



Accessible language at HiOA (now OsloMet)

Vedtatt: 14.10.2014

Many of the students studying at Oslo and Akershus University College of Applied Sciences (HiOA) has given the Student Parliament feedback on the matter that the language being used in official meetings and documents is too academic. It has also been pointed out that the use of acronyms and abbreviations, without any explanation or clarification, is common in both written and oral communication.

The Student Parliament believes that the use of complex academic language and frequent use of acronyms and abbreviations can function as a suppression technique. This could be a way to withhold information; it can exclude people from debate and allows abuse of power. HiOA has a responsibility as a public institution and educator, to communicate in a manner that is accessible and understandable for all students and employees.

This also includes that important information should be published in English online in order to reach out to the international students and employees at HiOA.

The Student Parliament demands that:

- HiOA must advise all staff to give explanations for acronyms and abbreviations in oral and written communication that are being used in a formal setting.
- Information that involves international students and employees must be accessible in English online.