

TUNTREET

Part of Studentsamfunnet i Ås

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LEADER



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I survived, and you will too

Congratulations on surviving the Buddy Week!

A new life is beginning for many of you. New experiences, new adventures, new feelings, maybe even new friends and relations are ahead of you. In the wake of the dopamine high of the Buddy Week, many will be crash landing into the everyday life of a student. To some, it will likely feel like sh*t before it gets better. Take it easy, you're not alone. Let me share the pitiful beginning of my student life.

The first week was hard. I cried. I smiled. I cried. Went for a walk. Cried. You see the pattern. I attended lectures, went back to my room, called home and went to bed. I have never felt so alone, even in a crowd, like I did the first few days in Ås. If I had been a Sim, my social bar would be screaming red, and my courage to do anything about it was nonexistent.

Luckily, the trend would turn around for me. It was the amazingly insignificant gestures which didn't cost other people sh*t, that changed my whole existence in Ås. I can't remember word for word what was said, but it was something along the lines of: "Of course you can join!", "Come sit with me!" and "Should we get lunch together?". That turned into study groups, pregaming before Samfunnet, walks to Campus, sushi dates, 17th of May breakfasts and one sunny vacation. Who would have thought? Certainly not 2019-Celine.

The point is that there is hope, even when it doesn't feel like it. Take your time, relax your shoulders and show up with the same mindset of the people who want to meet you. You will find your crowd. But remember – friendship is a two-way street, and you have to give to receive! If no one takes the initiative or invites you for lunch or study groups, be that amazing person yourself! It will take some guts, and I know that it's scary, but know that the tiny insignificant gesture can mean so incredibly much for someone else.

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EX PHIL COGITAT, ERGO SUM



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This summer, the debate has raged around academic dishonesty and the fact that not citing sources correctly can result in penalties. It is a matter of withholding information, whether on purpose or by accident: Academic integrity. Ethics. Why, then, is the introduction to these concepts guilty of neglecting 1,000 years of scientific history?

Ex Phil, or Examen Philosophicum, has existed since 1675 in varying forms. On the subjects webpage of NMBU it is stated that "The subject consists of three parts: (1) history of science and philosophy; (2) philosophy of science; (3) ethics." and that "Part 1 addresses key philosophical ideas and theories relevant to Part 2 and Part 3." Emphasis is placed on the philosophers of Greek antiquity and the Enlightenment. If you go to Store Norske Leksikon's webpage on Ex Phil, you can read that one jumps from ancient philosophy to 17th- and 18th-century philosophers.

It should be mentioned that some of the medieval philosophers are covered in the curriculum, but this is sparse, and minimally covered in the lectures. Downplaying all the impact from philosophies outside of Ex Phil's main focus is a misguided simplification at best. Much of the reason we have philosophical texts from ancient Europe at all is because medieval philosophers saw them as compatible with the church's thoughts and values at the time. And yes, if it is philosophy of science and ethics that are most important in the subject, then it is (early) modern thinking that is the most relevant, but you don't put on shoes until you have put on socks first.

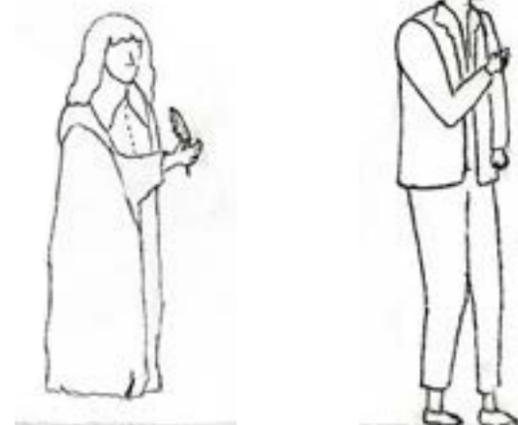
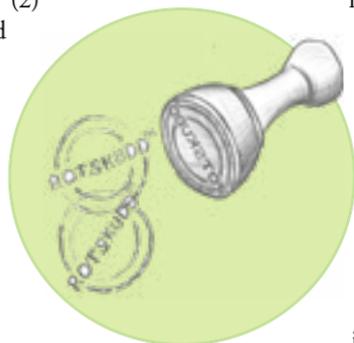
I dare say that Ex Phil has a lack of academic integrity because the subject goes very little into the more than

1,000 years of history from the Middle Ages. Of course, medieval philosophy is not the focus, but to skip it to the extent that it does is whimsical. The Islamic world also had advanced science at this time. This had as foundation, in addition to Greek, also Indian science.

If you go astray in a thesis, you will be able to attach little importance to it, but to remove it is to be academically dishonest, since it is a misrepresentation of the process that has taken place. And even if the research carried out doesn't bear fruit, it is part of the work that has been carried out. Ex Phil whitewashes scientific history - and it is thus through this subject that one must learn what is right in research ethics.

One can argue that philosophers like Descartes pressed a reset button on earlier philosophy, and that what came before no longer matters, but why then is so much emphasis placed on the philosophers of antiquity? Even if parts of medieval philosophy are a dead end, weighed down by foreign ideas and dubious conclusions that were not followed further, one should not forget that this is the world that early modern philosophies knew and chose to reject. Nothing happens in a vacuum.

History teaches us that the world is made up of reactions and counter-reactions. Telling half-truths by rambling over half the equation can make it seem like things have a much more logical progression than they really do, and it can also make it harder to argue against the axioms you hold on to. Because what is science if not the idea of questioning everything?



THE KEYKEEPER'S

GETTING FIRED!



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Right before the start of the semester the news came that the Keykeeper was getting fired. An arrangement that has existed at Samfunnet for generations is getting scrapped, but who is the Keykeeper, why is he getting fired and who will replace him?

The Keykeeper: The students' superhero

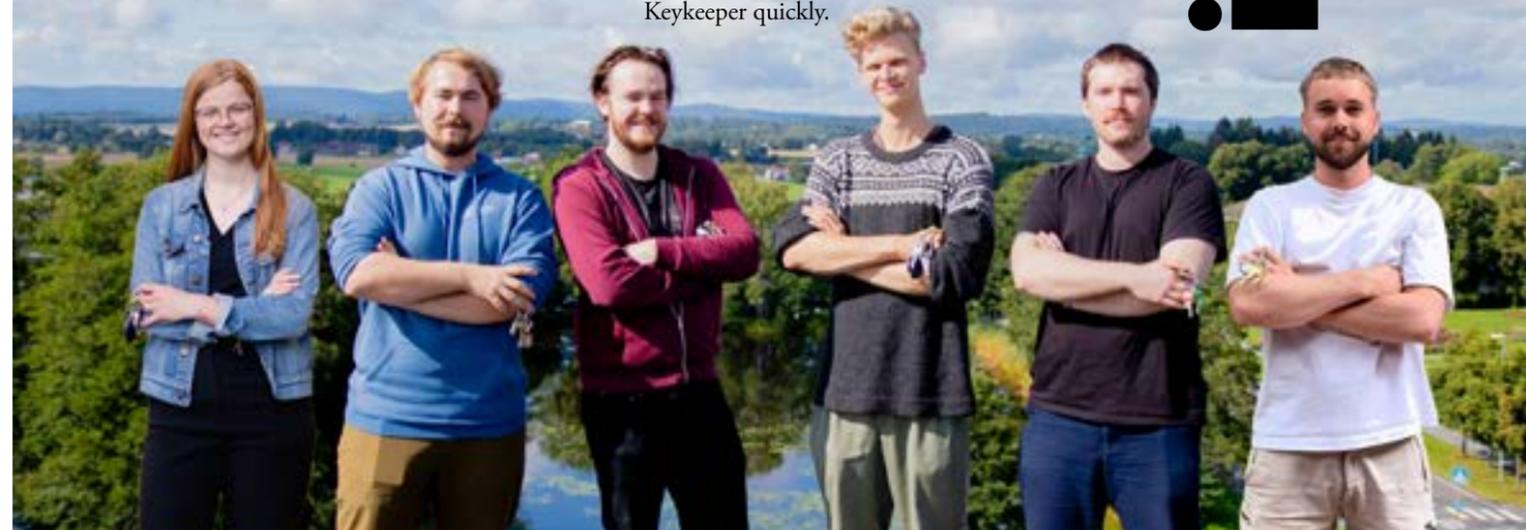
We had a chat with the current Keykeeper, Wilhelm Anthun. He has been the Keykeeper for a semester and has a semester left until he's done. The Keykeeper is a year-long position, paid for by SiÅs. There are always two Keykeepers, one is hired during the fall semester and the other during the spring semester. The two Keykeepers are on call every other week and have a week off in between, this way one Keykeeper is always working. Wilhelm describes the Keykeeper's job as that of a handyman who lives at Samfunnet and locks doors and solves all sorts of problems that students might have. Have you locked yourself out of your dorm room? The Keykeeper fixes it! Do you want to get into Samfunnet? The Keykeeper fixes it! Is there a viper in the sink in the bathroom? You guessed it, the Keykeeper fixes it! In many ways, the Keykeeper is the students' very own superhero who comes to the rescue when we call upon them.

The history of Keykeepers

The Keykeepers, or more accurately, the Keepers of Keys, have a long history, and the arrangement has remained almost unchanged since its creation in the 1980s. Before the time of the Keepers of Keys, there was a restaurateur and accompanying service staff at Samfunnet who lived there and performed caretaker duties. The restaurateur was an independent business operator who rented parts of the building and made a living from serving food in Klubben. This position gradually disappeared, leading to several break-ins at Samfunnet. Therefore, when the Samfunnet building was expanded in the 1980s, it was important to create a similar solution - this is how the Keykeeper apartments became a part of the office wing as we know it today. The arrangement was well-received at the time and was seen as a good solution, which might be the reason it has remained unchanged for the past 40 years. Therefore, one might wonder, why should it be discontinued now?

No one wants to be the Keykeeper

The decision to discontinue the arrangement is made by SiÅs and the Board of Samfunnet. This fall, there was a shortage of candidates to take over as the Keykeeper when the former Keykeeper, Vegard Hansen, stepped down. Time was running out, and SiÅs needed to find a new Keykeeper quickly.



From the left: Maren H. Sævd, Wilhelm O. Anthun, Vegard S. Hansen, Bjørnar D. Hagen, Carl-Henrik L. Alvin & Anders Stien

When no one came forward, SiÅs conducted a review of the Keykeeper's instructions: what are the Keykeeper's tasks, is there a need for a Keykeeper, and can they be replaced if necessary? They concluded that the Keykeeper is no longer a necessary arrangement to have at Samfunnet and therefore wished to discontinue the arrangement.

A messy game of telephone

We contacted Pål Magnus Løken, SiÅs' CEO, to inquire if they wished to comment on the discontinuation of the Keykeeper arrangement. The response we received was: "The Keykeeper arrangement is 'owned' by Studentsamfunnet, so I think it's natural for you to talk to Samfunnet." This leads us to the other issue with the Keykeeper arrangement: "The arrangement falls somewhat between two, the Board of Samfunnet and SiÅs," Wilhelm explains. It can seem like no one really has clear responsibility for the Keykeeper. The communication flow between the Keykeepers, the Board of Samfunnet, and the Board of House and Finance is poor. Currently, it's the Keykeepers who are responsible for training other Keykeepers, while Samfunnet has little involvement with them. What the former Keykeeper doesn't teach the new Keykeeper is forgotten. Previously, the Keykeeper had their own e-mail and PC, which they no longer have. The Keykeeper's instructions themselves have not been updated since the 1990s, including outdated tasks like emptying ashtrays. Wilhelm describes it all as a kind of game of telephone that has happened over their heads, where it seems like things

have slipped due to a lack of structure. "If someone had taken a closer look at the Keykeeper arrangement a few years ago, assessed its needs, and tightened it up, made training more systematic, maybe things would have gone differently," Wilhelm says. He further believes that efforts should be made to make the Keykeeper position more attractive. For example, renovating the Keykeeper apartments at Samfunnet, reinstating the Keykeeper on the leadership list, and advertising the position more prominently could yield good results. Perhaps the solution could be a revision and revitalization of the arrangement rather than discontinuation.

No one wants to claim the Keykeeper

While SiÅs believes that the Keykeeper and its discontinuation fall under the responsibility of the Board of Samfunnet, we get a different response when we talk to Maja Raz Karterud, the leader of Samfunnet: "We received an e-mail from the operations manager seeking input and feedback on how Samfunnet and the Board of Samfunnet currently use the Keykeeper arrangement. And that's what we did. As of today, we use the Keykeeper to lock the building when it's not a party night and to unlock specific rooms and spaces for associations when the building is generally closed. And that's essentially it, that's how we use the Keykeeper." Maja goes on to explain that last year, the Keykeeper was removed from the leadership list. She doesn't know why

this decision was made, but can imagine it may have to do with Samfunnet having very little connection to the Keykeeper. "They live here, but maybe they don't have as strong a connection as it used to be." "We see the need for someone to lock the building and turn off lights... but it's also something for which we can potentially find a replacement." Maja also comments on the response we received from SiÅs, stating that the Keykeeper arrangement concerns Samfunnet. "What I find a bit unfortunate is that they have told us to make a decision when we haven't been given a choice." So, no one seems to take ownership of the Keykeeper arrangement. It's possible that SiÅs made a hasty decision because Wilhelm is overworked. "This is also a job at us; it seems like no one has ownership of the Keykeeper arrangement, and there's no proper training for the Keykeeper... I think there's a bit of a lack of follow-up and development of the arrangement." So, the Keykeeper arrangement is a kind of like a child of divorce caught between SiÅs and Samfunnet. The more Tuntreet dug into this issue, the more loose ends we found.

The situation now

As the situation stands now in the aftermath of the final decision, there is only one Keykeeper. The plan is for Wilhelm to stay at Samfunnet until the end of the semester, but now he's on his own. "I've ended up being the only Keykeeper, so in a way, I'm working for two," he says. He still locks the doors and closes the windows at Samfunnet every evening, knowing that it won't be done if he doesn't do it. "Anyone who has called the Keykeeper and not received an answer in the past few weeks will understand why when they read Tuntreet," Wilhelm laughs.

