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**Adopted by the Student Parliament 16.09.17**

## **STUDENT POLITICAL PLATFORM**

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### **1. Fundamental Principles**

The University of Oslo shall be open for all. Equal right and access to higher education is essential to securing social mobility. It is important, therefore, that intake to higher education is based upon an admissions system that is fair and verifiable.

The University of Oslo shall be an international leader within education, research, research dissemination, and innovation. Education must be prioritized equally as high as research. There shall be a good relationship between academic employee and student, and teaching shall be research based.

All students will be challenged to think critically and reflectively throughout their education. Students shall be given the knowledge and skills to create a better future, developing insight into one's field, critical thought, and academic refinement.

Academic freedom, diversity, solidarity, sustainability, and the free principle are central founding values for the Student Parliament at the University of Oslo.

### **2. Education**

#### **2.1 Studies**

- The University of Oslo must update its study portfolio to accommodate tomorrow's challenges.
- Bachelor programs must be built in order to qualify for a wider range of master programs.
- All study programs will be set up so that 30 free study points are gathered in one semester, where students get the opportunity to go on exchange, take free study points, or have point-giving internships in the workforce.
- The theology faculty must expand their study offerings within theology so that it becomes relevant for students from several faiths.
- Open Source will be used where options exist that are equally as good or better than licensed solutions.
- No obligatory course or class trip will have a deductible/fee that students themselves are responsible for paying.
- There will always be subject relevant, equitable, and alternative teaching arrangements without a deductible/fee when courses or excursions with a deductible/fee are offered.
- If there is reason for it, the opportunity to use alternative admission requirements shall be given.
- UiO will look at the possibility for establishing courses about Sami culture and, if possible, give the Sami language and Sami culture greater place in relevant courses.

## 2.2 Instruction

- All instruction will be based on updated and quality assured research within the subject didactic.
- All instructors must be evenly educated in pedagogics and especially in subject didactics.
- Instruction competency must be weighted in hires where instruction will comprise a part of the position.
- Instruction forms must be varied and arranged so that students receive subject oriented and personal development.
- Digital aids will be used where it increases the quality of teaching
- Academic environments shall be merited for good instruction.
- Technical equipment, instruction rooms, and syllabi must keep a high standard and be updated.
- All lectures at UiO will be made available for all students through podcast or screencast.
- Instruction at the bachelor's level shall be research oriented. Teaching at the master's level will be bound to research such that all master's students at UiO engage in research in connection with their master's thesis.
- UiO, as a goal, will aim to offer classroom instruction (seminars, labs, cases, etc.) in all subjects where it is expedient.
- Instruction material used in lectures shall be published in good time before the 546 lecture takes place.
- UiO must ensure that course evaluations happen at least every other semester a course is held. A common set of questions used in the evaluation of all courses that comprise the same degree track must be introduced. That each subject evaluation has a high enough response rate that the answers can be used for further development of the course must be ensured.

## 2.3 Assessment and feedback

- There must be several varied forms of evaluation throughout a semester in studies where this is appropriate, such that there is a broad basis for setting grades.
- All students will automatically receive an individual assessment explanation that promotes learning.
- The Student Parliament does not want national sub-exams in studies that are not governed by national frameworks.
- UiO will create guides for sensors for all exams at UiO. The sensor guides will be made available on the course pages online.
- Delayed grading will be reported and, in the case of breaches of the three weeks rule, be sanctioned at the institute level.
- UiO must establish its own register of delayed grading, so that all cases are registered.
- In the case of a complaint, a response shall come within three weeks.

## 2.4 First Year Students

- UiO must take responsibility for new students receiving the information and tools they need to get started at study start.
- All study programs with first year students at a lower degree level should have a professionally hired mentor that works specifically with the transition to the university.
- Subject environments should hire educational assistants as collective supervisors for first year students.

- Study programs will encourage organized learning to be added to the first year of studies in a greater degree.
- Buddy week arrangements must be strengthened locally.
- UiO shall eliminate the copy fee for students.
- SP will take the initiative to hold dialogues about buddy week arrangements and study start where all faculties will be involved. The goal will be to give the faculties an arena to share experiences with the implementation of study start and tools to improve study start.
- All faculties must ensure that the institutes are contributing sufficient funds for buddy weeks. The contributed sum per student shall be comparable regardless of study program and institute.

