

BEVISST PROJECT

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The Bevisst platform is used at upper levels in NTNU to manage and complete a number of important tasks that are key to the running of NTNU. Currently it is under development to make it more user friendly and to bring the 4 different faculties together on one platform, with interdepartmental compatibility.

Our main aim with the project is to develop a more intuitive and user friendly main page for the Bevisst platform. From this users should be able to easily navigate to and complete important tasks in an efficient and easy way.

Typing... |

- Plan 10
- Budsjett 5
- Simulering 1

Search function

The front page has a search function in order to quickly find files or folders to work on, without having to click through menus. This has been identified as the fastest way to find something when the user knows what they are looking for or are looking for a specific item. The proposed search feature can offer predictions and visually indicate where an item is located.

AKTIVITETSPLANLEGGING

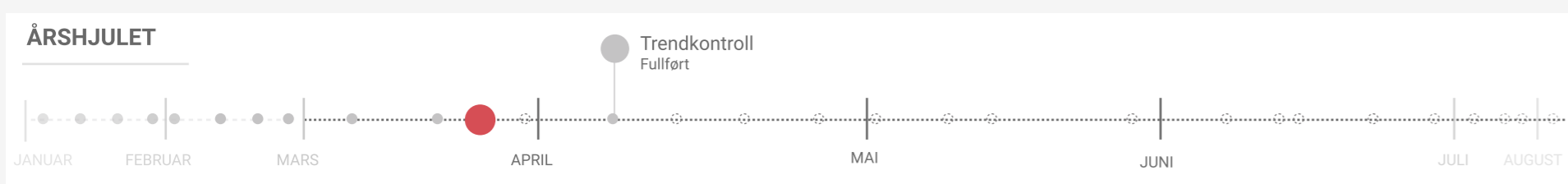
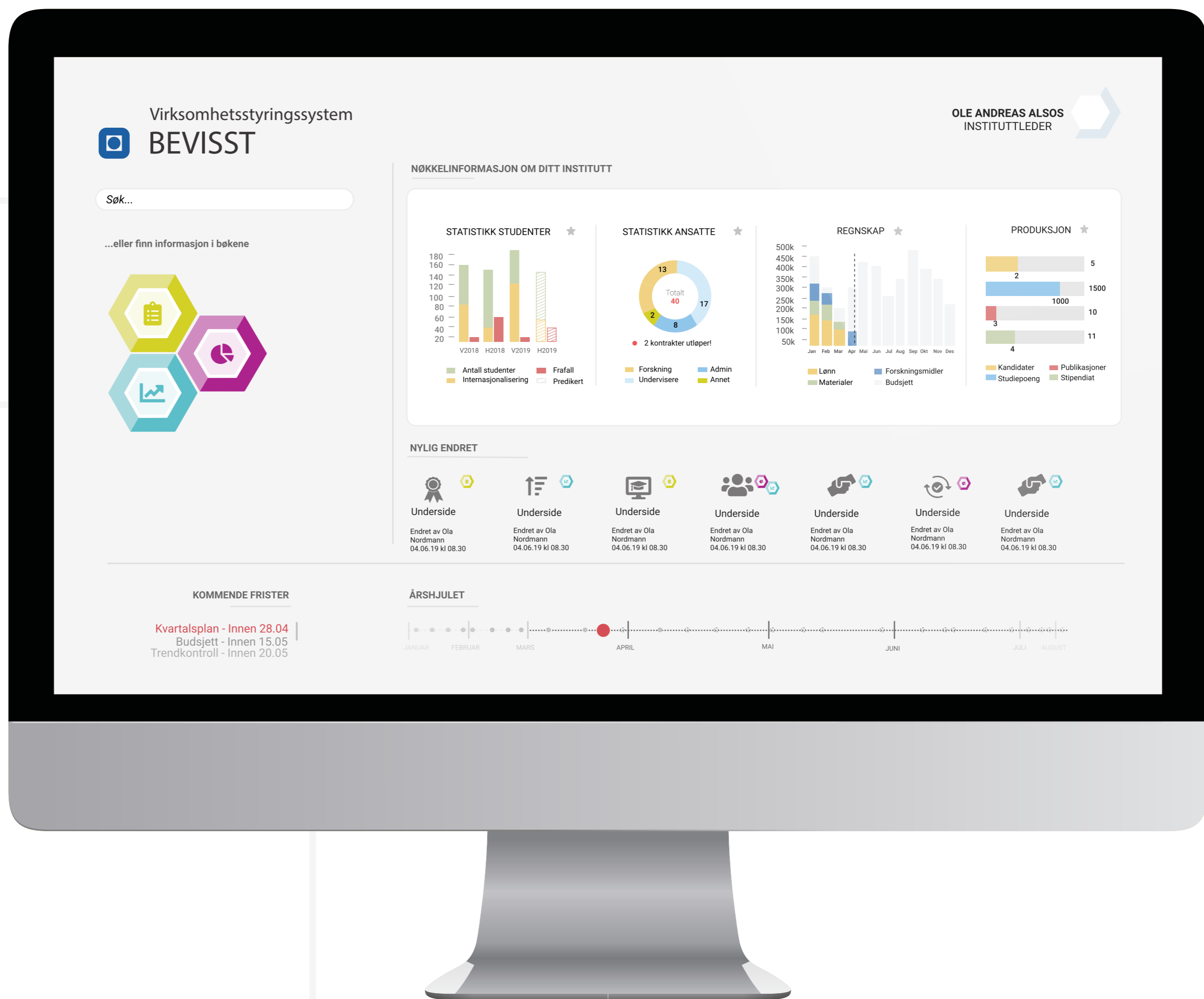