Some of the Keykeeper's tasks, such as unlocking doors for students who have locked themselves out of their rooms, have already been taken over by Securitas. Wilhelm is skeptical about how Securitas will replace the Keykeeper arrangement. "It's all the little things, like changing light bulbs at Samfunnet, small things that Securitas won't go around doing." There are rumors that digital card readers could also potentially replace the Keykeeper. Whether this is a good solution or not, only the future will tell.

Following the interviews, we have received a new comment from Pål Magnus Løken, SiÅs' CEO:

"SiÅs neither can nor will decide to discontinue the arrangement. Recruitment for the Keykeeper positions takes place in dialogue with Samfunnet and UKA because the role of the Keykeeper has been significant for their operations. Interest in being a Keykeeper has decreased in recent years - at least if we look at the number of applications we have received. Samfunnet's operations have changed significantly in recent years. Samfunnet's takeover of operations in Cafe Klubben is an example and means that Samfunnet has activities at the building every evening. This may be of importance for how Samfunnet views the arrangement, although SiÅs has not been in such a dialogue with the Student Society Board.

I assume the Board of House and Finance will be involved if a decision to discontinue is made. It is natural that the one who owns the arrangement takes the lead in any significant changes."



SAMFUNNET – A MONEY MACHINE FUNDED BY THIRSTY STUDENTS?

It's Friday, and Graskurs Part 2 has just shaken off their performance on stage. People are on the brink of dehydration and flock to the beer taps in the bodega. "A tap beer, please! Member, that's right." A service-minded volunteer smile greets you, and a Diggipay terminal is thrown on the counter. The number '62' screams in your squinting eyes. "What the...!"



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This could have been you. It could have been me. However, it is not. It is a constructed situation. But still, everyone has been to the store and seen that you can get a pint for as little as 25 kroner. There, you don't need to move barricades or stare at a fire drill board for 8 hours to get a low price. At Samfunnet, beer is sold in 0.4-liter glasses, and you have to shell out 78 kroner for half a liter of beer. That's over three times as much as in the store!

In protest, the fictional person in the situation turns demonstratively away. A furrow appears on their forehead. 'Something's not right here,' they think. Our friend, let's call them Torve, inquires with people in the queue. Atavan (18, soon 19) thinks it's "a bit too expensive, honestly." Andrine (23) agrees and emphasizes that it's "twice as expensive as in the store, but it's okay. I understand that Samfunnet needs to make money." Anders (20) thinks Samfunnet is "fun, but a liiittle too expensive," and Ida (21) expresses that it's "expensive, but better than other bars." Even Gerhard (26) expresses his moderate dissatisfaction with a "not so great, but it could be worse, cheers!" Stian (19, soon 20) and Sindre (25) think the prices are excellent.

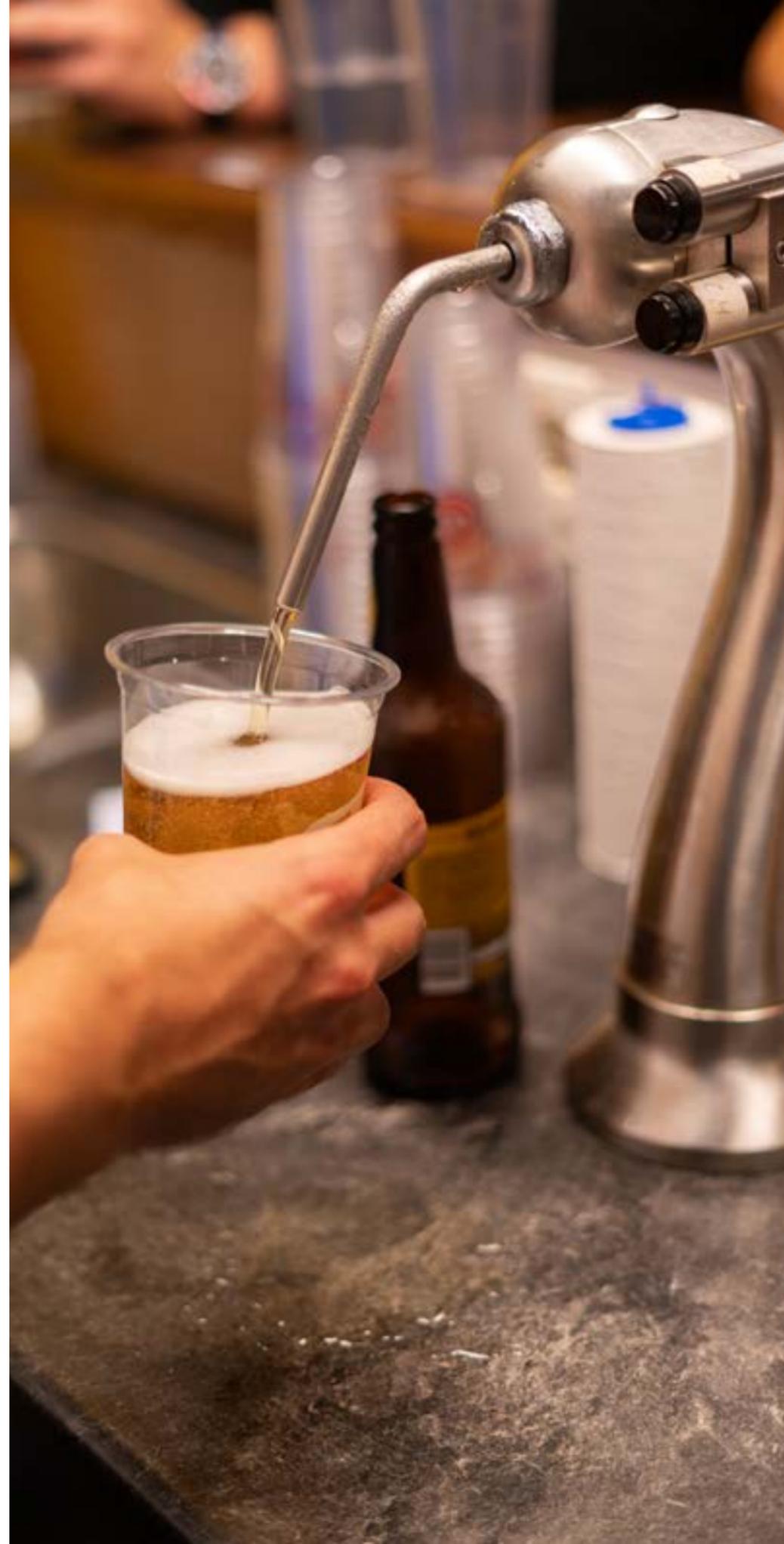
Torve sneers at the latter two and marches resolutely out of the venue. They go straight home and go to bed. Tomorrow's

plans to let themselves be beaten by a pounding hangover and bury themselves in the impossible choice between potential membership in various associations are discarded. Instead, the day shall be devoted to thorough investigation. Tomorrow, they will get to the bottom of how greedy conglomerates like Samfunnet can rake in prices of an arm and a leg from desperately thirsty and impoverished students.

Before the birds start chirping, Torve gets up. Breakfast doesn't consist of a sandwich with liver pâté, pickles, and mayonnaise. It's beer. From the store. For 25 kroner. Ahhh, nice. A little annoying that that one girl in the collective has to vacuum right now, though. Ouch! Not the feet, please! This is getting ridiculous. They'd rather have a beer at one of Ås' bars. They probably have reasonable prices.

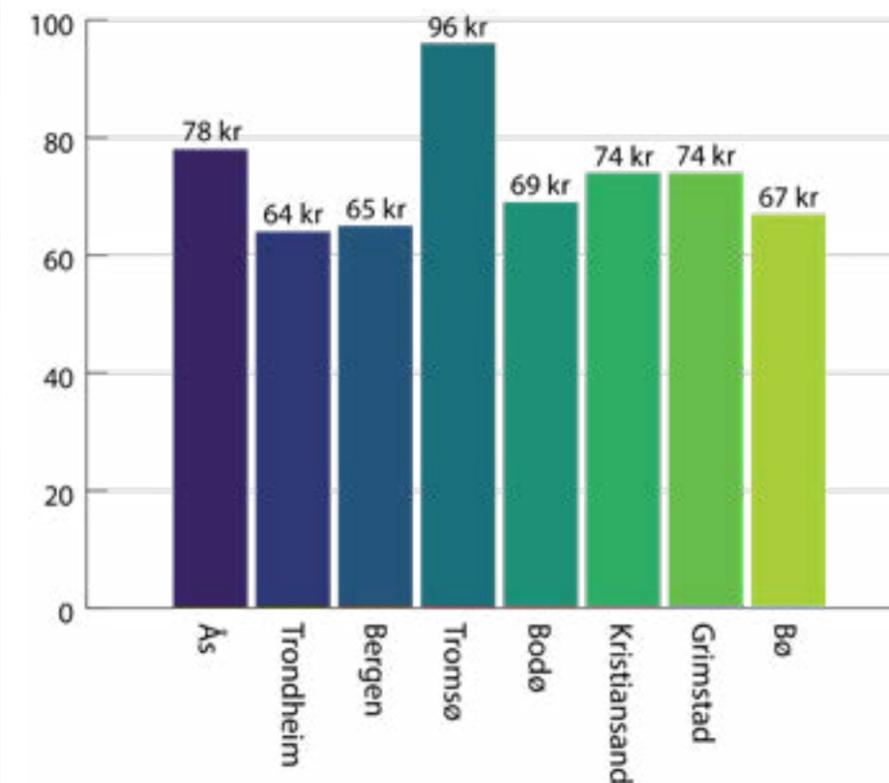
Arriving at Jojo's, Torve asks for a beer. 109 kroner. What? Outrageous! Adios, to put it that way. The station café, on the other hand, is pleasant. "How much for a pint? 109?!" Impossible. The bistro? Nope, don't think so. Charlie's! WHAT? 115 kroner?! Ås is a terrible nightlife spot. Torve must go to Oslo.

There, they visit no less than 35 nightlife establishments from representative areas in the city, coincidentally the same ones Aftenposten visited in July 2023. The most



expensive? 169 kroner. The cheapest? 74! But they don't serve food there, and the place is, to put it mildly, grim. The average price in Oslo is 120 kroner per pint. It's far worse than in Ås.

Torve must go out and experience the world. Or, at least an important part of Norwegian students' world. They report the prices in the following diagram: Everywhere, it's well over twice as expensive as in the store! Quite similar to Samfunnet in Ås. How can that be?



Torve stumbles through the collective door at home, and is now so tired that they have a pounding hangover and are haunted by thoughts of which association to join. They are also much poorer than before the Bodega boycott. They lie down and are never seen again. As a more reliable replacement, Tuntreet has interviewed Samfunnet's financial manager, Ola Walberg Nilssen, who might have some answers.

TT: What's the price of a beer at Samfunnet today?

Nilssen: We sell 0,4 L on tap for 62 kroner for members, 52 for committee members, and 80 for regular guests. So, the price for half a liter is 78 kr, 66 kr, and 100 kr, respectively.



TT: Why is there a difference in these prices?

Nilssen: This differentiation has been in place for a long time. We want to reward those who take on more responsibility and work more hours for Samfunnet.

TT: What is the percentage of sales in these three groups?

Nilssen: The general distribution for sales is 50 percent members, 30 percent committee, and 20 percent regular guests. This applies to both ticket sales and bar sales.

TT: That means (after a quick calculation) you have an income of 79 kroner per average sold half liter. What is the purchase price?

Nilssen: Lately, we have put a lot of effort into mapping out our purchases. We are satisfied with that. Today, the purchase price is 32,40 kr per half-liter, but it may change depending on the quantity ordered throughout the year. Samfunnet is operated as an entirely voluntary organization, so we don't pay any salaries. But SiÅs does. Every year, Samfunnet pays approximately 1.1 million kroner to SiÅs for them to hold the liquor license. This includes all administrative costs, billing, finances and accounting, auditing, personnel and employer functions, and other costs related to serving alcohol, such as wages for the liquor controllers. This is called the "serving agreement," which provides predictability for Samfunnet and gives us greater freedom to improve and develop our services.

TT: So, when you sell beer with a profit of 47 kr per half liter, some of this goes toward paying SiÅs through the "serving agreement"?

Nilssen: Yes. Samfunnet has two main sources of income, ticket sales, and bar sales, followed by smaller items like membership fees and other support. So, you can imagine that in such an old building with a great need for renovation, technical equipment requirements, and so on, the two main sources of income are the main pillars of support for many things.

TT: How much does Samfunnet earn from beverage sales?

Nilssen: You can see the sales numbers here. Beer and spirits are the two most important sales. People generally drink less than before but stronger drinks. We had a fantastic Buddy Week. It was a lot of fun.

We generated around 800,000 in total revenue just during the Buddy Week, but obviously with some associated costs.

TT: What is the approximate profit from beverage sales at Samfunnet this year?

Nilssen: According to the reports generated so far this year, we have purchased drinks for around 1 million kroner and sold them for 1.85 million kroner. Adding the cost of the "serving agreement" at 1.1 million, we are still in the negative when it comes to bar sales. We have budgeted for bar sales in 2023 at 2.5 million. This is something we need to achieve to cover the costs associated with serving alcohol.

TT: In Ås' bars, you can get a half-liter for 109 kroner. You don't need to pay for membership or put in countless hours of volunteer work. But at these bars, everyone who contributed to getting the beer in the glass gets paid. Waitstaff, cleaners, administration, rent, maintenance. You pay for all of this through the beer. At Samfunnet, most of the work is done by volunteers, yet the regular price per half-liter is 100 kroner. At internal events, SiÅs, which is not run by volunteers, sells half-liters for 95 kroner. Where does the money Samfunnet charges for beer go?

Nilssen: It's very important for us to make people aware of where the money goes. Bars in Ås are a poor point of comparison. Samfunnet offers a broad range of services that are significantly larger than a pub in Ås or Ski. We operate in several industries, hold concerts, revues, lectures, seminars, quizzes, and run a café. In general, all of Samfunnet's subunits share a bank account. For example, Tuntreet has a "zero-profit strategy," where 1000 copies go out about once a month. Printing, delivery, equipment, etc., all cost money. These expenses are covered by the units that generate profits, like the bar.

