



Gender RESOLUTION

International Students' Union of Norway

Date: 10 October 2009

Reference: RES-2009-A

Toward ISU's commitment to the pursuit of a gender balanced organization

Background:

ISU acknowledges that

- ... democracy and politics have been traditionally male dominated and not necessarily woman friendly, hence the concept and practice of democracy should be implemented with an equal gender representation;
- ... the point of view of both genders must be taken into account while formulating and/or approving policies, decisions and strategies of the organization;
- ... it is no longer acceptable today to formulate and/or approve policies, decisions and strategies which will directly or indirectly affect students without taking into consideration the opinion and perceptions of all those who will be affected.

Current Situation:

ISU has no solid commitment to pursuit a more gender balanced organization.

Suggested Solution:

According to ISU's constitution, the election of national board members is gender blind while both genders are encouraged to run as candidates. A target threshold of 40% for either gender not represented in the board should be considered, to the best of the abilities of the participants of ISU National Assembly that are taking part in the elections.

Proposal:

Since ISU acknowledges that democracy should be inclusive of the opinions and perceptions of both genders in the ISU National Board, positive action measures should be imposed upon the candidates during the electoral process to ensure that the target threshold of 40% for either gender not represented in the board is achieved. After the election of the National President, any candidate from a different gender than the National President needs only 1 vote to be elected into the National Board.

Local branches are to take heed and try to the best of their abilities to follow similar approaches.

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