

# Long-term strategy for the Student Democracy at NMBU 2024-2026

*Approved at the Student Parliament 6, 13.112023*

This is the long-term strategy of the Student Democracy. It has been approved by the Student Parliament and outlines the goals the Student Democracy has set for itself and will work towards in the coming years. It is taken as a basis that ongoing assessments are constantly made, and there is an understanding both that the needs may change and that unforeseen things may occur. It contains broad formulations of major goals. On a daily basis, the Action Plan is used, which contains concrete goals for how the Student Democracy should work.

## Environment

*NMBU shall be recognized as the sustainability university and be a driver of progress locally, nationally, and internationally. The students at NMBU will receive training which enables them to think interdisciplinary. Students will leave the university with concrete tools to meet tomorrow's complex challenges, within all educational courses. Students shall be included in future-oriented research. The university shall contribute to the world community with knowledge of a sustainable world.*

- Efforts shall be made to ensure that NMBU is a future-oriented sustainability university, which facilitates sustainability in practice.
- *Campus development shall take place in line with sustainable development.*
- *Campuses and areas where students and staff travel shall be designed for a holistic sustainable lifestyle and way of thinking.*
- *It should be easy to travel environmentally friendly on, to and from NMBU.*
- *NMBU shall take an active role in the community development.*

## Student life

*It is important to ensure a good learning environment and a good everyday study life for students to have a good quality of life. The students shall have access to everything they need in their everyday life in their immediate environment. The aim is for as many students as possible to have the opportunity to live in student accommodation of an excellent standard through SiÅs if they so wish. Efforts will be made to ensure that the Eika training center maintains the current standard and has a wide offer that suits everyone. The student environment shall be open and inclusive for all students. The health services for students shall be broad and adapted to students as a user group and shall have the time and capacity to help students with their health challenges.*

*Poor mental health is an increasingly serious problem among students. It is therefore important to have an increased focus on this, and that those who need help get help when they need it. Therefore, the Student Democracy will work for larger and broader preventive measures for mental health.*

- Efforts will be made to ensure that students have welfare services of the highest quality, including good student dormitories, fitness centers, health services and canteens.
- Efforts will be made for an increased focus on mental health, and for a better and broader preventive offer for mental health.

- The Health Station for Youth and Students must remain, and the offer shall be developed to meet the students' needs.
- The possibilities for a dedicated health service on campus for students shall be investigated.
- *The Student Democracy will work to ensure that food offered on campus is good, varied and healthy, and that it satisfies the students' needs for affordable and healthy food.*
- *Boksmia shall maintain its standing as a an academic book store with for the students with a wide selection.*

## **Internationalization**

*NMBU will continue to be an international university and will work to ensure that NMBU is an attractive institution for the outside world. It is important that it is arranged so that international students can get involved in Student Democracy at NMBU and be represented in councils and committees at the university. It is also important to ensure that arrangements are made for international students to be included in teams, associations, organizations, and other leisure activities at NMBU. All students and staff at NMBU benefit from cultural exchange, and facilitating the inclusion of international students to a greater extent shall be a priority.*

- Arrangements shall be made for international students to be included in all aspects of student life.
- It shall be worked for that NMBU is a visible voice in the fight to reinstate the free principle – which means that all education is free for everyone in Norway.
- *It shall be made arrangements so that everyone could go on an exchange, and more students could take advantage of the opportunity.*
- NMBUs' participation in the university alliance ELLS shall give students at NMBU the opportunities to participate in international gatherings and courses with academic input.

## **The Student Democracy**

*The Student Democracy is important for the students' voice to be heard. To ensure a good democracy, all students should feel a sense of belonging to the Student Democracy. All students should know where they can turn to get answers to their questions and help with their challenges. Elected students shall assist with this, from class level to central level. All student representatives, at all levels of the Student Democracy, shall have the knowledge of the Student Democracy and NMBU, and shall guide and help their fellow students. The path from having a case to raising it in councils and committees shall be short, and students with something on their minds shall be listened to.*

- *The Student Democracy at NMBU will continue to be the university with the highest response rate and will constantly strive for higher voter turnout.*
- Efforts shall be made for active participation at all levels of the Student Democracy.
- Work shall be done to make the Student Democracy visible.
- Work shall be done to ensure even more remunerated positions for students at NMBU
- Investigations shall be made into whether todays structure of the Student Board is the most appropriate.

## **Quality of the studies**

*The quality of the studies at NMBU must be excellent. The studies at NMBU will provide students with the competence required for a sustainable future and a changing working life. The physical*

*classrooms should have plenty of space for the students who will be there. There shall be good learning conditions in all classrooms, and the university shall be experienced as a safe place to be. Learning resources should be available to all students, and all software required for teaching shall be easily accessible. Education provided shall be varied, and all teachers should possess pedagogical and didactic competencies. A digital study routine can never replace physical study routines, and when digital aids are used it shall be as a supplement to the physical teaching.*

- Continuous work will be done to ensure that students receive up-to-date, relevant education that prepares them for tomorrow's working life.
- Efforts will be made to ensure that the campus can accommodate all students at NMBU and facilitate a diversity of students.
- Staying on campus shall be attractive and safe.

## **The surrounding community**

*Efforts will be made to ensure that the students become an included and active part of the local community in Ås, in that the offers of the municipality perceived as attractive to the student body. Efforts will be made to ensure that the municipality to a greater extent views the students as a resource. The Ås Bubble must be looked after, and students will have reason to be proud of Ås as the host municipality. The Student Parliament's Student Board will be in continuous dialogue with the municipality, and it is also encouraged that other student councils get involved when something happens in the municipality. Arrangements shall be made for students to have the opportunity to get involved in local and global issues, and students should encouraged to be active citizens of the world. In its work, the county municipality and the local municipality shall ensure that welfare services subject to their mandate meet the students' needs and wishes.*

- Efforts will be made to enable the students to get involved in the local community, both through teams and associations, but also by being visible citizens.
- Arrangements shall be made for student-run teams and interest organizations at NMBU to engage to a greater extent in societal issues.
- Politicians in the municipality and county council shall listen to and facilitate all aspects of the student life.

## **Research and innovation**

Through innovation and research, NMBU has a key role in shaping the society of the future. This is about rethinking how society is organized, how we manage our resources and how we use our technology. A culture that values curiosity, creativity, and value creation shall therefore be stimulated. The students will play a central role in creating the solutions of the future, and it is therefore important that everyone who graduates from NMBU has the knowledge and experience they need. Arrangements shall be made so that students from all year levels have the opportunity to be included in research. The path from an idea to an innovation shall be short.

- Efforts shall be made to make it easier for students to get involved in research projects at NMBU.
- All students at NMBU shall during the course of their studies get the opportunity to obtain innovation competence within their course subjects.
- Research and innovations projects shall to a larger extent be implemented on campus.
- The research at NMBU shall be in compliance with the sustainability goals of the United Nations.

