

Election program for Liberal List at UiB - period 2024 to 2025

1. Liberal principles in student politics

Liberal List is based on a liberal view of humanity. The university should create new knowledge through research and provide students with opportunities for personal development. People are different and have different needs. The university should always strive to find solutions that provide choice. Better facilitation of individual freedom will be the best path towards students who can utilize their full potential.

2. Education

Quality of education is top priority

Liberal List believes that the quality of education must always take top priority. We will not accept cuts in educational offerings, seminars, assignments, and examination formats to save money. Research should be integrated as part of education at all levels. Liberal List wants to see more use of student-active research, meaning involving students in research work already at the bachelor's level. We oppose 8:15 a.m. lectures, as we doubt both students' and lecturers' ability to perform well so early in the day.

Course evaluations for improved teaching

Liberal List believes it is important that students' feedback is heard, therefore it is important that the University of Bergen (UiB) improves course evaluations. Therefore, we want lecturers to spend 15 minutes allowing students the opportunity to complete the evaluation in class. We want students to have the opportunity to evaluate the course after the exam has been submitted.



Mandatory rationale for assessment

Liberal List believes that the rationale for the assessment of exams should be given simultaneously with the grade. This is because we believe that all students should be able to learn from what they have done on the exam without having to apply for it.

Assessment methods

There must be a clear connection between learning objectives and examination format. Liberal List wants students to encounter more than just one examination format during their studies and will work for more use of take-home exams, portfolio assessment, and oral exams. In addition, UiB should try out new assessment methods. Students should have greater opportunity to choose their assessment format. For example, the current option of choosing between a seminar model and an exam model in introductory philosophy should also be offered in other courses. Liberal List will demand that all students have the opportunity to take written exams digitally. Provision should be made for the use of course materials during the administration of written exams.

Liberal List opposes grading based on normal distribution. Students' performance should speak for itself and should be measured solely against openly available assessment criteria.

Digital accessibility

The university must facilitate more use of digital learning resources and tools. Liberal List believes lectures should generally be made available on the university's



online platform. Liberal List believes all online teaching solutions at UiB should be coordinated under one platform. UiB should post selected lectures on YouTube for public education and marketing purposes.

Internships

Liberal List is positive about expanding the offer of internships as part of the educational path. Through internships, students have the opportunity to strengthen their knowledge by working on study-relevant tasks in, for example, a company, which can make it easier to enter the workforce.

Semester length

Liberal List believes it is detrimental to the student environment and the quality of education that many students today have too short semesters. Students may finish exams at the end of November or in mid-May. According to the University and College Act, the academic year should normally be 10 months. This should be followed by the university. Semester length must be seen in conjunction with examination scheduling. Greater variation in assessment methods will make it possible to conduct exams over a shorter period, thus freeing up time to utilize the entire semester.

Open and free research

Liberal List believes that research results should be free and openly accessible to everyone. When research is funded through taxation, taxpayers should also have access to the results. We therefore support the principle of Open Access. Free



research funds should be the norm rather than earmarked funds. Private contributors are welcome as long as they do not impose too strict restrictions on the research.

Curriculum

Promote competition between different providers of course literature for the benefit of students. One way this can be done is by opening more course literature stores from other chains than Akademika at Høyden.

Interdisciplinary education

UiB should open up for interdisciplinary education such as politics, economics, and philosophy to help solve today's and tomorrow's challenges.

3. Learning environment

Learning environment for all

For everyone to have the same prerequisites for learning, it is important that the university's facilities are universally designed. This applies to all areas, from buildings to digital platforms. Liberal List wants UiB to carry out a pilot project with anonymous job applications for administrative positions to provide everyone with equal opportunities.

Study halls



A prerequisite for a good education is a good learning environment. Liberal List wants UiB to establish more study spaces and improve existing ones. This is because many of today's study spaces are characterized by poor indoor climate and sanitary conditions. Liberal List will work to allocate funds for more and better student workspaces in the budget, and will particularly prioritize buildings with poor indoor climate.

University library

Liberal List will ensure that the University Library can continue to offer students access to varied academic literature and recent publications – all students should have access to relevant journals within their fields. Each library should be equipped with student workspaces so that students have access to study spaces near the academic literature. Liberal List will work for extended 24-hour library openings. Liberal List believes UiB should maintain the quality and invest in its libraries.

Privacy

All students at UiB should be able to feel confident that their personal information is handled correctly and not disclosed. Liberal List is highly critical of increased surveillance as a means of combating crime, and instead advocates for increased security and better lighting.

Student organizations

Student organizations such as subject associations, student pubs, student choirs, student media, etc., are important for both social life and academic life for students,



therefore UiB and the Student Parliament should work more to support student organizations with financial means and visibility both at the beginning of each semester and throughout the semester.

Mentorship program

Subject associations should be a larger part of the planning and implementation of the mentorship program week. This is because subject associations are the social organizations of the subjects at the university and consist of previous cohorts, which will facilitate social and academic integration.

Freshman Orientation Week (Fadderuken)

Freshman Orientation Week should be student-driven with support from the university, but the university should not interfere with how Freshman Orientation Week is organized and conducted.

4. Welfare

A better student life

Liberal List sees that many students are different, and we will work to ensure that all students are included, where UiB should work purposefully to ensure a good and universal design of all buildings. We will work for a gender-neutral locker room at Sammen gyms, and work for more, better, and larger gyms. Liberal List will work for



the Student Parliament to expand the therapy dog service with a therapy cat service, and that therapy animals should have good working conditions.

