

Student Organization Fair:
Market Place to “shop” for friends

Aim:

- for school organizations to present themselves to both Norwegian and international students to attract new members;
- for students to speak to members of the organizations

To include international students better, student organization fairs should have the following characteristics:

- all information should be provided in both Norwegian and English
- have mailing lists that will send out english information for students to sign up
- all subsequent follow up information should have at least the email title and first sentence in English so international students can decide if they want to spend time translating the document or not
- try to set up a permanent physical board where clubs can post up coming events
- encourage clubs to post information about different events at a centralised website with both English and Norwegian; a calendar of events for the school (and local organizations)
- encourage local/regional NSU/StL/NSO branches to work together
 - e.g. Some universities already put on really good student organization fairs, they can give tips to those that don't

Steps to set up fair:

1. find list of student organizations at your university
 - contact NSU/StL/NSO or other similar university organizations
 - or if they have no list: ask the organization giving out the funding e.g. Samskinaden
 - or ask university to send out an email for all the students asking clubs to email you with english information
2. contact NSU/StL/NSO to see if ISU can partner with them to organize the fair (the point is to get both Norwegian and International students)
 - try to get a seat on the organizing committee so that ISU can bring in the needs of international students
3. Set time and date and organize the event
 - recommended to hold fair at the start of each semester
 - students coming in the second semester often have trouble getting as much information as those coming in the first semester

To set up a “poster fair”

- The aim is to get information to students while using as little energy as possible and provide frequent reminders that there is an active student life that they can join in
 - a poster fair is when only posters made by the various organizations are put up like an art exhibition so students can walk around and read. No staffing of tables needed
 - this event can be held as frequently as once a month
 - this idea came up because students rarely stop to read posters on the walls, but if there is an exhibition, people might be more interested
1. ask the organizations to make a poster of themselves; this can be re-used every time
 2. rent out a central location on campus (e.g. The lobby of a large building)

3. get stands to put up the posters

To set up a “virtual organization fair”

- this requires more investment in a web system
- aim to have a 'profile page' for all the organizations on campus so students find out more information and sign up for their events/ mailing lists
- have videos of organization members introducing the organization and welcoming new international/Norwegian members
- organizations can give an idea about how much English is used in their events/information