TT: So, do you have a lot of money saved up?

Nilssen: Yes, Samfunnet has built up a fairly solid equity. With that, we want to reinvest in the house. Everything is used to improve and maintain our services.

TT: But where are the major investments when there is so much money?

Nilssen: It costs a lot to run such an old and large building. For example, there's a leaking roof in Rosehagen, and a lot is protected and must be done in special ways.



And then there's the Aud.Max. renovation, which we're waiting to start.

TT: How do you work when you need to set prices?

Nilssen: We're not out to maximize our income. The focus is to

have strict control over costs so that we can provide the best possible offering to our members. We don't just look at the general price increases in society. What we want is to find the lowest price we can offer in line with an economically sustainable long-term strategy.

TT: How is it possible to buy beer cheaper at Klubben?

Nilssen: Klubben is a wonderful offering, both as a serving and meeting place. We want to contribute to strengthening and promoting it. If we broke even on beer sales during club nights, there would be less room for such services.

TT: Prices are increasing everywhere. Can we expect any price increases at Samfunnet in the future?

Nilssen: I don't think you should expect a sudden price jump, where suddenly on a Friday, you can only afford one beer. That's not the intention or strategy. The strategy is to have full control over Samfunnet's costs and then adjust prices accordingly.

TT: What do you personally think about the price of beer at Samfunnet?

Nilssen: The prices are very competitive and reasonable considering the comprehensive service we have. The bars in Ås can't compete with it.

Samfunnet is perhaps funded by thirsty students. But also by the efforts of voluntary students! If it's a money machine, it certainly gives back generously. Let's hope Torve reads the 6th edition of Tuntreet, so they can find peace of mind. And the next time you're at the Bodega, you can explain to the servers why the prices are what they are — and gladly pay for what it costs. After all, it's one of the cheapest bars in the country.



THE POWER OF A RITUAL



A date with the beyond

When you think about a ritual you might think of hooded figures around an altar in a dark stone cellar. This is well within the scope of what a spiritual ritual can be. But secular rituals are among us every day. If a birthday is celebrated as a social gathering, the birthday song has to be sung. At Samfunnet's General Assembly, the Ås-hymn "Jeg og'n Thorvald" (Me and Thorvald) is sung. Anything else would be preposterous. Even watching "Gullrekka" (the set Friday night line-up on NRK) on Friday evening can be some sort of ritual on a national scale, where comedians and celebrities replace the clergy. With these examples in mind, you might wonder what a ritual really entails. This is fitting, because the known and unknown rituals and customs have, until now, not gotten the attention they deserve. Ås is, in fact, overflowing with the strangest of traditions. Join us for a date with the occult ambiance that bring humanity to the edge of the beyond, e.g., Graskurs Part 2.

Hallowed atmosphere and submission

It is adorable that an academic institution like NMBU still falls victim to the temptation of a good ritual in our rational society where everything is supposed to make sense. Matriculation is a patch of spilled wine left behind from days past when the university was dead

serious in what it represented. Imagine NMBU as an academic republic, with its own laws and jurisdiction, where matriculation symbolizes the students' submission to the institution – an institution where students and faculty were "priests in Minervas temple", more or less. This was the standard for universities until 1700. Today it is no longer required for any institutions of higher education to force students into submission, but NMBU, which describes matriculation as a "mild hallowed atmosphere", still thinks it is a little courtly. One can even give the matriculation a magical quality.

Enchanted

Our society's disenchantment is described by the sociologist Max Weber as "the iron cage of rationality". We are pressured to give up our belief in the beyond, in what's on the other side of our empirical reality. Some kind of explanation as to why we exist and what we are doing right now. The "enchanted" can be everything that gives us an aesthetic experience that makes one excited, admiring, or fascinated. Sometimes this happens without you even knowing why, like Vollskogen (the woods next to Pentagon) in the autumn, a good Christmas concert in the Ås church, the old oak out in the field, yes – even a befuddled evening in the Bodega.

"Enchantment is created and rooted in understandings and experiences of a world where there is more to life than the material, the possible, or the explainable; where the philosophies and principles of our reason or rationality cannot dream of life's totality; where the daily norms and routines of linear time and space are just a part of the story; and where the collective sum of communion and belonging, in a fleeting manner, is greater than all its individual components."

The sociologist Richard Jenkins perfectly describes the magical and spiritual that can happen, rather often, in our individual life journeys; those moments when, eerily, it feels like there is something more in the room.

Mental space

Let's bring it back to the matriculation. This spectacle that happens on Storplenen in front of the Clock building is, as mentioned, an example of an enchanting event. Even if you don't acknowledge the experience as something intoxicating or magical, and are much more looking forward to that evening's party, the matriculation still represents a symbolic portal into a new space in your mind. In the inner world you live in, you have now passed through a triumphal arch into a new mental space that contains the events you want to experience. That's what's magical about rituals: they are landmarks that make it easier to navigate the inner landscape of the mind. If you don't think so, at least your brain does.

Naked sprints and burnt assholes

Another element of rituals is often a feeling of powerlessness. You're in a totally foreign situation, and you're at the mercy of the ritual. All the funny and absolutely insane rituals that social associations engage in often entail going outside one's comfort zone. The Hannkatts' asshole burning at Graskurs Part 2, Over Rævne's ultra-alcoholised entrance requirements, the Songchoir Lærken's hidden entry rituals, Unity's naked

sprint and Åsblæsten's ceremonious wake-up fanfare in Kringla at 05:00. Yes, even the study association Jordskifterlaget apparently have their own ritual.

Deposition

There are often different explanations between associations as to why they have to go through these rituals, and that you are at the mercy of those who know the ritual. Of course, the details of the rituals most likely have been changed with the years; maybe they've become more humane, but the point is the same. They're designed to put participants on a completely new mental state – they're "deposed" or torn down from where they were before. Participants can, from there, be placed in a new identity and group affiliation.

You and your identity

There's no doubt that student life is like being in a rowboat during a typhoon with only one oar at your disposal. We're concerned about identities because, after all, it's your perception of yourself that guides the way through your life. Your identity is your moral compass, but it's not static. If you ever find yourself in a dark stone cellar with people in dark robes, or on Storplenen during the matriculation ceremony, or singing "Jeg og'n Thorvald" in Aud.Max. – then you are truly in the Present, in a way you've never seen before; and you might discover something within yourself and others that you never knew existed.

Submitted by Benjamin Alexander Faulkner



Marthe Watz
Illustrator



Ida Haraldstad
Translator





Photo from the NMBU-archive, The Board of the University

HIRED RECTOR: RESPONSIBLE MANAGEMENT OR A DEMOCRATIC ISSUE?

Hired or elected rector, that is the question. It is the university itself that decides on what is going to work the best. No rector at NMBU have sat throughout their whole 4-year period since NMBU switched to a hired rector. Therefore, it is easy to wonder, is this still the best solution for NMBU?

Background

Since the Norwegian Agricultural College (NLH) was founded in 1897, there has been an election for the position as a rector. The same is true for the Norwegian Veterinary College. It was the scientific staff that had the right to vote, but in 1990 the students also gained suffrage, when the new university law replaced the old Law on Norwegian Agricultural College, although the power of the student vote was somewhat weaker than the staff vote. Even when NLH became University of the Environment and Life Sciences (UMB) in 2005, this way of voting was kept.

In 2016, a new and updated Law on Universities and Colleges was introduced,

where the norm was for the University Board to hire the rector, but with the possibility to stick to the old model. The hired rector is, in this new model, the secretary of the board. With an elected rector, they are the head of the whole university, and the administrating director is the secretary of the board. In 2016, NMBU decided to make the transition to a hired rector.

Election or employment?

If the rector is elected, both students and employees have a right to vote, but if a rector is hired, it is only the University Board that get a say in the matter. Chairman of the board, and thereby the leader of the whole of NMBU, also effectively an external representative in the employment model, is then decided on by the Ministry of Research and Higher Education. This entails that those managing the university aren't necessarily familiar with the university. The management structure as it is today is 1 temporary employee, 2 students, 1 administrative employee, 3 professors, and 4 externals. In total, 11 people sit in the University Board.

On the employment process

Hanne Refsholt is the current Chairman of the University Board. This spring, the previous rector Curt Rice left after a disagreement with the Board, and Refsholt explains that in situations where the rector leaves, the current Board have a duty to appoint a new rector. If the term isn't finished, a newly employed rector could finish the current term or an extended term, but this would have to happen with the Ministry approval. As the Board Leader, she is also part of the Appointment Committee, which suggests to the University Board who would be a fit for the role as rector to the University Board, through an extensive process with job listing and interviews. The basic thought behind the employment is "what does the university need now?" Refsholt explains. She feels that the process is good, and that they are looking for a rector that can handle being a good leader, to help the whole university reach the goals set by the strategy.

An un-democratic model

Still, not everyone has had as much confidence in the process. Before it was

decided to change the model in 2016, Tuntreet wrote that the unions at NMBU, the Student Parliament, and other interested parties gathered to show their support for an election of a rector. Around the same time, more than 1000 employees signed a petition that they wanted an elected rector. This amounts to somewhere around 60% of all the employees at the time. Despite the attention, it was decided in the University Board that very year, with 6 for and 5 against, to change the model from an elected to an employed rector. Mari Sundli Tveit was the first hired rector, in her second term in the same role.



Photo by Simen Walbækken Tangen

Photo from the NMBU-archive, previous rector Mari Sundli Tveit and Curt Rice

Refsholt says that there are advantages and disadvantages that must be weighed against each other. "An elected rector is more democratic and can ensure a broad foundation.". Why doesn't the University Board want this model, one might ask. "The disadvantage is that the rector gets a dual role, as both chairman and general manager." To compare with terms in the business world, she says it results in a "worse corporate governance" because in that model it is the chairman of the Board who must follow up and control the principal, who is one and the same person. Kjell Aksnes, who was the Managing Director between 1993 and 2000, does not necessarily describe this as the case. In his words, the rector's position was, to a greater extent, being the top manager while the director was closer to being the general manager, with administrative, financial and legal tasks.

Since the switch to employing the rector instead of electing them, no rector has finished their whole term. Kjell Aksnes says that this was never the case in the period he remembers, between 1953 and 2019.

Academical autonomy

An issue with the employment model is that it can be regarded as a motion of no

confidence towards academia's ability to govern themselves, and a fear that unqualified people will run for election, particularly from outside of the institution. Although applications for public positions are open to the public, you can apply for an exception. If this is granted, you will not be known as an applicant until you are possibly offered the position. This is exactly what happened when Curt Rice was hired in 2021, and one could then do nothing but trust that he would do a good job for the rest of his term. It wasn't supposed to be like this.

Renewed debate

In January 2021, Khrono published an open letter signed by 17 employees at NMBU on the importance of an elected rector. The same month, the University Board processed a case regarding the management model. An independent working committee handed in a report that was used as basis for the decision where 7 voted for and 4 voted against keeping the employment model. None of the student representatives voted for going back to an elected rector.

In the report, emphasis is placed on the fact that "the University Law allows for

both elected and employed rectors to be recruited from their own institution or from the outside. But in practice it may be unrealistic to get external candidates to run for election [...]" It is therefore justified by getting competent people to assess the position.

A question of whether the rector should receive legitimacy from the Board or staff and students is also central. In the report, it is highlighted that "an elected rector will, to a greater extent, have his loyalty "downwards" in the organization, to the staff and students who have elected him, while an employed rector will have his loyalty "upwards" to the Board that has employed him".

This is obviously a discussion with many nuances, and many strong opinions. The problem right now is that if you were to have opinions on the issue, you have limited influence on who gets the position, because you have no right to vote. In many ways, the question is to what extent one trusts universities as an institutions to govern themselves, and whether it is appropriate to treat them as businesses. Is a tenured rector equally dedicated to his staff and students, or can they just as well find another job in the middle of their term?

