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General Policy Paper

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Introduction

The Student Union of the University of Jyväskylä (JYY) is a responsible builder of communality, a defender of equality and an active member of the society. These values, and the strategy of the Student Union, form the basis for this policy paper. This document describes the Student Union's views on the society and includes the Student Union's advocacy goals.

This document is determined by the strategy and values of the Student Union of the University of Jyväskylä (JYY), which are communality, responsibility, equality and influence. This General Policy Paper defines JYY's positions on the surrounding society and establishes the trusteeship goals of JYY.

The policy paper will be submitted to the Council of Representatives in the spring term. In addition, if necessary, acute and timely updates to the policy paper may be made on the Board's proposal. JYY's specialists will be consulted when updating the policy paper.

If JYY is required to establish a policy on a matter not outlined in this policy paper, the Board may utilise existing policies regarding the topic if possible.

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University of Jyväskylä

Democracy at the University

The University of Jyväskylä must be an influential public university with autonomous and democratic administration. These are not only the prestige of science but also shared values of the University community. Students are part of the scientific community, and the University administration must apply a tripartite principle of governance in all its decision-making bodies. The University's decision-making must be open, and the students' point of view must be taken into account not only in the decision-making but also in the preparation phase. The University of Jyväskylä should not become a foundation-based university. The views of students from both universities should be accounted for in all studying-related decision-making within the higher education consortium, where both actors are equals.

Aims

- Tripartism will apply without exception in the University Collegium. The chairmanship should rotate equally within the tripartite.
- Adequate student representation must be guaranteed by the tripartite principle.
- Faculty management will be democratically elected within the faculty.
- Recruitment of persons for management positions will be conducted in an open and democratic manner.
- Management teams of faculties and departments will have student representation.
- Student's duties as a representative are an eligible reason for being absent from teaching. Absence due to a meeting does not need to be compensated.
- It is possible for international students to act as student representatives in the University's working groups and governing bodies. To enable working in English, non-Finnish-speaking student representatives are provided with a professional interpretation between Finnish and English. Materials are to be translated to English if needed.
- Students can influence the University also outside of official decision-making bodies.

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- All members of the University community must be equal in terms of the accessibility of language and information in internal communications. Students will not be separated needlessly from other members of the University community.
- Researchers working on their dissertation or with grants will be guaranteed the right to vote in the University's internal elections.
- Recruitment processes of the University should be open and equal. Fixed-term contracts should have reasonable cause.

Students' rights in the higher education consortium

Students will be treated equally within the higher education consortium, and their treatment will strive to operate upon the same practices where it is possible. When standardising degree rulings or other policy papers related to student rights, the most beneficial option for the student must always be chosen.

Aims

- Students' rights will remain at minimum at their current level in both universities.
- The higher education consortium shall have a unified set of safer space principles devised for it.
- Both universities' plans of equalities shall be unified in their contents where it is possible.

Studying, completing studies and evaluation

Education must be flexible and take into account students' individual needs. Students must be treated equally within the faculties and their treatment should follow the same principles. Students are encouraged to educate themselves broadly across different subjects. This can be furthered, for example, by ensuring cross-institutional studies and giving students consistent rights within the consortium. The evaluation criteria should be open and equal to all students, as well as uniform between the academic years within a curriculum period.

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103 **Aims**

- 104 • Contact teaching should be the primary form of teaching. However, the
105 University must offer remote courses and high-quality online lecture materials
106 to support individual studying and the accessibility of studies.
- 107 • The University should offer various course completion methods and course
108 materials in all study programs, taking into account individual needs and
109 different life situations of students.
- 110 • Offering a remote study option is not a primary way for more accessible
111 teaching.
- 112 • Offering a remote study option is not a way to cut costs. High-quality remote
113 teaching requires high-level online pedagogy.
- 114 • Changing majors and study programs should be flexible within the University.
115 Also changing from a degree program to another should be flexible.
116 Administrative staff of the University should be increased in order to decrease
117 the workload of research and teaching staff.
- 118 • Skills acquired outside of the University, for example through volunteer work or
119 work in associations, should be recognized as part of students' degrees. The
120 number of study points granted for University's positions of trust will be
121 increased. Work with all associations that are active within the Student Union
122 can be recognized as part of a degree.
- 123 • Creating a tailored degree within the University should be easy.
- 124 • The introduction of new systems does not endanger the basic rights of students.
125 New IT systems are tested and designed so that their introduction to students
126 and staff does not negatively affect their wellbeing or work. There should be
127 enough guidance offered to students and staff with regard to both existing and
128 new systems.
- 129 • The thesis can be carried out internally within the University or in cooperation
130 with external parties. The University should have a set of common guidelines for
131 conducting theses internally or with external parties.
- 132 • All faculties have a thesis contract, such as the supervision document for the
133 master's thesis, which defines the responsibilities and obligations of both the
134 student and the supervisor as well as the responsibilities while carrying out the
135 thesis.

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- Studying year-round is made possible through free summer studies that can be attached to a degree and online exams are available all throughout the year. The selection of free summer studies benefits students regardless of the stage of their studies.
- Students are informed of the possibility to take e-exams of the University of Jyväskylä in other educational institutions around Finland.
- Anonymous examination is taken up by the University and is used in exams whenever possible.
- The work required for a single credit should, in practice, be the same everywhere. The work required for completing a course should correspond with the credits given for said course.
- The strain in studies' workload shall be reduced.
- There should be enough course materials available, and this evaluation should be done based on the number of students who typically take a specific course. Open study materials are also utilized during the study periods.

Development of education

Education at the University of Jyväskylä must be of high quality and based on scientific knowledge. Education must be developed continuously, and students must be actively involved in educational development. Feedback system that follows the study path provides information to support development and strengthens the effectiveness of the student feedback.

Aims

- Education portfolio is developed persistently, by honouring multidisciplinary sophistication.
- If an education program or subject is discontinued, transfer time enables completing the studies within the regular degree times.
- The University acknowledges the significance of classical languages as the languages of science and sophistication. One can do basic and subject studies in Latin also in the future.

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- The higher education consortium's internal collaboration shall be increased within language and communication studies, and they shall be opened and made available for all consortium students.
- The internal funding model of the University takes into account the development of studies and education.
- The pedagogical training that the University offers for staff should be of high quality and sufficient in volume. The University should encourage staff to develop their language skills and their international capabilities.
- The voices of both international and Finnish students should be heard in developing education. This goal should be supported by open communication.
- The resources of the development of education are primarily directed towards degree training. Development work related to continuous learning is actively utilized in increasing the quality of degree training.
- Training should be offered to teaching staff about copyright issues. The University should not pressure staff to give up teaching material that they have made.
- Student feedback must be gathered systematically, and it must be utilized in developing student counselling and teaching.
- Education paths within the higher education consortium must be developed in the long term.
- The higher education consortium's new education pilots shall be implemented judiciously.
- Joint degrees within the higher education consortium shall not be progressed.

Development of student counselling

Students must have access to sufficient counselling for completing their studies throughout their time in the University. The goal of counselling services is to support a smooth everyday life for students and the advancement of their studies. The counselling supports the students' recognition of their own skills. Student counselling should be constantly developed, and students should be able to participate actively in the development work. The services are to be easily accessible, timely and they must respond to the various needs that students have.

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Aims

- Faculties should adhere to the principles of high-quality counselling and enough resources should be allocated to student counselling. Students' specific and individual needs should be taken into account.
- All students in the higher education consortium must receive counselling within a reasonable amount of time.
- The University should guarantee sufficient resources for counselling.
- Sufficient financial and staff resources should be allocated to counselling. Student participation in the development of counselling is supported by accessible working methods and open communication.
- Course evaluation should not be the only feedback that a student gets during a course. Students should also have the opportunity to get feedback during the learning process.
- The feedback system should be developed to become more transparent so that students can see how their feedback is used to develop education and counselling.
- There should be high quality guidance available for recognizing skills acquired elsewhere. This process should be equal between different faculties and available from the beginning of a student's studies.
- All new students get quality orientation that thoroughly goes through the demands of university studies and how to seek support for challenges related to studies and that provides relevant information regarding student life and acclimating to Jyväskylä.
- Those returning to their studies or starting their studies at an atypical time will be given adequate support to enable them to study to their full potential as quickly as possible. An interruption or a delayed start of studies may be due to, for example, prolonged sick leave or activities connected with the performance of national defence duties.

