



Report from Erik Evans – International Officer of The Norwegian Association of Students (StL)

The cooperation between International Students' Union (ISU) and The Norwegian Association of Students - Studentenes Landsforbund (StL) has been strengthened during the past months. On October 23<sup>rd</sup> 2002 ISU and StL signed our first agreement. On August 3<sup>rd</sup> of this year, our two organizations signed a new and improved agreement of cooperation (attached).

On the General Assembly in April 2004, StL signed two resolutions supporting issues of importance for ISU and international students in Norway.

We have worked together with the National Coordinator of ISU on the establishment of more ISU local branches at the member institutions of StL by spreading information about ISU, encouraging our member organizations and by establishing contact between ISU and the appropriate people locally. It is an outspoken goal for StL to aid ISU in its expansion and in the establishment of more local branches. StL recognizes the fact that international students is a resource for the Norwegian higher education as a whole, that these students have special needs and also wishes that ISU be recognized as the primary interest organization for international students in Norway.

Although StL has no authority over its member organizations, we have encouraged them to aid ISU in the establishment of a local branch at any institution. This aid should be of a limited financial nature and in the way that they supply an ISU local branch with office space, access to computers, office stationary etc.

StL and ISU are, in close cooperation with Norsk Studentunion – National Students Union (NSU), working on a free station agreement. This agreement will probably be signed by all parties shortly.

StL have also worked with ISU on promoting the views of ISU on visa and work application fees and travel expenses towards national members of parliament, political parties and the youth organizations of several political parties.