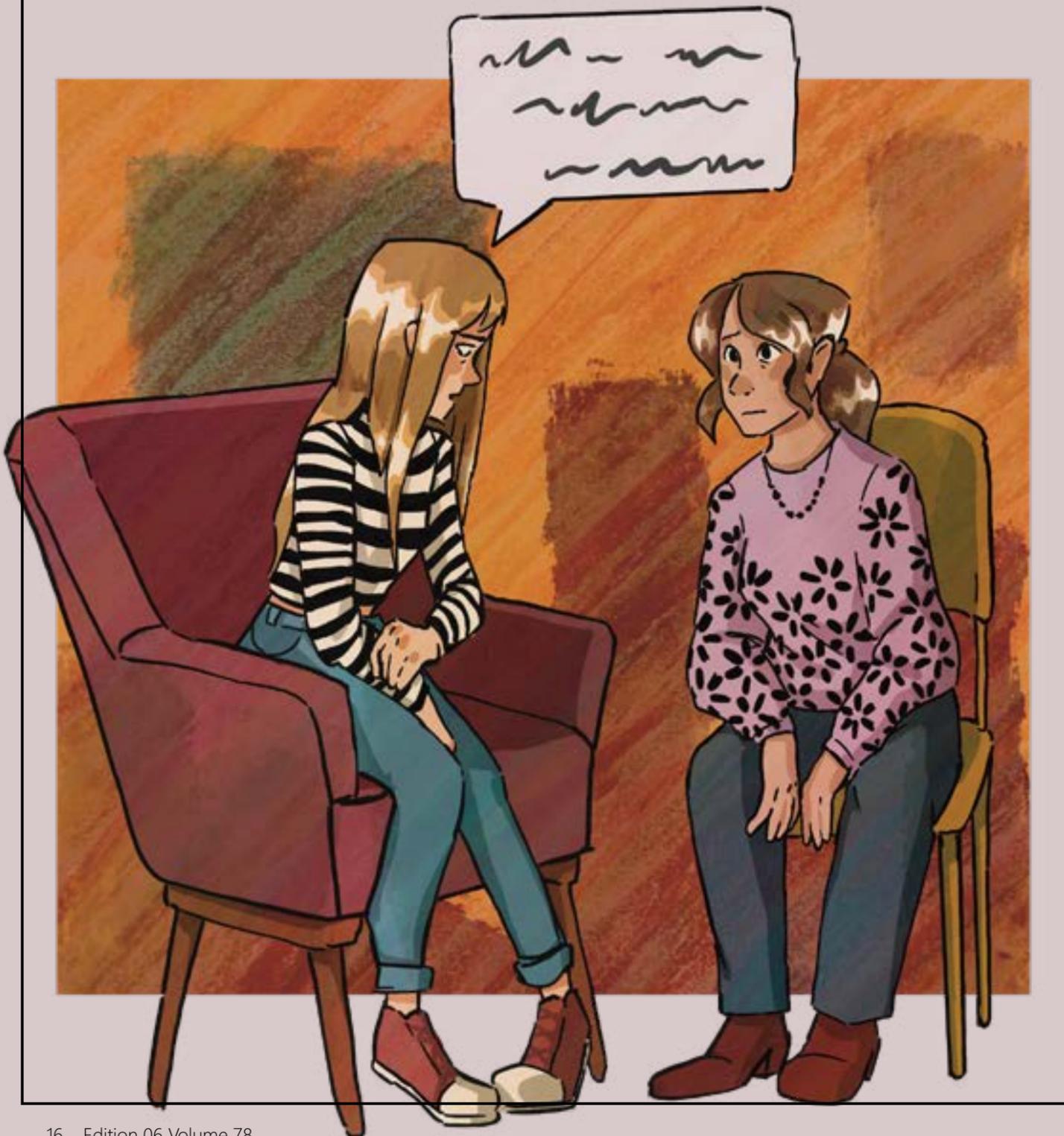


Tord Kristian F. Andersen
Journalist



Vegard Sjaastad Hansen
Translator

WHEN CAMPUS BECOMES UNSAFE: *a practical guide to critical situations*



Elina Turbina
Journalist



Marthe Watz
Illustrator

The study environment at NMBU has been a point of satisfaction and pride for the inhabitants of the Agrarian Metropole, as confirmed by last year's NOKUT's study barometer survey. But as much as we enjoy the good, it is important to know how to deal with the less pleasant occurrences. Here is your practical guide on what to do if you experience something uncomfortable and want to report it.

Reporting to NMBU (and SiÅs)

NMBU has recently updated their website, which means that you can now access the information about the relevant procedures for reporting different problems you encounter on campus straight from the front page: just scroll down to the end of the page and click on the 'Si ifra om avvik' link under the section *For Studenter*. Alternatively, you can access it from the *NMBU-Student* section of the webpage. This section of the website is still developing, and the English version of the page is coming soon!

In the 'Si ifra' section you will find a drop-down menu with practical information, reporting forms, and contacts for relevant types of issues concerning studies and learning environment, health and safety, campus buildings, as well as personal data safety. This is also where you find detailed information on what to do if you experience misconduct, such as bullying, harassment or sexual assault. It is possible to report anonymously, but beware that this limits the actions the university can take to follow up on the case.

Use this form if you want to report something that has occurred on the property of SiÅs as well. Alternatively, you can contact SiÅs' Student Life Coordinator Marit Raaf via phone: 902 64 918 (Mon-

Fri 08.00-15.30), e-mail: marit.raaf@sias.no, or physically by visiting the Student Life Center next door to the Post station on campus, Christian Magnus Falsens vei 3. This is generally a low-threshold place to visit if you need support of any kind!

Reporting to Studentsamfunnet i Ås

In the on-going development of the Studentsamfunnet's long-term strategy and ethical guidelines, inclusivity and safety of the student population is also taking a significant place. That is why Studentsamfunnet has also recently updated their reporting webpage: look for 'Si ifra' under the *Praktisk info* section or scroll down to end of samfunnetiaas.no and click on 'Si ifra!' there (the English version is also on the way!). According to the HR-chief of Studentsamfunnet, Åslaug Flatabø, the report page is designed as a low threshold platform to inform the organization about anything that one may find concerning in relation to Studentsamfunnet. It is HR that receives the report and sets up a working group to proceed with the case. The people in this group vary according to the case presented to ensure impartiality. It is possible to report anonymously as well, and in case you do not feel comfortable having the case handled by the HR-chief or the relevant representatives, Studentsamfunnet has created an email: varsling@samfunnetiaas.no, which would be handled directly by an external representative of the Board of House and Finance.

If there is something you want to report during an event or a party night at Samfunnet, look for the Festansvarlig (event responsible), Vaktansvarlig (security responsible), or the guards! They will take your contact and make sure to provide a safe environment for you as soon as possible.

WHAT TO DO IF YOU GET SEXUALLY ASSAULTED:

If you, or someone you know happens to experience sexual misconduct – do not wait, go to Overgrepsmottaket (Assault centre) via Oslo Legevakt (Oslo emergency room) (tlf. 23 48 70 90). It is in the center of the city, **Storgata 40**, and it is open 24/7. Keep in mind that this is the closest referral point for inhabitants of Ås, Ski Legevakt will also refer you to Oslo.

Make sure you do not shower or wash your clothes after the incident happens. Bring these clothes with you, as well as whatever evidence you have regarding the misconduct. Try to note down the time, place, and any kind of relevant information about this incident.

Expect your time at Overgrepsmottaket to take up to several hours, as you shall have an initial meeting with a specialist to describe the situation, and then be taken in for a medical examination. You can absolutely bring a friend for support, and the people you will talk to at the center are nothing but kind and understanding of your situation, so do not hesitate to go through with it.

At Overgrepsmottaket, you will be presented with different systems of support and possibilities of going forward with the case. This means you have all the agency and freedom to do whatever you feel comfortable with in the situation you find yourself in. What matters is that you have a safe space to share this and get taken care of.

Oslo Freedom Forum



Ingvald Lauvstad Sunde
Journalist



Martin Hansebråten
Contributor



Tord Kristian F. Andersen
Potato



Natalie Nazareno
Translator

The human rights conference, Oslo Freedom Forum, was held for the 15th time in Oslo Concert Hall 13th - 15th June. “Celebrating solidarity” was the slogan of the Forum. Tuntreet shares its thoughts from two thought provoking and eventful days.

Oslo Freedom Forum (OFF) is a conference for human rights held in Oslo every year. The organizer writes kindly about the conference on its website, describing it as “a display of humanity, solidarity, and hope for the future”. Volunteer Liz Shelbred describes OFF as “Very unique. It brings together activists, journalists, and techs to talk about and convey stories”. Today, around 300 activists from around 100 countries participate.

Human Rights Foundation, the organisation behind OFF

The OFF conference is held by the politically independent organization Human Rights Foundation (HRF). HRF, founded in New York in 2005, is an organization which “promotes and protects human rights globally, with an emphasis on closed societies”.

HRF’s motto, “We believe that when we rise, tyranny falls”, shows their special focus on authoritarian regimes. At this year’s OFF, many of the speakers and panellists were political activists from authoritarian regimes, such as Iran and Russia. “The conference brings up difficult, but important issues, however, we hope that it also creates a community and a platform for likeminded people”, tells Shelbred.

“Oslo is perfect”

HRF explains that there are many reasons why Oslo in particular is the perfect place to hold a conference like this. In addition to being the city where the Nobel Peace Prize is awarded, HRF highlights the fundamental role Norway has in many of the world’s peace negotiations, and the country’s appreciation for peaceful democracy. Furthermore, the OFF has taken place in other parts of the world, like Mexico City, Johannesburg, and New York. After taking place in Oslo this summer, the 15th OFF conference will be held again in New York in September with new conference speakers and panellists.

Three days of strong impressions

Tuntreet participated at two of the three conference days. The days were filled



with main sessions before and after lunch, with workshops, panel discussions, and presentations running parallel after the main sessions. On the first day, Tuntreet participated in a short panel discussion on the topic “Iran: The Final Revolution?”. Amongst the speakers were Masih Alinejad, human rights activist from Iran who fights for women’s rights, and Yasmin Green, CEO at Google’s department Jigsaw, with special focus on fighting threats against open societies. In other words, the opposite of closed authoritarian societies. Alinejad is known as a fearless defender of human rights, with great focus on women’s situation in her home country. She was hopeful when saying that this was the last time people would talk about a revolution in Iran.

“Gender apartheid” and technology in authoritarian regimes

The most interesting part of the panel discussions was to learn about the so called “gender apartheid”. The panellists used Iran as an example, where women are consistently discriminated economically and socially based on their gender. The panellist described how technology is used to monitor the people of Iran. As her final statement in the panel discussion, Alinejad

had one last urgent plea: “Always remember that Iran is not the Islamic republic. It is the ‘Iranian people’”.

LGBTQ+ rights in Uganda

Tuntreet got in touch with Edward Mutebi in the swarming crowd, a master’s student in Social Work and Human Rights from Uganda. He is fighting for the LGBTQ+ community in his home country and has founded several organisations such as Let’s Walk Uganda. Uganda is a republic, however, Mutebi explains how the president more resembles a strong dictator. Through rewriting the constitution, in addition to other methods, he has remained in power of the country since 1986.

It was moving listening to Mutebi tell the story about the LGBTQ+-community’s struggles in Uganda, and how it in many ways already started back in 2009. Nevertheless, he makes it clear that the government over many years, both before and after, has targeted the LGBTQ+-community in the country. “The preparation of the first anti-homosexuality law started in 2009. These negotiations continued until 2013”, tells Mutebi. “In 2014, the law was approved by the president”. This law introduced death penalty for homosexuality, among other

things. However, the law was withdrawn only a few months later, due to being declared unconstitutional.

“Our situation still did not improve”, states Mutebi. “The office of Let’s Walk Uganda is a shelter for homeless people of the LGBTQ+-community. “In 2019, the police started attacking us there”, he explains.



Edward Mutebi



Everyone at the office was beaten up, and several of the homeless were taken into custody, tortured, and forcefully put through physical and psychological examinations.

Further, Mutabi says that a new anti-homosexuality law was approved in 2023. "What's special about this law is that, instead of taking several years to come to an agreement, this law went from negotiations to approval from February to May the same year". The law did not only implement death penalty for homosexuals, but also penalties for any supporters of the LGBTQ+-community such as fines or jail time up to 20 years. Mutabi has a theory; "the law is used to distract the public from the 'real' problems in the country. Uganda suffers from high unemployment rates, poverty, maternal death, and corruption".

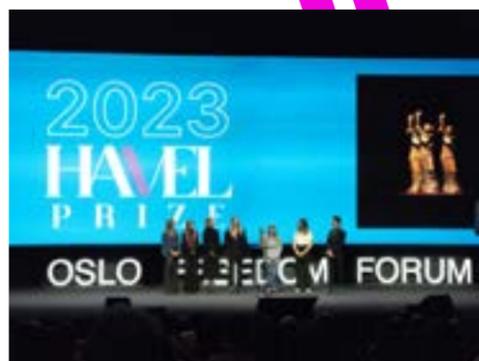
OFF is an arena which allows activists like Mutabi to tell their story. 'Activist' is, however, a wide term...

Zara Larsson... at a human rights conference?

Several panel debates were scheduled for the second day of the conference, followed by a short concert with Zara Larsson. Larsson is a Swedish pop-singer. It felt strange jumping from humanitarian crises to cheery pop, and the most 'eager' activists left the concert after a while. Even so, Larsson was not invited completely out of the blue. The artist has voiced several opinions supporting feminism and body positivity. This, however, does not entirely shine through in her song lyrics, and even though a dedicated corner of the hall enjoyed the music, the concert did not quite fit in with the rest of the three-day long program.

Two days filled with purpose

The three participants from Tuntreet left the OFF with a new perspective of little Norway and how lucky we are here. Nevertheless, the OFF shows that there are many channels where one can listen to stories shared from around the world. And that it is exactly where we must start in order to get these stories out into the world – be the ears that listen.



TIME TO ABORT THE EXPERIMENT

The Buddy Week is well underway as I am writing this, and so it is easy to become nostalgic, and think back to the time I myself moved to Ås, roughly 5 years ago. A lot has improved, a lot is as it has always been, but some things have changed for the worse. You can look to issues with recruitment to volunteer work, or if you want to look at national issues, the decision to introduce tuition fees for international students from outside the EU and EEA. But I want to shine a light on a much smaller and narrower case: the payment and ticket systems at Samfunnet.

When I first started, there were free entry events for everyone with things like quiz, Tuesday refill, and, last but not least - Wednesday Bodega. The main artery to weekday beers. A great place to go for a small break and to socialize. Most of all, it was a great arena to meet others. As a new student, I got to know the veterans of Samfunnet. These veterans had wisdom to give, which I now would like to pass on, namely, how important it is to get involved in the stuff happening in Ås, and contribute as a volunteer.

I so desperately would love to pass this wisdom on, but there is just one small problem: most of the people coming to the Bodega nowadays have already heard it. They seem to have two to three positions or more in the student bubble, and are, with that, major contributors to Studentsamfunnet staying afloat. It would have been good for Samfunnet to mix it up a bit more at the Bodega. Chance meetings between Studentsamfunnet's great zealots and new students are important, so that the new students get the final push to volunteer.

Therefore, I think it is time to abort the experiment concerning a fee for all events at Samfunnet, and instead save that for the big concerts and events. A possible solution is to get rid of the ticket system at the smaller events, and instead reject people at the door when reaching max. capacity. Then you would also avoid people getting tickets for events they never attend, and focus more on going to Samfunnet early.



Vegard Sjaastad Hansen
Writer



AN ELECTION FOR THE FOREST, HEALTH AND A LIVING ÅS CENTRE



For a lot of students, the day of election is September 8th. In the expansion at Vollskogen, the local natural environment of more than 1250 students in Pentagon is at stake. The fact that construction work here will result in even more conflicts about noise does not seem to stop the political majority from building 200 single-family homes and serial houses. MDG and Rødt are working hard to save Vollskogen, but only MDG can guarantee they will use their power in negotiation to save the forest.