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AI and digital services

Secure and varied digital services shall be utilised at the university level. The use of AI at the university shall be guided and supported on numerous levels by the university. The large variety of different AI technologies, that is AI's, is acknowledged.

Aims

- Information systems shall be standardised within the higher education consortium to ensure both a smooth everyday life and smooth services.
- The university shall strive to lessen its dependence on big, individual service providers and shall advance the use of unattached digital choices based upon an open source code for the sake of strengthening the students' data privacy, data control and technological independence.
- The university shall investigate opportunities for making use of and favours, where possible, either domestic or European service providers in their web-based decisions.
- The university should keep AI policies at the university level as up to date with the evolution of AI as possible.
- The university should support the use of AI in both teaching and studying at the faculty level. The staff must be guaranteed sufficient training in using AI.
- Both students and the university staff must understand the possibilities, restrictions and data protection questions regarding AI models. The critical use and AI literacy are to be included as part of studies.
- The implementation of AIs and the automization of work processes shouldn't weaken the possibilities for students to receive work and internships. Businesses need to preserve and offer internships, so that students have a genuine possibility to improve their competence and to be employed.
- AI is to be used ethically and ecologically.
- When using AI, a student is to be given clear instructions in how to report about its use.
- The development and use of AI and the data centres should not use fossil fuels and the cooling system shouldn't operate on the globally scarce fresh water reserves. The university is to take notice of this in its purchases and to advance the research of more ecological digital solutions.

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- Data centres that advance primarily the power of multinational technological giants should not be built in Finland. The risks for the growing of societal inequality and income disparity as well as the realization of national just income distribution in the future should be guided through political regulation in advance.
- The credibility and of produced knowledge and availability of it need to be protected by genuinely effective legislation or other regulation. The university is to advance the citizens' skills in identifying material created by AI. The use of AI that aims to intentionally distort reality needs to be punishable.
- The development of truly responsible AI tools needs to be supported, and they need to be favoured in all uses of AI.

Employment and internships

The University of Jyväskylä should advance the employment of students by offering contacts and studies that support employment. Making sure that studies are relevant to the needs of the workforce should also be considered strongly in designing courses and their learning goals, paying attention to the characteristics of different fields.

All degree training prepares one for working life. Students in master's studies should have the opportunity to acquire both scientific capabilities and other working life skills.

Aims

- Internships should be supported, and they should always be able to be included in a student's studies. Credits for internships should be given based on the amount of work done. The practices for giving credits for internships are consistent between faculties.
- There is no discrimination in working life.
- The University works with businesses, the public sector and the third sector to make traineeships available in different fields. The connections that working life and employers have with studies are part of a systematic ongoing activity, rather than being dependent on individual active staff members.
- The University and the internship provider offer proper counselling and guidance for internships.
- Everyone should have the option of an internship.

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- The basis for granting financial aid for internships are equal across faculties and departments and the process for applying for aid is communicated clearly.
- Internship is work for which, in principle, a salary must be paid. Financial aid is available for all internships, both internships that are part of degrees and those that are voluntary.
- Courses on entrepreneurship and self-employment should be offered to students.
- Entrepreneurship studies should be offered especially in fields that otherwise have limited contact to entrepreneurship.

Study environments

The higher education consortium must offer versatile and functional study environments both on campus and online, so that they can support studying diversely and ensure flexible and efficient working in different situations.

Aims

- Study facilities on campus and exam facilities should be accessible also at evening times.
- There should be a variety of facilities available to students and student associations for versatile activities at higher education consortium campuses. Each subject association should have its own or a shared accessible space, which is as close as possible to the teaching facilities of a given subject.
- When building teaching- and study facilities, sustainability, accessibility, good air quality, ergonomics and acoustics should be taken into account. The air quality of different facilities is monitored systematically.
- Teaching shall be arranged in a way which ensures that the facilities and the group sizes shall correspond with the demand for that course: as many students will be accommodated for as possible, but the capacity for the facilities shall not be exceeded.
- Every campus has facilities for childcare. Spaces intended for childcare are clearly communicated, and they are marked uniformly.
- Laboratories and simulation facilities at educational institutions shall be at the use of all students within the higher education consortium.

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- 317 • Each campus has facilities for quieting down and bettering one's own mental
318 wellbeing.
- 319 • The higher education consortium has facilities that students can use around the
320 clock.
- 321 • The availability of library services shall remain at their current level at the
322 minimum.

323 **Language policy**

324 The University of Jyväskylä must conduct significant research and provide high-quality
325 education in both Finnish and English. The University's communication must be
326 linguistically accessible, and the needs of non-Finnish-speaking students must be taken
327 into account. International students have a similar, if not more extensive, thirst for
328 knowledge than Finnish students. Therefore, all materials for international students must
329 also be available in English.

330 **Aims**

- 331 • The University will continue to conduct high-quality research in Finnish,
332 strengthening the position of Finnish as a language of science.
- 333 • The position of the Finnish language as a language of instruction in Finnish-
334 language degree programs is not jeopardized. Those studying in Finnish-
335 language degree programs have the de facto opportunity to study the credits
336 of the English-language courses included in their program in Finnish if they wish.
- 337 • Those studying in Finnish-language degree programs have a subjective right to
338 guidance in Finnish.
- 339 • The University will communicate at least in Finnish and English, and it will also
340 reach sign language users and other students who do not speak Finnish. The
341 University should also communicate in plain Finnish.
- 342 • University offers high-quality and accessible Finnish language teaching for
343 international students across all proficiency levels.
- 344 • Degree program structures must include enough space for learning Finnish.
- 345 • Teaching in English is of high quality.

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- 346 • The language skills of teachers should not have major deficits that decrease the
347 quality of teaching or put students in unequal positions.
- 348 • Student guidance will always take into account the linguistic needs of students.
- 349 • The right to interpretation for students using sign language will be strengthened
350 and the University will be encouraged to add subtitles to videos used in teaching.

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National Higher Education Policy

University funding

Universities have an important role in maintaining and developing research, education and science. The level of funding for universities must be increased in order to guarantee a high level of quality education. University funding must be based primarily on public funding, and the funding must be transparent, predictable and rewarding in terms of quality of education. Education funding must be based primarily on the core funding of the funding model, rather than on the strategies, in order to guarantee stable core funding for education.

Aims

- The funding of universities should be tied to the index.
- The University funding model will be updated to increase the importance of quality education and quality employment measures.
- Universities will receive funding on the basis of completed credits rather than completed degrees.
- Supporting internationalisation will be taken into account in the funding model.
- The goal of increasing the higher education rate does not affect the quality of higher education. To reach the goal, there will be an increase in the basic funding of universities.
- The first timers' indicator must be waived.
- The same amount is paid to the University for completing a second degree of the same level as for the first degree.

Tuition-free education

Education must be free of charge on all levels so that everyone will have the opportunity for education, regardless of their background or the number and level of prior degrees.

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Aims

- The law concerning tuition fees for students arriving from countries outside the EU and EEA must be revoked.
- Commissioned training that leads to a degree must not be the only answer to the growing needs for continuing education and lifelong learning. Reasonably priced open higher education and small study modules enable the continuous development of skills.
- Psychotherapist training is free of charge.
- Making an application for extension of the degree right is free of charge.
- All universities and colleges in Finland offer equipment for those who do not have equipment compatible with entrance exams.
- Universities should offer students licenses to the programs needed in their studies. Open license software should be used when possible.
- The Open University should open up charge-free courses and lectures to a larger audience. Studies in the Open University should be free of charge to people who do not have a higher education degree or a place of study.
- Studies completed at the Open University are evaluated on the same scale as study courses included in degree studies.

