Minutes of the Plenaire Vergadering of the CSR on the 20th of September 2017

Guido Bakker (until 18:02), Sasha Borovitskaja, Raj Deval, Pim van Helvoirt, Bram Jaarsma, Michele Murgia, Kjeld Oostra, Sebastian Proos, Mees van Rees, Loraine Smith, Teodor Todercan;

Present
Guido Bakker (until 18:02), Sasha Borovitskaja, Raj Deval, Pim van Helvoirt, Bram Jaarsma, Michele Murgia, Kjeld Oostra, Sebastian Proos, Mees van Rees, Loraine Smith, Teodor Todercan

Absent
Jern Ken Chew

Guest(s)
Kathelijn Verdeyen Voorzitter FSR AMC (from 15:15), Linda van Exter Studentassessor-CvB

Minutes
Tamara van den Berg Ambtelijk secretaris

Concept agenda
1. Opening
2. Mail
3. Approving the minutes + checking the action list
4. Announcements
5. Setting the agenda
6. OV: technical chairing [confidential]
7. Working group: Housing [confidential]
8. Evaluation Studentassessor-CvB [confidential]
9. Bestuursbeurs: redistribution of money
10. IO: debriefing
11. M-OER
12. 8-8-4
13. Docent van het Jaar
14. VSNU: meeting with Duisenberg
15. CoBo
16. Updates DB, representatives, Studentassessor-CvB
17. W.v.t.t.k. / Any other business
18. Questions
19. Sluiting

1. Opening
Pim opens the meeting at 15h01, welcomes everyone, and asks to do an introduction round to welcome Raj.

2. Mail
The in- and outgoing mail is discussed.

3. Approving the minutes + checking the action list
Setting the minutes of September 13th will be postponed until the next PV.
The action list gets updated.
4. Announcements
- Sasha asks the council to read the DB-minute for taskforce updates and other relevant information.
- Sasha asks the council to sign up for coffee dates.
- Sasha asks the taskforce heads to send their planning by Friday.
- Raj informs the council about the letter of the FSR FEB on the catering and canteen prices.
- Mees asks if the taskforces that prior were V&C can merge into 1 taskforce because there are little members. There are no objections. This taskforce will be addressed as ‘PR’.
- PR wants to make a poster (or Smoelenboek) to send to the UvA-employees. Sasha is working on this.
- Sebastian is working on the mail-to-all and the taskforces should discuss what needs to be mentioned in this. *(action)*
- Pim thanks the council for attending the ISO meeting.
- Pim asks the taskforces to make an inventory of all the working, steering and other groups the CSR is partaking in. *(action)*
- Pim announces that Gerard Mols will be re-appointed as a regular member of the RvT.

5. Setting the agenda
The agenda is set with changes.
Added to the agenda: RvT.

6. OV: technical chairing
The CSR decides who he wants to ask to be his technical chair during the OV’s.
There are no objections to having a technical chair. Pim says the FSR FNWI has a list of those interested in being a technical chair.
Guido will inform if Rosa d’Adelhart Toorop is available and willing to be the technical chair for the upcoming OV. *(action)* The DB will set up a list with possible candidates. *(action)*

7. Working group: Housing
The CSR decides who to send to the Housing working group.
Loraine proposes to join the working group, and this is agreed upon. *(decision)* Bram asks why the CSR takes places in this and the working group is set up for this particular topic. Sasha explains how participation of the CSR in this working group is not a formal requirement, but the number of students looking for housing is quite large and this is a problem resulting from the internationalization policy of the UvA. Bram has issues with the fact that this is considered merely an issue of internationalization, as Dutch students also have troubles finding a house in Amsterdam. Loraine says this can be mentioned in the working group, but this means that the CSR needs to discuss its vision on this. This will be taken up in the Facilities & Housing taskforce. *(action)*

8. Evaluation Studentassessor-CvB [confidential]
The CSR gets informed about the procedure for the evaluation of the Studentassessor-CvB. *(decision)* The CSR will share both the DB-report and the concept minutes of the PV with Linda van Exter, and will allow Linda van Exter to be present at the OV-preparations of the CSR.