It all boils down to whether we want to have a policy for the few or for the many. MDG is surprised by the eagerness to build from Venstre, Ap and SV. Building houses in Vollskogen is putting a few peoples' wish for a private garden and a garage above the needs of the many people living with limited space in a student village of blocks of flats, now and in the future, while living on student loans and benefits. The way humanity is currently exploiting both wild and domestic animals, Covid-19 will not be the last pandemic. And during the pandemics of the future, many students will still need a break from the chaos of Pentagon and boring digital lectures. Nature soothes both our body and soul, and the local nature is most frequently used.

The Health Centre for Youth and Students is threatened. The Apled government has announced a cut of 1.5 million NOK for the Health Centre. We guarantee that we will fight to keep this service running. To a lot of people, this is a crucial service for their sexual and mental health.

We will also keep working towards a dedicated bicycle road between NMBU and Ås, and making sure central Ås turns into a lively and attractive place with different things to do. One of our measures is starting more sharing initiatives to reduce food waste and help bring down the amount of money students spend on food. We want more trees in the streets, benches in the town centre and a

market dedicated to local food. Bike lanes should cross the town centre from east to west and north to south, and we must put an end to the constant bike thefts. We believe in the potential for a green development in the town of Ås.

We are well represented at NMBU. Four out of the top five candidates are or have been students in 2023. This ensures that we can do more than just present comprehensive politics regarding nature and the environment that's within the boundaries of our planet. We can also represent the needs of the students with credibility and bring knowledge from our university into the municipal council.

Have you cast your vote yet? Apart from the (really) old people (90+ years), people in the typical student age (20-24 years old) have the lowest voting rate in elections (SSB, 2019). If you were not registered as a resident in Ås before 1st of July 2023, 8th of September is your last chance to vote in advance. On election day, you may only cast your vote in the municipality you are registered in, so go cast your vote!

No matter what politics you want, the most important thing is to use your right to vote. In an election, a few votes can determine which parties get to decide the politics of a town. When more voices are heard, the local politicians know their work is well-supported by the residents, and it gives the local politics so-called legitimacy. And with that, I and Ås MDG would like to wish all students, visitors and employees at NMBU a good election!

By *Martin Løken*, mayor candidate for MDG in Ås

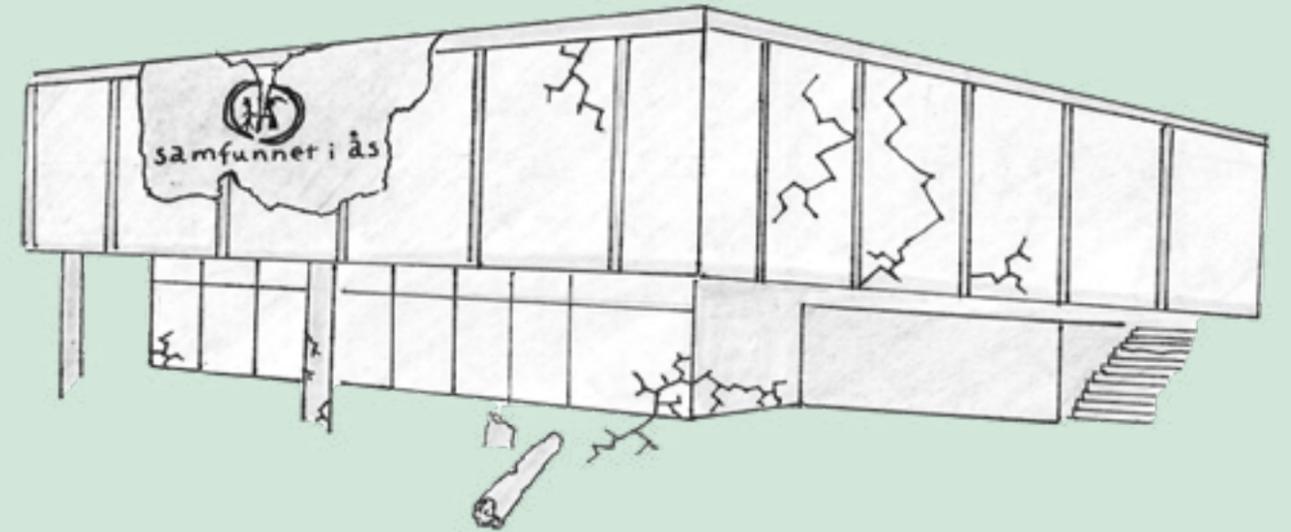


Viktor Talgø Syvertsen
Illustrator

Eva Szemes
Translator



VOLUNTEER WORK OVER SPARE TIME?



Studentsamfunnet is falling apart at the seams! At the Buddy Seminar this spring, we were told about poor attendance at the community service, even though attendance is a requirement if you want to be a member of Samfunnet. Because of this, Samfunnet is not able to have as many parties as they would like, due to the lack of people contributing. The parties are valuable gathering places for the associations. We must not forget that Samfunnet is mainly based on volunteer work! In order to get benefits like a party and a good student environment, we have to give something in return. What would make you volunteer for a position?

During my first year as a student, I have noticed that some people have become a lot more involved than others. I have seen them involved in the Student Democracy, association life and committees at Samfunnet. I think Samfunnet i Ås might collapse if everyone just uses the benefits and expects the same quality as always, without showing interest and contributing. There are, of course, many reasons not to take on a position, but if you have the extra time and energy, it is a great way to contribute to Samfunnet. Volunteer work is not rewarded with money, but with relationships, experiences and one's own happiness. These relationships can make it easier to secure a job

in the future. You also develop an important skill: putting others before yourself.

This next school year, I have been elected as the Head of the Student Council at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, and I am also going to be a Buddy. I ran for the position as the Head of Student Council because I wanted to get to know more people and challenge myself. I am really looking forward to being a Buddy and the Head of Student Council, because I know I will not be empty-handed afterwards. This will be a gift to myself and others.

Believe me, I notice you if you are a volunteer. Other people notice it. You can make a difference in people's everyday lives and well-being, and together we will become great people when we enter the workforce. Enjoy your time as a student and challenge yourself!

By *Live Tofte*

Viktor Talgø Syvertsen
Illustrator



Eva Szemes
Translator



WHO ARE THE NEW AU...

... and are they really going to kidnap the mayor of Sogndal?

It is a warm summer's day when Tuntreet meets the newly elected Executive Committee of the Student Parliament (AU) outside of the Clock Building. Here, we meet Wilhelm, Martine, and Camila, who eagerly tell us who they are and how they wish to improve your everyday life as a student.

What is AU?

AU consists of three students elected by the rest of the students to work as full-time politicians. Their job is to be the link between students and staff, and to make sure that the Student Parliament's policies are put into practice. Therefore, AU works to influence the university, the municipality, SiÅs, and the Health Center. The Student Parliament can in many ways be compared with the National Parliament and the Executive Committee can be compared to the Government.

Which cases are most important going forward?

The student politicians do not hesitate to talk about what's close to their hearts. Wilhelm is especially engaged in the degradation of Vollskogen. He believes that NMBU, as the sustainability-focused university it is, must stay united against degradation of valuable nature.

Another important issue which engages the Executive Committee is the students' welfare offer. Camila highlights the fact that students are an especially vulnerable group, where many already struggle financially and with loneliness. She is critical to the downsizing of the Health Center due to the lack of financial funding. "As students, you face pressure from every direction. The university expects you to dedicate 40 hours to your studies while the Government expects you to work 35 hours on top of that. In addition, they are now going to reduce our welfare offers and still wonder why we struggle", says a provoked Wilhelm. "What's missing now is a rich

American uncle who can save the students", Martine chimes in jokingly and chuckles.

Wilhelm points out that in the 90s, students protested the low student aid by kidnapping the mayor of Sogndal. Back then, the student aid was 1.5G, however, today it is only 1.1G. The AU leader dreams of greater student engagement and jokingly warns the mayor of Sogndal to "watch out".

Who can contact AU?

Anyone who wishes can contact AU, no matter how big or small the issue seems. Camila informs that their office is in the Clock Building, in room U118. Their opening hours are weekdays 10-14. In addition, you can contact AU through Facebook, Instagram, their website, and via e-mail, Camila says.

Instagram: @studenttingetnmbu
Facebook: Studenttinget NMBU / The Student Parliament NMBU
E-mail: studenttinget@nmbu.no
Website: <https://www.studentdemokratiet.no/kontakt-arbeidsutvalget>

Who is AU?

Wilhelm Olav Anthun



From: Bømlo
Born: 1999
Education: Taking a master's degree in Ecology
Area of responsibility: The leader of AU and marketing officer

Tobias Waage Bremnes
Journalist



Astor Ness
Photographer



Natalie Nazareno
Translator



Martine Bingen



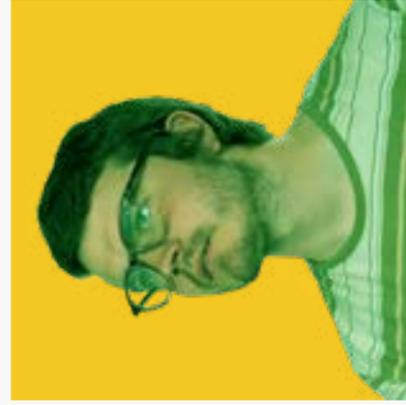
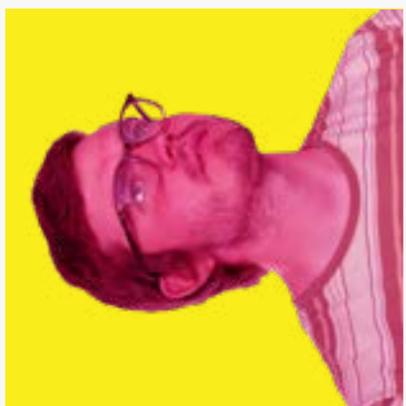
From: Fredrikstad
Born: 1999
Education: Completed a master's degree in Environmental Science
Area of responsibility: Learning environment, quality of study, and innovation

Camila Noel Moreno



From: Bergen w/ international background
Born: 1999
Education: Taking a bachelor's degree in International Environment and Development Studies
Area of responsibility: International responsibility, welfare, sustainability, and research





THE EDITORS

FALL 2023

Tour de Kringla 2023



How to build a house?



Crow
Writer



Tuva Hebnes
Photographer



Eva Szemes
Translator

Every house has to be built, and all houses have been built. My whole life I have lived in a house, but never have I built one. With the help of serious and profound journalism, I will get to the bottom of this mystery.

We've all seen a house. Often, the first thing we see is a wall. The house is practically surrounded by walls, or rather, with walls. Therefore, that's where I decided to begin.

I am standing a polite metre away from my interviewee. I start off gently, jovially, and ask: *What do you think is the best thing about a house?* No response. Let's try a more academic approach: *When building a wall, do you start with the innermost part and work your way outwards?* Silence yet again. Maybe this silence is a form of confession? Have I managed to penetrate the barricades of the brick wall? Could it be that easy!

The absence of an answer makes me realise my everyday shoes have smeared dirt on the lower bricks of the wall. The brick wall was probably not very happy with me. Time to become a friend.

Hoping the brick wall would get more talkative, I wished to explore a new topic.

Are you interested in golf? The brick wall appreciated the new topic of discussion and explained in detail how the golf club should be held with both hands, the intricate interaction between index finger and pinkie apparently reflected the government of Norway. I tenaciously flipped through the pages of my notepad and noted that the brick wall was right-handed, just like me. Maybe we had more in common than I thought in the beginning. The brick wall then specified the importance of one of the

thumbs being laid on top of the other, just like a father protects his son. And that was very important.

I thought I could catch a small glimpse into the brick wall for the first time during this interview. The brick wall's enthusiasm spilled over and hit me. At least I pretended it did. With the golf club in my hands, the stroke could be built up. With lively, demonstrating body language, the brick wall conveyed the message about how the pressure in the front foot gets moved from toe to heel through the swing of the stroke. I gave multiple interested nods, satisfied with my own sweet-talking. The time was soon right.

When was the last time you played golf? I noticed right away that the brick wall went into a more aggressive stance. "I cannot go to the golf course. I am a bloody brick wall. I stand here all day!" I decided to steer clear of the topic. It was clearly a sensitive subject.

What do you think about windows?
"I think you should leave now."

Had the brick wall seen right through me? Had I let my journalistic ego wrap my empathic skills in a chokehold? Maybe I need to learn how to build relationships before I learn how to build houses? Hrmpf!



Two Beers with BÅRD

Amalie Linnerud Garli
Journalist



Even Amandus Haslund
Photographer



Rebekka Berg
Translator



I meet Bård in Klubben one afternoon in August and quickly realize that it is not yet open for serving. As my former boss in the Sound Committee, he greeted me with a smile, thanked me for the last time, and apologized for still having to deal with him.

The place you have driven past

Bård was born and lived in Sarpsborg during his first years of life. However, this could not be mentioned when he moved to Fredrikstad, where the rest of his upbringing took place. Most of his schooling also took place in Fredrikstad, but the journey went back to Sarpsborg when it was time to start high school. Unsure of what he wanted, he decided to specialize in science.

It wasn't until a few years into high school that Bård heard about NMBU from a student ambassador who came to visit. He had not heard much about Ås before then, apart from the times he had driven past on his way north. Before that, the plan had been to study closer to Fredrikstad, however, after experiencing living alone at the folkehøyskole*, studying in his hometown was no longer an option. "It's nice to have the freedom to do what you want!", Bård explains.

During the conversation with the student ambassador, they discussed which subjects Bård took in high school. When he answered science, maths and IT, geomatics was brought up.

Like most others, Bård had heard little about geomatics. Nevertheless, after

reading about it that evening, he found it very interesting and thought it was a great option.

Theatre, stage, and music had long been a part of Bård's life, as he'd been doing theatre for 9 years back home in Fredrikstad. Thus, the journey did not lead straight to NMBU, but rather to a rewarding year filled with muscials and theatre at the folkehøyskole in Hønefoss first. It wasn't until autumn 2019 that Bård took his stuff and moved to Ås to study geomatics.

Positions, committee, Buddy, and choir

With all his stuff in place and well underway with his studies, Bård, like all new students at NMBU, was introduced to Samfunnet. During his time at the folkehøyskole, Bård had gained experience as a sound technician, so the decision to join the Sound Committee came naturally - as this had been an incredibly educational experience.