Applying for higher education

Student selection practices must maintain and promote the equality and accessibility of education. Universities must retain the autonomy over selecting their students according to the methods and criteria they see fit, taking into account the specific features of study programs. Success in secondary education or in the Finnish Matriculation Examination alone must not determine access to higher education studies. Flexible and proactive study guidance can help to apply for studies and find the right place to study already at the application phase. Open University must not become a paid shortcut to higher education studies, and access to university through open University must continue to be limited by sufficiently small quotas.

Aims

- The first timers' quota must be revoked.

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- Certificate-based admission as the primary path to higher education should be revoked. An entrance exam that measures an applicant's suitability should be the primary path to university. The entrance exam should primarily be based on materials given out during the exam.
- Field-specific aptitude tests will be maintained.
- The information and skills required in entrance exams are accessible without additional paid training.
- The primary role of the open University is to advance constant learning. The open University route will not be grown. The open University does not have the right to give degrees.
- The open University route will be primarily for applicants who are not eligible to apply for higher education.
- When applying to university through the open University route, the required credits should be no higher than the amount of studies required to prepare for an entrance exam.
- The transfer application procedure between universities should be flexible.
- Universities will provide guidance to potential students already in the application phase.
- Study right should be granted primarily to both bachelor's and master's programs. Application for separate master's programs remains.
- The autumn joint application should be expanded.
- The University does not charge application fees.

Structure of the higher education system and university autonomy

The differing duties and profiles of universities and universities of applied sciences are based in legislation, and this foundation must be respected in the development of higher education consortium collaborations. The aim of this collaboration must be the betterment of students' educational opportunities without narrowing the differences between university types or weakening their autonomy. Universities must retain the autonomy over, for example, internal financing according to the model of funding they see fit. The advancement of university profiling should be done while respecting the autonomy of universities. Each university should grant both bachelor's and master's

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degrees. The primary task of universities should not be to answer the needs of the surrounding business life. The primary task of universities is to civilize. The higher education institutions of Finland should form a comprehensive and cohesive entity, which is competitive on an international scale.

Aims

- The educational cooperation between higher education institutions should be increased. The cooperation should focus on providing education.
- Universities should increase student interaction between different areas and educational levels.
- Permanent study right should be returned by removing the time limits on completing degrees.
- The number of universities should not be reduced.
- University profiling should not be prioritized at the expense of interdisciplinarity or by decreasing the size of the university network.
- The current public universities should remain public.
- High school routes will not be increased significantly.

Digitalisation of education

Digitalisation enables flexible cooperation between higher education institutions in the provision of education and creates the means for time and place independent studying. However, the level of pedagogy must not fall as a result of educational cooperation. Cooperation between higher education institutions can be based on national subject-specific courses and units, provided they are pedagogically sound and of high quality. Digitalisation can also improve the opportunities for students in secondary education to familiarise themselves with higher education studies. In this way, the transition from secondary education to higher education can be streamlined and the education pathway unified.

Aims

- Education must not be digitalised at the expense of pedagogy, but priority must be given to the effectiveness of pedagogical solutions.

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- The primary opportunities for digitalisation are the master's studies and the provision of higher education courses and units to students in secondary education.

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International Higher Education Policy and Internationalisation

The status of Finland and Jyväskylä in international scientific networks

The University of Jyväskylä must be an influential operator in the international scientific community. Student mobility and high-quality education guarantee the attractiveness of the University of Jyväskylä on the field of international higher education. The University of Jyväskylä must invest in developing the working life skills and contacts of international students. The University of Jyväskylä must also invest in activities that promote the integration of international students into society. It is in the interest of Finland as a whole that international students find employment and stay in Finland after graduation. The University of Jyväskylä must also make significant research in languages other than Finnish. The University must take its share of global responsibility by actively participating in the debate in international crisis situations and by educating people to be humane and societally active. The teaching in international degree programs should be equally of high quality and they should take advantage of the University's strengths in order to be competitive and to enable employment opportunities.

Aims

- The University of Jyväskylä will invest in student mobility and it will be taken into account in the internal funding model.
- International students' residence permit must be granted to cover the entire duration of their degree programs. The international students who graduate from university will automatically receive a two-year jobseeker's residence permit if they stay in Finland.
- Renewing one's residence permit should be made easier and the possibility of renewal should not be tied to, for example, one's number of credits.
- University services and services of other government agencies should be made more accessible to those without strong identification.
- Using bank services, services of other government agencies as well as social and healthcare services in the wellbeing services county are made easier for international students for instance by increasing interpreter services.

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- 500 • One should be able to use services of the Finnish Immigration Service in
501 Jyväskylä.
- 502 • Universities and society will support the employment of international students.
503 The employment of international students will be promoted, for example,
504 through projects and courses that support the accumulation of work experience.
- 505 • The special needs of university-educated immigrants must be recognised in
506 activities that support integration, and the international students' knowledge of
507 Finnish society and their own field's practices for job application and the working
508 life must be improved.
- 509 • The University should support the integration and inclusion of international
510 students into the Finnish society and advance their position in the student
511 community.
- 512 • Employers must not require fluent Finnish language skills for work that does not
513 require close interaction with customers.
- 514 • In order to promote integration, inclusion and employment, the opportunities for
515 international students to get to know local employers and job search already
516 during their studies are promoted.
- 517 • Social segregation of domestic and international students is prevented.
- 518 • To promote integration, the University must offer comprehensive subject-
519 specific education in the Finnish language. In addition, education in the ways of
520 working in the Finnish society is offered, which together support the transition to
521 working life.
- 522 • Students from outside the EU/EEA are only liable to pay tuition for the target
523 duration of their degree program.
- 524 • In order to promote integration, the public sector offers Finnish language
525 teaching more broadly to international students as well.
- 526 • International degree programs will be designed to allow students to complete a
527 sufficient number of ECTS credits to renew their residence permit and retain
528 scholarship.
- 529 • The University maintains the grant system, even if the law does not require it.
- 530 • Courses will be offered as evenly as possible throughout the academic year,
531 including the summer term.

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- International degree programs will be designed to attract both Finnish and international students.
- A national, equal and clear system should be created for granting stipends to international programs.
- A Students at Risk fund should be founded.
- The University should actively support the education of refugees and asylum seekers and make it possible for them to obtain the right to study in university in their own field. The University does not charge academic fees from these students at any stage of their studies, even if they are from outside the EU or EEA.
- When the number of international degree students increases, the number of staff is increased.
- The tuition fees for international students must be used to specifically develop international degree programs and services offered to international students.

Studies abroad and internalization at home

Every student must have the possibility to gain international experience during their studies and this should be taken into account in the curricula. Studying abroad as an exchange student or working abroad as an intern or otherwise should be one of the options available, but not the only one. Internationalization at home ensures that after graduation, all students have the ability to work in international environments. Internationalization at home in the University includes, for instance, an international environment, the option to study in a foreign language or to study foreign languages, and the opportunity to tutor international students.

Aims

- The University should offer high quality counselling to plan internalization in one's studies, and this counselling should take into account students' individual needs. The University should also support exchange students financially and by organizing orientations.
- The University supports students returning from an exchange period by organizing a return orientation and offers high quality counselling for getting credits for studies abroad. The student must have a clear understanding of how to include the exchange studies in their degree already before the exchange.

