Minutes of the Plenaire vergadering of the CSR on the 15th of November 2017

Guido Bakker, Sasha Borovitskaja, Jern Ken Chew (until 16:58), Bram Jaarsma, Michele Murgia (until 17:30), Kjeld Oostra, Sebastian Proos, Deval Raj, Mees van Rees, Teodor Todercan; Quinta Dijk (until 17:41), David Nelck;

Pim van Helvoirt, Loraine Smith;

Linda van Exter Studentassessor-CvB (from 15:08)

Concept agenda

1. Opening
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1. Opening

Sasha opens the meeting at 15h00 and welcomes everyone.
2. **Mail**

*The in- and outgoing mail is discussed.*

- The statement REC-A will be sent as a press release, and for information to the CvB.
- Sasha will check if the CSR is attending the LOF Christmas dinner. *(action)* If so, the CvB will also be forwarded the invitation.
- Facilities & Housing will agendize the letter from the FSR FEB on Housing. *(action)*

3. **Concept minutes + action list**

*The confidential minutes of October 25th are set without changes.*

*The minutes of November 8th are set without changes.*

4. **Checking the action list**

*The action list gets updated.*

5. **Announcements**

- Pim and Loraine are absent and have mandated Mees and Sasha respectively.
- Cake points will be handed out for the nazendingen, except for the piece on Honors.
- Finance & Collaboration will take up the mail from LOF on Taakstelling Begroting. *(action)*
- ISO on tour is on November 20th. Interested council members can attend.
- Pim and Tamara prepared the WHW-meeting, for which a meeting piece and agenda will follow. The RvT will be chairing the meeting.
- The RvT is organizing drinks on December 20th, and therefore the PV will be shortened or moved.
- Language Policy will be discussed in the PV of next week to prepare for the WHW-conversation.
- The SULT symposium at the AMC on November 23rd will be concerning topics such as Digitalization and video classes.
- The request on the Comenius program will be taken up by the DB.
- Michele, Quinta, Ken, Bram and Teo are leaving the PV early.
- Mees attended the ISO working group, and found this a useful meeting.

6. **Updates DB & taskforces, representatives, AMC, Studentassessor-CvB**

*The written updates discussed briefly.*

- Digitalization & Study Support will agendize providing an English version of the Studiegids. *(action)* More information on this can be found in the update from Kjeld.
- Facilities & Housing will agendize the functioning of printers. *(action)* More information on this can be found in the update from Kjeld.

7. **Setting the agenda**

*The agenda is set with changes.*

- OC elections is added to the agenda.
- Relation ASVA/CSR is postponed until next week.
8. Budget: Commoning UvA

*The CSR decides on the financial compensation for the CSR-evaluation by Commoning UvA.*

Mees asks why the proposed compensation of €150,- is brought forward as most trainings will cost more. Tamara and Sasha explain that this is depending on the budget of the CSR. Most of the council is in favor of compensation. Guido says it might be better to not spend money, as it could be better spend on students. Teo is also inclined to not pay for the training, as Commoning UvA does not request payment.

**Voting proposal:** The CSR decides to compensate Commoning UvA €150,- for the organization of the CSR-evaluation.

*In favor* 8  
*Against* 1  
*Blanco* 2  
*Abstain* 1  

The voting proposal is adopted.

9. OC-elections [confidential]

*The CSR discusses the organization and facilitations of OC-elections.*

Michele will summarize the points brought forwards by the CSR and writes a new meeting piece on promotion material for OC-elections. *(action)*

10. Regeling Selectie en Plaatsing Fixusopleidingen

*The CSR decides on the advice request on the Regeling Selectie en Plaatsing Fixusopleidingen.*

**Voting proposal:** The CSR sends a positive advice on the *Regeling Selectie en Plaatsing Fixusopleidingen.*

*In favor* 9  
*Against* 0  
*Blanco* 1  
*Abstain* 2  

The voting proposal is adopted.

The advice letter will be sent out for an editorial round until Friday 12h00.

