

Survival Guide 2026



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Introduction

HELLO AND WELCOME TO AALTO UNIVERSITY!

What you are reading now is the Survival Guide made for the international students and master's fuksis (fuksi=freshman) of the Guild of Mechanical engineering in Aalto University. We hope this guide will help you navigate Otaniemi and get you acquainted with student life here in Aalto.

We highly encourage you to skim this through at least once before orientation week.

We can't wait to see you in autumn and wish you a great end of summer!

YOUR INTERNATIONAL AND MASTERS CAPTAINS: LEO & NOKI

Survival Guide 2026

Photo credits: Toivo Parkkonen, Aapo Vuokila and Salla Seppänen

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Special thanks to KVTMK26, KIKHT26, Fuksisector'26, the School of Engineering and the old ENG masters captains.



In case of questions, our contact info:

Our primary telegram: @kikkaptain

Noki

Personal Telegram: @nokitin

Leo

Personal Telegram: @linnainsaari

Checklist

- ☐ Enrol as attending
- ☐ Set up your Aalto IT account password.aalto.fi
- ☐ Pay the AYY and Guild's membership fees
- ☐ Get an apartment!
- ☐ Arrive on time on Monday 24.8. *The week is full of useful and fun events! If you can't make it, send us (your captains) a message f. ex on Telegram @kikkaptain!*
- ☐ Order a student card from www.myfrank.fi or an ISIC student card
- ☐ Get an HSL travel card and register your student discount for public transit!
- ☐ Check out ISPAs [website](#) for important steps you need to take as an exchange student.
- ☐ Download Telegram and join the course chat. [Check this page!](#)

International Student Peer Advice (ISPA)

International Student Peer Advice is a seasonal service for Aalto University's international degree students. The advisors themselves are international Aalto students, offering help to students with questions about moving to and living in Finland.

All kinds of questions are welcome, but some of the most common topics include:

- practicalities after admission
tuition fees and scholarships, residence permits, insurance...
- practicalities after moving to Finland
registering with the authorities, local transportation...
- other topics related to living and studying in Finland

Get in touch!

- Service point:
*Undergraduate centre, room Y199a.
Check for opening hours on our website!*
- Zoom:
*Personal advisory session on Zoom.
Please book your session via email.*
- Email:
int-studentadvice@aalto.fi

Some useful links:

ISPA website



Student Guide



Post-Arrival Checklist



Captains Greetings

Hello, and welcome to Aalto University and to the Guild of Mechanical engineers! We are Noki and Leo aka. YOUR masters captains. Our job is to guide you through your fuksi year / exchange and introduce you to the secrets of finnish student life and the illusive Teekkarius. We'll help you on your journey from before the orientation week all the way to the possible wappu, where hopefully some of you get to put on your own Teekkari caps. If you have any questions please send them our way, that's what we're here for!

To ensure your start will be as easy as possible we have assembled this small package you're currently reading: The Survival Guide. This aims to collect a bunch of information about Finland, Student culture, Otaniemi, The Guild of Mechanical Engineers, Aalto University, International Committee and of course - perhaps most importantly - the timetable for orientation week. This piece of literature is important for the future so you should read through this with care before you arrive! We hope this will clear up some things for when you arrive to the (hopefully sunny) Otaniemi.

New places and a new phase might be stressful, but remember, there are many more also starting their paths in Aalto with you! There is going to be a lot of new

faces and new names to learn, but from this big bunch you'll surely find some like minded people to spend your time with. So we'd advice you to go attend events and take part in activities that intrest you with an open mind.

In addition to us captains there are a bunch of lovely BIGs aka. tutors also here waiting for you! BIGs help you with settling to the new environment and are there to answer even some weirder questions, so don't be scared to ask. We are organizing a head start (You can read more about this below!), where you'll have a chance to meet your future classmates and also get to know the Guild of Electrical Engineers, even before orientation week.

Have a lovely and sunny rest of your summer! In the fall you'll get to start your path through the special student culture of Finland. Remember to rest up and charge your batteries so you have a bunch of energy for all of the fun stuff we have in store for you! See you at head start or at latest in the beginning of orientation week, come as you are!

Your masters captains :)

P.S. Notify us if you cant make it to the beginning of orientation week!

Get to know your captains



Name: Noki Peill

Pronouns: He/Him

Year: 3.

From: Helsinki, Finland

Favorite tool: wrench

Totem animal: Frog

What do you always carry: Scissors

Karaoke Go-To: International Love



Name: Leo Linnainsaari

Pronouns: He/Him

Year: 3.

From: Pori, Finland

Favorite tool: Crowbar

Totem animal: Kangaroo

What do you always carry: Plastic Bag

Karaoke Go-To: Viva la Vida



Telegram and communication

The main communication channel in the student community is Telegram. Therefore we highly recommend you to create an account and join at least these important channels:



KIK Masters INFO 2026-2027

This is the **information channel** for masters fuksis and exchange students under KIK. Follow the channel to get info on important events and schedules, starting from the orientation week!



KIK Masters 2026-2027

This is the **conversation group** for masters fuksis and exchange students under KIK. Feel free to chat here!



MIKA chat 2026-2027

This is the **conversation group** for masters fuksis and exchange students under MIKA, so KIK, IK, MK and AK. Feel free to chat here!

KIK - SIK HEADSTART

CAN'T WAIT UNTIL ORIENTATION WEEK? JOIN KIK - SIK HEAD START!

The Master's fuksis and new exchange students of Mechanical (KIK) and Electrical Engineers Guilds (SIK) will have a headstart together on 15th of August from 17:00 onwards!

Remember to wear clothes suitable for the weather, bring cash and sauna gear (swimsuit and towel) if you wish.

We will start at Ossinlampi in Otaniemi.

KIK - SIK HEAD START

WHAT: Having a great time with new friends and enjoying the Finnish summer by chilling and going to sauna

WHERE: Ossinlampi, Otaniemi

WHEN: Sat 15.8 from 17:00

BRING: Clothes suitable for the weather, cash and sauna gear if you want



CAN'T MAKE IT TO THE HEAD START?

We are also holding a picnic Friday 21.8 from 17:00 onwards, where it's possible to make new friends with masters fuksis and new exchange students from all four guilds of MIKA!

Orientation Week Timetable

This is the timetable for your orientation week!

We have colour coded the program in the following manner:

Exchange students follow the **purple** column.

Degree students follow the **green** column.

The programme in **blue** is for both degree and exchange students and the HSL-pop up and Welcome Fair are not mandatory but highly recommended

The programme in **pink** is organized by the Guild of Mechanical Engineers and is the place where you get introduced to the student culture and have a chance to get to know your peers!

On Tuesday and Wednesday, you can find **degree-specific programme** for degree students. You can find your programme through the link to your own degree. Click the link and scroll down the page.

- [Advanced Energy Solutions](#)
- [Mechanical Engineering](#)
- [Innovative Sustainable Energy Engineering \(Nordic Master\)](#)
- [Cold Climate Engineering \(Nordic Master\) – Sea track](#)
- [Environomical Pathways for Sustainable Energy Systems](#)

Monday 24.8

Tuesday 24.8

Wednesday 24.8

Thursday 24.8

Friday 24.8

	Exchange	Degree	Exchange	Degree	Exchange	Degree	Exchange	Degree	Exchange	Degree	
9:00	9:00 - 11:00 Breakfast Stage Puumiehenkuja 5	all at Otakaari 4, 213a				Check your degree specific programme behind the links					9:00
9:30		9:45 - 10:15 Breakfast in Lobby								9:30	
10:00		10:15 - 11:00 Dean's welcome	10:00 - 16:00 HSL pop-up, Undergraduate center main lobby, Otakaari 1	Check your degree specific programme behind the links	10:00 - 16:00 HSL pop-up, undergraduate center main lobby, Otakaari 1		10:00 - 12:00 How to make most of your exchange and friendling U2 (U157)	10:00 - 15:00 Aalto Welcome fair Under-graduate center main lobby	10:30 - 12:00 Student Communities TU2, Maarintie 8	10:00 - 12:00 Personal study plan and Q&A, Otakaari 4	10:00
10:30											10:30
11:00	11:00 - 12:15 AYY and ENG Guilds 213a, Otakaari 4	11:00									
11:30		11:30									
12:00			12:00								
12:30	12:15 - 13:30 Lunch	12:15 - 13:15 Lunch			12:30 - 15:15 Settling in Finland and Finnish Way of living Aalto - hall, otakaari 1		12:00 - 14:30 Aalto Welcome fair Undergraduate center main lobby	12:30 - 14:00 Better study life at aalto, Aalto - hall		12:30	
13:00											
13:30	13:30 - 15:00 Afternoon session at 216 otakaari 4	13:15 - 14:15 Study Essentials	13:00 - 15:00 Studies U2 (U157) Otakaari 1						13:00 - 15:00 Hangout AS 1, Maarintie 8	13:00 - 14:30 Master your studies at ENG U8, otakaari 1	13:30
14:00											
14:30		14:30-15:30 Study skills and scientific writing				14:30 - 15:30 Better student life at aalto, Aalto - hall				14:30	
15:00											15:00
15:30											15:30
16:00											16:00
16:30			16:15-17:15 Teekkari Life Lecture Aalto Hall, otakaari 1								16:30
17:00											17:00
17:30	17:30 First Night Sauna at Rantasauna, Vastaranta 1		17:15 KIK Checkpoint crawl and hangout at Otaniemi		17:00 ENG picnic at otaniemi		16:50 Ota-orienteeing at Amphitheater, Alvarin Aukio				17:30
18:00											18:00
18:30											18:30
19:00											19:00
19:30											19:30
20:00										20:00 Kaukkarit at SMÖKKI	20:00
20:30											20:30
21:00											21:00
21:30											21:30
22:00											22:00

äpy

Four letters you can trust.