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- 563 • Credits should be granted for studies completed during an exchange period and
564 they should be valued equally in relation to studies completed in one's home
565 university.
- 566 • Courses completed during an exchange period or short-term mobility can be
567 credited as part of one's degree in such a way that makes clear the skills
568 acquired from those courses. The exchange period can be included in the study
569 plan without extending the study time.
- 570 • The University should invest in teaching foreign languages.
- 571 • The curricula make it possible to internationalize at the home country and go for
572 long and short periods abroad that promote studies. There is space for studying
573 or working abroad in the curriculum. The possibilities regarding
574 internationalization are communicated clearly and frequently enough
575 regardless of one's study program.
- 576 • The University should develop different ways to internationalize at home. The
577 University staff should have sufficient knowledge about different ways to
578 internationalize.
- 579 • The cooperation between Finnish and English programs should be increased.
580 Students in Finnish programs should have the opportunity to internationalize at
581 home by participating in courses that are part of international programs.
- 582 • The University should advance the exchange opportunities and mobility periods
583 of marginalized student groups, such as students with families.
- 584 • The University offers more short-term mobility periods than currently. The
585 University encourages short-term mobility periods in addition to exchange
586 studies.
- 587 • There must be clear and weighty grounds for rejecting an exchange application.
588 If the exchange application is rejected because the exchange destination is not
589 suitable for the student, the University primarily supports the student in finding a
590 suitable exchange destination or secondarily offers other ways to complete
591 internationalization. The University makes sure that the students do well in their
592 exchange destinations.
- 593 • If an exchange period results in a longer study-time, the student has a right to
594 an extension of the study grant for the duration of the exchange.

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International structural development and globalisation of education

Finland must promote the goals of the Bologna Process and actively contribute to the creation of a European education area. As a matter of principle, science and making science must always be transparent. Finland must be a pioneer in publishing transparent scientific knowledge globally.

Aims

- European bachelor's and master's degrees will be recognised throughout Europe.
- Finland will play an active role in realising the goals of the Bologna Process.
- Promoting the globalisation of education and international mobility will be one of the core values of the Finnish universities.
- In its international activities, the University is aware of its global responsibility, which takes into account international situations and crises. The University's international activities are ethical, sustainable and respectful of human rights. The University acknowledges the weight and complexity of international affairs within its community and abroad. The University acknowledges how crises impact its students' wellbeing and respects the diverse views stemming from these crises.
- The university shall aspire to facilitate the Recognition of Prior Learning process for different degrees all over Europe.

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Society

JYY wants to contribute to and promote the Finnish welfare state, global justice and an equal future. Decision-making must be based on the principles of ecological and social sustainability as well as on other scientific knowledge. Sustainable development must be taken into account in all decision-making.

For the purposes of this document, sustainable development is defined as a socially, economically, humanely, culturally and environmentally sustainable way of operating that already pursues and simultaneously develops sustainability. Ecological sustainability is the backbone for these other dimensions of sustainability. JYY is a democratic organization that actively opposes extreme movements threatening democracy.

Finnish Society

The Finnish welfare state is a prerequisite for a competent, healthy and prosperous future. Justice between generations must be promoted. Younger and future generations must have access to inclusion, education, employment, livelihoods, a healthy living environment and pensions. Young people must have the opportunity to participate in decision-making and they must be listened to. Young people need to be educated for active citizenship. In order to secure and develop Finnish competence and to prevent exclusion, general quality education must be invested at all levels, from early childhood education onwards. Finland must promote free movement and global responsibility in international arenas.

Aims

- Early education and basic education resources are secured to a level that guarantees equal opportunities for children and young people to progress on the school path and that supports them to get by in society.
- Secondary education will be genuinely free, of high quality, and promote general knowledge and support young people's well-being. All students who have completed secondary education have equal opportunities to get into higher education.
- The facilities of early childhood education and schools as well as study facilities are safe, healthy and accessible.

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- The role of libraries as the nation's most important civilizers, educators and welfare promoters is recognized and their operations are secured. Libraries serve students better, for example, by improving the availability of academic course literature and by providing study facilities.

Student's Livelihood

Stable and adequate livelihood is important for students, both for the wellbeing and the ability to study. Study grant must be big enough to lead a decent life and to enable full-time study in a variety of situations and without having to raise a loan or work. Sufficient study grant makes it possible to pursue higher education from any financial point of view. Study grant is one form of social security and should be seen as such. Students must be able to make mistakes, make wrong choices, and succeed in versatile and also in economically challenging situations. The study grant, together with the housing supplement, must be sufficient, regardless of the place of residence and the type of residence. Students must have the right to their own income. Therefore, the income of roommates should not affect student's housing benefits. In the long term, JYY wants Finland to implement basic income or other universal and individual social security coverage. Basic income guarantees a living in the changing work life.

Aims

- All benefits granted by Kela need to be tied to the National Pensions Index and checked annually so that a student's purchasing power doesn't decrease.

Basic income

- In the long term, a gratuitous basic income or other universal and individual social security coverage will be paid for all permanent residents of Finland over the age of 18.

Financial aid for students

- The amount of study grant will be raised to the same level as the basic part of social assistance and together with the housing supplement, it must be big enough for living.
- The number of months of financial aid will be increased to 60 so that, for example, summer studies will not cause months of financial aid to run out.
- There are alternative ways to encourage students to graduate within the target time, such as investing in study guidance and flexible studying opportunities.

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- 679 • Financial aids for bachelor's and master's degrees will be combined. A student
680 may use a bachelor's degree's study grant for a master's degree, even if the
681 student has completed their bachelor's degree before all the months of their
682 financial aid have ended.
- 683 • It must be possible to get additional months of financial aid for a new degree or
684 a new course of study by applying.
- 685 • The requirement to pay back overpaid study grant plus interest due to
686 exceeding the annual income limit will be revoked and months of financial aid
687 that need to be returned can be reused later. A student must be given plenty of
688 time to pay back financial aid.
- 689 • The minimum requirement of completing at least 20 credits in each academic
690 year must be revoked.
- 691 • Informing about not making sufficient study progress will be made easier. Kela
692 may be notified of the slowing down of study progress even before Kela requests
693 for information.
- 694 • The requirements for extending the study support period will be lowered.
- 695 • There will be no increase in the minimum monthly requirement for progress for
696 the study grant.
- 697 • Study grant will be transferred from the Ministry of Education and Culture to the
698 Ministry of Social Affairs and Health. In the future, study grant will be treated as
699 part of social security. Study grant will be included in the reforming of social
700 security.
- 701 • The students' minimum income will not be covered with a student loan, but the
702 student loan can enable students to raise their standard of living.
- 703 • Student loan repayment covers 50 % of the loan amount.
- 704 • The graduation period required for the student loan repayment will be extended
705 to match the duration of the study right for that degree.
- 706 • The period of absence from studies correspondingly extends the graduation
707 period required for the student loan repayment.
- 708 • An interest rate cap is placed on the student loan.
- 709 • The duration of the interest subsidy is extended.

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- 710 • The income limits for the interest subsidy are raised.
- 711 • The conditions for the waiver and non-recovery of student loan guarantees will
- 712 be eased, in particular for low-income earners, parents, the unemployed and
- 713 those unable to work.
- 714 • Region-based student loan refund will not be implemented.

715 **Housing supplement**

- 716 • Students are brought back within the scope of general housing support.
- 717 • Students' housing supplement must be individual. At least for the students
- 718 studying full-time, the transition to individual housing supplement will be made.
- 719 • Housing supplement will allow students to live together with family and friends
- 720 without reducing anyone's allowances. The income of roommates should not
- 721 affect individual housing benefits.
- 722 • Interpretation of partnership will be based on the applicant's own declaration.
- 723 • The form of lease agreement will not reduce the amount of housing supplement.
- 724 • The housing benefit has an earned income deduction, which enables part-time
- 725 work.

726 **Social assistance**

- 727 • Social assistance will be applicant-specific benefit. Unmarried couples will not
- 728 be liable to provide each other with maintenance.
- 729 • Student loan will not be considered as income in the income statement.
- 730 • The level of social assistance is not affected at all by the wealth and income of
- 731 a minor child, nor by child allowance.
- 732 • The bureaucracy of social assistance should be reduced.

