

Invitation

International Students Union of Norway

National Assembly Spring 2007, April 20-22nd 2007

Where: University of Stavanger

This is your formal invitation to the International Student's Union of Norway's National Assembly, Spring 2007 to be held at the University of Stavanger. The National Assembly is the governing body of ISU Norway. Two delegates from each of our ten member branches will be present. Also invited are representatives from potential ISU member branches and NSU and StL!

The main goals for the ISU Spring 2007 NA will be for us to share our knowledge and experiences gained over the past year to prepare documents that express ISU's position on various issues affecting international students in Norway. It will be a lot of focused work, and a lot of fun!

Ivar Langen, the rector of University of Stavanger, will open our meeting on **Friday at 1500**. The meeting ends on Sunday at 1630. Branch will be given a total of ten minutes to present their reports. Check the Time Plan below to see when you are scheduled to make your report. You are also welcome to write case papers or resolutions that you would like the NA to discuss and vote upon. Send them to system@isu-norway.no by thursday 19.April so that they can be printed in time for the meeting. Minutes of the last NA, previous case papers, and our constitution will be found at www.isu-norway.no .

You will stay at SAS Radisson Atlantic, in downtown Stavanger. Susanna 99228492 (ISU Norway) and Victor 98411017 (ISU Stavanger) will help delegates find their way to the University. **They will leave the hotel at 1430** to take you to the university. ISU Stavanger has also taken responsibility for our meals and evening entertainment.

ISU National arranges transport, accommodation and meals for its delegates. To cover these costs, the NA of Fall 2005 decided to introduce a participants fee of NOK 1000 per delegate, NOK 2000 per branch. The amount should be transferred to the ISU Norway account **8200.02.19092**. Remember to save your receipts for the cheapest transportation you take to and from the airport.

Those who have decided to stay in Stavanger for the hike to Preikestolen on Monday must remember to bring boots and other equipment fit for hiking. Questions: our newly hired National Secretary Erik Evans, 92037457, nationalsecretary@isu-norway.no

Below are some notes for your reports and a draft for the main document that we will be working on at the NA.

Welcome to Stavanger!

Eton Williams

Hanna Holmelin / Erik Evans

National President

National Secretary

Branch Reports

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Branch /prospective branch reports will happen over the three days of the National Assembly. **Each summary of the ISU Branch report will be allowed 10 minutes.** Check the Time Plan for when your presentation is scheduled. Feel free to include the international officer in your student parliament as part of your presentation.

We will have prospective branches and representatives from StL and NSU present. Your presentations can do a lot to help them learn about ISU. Bring other material as well: newspapers clippings, newsletters, branch activity posters, T- shirts, etc

It would be best if your reports were presented in PowerPoint. You can also provide a written report in Word. Send them to system@isu-norway.no by thursday 19.April so that they can be prepared in time for the meeting. For inspiration, look at the reports presented last year at http://isu-norway.no/NAI2006/NAI_2006.php .

Information that is valuable for other branches and our observers in your reports:

1. How many international students are at your school? For how long do they stay/ what programs? Special needs? Brief description of your branch: history, structure.
2. Names, nationality, contact info for board members
3. Brief description of branch's program since September 2006.
4. How did you represent the international students at your institution?
5. Cooperation - with other ISU branches, your Student Parliament, other organizations
6. Financial Report/Budget
7. Website
8. Pictures in PowerPoint with: your institution, your board members and your activities.

Hand Over Plan for your future ISU Branch in September 2007:

Since many of us in ISU will be leaving over the summer, the ISU NA will be casting a vote to commend the branch with the best Hand Over Plan.

This will occur separately from the branch reports, on Sunday at 14.00.

A Hand Over Plan can be written down and/or placed on a special area of your website. Here are some suggestions, based on what your branches have done earlier.

- a. Contact person for ISU Norway in the branch for September 2007.
- b. How will you recruit the best people to your branch?
- c. How will the next election take place? Will your Intl Officer help?
- d. Guide to each position written by each board member.
- e. List of contacts within university administration and student parliament. Explanation of their relationship to your branch.
- f. The constitution of your branch.
- g. Links to previous newspaper articles that talk about your branch.
- h. Documents developed by your branch.
- i. Explanation of how you made various social events happen.
- j. Explanation of ISU Norway & the National Assembly to new board members.

