

<p><b>ISU Local Branch Report:</b></p> <p><b>UiTø</b></p>	<p>Prepared by: HARIS ALI, ISAAC MENSAH  Date: 07.10.2008  Prepared for:  <b>NATIONAL ASSEMBLY</b>  <b>NAii08 - Ås</b></p>
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**A) ISU Local Branch Members**

*Period Autumn 2008*

NAME	POSITION
Haris Ali	President
Isaac Mensah	Vice-President
Cecile Corroenne	General Secretary
Amalia Rylander	Public Relations Officer

**B) Summary of Activities during Academic Year 2008**

**ACTIVITIES:** Skibotn Feltstasjon trips, International Food parties, Good-bye parties, Film evenings twice monthly, Christmas party, Kautokeino Easter Festival trip, Barbeque twice, 2<sup>nd</sup>-hand markets for new international students twice, ISU board elections, Participation of ISU board members at National Assemblies, Assistance in conducting orientation programs for international students twice.

**SUCCESSSES:** Among others, 2<sup>nd</sup>-hand markets were quite a success, our barbeque nights were enjoyable, a lot of people participated in Kautokeino Easter Festival trip, and the film evenings were also quite popular.

**DIFFICULTIES:** Somewhat lack of student interest in volunteering to conduct the above-mentioned events, but their participation was appreciable

**CONCERNS:** None.

**C) General Assemblies**

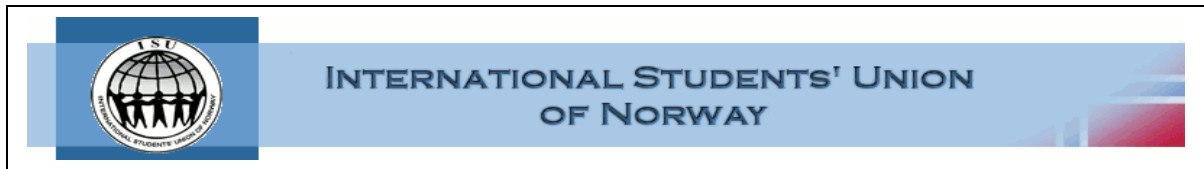
Two conducted over the last one year, approximately 80 students attended each time and institution's parliament members (NSU) also attended them. Outcome: new board members were elected, and decision were made over the events to be conducted.

**D) Social Activities**

Skibotn Feltstasjon trips: quite successful, lots of participants and enthusiasm, students had quite a nice break from their studies, and apart from the outside activities the students enjoyed food and beverage provided courtesy ISU.

International Food parties: very colorful, and tasteful mixture of cuisines from various parts of the world were enjoyed by students, and of course the university staff loved it too.

Good-bye parties: a sad, but still enjoyable occasion of departure of international students was celebrated, with food, beverage, music, and lots of photos.



Film evenings twice monthly: a nice mixture of films from various countries was shown to an audience of international students, where they got to see lifestyles, attitudes and social phenomenon of one another in their own languages, with a cinematic perspective.

Christmas party: the celebration of coming of Jesus was never such hip before. :-P

Kautokeino Easter Festival trip: a traditional Saami film festival was organized with cooperation of ISU, where a lot of international students had glimpse of life in Saami culture with the eyes of film-makers, in the very scenic Kautokeino.

Barbeque twice: the name says it all.

2<sup>nd</sup>-hand markets for new international students twice: very popular and successful, where amenities of various sorts were given away for free in return for small donations towards Amnesty International. We owe this to our donors, the students from previous semesters, who left their stuff in the hands of ISU when leaving for their home countries.

ISU board elections: not-so-fair amount of enthusiasm was found among international students to compete in the board elections. But we hope to improve this trend in the coming semesters.

Assistance in conducting Orientation Programs for international students twice: hugely successful among new students, who praised the efforts of Admissions Dept., and ISU-assisted group of volunteers who helped carrying out various tasks and activities during the 'orientation' week.

#### **E) Cases, Campaigns and Student Politics:**

ISU board members participated in some campaigns of social and political awareness carried out by our sister (and bigger) organization, the NSU-UiTø.

#### **F) Comments, Evaluation and Future Improvements:**

After evaluating ourselves at the level of 'fair', we'd like to improve our services to the level of 'excellent'. This would require time, energy, focus, and indeed, an enthusiastic group of people to work with. We hope of achieving our goals in the coming year.

#### **G) Budget:**

For the various trips, parties, social and cultural events, etc., the ISU asked for the grant of 95000 NOK this year.