2027

**EXTRA! EXTRA! EXTRA!
THE WORLD IS FINISHED**

SIX OUT OF SEVEN
CHEMISTS AGREE:
**ALCOHOL IS
A SOLUTION**

THE SEVENTH CHEMIST
INSISTED THAT WE CLARIFY
THIS IS ONLY TRUE CHEM-
ICALLY SPEAKING (BORING)

A MAYDAY
EDITOR WAS
SPOTTED
ON MOUNT
EVEREST:
"PRODUCING
PEAK COMEDY"

MAYDAY

**BREAKING: CAESAR
SALAD FOUND STAB-
BED IN RESTAURANT**

**LOCAL INTERVIEW:
THE LIBRARY IS
MISSING IT'S
FICTIONAL SECTION**

WHY DON'T
GAMBLERS
DRINK
DOUBLE
ESPRESSOS?
IT'S A
LONG SHOT

Tutor Responsible

Hello, welcome to Aalto University and Otaniemi!

Even though this Survival Guide contains a lot of information about your studies, student traditions, and the Guild of Mechanical Engineers, you're bound to have lots of questions during orientation week and at the beginning of your studies.

Fortunately, that's exactly what our BIGs, the guild's student tutors, are here for! The BIGs are here to help you settle and find your place here in Aalto. You'll even get to meet them before orientation week at our head start!

At the beginning of orientation week, you'll be divided into groups. Alongside your fellow fuksis, each group will include several BIGs whose job is to guide you, help you get settled, and break the ice.

The BIGs are an amazing group of people and

they know the kinds of questions new students have and are ready to help with anything related to Finland or student life. While their role during orientation week is primarily to guide and support you, many students also end up making lifelong friends through their BIG. They're here for you, so don't hesitate to reach out to them, not only during orientation week, but throughout your first year as well.

Before we wrap up, let me introduce myself too! I'm Ella Talsti, and I'm the Mechanical Engineering Guild's BIG Coordinator for the 2026-2027 academic year. That means I'm responsible for supporting and guiding our BIGs so they can support you in the best possible way.

In addition to meeting our wonderful BIGs and your future classmates, you're also welcome to come and say hello to me at the guild's headstart. If you can't make it, we'll see each other during the orientation week.

The BIGs and I are already excited in a BIG way for the upcoming academic year!

Best wishes,

Ella Talsti

BIG Coordinator

I spy

You might see BIGs wearing a shirt that reads "Tutor in Aalto University"!



Finnish Fuksicaptains greetings

Hello and welcome!

We are Ella and Salla, the Bachelor's Fuksicaptains of the Guild of Mechanical Engineers. Our job is very similar to Leo's and Noki's, the biggest difference being that we organize events for the bachelor's fuksis and take care of their fuksi upbringing. The bachelor's fuksis everyday is very different from yours since they're only starting their life as university students, but they will be learning the same secrets about Teekkarius as you

About Ella

Heyo! I'm Ella, the first Bachelor's Fuksicaptain. I study energy technology and as of this autumn I am a third year student. I am a pretty creative person though I spend most of my free time playing videogames or being a couch potato. I am from Helsinki so I haven't gotten very far with my life (lol) but Otaniemi is a lovely place. I have found my best friends from this guild and love spending time with them, our guild is really filled with awesome people! I also spend time doing volunteer work such as being the Fuksicaptain and going to student events. Overall, the Aalto student community is wonderful and accepting and you can just be yourself!

Ella Fogelberg

Fuksicaptain

Psst!

You will surely see us both, as well as your own captains, hanging around in the guild room. We all basically live there, so it's the perfect place if you'd like to have a cup of coffee and say hi!

will be. We make sure that they adjust to independent student life and find their place within the people of pink overalls. During the orientation week we have a lot of events together, so you will be seeing us a lot! Hope to see you as early as the headstart and you're always welcome to come and talk to us!

We are certain that you will fall in love with Aalto and its wonderful community just as much as we have. We hope you'll have an awesome year!

About Salla

Hii, I'm Salla and the second Bachelor's Fuksicaptain. I study mechanical engineering and this will be my third year. In my free time I like to knit and sew as well as read books. I also love to try new techniques regarding any field of arts (more or less successfully). My favourite thing about our guild must be the people. You can be sure to always find someone to help you in need or to just help procrastinating schoolwork by chatting.

Salla Seppänen

Fuksicaptain



Fuksi Of The Year

Hello and welcome to Aalto University!

I'm Toivo, the Guild of Mechanical Engineers' masters' fuksi of the year from 2025, and I'm here to give you some pointers on how to get the most out of your stay here with us, whether it is just a few months' exchange, or the entirety of your masters' studies!

First of all, you've made an excellent choice to stay with us, the Guild of Mechanical Engineers or KIK in short. I can assure you you're in good hands. With us, you will have a ton of fellow soon-to-be engineers to support you through the thick and thin of your studies. Just approach any of the BIGs (our Tutors, me included) or the more senior members of the Guild. Feel free to reach out to us whenever you have any questions, worries or good ideas, and we'll do our best to help you out!

One of the best decisions I made during the beginning of my stay in Aalto was to get involved with our Guild and all the opportunities and people it presented us with, as I too started my journey here with next to no contacts, strange new environment and all these customs and traditions I knew nothing of. A good way to mingle is to participate in as many of the orientation week activities as possible!

Did you know?

You can spot a KIK fuksi of the year from the little panda on their shoulder.

I remember thinking that we had the most incredible "back to school" day as I ended up in a sauna and a hot tub with people who had been complete strangers to me just a few hours before, now chatting and just going with the flow.

Even though studying is important, remember that it's important to maintain a good work-life balance, and enjoy all that there is to experience here in Otaniemi. Enjoy the unique flavor of student life that we have in Aalto, join different clubs, go to parties, form a band or do sports - the possibilities are endless. Studies are temporary, but friends and experiences are forever.

Stay curious, be brave, keep on learning and embrace the teekkari spirit,

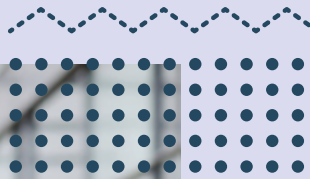
Toivo Parkkonen

Fuksi of the year 2025



TEK

Powering your career



Dear Fuksi!

Become a student member of TEK! Membership is completely free, and includes a host of services to help you not only work in Finland, but to thrive here. These include guidance on how to summer job hunt, recommendations for your salary, as well as legal aid to check your first contract or to later protect your rights. As a joining gift, you will receive a TEK overall belt.

TEK is the trade union for students and graduates in technology and the natural sciences. There are more than 83,000 of us!

Find out more at www.tek.fi/en/students or join www.tek.fi/en/join now!

Best regards,



Veera Fristadius
Student Liaison / Otaniemi
TG @Otaniemitykki
+358 43 2013 608



Humpsvakar

TEKNOLOGORKESTERN HUMPSVAKAR

FYLLER 65 ÅR I ÅR
OCH DETTA FIRAS SÅ KLART
MED BULLER OCH BÅNG!

LÖRDAGEN DEN 21 NOVEMBER
ORDNAS EN HUJSIG SHOW.
EFTERÅT FORTSÄTTER
FESTLIGHETERNA MED BANKETT,
EFTERFEST OCH SILLIS.

FÖLJ OSS FÖR MER INFORMATION
OCH DETALJER KRING
BILJETTSLÄPPET
- DETTA VILL DU VERKLIGEN
INTE MISSA!

HUMPSVAKAR.FI | IG: HUMPSVAKAR | TIKTOK: HUMPSVAKAR



POLYTEKNIKKOJEN KUORO
The Polytech Choir



AUDITION

(FOR FINNISH SPEAKERS ONLY)

7.9.2026

AT 17.00. JMT1

REGISTRATION AND MORE INFO:

WWW.POLYTEKNIKKOJENKUORO.FI/KOELAULUT



The Guild

Well hello there, future engineer!

Heartfelt congratulations on your study place and welcome to the Guild of Mechanical Engineers, also known as the mighty Koneinsinöörikilta. You are now part of a cheerful crowd of pink overalls where teekkari spirit, ambitious projects, and a warm sense of community all blend together.

The Guild of Mechanical Engineers, KIK for short, connects the energy and mechanical engineering students of Otaniemi. The guild is run by KIKHT, which consists of our board and officials. I have the great honor of leading this amazing crew. The board consists of 13 members, supported by over 70 officials responsible for a variety of activities and tasks.

The guild's main purpose is to unite students in our field and look after their interests within the university, but KIK

is much more than that. We organize a wide range of low-threshold activities to unwind from your studies, including sitsit (academic table parties), company excursions, and committee activities, which you can read more about later in this guide. Hint: keep your eyes open for our guild's mascot, Tela-Vera!

I started my own teekkari journey in the autumn of 2022. Seeing how much action was happening around the guild and how much fun everyone was having, I just had to dive in during my first semester. A big thank you also goes to my own fuksi captains (kipparit) for their encouragement. Jumping into our guild's activities has been one of the best decisions of my student life, and I highly recommend it to you as well! Volunteering is a great way to meet amazing new people and pick up useful skills for your future career.

The guild offers something for everyone, so please don't hesitate to jump in! If there's an event or activity you'd love to see, pitch your idea to the board. KIK is a large guild, where everyone can fit as themselves and create everlasting memories.

Once again, congratulations and welcome! I'm so excited to meet you all during orientation week, if you see me around, please come over and say hi! Let's keep the atmosphere positive, respect others, and take care of one another, like true teekkaris do!

Anniina Haka

Chair of the Board 2026



What is a Guild?

All around Finland guilds connect engineering students studying under the same study programme. The main job of the guild is to look after students' interests and defend their rights. Guilds are run by students, for students; all guild activities are organized by student volunteers (usually the board or other active members) for shared benefit. Guilds aim to be nonprofit and invest any earnings back into the wellbeing of their members.

Guilds host a large variety of events, including but not limited to academic table parties (sitsit), sauna parties, group visits to culture events, casual sports matches, as well as company visits. You can read all about these under their respective divisions on page 24.

Everyday life is also often shared with guild members. Studying goes more smoothly together and you tend to see these people either way in your lectures. On top of that you'll bump into lots of people at the guild room, where you can also enjoy free coffee or play a couple of rounds of Mario Kart in between studying.

To be eligible for all the perks that our Guild offers buy the membership [here](#), for 10€

If you have paid the AYY membership fee you can buy the "regular membership". But if you are an exchange student you can buy the "external membership".



The Board of 2026

Anniina Haka

Chair of the Board. Tasked with keeping the circus running and leading the operations of the guild which in everyday life can be seen in administrative tasks, most important of which being weekly meetings.

Favorite machine/energy form: Favorite machine internal combustion engine, energy form nuclear.