## 2.5 Work Life Relevance

- The institutes must ensure that the work opportunities found within the subject field are clear.
- Institutes and faculties must establish cooperation agreements with the organized actors on both sides (employee and employer) of the labor market.
- Career advising must keep a high standard and be available for everyone at UiO and shall also be offered for a year after the end of one's studies.
- The advisors must have competence in how they will advise international UiO students who wish to work in Norway.
- All study programs shall strive to have established internship opportunities as a point giving part of their course of study.
- UiO must spread information about post-education internship opportunities from around the world and establish agreements that students can take advantage of.
- UiO must make it easier for students with visible and non-visible disabilities to have a simpler student life.

## 2.6 Learning Environment

- All new students at UiO will receive offers to meet with a supervisor in the course of the first semester. All students must have access to guidance services that encompass all aspects of student life. Access to guidance services must be easily available and understandable.
- Buddy arrangements for master's students must be established at the institute level.
- The physical learning environment must be proper, promote interaction, and promote learning.
- Services and opening hours during exam periods must be expanded, as far as it complies with the provisions in the working environment law.
- Reading halls shall not be used as exam locations.
- The right to a good learning environment must be established in a new learning environment law for students. In anticipation of a new law, UiO will create its own guidelines that advance requirements for student learning environments.

- Exams shall not be held on Saturdays, May 2nd, or May 18th.
- The number of reading hall places, places for group work, and other types of student work that exist per student in each faculty must be mapped out. The coverage rate must be 50%.
- More physical learning centers like Entropia and Bikuben must be established.
- There should be at least one twenty-four hour reading hall per faculty at all times and the offer of twenty-four hour reading halls should be expanded during exam periods.
- UiO should intensify work in achieving its own goals on digital exams.
- In the subjects where a digital syllabus has more than 250 pages, the printing quota shall be increased to 350 pages.

## 2.7 Syllabus

- UiO must work to ensure that all instructional material that is originally digital, remains digital
- It is necessary to have comprehensive digital syllabus offerings. E-books and e-compendiums should be available for all subjects and they should be more reasonably priced than paper books.
- Where digital syllabi are not available, the physical syllabus must be easily available at UiO's library.
- Today's offerings of digital syllabus literature, newspapers, and journals must be made more visible.
- UiO will, as a starting point, offer its students e-compendiums unless they wish to get the compendium printed out.
- All courses should strive for a syllabus with a broad representation of several genders and ethnicities.
- Syllabi will, in the degree possible, include new research and be updated.
- Syllabi will, in the degree possible, include new research.

## 2.8 Language Diversity

- UiO must ensure that students receive information about their language rights.
- Through courses in academic writing and information, UiO must contribute to students being made fully aware that both Nynorsk and Bokmål are able to be used as academic languages.
- Employees at UiO must be set up to follow the language law, by, among other things, receiving offers to take part in Nynorsk language courses.
- Institutes shall ensure that the use of English in subjects does not inhibit students' ability to use their knowledge in Norwegian.
- All exams at UiO will be able to be answered in Norwegian, Swedish, Danish, or English. Exceptions apply if the exam has, as a goal, the expansion of language knowledge or skills.
- More subjects should be instructed in English.

## 3. Research, innovation, and dissemination

### 3.1 Research

- Student active research in lower degrees must be arranged and courses or projects that aim to give insight into research must be established.
- Including students in research environments must be made simpler.

- All cooperative agreements between UiO and different businesses, industries, and organizations must be public. Before entering into a cooperative agreement, a hearing and ethics evaluation should be conducted. The national ethical guidelines for research must be taken into account.
- Research financed by the public will, as a starting point, remain public, unless it breaks general research ethics guidelines.
- The process towards a research result shall be made available.
- Research must follow international ethics guidelines and shall never contribute to the destruction of the climate, others' livelihoods, or the violation of human rights.
- Animal research must be avoided where it is possible to replace the use of living animals with other options.

### 3.2 Innovation

- Students must have a central role in the focus on innovation at UiO.
- The number of courses within innovation must be increased.
- Guidance services for students who wish to become entrepreneurs must be made more available. Students should be guided on how one can safely cooperate with the business world.
- UiO must strengthen its focus on student driven innovation environments and connect with organized actors in the workforce in order to ensure good working conditions for students and employees who take part in these environments.
- More centers for research driven innovation shall be established.

### 3.3 Dissemination

- The museums will be a focus area for dissemination.
- Student oriented dissemination must be given disbursement in the financing system for researchers.
- Dissemination must be a natural part of students' education.
- Students shall be included in dissemination work and must receive good support and advising in this process.
- All presentation and lectures held under UiO's charge should be taken and posted openly on the internet.