At Samfunnet, he had the opportunity to work with sound at concerts for the first time, although managing sound at revues was his first choice. The advantage of revues is that he gets the chance to sit at the mixing table, in contrast to concerts, where the artists usually have their own sound technician. When he controls the sound, he has the opportunity to leave his mark on the performance; if a song needed more guitar, he could give it more guitar. Since then, it's been revues that Bård has worked on the most here in Ås.

Since the end of September 2021, Bård has been the Head of the Sound Committee. The reason why Bård chose to go the extra mile was that he wanted to give more to Samfunnet, since it had given so much to him. He also worked as a NK (second in command) for revue sound during UKA2020, which, for obvious reasons, was not a completely normal experience. Nevertheless, with a lot of good work, it ended up being a good year for the culture festival after all. For Bård, there has always been a great motivation to get involved in many different things, instead of just sitting at home and doing nothing. Fittingly, the motto of the folkehøyskole in Hønefoss was "the school that never sleeps".

Throughout his studies, Bård has been part of the choir Noe Ganske Annet. Having spent a large part of his life in a theatre group, Bård has sung a lot over the years. Therefore, it was an easy decision to join an association with song and unity. At the time, Bård lived with another NGA member who persuaded him to apply for this particular association. Bård has mostly sung tenor in his choral career, with a short period where he tried himself at bass, but quickly realized that he was much better suited in the higher voice range.

*Folkehøyskole explained: a folk high school is a one-year education institution which offers a wide variety of courses. Nevertheless, they generally do not grant academic degrees. Folk high schools are, by some, seen as kindergartens for adults.



By the second year at Ås, the desire to get involved in the social side of his course of study was great. A period as a member of the board of the line association, several years as a Buddy for new students and one year as the Head of Buddy Week for his own study. Being able to introduce new students to Ås has been a great joy throughout his studies and, without a doubt, the best tip he gives to new students is to join Samfunnet. "My favorite part of Buddy Week is showing the new students around at Samfunnet!"

Tradition for life

From childhood, Bård has had a great fascination for the theatrical and exciting

life of pirates. Captain Sabertooth was perhaps one of the biggest and most obvious influences to this hobby, which Bård says he has not yet "grown out of". When a pirate association for students at NMBU then appeared, Bård was the first member to sign up after it was founded. Another thing that shows Bård's lifelong dedication to this hobby is the tradition he shares with his sister.

Every year since Bård got his driver's license, the two have travelled down to Kristiansand to see the Captain Sabertooth show. The last performances have been especially great, because Bård

has previously shared the stage with the person who now holds the role of the Captain himself in the park during the day.

The road ahead

This autumn, Bård starts his fifth year at NMBU and, if all goes according to plan, he will complete his master's in the spring. The study period has been a wonderful time that Bård will miss, while at the same time he is happy to get out into working life. His remaining time at Ås will certainly include pirate costumes, choir singing, sound and hopefully some writing of a master's thesis.



GREETINGS



Bård!
Dear, dear, dear Bård!

From our first meeting in the spring to the internal party in autumn 2019 and until today, together we have persevered for over 4 years in the Sound Committee at Samfunnet. In the myriad of committee chief positions, I've been your boss, you've been my boss, and we've even been bosses together at some point. Our friendship is also much more than just the Sound Committee; the subjects we've had together, all the Christmas tables and rølp in the Bodega. Regardless, you always meet me with a smile, a joke, and preferably a suggestion about shots in Johannes.

Carry on, dearest Bård!

Regards, Julie Overrein

After living with you for 3 years, it can be concluded that you are one of the most committed contributors to the Ås bubble, and I have not seen anyone else who so easily pulls himself together to help or just be there.

You are a yes-person, especially (perhaps limited to) when it comes to parties. Here you do the very best. Stairs are no obstacle, the easiest thing is to roll down, don't know if you remember this :)

I will bring up a memory from oblivion of one of my earliest meetings with you. I moved into Krona 5 at the start of September 2020, together with many other first-year students. We were very green and new to the student life, and when the first Wednesday came there was a Bodega. You took on the role as "guide leader" and this role came very naturally to you, and over the years this is a hat you like to wear: welcoming, helpful and kind.

Now you will soon be finished, and Ås will not be the same without you! Good luck in your "adult" life.

Greetings from
Friend, (former) roommate, and drunkard no. 2:
Vetle



NÆVERLAND EXISTS!

- I was there this summer.

How do you move approximately 3.5 tonnes of Ås-students 570 kilometres to the north and a little to the west, and then move them all the way back, all in just one weekend? Aye, by tempting them with Norsk Næverfestival (Norwegian birch bark festival) 2023!

Åsmund Godal
Writer



Benjamin Alexander Faulkner
Photografer



Eva Szemes
Translator



Did you miss the highlight of the summer? I did not. Neither did the 50 other students from Ås (and 70 from other places), who took a trip to Valsøya on Nordmøre the first weekend of July. The occasion? The nice, tough and incredibly useful outer layer of bark on a birch tree: Næver. Every summer, a questionable squad and I work on peeling such birch trees. We then package and sell the birch bark to museums or others who put a layer of it underneath the sod roof of protected houses. This really brings in the cash for the lads.

Anyway. If you are going to work hard, you also have to play hard! And that's exactly why we invited everyone we know to the Næverfestival. The participants got to try their hand at peeling, packaging and braiding baskets and other things made with the world's best material. Even my 86-year-old grandfather, Jon Bojer Godal, started the whole thing with a bang, with a presentation about birch bark and all the things it has been used for.

There was an old-fashioned sauna, sunrise yoga, a class on foraging wild plants, a concert on a smooth seaside rock with the sea breeze tickling us, sailing an open wooden boat in the fjord, the frying of a whole sheep and a pig in a cooking pit, followed by the devouring of it, course in the renowned dance Nordmørspols, a guided bus trip packed to the brim with local history,



Photo: Dagny Værnes

the burning of a boat, a punk concert under a new roof of wood shavings... The whole weekend was jam-packed with happenings, great and small. The boathouse was rigged with sound, light and smoke to the point where the steam was pouring out from the gable of the roof. People were stamping and stomping and clubbing and dancing pols on the swaying floorboards, while a bunch were enjoying the commotion from the cattle boat, resting. Both festival loos and a barn bridge were built the day before the start of the festival, and we served our self-composed drinks in the birch bark-bar at a bargain price.

Everywhere you looked you saw rows of white teeth and wild looks. Our senses were dazed almost to the point of overload, and both heart and soul were twirled until they were so dizzy, it was nearly impossible to go to bed.

Would you like to soak in smoke from a bonfire, fiddle frenzies, creaking wooden floors, burning boats, tents in the field and galloping heartbeats while wetting your whistle with well over one hundred like-minded, solid people? Well, join Næver'n '24, mate!



Fun facts:

- The festival went with a profit of 263 NOK
- Næver (plain Norwegian: never, English: birch bark) means versatile, useful for a lot of things.
- In the 1800s, birch bark was a scarce good, considered equally important to salt. Oftentimes, Norway was completely out of birch bark, and we had to import it from Russia.



Marie Tjelta
Journalist



Aslak Nikolai Eriksen
Photographer



Sofie Palmstrøm
Translator

eNGA - a festival for everyone

We move into June, exams are behind us, the summer vacation has begun, and students in Ås are heading back to their hometowns or going on vacation. But wait! Ås life has one last thing to offer this semester. There's nothing better than kick-starting the summer vacation with Sangkoret Noe Ganske Annet's very own music festival: the eNGA Festival!

On June 9th and 10th, students gathered with a beer in hand on the lawns of Epleskrotten. Epleskrotten is NGA's own collective, a large house with a spacious garden where the festival takes place. The festival feeling embraced me as soon as I set foot in this garden. It was teeming with cheerful students playing volleyball, barbecuing, sipping beer, singing, and dancing in the sun. A stage was set up with proper sound equipment, and the atmosphere that settled over the garden when the show started was both idyllic and energetic. NGA's own boyband, The Beach Toys, kicked things off by performing well-known and beloved songs like "What Makes You Beautiful" by One Direction and "Riv i hjertet" by Sondre Justad. The audience sang along with full gusto on all the performances.

Audience on the stage!

The audience was clearly captivated throughout the evening, singing and cheering on. It was evident that this festival was a collaboration between the audience and the artists. It's a festival where it's not just up to the artists to create the atmosphere, but where the audience also plays a crucial role. What sets the eNGA Festival apart from other festivals is that the program includes a dedicated time for open mic, where anyone can come on stage and perform. Many were brave and spontaneous, taking the microphone. Even our own Managing Editor Martin Hansebråten stood on stage and sang for us. There were also touching moments when an international student wanted to thank the students in Ås for welcoming him so warmly before performing his song. Everyone was clearly encouraging to everyone who took to the stage, cheering and clapping. This is an event that encourages you to come as you are and join the fun!

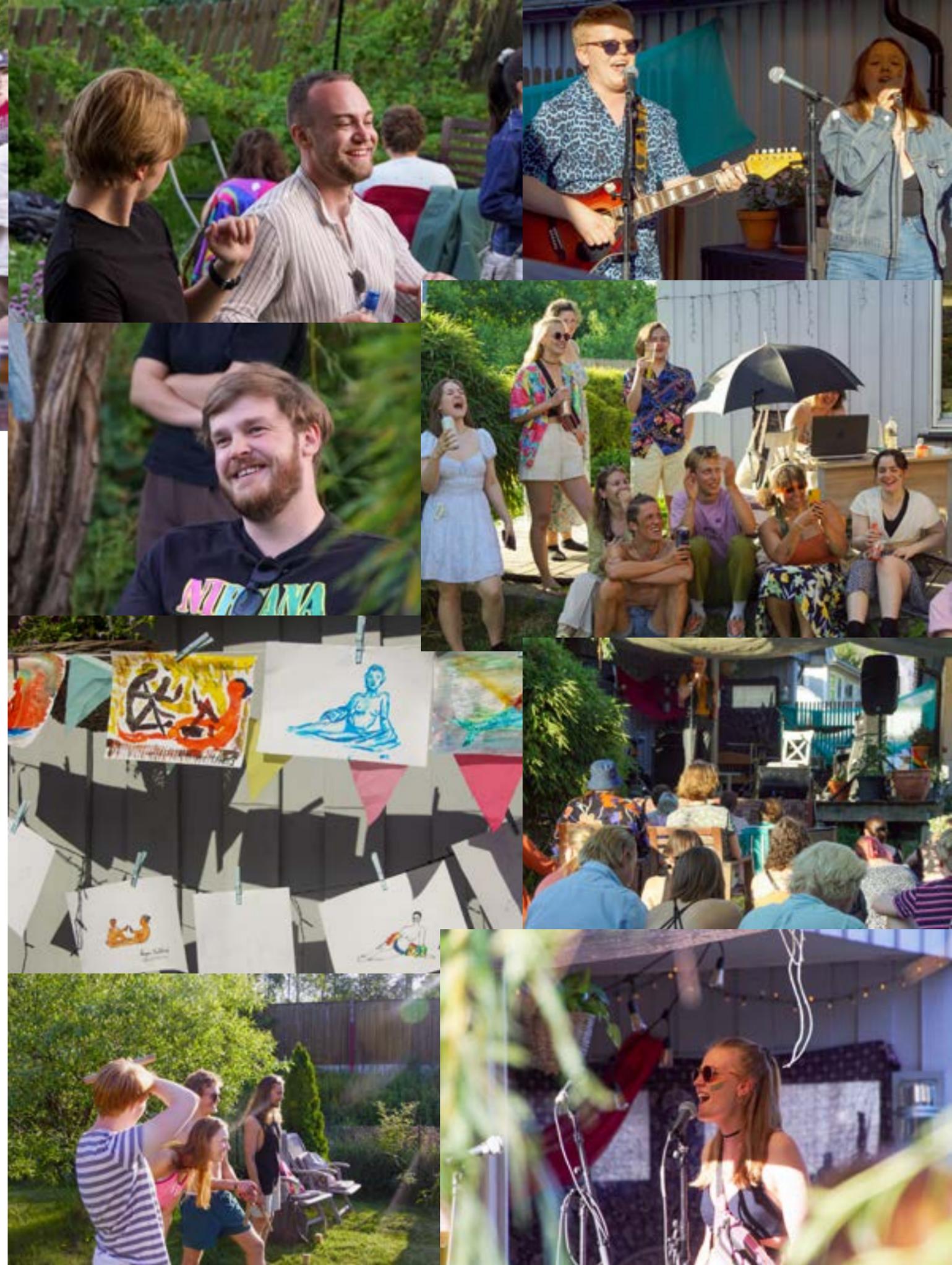
A festival in Ås-style

I would describe eNGA Festival as a festival in Ås style. A low-threshold, free event where everyone is included. The featured music acts offered a range of different musical experiences. Everything from LØV with beautiful melodies, The Hopless Romantic with gripping lyrics that one can relate to, and Fano Banano with satirical original songs that made us laugh!

Earlier in the day, there were also various other activities to participate in, such as paint'n'sip, nude painting, and volleyball. For those who wanted to experience the whole event from start to finish, it was also possible to camp in the garden. In other words, eNGA has something for everyone!

"eNGA is a festival where everyone is welcome"

Throughout the festival, there were two charming and fun presenters, Even Holm Hansen and Eirik Tjensvoll Obrestad, who introduced all the performances. As the festival was coming to an end on Saturday, Tuntreet had a chat with Even. He starts by saying that it has been a very educational experience and that he has been part of a great team. He has been involved in the eNGA Committee of NGA, which was responsible for planning the entire festival. The presenter further emphasizes the importance of organizing the eNGA Festival because it is a low-threshold and free event for all students. "eNGA is a festival where everyone is welcome, as long as you are kind and nice, you are welcome to participate... that's the NGA spirit!" The festival offers a low-threshold performance culture, something he finds very nice. "If you feel you could contribute, you should!"



Graskurs Part 2

S s s p l e n d i d !