Favorite thing about the guild: Guild members and the atmosphere of getting things done and including everyone in activities. Must also mention hanging around at the guild room!! <3



Anna Passila

Vice Chair of the Board. I help the chair in all kinds of things and oversee the service sector of the guild.

Favorite machine/energy form: I love food so probably chemical energy.

Favorite thing about the guild: Lovely team spirit, magnificent atmosphere of getting things done and of course the very best events around!



Kalle Jokipaltio

Secretary. It is my task to ensure that the documentation of the decisions and activities of the guild are up to par.

Favorite machine/energy form: Typewriter

Favorite thing about the guild: One can always find a friend who can help in pretty much anything you need.



Leo-Pauli Moisio

Treasurer. I'm basically in charge of the cashflow functioning between the guild, guild members, and other parties. In other words, that bills are hopefully paid by the time the deadlines come around :D

Favorite machine/energy form: Schaublin manual lathe

Favorite thing about the guild: Friends and the sense of community



Vilma Hytönen

Minister of Study affairs, advocating for the interest of students in the university.

Favorite machine/energy form: Caffeine

Favorite thing about the guild: Amazing team spirit and warm-hearted community



Josefine "Fiia" Rimon

Minister of Industrial affairs, I'm in charge of company relations, one of the biggest parts being gathering sponsors for our overalls.

Favorite machine/energy form: Car

Favorite thing about the guild: Community



Joonas Korte

Host - hosts plan and arrange all kinds of events for the guild, such as sittings and sauna evenings.

Favorite machine/energy form: Kinetic energy

Favorite thing about the guild: Guildroom



Tiia Savolainen

Host, we arrange fun events, read the rest from Joonas :D

Favorite machine/energy form: CHP

Favorite thing about the guild: One can always find a competent fellow guild member to help, if one needs tips or wisdom!



Annabella Kaasinen

Minister of Communications, so I'm in charge of both the internal and external communications of the guild.

Favorite machine/energy form: Nocco or Celcius energy drinks, depending on the day :)

Favorite thing about the guild: Nice friends and the sense of community



Rasmus Mäkinen

Minister of Internal affairs. I'm the main person responsible for the guild's divisions, relations and the wellbeing activities.

Favorite machine/energy form: Maximal torque

Favorite thing about the guild: Active members and great people.



Ella Fogelberg

Fuksi Captain, I look after bachelors fuksis and try my best to organize all kinds of fun for them.

Favorite machine/energy form: Naps

Favorite thing about the guild: Every single person and the great atmosphere + events



Salla Seppänen

Fuksi Captain, I organize events for bachelor's fuksis and take care of all kinds of things related to the fuksi upbringing for them.

Favorite machine/energy form: Sewing machine

Favorite thing about the guild: Community, the guild room is always a great place to find people to talk with and it's fun to organize events with a group of people



Leo Linnainsaari

The other Masters Captain, I look after you international and master's youngins while trying to introduce you to the Teekkari life in Aalto.

Favorite machine/energy form: Tugboat

Favorite thing about the guild: Great friends and less great jokes



Divisions

KIKAPO

KIKapo is the dance group of the guild and they train weekly. They mostly perform at the guild's events but you never know where you might run into them as KIKapo has been seen performing on grander stages before. In order to join KIKapo, no previous experience is required, since everyone knows how to dance - it's all about your confidence! KIKapo's styles range from show-dance to hiphop to cikapo. Of course every member also gets to have a say in the choreographies and music choices if they so wish. Join the [Telegram](#) if you are interested!



KARTIO

aka sKouts hosts all kinds of outings and camping trips both near and far from Otaniemi. Some of their trips are more challenging and might require some gear, f. ex. overnight hikes, but the division makes sure to host more beginner-friendly trips into Finnish nature from time to time. Ideas for trips are always welcome! Join their [Telegram](#) if you are interested!



CULTURE DIVISION

The Culture division offers more peaceful events to offset your stress-inducing studies and crazy parties. Tag along to visits to the museum, concerts, and speksis (student improv theatre)! They also host boardgame and movie nights, painting and cooking. Feel free to join the [Telegram](#) group.



SPORTS DIVISION

The Sports division hosts all kinds of sporting events for guild members! Try out a new sport, enjoy your time with football or hit the beach with this group! The most important thing is to have fun and be active together. The division also gathers teams to represent our guild/school-ENG in uni sports leagues. Feel free to join the [Telegram](#) group.



MUSIC DIVISION

Is music close to your heart or do you find yourself singing in the shower? Excellent, you're exactly who we're looking for! In KIK's Music division you'll get to play and/or sing with other like-minded members of the guild. The Music division gathers weekly to play select songs and to jam together with a great vibe. Feel free to join their [Telegram](#) group chat!



ESPORTS DIVISION

The Esports division is the newest division in the guild, but they're off to an exploding start! The esports division hosts both events that you can enjoy from the comfort of your own home as well as in person. Their crown jewel might be considered to be the 24hrs of Mario Kart Le Mans in which participating teams race each other from dusk till dawn and to dusk again. New ideas and concepts are always welcome here! Feel free to join the [Telegram](#) and [discord](#)!



KOLEHTI - GUILD PAPER

KoLehti is KIK's own newspaper, which is issued at most and at least four times a year. While the main editors are in charge of the newspaper, everyone is welcome to express themselves in the paper. You can submit your own stories, drawings or comics for the paper. The sky is the limit with what your creativity can contribute.



view the papers [here](#) or read them at the guild room

TRACK TRACTOR DIVISION

The signature colour of the guild is also worn by the DT-75B tracked tractor build in the USSR, known as Tela-Vera, weighing in at 7,5 tons. This beauty has been refurbished by the Tractor division and we have them to thank for our pink mascot. Tela-Vera assists the guild in grilling sausages on top of testing the strength of fuksies in the tug of war held during orientation week. Feel free to join the [Telegram](#) group chat!



MACHINE SHOP DEVISION

The very beginning of the school year features the Otatarha derby, for which KPJ makes a soapbox car with the bachelor fuksis for - often with a grand vision. On top of the events traditionally attended, they are keen on expanding their sights to any new challenges where everyone is welcome to join! Feel free to join the [Telegram](#) group chat!



SONGLEADING DIVISION

Can you sing? Do you tell funny jokes? Great, neither do we! The Song leading division welcomes you to all sitsis hosted by KIK! The songleaders who form the Songleading division are responsible for the songs and whole vibe of the sitsis. All you need for the signing part is a loud voice and confidence to use it, since a Teekkari sings rather than well! If you want to join feel free to ask the person in this photo (Lassi Kortesiemi) for a trainee position :)



JÄYNÄ

THE COMPETITION IS ON

Jäynä [jæynæ]

Noun

1. Competition, prank, gag

"Planning and executing jäynäs is giga fun"

adj. - jäynäed - "Haha, you are so jäynäed"

verb - to jäynä- "Let's jäynä our freshmen captain"

www.jayna.fi/en



Teekkarispeksi is a student **musical** enhanced by improvisation, with over 150 contributors

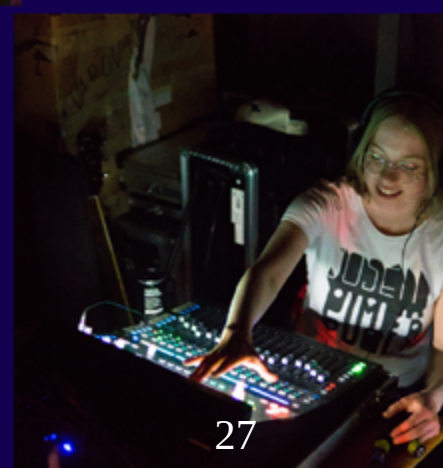


TEKKARI
SPEKSI

You can rent our high-quality **sound** and **light** technology for events!

Check our website for more information about speksi and our activities!

teekkarispeksi.fi



Professional subject associations



Shipbuilder's Club

Shipbuilder's Club, more familiarly known as LRK, is the professional subject club of maritime engineering. Everyone interested in ships and maritime engineering, as well as students considering the Master's Programme in Marine Technology, is welcome to join LRK!

At LRK, you can easily get to know both fellow students in the field and representatives from companies in the maritime industry in a relaxed and approachable environment. We organize various events throughout the

year, including sauna evenings and company excursions.

This autumn, we will once again host our traditional newcomer's sauna evening, where you can come learn more about our activities and enjoy the evening free of charge.

If you have any questions about LRK, feel free to contact us via Telegram.

Markus Klemola

Chair of LRK's board 2026

@markusklemola



Lämpövoimakkerho

Lämpövoimakkerho ry (LVK) brings together students interested in energy technology, industry, and student culture. We organize a wide variety of events ranging from company excursions and professional networking opportunities to sports events, sauna evenings, and legendary Wappu activities.

LVK is an easy way to meet both Finnish and international students across different years of study while getting familiar with companies and careers

in the energy sector. Whether you are interested in district heating, sustainable energy systems, power plants, or simply good company and memorable events, LVK has something for you.

Here is the [telegram](#) and [website](#)



Teekkarien LVI-kerho

Teekkarien LVI-kerho, is a vocational club for students studying or interested in energy in buildings and built environment.

Approximately 40% of final energy consumption is used in buildings and people spend 90% of their time indoors. Therefore building services engineering solutions play a key role in reducing energy consumption and people's well-being.

Club's activities include excursions, supporting skill development and networking of students in the field. Main events are a multi-day excursion across Finland and trip abroad to an international HVAC exhibition.

Majority of activities are in Finnish, but international students are welcome.

More information can be found in our [website](#) teekkarienvliverho.fi and social media with the same name. For members we have a TG group for broader communications, ask a member or board to add you in. Feel free to ask the club board if you have more questions.

Vili Toivanen, Chairman 2026

TG: @Vili_Toi



Valmistustekniikan kerho

Valmistustekniikan kerho ry, or VTK, is a student club founded in 1967. The association is open to all Aalto University students studying or just interested in production and manufacturing engineering. VTK is headquartered in Otaniemi at Otakaari 4, room 004.

Through its activities, VTK aims to serve as a strong link between students and alumni, support students in their studies, organize a wide variety of events, and provide opportunities for company visits, industry jobs, and networking.