9. Bestuursbeurs: redistribution of money
The CSR discusses the redistribution of the bestuursbeurs among its members.
Loraine asks for a clarification for the re-calculation, which Michele gives based on the amount of representatives, regular members and council assistants.
Lorraine says it is fair to do a remittance as this was discussed when implementing the taskforce structure. Teo proposes to ask for a raise. Guido says it is fair to get paid more if you work more hours. Kjeld asks if the DB really has less workload. Loraine stresses to arrange this soon so the council can get paid. Bram explains that the CSR will get paid regardless of their internal decision. The council is in favor to redistribute the bestuursbeurs, and Michele and Bram will write a concrete proposal to discuss during the next PV. (action)

10. IO: debriefing
*The CSR discusses the IO of September 20.*
Sasha gives the council an update of what was discussed at the Informeel Overleg. The regulations on flexstuderen, UvA-matching and the internal language policy are to be expected. The rector has said that the CvB can organize the lunch with the rector if the CSR does not want to do so. This will be discussed in the taskforce PR and afterwards in the PV. (action) The process to make the working groups UvA Admissions and the Housing bilingual or more accessible for non-Dutch speakers will be speeded up. Pim has asked the rector of the CSR can get the CBO-agendas, but this was not granted. Pim will write a meeting document on this. (action) Pim wants to discuss the commercial presence of companies during the Intreeweek. The rector does not see a problem per se as it is up to the students to make decisions and to be alert about purchases. Pim will ask Intreeweek about their stances (action) and Sasha will check the legal status of the contract of SwapFiets. (action)

11. M-OER
*The CSR gets informed about the binding model OER.*
Pim adds to the meeting materials that currently in the M-OER there is also the binding regulation that a 5,5 is a sufficient grade to pass. Pim lists the decisions by the CvB that are referred to in the M-OER. Pim will have a closer look at these regulations and discuss this in the taskforce. Michele asks clarification on the regulation regarding the grades between 5,1 and 5,9 that will be taken out of the OER. Loraine explains that the student councils have taken this up last year and ask to take this out of the binding regulations. Pim will write a meeting document to inform the council on the background of this wish of the student councils. (action) Michele asks about the decision to include the Honours program UvA-VU. Pim explains that the CvB’s of UvA and VU have made agreements on the accessibility of honours programs. This agreement is currently in conflict with, for example, the FNWI internal access regulations. The OC’s will get a right to consent about the access to honours programs. Michele asks if the FSR has consent on the change of language. Pim says they have a consent right according to the Memorie van Toelichting as it is a part of article (x) on the feitelijke inrichting of the education (see article x). Pim will double check if this is taken up into the OER and send the document and the Memorie van Toelichting to Michele. (action) Mees agrees that it is important to have a discussion on the new explanation of the articles of the M-OER.

12. 8-8-4
*The CSR discusses the 8-8-4 semester planning.*
Pim asks about the ‘inaccurate grades’ that are meant in the Studiesucces 2.0 and Mees explains how in grading there are always mistakes being made. Increasing the amount of exams also increases this danger, but in the 8-8-4 system this increase is required. It was proposed to take more tests that were
not graded for students to evaluate their process, but the 8-8-4 system does not allow for this. Sebastian proposes to have exam free courses that only have assignments.

**Being flexible with 8-8-4.** The council states to be in favor with following the advice from *Studiesucces* report to make 8-8-4 more flexible. Mees explains that the CSR 16|17 has already asked the CvB to discuss this with the deans. This can be brought up in the UCO by Sasha and Mees. Bram proposes to also ask the CvB again to discuss this with the deans, and Pim proposes to discuss this with the FSR’s. Sasha stresses the importance of communicating this in the UCO first.

Michele says he is against the 8-8-4 system, and wants to discuss the fundamentals. Mees says that *Studiesucces* recommends not going against 8-8-4, after which Michele says to disagree with the report *Studiesucces*.

