

SAKARYA UNIVERSITY
2021-2022 ACADEMIC YEAR STUDENT SENATE
10th MEETING REPORT

27.05.2021

The 10th student senate meeting was held online on Thursday, May 27, 2021, with the participation of students, the Rector (Prof. Dr. Fatih SAVAŞAN), Vice Rector (Prof. Dr. Barış Tamer TONGUÇ), and Student Dean (Prof. Dr. Mehmet Barış HORZUM). The meeting began with the opening speech of Student Dean Prof. Dr. Mehmet Barış HORZUM. The role and functions of the Student Senate were explained, emphasizing its importance. Student Dean Assistant Dr. Lecturer Havva SERT made a brief presentation about the work done following the notifications from the 9th student senate. Afterwards, students were given the opportunity to speak about their questions, problems, and issues related to Sakarya University in the 2021-2022 academic year.

1- Ömer Faruk ÇETİN, a 3rd year student of the Faculty of Law and representative of the Mizan Law Community, took the floor and began his speech.

- It was mentioned that the Microsoft Teams application provided for online events was not efficient, and the biggest problem was that there was no orientation regarding the relevant program.

- He emphasized that the integrity of the subjects in the courses was disrupted due to the lack of course extensions in the UZEP system, and that the courses were either cut short or presented quickly to use time efficiently, which led to problems in understanding the subjects.

- He made requests for new reforms specifically in the Faculty of Law, including extending the education period from 4 years to 5 years. Another issue was that most law faculties are annual, and he requested an increase in the quality of education, suggesting that Sakarya University Faculty of Law transition from semester-based education to annual education.

2- Elif Ebrar GEZER, a 3rd year student in the History Department of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and a 1st year student in the Literature Department of the Double Major Program, took the floor.

- She stated that she was suffering from the lack of elective courses during the selection of elective courses for the Spring Semester and requested an increase in the number of elective courses in her department.

- She mentioned that if the elective course quota for foreign language courses is not met, courses are not opened after a certain level. They suggested that language courses should not be subject to quota limitations.

3- Sena ÜZER, a 3rd year student in the Faculty of Theology, took the floor and began her speech.

- She stated that they had a better educational period due to the improvement of the system during the pandemic period and continued by thanking the Rector.

- She mentioned that they were suffering from the lack of sufficient elective courses in the Faculty of Theology or the absence of courses according to their fields. In this regard, it was requested that a survey be conducted among the students of the relevant faculty one week before course selections to determine which courses are in higher demand, and courses should be opened accordingly.

- She suggested that there should be language courses across the university, as there are many students in the faculty who do not have much knowledge. They mentioned that they lost the language training they received towards the end of their education and could not enter exams with sufficient knowledge. They requested additional classes or language courses to fill these gaps.

- Another issue was that they could not choose instructors when selecting courses. They stated that because students could not choose from the instructors they wanted to take courses from within the faculty, they could not take courses from those instructors throughout their education.

- They mentioned that the duration of some courses is insufficient according to the content of the courses, and therefore, they requested adjustments to be made as the courses are not efficient.

- They stated that foreign students in the faculty lag behind other students in assessment and evaluation activities and expressed that they needed extra time during exams. Their request was for them to take exams in a different classroom and for the durations to be different or for additional classes related to the relevant courses to be held.

- Regarding assignments, they mentioned that due to the excessive volume of the books provided, they could not get efficiency from the assignments during exam weeks and that they only did assignments for the sake of doing them, as they needed to allocate time for other exams. They concluded by stating that there should be a reduction in the volumes of the textbooks assigned for assignments.

4- Oğuz Yasin TİRYAKİ, a student of the Faculty of Engineering, requested to speak.

- He stated that engineering faculty students who do on-site and practical internships did not get much efficiency from internships during the pandemic period. He mentioned that online internship opportunities were provided, but these were done in the form of assignments, and some internships conducted remotely were not accepted. He requested that this issue be discussed with the relevant units.

- He talked about communication problems with course instructors. He stated that when they sent emails, there was not much feedback and requested a solution to this issue.
- Another issue was that course instructors assign heavy assignments as if they only have their own courses, which prevents them from allocating time for other courses. He stated that this issue needs to be evaluated.

5- Ayşe Sena KARAKİYA, a student in the Nursing Department of the Faculty of Health Sciences, took the floor.

- They stated that friends who applied for summer internships did not receive feedback from Sakarya University.
- They mentioned that the main courses taken each semester, such as Child Health and Women's Health, were conducted online for 2 hours, and the courses could not be completed, stating that the course hours needed to be extended.
- Due to the inability to go out for hospital practice, assignments were given instead of practical work, but they conveyed the request for the percentage of assessment and evaluation to be increased as it was too low.

Since no other students took the floor, the meeting has concluded.