Dr. Wolfgang Leister is acting research director of the Department of Applied Research in ICT at Norsk Regnesentral (the Norwegian Computing Center, located in Oslo, Norway. He received his Dr. rer.nat. degree in 1991 from the University of Karlsruhe, Germany (now: Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, KIT), for his research in computer graphics and computer animation. After several years as software developer of a metrology system at Metronor AS, he joined Norsk Regnesentral in 1997 as senior researcher and later as chief researcher and assistant research director.

Wolfgang's research interests cover smart information systems, social robotics, user experience research, computer and sensor networks, health care applications, and computer graphics and animation. He participated in one of the first projects to create a ray-traced computer animation of considerable length (of about five minutes) in 1987, and developed the concept of computer-generated copper plates. Selected projects have investigated topics like adaptive Internet multimedia streaming, strategies for seamless deployment of mobile patient monitoring systems, usable trust in the Internet of Things, measuring user engagement in exhibitions and science centres, self-management for SpA patients, simulation-based training for collaboration within and between health services, development of devices for visually impaired, user biomedical sensor networks, QoS/QoE in broadcasting/multimedia, and 3D presentations of cultural heritage artefacts. Wolfgang publishes his research regularly at conferences and in journals. He serves on several steering committees, such as the conference PESARO 2022 and the Norwegian Computer Graphics Association (NORSIGD), and is reviewer for a variety of conferences and journals.

Wolfgang has been lecturing at the University of Oslo (Open Source, Open Collaboration and Innovation), and has co-authored a compendium to this subject. He has also held lectures on computer graphics and multimedia coding and applications. Outside of research, Wolfgang's other interests include contributing to the OpenStreetMap project and mountain trekking. In the later, Wolfgang acts as a tour guide for the Norwegian Trekking Association and gives courses on using GPS devices for hiking.