Tentative Time Plan
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Friday

14.30 Travel from hotel to University of Stavanger
15.00 National President's Welcome, Greetings from Rector of University of Stavanger
15.40 President's report, Reports from the Vice President and Alternate Vice President
16.15 Four branch reports: HiB, NHH, UmB, Prospective branches: BI
17.15 Fruit /Coffee Break
17.30 NSU report --10 min
17.45 ISU Norway Platform – Introduction and Debate
19.00 Meeting stops
20.00 Dinner

Saturday

09.00 Travel to UiS (after breakfast at hotel)
10.00 Meeting starts: approve Chairman; read Agenda, Time Plan, Minutes of last NA
10.30 Branch reports: HiN, UiO, NTNU, UiB
11.30 Fruit/ Coffee Break
11.45 Consideration of BI as member branch of ISU Norway
12.00 Political cases/Resolutions by the branches
13.00 Lunch
13.45 Greeting from the President of StOr
14.00 ISU Norway Platform: Discussion and Debate
15.30 Fruit/ Coffee Break
15.45 Branch reports: UiT, HiO, UiS
16.15 Fruit/Coffee Break
16.30 ISU Workshop
17.00 Short Break
17.15 ISU Norway Plan for 2007-2008: Presentation
17.30 Meeting stops
20.00 Dinner
21.00 ISU Stavanger Party

Sunday

09.30 Travel to UiS (after breakfast at hotel and check out)
10.00 Meeting starts – StL report --10 min
10.15 ISU Norway Platform: Voting
10.30 ISU Norway Plan for 2007-2008: Voting
10.45 Short Break
11.00 Secretary's report
11.45 ISU Norway Financial report
12.15 Political cases/Resolutions by the branches: Voting
13.00 Lunch
13.45 Greeting from UiS Intl Relations Office
14.00 Branch Hand Over Plan: Presentation
15.00 Branch Hand Over Plan: Voting
15.15 ISU NA: Evaluation
16.30 Meeting ends

Abbreviations

UiB	University of Bergen
UiO	University of Oslo
UiT	University of Tromsø
UiS	University of Stavanger
HiO	Oslo University College
HiN	Narvik University College
UiBo	University College of Bodø
HiT	University College of Telemark
MiB	MSc in International Business Council
UMB	Norwegian University of Life Sciences
NHH	School of Economics and Business Administration (Bergen)
NTNU	Norwegian University of Science and Technology
BI	Norwegian School of Management
StL	Norwegian Association of Students (University Colleges)
NSU	Norwegian Student Union (Universities)
ISU	International Students' Union of Norway
NA	National Assembly
NP	National President
NSec	National Secretary
VP	Vice President
AltVP	Alternate Vice President

ISU Norway Platform (Draft)

The ISU Platform is the document that will express the views and position of the National Assembly of ISU Norway on issues that affect international students. It will reflect principles important to our organization and will be used by future ISU national and local representatives, when representing ISU.

My suggestions are below. Use your own experience in representing your international students to add to this document. Discuss the ideas with your board and the international officers from your student parliament. ☺ Give me some feedback, reply to each other or discuss it on the ISU Forum. <http://www.isu-norway.no/forum/YaBB.pl>

This will be introduced on Friday, discussed and edited on Saturday and voted in on Sunday.

Against Tuition fees for international students

When introduced in Denmark recently, that country saw an amazing drop in its intl. students. Arguments: if Norway is to maintain its competitive edge in international education, etc. develop the idea. Information At the NSU NA the minister of education told me he was not going to introduce them, but that Norway is under pressure to introduce fees for international students from other countries. StL and NSU are fundamentally against tuition fees.

Better Equality (Likestilling) in our learning environment (Læringsmiljø)

International students need to have the same access to information surrounding their education in Norway as Norwegian students have. This includes the right to have information on the health care, sio, cafeteria, school signs, doctor's office, rent contracts, lanekassen needs to be available in English (chosen since all international students are required to know English). list other examples in the document. Information: Likestilling and Læringsmiljø are popular terms in Norwegian student politics.

Improved Access to Norwegian courses

Institutions should increase the offering of norwegian courses. Argument Important to increase integration between international and norwegian students. Increase access to quality education available only in norwegian language.

Samarbeid / Cooperation with NSU, StL and other student organizations

ISU believes cooporation / samarbeid is important and effective way to increase integration and to reach its goals. Especially since many in ISU do not speak Norwegian or understand and it takes time to know the Norwegian system.

Encourage Meeting places between ISU and StL/NSU

ISU strongly encourages local and national international officers in NSU and StL to attend the ISU NA. ISU local branches should involve these international officers in local meetings and wants to have an observer position in the local student democracy and its international committee.

Action Plans for Integration

Together with the local student democracy, and studentsamskipnaden, ISU wants to develop action plans for integration between Norwegian and international students.

Emergency Situations

(ability to travel home in case of death or sickness in family)