After a notably serious Graskurs part 1, the student associations revived their natural taste for fun and eccentricity. The occasion manifested as a charming fusion of entertainment, enjoyment, and a dash of irrationality, revealing the complex mosaic of campus existence. Despite their diversity, the associations collectively harboured a shared ambition: to offer a splendid reception to the incoming students in a manner that resonated uniquely with each group.

After a notably serious Graskurs part 1, the student associations revived their natural taste for fun and eccentricity. The occasion manifested as a charming fusion of entertainment, enjoyment, and a dash of irrationality, revealing the complex mosaic of the campus existence. Despite their diversity, the associations collectively harboured a shared ambition: to offer a splendid reception for the incoming students in a manner that resonated uniquely with each group.

The first to step into the spotlight were the members of male choir Over Rævne. The gentlemen adorned in sixpences seemed calm about inaugurating the show. However, a hint of apprehension began to simmer backstage as the momentous hour inched closer. Positioned nearby was Koneklubben Freidig and Collegium Alfa, who were the next ones to go. Remarkably unfazed by stress, these groups were poised to seize the stage and revel in their performance with unadulterated enjoyment.

As the curtain rose, the meticulously planned, scripted, choreographed, and practiced acts prepared by our associations were set into motion. The assortment of styles showcased was as diverse as the associations themselves. Ranging from the spirited chaos exuded by Lærken to the unmistakable Unity, each act boasted a distinctive flair. A special and noteworthy mention is reserved for DÅs, acknowledging not only its exceptional performance but also the remarkable quality of its choreography and the impressive length of its show. The dance association consistently stands out on stage, showcasing a wide range of skills and leaving behind a truly radiant atmosphere.

Several associations even decided to merge their talents for a part of the show. A prime example was the collaboration between IVAR and Over Rævne, a decision likely conceived during a festive rendezvous between the two groups. This collaboration yielded a performance that seamlessly



Tpo
Journalist



intertwined their identities, resulting in a profound and charming presentation. Rockeklubben, Lærken, and Åsblæst'n also joined forces, forming a formidable musical ensemble that underscored the true potency of their instruments.

All in all, the show was a success. The performances were varied, the rhythm, though chaotic, kept the spectators on their toes, and Samfunnet's logistics worked well. The old-timers were delighted to see their favourite associations back on the Aud. Max. stage. The newcomers (well, those who managed to get a ticket) were able to discover this beautiful stage and feel the energy released by the various associations. Graskurs part 1 was the theory, the discovery of student life on campus, but Graskurs part 2 was the experience. The Buddy Week is one thing, Samfunnet is another, and Graskurs part 2 was a great introduction for many newcomers to the reality of Samfunnet's great shows.

Photo: Samfunnet i Ås by Hanne B. Rabbås and Jonas L. Hagen



LOOKING AFTER FINNSKOGEN



Bonjour, Servus, Good day! This summer, I have not been outside the borders of the country. I have not been to “The South”. I have not been in the USA. I have not been in Denmark, but I have been somewhere special! Namely Finnskogen.

It was a business trip relating to my summer job, in the middle of the outcome of the rage of “Hans”.

At first, I thought I was not going too far. I thought I was just going to a nice forest, alas, I was wrong. It was far away, at Abborhøgda, close to Kongsvinger to be more precise. An old tenant farm once

inhabited by the Forest Finns, with no permanent residents since 1995.

The journey to get there was wet. The trip was postponed from Tuesday to Wednesday, and Wednesday morning I arrived at the office at Odnas that is built to sustain the 200-year flood, firmly believing the water would not reach such heights. I was wrong. At 8 o'clock that morning, there was about 40 cm from the water to the threshold. The morning was then spent filling up sandbags and building barricades, so the basement would not be flooded. Around 11 o'clock the neighbouring village of Dokka looked like Venice, and the wooden tents from Dokka camping were sailing like gondolas down the Randsfjord.



The rainy weather passed at 12:15, and at 13:00 we made our way to Finnskogen. Surprisingly, we passed no closed roads on our journey. Hedmark had experienced slightly less rain, so not everything was flooded.

In contrast to other tenant farms in Oppland, that were often small and so steep you could grow crops on both sides of the hill, Abborhøgda was huge. We were told by a representative from the National Trust of Norway that in the 1920s, when most other tenant farms were sold to their residents, Abborhøgda had a really good contract they did not want to give up. Therefore, it continued being a tenant farm. Because of this, a lot of the old buildings are still standing.

The main house was newer, built around 1930, but before that, there had been a so-called smokehouse standing there. The smokehouses had a special oven where the smoke filled the room. This gave warmth, but also resulted in everyone in the room smelling of smoke. This was a source of discrimination for the Forest Finns, as they were typically the ones staying in the smoke houses. It was said that you could identify a Forest Finn by the smell. The smell was associated with uncleanness, even though the Forest Finns probably were more hygienic than the average Norwegian. This is because the Forest Finns generally used saunas and

bathing, a quite hygienic practice certain choirs in Ås would have recognised.

Today, the main house has become a cabin in the Norwegian Tourist Association, and the National Trust of Norway is planning to turn the area at Abborhøgda into a place of seminars, where you could organise courses in log-notching, traditional painting, bricklaying; any traditional craft, really.

“But what were you doing at Abborhøgda, close to Kongsvinger?”, you might ask yourself, dear reader. Well, looking after the forest. “And what does that mean?”, you may wonder. Well, for those of you who don't normally spend your days in natural resource management, it means doing maintenance, or improving areas to make a certain landscape. Measures like mowing, weeding and chopping down trees are all part of it. During the trip, both the chainsaw, the brushcutter and the electric mower were used. They go vroom, so that's quite grand. This is important because places like Abborhøgda are valuable not only because of cultural history, but also because of the biodiversity.

There is a general decline in meadows like the ones found in Finnskogen because of overgrowth and the industrialisation of agriculture. Old meadows have several species instrumental to them.



species like dragonhead, globeflower and bearded bellflower need open meadows or grasslands to live. In Finnskogen, the globeflower is the dominant species.

Other than that, a couple of walks were taken. Dinner was eaten. We really had a blast. The forests are absolutely huge, and you can find both small and big lakes, so this is an extremely majestic place to spend your time. No wonder why the Forest Finns chose to settle in this area back in the day.

Finnskogen can be highly recommended. It truly is a paradise in our own country, but this whole trip happens in the shadow of “Hans”, and everyone who has contributed to keeping Innlandet running during the extreme weather, so that the community could function. I would also like to extend my thanks to my dear colleagues Eir, Andrea and Lea from the Dokka delta National Wetland Center AS for a very nice trip!

From Finnskogen the trip went to Ås, but you hopefully know Ås, so I don't need to tell you about that.



Martin Hansebråten
Photojournalist

Eva Szemes
Translator



FOLLO PRIDE PROGRAM

Tuesday, September 12th

11:45 Flag raising in the courtyard

12:00 Book discussion at Ås Library: Kiné Kaborg is coming to Ås Library to talk about the book "A Completely Ordinary Life: Queer Stories & Novels", a collection of texts that explore identity and love between women.

18:00 Rainbow Mass at Ås Church with Ås Gospel Choir, led by Harriet Müller-Tyl. Welcome to a church adorned in the colors of the rainbow, and a mass where you can enjoy beautiful music and sing along!

19:00 Learn to Vogue (dance class) at Samfunnet in Ås

Wednesday, September 13th

8:30 - 10:00 Diversity Breakfast at Bikuben, NMBU.

19:00 Movie screening - "Norwegian Dream" at Ås Cinema, with a visit from the director.

21:00 Rainbow Rave (18+) at Samfunnet in Ås

Thursday, September 14th

12:15 Author conversation with Lars Helge Frivold about the book "On the Trail of Queer," which is set to be released in 2023, at NMBU University Library, Veterinary Building.

18:00 Pride Lounge with a mayoral debate and cultural performance at Ås Culture House.

20:30 PRIDE Quiz at Samfunnet in Ås

Friday, September 15th

17:00 Pride PechaKucha Night at Vitenparken. Come to an exciting event filled with interesting ideas and stories told by queer individuals.

21:00 PrideNIGHT (18+) at Samfunnet in Ås

Saturday, September 16th

10:00 - 15:00 Mini-Pride at Vitenparken

12:15 Author conversation between Cha Sandmæl and Robin Frøyen in the children's and youth section at Ås Library. Suitable for ages 10 and up.

14:00 PRIDE Parade starts at Vitenparken and ends at Lillebrand/Eika Sports Center.

14:30 Outdoor concert after the parade at Lillebrand.

Featuring!

Pride Marching Band - Do you play an instrument? Join and play our newly composed Pride March.

Dancers from the ws Cultural School.

Frida Marida - Queen Frida sings in Arabic, French, English, and other languages in a Western style with a Middle Eastern twist.

Leila Ajamay - A queer artist from Oslo who sings and raps pop and R&B songs with catchy hooks, and juggles between a vulnerable and playful writing style.

Regine Folkman Rossnes - Performs slam poetry addressing themes such as equality, relationships, physical and mental health.

Eirik Sognnes - Plays queer liberation rock!

More information on Ås Municipality's webpage:
as.kommune.no



Dyrevernulliansen



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BUDDY WEEK: BBQ-PARTY



Confirmation

Confirmation is something all humans need. To some extent, in different ways, and in various life stages. At the same time, I believe there's a kind of universal confirmation that we all need. A confirmation that we are loved – or in less grandiose words; that we are worth something. There's something profoundly human in that.

We can receive confirmation that we're skilled at something by looking at results and feedback. That can also be important. But the most significant thing we can do for another person is to provide confirmation that they are valuable – independent of their achievements, simply because they exist. As a priest, this is a message I'm passionate about conveying. And I convey it based on my belief that we are all created, intended, and loved by a God. These days, there are confirmations in the Ås Church. Over 50 young people come forward to the altar in the Ås Church and kneel down. I place my hand on their heads and pray for them, and in this action, there's a confirmation from God. You are loved. You are valuable. Neither more nor less than others. Equally. Regardless.

I say this with confidence, as a priest and as a fellow human being. But regardless of whether you believe in God or not (or are unsure about your beliefs), I believe that we can think of all living humans as equally valuable, and that all lives are worth protecting and nurturing! The world is less without you. We are born with different starting points, abilities, and circumstances. And completely independent of these factors, you are equally valuable. Just as valuable as the person next to you, and equally valuable no matter what you do.

Sometimes confirmation comes in the form of words, other times in the form of a hug, a service, or time. Sometimes it comes from people we almost expect it from, other times from unexpected sources. I try to be mindful of how I can give others confirmation – will you do the same? Then it becomes a sort of team effort. That way, victory becomes both easier to achieve and tastes better!

Does this seem far out? Do you disagree with me? How exciting! I would love to chat about it. Please reach out!

Ingrid, student priest

Ida Haraldstad
Oversetter



Ingrid U. Øygard is the student priest at NMBU. The student priest has an office to the left in the basement of the Clock building. The student priest is available if you need someone to talk to, discuss with, or get advice from. The office hours are every week on Thursdays, from 9-14, but Ingrid is also available other days, through appointment.

Appointments are made with Ingrid here: io484@kirken.no / 95919318

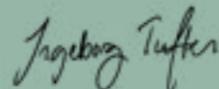
OFFICE WING

Howdy-dowdy!

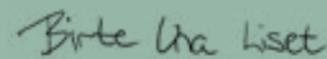
A great Buddy Week is over, and we can welcome a great new class of first-year students to the Agrarian Metropole! Samfunnet has now started the events of this autumn, and it will be an autumn packed with fun. Concert with Beethoven, toga party with a wrestling show and Graskurs part 2 was all sold out, and great atmosphere in the house! September 1st was the deadline to apply for a committee at Samfunnet, and we would like to welcome all our new volunteers to the team. It is still possible to apply, so come and join in!

UKA i Ås have been working steadily through the summer, and the next deadline to apply to become a part of the team is the 17th of September! You can read about the positions in our committee-chief brochures available around campus or at the website of UKA i Ås. If you have any questions concerning any of the positions feel free to contact us. If you want to help create the best 100-year anniversary ever, just apply! And remember; where were you when UKA i Ås celebrated 100 years?

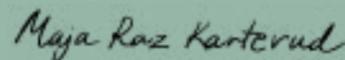
The Business Committee at NMBU (NU) is well on our way with the planning of this autumn semester, and especially the Autumn Career Day (KD), which kicks off Wednesday, 4th of October. This is an excellent occasion to talk to different corporations from all faculties concerning both internships, summer jobs, and future employment. In addition to KD this autumn, we in NU are going to host a Warm-up to KD at 7th of September and case-work with Deloitte 19th of September. We are excited!



Ingeborg Tufte
Head of UKA i Ås 2024



Birte Lise
Leader of the Business Committee NMBU



Maja Raz Karterud
Leader of Samfunnet i Ås



SEXOLOG

Welcome all new students!

The start of one's education involves new context and new relations. It is easier to handle all the new experiences if you treat yourself with care. Sexuality can be a source of energy, joy and creativity during your studies. It should be a resource and contribute to you experiencing good health and help you feel good about yourself and the person you are intimate with. For most people, sexuality is about physical and emotional closeness - and your sexual life is affected by the impression you have of yourself, expectations in your culture, and your physical and mental health. The prerequisite for good sexual health is that you like being in your body and are relaxed with your partner.

When you are confident in your own sexuality, it is easier to communicate clearly about what you want and don't want. It must be safe to be sexual together, and it must be safe to talk about sexuality with a partner. Safe, mutual, honest, and respectful communication is fundamental for you to have a good time, but you have to start with your relationship to yourself.

I work as a midwife and am a specialist in sexological counseling (NACS). With me, you can talk safely about the relationship you have with yourself and your body. You can come for a chat on your own, or bring the person you are intimate with.

Maybe I can contribute to helping you see connections and give advice on how you can feel better as a sexual person. I am, of course, bound by confidentiality and the session is free.

We, at the Health Centre for Youth and Students, are here for you!

Good luck with the start of your studies!



Maria Bendheim
Sexolog



STUDENT-THINGS

Welcome to Campus, students both old and new!

