



Hi!

My name is Åse Vigdisdatter Nytrø, I am 24 years old, and I am currently in my second year of a MSc of International Environmental Studies. I hereby run for election as a member of the Student Board.

Throughout my two years at NMBU, I have felt an increasingly growing sense of belonging to what I consider to be an open and safe place of education, which works to safeguard our most important resource – us students. Having formerly attended other universities, one thing in particular became clear to me when I started at NMBU a late summer two years ago: NMBU is a unique institution, with an exceptionally engaged and inclusive student body.

As a dedicated optimist, however, I think we can reach for even higher student engagement. I believe student democracy should feel accessible, representative, and understandable to all of NMBU's students, as well as evoke feelings of belonging and ownership, regardless of the individual's role in the system. I believe this can be further developed through, among other things, increased visibility and communication concerning the student democracy's many bodies and processes. Through this, even more of NMBU's students might experience how incredibly fun and easy it is to not only actively engage in, but also stay up to date on, the important work that underlies our everyday student life. This is something I myself wish I had discovered earlier, and I think further awareness in the area can be of great benefit when it comes to increased engagement moving forward.

Furthermore, I have great faith in the continuation of NMBU's positioning as an active standard setter when it comes to environmental and sustainability work at Norwegian universities. A lot of important work has already been done here, including through the Student Parliament's Sustainability Committee, which I have been lucky enough to be part of throughout this year. As initiatives and solutions surrounding environmental and sustainability work is an area of constant change and development, NMBU must stay on top of this in the time to come. This is something I want to be a part of.

Through positions as a Student Representative in the Cooperation Committee for Eik Lab, and in the Entrance Committee at Samfunnet i Ås, I have also experienced how much volunteerism and willingness to cooperate NMBU's students show up with for the good of the community – this is something I also want to bring forward and take further.

Ås is well planted in both my name and in my heart, and it would be my genuine pleasure to represent NMBU's students through meaningful and dedicated work as a member of the Student Board. If I were awarded the honour, I would do my utmost to hear and promote the student voice, and learn more about, and continue, the great work that is going on at our fine university. Happy election!

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