Annual events include sauna evenings and member gatherings, domestic excursions, an international excursion, the annual ball in the autumn, and the traditional annual maintenance of the Epäkesko press during Wappu celebrations. All of this is made possible by long-standing traditions, strong relationships with companies in the field, and an active teaching staff.

You can join the association through its [website](#) – membership is free!

Questions can be asked on Telegram: @EppuHofer



AMEK (Aalto Mechatronics Association)

AMEK aka. Aalto Mechatronics Association is the professional subject association for those who study and are interested in the field of Mechatronics. The field is often described as "modern machine design", as it combines areas of mechanical and electrical engineering as well as computer science into one cohesive field. In Mechatronics, you can expect to learn mechanisms, fluid power, control theory, automotive engineering, and lots more!

Our association gathers those who are interested, and tries to connect these people to the industry, ensure their success in the field and raise awareness of the field to students at Aalto. Primarily our events consist of excursions to different local companies. You can join in Kide.App. Paying the membership fee allows access to all of our events for the semester. Also feel free to join our [Telegram](#) channel, where we share the latest news, thesis positions and much more. Welcome aboard! Feel free to join the [Telegram](#) and check out our [website](#)

IE- Event Hosts



Hi there!

Welcome to Otaniemi! The occasionally heavy workload of your studies can be perfectly balanced by taking part in a wide variety of events.

The Mechanical Engineering Guild's events include sitsit (academic dinner parties) and sauna evenings, among others. These are mostly organized by the Hosts and Hostesses, known as the IE (Isännistö ja Emännistö).

KIK-IE works as a compact team of eight people, consisting of two hosts, two hostesses, and four drink calculators. At events, you can easily spot us in our incredibly stylish black vests featuring the guild's logo on the back. Even though we might look busy working during events, you can always come chat with us or ask questions. So, don't hesitate to pull a vest-wearing person by the sleeve if there's anything on your mind!

The most important task for the Hosts and Hostesses is to make sure that the event guests are having a good time. However, it is good to keep in mind that event organizing is entirely voluntary work. Someone always cleans up after the events, and that someone is usually the IE. Therefore, in the true spirit of the guild's culture, let's respect the event organizers and avoid causing any unnecessary trouble.

Welcome, and it's great to have you on board! See you at the Head Start!

Best regards,

Tiia Savolainen & Joonas Korte

Hosts of the Mechanical Engineering Guild '26

Harassment contact persons

Welcome fuksi!

We are the Guild's harassment contact persons, in Finnish häirintäyhteyshenkilö aka. häry. Our job is to make sure that everyone feels safe in the Guild's activities. You can reach us about **any** inappropriate behavior in Guild events or the Aalto community. Message us on Telegram, via the Guild website form, or come talk to us at events. Have a wonderful fuksi autumn – remember to take care of both your friends and yourself!

Best regards,

The Guild's "häryt"

Anna Passila, Fiia Rimon, Ville Lindström, Anniina Haka, Volter Stara, Ella Talsti, Gert Kauniste, Joonas Keskitalo, Annabella Kaasinen, Visa Koivunen ja Milla Skyttä

Ps. You can find all of the harassment contact persons' contact information on the Guild's website at kilta (guild) -> häirintäyhdyshenkilöt (harassment contact persons) or behind [this link](#)



In the photo:

From the left: Ella Talsti, Anna Passila and Ville Lindström

Aalto University Student Union

As a student of Aalto, Aalto University Student Union (AYY) is your student union. AYY brings together approximately 18,000 students of arts, design, business, and technology. We protect our members' interests and work to ensure student well-being, as well as to improve teaching at Aalto and the best student life in the world.

As a member of AYY, you are entitled to numerous student union services and student benefits, both locally and across Finland. AYY provides its members with a range of services, including affordable student housing, rental venues, and advocacy. As a student of Aalto, you also have the opportunity to take part in activities and events organised by AYY and by more than 200 associations operating within the student union.

AYY in figures

- ~ 18,000 members
- ~ 200 student associations
- ~ 2,700 student apartments
- ~ 40 employees
- 10 full-time board members
- ~ 400 volunteers

Communication channels

You can find detailed information about all AYY services and benefits at **ayy.fi**. We compile all current information concerning students in our weekly newsletter published on Mondays.



Greetings from Aalto University Student Union!

A warm welcome to Aalto University, and especially to your student union, AYY. Student life is close to our hearts, and we in the student union work to ensure you have the opportunity to enjoy the best student life in the world! Our goal is to ensure that every student has a safe and encouraging environment throughout their studies.

A new world is opening up before you, filled with exciting opportunities. We encourage you to boldly take on new challenges; to learn, gain new insights, explore, and above all, enjoy your time in Otaniemi. Challenges are a part of life, and sometimes it can be difficult to find your own path. You are supported by the entire Aalto community, for which the student union creates a strong foundation.

See you on campus!

AYY Board '26

Joona, Emma, Anu, Kerttu, Ellen, Saska, Antti, Brynna, Lauri & Vilppu

Services

Student housing

AYY owns approx. 2,700 affordable student apartments in Helsinki and Espoo. They provide a home for approx. 3,500 residents. Housing is primarily intended for Aalto University degree students with a valid housing period. You can apply for housing alone, with your friend, spouse, or with your children. Housing options range from shared apartments to studios, two-room apartments, and larger family apartments.

You can browse and apply for AYY housing on our website: www.ayyasunnot.fi

Advocacy

AYY supervises students' benefits and rights at the national and university level, and ensures that student voice is heard in society! You can turn to AYY's advocacy if your exam results are delayed, or contact a harassment contact person if you encounter any form of harassment. As a member of AYY, you can apply as a student representative in administration and influence decisions made at the university.

AYY's highest decision-making body is the Representative Council elected by vote. All AYY members are eligible to vote and run as candidates in the election. The next Representative Council election will be held in the autumn of 2027. Representative Council members get to decide on the student union's objectives and policies.

Student culture

Volunteering, association activities, and diverse events are an essential part of the Aalto community and student culture. The highlights of the year include Wappu and orientation week events, and there are events for all tastes throughout the year. In addition to the student union, volunteers in various sections and committees also organise events. AYY includes five sections: Community Section Aava, Campus Section, Teekkari Section, Museum Section, and Advocacy Management Group (EduJory). Volunteer applications usually open in late autumn, and this will be announced through AYY's communication channels.

In addition, about 200 associations operate within AYY, organising activities ranging from sports and music to games and other hobbies. The associations receive support from AYY for their activities.

AYY also maintains the Museum of Student Life where you can explore the history and present of student cultures within the student union and its predecessors. The museum is located in Teekkari Village, Otaniemi.

Rental facilities

AYY rents saunas, event venues, meeting rooms, and various recreational facilities to its members. Members can also rent the student union van.

Scholarships and project grants

Based on applications, AYY annually awards scholarships to active members and operating grants to associations within the student union. You can also apply for project grants from the TTE Fund for projects organised by a group of friends or an association.

Student benefits

Once you have enrolled for attendance at the university and paid AYY's membership fee, you will receive a digital or plastic student card for proving your student status (provided by Frank). The validity of a plastic student card is verified with a year tag available from AYY service office. At the same time, you can also pick up the free Design Notebook and an overall patch.

With a student card, you will have access to hundreds of benefits, such as student restaurants, VR, Matkahuolto, and HSL. You can also link an international ISIC license to the app, which provides benefits worldwide.



KvTMK

International Committee

The International Committee or KvTMK (comes from the Finnish word Kansainvälisyystoimikunta) consists of representatives in charge of international affairs from all guilds and associations in the field of Technology and Science and is led by the International Director. For example, your International Captain or Responsible is part of KvTMK! The committee is firmly involved in the fuksi and tutoring activities regarding international fuksis (new master's students, exchange students and double degree students). The events organized by KvTMK are for all Aalto students, yet prioritizing the international as the main language in KvTMK's events is always English. Furthermore, KvTMK also promotes internationalism and the role of foreign students at Aalto and the Teekkari guilds and associations.



KvTMK works under the Teekkari Section (Teekkarijaosto in Finnish), or TJ when shortened. Teekkari Section's main job is to uphold various Teekkari traditions and organise many different kinds of activities and events that are meant to strengthen and enrich the Teekkari spirit. Although its main objective is to focus on Teekkari culture, the activities are open for all Aalto students. Additionally, as the representative of the oldest and original technical university students in Finland, Teekkari Section's opinions have a big impact on the future of Teekkari traditions.

KvTMK symbols

There will be many events which are organised by the whole of KvTMK, so it's good to know how to recognise one. So let's get acquainted with the Teekkarius KvTMKius.

Suspenders

The first and easily the most obvious feature is the technology red **suspenders** worn by the committee members. They have their names on them as well if you find yourself forgetting a captain's name.



Panda Hood

Another easy way to spot a member of our committee is our panda hoods with a rainbow stripe. Each stripe corresponds with a guild and the order they are in has a deep meaning behind it. This identification method isn't fool proof as all previous committees have the same hood.



Globe necklace

Another general identifier is a globe necklace that is adorned by past and present committee members during more formal settings.



Panda Mascot

Finally the way to spot the alpha Masters Captain (our director) is by spotting our mascot Paavo the Panda he carries around at all times.

These are the traits of the illusive Teekkarius KvTMKius, happy spotting!!



International Directors Greetings

Greetings, new fuksi!

Heartfelt congratulations on your admission to Aalto University, you have made the choice of your lifetime applying here! I wish to warmly welcome you to our Aalto community and the unique community of technology students, Teekkaris!

My name is Tomas Capiten, and I am the International Director of the Aalto University Student Union, known as AYY. I am the current chair of the International Committee, KvTMK for short, which consists of the International Captains, International Officers, or Master's Captains of the Teekkari guilds and associations, as also stated above. The word "Teekkari" might be unknown and confusing to you but while reading this guide and by soon joining us on campus, the word will open up to you. As for now, take it as the noun for a university student in the field of Technology.

Our goal with the aforementioned International Captains of the Teekkari

associations and your ISOs / BIGs or tutors is to make your first year or semester here in Aalto unforgettable and as accessible as possible!

The Teekkari culture is very unique and something that you can experience ONLY in Finland. The International Committee, your own International Captains and the community in general will provide you with events and unique experiences in which you can explore the Teekkari culture, get to know Otaniemi and the rest of Finland and meet other fellow students. The activities are a great chance to enhance your stay in Aalto and to have the time of your life!