11. M-OER

*The CSR discusses its stances on the model-OER.*

Mees asks if the council is aware of the change in strategy, and they are. Michele asks if the CSR can still include being fundamentally against the M-OER in their discussion. Sasha says that can be mentioned, while simultaneously separating this fundamental discussion from discussing the articles. Michele proposes to claim there should not be binding regulations in the form of the M-OER, but will also follow the stances of the FGw.
Voting proposal: The CSR states that it is fundamentally against the M-OER and will in the OV discuss the binding regulation on fraud and plagiarism and the article on master selection. The other articles will be addressed in the advice.

In favor: 8
Against: 3
Blanco: 0
Abstain: 1

The voting proposal is adopted.

Michele says the advice should include why the CSR is against binding regulations, after addressing the separate articles. Mees says the CSR should be constructive from now on as this has been addressed enough. Michele says it should still be addressed in a formal advice, and not only in conversations. This should however be while giving reasons for this standpoint to clarify these.

Kjeld suggests to address the name of the model-OER.

No other articles from the MOER are brought forward to include in the advice.

12. Instellingscollegegeld

The CSR discusses the institutional tuition fees.

Mees discussed the pursuing of opening the information more elaborately with Bram and has concluded that it is not worth pursuing opening up this information.

Bram says this would imply that in future times addressing institutional tuition fees would be in a more speculative manner.

Mees says Pim wonders why the arguments for financial openness for honours programs do not apply for institutional tuition fees as well. Bram says some arguments uphold, but not all. Michele asks why an analogy between pursuing information on honours and the tuition fees should be made. Bram says a choice can be made for honors programs, but it's not a choice to ask for institutional tuition fees as this has been decided for the university on a different level.

Voting proposal: The CSR is in favor of pursuing the information regarding the financing of institutional tuition fees.

In favor: 2
Against: 8
Blanco: 1
Abstain: 1

The voting proposal is not adopted.

13. Ontwerpbegroting 2018

The CSR discusses the concept budget for 2018.

General: Michele asks about the interdisciplinary PhD's. Linda explains IIS and PPLE are working on sponsored research spots. Michele says that in theory the CvB can reject an appeal to the reserves, and this happens in practice as well.

Incorporating the faculty advices: Bram says that the need for better information for FSR's can be deducted from several faculty advices. Michele agrees with Pim that FSR's know more about the specific budgets of the faculties and these advices can be followed. Bram says the budget at faculty level is not what the GV decides on, as this is a broader central budget not with all details taken in.
there. The advice is more focused on the process, but not on the specifics depending on the faculties which is discussed between FSR’s and deans.

**Request better information next year:** The council is in favor. Mees asks if more can be done than taking it up in the advice. The process, also in reflection to previous years, can be taken up. Bram will check how the previous CSR/GV has corresponded on this. *(action)*

**Request of FEB:** Bram says this is a budget cut to services, which has a significant impact on the student experience. Bram wonders whether this is something that should be taken up at the central level. Raj explains that the vision of the FSR FEB is also influenced by the policy of the dean who tries to offer more resources, and therefore perhaps should not be taken up by the GV. Teo agrees with Bram, and suggests to only include this if the FSR FEB requests this.

**Breaking points for current budget or as pro memorie:** Bram says a ‘no, unless’ advice might help safeguarding the procedural integrity. There are also discrepancies between some OR and FSR’s in their advice or on the information that was given to them. Bram explains that Erik Boels has also been contacted to inform him on the procedures at the faculties, but this is mostly a faculty issue.

**IDA fund:** Michele says financing this is the imperative of the faculties, even though it is not happening.

These decentral organs should not be privileged. Kjeld says this would offer also interdisciplinary positions which cannot be brought under one faculties. Michele expresses his issues with interdisciplinary research in the current form, and says faculties can also start joint research schools from which the positions can be financed. Several schools exist which allow transitions and do interdisciplinary research, and therefore specific institutions should not be centrally financed. Bram asks whether it is the task of the CvB to fund research, although it is good that this research would be made possible. Michele agrees that it is good when the research can happen, but the problem of lacking research spots applies to more studies and therefore should not be privileged in this case. Kjeld says this could be a step in the right direction to make more or new research possible. Michele says it should be up to the faculties what they create and finance. The university might also pressure to stimulate more interdisciplinary research to attract external funding.

**Schakeltrajecten:** Bram wonders if the CvB is working on gaining insight on the financing of the transition programs, and what message should be given to address that the CSR would like to see concrete numbers.