**Round of opinions on 8-8-4:** Guido says 8-8-4 is important for accessibility but courses and faculties should have some leverage, so it the planning should be made flexible. Teo is not in favor of 8-8-4 but does not know if a semester structure is better, and changing the structure would be very costly and probably not preferable. Sebastian agrees that 8-8-4 is too rigid: programs should have the freedom to make their own planning so 8-8-4 should be abolished. Raj is not in favor of 8-8-4 because a large amount of students considers it very burdening and there is too little time for preparation of exams.

Kjeld agrees with Guido, and says that 8-8-4 increases the accessibility to other faculties. Changing the system might make courses unaccessible. *Lorraine sluit zich aan bij Sebastian en vindt dat de studiedruk te hoog is in 8-8-4.* Kathelijn says that 8-8-4 allows students to follow a minor on another faculty, but the *keuzeruimte* on the AMC does not fit within this structure. She believes that making the structure more flexible could be a good option. Sasha says that the framework is good, but it should be flexibilized. Michele believes that faculties should have full autonomy in planning their education. Bram agrees with Michele but does not agree with the abolishment of 8-8-4: faculties are now used to working in the structure and flexibilizing already allows refor distribution of the work load. Moreover, it might be important for the staff to have a structure when offering or interchanging programs. Mees agrees with Guido and Kjeld. Pim says abolishing 8-8-4 will not directly change anything as the courses are already set up within the structure, but flexibilizing should be done throughout for educational reasons.

Michele asks until which point the structure is still considered 8-8-4, and Mees says that a proposition for this is made in *Studiesucces 2.0* by still sticking to blocks of 3ECTS. Michele says that being pressed into a model leads to a loss of quality of education.

**Proposal:** The CSR voices in the UCO the statement that the CSR wants 8-8-4 to be abolished.

In favor: 3
Against: 5
Blanco: 1
Abstain: 0

The proposal has not been voted in.

**Proposal:** The CSR voices in the UCO that the CSR is in favor of flexibilizing the 8-8-4 semester structure.

In favor: 11
Against: 0
Blanco: 0
Abstain: 0

The proposal has been voted in.
13. **Docent van het Jaar / Teacher of the year**

The CSR gets informed about the organization of the Docent van het Jaar-award.

Sebastian explains that the award is assigned and financed by the UvA, but the responsibility for the organization is then given to the CSR and ASVA who did not demand this, and that the organization is partly executed by Bureau Communicatie. Sebastian says this should not be a core task of the CSR.

Bram says that organizing the election costs too much and is used by the CvB to show their interests in education and the medezeggenschap. Loraine says that also positive reactions are given by the staff. Kathelijn says that in the AMC faculty the award is evaluated positively. Pim proposes to include the opinion of the FSR's in this. Sebastian says that delegating the organization to the FSR's is already a part of the plan, but in practice the organization is mostly done by the CSR and ASVA. Pim says last year the direction of the event and the organization had been changed. Teo asks if the CvB would be willing to take this organization on, and Linda says the CSR should ask this to the CvB if they want to know. Kjeld proposes to contact the FSR's about changing the role of the CSR and discuss this and bring this to the CvB.

Sebastian expects that the awards will still be organized by BC and ASVA if the CSR does not want to be involved in the organization, for example by hiring other people. Bram says the efforts delivered by teachers are far more that can be measured by the award, and that therefore an award is not a correct representation. Raj agrees with this. Teo disagrees and thinks the award gives an incentive to do your job as the award is a big compliment, but the CSR should do less in the organization. Guido agrees with this. Loraine says that the CSR should ask the teachers what they feel about the elections, and that regardless the CSR should be responsible for a smaller part of the organization. Bram says the CSR should either withdraw or organize it properly. Teo proposes to let the COR organize the awards, but Sebastian says they probably don't have time for this. V&C will work out a proposal on how to change the role of the CSR in organizing the award. **(action)**

14. **VSNU: meeting with Duisenberg**

The CSR discusses how to organize the meeting with Pieter Duisenberg on November 1st.