733 **Students with family**

- 734 • Students with families must also be able to focus on their studies full-time and
- 735 to have a decent income.

736 **Sickness allowance**

- 737 • Students' transition to sickness allowance will be made easier.

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- 738 • Part-time study on sickness allowance is possible.

- 739 • The level of sickness allowance will be raised.

- 740 • Vocational rehabilitation of a young person will not require a diagnosis of illness
741 or disability also in the future.

742 **Retraining to learn a new occupation**

- 743 • Retraining will be economically possible also when the previous occupation
744 does not allow saving money or working part-time in order to finance the
745 studies.

- 746 • Adult education allowance shall be restored.

747 **Meal subsidy**

- 748 • The meal subsidy for higher education students makes it possible for students
749 to enjoy an affordable, healthy, domestic and ecological student lunch, which
750 takes into account dietary restrictions.

- 751 • The increase in the price of the student lunch subsidized by Kela is not left to the
752 students to pay in its entirety.

- 753 • The restriction on meal subsidy for one meal per day will be removed.

- 754 • The possibility of selling student lunch as takeaway is restored.

- 755 • The requirement that if there is a student restaurant on campus that only offers
756 vegan food, there must be a student restaurant nearby that offers mixed food
757 covered by meal subsidy, is removed from the dining recommendation for
758 university students.

759 **Working**

- 760 • Students working part-time does not weaken their equal right for the study grant
761 and other social benefits.

- 762 • The right to work for international students will be expanded.

763 **Pension system**

- 764 • Intergenerational justice is taken into account in the pension reform. The
765 earnings-related pension contributions will not be increased.

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- 766
- 767
- Earnings-related pension accumulated from completing a university degree is retained.

Approved by the Representative Council on 12 May 2026.

Student Wellbeing

The wellbeing of students is important both on a humane level and as something that facilitates the advancement of one's studies in higher education. The University must work systematically to advance students' wellbeing, but also to prevent problems with wellbeing. Social networks, hobbies, sports and culture are essential elements in building student wellbeing. International students need to be considered as part of the community, but also as a special group that needs to be taken into account in the planning and evaluation of student support services. Physical, psychical, mental and social health are important for learning and wellbeing.

More resources are needed to prevent and address mental health problems, as one-third of students suffer from mental health problems. The services of the FSHS should be communicated about clearly to students. Only slightly less than half of higher education students exercise enough which is why obstacles to student exercise must be removed and a culture that encourages exercise must be created.

Aims

Getting students to exercise

- Long-term sitting will be reduced in teaching facilities and practices. Stand-up workstations and exercise balls will be added to study areas, and lecture halls enable taking breaks from sitting during lectures.
- Cultural change to taking breaks from sitting will be strongly promoted through campaigns, teacher training and the development of new procedures, as well as connecting people to the University.
- Academic sports fees will be kept to a minimum. The fees will be refunded for valid reasons. Students have the opportunity to participate in a free-of-charge trial period to start an athletic hobby.
- The resources of academic sports will not be reduced, and the quality of their services remains high despite structural changes. The academic sports course that is part of students' studies will be maintained.
- Every student will have the opportunity to enjoy a variety of free and regular sports activities, for example, using the gym and booking sports facilities.
- Student associations will be offered free sports turns to organise their own sports activities.

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- 800 • The sport course with credits is an important part of low-threshold options of the
801 academic sports and it must be preserved in the future.
- 802 • Student fees for sports services organised by the city will be kept to a minimum.
803 In particular, student prices for swimming halls will be reduced.
- 804 • The rewarding cooperation between the University of Jyväskylä and the
805 Wellbeing Services County of Central Finland to promote health and wellbeing
806 continues.
- 807 • In accordance with the city strategy, in addition to the investments made in
808 sports, the city invests significantly in the exercise opportunities of the city's
809 residents.

810 **Culture and coming together**

- 811 • Communality and people coming together will be supported. Studies support
812 students' social relations. International students will be recognised as part of the
813 university community and receive special attention.
- 814 • The campus will have facilities for students to relax and unwind. The campus will
815 have both lush green areas and peaceful study and relaxation areas to be
816 together and alone. The University will provide students with facilities for
817 common use, events and hanging out.
- 818 • The University and the city will support and promote cultural activities. Cultural
819 services are seen as a promoter of wellbeing just as sports services are. Arts
820 experts will be supported just as much as hobbyists.
- 821 • The city secures the continuation of key cultural events, such as Yläkaupungin
822 yö.
- 823 • The city will also support small cultural events by providing facilities, guidance
824 and financial support to enable citizens of Jyväskylä to organise and participate
825 in a variety of cultural events.
- 826 • The higher education consortium shall support shared events for all students
827 and the creation of student culture in Jyväskylä.

828 **Student healthcare**

- 829 • The position of the Finnish Student Health Service as an expert and promoter of
830 student health is secured, and it is guaranteed sufficient resources. The Ministry

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- 831 of Social Affairs and Health's estimate of acceptable total costs for FSHS is made
832 realistically, so that FSHS's funding is more predictable.
- 833 • The funding model of FSHS will be changed so that the payments made by
834 university students form a smaller share of the foundation's total funding than
835 currently.
- 836 • Donations received by the FSHS do not reduce its basic funding.
- 837 • Students will have smooth access to primary health care and specialised health
838 care when needed. Primary health care will be free and specialised health care
839 will be inexpensive. Adequate resources for public health care, both general and
840 specialised, will be guaranteed and quality services will be ensured.
- 841 • When treating long-term illnesses, the circulation of customer information
842 between FSHS and the wellbeing services county must be taken into
843 consideration to ensure high-quality treatment.
- 844 • Exchange students should regain access to the services of FSHS.
- 845 • International students will have smooth access to basic services, including
846 mental health services. Basic services will be of high quality, service guidance
847 will be available also in English, and medical staff will have sufficient English
848 language skills.
- 849 • FSHS, the Student Union and the University will cooperate in student healthcare
850 services.
- 851 • Health care must be respectful of bodily autonomy and understand gender and
852 sexual diversity.
- 853 • Medical data will transfer quickly and easily between different health services.
854 The collaboration between the FSHS and the wellbeing services county shall be
855 clear and simple for the customer.
- 856 • The specification of the care guarantee into under 23-year-olds must be
857 revoked and expanded to cover all students.
- 858 • Dental care will be guaranteed sufficient resources for prevention.
- 859 • Access to tests for sexually transmitted diseases will be quick and easy.
- 860 • Free contraception must be offered to everyone under 29 years of age and to all
861 students.

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- 862 • The smoke-free campus will continue to be developed towards real
863 smokelessness.
- 864 • Rooms for drug use are part of national drug policy. Drug use will be
865 decriminalized.
- 866 • Cannabis is legalized. Regulating cannabis prevents the worsening of substance
867 abuse problems and reduces crime and the underground economy.
- 868 • Ways to address alcohol and drug problems will be developed and effective
869 means for it must be available. Help for substance abuse problems must be
870 available free of stigma.

871 **Mental health services**

- 872 • Wellbeing of students is invested in with easy-to-access services.
873 Communication about the University's support services should be made clearer
874 and developed in such a way that they reach all those in need of help.
- 875 • Both Student Life activities and the cooperation between the university of
876 applied sciences' counselling and the actors in welfare will be developed.
- 877 • The services of the special education teacher and the educational counselling
878 psychologist will be offered to all higher education consortium students.
- 879 • Psychology students can be offered internships from the higher education
880 consortium's counselling and support services.
- 881 • Students are aware of the wellbeing space in the University's library, as well as
882 the services it provides.
- 883 • Students know that the wellbeing services are not meant just for study concerns.
- 884 • The University will prepare a wellbeing policy program for students.
- 885 • A low-threshold mental health emergency will be available in Jyväskylä, with
886 24-hour acute care and referral to treatment.
- 887 • Student access to mental health services will be quick and smooth throughout
888 the year.
- 889 • Kela's rehabilitative psychotherapy is well resourced.
- 890 • The deductible for Kela's rehab psychotherapy should be removed for students
891 and young people.