The Teekkari culture has an extensively long history and Teekkaris have had a presence throughout Finland over many years, especially in Otaniemi and Helsinki. Teekkaris have been based in Otaniemi since 1966 and the most prized distinction of a Teekkari is their tasseled cap (Teekkarilakki), which goes back to 1893. The tassel-capped community aims to evoke cheer and joy not only in itself but also for those around it. Outside of Otaniemi, Teekkaris are known, among other things for their light hearted pranks (jäynä), tempaus, and singing culture. The Teekkari culture promotes a deep sense of community and tolerance - Teekkaris accept everyone exactly as they are. As a proverb well describes, "There are as many ways of being a Teekkari as there are Teekkaris".

For what matters to you is the long-standing tradition of fuksi education and upbringing. My, and your International Captains' task, is to welcome you to the Aalto community and guide you through your first year or semester here.

As a fuksi, you will be able to collect fuksi points from various events and activities. These points will introduce you to the Teekkari culture, the Aalto community, Finland, other students of Aalto, as well as to all the fun memories! Collecting enough of these points may grant you the possibility to earn you your very own Teekkari cap.

The fuksi year will culminate in the largest, most joyful, and revered event for us Teekkaris: Wappu, provided that you, the fuksis, have proven yourself worthy. If you are an exchange student leaving after the autumn term, I strongly suggest visiting Otaniemi again for the potential Wappu.

In addition to technology student fuksis, there are also arts and business students studying in Otaniemi. The united and multidisciplinary university, as well as the Aalto community, will provide you with a rich and abundant selection of student activities to complement your studies. And I can personally promise that everyone is sure to find some activity that interests them with a like-minded group!

My most important advice for you is to participate with an open mind and heart. Get to know your International Captains, tutors, and other fellow students. Besides studying, experiencing new things together and building friendships are some of the best opportunities our university can provide you during your time here as a student. Your guild or association, the International Committee, and countless other people and organizations create the framework for the activities, but you decide how you want to shape your time as a student here at Aalto.

A once-in-a-lifetime experience awaits you and I recommend that you make the most of it! I am in the privileged position of accompanying you and your fellow students on your journey to becoming Teekkaris. See you at orientation week!

Best regards,

The International Director

Tomas Capiten

Tomas Capiten



Autumn Events

A collection of the events that you should save the dates to

27.8 Ota-orienteering

a fun checkpoint crawl to get to know almost all of the associations under AYY

28.8 Kaukkarit

A way to end orientation week with a bang. Organised by KIK, IK and SIK, its a party to remember!

1.9 Aalto Day One and Aalto Afterparty

3.9 City orienteering

A fun checkpoint crawl in the eastern dock city (Helsinki).

3.10 MIKA on suomi - party

Finnish culture themed party

30.9 Otatarha derby

a fun race with a self built ride, with muscle as motor

20.9 CampENG

A daytrip to a nearby national park.

1.10 NoCAP-party (Lakinlaskijaiset)

this party symbolises the end of the cap wearing time for this year.

10.10 International sitsis

Sitsis with all of the guilds international students

16.10 MIKA beer Beertasting evening

29.10 Halloween

a spooky halloween adventure, where you'll team up with KIK and TiK bachelors to solve a grim mystery

31.10 International Grand sitsis

Grand sitsis to celebrate being a teekkari and teekkari culture



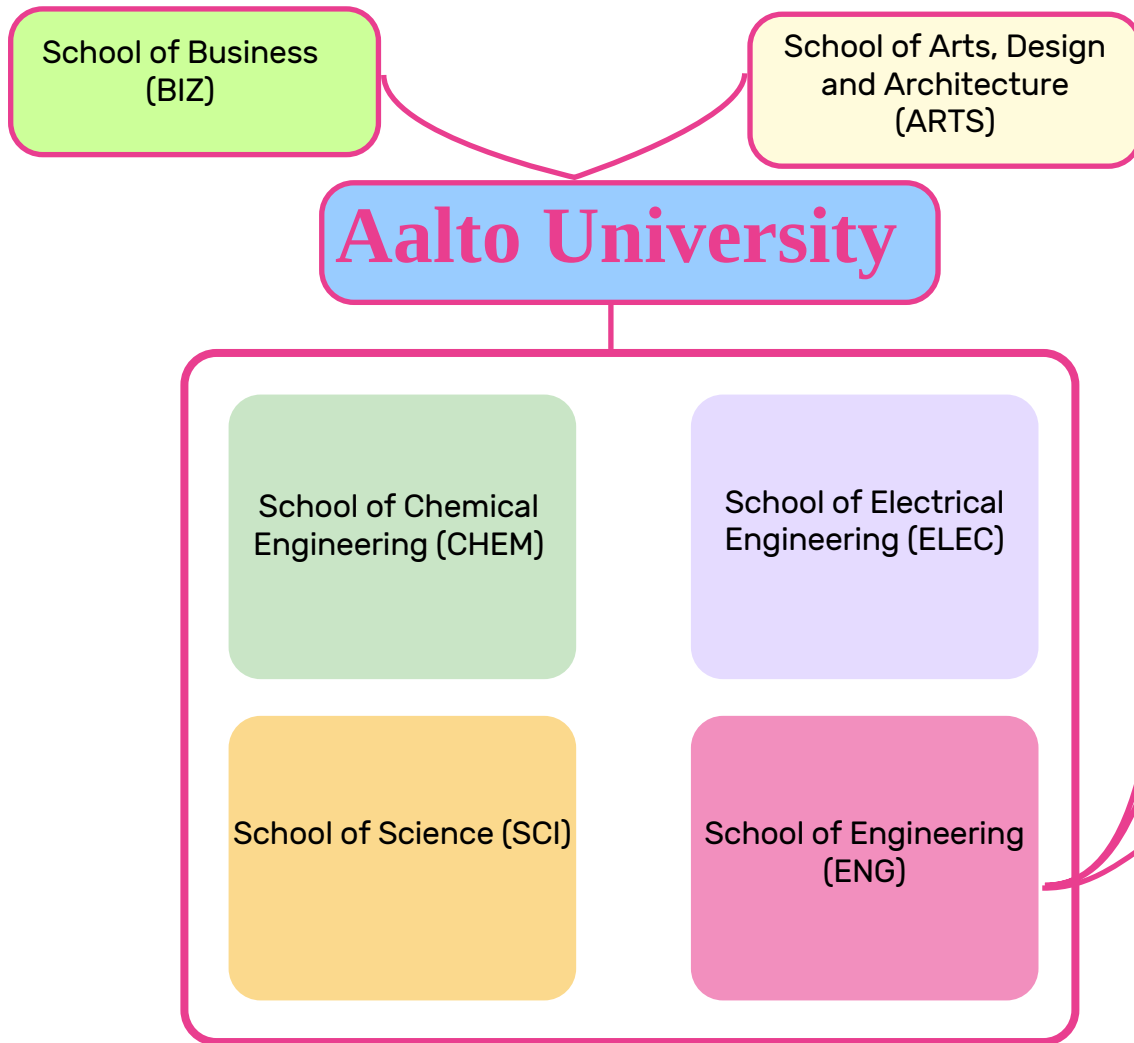
28.11 Wappusimulator

possible wappu for those who wont be here in the spring for the "real" possible wappu

3.12 MIKA small christmas

A MIKA rendition of the Finnish tradition of a pre-christmas party with friends or coworkers

Schools of Aalto University



Guild of Mechanical Engineers

- Advanced Energy Solutions
- Mechanical Engineering
- Innovative Sustainable Energy Engineering
- Cold Climate Engineering
- Environomical Pathways for Sustainable Energy Systems

Guild of Surveying Engineers

- Real Estate Economics
- Geoinformatics
- Spatial Planning and Transportation Engineering
- Water and Environmental Engineering
- EIT Urban Mobility
- Urban Studies and Planning in Real Estate Economics
- Urban and Environmental Engineering

Guild of Civil Engineers

- Civil Engineering
- Geoengineering
- European Mining Course

MIKA introduction

During your first year, you may notice many events and collaborations between the guilds inside each school. The guilds of the School of Engineering (MK, IK, and KIK) have long shared close relationships. Meanwhile, the Architects of AK, as part of ARTS, have found themselves somewhat separate from the collaborations of the engineering schools.

To bring together students with shared interests and traditions, AK has become

a regular part of many joint events and collaborations of ENG. This partnership is sometimes referred to as ENG+AK but also known as MIKA. MIKA is the shared nickname, made up of the first letters of the four guilds. As students of these guilds, you'll be crossing paths frequently throughout your studies and student life, so take the opportunity to get to know one another and make new connections.



Did you know?

Mika is a common finnish male name. Also very close to the word mikä, that means what in finnish!

Get to know the MIKA captains

Hello future fuksis!
My name is Leo and I'm the other master's captain of the mechanical engineering guild KIK. I rarely turn down new projects or activities and thus love to try everything with an open mind.

Heeeello!

I'm Eemeli, the master's captain of IK and I really like swimming and cycling. I also love scuba diving and sailing, even though I don't get to do them nearly often enough.

Hello!

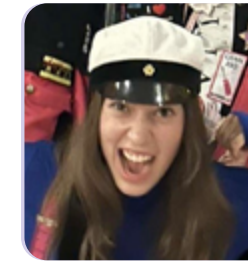
I'm Katja, one of the master's captains of MK. In my free time, I enjoy ice cream and walks (sometimes even runs) in any weather. Can't wait to meet you! :)

Hiya!

I'm Noki and I'm one of the master's captains of KIK (aka koneinsinööriklita). I enjoy starting random projects when I have looming deadlines. I also enjoy going on "sidequests", especially with friends.

Hello dear fuksis!

My name is Leo and I am the International Captain of the Guild of Architecture or more commonly known as AK. I rarely say 'no' to new things which usually leads to great event and great memories. Road trips and alpine skiing are my go-to choices whenever I have enough time.



Name: Elvi

Favourite animal: Raccoon

Hobby: Thrifting

Strength: Finding four leaf clovers

Weakness: A retired pancreas

Favourite event: Events with fun themes and outfits!