**Equity/reserves:** Bram says the taskforce Finance & Collaboration had decided to not address equity until the answers from Erik Boels were gathered by tomorrow, as there might be good reasons to have equity. Mees says the answer from Erik Boels should be awaited. Guido says it is important to take into account the different reasoning of faculties to create or have a reserve. Teo says the FEB is using their reserve for Dutch courses, which is a good thing. Bram says about 1/3rd of the reserves is from the faculties, then there is a large reserve for real estate development to make investments in housings, and the largest component is a central reserve. This last part is the only subject for discussion at the GV.

Facilities and housing will provide the main points of every faculty advice and feedback from conversation from Erik Boels. *(action)* Tamara suggests to summarize these advices also for the COR so the whole GV is up to date.

### 14. Lecture rooms

The CSR discusses opening the lecture rooms as study spaces.

Teo says that this request might put more pressure on employees. Guido says that in MAPIQ it is decided that teachers get classrooms appointed first. Bram suggests to restructure the way in which tutorial rooms are used and could be used as study spaces. Michele asks whether the time slots of the
seminars would remain the same in the proposal, and this is the case. Bram is meeting with the housing people from FMG and FEB, and would like to be mandated to discuss the issue further.

**Voting proposal:** The CSR mandates Bram to convey the opinion that the CSR agrees with the FSR's to open the empty tutorial rooms as study spaces.

*In favor: 12*

*Against: 0*

*Blanco: 0*

*Abstain: 0*

The voting proposal is adopted.

Bram and writes a concept letter on using the empty tutorial rooms as study spaces and brings this back to the PV. *(action)*

**15. Honors**

*The CSR discusses its stance on honors programs.*

Mees asks about the labeled money from OCW for excellence and in which way this should be taken into account when seeing if the money can be re-allocated. Michele explains that the *Siriusgelden*, which were the main subsidies, have been put to a halt. Bram says most of this money had been given to AUC.

Mees asks what the FSR's feel about honors. Michele says a file holder meeting will still be planned, and the FGw is forming their opinion. Sasha says for the meeting with Feilzer the CSR should form an opinion, and Mees says this should not be done yet as the FSR's need to be taken into account. Michele agrees, and says the meeting can be used to get information from the Honours committee. Bram asks why Feilzer is the head of the UvA-VU honours commission as ACTA does not have an honours program itself.

The council is not in favor forming an opinion. The taskforce Programs & Accessibility will discuss the meeting with Feilzer, and council members can inform them with possible questions to convey during the meeting. *(action)*

**16. Evaluation function Studentassessor-CvB**

*The CSR decides who to delegate to the evaluation meetings.*

Sasha says it should be clarified with the CvB what the evaluation is about. Bram says when evaluating the function the position of the CvB should be taken into account.

Pim has offered to do this. Michele and Kjeld also volunteer. Bram suggest to send more than 1 person, as the CSR has conflicting ideas. Sasha suggests to bring a mix of opinions. Michele explains why he would be a suitable candidate. Mees says Pim is the primary contact as chair and knows most about the function. Kjeld also explains why he would be a suitable candidate. Mees and Guido state they will vote for Kjeld as he is moderate.

The CSR agrees to ask if it is possible to delegate 2 candidates to the evaluation meetings, and will be based on the answer to this vote next week on who will be delegated. Tamara will contact Mariska Herweijer to ask if it is possible that the CSR delegates 2 members. *(action)*

*-- Jern Ken Chew leaves the meeting and mandates Raj --*
17. Black Pete

*The CSR discusses the sale of Black Pete products at the canteen.*

Mees says that Pim wants to know if people have said to be offended. Michele and Bram have received complaints from students and teachers.

Raj is in favor of removing the promotion materials. Guido is pro Black Pete, although also seeing how people can be offended. The discussion is societal and should not be brought up in the media by the university. The canteen company is free to decide which products it sells based on the free market.