## **4. Sustainability, the Climate, and the Environment.**

### 4.1 Sustainable Operations

- UiO will, in its entirety, be a zero-emission institution within 2030.
- UiO must increase its competence around green and ethical purchases and will, as far as possible, preference these before unethical purchases that strain the environment.
- There shall be facilities for conducting video meetings at each institute in order to reduce the number of trips at UiO.
- UiO must reduce the number of UiO related flights by 50% within 2030.
- Until the goal on flight reduction is achieved, UiO will take compensatory climate measures.
- UiO must, through UNIFOR, invest in a way that stimulates green growth and social equality.
- More parking places shall be converted into charging stations for electric and hybrid cars.

- Work in order to reduce the number of parking places without handicap symbols.
- Stimulate reuse among employees and students at UiO.
- An "environmental pot", where students and employees that want to implement environmental initiatives can apply for funds, shall be established.
- UiO should use a catering firm that has its operations at UiO. It is desirable that UiO is on the ownership side in this firm so that they can make requirements for student friendly prices, good working conditions, and implementation of climate initiatives.
- Work for the area outside Villa Eika that is today a parking lot to be converted into a green area.
- UiO must be environmentally certified.

#### 4.2 Research and Education

- UiO shall have world leading research environments in renewable energy and sustainability.
- UiO shall have an interdisciplinary focus on restructuring to a sustainable society.
- The Akademia agreement shall not constrict researchers and students in UiO's review of projects that are being supported by this agreement. The agreement should be renegotiated in order to preferably be turned into support for renewable projects.
- Institutes will be encouraged to have sustainability as a part of all study programs, with a focus on the subject field's role in achieving sustainability goals.
- A system for the labeling of subjects with a focus on sustainability goals shall be implemented.

### 5. Equality

#### 5.1 Equality and Diversity

- No student will be exposed to unjust discrimination based on personal choices around clothing and expression.
- Gender balance must be sought in all forums, in addition to the implementation of initiatives that make academia an attractive career path for women.
- UiO must reduce the use of temporary hires considerably, with the aim of reducing the number of employees that involuntarily work part time.
- Gender points or quotas shall be implemented in studies with a representation of one sex under 25% over time.
- UiO must strengthen recruiting work in order that the gender imbalance in study programs and hires becomes smaller.
- UiO must be better at recruiting students with different social backgrounds.
- The follow-up letter ordinance must be implemented so that students know if the student has writing challenges.
- A mentor arrangement for students that need extra follow up and those that have challenges conducting their studies will be established.
- UiO should be universally structured/formed.
- Gender neutral toilets will be available on UiO premises.
- UiO must implement a gender-neutral option with all registration.
- UiO must implement initiatives that reduce pay differences between women and men.
- Information around birth leave and parental leave for students must be made more easily available.

- UiO must hire a diversity coordinator.
- A program that works to spread knowledge about diversity and diversity leadership shall be established.
- UiO must prepare an action plan with initiatives to better safeguard LGBTQI+ people in the student population and amongst employees.
- A 30% gender representation in all of UiO's boards, committees, and councils will be strived for.
- Independent of sexual orientation, sexual identity, and/or gender expression, students and employees will feel welcome and safe at UiO.

## 5.2 Harassment and Discrimination

- UiO will enforce a zero-tolerance rule for harassment.
- UiO must give employees and students good training in what harassment and discrimination are. They must also receive training in which methods one has for reporting and handling of cases.
- UiO must fulfill its duty to investigate suspicions of harassment and discrimination, regardless of the circumstances.
- Quick case processing in discrimination and harassment cases must occur, regardless of how the case is uncovered.
- Students will be informed about UiO's reporting system for learning environments at the first lecture in all study programs.

## 6. International

### 6.1 Social Responsibility and Solidarity

- A goal for the internationalization of education and research will be to support countries with development, especially countries in the global south.
- The ability of refugees that come to Norway to continue their higher education and be included in the academic environment must be facilitated. – It shall be possible for asylum seekers to continue their education in Norway while they wait for their asylum application to be processed.
- UiO shall not work with actors who contribute to or commit war crimes. Furthermore, UiO shall not contribute to committing breaches of human rights.
- The Student Parliament will engage itself in projects that promote student solidarity.
- "Students at Risk" must be expanded and made permanent and should be implemented in the rest of the Nordic states.
- UiO must expand and continue its work with "Scholars at risk".
- Also adopted: Good stipend arrangements must exist in order for students from countries in the Global South to take a whole degree in Norway.
- International students will never pay tuition
- The Student Parliament will work towards UiO becoming a TISA free zone.

### 6.2 Inclusion and Facilitation

- The University of Oslo must facilitate the ability of all international students and researchers to participate in boards and councils.
- The most central strategic documents must be translated to English so that they are available for international students and employees.