Name: Katja

Favourite animal: Cats

Hobby: Drawing

Strength: most foods

Weakness: carrots (especially boiled)

Favourite event: Sitsis are always fun :)))



Name: Eemeli

Favourite animal: Alpine marmot

Hobby: Sailing (whenever possible)

Strength: Determination towards random stuff

Weakness: Instagram reels

Favourite event: Any event with good friends



Name: Leo

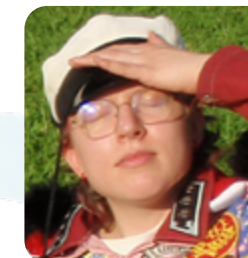
Favourite animal: marten

Hobby: To always be somewhere, or on the way there.

Strength: Being a bit older than my (class)mates in uni.

Weakness: Being actually way too old.

Favourite event: Anything that offers a challenge



Name: Noki

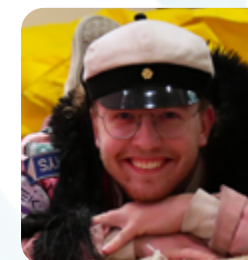
Favourite animal: Frog

Hobby: Crafts

Strength: Not over engineering small craft projects

Weakness: Over engineering small craft projects

Favourite event: Doing almost anything in overalls.



Name: Leo

Favourite animal: Kangaroo

Hobby: Weight training

Strength: Staying positive

Weakness: Evening naps always turn into a night's worth of sleep

Favourite event: Anything with great friends

Guilds and Associations

CHEM

KK
Kemistikilta
Chemistry Guild

PJK
Puunjalostajakilta
Forest products guild

VK
Vuorimieskilta
Guild of Materials and Metallurgy students

PT
Prosessiteekkarit
Association of Process Engineering Students

ELEC

SIK
Sähköinsinöörkilta
Guild of Electrical Engineering

AS
Automaatio- ja systeemitekniikan kilta
Guild of Automation and Systems Technology

SCI/ELEC

Inkubio
Guild of Bioinformation Technology

Student Nation

TF
Teknologföreningen
Swedish speaking student nation

SCI

FK
Fysikkokilta
Guild of physics

Prodeko
Guild of Industrial Engineering and Management

TiK
Tietokilta
Computer Science Guild

Athene
Information Networks Guild

DG
Data Guild

ENG

MK
Maanmittarikelta
Guild of Surveying Engineers

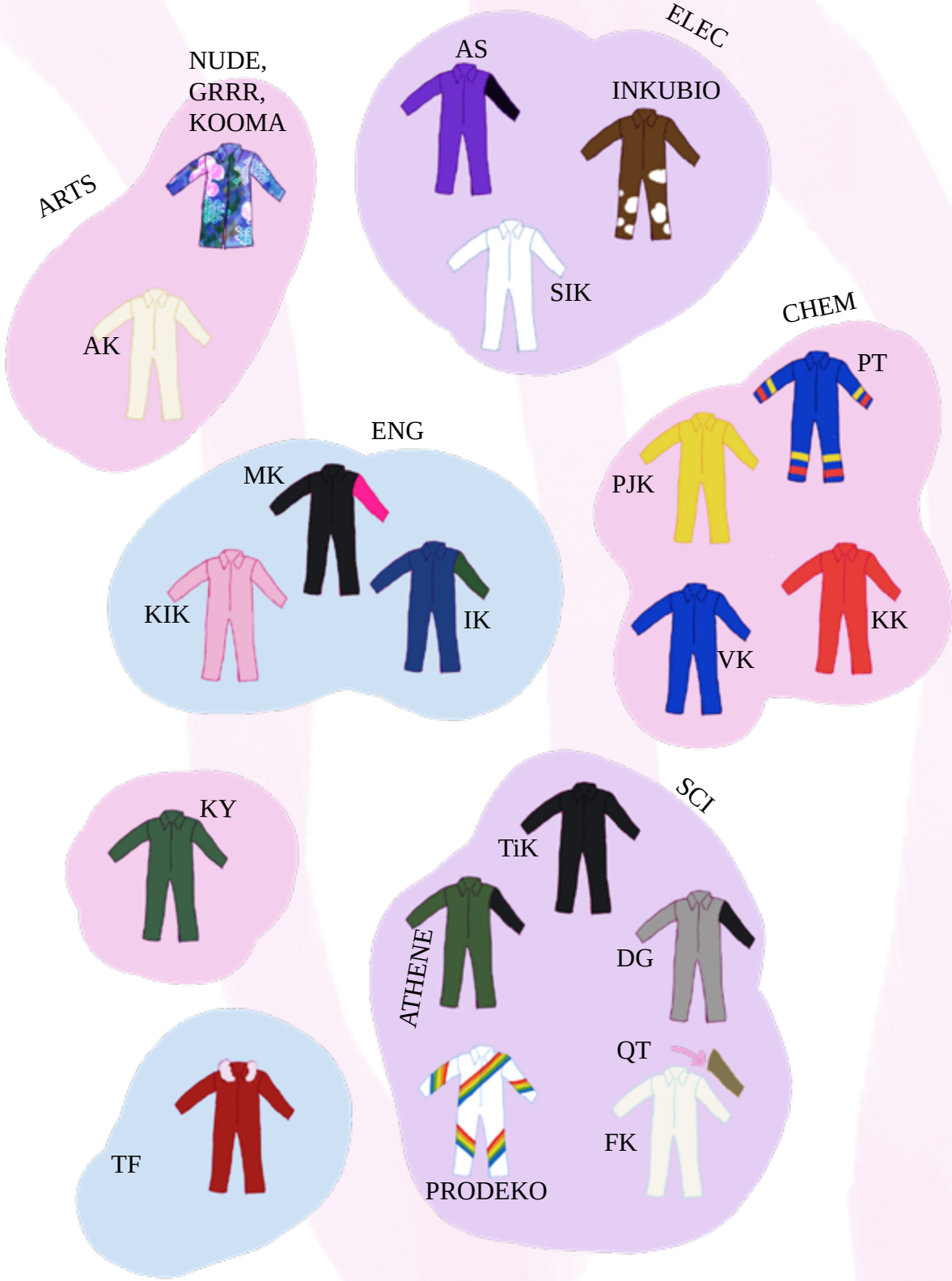
IK
Rakennusinsinöörikelta
Guild of Civil Engineers

KIK
Koneinsinöörikelta
Guild of Mechanical Engineers

ARTS

AK
Arkkitehtikelta
Guild of Arcitecture

Overalls





ayy_aava



AYYevents



MTMK:
The Master's Committee (MTMK) organizes multicultural events throughout the year, ranging from cultural events to parties. Despite the name, everyone is welcome regardless of their year of study.



FestTMK:
The Fest Committee (FestTMK) organizes two of Aalto's biggest parties: the Aalto Afterparty, which concludes the orientation period, and the free outdoor festival Aalto Open Air, which kicks off the May Day celebrations.



VujuTMK:
The Anniversary Committee (VujuTMK) coordinates AYY's anniversary week, which culminates in the annual ball and the traditional "sillis" (afterparty brunch) held over the weekend.



STMK:
The Adventure Committee (STMK) organizes adventure-themed events. Traditional events include the Tour de Terde terrace crawl during anniversary week and the Aalto Amazing Race in the autumn, aimed at first-year students and gathering participants from all fields of study.



LTMK:
The Sports and Wellbeing Committee (LTMK) organizes events that promote students' physical activity and wellbeing. Traditional events include Herkkuappro, Sporttiappro, and MökkiCup.

The Community Section Aava organizes events for all Aalto University students and maintains and renews Aalto culture. Aava's goal is to bring together all schools within Aalto and create joy in doing things together, as well as unforgettable experiences for all Aalto students. Under Aava, there are five committees that recruit members. Participation does not require a large commitment, and you can apply without prior volunteering experience.



TOKYO

TOKYO ry is the student association for the whole School of Art, Design and Architecture and was founded in 1961. TOKYO is an acronym for "Taideteollisen Oppilaitoksen Kuvaamataidonopettajaosaston Ylioppilaskunta", which translates to "The Student Union of the Art Teacher Department of the Institute of Industrial Arts".

It is known as the umbrella association for the rest of the arts associations such as NuDe, Kooma, CRUST and GRRR to name a few. TOKYO also owns its own canteen on campus, Kipsari, which offers solely vegan food to all any student in the heart of Väre.

"**TOKYO ry** warmly welcomes all new Aalto University students to Otaniemi! We are excited to meet new students from all around the world and help make campus life feel inspiring, creative and welcoming from the very beginning.

Whether you are looking for new friends, unforgettable events, student traditions or simply a place to feel at home, TOKYO and the arts community are here for you. We hope your studies, projects and experiences in Otaniemi will be full of curiosity, collaboration and memorable moments. Welcome to the community!"



Oliver Bäcksbacka
TOKYO ry - New Students

Life In Finland

Weather

Finland is most certainly not known for having warm weather. With fall the temperatures start to drop and there is always a chance of rain. As natives we are used to this, but that doesn't mean we don't prepare. Warm clothing is very important as well as dressing in layers. The better dressed you are for the weather the more likely you are to enjoy your time as getting cold won't be a problem. It's always better to have too many layers rather than too few, as you can always get rid of excess layers.

Days are also getting shorter which can affect your mood quite a bit. A real solution to this is D-vitamin supplements to compensate for the lack of sunshine, but it is also a good idea to attend events and see your friends regularly to avoid what we Finns call "Kaamosmasennus", seasonal affective disorder in English.

Other noteworthy stuff:

The first monday of every month at 12:00, the emergency sirens get tested and might startle you.

Culture

In Finland, personal space is highly valued and maintaining a comfortable distance during social interactions is important. Finns generally prefer a larger personal space compared to many other cultures, often keeping an arm's length or more between themselves and others. Finns are likely to be much more social in a social context, such as an organized event. Despite this, you may arrive in a situation where it seems like a Finn is being rude or impolite. This is likely not their intention though, but something Finns see as normal behavior and a part of Finnish culture.

Nature is also a large part of the Finnish identity. As a people we are very respectful towards our natural environment. The general customs are to clean up after yourself in nature and respect Finland is also a place of high public trust and honesty. Understanding and respecting these norms is crucial for positive social interactions in Finland.

