

International Students' Union of Norway

National Assembly Fall 2007

12- 14 October, 2007

National Report

Eton Williams, National President, 2006-2007

Hi! I'm from Jamaica and I'm studying Electronics & Data Technology at the University of Oslo. This is my second term, I was re-elected in September 2006. Ramil Aliyev and Susanna Serra have served as National Vice & Alternate Vice President. In April 2007, ISU Norway hired Erik Evans as our National Secretary after Hanna Holmleiv worked for 2 years as our National Secretary.

Main goals since September 2006 have been to further the representation of international students, strengthen the contact between ISU and our partners in NSU and StL (locally and nationally) and to expand our organization. Together with, our partners locally and nationally, ISU was successful in removing the part time work permit fee for international students. We won!

Maintaining communication with the local branches

- "ISU Presidents report" via email to ISU local branches, NSU, StL and SAIH, in Nov'06, Feb'07. Information on work nationally & attempting to inspire and motivate local work. Additional emails to Branches and National Administration.
- Visited and learnt from the ISU branches of Stavanger, Oslo, Ås and NHH.
- Supported branches of ISU Ås, ISU UiO and ISU NHH during their local elections.
- Emails & telephone with Branch presidents to find out what's happening and to provide support. (Afterwards delegated responsibility also to Ramil and Susanna)
- Further development of the range of information available on our website
- Support to branches which wanted to host ISU NA: Thanks ISU NHH and UiB !

Being the link between local branches and national ISU, NSU and StL

- The ISU NA in April 2007 approved our first political doc ! ISU Norway Platform.
- Individual meetings & consultations with Ramil, Susanna, Hanna and Erik.
- Meetings with NSU and StL nationally & locally to lobby for increased international student participation in Student Government in Norway - SAMARBEID strategy©
- NSU and StL- Encourage ISU branches & their Intl Officers in SP to develop "Plans of Inclusion for International Students" and to get a part of their websites in English.
- Consultation with past presidents of ISU Norway: Jowi James 2003- 2004, Arlene Pearce 2004-2005; Nina Rojina, 2004; Famara Sangyang 1996-1997
- Encouraged local branches to support SAIH Campaign "Our Picture of the South"
- Encourage local branches to support NSU, StL & SAIH international solidarity work.
- Ramil responsible for developing the Academic Review in Norway. Excellent!

Representing international students in NSU's and StL's national meetings

- Reports and presentations at NSU National meetings in Stavanger, Oslo(2), StL National meetings in Hamar and Sørmarka (2)
- NSU NA, Mar '07; StL NA, April '07 - interviewed election candidates for new

NSU/StL International Officer (together with Ramil and Susanna)

- Distributed Samarbeid - package at StL & NSU National Meetings: docs of ISU work – Plans of Inclusion, Project proposals for translation, (as Valentines day gift) Feb '07
- NSU National Likestilling (Student Equality Committee) presented ISU, gave international student perspective in equality – access to information. Lobby for the inclusion of International Students in student equality policy. Nov 2006

Representing international students to the Norwegian Government and to external organizations

- “ISU Norway & SAIH” presentation at SAIH National Meeting, Oct 2007
- With NSU Welfare Officer: Lanekassen Regulations regarding International Students. Information in English on the website.
- Visa Fee Case: Lobby NSU, StL and Ministry of Work and Inclusion.
- Presentation on integration for student organizations at UiO conference, Mar '06
- Meeting with SAIH on “Our picture of Africa” campaign 2006-2007
- Requested meeting with Ministry of Education regarding Stortingsmelding and to thank them for an increase in funding.

- “Fees raised for international students” Universitas Feb 14. 2007
- “Work Permit Fee removed” Universitas, Feb 21. 2007
- “ISU Norway President” Campus Student Magazine, April 2007
- “International Students and Work Permit Fees”, Dagsrevyen, NRK TV, April 2007
- “From an International Student in Norway” Universitas October 2007

Responsibilities for ISU's finances

- Sent in audited accounts for 2006 in Feb/March 2007. Approved by an external auditor.
- Annual application for funding sent to Ministry of Education Mar 2007. *We received our first increase in funding in many years!* Approx 67, 000NOK Congrats ISU !
- *Susanna , together with her SP, secured 30, 000NOK for our NA in Stavanger. God job!*

Leading the work of ISU in the establishment of new ISU branches in Norway

- Received support from StL President and Intl Officer StL (Networking) Thanks!
- Discussions with StL local branch leaders: Molde, Volde, Nor Trondelag and Telemark at StL national meetings to engage them; followed up with information emails.
- Contact with ESN branches in Molde and Adger & with a with newly started international student organization in Volde.
- Contact with SP at BI in February, April 2007. ISU BI accepted by NA in April 2007.
- All prospective branches invited to ISU NA.

Other

- Chaired Hiring Board (April 2007) hire a National Secretary. Erik Evans selected.
- Served as an elected member of University of Oslo Student Parliament, 2005-2007.
- Leadership and organization development courses with LNU.