarthritis is essential for managing and possibly mitigating the problem. Magnetic resonance imaging, ultrasound techniques, computed tomography based methods and imaging based functional modeling approaches are the most promising techniques for quantitatively evaluating the disease.

### 2. Objectives

The "6<sup>th</sup> Nordic Meeting on Quantitative Imaging of Cartilage" will be held in the University of Eastern Finland Kuopio campus from 20.-21.2.2014. We intend to consider the various aspects of cartilage imaging starting from basic research and experimental techniques all the way to clinical applications. The meeting will provide an open platform for research groups to interact; evaluating the progress of and planning research collaborations. Additionally it will serve as an excellent forum for young researchers to present their latest research findings. From outside the Nordic countries we have invited both Professor Mark W. Grinstaff from the University of Boston as the keynote speaker and Professor Edwin H. G. Oei (Erasmus MC - University Medical Center). Professor Grinstaff is a pioneer in research regarding contrast agents for cartilage imaging. We will also invite representatives from the medical industry to give presentations about their operations. The meeting is open to all researchers and clinicians that are interested in cartilage imaging. In particular young post-graduate students are warmly welcome. The previous meetings were found to be extremely fruitful, unique opportunities to present and have thorough discussions about results in a manner that is not practically possible in larger scientific conferences. The researcher gatherings have strengthened European collaboration in the field of imaging, created joint projects and have inspired researcher exchange. Twenty high-level joint-publications have been made between the research groups since commencing the meetings.

**6th Nordic Meeting on Quantitative Imaging of Cartilage in Kuopio, Finland -  
Programme**

**THURSDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY (8.30-16.30)**

- 8:30 – 8:55** Registration and coffee  
**9:00 – 9:15** Welcome speech – Prof. Jukka Jurvelin  
**9:15 – 10:00** First Keynote lecture – M. Grinstaff, **Chairperson:** Jukka Jurvelin
- 10:00 – 10:15** Short break
- 10:15 –11:55** **SESSION 1: Cartilage imaging with contrast agents**  
**Chairperson:** Eveliina Lammentausta, **Main speaker:** Leif Dahlberg,  
and Short presentations from PhD students
- 12:00 – 13:00** LUNCH
- 13:00 – 14:15** **SESSION 2: State-of-the art MSK-MRI**  
**Chairperson:** Edwin H. G. Oei, **Main speaker:** Miika Nieminen  
and Short presentations from PhD students
- 14:15 – 15:00** **SESSION 3: Company presentations and poster session**  
**Chairperson:** Jukka Jurvelin
- 15:00 – 15:30** Coffee break  
**15:30 – 16:30** **SESSION 4: Ultrasound and optical imaging**  
**Chairperson:** Juha Töyräs, **Main speaker:** Tuomas Viren  
and Short presentations from PhD students
- 18:00 –** **DINNER AND EVENING PROGRAM**

**FRIDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY (9:00-15.00)**

- 9:00 – 9:45** Second Keynote lecture – M. Grinstaff, **Chairperson:** Carl Johan Tiderius
- 9:45 – 10:15** Coffee break
- 10:15 – 11:00** Discussion session, **Chairperson:** Miika Nieminen  
**Topics:** Optimal MRI-routines, automated segmentation
- 11:00 – 12:00** **SESSION 5: Functional imaging of cartilage**  
**Chairperson:** Leif Dahlberg, **Main speaker:** Mika Mononen  
and Short presentations from PhD students
- 12:00 – 13:00** LUNCH
- 13:00 – 14:00** **SESSION 6: Bone**  
**Chairperson:** Simo Saarakkala, **Main speaker:** Hanna Isaksson  
and Short presentations from PhD students
- 14:00 – 15:00** Discussion of future, concluding remarks – Jukka Jurvelin