There are different opinions in the council about organizing the meeting with Duisenberg in the format of Room for Discussion. Mees elaborates that the idea was to have open questions from the audience. Guido wants there to be a small introduction with a couple of questions from the presenter after which the floor can be opened. Bram says it is important to have a setting in which the ideas of Duisenberg can be contested, for example in a panel and with open questions. Guido asks who would be in the panel. Bram says the CSR 16|17 should be included, as well as other critical students. Mees wants to ensure that the event is open for all students who want to join. Raj says that it is important to realize that the students are capable to judge the discussion and answers of Duisenberg themselves. Bram says the CSR should either withdraw or organize it properly. Teo proposes to leave the FSR's out of this discussion and to let the COR organize the awards, but Sebastian says they probably don't have time for this. V&C will work out a proposal on how to change the role of the CSR in organizing the award. **(action)**

The council is not in favor of having a separate discussion with Duisenberg, but Pim says the CSR should be willing to clarify the content of the letter and it is better to do this in private.
Proposal: The CSR will talk to Duisenberg separately.
In favor: 4
Against: 5
Blanco: 1
Abstain: 1
The proposal is not voted in.

Mees says to be skeptical that Duisenberg will be willing to meet with the students if the CSR does not want to meet him as well.
The council is in favor of having a live stream from the event. There are no objections to allow ASVA to join the meeting with the VSNU in Den Haag.

15. CoBo
The CSR discusses how to organize its constitutional drinks.

Proposal: The CSR spends €1.000,- of the CoBo budget on an open bar.
In favor: 7
Against: 1
Blanco: 1
Abstain: 3
The proposal is voted in.

Kjeld proposes to organize the CoBo on November 10, but as not everyone has their agenda available, PR will send out a Doodle. (action) Pim proposes to have a Spotify list for the music. Kjeld proposes to have a DJ, and Sasha and Teo want to volunteer. PR gets the mandate to organize this.

16. RvT
Pim has given a positive reaction to the re-appointment of Gerard Mols, the current RvT-member with special confidence of the medezeggenschap, as a regular member of the RvT. Pim explains why he has done so. Sasha has mixed feelings about this and says this should have been communicated to the council, and Mees agrees. The council agrees with the reply but not with the procedure.

17. Updates DB, representatives, Studentassessor-CvB
The written updates are discussed briefly.
- Kjeld says that choosing student members for the OC’s is being based on the students’ grades, and the FSR FNWI wants to investigate whether this is a structural problem. Pim proposes to discuss this in the CSR, and Kjeld will write a vergaderstuk about this. (action)

18. W.v.t.t.k. / Any other business
- Next week the PV will discuss the working agreements CSR-AMC (Kathelijn).
- Bram says Jasper Blok has asked him on his opinions on the catering. Bram will voice his personal opinion, and add that he can later inform Jasper on the official opinion of the CSR. This will be taken up in the taskforce meeting.

19. Questions
- Teo is meeting with FS, and this meeting will be discussed in the taskforce.
- Kjeld proposes to move the updates back to the top of the agenda. The council agrees.
- Linda is content with the decisions of the PV on the working agreements with the student assessor.
- Pim asks if the council would like to discuss the financial cycle, and this will be discussed next week informatively. *(action)*
- Pim proposes to go to the Hortus Botanicus for a council getaway.
- Pim proposes to have a discussion on the tent, this will be taken up in the taskforce Facilities & Housing.

## 20. Ending

Pim closes the meeting at 18h45.

### Decisions

- **170920-01** The CSR voices in the UCO that the CSR is in favor of flexibilizing the 8-8-4 semester structure.
- **170920-02** The CSR spends €1.000,- of the CoBo budget on an open bar.
- **170920-03** The CSR sends Loraine Smith to the working group Housing for international students.
- **170920-04** The CSR will send the concept minutes for the PV to Linda van Exter.
- **170920-05** The CSR will allow Linda van Exter to receive the report of the DB-meeting.
- **170920-06** The CSR will allow Linda van Exter to be present at OV-preparations.