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- 892 • Professional support and assistance will be available for those who have
893 experienced violence and sexual violence. Access to support will be smooth,
894 low-threshold and free from stigmas.

Approved by the Representative Council on 12 May 2026.

Equality

Every person, regardless of their background, must have the opportunity to live an equal and dignified life, to have wellbeing and to be a part of the society. Everyone should be able to be seen, heard, noticed and valued regardless of their background or opinions. JYY is a feminist and anti-racist organization that is part of building a society in which all kinds of people can study and live a normal and good life free of discrimination and stigmas. JYY works to dismantle structures and norms that are discriminatory and recognizes other factors in addition to gender that affect a person's societal standing. These factors include one's socioeconomic background, wealth, sexual orientation, skin colour, ethnicity, religion, political ideology and being differently abled.

Aims

- The University staff's knowledge and understanding about the diversity of gender and sexuality is enhanced.
- The University staff's knowledge and understanding about cultural diversity is enhanced. The University acts in an anti-racist manner, and the University staff is trained regularly on anti-racist activity.
- In all its activities, the University takes neurodiversity into account. The University develops its activity by considering neurodivergent students and teachers and by promoting their participation.
- Accessibility is actualized in the University community. A good student life is available to all regardless of factors affecting one's physical, psychological or social abilities. Help and support are available equally regardless of which faculty or department one studies in or which staff member a student asks for help.
- The University has clear positions, principles and procedures on accessibility issues. These are used systematically and actively to advance the accessibility of university studies. The knowledge that staff and students have of accessible studying is increased.
- The University has clear signs on all campuses to ensure accessibility, which is uniform on all campuses.
- Following the recommendations for individual services is mandatory. The actualisation of individual services can be given feedback on, and activity is developed based on the feedback.

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- 928 • Discrimination and bullying will not be tolerated, and the help must be
929 preventative.
- 930 • The University will have a clear set of practices for intervening in harassment,
931 discrimination and racism. Students and staff will be familiar with the practices.
- 932 • The University will work to prevent loneliness, and the effectiveness of its
933 procedures is tracked.
- 934 • There are no indoor air problems in the University premises. Every student must
935 have the opportunity to complete their studies without being exposed to indoor
936 air quality problems. The University will have a clear policy that applies in all
937 cases.
- 938 • The University has spaces for childcare that are separate from accessible toilets.
- 939 • There are gender-neutral toilets and changing rooms available in all campuses.
940 Gender-neutral toilets and changing rooms will also be available in other public
941 facilities.
- 942 • Societal discussion should actively be changed into a direction, where mental
943 health issues are no longer seen as a stigma nor will people suffering from
944 mental health issues be stigmatised.
- 945 • Students are involved in the development of the University's equity, equality and
946 accessibility work.

947 **Everyone has an equal right to control their own body and life**

948 Everyone must have control over their own bodies and lives. The law must treat people
949 equally, regardless of gender and gender identity, while respecting human rights.

950 **Aims**

- 951 • Finland follows the Trans Act that is in line with the recommendations of the
952 Finnish association for transgender and intersex rights (Trasek).
- 953 • Finland will legally recognise third gender classifications.
- 954 • The indicator indicating the individual's gender in personal identity codes will be
955 removed.

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- 956 • The conscription model which treats people unequally according to gender shall
957 transition into an equal and selective model.
- 958 • Finland must ratify the International Labour Organisation's (ILO) "Convention No.
959 169", approved in 1989, promoting the human rights of the Sami people.
- 960 • University systems take into account the diversity of gender.
- 961 • The university shall actively promote the freedom of religion.

Approved by the Representative Council on 12 May 2026.

Regional policy – life in Central Finland now and in the future

Students' voices are heard in decision-making and the preparation of decisions. Central Finland and Jyväskylä need to invest boldly in the future and opportunities. The region needs to invest in the wellbeing of its citizens, in employment, in the development of business, and in the reducing of inequality. The University must be an important regional educator in Central Finland, as well as a provider of vitality and development. Jyväskylä must also attract international students. The city must increase communication in English as well as strengthen the opportunities of international students to stay in the region after graduation.

In the city's financial plans, the assessment of the effects for students must also be taken into account. The additional part of the state share for the promotion of wellbeing and health received by the city of Jyväskylä must be equally targeted and the budgeting must be goal-oriented. In balancing the city's finances, priority must be given to revenue-side solutions if cost-saving measures jeopardise essential services for students.

Work and vitality

It is a prerequisite for the vitality of Jyväskylä and the entire region of Central Finland to be able to guarantee versatile and socially and ecologically sustainable services for all. It is in the interest of both the region and the University students that there are jobs and internships for higher education students in Central Finland. Transport connections from Central Finland to other growth points are important to the vitality and development of the region.

Aims

- In the public procurements carried out in Jyväskylä and Central Finland, the principles of sustainable procurement are followed, which promote social wellbeing, save money during the procurement life cycle and reduce the burden on the environment.
- Ways to better utilise the skills of university-educated citizens, taking into account all education programs that the University of Jyväskylä offers, will be developed in Central Finland. Industrial policy will focus on increasing the number of jobs requiring higher education.

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- Attracting state administration and EU offices to Jyväskylä. By setting up state and EU offices around Finland, regional vitality will be supported, and jobs will be provided to higher education graduates. Knowledge clusters may also be organised around the offices, bringing in talented people and creating jobs.
- In the Central Finland region, the special features of the economy are identified, and then developed together between companies, the public sector, the third sector and universities. This way, the Central Finland region will do well in global competition.
- Municipalities' working life services are close to students so that the Central Finland region remains vibrant in the future as well.
- Working life services will offer opportunities for networking and developing business ideas. Those who are interested in entrepreneurship should have natural opportunities and places to meet and develop business ideas, rather than, for example, courses organised by the TE Services.
- Access to support services for entrepreneurs will be easy.
- In Central Finland, various sectors invest extensively in research and product development.
- Working life services and other basic services will be available also in English.
- Transport services to and within Central Finland will be good and smooth. The double-track railway to Tampere and faster rail link to Helsinki will be important in the future.
- The employment of international students in Central Finland is supported. Internship and work opportunities in English will be increased.

Vibrant city, vibrant citizens

In terms of students' everyday wellbeing, it is very important that the city offers versatile public services to students as well. Students will actively use the services if versatility and the pricing suitable for students is taken into account. The reduction of public services is immediately visible in students' everyday life, and for this reason the city must ensure the availability of services in the future. The needs of students should also be taken into account in urban planning and students should be consulted already in the preparation phase.

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1025 Aims

- 1026 • After health care services have been moved to welfare areas, Jyväskylä is
1027 developing its welfare services and investing in preventive health services.
1028 Higher education students are recognized in the strategy of the wellbeing area.
- 1029 • The expertise of the University of Jyväskylä is utilised in the activities of the
1030 Wellbeing Services County of Central Finland to promote health and wellbeing.
1031 For example, the expertise of the Faculty of Sport and Health Sciences can be
1032 used in the development and piloting of preventive activities nationwide. The
1033 University will be actively considered in land use planning as an important part
1034 of the inner city of Jyväskylä.
- 1035 • City centre is developed into a more vibrant, versatile and environmentally
1036 responsible place.
- 1037 • Services will be available throughout the city.
- 1038 • All the city services' fees have a reduced student price.
- 1039 • The city of Jyväskylä constantly evaluates and develops ways to reduce
1040 inequality in its regions. Land use planning, construction, infrastructure and
1041 service locating will actively combat regional inequalities.
- 1042 • The city will have open and free spaces for citizens, organisations and groups to
1043 use. The city will also have free space for urban farming.
- 1044 • New ways to involve citizens in city development and decision- making will be
1045 developed in Jyväskylä and Central Finland.
- 1046 • In Jyväskylä, participatory budgeting will be introduced more widely.
1047 Participatory budgeting is open. Participatory budgeting reaches students and
1048 young people. Money is directed to the implementation of projects developed
1049 by residents.
- 1050 • The city will have enough public toilets, benches, garbage bins and waste
1051 sorting stations.