Student culture and Teekkarius

Teekkari culture has traditions that are centuries old. Here is a small glimpse of what Teekkari culture includes:

Sitsit

Sitsit are an academic table party, in which fun is had with style and passion. Sitsit usually include a three-course dinner with complementary drinks. The most important parts of sitsit are enjoying the evening in good company and singing. The songs initiated by the songleader, a "lukkari", are an inseparable part of sitsit. The evening also often includes a range of different performances. The dress code for sitsit can range from overalls to a special them to finer cocktail attire. You'll get your first taste of sitsit in the Autumn - don't miss these!

Song culture

Teekkaris usually sing loudly. The most important thing is to join in wholeheartedly, with not so much regard for anyone's ear for music. For the real singers among us, AYY has a number of outstanding choirs, such as the Polytech Choir, one of Finland's top male choirs, as well as the mixed choir Dominante. It is nevertheless good to remember the Teekkaris' number one rule for singing: a Teekkari sings rather than well! There's also a compulsory singing test if you wish to acquire your Teekkari cap on the possible Wappu.

Jäynä

Practical jokes, Jäynäs, are an inseparable part of Teekkari culture and they can often be seen in the daily life of Otaniemi in the form of cheerful tricks and installations. An authentic Teekkari Jäynä uses clever means to bring laughter to all parties involved. Jäynäs are often topical, engaging, and makes use of technology. A Jäynä should under no circumstances cause harm to anyone or anything, instead it should be an insightful prank or practical joke that in the end even makes the target of the joke laugh. It's always a good time to do a Jäynä! The best Jäynä ideas are worth submitting to the official Jäynä competition, which reaches its peak near the potential Wappu in the spring.





Teekkari cap

The cap is the most important mark of a Teekkari, and one of the goals of the fuksi year. Only Teekkaris are allowed to wear the cap, and only during the summer time (1.5.-30.9.), unless they get a special permission. When wearing the teekkari cap, you are representing a large community and should therefore behave accordingly.

The cap should be worn with dignity and pride that is befitting of it. You have the opportunity to get a Teekkari cap by collecting enough points in your fuksi points card. The brand new cap can be put on for the first time at midnight between Wappu eve and Wappu day. Info about ordering a Teekkari cap will be provided later.

Overalls

In addition to their caps, Teekkaris can also be recognised by their overalls. However, this isn't unambiguous, as other institutions of higher education also use overalls. Overalls are the representative garb of Teekkaris, and the oldest Teekkari overalls in the Museum of Student Life date back to around 1961.

At one point in history overalls took the lead as favourite attire over the previously used lab coats. Overalls are decorated by sewing on a diverse set of embroidered patches, but true overall artists also attach all manner of useful and less useful thingsamajigs to their overalls.

Wappu publications

Three Wappu publications are published in Otaniemi: Äpy on odd-numbered years, Julkku on even-numbered years, and the newest of these, the English publication Mayday, is released each year. All of these are published around a week before the potential Wappu, after which enthusiastic sellers in their overalls rush to the best selling spots in the capital region. You too can join this fun time and at the same time earn a bit of cash by selling the publications.

Speksi

Speksi is an interactive theatrical show filled with music and dance. The audience can at any point ask the performers to replay a scene by shouting "Omstart!". An extra instruction can be added to the call, for instance "Omstart, in German!"

Did you know?

The cap we wear in otaniemi, is the oldest but not the only style of teekkaricap in Finland!





Join ESN, Europe's largest student network, united by a shared passion for celebrating the beauty of multiculturalism.

From local events focused on cultural exchange and discovering the capital region to joint monthly parties with other universities in the area, and trips to Lapland, Sweden, Norway, and more, we believe you'll find something you love. Cultural evenings, sauna nights, nature walks, museum visits, ice skating, picnics, there's plenty to choose from. Come and take your pick!

ESN Aalto brings together students from all schools, disciplines, and levels at Aalto into one big internationally minded family. Whether you're here on Erasmus, as a non-EU full-degree student, or a local student curious about life outside of Finland, we warmly welcome you to participate in our activities.

Expand your horizons, step outside your comfort zone, and create memories that will last a lifetime. Join ESN Aalto today and let the world become your playground.



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WE ARE PART OF THE ACTIVE AND
HEALTHY EVERYDAY LIVES OF ALL
MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMIC COMMUNITY

Otaniemi - English Dictionary

Here is a collection of some of the words that don't necessarily carry much meaning outside of Otaniemi but are useful to know while you are studying or living here. You don't have to remember all of these and can always ask an older student if you are unsure of something.

PLACES

A Bloc: A small shopping centre above the Aalto-University metro station

Alvari: The square behind the Undergraduate Centre. Also a cafeteria in the Undergraduate Centre

Amfi: Amphitheatre outside the undergraduate center

Dipoli: The main building of Aalto-University in Otaniemi. Also a cafeteria

Jämeräntaival; JMT: A street in Otaniemi with most event venues and lots of student housing

Kandilafka: Slang word for the Undergraduate Centre

Keskustoimisto; Keto: AYY Central Office

Kiltahuone; Kiltis: Guild room, which is a place for guild members to hang out, drink coffee and play games

Konelafka; Konetalo: The main building for mechanical and surveyor engineering students

Lafka: A slang word for an University building

Niemi: Otaniemi. Also means peninsula in Finnish

OK: Otakaari, a curve shaped road which goes through Otaniemi, trans. as Otakurve

OK20: A building often used for parties on Otakaari

Oppimiskeskus: Learning centre. A library and study space on the south western edge of Alvari

Ossinlampi: A small pond in Otaniemi

Palju: A hot tub, the place to be at sillis

Perhekylä: The SMT side of Teekkarikylä

Polyteekkarimuseo: The museum of teekkari culture

Päälafka: See Kandilafka

Raksalafka: The main building for civil engineering students

Rantasauna; Rantsu: A sauna on the sea shore in Teekkarikylä

Servin Maijan tie; SMT: A road in Otaniemi with a lot of student housing

Smökki: The main event venue in Otaniemi

Teekkarikylä: A district in Otaniemi which consists of JMT and SMT

Täffä: A cafeteria in Otaniemi owned by TF. Serves legendary spaghetti on wednesdays

Ullanlinnanmäki; Ullis: A part of Kaivopuisto where students gather to celebrate on the 1st of May

Väre: A building above the Aalto University metro station. Main building for ARTS and BIZ students

GUILDS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Aava: AYY's community section bringing students together through events

Arkkitehtikilta; AK: The Guild of Architects

ARTS: Aalto University's School of Arts and Design

Automaatio ja systeemitekniikan kilta; AS: The Guild of Automation and Systems Technology

Athene: The Guild of Information Networks

AYY: The student union of Aalto University. Promotes the interests of students and organizes events

BIZ: Aalto University's School of Business

CHEM: Aalto University's School of Chemical Engineering

Domo: AYY's student housing managing system where you can apply for student housing

ELEC: Aalto University's School of Electrical Engineering

ENG: Aalto University's School of Engineering. Your school!

Fyysikkokilta; FK: The Guild of Physics



FTMK: The Fuksi Committee under AYY. It consists of all of the Fuksi Captains led by the Fuksi Major

HOAS: Helsinki region student housing foundation. You can apply for student housing through their website

HSL: The Helsinki Regional Transport Authority. You can look up routes and buy tickets from their app or from reittipass.fi

Rakennusinsinöörilikilta; IK: The Guild of Civil Engineers

Inkubio: The Guild of Bioinformation Technology

Kemistikilta; KK: The Chemistry Guild

Koneinsinöörilikilta; KIK: The Guild of Mechanical Engineers. Your Guild!

Kilta: A guild. It is an association bringing together students studying in the same field

KvTMK: The International committee under AYY. It consists of all of the Masters Captains led by the International Director

Maanmittarikilta; MK: The Guild of Surveying Engineers

Puunjaloistajakilta; PJK: The Forest Products Guild

Prodeko: The Guild of Industrial Engineering and Management

Prosessiteekkarit; PT: Subject association for process engineering students

Aalto-yliopiston Sähköinsinöörilikilta; SIK: The Guild of Electrical Engineering

Teknologiföreningen; TF: Students union for Swedish speaking students

Tietokilta; TiK: The Guild of Computer Science

Teekkarijaosto; TJ: The Teekkari Section under AYY. Holds the highest authority regarding all things teekkari

TEK: Finnish trade union for academic engineers and architects

Vuorimieskilta; VK: The Guild of Materials and Metallurgy Students

YTHS; FSHS: Finland's health care service for students

STUDIES AND STUDENT LIFE

Assistentti; Assari: A course assistant, often an older student who runs exercise sessions

Diplomi-insinööri; DI: Master of Science in Technology

Excursio; Excu: A visit to a company in Finland or abroad

Fuksi: A first year technical student

Fuksipassi: A fuksi pass. A leaflet where you collect fuksi points

Fuksipiste: A fuksi point. Points that you collect to your fuksi pass to get the teekkari cap.

Fuksikapteeni: Fuksi Captain. Person responsible for all of the bachelor fuksi's of their guild

Fuksimajuri: Fuksi Major. The chair of FTMK. Holds the highest authority over all things regarding bachelor fuksi's and decides together with the International Director if Wappu will be held

Gravitaatio: An event organized by AYY in February

Teekkarihymni: Teekkari hymn. A traditional teekkari song that is sung at midnight

Kansainvälisyystirehtööri: International Director. The chair of KvTMK. Holds the highest authority over all things regarding masters fuksi's and new exchange students and decides together with the Fuksi Major if Wappu will be held.

ISO; BIG: A student tutor who introduces fuksi's to the student life in Otaniemi

Julkku: A Wappu magazine that is published on even years

Jäynä: A friendly prank or practical joke that aims to lift the spirits of everyone involved. Jäynä should never be mean or leave a bad feeling

Konelainen: A Mechanical Engineering student

Kylteri: A business student

Kyykkä: An old Finnish outdoor sport which teekkaris have adapted as their own

Lakinlaskijaiset: A big event on the last day of September where teekkari caps are taken off for the winter

Laskuharjoitus; Laskari: A study exercise session

Lukkari: A song leader in sitsis. Tells bad jokes and tries to sing in tune

Maisterikapteeni: Masters Captain. Person responsible for all of the masters fuksi's and new exchange students of their guild

Havis Amanda; Manta: A statue in the centre of Helsinki which will have a cap put on its head during Wappu

Mittari: A Surveying Engineering student

MyCourses: An online system for handing in assignments and completing courses

Noppa: A study credit. Also means a dice in Finnish

Osakunta; Nation: Student nation is a regional assembly of students at a university.