- Free, level adjusted Norwegian courses for all international students and employees must be offered.
- The buddy arrangement for international students must be updated so that exchange students receive a buddy that has at least one subject with the student. This arrangement does not need to overlap with the existing buddy week for international students.

### 6.3 Education

- The university must establish at least one bachelor's program in English.
- UiO must facilitate shorter exchange programs.
- Academic employees must play a large role in the formation of exchange agreements and which courses will be offered.
- UiO must offer preapproval of courses to students going on exchange.
- UiO must work in order to establish several cooperative degrees with foreign universities.
- A completely digital system for preapproval and post-approval of courses must be prepared. The system must make it simple for students to see the progression of their prior approval cases.
- UiO, as an agreement owner, must, in cooperation with institutions that UiO has exchange agreements with, ensure that preapproved semester and yearlong study courses exist at the host institutions for study programs where it is possible to do this.
- UiO must update admissions routines such that exchange stays taken in late in the course of a degree do not prevent students from seeking admission to or being admitted to further studies.

## 7. Welfare

- The Student Parliament at the University of Oslo will work with Oslo municipality in order for Oslo to become Norway's best student city.
- UiO and SiO must especially take responsibility to safeguard the psychological health of students, with the goal of a maximum of one week's waiting time for SiO Psychological Health.
- The public agencies must, in a greater degree, take economic responsibility to secure good student health.
- The semester fee will not be used for operations.
- Oslo municipality shall make lots near the education institute available. These lots shall be used for student areas and shall be built up as highly as possible.
- The housing guarantee for international students must be upheld.
- The Student Parliament at the University of Oslo supports the national student requirement for 3000 new student housing units yearly and study support tied to 1.5 G over 11 months, as a minimum requirement.
- The public will ensure the coverage degree for student housing is 25%.
- A sexual health clinic will be established at Blindern.
- UiO shall make locations available for use to associations and student groups who undertake student orientated activity.
- Where UiO has temporary agreements with associations, the negotiation of these agreements will happen on the premises of both actors.
- The Student Parliament should work for closer cooperation with DNS and stimulate increased use of Chateau Neuf as a central point for student culture.



- The Student Parliament will, in cooperation with the Welfare Council in Oslo and Akershus and other, relevant actors, work to increase the higher age limit for student discounts on collective transport in Oslo and Akershus.
- Buddy week buddies will be rewarded better by, for example, SiO gift cards.
- “Rest” or “break” room offerings should be improved, expanded, and advertised for further. They must simultaneously be organized in such a way that only resting is permitted in these rooms.
- Having city-provided bicycle racks close by student related buildings outside of campus will be sought after.

## **8. Student Democracy**

- UiO must not implement election committee models that lead to students not being able to run for election.
- The Student Parliament will work to make information on student democracy at UiO more easily available for new students and available in English.
- The Student Parliament at UiO wants an elected rector and an external board chairperson as the governance model at UiO.
- The Student Parliament’s Executive Committee will offer training to the local democracy at the faculties.
- Student political parties will be able to conduct activity and activism at Blindern year-round.
- The Student Parliament shall have its principle documents available in English.

## **9. Campus**

- The area around Frederikke Square must be developed into a living student center with more service offerings during the day and in the evening.
- The absence of an educational environment law for students shall not lead to the deprioritizing of student areas in terms of the upgrading of buildings.
- Students shall have influence in the formulation of changes or upgrades of buildings.
- The faculties have a responsibility to make their premises available for use by councils and associations connected to the faculty.
- Student driven initiatives will have a competitive advantage at UiO
- Lower Blindern will be used as a pilot area for interdisciplinary investment after the moving of the life sciences building.
- No student areas will have a significantly lower standard than UiO’s adopted average condition grade of 1.2. All areas with condition grades of 1.5 or higher will have a concrete plan for improvements.
- All new buildings will, unless non-economic factors prevent it, be built as a “plusshus” (a building that generates more energy than it consumes in its lifetime). BREEAM excellent must be the minimum standard for all buildings at UiO, plusshus should be sought after.
- An environmental report shall be developed for every single faculty.
- UiO will use roof areas on campus better. These areas, for example, can be used for green roofs, solar cell panels, or roof top terraces with gardens and sky bars.
- UiO will not operate buildings that are not directly connected to its core business, hereunder owning professor housing in preference to leasing. Properties that are used for student engagement do not fall within this.

- UiO shall review the possibilities for, in as great a degree possible, becoming self-sufficient in terms of electric power.