August have flown past like a tornado, and the Student Board have gotten settled in our newly rearranged office at the Clock Building. The learning curve have been steep, and we can truly relate to all the poor first-year students that experience being drowned in information about both this and that. We look forward to a particularly exciting year in student politics, and we would like to wish all students good luck with their studies.

To be a student isn't just a dance on roses, and it has never been. As a student you have stepped into a society described with the words "overworked", "underpaid" and "unprioritized". Each and every right you have as a student have been fought for by students that won't take no for an answer, and that is also the way it is today.

Two thirds of students have to work in addition to a full-time study program to make sure every day works out economically, and they spend on average 50 hours a week on a combination of work and education. Most universities have as a standard that students need to spend 40 hours a week to get their academical credits, which is already more than a full standard workday. Therefore, it is jarring that the Minister of Higher Education feels that it is okay for students to have to spend many hours on working in addition to their academical work. The full-time student was symbolically buried during the student protests in the 90s, and there they still lie.

Today the study support is at 1.16G (137 907 NOK) resulting in students lacking 6 407 NOK every month. This has to be covered by a part-time job, summer job or help from family. A unified student movement have for years fought to increase the study support, and gotten absolutely nowhere. Year after year, the purchasing power of students have decreased, from when it was at 1.6G (equivalent to 177 930 NOK today) in the 90s.

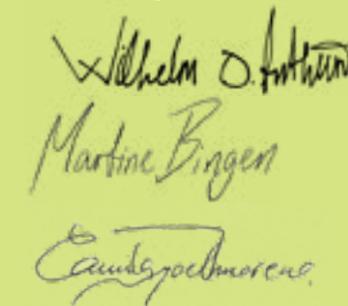
The students are rarely a priority. This is very apparent here in Ås municipality where we once again have to fight to prevent cuts in the Health Station offer, in a case where



we previously were on the frontlines defending. It is also apparent when the municipality wants to raze the Pentagon woods (formally called Vollskoggen) to make space for a giant new neighbourhood consisting of family housing. Then the closest green lung the students have disappears, the municipality throws away all ambition it has of a sustainable planning policy and sustainability in general, and the students have to take the blow in the form of unacceptable levels of traffic noise.

As you can see, there are plenty of good reasons to get engaged in student politics, and we are always in need of students that don't take a no for a no.

Rebellious regards



Wilhelm Olav Anthun, Martine Bingen and Camila Noel Moreno
Student Board 23/24



THE GAME PAGES



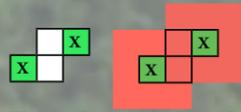
Tilde Milia Skåtun
Creator

Hello and welcome to the Game Pages! Find a pen and pour a cup of coffee, and you'll be ready to dive in! Each issue has different puzzles to try, but the recurring ones are Sudoku and Nonogram. Some puzzles are more difficult than others, so I hope everyone can find something they enjoy solving. Good luck!

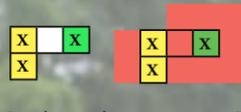
STARWARS

Welcome to StarWars! (not the franchise, but the puzzle!) This puzzle is one of my favorites to both create and solve, so it's a common addition to the issues. It works like this:

Two stars must be placed in each box, row and column. The stars cannot be placed adjacent to each other, not even diagonally. This means that if you've found one star, you can eliminate all the surrounding 8 cells. I usually draw small stars, and colour in the cells I eliminate.

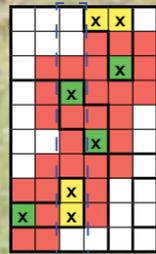


This shape has only one possible solution. Therefore, we can place the stars and eliminate the surrounding cells.

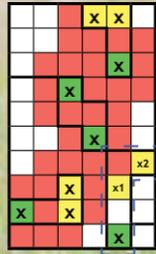


This shape has two possible solutions. We can place the star to the right (it has to be there), but we have to wait to determine the other one. But we can still eliminate two cells on the left, because both possibilities eliminate these cells.

- A short step by step to get you started:
1. Locate the smallest shapes. These often have only one or two possible solutions to make two stars fit.
 2. Eliminate all cells you know cannot contain a star, such as around other stars.
 3. Look at the rows and columns. Do any of them already contain two stars? then you can eliminate all other cells on this row or column.
 4. Look at the bigger shapes. Has the cells you've eliminated before, opened up some possibilities? If you already have two stars in one shape, you can eliminate all the other cells in the shape. Yay!

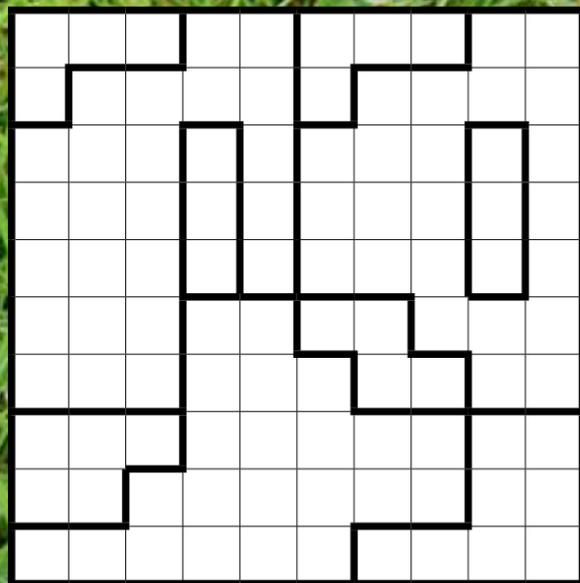


This column now has two places where a star will go. Therefore, we can eliminate all other cells on this column.



This shape has two possible solutions, x and x1, or x and x2. If we look at the rest of the column, we see that there already is one star placed. The solution for the shape, with stars x and x1, would result in the column having 3 stars. This is against the rules, and we can determine that stars x and x2 is the correct solution for this shape.

There is also a tutorial on Tuntreets Instagram page (although it's in Norwegian), where I go through how to solve one of these puzzles.



SUDOKU

	9	8			4			
			6	1			8	
4				9	7			
1			9	3			6	7
		7		1		8		
2	8			7	6			3
	4		8					5
6			1		7			
			5			4	1	

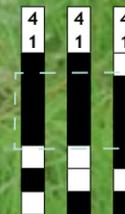
		4	8	9				
8	3				6			
	6	5					9	
2			9			6		4
	7		2		5		9	
9		8			7			3
3						2	6	
			7				4	1
					4	2	8	

				8		2	1	
5	4	8	2	3	1			
					9	3		
		1	5					
3	2						9	6
					3	4		
		7	3					
			6	1	5	9	7	4
	1	4	7					

The goal of sudoku is to fill in all the cells with the correct number. Each row, column and box has to contain all the number 1-9. There can only be one of each number in each row, column and box. Some numbers are already given. Use these to determine where the remaining numbers must go. There can only be one possible solution to each sudoku puzzle, so make sure you're certain before placing a number!

NONOGRAM

Nonogram is a puzzle where you colour in specific cells to reveal a picture. You start by looking at the numbers on the top and left side of the board. The numbers represent how many adjacent cells are to be coloured. If there are two numbers, these represent two sets of connected, coloured cells, with AT LEAST one blank space in between. If it says 1 3, that means one coloured cell, at least one blank space, and then three connected coloured cells. After a while the picture will be revealed! Start by looking at the biggest numbers.



Here we have three possible solutions, and we don't know which is correct. However, all three options result in the same three cells being coloured. Therefore we can colour these in, and hope that they help us a bit further.

For this issue, I have added small sketches to the board to help give you a hint towards the solution!

			1	5	4				
	1					7	4	5	1
	3								
	5								
	7								
	5								
1	1	1							
3	1								

		1	4	1	2				
1									
2									
3									
1	1								

		3	5	5	5	5	5	3	
1	1								
3	3								
7									
7									
5									
3	x								
1									

			1	1	1				
			1	1	1				
			10	1	1	1	8		
1									
1									
5									
1	1								
1	1								
5									
1	1								
1	1								
5									

			2	5	3		1		
			2	2	2	3	3	3	1
1									
3									
3	1								
3									
3	3								
2	5								
2	2								
2									

			1						
4	1		1	3	1	3	3	1	3
2	4								
4	1								

There should only be one possible solution to a nonogram. If there are more than one, I add a cross or a coloured cell to help guide you towards the intended solution. x=not coloured.

Club Banter



In the time that has passed of the year LXXXVI (86 G.T) post PB natem, the X-Clusive Stiftelse PB has upheld intense activity, and there is much that points towards PB now being in an especially productive period. In the year that passed, the X-Clusive Stiftelse can point to a long list of successes and good times. Among them are: limiting the humpback salmon population using modern drone technology, the Cyberspace general working tirelessly on protecting Norway's sovereignty in the technological dimension through highly successful training of President Joe Biden in our world-encompassing language, Altergermanisch. The diplomatic threads have been picked up after the catastrophically hard times of the pandemic. There have been multiple grand visits to the diplomatic and spiritual leaders of the world, where the great questions have been discussed and solved.

All of these experiences have culminated in the biggest event of this fall, the X-Clusive Stiftelse PB Revue. An event that is said to be the main pillar of the economic growth of Studentamfunnet as well as outlining the beliefs of the common society. The writer can with great enthusiasm inform that a number of students at NMBU will have the pleasure of witnessing this event the XXII. September in Auditorium Maximum. Furthermore, at the General Assembly and the X-traordinary General Assemblies, a number of cases have been processed, with a strong internal nature that cannot be shared with the common people.

MXH
Ærverdige Formand

Cheers FFD!
Cheers Skriver!
Cheers Sparegris!
Cheers Hunkatter!
Cheers Qlturelle and Xklusive!
Cheers Pusekatter!
Cheers Tora and Thorvald!

From the cave of the Bodega to the Pentagon prairie,
Kattene are roaming, origin brew is filling.
They are the masters of the shadows, Poetry of the night,
Dancing on the table gets Kattene convinced.

Though under the shining of the stars,
They carry their wisdom in their beautiful minds.
Because Kattene know what life can give,
Afterparty at Hunkattloftet, where Katten is free.

So look up towards the sparkling Høiborg
Open pregame, all girl students are welcome.
Cheers for open pregame Saturday, 9th of September!

Qltural regards,
FFD Birte, Skriver Gunnhild, and Sparegris Marthe

BANG
The semester begins!
Lots have happened since we parted
Inside the students a spark is lit

The Buddy Week happened in the traditional fashion
Rebus everyday leaves no room for resting
Wrestling show and BBQ-parties raised the mood
And we all partied without limits

Thursday, 24th of August was our birthday
We weren't born yesterday
For 15 years we've spiced up the club life at the Agrarmetropole
Characterized by the blue dress

The clubs got to show off at Graskurs part 2
When Unity enters the stage, you're allowed to stare
At the college party the next day they could show off again
It's always fun to party with real men

Lots of fun will happen in the coming days
We're having an informational pregame in our blue clothes
Saturday, 9th of September in the F&F-house
Come to us and let yourself get intoxicated!

Forfatterfrøken



Collegium Alfa wishes all students, new and old, welcome back to NMBU.

We hope you've had a super summer, recharged your batteries, and are ready for a new semester.

The Buddy Week was eventful, and we hope all new students were met with open arms. Maybe you saw some girls in golden outfits fly by you during Tour de Kringla.

Now that we are entering the first fall month of the year, the August block is finally over, and maybe you were one of the lucky ones to receive a sweet bun when we were handing them out during the exam period.

We are looking forward to all the fun this fall has to offer, and you will find us at the Semester Kick Off in black and gold;



A jelly shot a day keeps the doctor away.

The herd has finally returned from the summer grazing!

We have already fought our way through Tour de Kringla, welcomed new students and pranced around Samfunnet.

It's not only Sheep that get to swing around, DÅs have also had a post in the rebus for HH, LANDSAM, and REALTEK. We witnessed a fantastic energy and joy for dancing from all participants. There is lots of talent here! Auditions and admissions are approaching fast, and we are excited to see what you have to show us!

We also have the pleasure of hosting a dance class during Aktiv Campus on the 14th of September. It will be open for anyone looking to shake out their wool, whether you have never done a plié or are well seasoned dancer. Join us!

As if it weren't already enough, our club turned 10 in the beginning of August. The herd is excited for a super semester filled with festivity, friendship, anniversary and maybe a tiny little show?

If you think dancing, community, club life or punch sounds tempting, then join us for some informational cozy time on the 9th of September to get to know us better.

Good baaye!

Ahoy!

We're getting rum and setting sail
The new semester could never go wrong
It is time to ravage the sea and land
Maybe also the home of a duck?

Landlubbers will be set afloat also this year
We're looking for those who can handle hardship
If you are interested in rum and in seas,
Our requirements are met

Informative pregame on September 9th
In time and place which will come later
At the Piratforeningen's Instagram

Have you heard...

 #tuntreet

Annoyed

Honestly, all the HH-buddies who bring their students into the committee line can knock it off

Alfred dating astrology

Intercourse? In this weather?

20 min walking from penta to home

Incredibly stupid of SiAs to sell more parking permits than they have spots in Skogveien!

Impressed

Just have to say that Samfunnet really have stepped up with the graphics

LinTicket Hater

Linticket's new app is ultra mega trash

NMBU's new catchphrase

"also, it's not too far from Oslo"

Thomas The Tank

Only about 20 minutes with the train actually!

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES!

You forgot MINAsfæren on your centerfold about study associations </3 </3

Master brain

"Why has everyone gotten Tuntreet? It was Wednesday yesterday and Thursday is today! No, hold up, it's Friday today!!"

GA is fun

Oops, Ricey had to go because he first suggested taking 22 mil. from the faculties to cover extraordinary expenses. But in the revised national budget NMBU is receiving 35 million in a one-time payment. That gotta (C)hurt

GA is fun

PS: The extraordinary expenses NMBU has are estimated to be almost 50 mil. in total

Sørhellinga veteran association

Can people stop booking group study rooms to sit on their phones alone!?!?!?! >:(

Kick them out!

Don't you have to be two to book a group study room? Thought it was a written rule, if not, it's an unwritten one!

Urrgghhhh

The printer at sørhellinga sucks

