

**AN UiB FOR SOLIDARITY,
CLIMATE AND JUSTICE**



VOTE FOR YIMIN & EIRIK
14-23 APRIL

Safer, Fairer and More Relevant Frameworks for Internships

The internship scheme is a fantastic opportunity for students to gain relevant work experience and learn outside the classroom. However, the rules vary greatly from study programme to study programme and from faculty to faculty. Unfortunately, this flexibility has laid the groundwork for systematic exploitation.

The UiB Board has been informed of specific cases of abuse and misuse of power at internship placements, including: unpaid overtime (MatNat, SV), forced labour (MatNat), denied pay (HF, KMD, SV), irrelevant tasks (SV, HF), unsafe internship placements (KMD, MatNat), and academic work stolen by professors (MatNat, KMD). Nevertheless, the Board refuses to take responsibility and shifts it onto the faculties, dismissing the matter as micromanagement. We, however, see a clear trend of systematic exploitation of internship students across all of UiB.

This also applies to teacher students, who work the same long days as regular teachers, but without even the opportunity to negotiate pay.

We need structural change. We want to make internships safe, relevant, and fair through an improved and thoroughly developed framework.

Dignified Working Conditions for Student Employees at UiB

At UiB, there are many different horror stories, ranging from breach of contract, working without a contract, temporary positions without a contract, and having to wait five months for pay. This is completely unacceptable. The problem is widespread across the entire university and is not unique to any one faculty or department. Employees are also not informed about safety representatives, despite this being a requirement under the Working Environment Act. Therefore, UiB centrally needs to review its procedures and improve the working conditions of student employees at UiB.

Fighting for Peace and Climate Through Academic Boycott and Green Transition

Solidarity with the entire world is at the core of everything we wish to do in the University Board. As the world becomes more and more turbulent, those of us who are safe must do more for others. UiB must do more to stand up for peace and against oppression around the world. Everyone deserves the right to live, and the right to an education, whether you are from Ukraine, Iran, Sudan, Palestine, or Norway.

A genocide is taking place in Gaza, and Israel must be held accountable for its actions. We therefore call for an academic boycott of Israel, which is already approved by the student parliament but voted down by the UiB Board. There is no academic freedom without the freedom to live.

Solidarity also extends to the climate crisis. The climate crisis is raging and disproportionately affects people in the Global South. We must all do what we can to reduce its consequences. UiB, as one of the country's largest universities and one of the world's leading institutions in ocean research, has a special responsibility and opportunity to be a

champion of a green transition. We therefore want UiB to take a greater role in this work and do more to meet its own climate goals.

There are several important issues for the university in addition to our main priorities.

Research and education are the core of a university. There is much that is good at UiB, but there is much that can be improved also. We work for:

- The pedagogical competence of professors to be strengthened and regularly assessed.
- Students to have more opportunities to engage in research and publish in academic journals.
- Students' intellectual property rights to be protected. When professors involve students in research projects or make use of their research results, students shall be credited in the literature and recognised as co-authors.
- UiB to implement measures to increase support for diversity in the curriculum.
- UiB to improve its promotion of UiB's own AI tools over third-party and commercial AI tools.
- Students to receive adequate training in the use of AI and the consequences of AI use across all study programmes.
- UiB to implement and continue a pilot project for a textbook reuse system.
- Support for the Study Station at the HF library to be increased.
- Support and promotion of the language café to be increased.
- A better programme for an alcohol-free welcome week across faculties.
- Better welcoming of international students during the welcome week.
- Aligning the Norwegian and English websites so that the same information is available in both versions.
- More reading spots and study areas for students, with consideration given to the need for both quiet zones and group work spaces.

International solidarity is incredibly important to us. Norway and UiB have more resources than other parts of the world, and it is important that we reach a hand to others who may need it. Therefore, we want:

- Research collaboration with Israel through Horizon Europe to be terminated.
- A complete boycott of Israeli goods and services.
- A complete boycott of companies that support Israel's occupation of Palestine.
- UiB to work towards abolishing tuition fees nationally and introducing grants until they are removed.
- UiB to strengthen the Students at Risk and Scholars at Risk programmes.

Climate talk is not enough — we need **climate action**. Therefore, we have additional points on what we wish to achieve in the university board. To ensure a green transition, we want:

- A greater focus and stricter rules for sustainable travel. Trains, buses, or other forms of transport should be used instead of flying.
- To improve energy efficiency at UiB, with smarter solutions for heating, lighting, etc. on campus, and fixed routines for deactivation during holidays and public holidays.
- Day seminars and shorter meetings outside UiB or Bergen to either be held digitally or involve climate-friendly travel (train, bus, etc.).
- To introduce an internal carbon pricing system for UiB, built on experiences from other universities.
- To increase requirements for lower CO₂ emissions from food at meetings and events at UiB.
- To reduce food waste at board meetings and UiB events.
- To increase requirements for lower CO₂ emissions, with a goal of zero emissions in new procurement contracts and purchasing agreements.
- UiB must take a greater role in public education about the consequences of and solutions to the climate crisis.
- To improve recycling schemes, particularly in student areas, in order to improve recycling at UiB.

Student democracy at UiB needs a significant boost. Everyone must be part of this, but those in the highest elected positions must do the most. We are ready to take part in this effort and do our very best. Therefore, we campaign for:

- The university to make more of UiB's spaces available to students engaged in student-oriented voluntary activities. This can be achieved through, among other things, providing more extended keycard access to students who are active in student democracy.
- If elected, we will be at stands in different faculties at least every other week to maintain contact with students outside of the student elections.
- Better opportunities for international students to participate in and contribute to student democracy. Many are unaware of their right to vote, and other rights at UiB.
- Translation of agenda documents in central councils and boards at UiB so that international students and staff can be informed and engaged.
- The university to facilitate more arenas for collaboration between student leaders and student politicians across faculties and levels.
- Various councils and boards at UiB must strengthen the training of student representatives and be concrete about their roles and rights. Information for student representatives shall be accessible to all the students they represent.

We wish to have your vote and to work for a better UiB together with you! Please contact us if you have any questions or suggestions! Good election!

Yimin and Eirik

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