Student support

The support from Lånekassen is the main source of income for most students. However, there are still many students who need part-time jobs to finance their studies. To ensure good living conditions for students, it is important to tie the support from Lånekassen to at least 1.5 times the National Insurance basic amount (G). The current system has not adjusted for inflation, which is problematic when over half of the student support for most students goes towards rent. Liberal List will work towards the possibility of receiving all support at the beginning of the semester.

Student bars

Liberal List wants the Student Parliament to work towards cheaper beer for students at the student bars at UiB and Kvarteret. UiB should facilitate student bars with venues and assist in ensuring student-friendly prices.

Student housing

Liberal List wants more student housing to be located in campus and city center areas, and we will work towards allowing students to apply for student housing together with one or more friends. Therefore, UiB should also investigate the integration of student housing into new UiB buildings and work towards placing student housing where the city garage stands today.



Transportation

Liberal List will work towards a transportation offer that caters to students' financial situation. Therefore, we will work to maintain students' own arrangement for public transportation without age limits, and we will advocate for taxi companies to offer a "student taxi" scheme with fixed prices.

Simpler everyday life for students with children

Norway should have more children, and that means we must better accommodate combining student life with being a new parent. UiB should ensure more toilets with changing tables. Together, we should maintain and expand our daycare offerings.

5. Climate and environment

A climate-neutral UiB before 2030

The world is facing its worst long-term challenge ever, a climate and environmental catastrophe that threatens our time on Earth. Therefore, Liberal List believes that UiB should become the world's leading sustainability university. We will work towards a climate-neutral UiB before 2030, which will focus on increased waste sorting and awareness of reducing paper and other material consumption. We want Sammen's cafeterias to reduce all non-recyclable plastic packaging and the use of disposable plastic cutlery.

UiB should change its practice so that where meetings are held in smaller groups, long trips should be avoided, and meetings should be held more digitally. UiB should



also increase the number of climate scholarship spots so that more students can receive support to travel to their exchange destination in a more environmentally friendly manner, and this scheme should be communicated to students during exchange presentations.

A more environmentally friendly everyday life for students

Liberal List will work towards students having good opportunities to travel to the university in an environmentally friendly way. Therefore, we will work towards all UiB campuses and student housing areas outside the city center having easy access to year-round city bikes. And we will work towards better and secured covered bicycle parking spaces for students on all campuses. We want Høyden to become a meeting point, and therefore we want it to become a car-free area, where we will work towards reopening the tram on Høyden.

Environmental certification

Liberal List believes it is important to prioritize energy efficiency and environmentally friendly building techniques in construction and renovation projects. Environmental certification should be prioritized for all new and renovated buildings. Efforts should be made to achieve a more comprehensive environmental certification than the "Miljøfyrtårn" standard.

Internal carbon tax



Liberal List believes that an internal carbon tax at UiB could be a dynamic solution to the university's carbon emissions. We want the university board to request a study of such a tax, examining how it can be implemented in practice.

6. International Exchange

Liberal List will work for better information about exchange programs, better guidance during the application process, and more thorough follow-up of exchange agreements.

By offering more English-language courses, the university can become more attractive for exchange agreements. Faculties must improve their information about exchange opportunities to their students and should always provide updated information and clear recommendations based on academic content. The reports written by students after their exchange period abroad are important both as informational tools and for quality assurance of the exchanges for academic communities. Liberal List wants a national database for student reports and surveys.

Incoming students

The principle of free education, which ensures equal rights to free education, means that Norwegian universities attract the brightest minds and are an enrichment for Norwegian universities. Liberal List is therefore against tuition fees for incoming



students. We believe the university should consider measures that make it easier for foreign citizens who have completed their studies to obtain work permits.

Liberal List wants to improve the Norwegian language offerings for incoming exchange students and make the application process more flexible.

Liberal List will continue to support the quota scheme through Norad, and projects like Scholars at Risk and Students at Risk, to give students who have been persecuted or expelled from their university due to their political oppositional views the opportunity to complete their education in Norway.

We believe that incoming students should be offered the opportunity to participate in the mentorship program, or alternatively, that a special mentorship program for international students should be organized. We see the value of student engagement in making student life better and therefore believe that international students should be encouraged to participate in student organizations.

7. Student democracy

Student participation

Students at all faculties must be ensured representation in the Student Parliament; beyond this, we are open to various electoral systems. We want to retain the current system for electing representatives to the Welfare Council (VT) and the National Union of Students in Norway (NSO), but Liberal List also wants representatives from student committees to be represented by one or more fixed members. Liberal List wants the university to continue having rector elections.



Student Political Day

Today, the Student Parliament has a turnout of 13%, which is one of the highest in Norway, but it is still too low. Student committees and academic committees also struggle with recruitment and turnout among students. We believe that this is not due to lack of student engagement, but rather due to lack of information and understanding of how important student democracies are for influencing decisions and representing student opinions at UiB.

Therefore, we believe that each department at the university should have a student political day where one or two members of the Student Parliament's executive committee, along with some members of the Student Parliament, and perhaps a professor or doctoral candidate in political science or philosophy, hold a deliberative seminar in the spirit of Jürgen Habermas, with each department at UiB from the start of the semester until February.

The purpose of this is to inform and discuss issues with students from different departments, and to recruit more students to participate in student democracy at UiB.

Independent evaluation

Every year, the Student Parliament reviews its collaborative organizations and how the collaboration with them functions. This often happens without debate and discussion, perhaps because the members of the Student Parliament are members and/or representatives in many organizations, making it difficult to assess them



objectively. Therefore, we believe that the executive committee should appoint independent committees to review the collaboration and produce a report that will be discussed in the Student Parliament.

Recruitment during the term

Sometimes a list struggles to meet its full complement due to good elections and short lists. Liberal List wants lists to be able to recruit new alternates during the term, approved by the Student Parliament with a 2/3 majority.