Oltermanni: A guilds connection to the schools staff and departments. Also a brand of cheese

Haalarit: Overalls which are a common attire for students. They indicate the guild or association of the wearer

Raksalainen: A Civil Engineering student

Sillis: A brunch event after a big party like an annual ball. Usually lasts the whole day

Sisu: An online system for planning and signing up for courses

Sitsit: An academic dinner party with a three-course meal, drinks and singing

Speksi: An interactive and humoristic musical made by students

Teekkari: A student of technology who has studied for at least one year and has the right to wear the teekkari cap

Teekkarilakki: The teekkari cap

Telegram: A messaging app widely used in Otaniemi. Without it life in Aalto could be hard

Tempaus: A major event organized by students that aims to direct the attention of the public to a chosen aspect of society

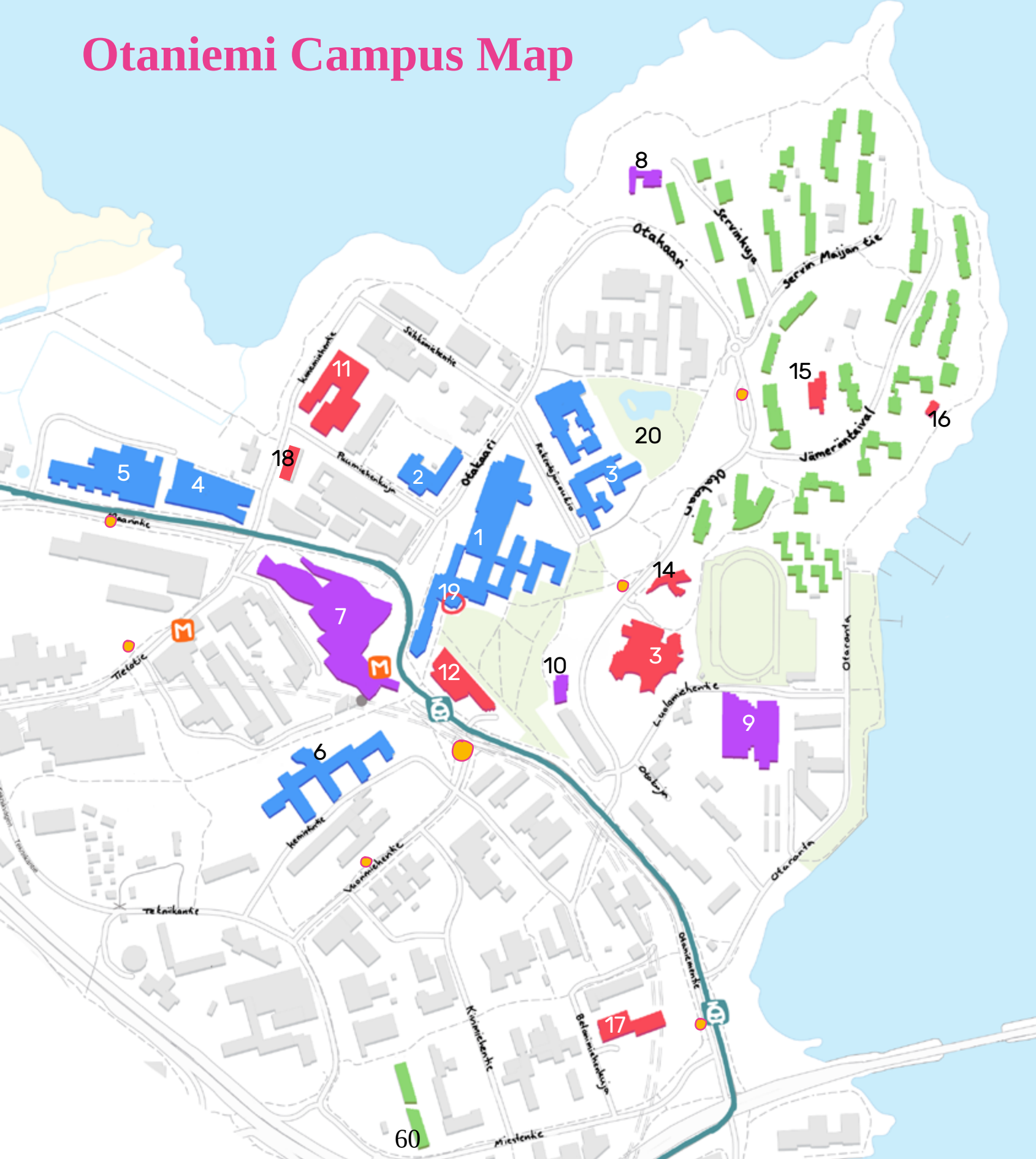
Tupsufuksi: A first-year student who has earned and received their teekkari cap

Wappu: A Teekkaris Christmas, New Year and Birthday combined, organized if the Fuksi Major and International Director allows so

Äpy: Wappu publication that is published on odd years



Otaniemi Campus Map



Student Housing

Places of study

1. Undergraduate Center
2. Otakaari 4, mech. eng. building
3. Civil engineering building
4. T-building, or tietotekniikkatalo
5. TUAS, Maarintie 8
6. Chemistry building

Ammenities

7. Abloc
8. Studet Healthcare
9. Unisport
10. AYY office

Places of interest

11. Design Factory (DEFA)
12. Library
13. Dipoli
14. Teknologföreningen
15. Smökki (Parties and events)
16. Rantasauna (rantsu)
17. BMK, betonimiehenkuja 3 (events)
18. Saha, (some events)
19. Amfi - amphitheatre
20. Ossinlampi (head start location!)



Tram
stops



Metro
entrances



Bus stops

KY 1911

KY ry, also known as Aalto University Business Students, is the student association for all business students in Aalto and was founded in 1911. Before Aalto University was founded, KY was its own student union in the center of Helsinki. The letters KY stand for 'Kauppateiden Ylioppilaat' which is 'Business Students' in English.

The association for business students offers lots of events that are open for non KY-members! During the fall, events such as the Helsinki city-wide pub crawl **III-Kierros** and the christmas event **Porridge Party by KUJ** (KY's cultural subcommittee) gather a large audience. In addition, KY's international subcommittee **KY-SUB** organizes many events for exchange students as well as international students, one of the most popular being the bi-annual **Around the World Sitz!**

KY's so called home base is **Espilä**, right next to T-talo, and this home base will move to a new location as the new KY-house will finish construction in the beginning of 2027 and offer Aalto Universities Business Students a new home in **Metallimiehenkuja 10**.

More about KY and KY events:



www.ky.fi



[ky_1911](https://www.instagram.com/ky_1911)



t.me/ky_events



Teknologiföreningen

Stort grattis till din studieplats på Aalto Universitet! Teknologiföreningen (TF), the Swedish speaking nation of Aalto, welcomes you with open arms! As Swedish is one of Finland's official languages, here you can find both people with Swedish as their mother tongue as well as people interested in the language and the unique student culture related to TF. We host events all around the academic year beside the guilds and are eager to see YOU joining!

Kom ihåg att ha det roligt och vila upp dig under sommaren, hösten närmar sig med stormsteg och bär med sig otroliga upplevelser.

If you understood the sentence above or are ready for the challenge, you can read more in-depth about TF in the bachelor guide at u.tf.fi/phuxblaskan. If more questions arise feel free to ask Alvar or Jacob! They will work as a bridge between TF and international and master's students.



Årets integratörer välkomnar alla som är nyfikna på vad TF håller på med!

Vi nås på Telegram för frågor och funderingar! @JacobUt och @AlvarKoi



Reach us by mail at integrator@tf.fi

TF har eget hus och lunchrestaurang!



Läs mer om vår verksamhet och hur man blir medlem på www.tf.fi !

Useful Apps, phone numbers and services

YOU SHOULD CONSIDER DOWNLOADING THESE APPS TO MAKE YOUR LIFE EASIER IN OTANIEMI:



HSL: The app for public transport in Helsinki region. You can buy tickets and find routes in the app.



Frank App: You can get a digital student discount card in Frank App. Get discounts for food, travel, shopping and much more!



Aalto Space: If you're lost on campus in your first weeks, don't worry! You can find all lecture halls and classrooms in this app. You can also reserve study spaces on campus for free!



Kide App: This app is very commonly used for selling tickets to various student events, such as parties, apros and sitsit! Also the guild membership is acquired here



Bitwards: This app is used as your access card to get to access restricted areas such as the guild room.

Some useful Telegram groups:

[Aalto International](#)

[Otaniemi buy/sell](#)

[AYY events](#)

Useful phone numbers in Finland

Medical Helpline 116 117

The Medical Helpline 116117 is an advisory service organised by your wellbeing services county that provides advice on acute but not life threatening health problems.

Poison Information Center 0800 147 111

At the Poison Information Center, we respond by phone to questions concerning the prevention and treatment of acute cases of poisoning in humans. We are a nationwide service operating on a 24/7 basis, serving both ordinary citizens and health care professionals.

EMERGENCY NUMBER

112

Police
Fire
Ambulance

Other useful stuff

Unsure how to sort trash?

Helsinki Region Environmental Services Authority HSY has a really nice look up guide [here](#) where you can search by the item you want to sort.

Kierrätyskeskus

A second hand store chain that sells clothes and home goods.

[Kanttiinit.fi](#)

Menus, opening hours and locations for all the campus canteens.

Low threshold mental health support

Starting Point Of Wellbeing

The Starting Point of Wellbeing offers students of Aalto University easy access to counselling and advice on matters of well-being and study ability. Follow this [link](#) to find more info. This is provided by the school!

MIELI ry

MIELI Mental Health Finland is a mental health organisation whose mission is to promote mental health, provide crisis counselling and prevent mental health problems and suicides. MIELI has a crisis helpline and a crisis centre in Helsinki. Visit [Mieli.fi/en](#) to find out more.



**Yö kuin sielu teekkarin on pimiä,
takajoukko nukkuu vain, nukkuu vain
Tarhapöllön ääni kimiä,
kuuluu pappilasta päin, kuuluu päin
ja taas ja siis,
ja 1, 2, 3, 4, 5**