1052 Happy home for everyone

- 1053 Affordable student housing is a great way to prevent student poverty. Student housing
1054 must be publicly supported. Sufficient amount of student apartments must be

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1055 guaranteed in order to provide as many students as possible with affordable and
1056 suitable homes.

1057 It is important to ensure that every student has an affordable home that is a safe and
1058 comfortable place to study, rest and live everyday life. Student housing should adapt to
1059 the wishes and needs of students. Student housing should be located close to higher
1060 education institutions and services.

1061 Aims

1062 • Production of affordable housing is made possible by offering enough space for
1063 it in the city centre and other growing areas.

1064 • More public rental apartments and state subsidized ARA apartments. are built
1065 in Jyväskylä.

1066 • The percentage of investment support targeted at student housing will be
1067 increased to 20% of the current eligible costs.

1068 • Student housing responds to the needs of students. There are enough affordable
1069 student apartments available.

1070 • Accessibility, healthiness and comfort will always be taken into account in the
1071 construction phase. Accessibility and comfort will also be taken into account in
1072 courtyards and common areas. There will also be enough wholly accessible
1073 student apartments.

1074 • Shared apartments and family apartments will be designed and built to offer
1075 changeability for different housing purposes.

1076 • Shared student apartments will not be automatically distributed according to
1077 gender. The applicant must be able to choose whether to apply for a gender-
1078 neutral apartment or a same-sex apartment. An applicant must have the right
1079 to gender self- identification.

1080 • The principles of tenant choice are open.

1081 • Tenant democracy will be supported. The Tenant's Committee will be offered a
1082 real opportunity to improve the services and quality of life at the Student Village.
1083 The Tenant's Committee will be supported financially and through training.

1084 • A flat mate search will be launched. If so desired, a student can find a suitable
1085 flat mate through the service.

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- 1086 • Sufficient and affordable student apartments and other kinds of apartments will
1087 be available for students with family throughout the city, including the
1088 downtown area.
- 1089 • Enough furnished apartments will be available for international students. There
1090 are also apartments available for shorter duration, for instance for exchange
1091 periods.
- 1092 • There are enough affordable options for temporary housing to students, for
1093 example, during the start of semesters and in order to accommodate part-time
1094 studies.
- 1095 • KOAS must investigate the students' housing needs and wishes and boldly try
1096 different and new forms of communal living.
- 1097 • The planning of residential areas will take into account the versatility of services
1098 and demographics, as well as opportunities for shared use, for example, of cars
1099 and sports facilities.
- 1100 • Common indoor and outdoor spaces for studying and living are developed for
1101 student housing.
- 1102 • Student housing should provide students with facilities in which they can use
1103 computers and printers connected to the University's network.
- 1104 • Student housing must offer students free internet.

1105 Environmental impact of housing

1106 The carbon footprint of housing is one of the biggest contributors to individual emissions.
1107 Encouraging communal living is a good way to reduce the environmental impact of
1108 housing. Communal living must be financially attractive and profitable.

1109 Aims

- 1110 • Ecological point of view must be considered in all construction phases.
1111 Sustainability will be emphasised already during the competitive tendering.
1112 Planning of new buildings, renovation projects and planning of areas will take
1113 into account energy efficiency and set specific targets for reducing the carbon
1114 footprint.
- 1115 • ARA funding guides towards energy-efficient construction.

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- 1116 • EKOenergy certified eco-electricity will be used in student apartments.
- 1117 • Student apartments will have good opportunities to recycle both in the
- 1118 apartments and at recycling points. There are multilingual guides and
- 1119 encouragement to recycling.
- 1120 • Digital services will be developed to promote the reusing and recycling of goods.
- 1121 • New ways of the sharing economy will be boldly experimented with in student
- 1122 apartments.
- 1123 • Student housing is made so that it reserves energy and water. Tenants are
- 1124 encouraged and instructed on how to decrease their use of water and
- 1125 electricity. Tenants must be able to monitor their own energy and water
- 1126 consumption.
- 1127 • The obligation to build parking spaces will be removed.
- 1128 • There will be enough locked bicycle storage facilities and bicycle racks that
- 1129 allow to lock the frame to the rack. Heated bicycle storage facilities will be built.
- 1130 • There must be good public transport options available from student housing to
- 1131 the city centre and campuses. The maintenance of these options should be
- 1132 taken care of around the entire year, and they must be safe.

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Sustainable development and responsibility

JYY is committed to promoting social and environmental responsibility, as well as cultural sustainability, and expects other social actors to do the same. Some of the biggest threats faced by the young generation are climate change and decreasing biodiversity. How we respond to these challenges in the coming years will strongly determine the future of younger generations. JYY demands major steps to stop climate change and the decrease in biodiversity and demands measures which will increase nature positivity. The change must happen both on a societal level and on an individual level. Ecologically sustainable life must be natural and easy for everyone in the future. The Student Union recognises Finnish food production as a key factor for food security and security of supply in Finland and Europe, as well as for sustainable development and responsibility.

Social and global responsibility

As one of the richest countries in the world, Finland has a duty to take global responsibility and to treat others fairly, not just for its own economic interests. We must adapt to the changes brought about by climate change, and we must also take global responsibility in this process. Finland must act to promote and recognize the human rights of all people. Racism must be condemned, and active and wide-ranging anti-racist work must be done.

Aims

- Finland will actively work to reduce global inequality.
- Pacifism and unarmed conflict resolution will be promoted.
- Finland must set goals on how it will raise the share of funding for development cooperation to 0.7% of its GDP. At least 0.2 % of GDP will be targeted to the most vulnerable.
- In development cooperation, Finland's special expertise in the field of education will be utilised to improve education and to tackle the crisis in learning.
- Finland and the EU will share their responsibility for helping refugees. Climate refugee status will be recognised by law in the European Union and Finland.
- Finland must follow its international obligations when it comes to receiving refugees.

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- 1164 • The inclusion, integration, settlement and assimilation of immigrants into society
1165 is supported.
- 1166 • Access to higher education for refugees and immigrants will be improved.
- 1167 • Finland contributes to activating the EU directive on temporary protection in
1168 exceptional situations also in the future.
- 1169 • Basic necessities will be guaranteed for everyone in Finland.
- 1170 • Fur farming will be banned internationally.
- 1171 • Both the University of Jyväskylä and the city of Jyväskylä take sustainability into
1172 account in all their acquisitions by choosing certified products that have not
1173 been made with child labour, forced labour or exploitation of workers.
- 1174 • The University of Jyväskylä commits to continue renewing the Fair Trade
1175 University certificate every year.

1176 **Responsible campus and University**

1177 The University must carry its responsibilities in stopping climate change and the
1178 decrease in biodiversity, and it must act in an exemplary way. Research should look for
1179 solutions to stop climate change and the decrease in biodiversity, but action is also
1180 required to decrease its own environmental footprint and the environmental effects of
1181 itself and others. The campus should be developed towards carbon neutrality. The goals
1182 of sustainable development are advanced in the University's actions, teaching,
1183 acquisitions and cooperation.

1184 **Aims**

- 1185 • The University of Jyväskylä maintains its goal to be carbon negative and
1186 environmentally net-positive by the year 2030.
- 1187 • The University of Jyväskylä implements Unifi's 12 theses for sustainable
1188 development and responsibility.
- 1189 • Cycling paths on and off campus will be streamlined and developed.
- 1190 • Bicycle racks that enable frame locking will be added to the campus, and there
1191 will be enough parking spaces for bicycles around the campus.

