

<p style="font-size: 1.2em; margin: 0;">ISU Local Branch Report</p> <p style="margin: 10px 0 0 0;">ISU UMB</p>	<p>Prepared by: Lindsay Ringer, President</p> <p>Date: April 13th, 2008</p> <p>Prepared for: NATIONAL ASSEMBLY NAi08 - Trondheim</p>
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A) ISU Local Branch Members

<i>Period Autumn 2007</i>		<i>Period Spring 2008</i>	
NAME	POSITION	NAME	POSITION
Lindsay Ringer	President	Lindsay Ringer	President
Gori Gjini	Vice President	Gori Gjini	Vice President
Tendai Chella	Treasurer	Abeba Wodbescent	Tresurer
Jorg Parshau	General Secretary	Elizabeth Kvivesen	Secretary
Rita Osei	Sports Representative	Hehe Zhang	Social Secretary
Maya Minwary	Webmaster	Lucretzia Didio	Social Representative
Alex Mugiraneza	Social Secretary	Hafiz Rahman	Social Representative
Hehe Zhang	Social Representative		
Hafiz Rahman	Social Representaive		
Farshad Tami	(original President)		

B) Summary of Activities during Academic Year 2007 - 2008

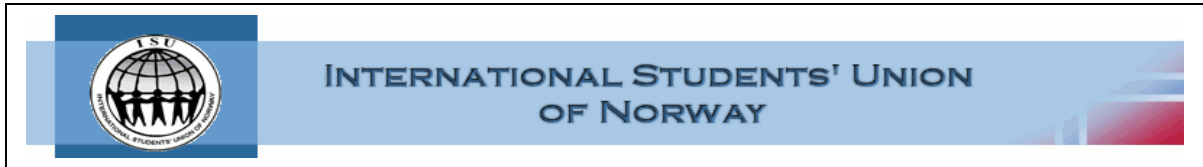
This year we have many milestones for our ISU branch. In the Fall we adopted and approved our first official constitution and this spring we distributed an online survey to all International student regarding student life. Some other successes have been our coffee and movie nights in Sammfauunet with high attendance from International students. Lastly, ISU has been participating in student parliament meetings with translation and been well received by the entire student democracy.

C) General Assemblies

We had a General Assembly at the beginning of November where we adopted/amended our constitution and elected a new President. Three members from the NSU board attended as well as 25 or so International students.

D) Social Activities

Our most successful social activities have been our regular coffee nights in Samfaunnet where we show a film and have snacks and hot drinks. Also, the farewell party for International students in the fall went very well with a potluck style feast and dancing afterwards. For those students remaining here over Christmas, there was a small party on New Years with food catered from a local restaraunt. We had less success with sports activities and our day in the snow.



E) Cases, Campaigns and Student Politics

One case that we are addressing is the representation of International students in boards related to UMB. Fifteen percent of the student body is composed of International Students, and yet an International student has never held a position on NSU or within student parliament. The reason for this is that these positions are not always well advertised and candidates are required to speak Norwegian. This is also the case for representatives on the student board of SIAS (the student services company).

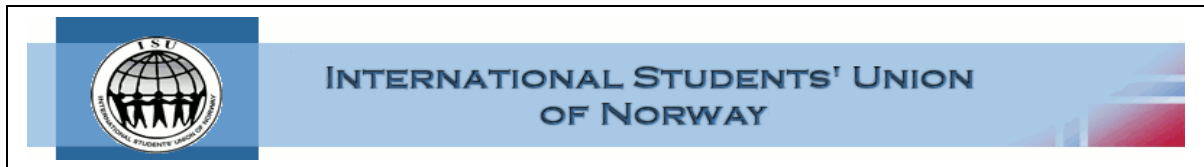
43% of the students living in Pentagon, the oncampus housing provided by SIAS, are International Students. There are many cases of miscommunication between SIAS and the International student community. Therefore, we have composed an online survey in which International Students can voice their concerns and opinions. Some of the questions on this survey were proposed by the current SIAS board who are eagerly waiting our results. We hope to see more International Students on university boards so that the cases unique to those from other countries will be heard.

F) Comments, Evaluation and Future Improvements

One hurdle we have encountered this year is that during all the planning and discussing for events, the ISU board hasn't gotten the chance to know each other. I would highly encourage social activities for the board to hang out, especially once new members are elected. Another difficulty was the lack of transfer of information from the previous ISU board to ours. There was no joint meeting at the beginning of the year in which information was passed from one board to the next. As a result, we had great difficulty accessing our bank account and reopening cases begun last year. This hand off of information is crucial to the success of future ISU boards. I would suggest making a CD with all documents as well as briefing future board members in person.

G) Budget

Below is our budgeted expenses from the Fall and Winter. ISU UMB is unique in that the fact that an Inclusion Fund exists. This funding was once given to a staff member of the University who organized social events to include Internationals in campus life. Any amount, from the 100,000 Kr total can be applied for the beginning of each month, by any students proposing events fostering inclusion. Recently, NSU decided to budget 20,000 Kr from the inclusion fund automatically into ISU's account on an annual basis.



ISU Expenses Fall 2007

General Assembly:

220.00, Groceries for after party
522.99, Food for General Assembly
742.99, Total

Coffee Nights(each):

149.60, Food
56.00, Food
280.00, Drinks
485.60, Total

Freia Trip:

2,808.00, Train tickets(round trip)
1,450.00, Entrance costs
330.00, Tram tickets
4,588.00, Total

Christmas Party:

656.04, Groceries and drinks
1,500.00, Cooking expenses for int.students
2,156.04, Total

X-mas and New year party:

3,000.00, Food(bought from hotel)
399.32, additional food cooked and supplies purchased
642.90, Groceries and drinks
4,042.22, Total

12,014.85- Grand Total

SUCCESS STORY

ITEM	DESCRIPTION
Title of Activity	Farewell Party
Objectives	Provide an event to say goodbye to those students leaving in the Fall
For Who	All students
Reasons for (need)	Many exchange students come each fall to UMB and depart after a semester in Norway
Time Frame	Beginning of December, Evening on the Weekend (Friday 1900-2300 pm)
Means and Tools Used	Recruited students to cook different dishes and we refunded them for the cost, some didn't require refunding. Chopped down a Christmas tree from close to campus and purchased drinks. Appointed student to handle the music.
Comments from Others	This was great!
Self Evaluation	Could have used more planning regarding the amount of food...with maybe one hundred people showing up and not enough funding to cover enough cooks. There were also not that many Norwegian students (7 or 8)
Suggested Improvements	Apply for more funding from other sources. Advertise in both Norwegian and English, make campus wide announcement.
Picture Number 1	Files tooo big! ☹
Picture Number 2	