Hexagons

The hexagons and associated colours are a visual way to identify different books(folders) and their contents. There are 3 main headers and each of these has 4 books within it. They have been ordered on the main page by topic, according to the bevisst plan. The 3 headers being Aktivitetsplanlegging, Ressursplanlegging, and Budsjett & simulering. These all have 4 sub-topics that represent the books.

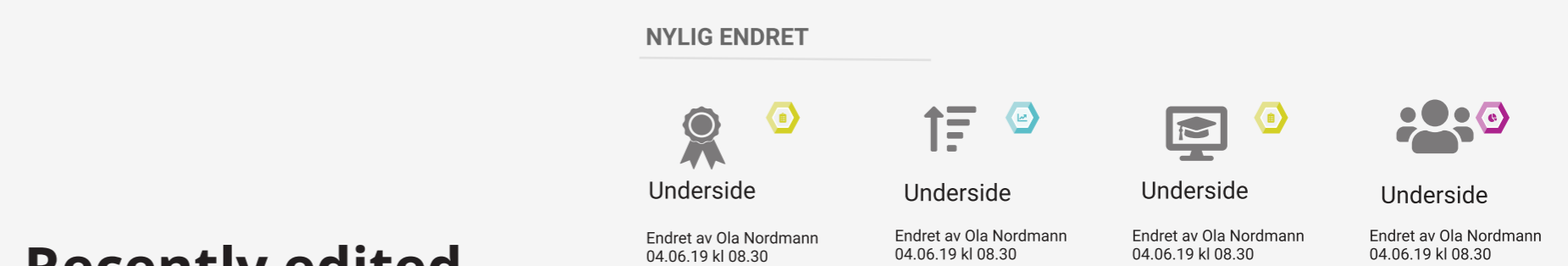
Customization

The homepage for bevisst should be customizable, as there are many different types of users. Departmental leaders need an overview in order to manage the department, and staff may need something specific i.e. updating the progress of students. The homepage should be flexible to suit different needs, allowing users to pin specific information to their homepage from within the books, such as key statistics about the institute and ongoing activities. This allows a full overview at a glance, leaving users informed about their department and any required actions.



Timeline

The timeline allows users to select a timeframe to view; overview of upcoming deadlines, statistics and information presented within a time context. Gives the user the ability to move forwards and backwards in time to spot trends and make future predictions, along with planning their workflow.



Recently edited

The recently edited section gives the user an overview of tasks that have been worked on recently. It offers a way to quickly jump back into those tasks as well as see by who and when they have been edited. The tasks are marked with coloured hexagonal symbols in accordance with their corresponding books/headings (aktivitetsplanlegging, ressursplanlegging and budsjett og simulering) for users to more easily identify where the different tasks belong.

USER TESTS

The usertesting gave insight on how the current version could be improved. Users indicated a strong need for a statistical overview feature, as the current system requires users to look through the books and find the information they want manually. We suggested a personalized homepage depending on the users role, with the ability to pin key information.

User tests also showed that users find "recently edited" a useful feature, it was important to see who made the edit and when.

Tasks and Deadlines was a feature that could be improved upon, as tests showed that users did not just need immediate deadlines and tasks, they need an overview for the year to get a better indication of what is coming and how to plan for it. The timeline was added for this purpose.

Furthermore, user tests indicated that the book overview that we implemented was easy to understand and navigate, and avoids cluttering the screen with books. Participants indicated the homepage is user-friendly and modern, and the split-screen design with books on the one hand and information on the other is pleasant.

CONCLUSION

The solution includes all of the elements that had been identified as important during stakeholder meetings and presents these in a clear way. The workflow and way that people will interact with the site is something we thought about carefully. Different items are linked together in a way that they compliment each other and user. More time would need to be spent observing users interacting with the software to properly tune this as it is something critical to the useability of the site.

Going forward we'll need more user feedback on the final iteration to verify our ideas. This was done at stages throughout the project but not for our final page. It was good to work closely with bevisst and the faculty staff to learn what their needs and requirements were, and how they used the current website/what could be improved. More work on how the website will be customizable for the different users and how feasible it is to implement this is required. This is something that needs to be carefully balanced as allowing too much