STA`s Policy paper 2019/2021

The policy paper establishes the basic principles of the Student Organization of Agder (STA), and is the highest political document in the organization.

Equal right to education

Public higher education in Norway shall be free and the full-time student shall be realized. One must actively work towards equalizing the differences that prevent the individual person to participate in and to finish higher education.

The right and access to higher education shall be free for all. Higher education shall be diverse and bear the mark of co-creation with the surroundings.

The students` rights and learning environment must be strengthen, and the university shall insure the students` against accidents and injuries at the same rate as with its employees.

Quality culture and decorum

Higher education shall be of a high quality, internationally oriented, research- based and relevant for the society. Education, research and dissemination shall be characterized by critical thinking.

Academia shall consist of a quality culture where the academic community is founded on the idea of students` as partners.

Student involvement must be present in all parts and shall contribute to a continuous development of the quality culture.

Higher education shall contribute to academic decorum. It shall give the students` tools to develop analytic qualities, to understand critical thinking and contribute to the development of a professional and ethical sense. This shall give the students` the tools to ask the critical questions in the development of academia but also in the society.

Internationalization and solidarity

Higher education shall be an arena for internationalization of education, knowledge and culture. Internationalisation shall be viewed as a resource and must therefore be invested in to ensure international perspectives among students and employees.

A global mindset shall build bridges towards new ways of cooperation, both on and outside the campus. The university shall facilitate for exchange being the norm among national students. Students exchanging to UiA shall be more included in the student environment.

The students` right of safety, academic freedom and democratic rights is a fight academia internationally shall stand together on.

Academia`s societal responsibility

Norwegian academia shall consist of professional autonomous institutions that values academic freedom. This freedom ensures freedom of speech, rights and professional freedom for students` and employees.

Education, research and innovation is important towards building and to further develop society. Due to this, academia must be able to respond to the challenges the society is faced with, both nationally and internationally.

Academia must, in cooperation with the surroundings, ensure life- long learning.

Academia must prove its responsibility consciously and highlight how it answers the challenges society is faced with.

The research shall be open and available for all.

*Revised on the 20th of November 2019*