### Action list

- **170920-01** The taskforces discuss what needs to be addressed in the mail-to-all, and inform Sebastian about this.
- **170920-02** Guido will ask Rosa d’Adelhart Toorop if she would be available as a technical chair for the upcoming OV.
- **170920-03** The DB will set up a list with possible technical chairs for the OV’s.
- **170920-04** The taskforce Facilities and Housing discusses the working group on housing for international students in relation to the larger problems with housing in Amsterdam.
- **170920-05** Michele and Bram write a concrete proposal for the redistribution of the Bestuursbeurs.
- **170920-06** Pim writes a meeting piece about the CSR’s wish to get the CBO agendas.
- **170920-07** Pim asks Intreeweek on their view on the collaboration with commercial businesses.
- **170920-08** Sacha checks the legal status of the SwapFiets contract.
- **170920-09** Pim will incorporate the discussion on grades between 5,1 and 5,9 in the M-OER in the meeting material for the upcoming PV.
- **170920-10** Pim does a double check on the right of consent for the FSR on the language change of programs, and sends Michele the document and *Memorie van Toelichting* regarding article x of the M-OER.
- **170920-11** V&C writes a proposal on how to change the role of the CSR in the Teacher of the Year-award.
- **170920-12** V&C writes a proposal on the factual organization of the meeting with Duisenberg on November 1 and includes Bram in the discussion on the choice for the host.
- **170920-13** V&C sends out a Doodle to set the date of the CoBo.
- **170920-14** Kjeld writes a meeting piece on the hiring procedure for OC-members based on their grades.
- **170920-15** The taskforce Facilities and Housing discusses a statement on the tent and brings this to the PV.
- **170920-16** Pim writes an informative meeting piece on the UvA financial cycle.
The taskforces make an overview of all the working, steering and other groups the CSR is partaking in.

Mees writes a proposal for the discussion and meeting with Pieter Duisenberg on November 1.

During the IO, the DB asks for clarification regarding consultation of the academic community regarding the renewal of the allocation model.

Mees and Sasha write a proposal on the language of the GV.

Bram and Ken will gather more information on the (financial) background of the reduction of schakeltrajecten.

Guido discusses the document on Open Educational Resources in the taskforce and writes another meeting document on this for the upcoming PV.

All council members research which topics linked to the ITK they are dealing with in their files and/or faculties, and inform Sasha about this.

Ken, Sasha and Loraine will work out the sessions to discuss and set shared goals within the CSR.

Pim writes a short statement regarding the language in workgroups for the IO, but upfront sends this out for an editorial round.

During the IO, the DB will bring up the fact that the CSR is starting to research Dutch courses on a larger scale.

Teo contacts UvA-talen and LOF to work out a proposal on Dutch language courses.

All council members inform Loraine about their findings regarding the gender questions in UvA-surveys.

The taskforce heads will set up a year planning after the DB has created a format for this.

Michele will contact the UvA Risk Manager about the burglaries and safety measurements at the campus.

Michele informs the FGw about their position in the klankbordgroep for the ILO.

Sasha drafts a cleaning schedule for the CSR office.

Teo contacts David Jan about the GV letter about the services and will send out the letter for an editorial round to the GV.

Loraine will contact Brigitte about the followed procedure of the installment of the numeri fixi at the FEB.

Teo will meet with the VOLGB. Tamara will contact VOLBG.

Michele will make a plan to involve the FSR’s in setting up the BSA-evaluation, and informs the FSR’s about the position of the deans in this.

Pim discusses the BSA-evaluation with the FSR’s during the VZO.

**Pro memorie**

The DB is strict about nazendingen and being present in time.

A double check on the spelling and grammar should be done for all communication. Taskforce heads have the final responsibility in this.

The taskforce heads notify the PR-taskforce after their meetings which files should be raised in the media.

All DB-members send their updates before Sunday 20h.

Sasha sends a weekly Monday mail with all the activities of the upcoming week.

Sasha notifies the FSR’s after the PV on which topics the CSR needs input.

Pim and Sebastian take good care of the plants.
The taskforce heads make sure that everyone gives good feedback to their taskforces about the work, steering and soundboard groups, and they make sure the documents are saved on the P-drive.

The taskforce heads oversee the diverse division of speakers for the OV.

Bram and Sasha organize fun activities for the council on regular basis.

The council oversees a proper balance between small and large files in the PV.

The AMC letter regarding the allocation model will be taken into account during the upcoming discussion on the new allocation model.

Michele will make a plan to involve the FSR’s in setting up the BSA-evaluation, and informs the FSR’s about the position of the deans in this.