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- 1192 • The University will encourage staff to move sustainably, for example, by
1193 encouraging cycling and supporting bus travel.
- 1194 • The travel instructions of the University direct and instruct staff as well as
1195 exchange students to use ecologically sustainable forms of travel.
- 1196 • The University instructs staff and students in everyday actions that save water,
1197 energy and materials.
- 1198 • The University will use geothermal and solar energy wherever possible. The
1199 electricity purchased from outside will be EKOenergy certified eco-electricity.
- 1200 • The campus area will remain park-like. The meadow vegetation belonging to
1201 the Mattilaniemi area of the university shall be retained, even if it should move
1202 from one place to another.
- 1203 • The environmentally negative effects caused by the University are minimized.
- 1204 • Purchases will pay attention to the environmental impact of the product
1205 throughout its whole life-cycle.
- 1206 • The University's meals are plant-based. Finnish ingredients are preferred.
- 1207 • Courses can be run without paper prints unless there is a specific pedagogical
1208 basis to use them.
- 1209 • The contents of sustainable development and global education will be
1210 incorporated into university studies wherever appropriate, irrespective of the
1211 field of study, and the educational staff will be granted sufficient resources and
1212 training. Corresponding with the UN's goals of sustainable development is taken
1213 into account and brought forth in curricula and course descriptions.
- 1214 • The University will not invest in fossil fuels and shall instead direct its investments
1215 towards objectives which are in accordance with sustainable development.
- 1216 • When selecting its service providers, partners and investment targets, the
1217 University will take into full account the potential partner's activities. Cooperation
1218 will be made only with responsible companies and communities. The arms
1219 trade, tobacco industry, neo-colonial practices, discrimination, and the use of
1220 child labour are unsuitable activities for the partners of the University.
- 1221 • The University practices green accounting.

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1222 **Environmentally responsible Jyväskylä**

1223 The city of Jyväskylä must be a forerunner in building ecological urban environment. In
1224 addition to a sustainable urban structure, nature and biodiversity must also be protected
1225 and the citizens' access to nature promoted.

1226 **Aims**

1227 **The city of Jyväskylä**

- 1228 • The city's comprehensive schools' curricula will particularly emphasise
1229 environmental education and adopting a sustainable lifestyle.
- 1230 • The departments of the city of Jyväskylä and schools invest in decreasing the
1231 amount of food loss. Action is taken about the food loss of industrial kitchens
1232 even if it does not provide profits.
- 1233 • The city's food services will concentrate on ecologically sustainable food,
1234 increase the amount of vegetarian food served and favour sustainable,
1235 preferably locally produced or secondarily elsewhere in Finland produced
1236 seasonal food. The food will be traceable.
- 1237 • Jyväskylä significantly reduces the share of fossil fuels and biomass, such as
1238 peat and wood fuels, in its energy production. In the 2020s, Jyväskylä completely
1239 cuts using peat in its energy production, without replacing it with wood or fossil
1240 fuels. The energy production in Jyväskylä consists of renewable energy to as
1241 large a degree as possible. The use of fossil fuels stops.
- 1242 • Jyväskylä's water bodies will be protected from oil, waste and debris.
- 1243 • Environmental responsibility must be taken into account in all large public
1244 events in Jyväskylä.

1245 **Built city environment**

- 1246 • Sustainability will be emphasised in planning and construction. When designing
1247 additional construction and new services, the environmental aspect will be
1248 taken into account both in the construction process itself and in the
1249 development of sustainable urban environment. The environmental aspect will
1250 also be taken into account in the development of a sustainable lifestyle for the
1251 citizens.
- 1252 • Preserving the values of nature and enhancing the wellbeing of nature must be
1253 taken into account in urban planning. The city will preserve areas of pristine

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1254 forests for the sake of the citizens and the nature itself. Green areas and nearby
1255 forests will be invested in everywhere in the city.

1256 • Jyväskylä invests in recycling and a circular economy. The collection points of
1257 problem waste are easily accessible.

1258 • Popular public spaces will invest in sorting. Citizens will be provided with
1259 information on recycling and its importance, for example, through campaigns.

1260 **Traffic and transportation**

1261 • In Jyväskylä's transportation planning, downtown motoring will be reduced, and
1262 the city centre's gyratory traffic will be improved.

1263 • Reducing the student bus ticket fares, and introducing free public transport, at
1264 least for the winter months.

1265 • Jyväskylä's local transport lines running on fossil fuels will be replaced by
1266 ecological and sustainable alternatives.

1267 • Jyväskylä's local transport lines shall introduce stop announcements to improve
1268 safety and accessibility. All buses shall introduce screens that show the following
1269 bus stops.

1270 • In Jyväskylä, the public transport night shifts will be improved, especially in the
1271 areas of the city centre and student housing clusters, by increasing the intervals
1272 of late-evening bus lines as well as increasing bus lines that run late in the
1273 evening.

1274 • Improving bus accessibility to all campuses. Lecture schedules will be taken into
1275 account when planning bus schedules.

1276 • The accuracy of bus transportation schedules is improved. Route networks are
1277 developed to respond to students' needs between student housing, campuses,
1278 the city centre, and growth areas of the city.

1279 • Improving parking facilities located close to public transport stops and stations.
1280 For example, bus access to the downtown area will be made easier by lowering
1281 fares and constructing parking lots on the outer edges of the city, close to bus
1282 lines.

1283 • Parking facilities for bicycles near public transportation hubs will be developed
1284 and bicycle racks will be built near bus stops to encourage citizens to move
1285 smoothly by bikes and busses.

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- 1286 • Cycling will be promoted in Jyväskylä. The city's cycling promotion program will
1287 be ambitiously promoted.
- 1288 • Cycling in the city centre is easy and safe for all road users.
- 1289 • In order to promote other than motor vehicle transportation, road maintenance
1290 is improved all year round on pedestrian and cycle routes.
- 1291 • Developing a functional, possibly electric, city bike system.

1292 Climate responsible Finland

1293 Finland must bear its responsibility for tackling climate change and take effective action.
1294 Ecologically unsustainable economic growth must not be supported and boosted, but
1295 economic policy must act within the limits of the Earth's ecological capacity and natural
1296 resources. JYY promotes a sustainable lifestyle. It is imperative to accept that the current
1297 Western lifestyle is not ecologically sustainable.

1298 Aims

- 1299 • Finland will commit to the goals of the Paris Agreement.
- 1300 • Finland declares a climate emergency.
- 1301 • Finland supports and advances circular economy, sustainable energy
1302 production and research relating to carbon sequestration.
- 1303 • Finland and Jyväskylä will be carbon neutral by 2030.
- 1304 • Finland's energy production is sustainable and consists of renewable energy as
1305 much as possible. Renewable energy needs will be primarily met by something
1306 else than carbon sink biomass. The use of fossil fuels in energy production must
1307 be stopped.
- 1308 • Finland does not promote deforestation. Forest use is sustainable, and its
1309 regeneration is ensured by prioritising biodiversity. Open felling areas are kept
1310 small. Forest conservation is encouraged.
- 1311 • The criteria of Kela's subsidized student meals take into account the
1312 environmental footprint of lunches in addition to the nutritional guidelines. These
1313 criteria direct restaurants to offer environmentally friendly lunches.
- 1314 • Air travel will be restricted, among other things, by means of taxation.

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- 1315 • Rail transport will be developed as it is a safe and ecological way of transporting
1316 both goods and people. Using rail transport is cheaper and more attractive than
1317 air transport.

- 1318 • Public transport will be favoured, and measures will be taken to reduce
1319 motoring. Public transport will be generously developed and supported with tax
1320 revenue, so that using public transport will be inexpensive and more profitable
1321 than private motoring.

- 1322 • The network of refill stations for biofuel and the charging infrastructure for
1323 electricity are developed to entail the entirety of Finland.

- 1324 • Agricultural production is developed to become ecologically sustainable.
1325 Environmentally friendly innovations in agricultural production are supported in
1326 Finland. The carbon sequestration of the land use sector is supported with funds
1327 collected from high-polluting sectors by, for example, taxation.