David sides with the decisions of the Gemeente Amsterdam. Michele says the university is a part of society and the free market argument not valid. He is for many reasons against Black Pete, without feeling the need in this case to bring it to the media. Quinta sides with the city council and is in favor of mentioning this to the caterer. Teo says Black Pete is extremely racist and cultural, and it enforces bullying amongst children. Kjeld says that when people are offended the catering should get rid of the materials. Bram says the CSR has the central responsibility to be welcoming for all students, so there should not be imagery in the canteen countering that. Kjeld adds that the WHW says the CSR should avoid students being or feeling discriminated. Sebastian says Black Pete is a racist caricature, and the materials should preemptively be removed before it gets to the media. Mees is against the image of Black Pete. Linda says that she informed the CvB on personal title about the sale of Black Pete imagery as she is against it. Sasha is against Black Pete and says the CSR should do something. Guido says historically Black Pete is not a racist figure and this has merely been brought up by a small group, which is problematic as it is also celebrated in Suriname.

Teo suggests to address the issue to Kjeld van Essen. Michele says that the CSR Taskforce Facilities & Housing should be dealing with the atmosphere of the canteen, and therefore also should take up this issue.

**Voting proposal:** The CSR in favor of asking the Caterer to remove all Black Pete illustrations from the canteen, and throwing these away.

*In favor* 4  
*Against* 4  
*Blanco* 1  
*Abstain* 3

*The voting proposal is not adopted.*

**Voting proposal:** The CSR in favor of asking the Caterer to remove all Black Pete illustrations from the canteen, but not to waste food by giving it away for free.

*In favor* 7  
*Against* 4  
*Blanco* 0  
*Abstain* 1

*The voting proposal is adopted.*

Michele suggests to tell the caterer when handing out for free the materials why they have been asked to do so, as the CSR is not in favor of these images being used. If the caterer does not agree it will be taken up again next week.
Voting proposal: The CSR in favor of asking the Caterer to explain why they are giving away all Black Pete materials for free.

*In favor* 6
*Against* 3
*Blanco* 1
*Abstain* 1

The voting proposal is adopted.

--- Michele Murgia leaves the meeting and mandates Bram ---

18. UvA-Matching

*The CSR gets informed on the recommendations given to the UCO.*

Sasha explains the context of the UvA-matching report. UvA Matching was evaluated every year, but now a larger evaluation has happened from which recommendations will be given to the UCO. Sasha adds that Matching for international students will be introduced. Raj will look into the UvA-matching measures at the FEB. *(action)*

Bram says there have been no positive effects on reducing the number of dropouts by introducing UvA-Matching, despite the high financial costs. Sasha says there are still positive effects on other aspects such as creating a stronger link with the course, improving social integration, and having students better prepared for the course. Bram says there would be better means to stimulate this for example by asking the study associations to prepare an introduction, as the current socially integrated course all have strong study associations. Preparation for the courses could be done by giving different assignments and this would be cheaper as well. Mees proposes to not do the assignment online unless there are good reasons in order for students to get a hint of the experience of studying at the university. Sasha says that the pro-arguments for matching are good, but they are not outweighing the costs. Mees does not agree that all of this can be taken up by study associations.

--- Quinta Dijk leaves the meeting ---

Bram says the UvA should not look for justifications simply because of prior investments. It would be better to loop for another programs that reduces drop outs, as this problems still exist.

Sasha proposes to discuss UvA Matching in general again at another PV, so Loraine can also be present.

UvA Matching for internationals will also be included in this discussion.

19. CANVAS

*The CSR gets informed on the inclusion of the medezeggenschap in CANVAS.*

Guido says that it is important to implement something in CANVAS so the medezeggenschap can be found more easily. Mees is already taking this up with the VU, and David will take up the DLO file. This will already be brought back to the PV if more information is available from either the DLO and/or the VU.

Sasha asks whether it is possible to address this in the DLO working group. Guido says a new application needs to be designed and they are mostly occupied now with transferring the information from Blackboard to CANVAS. Guido suggests to work out a concrete proposal before addressing this in DLO. It should be taken into account how a page for the medezeggenschap would make it easier for students to find this. Sasha suggests to include an explanation as well of the functioning of the medezeggenschap.
20. W.v.t.t.k. / Any other business

- **VSNU;** Mees was informed by the VSNU that they will visit the FMG of the UvA tomorrow, and the FMG was wondering how to prepare for this meeting. Sebastian says the FMG should be autonomous in their decision to meet Duisenberg, and there are no objections to this.

21. Input request from the FSR's

- How do the FSR's feel about the offering of honors programs? How are the honors programs working at the faculties? What do you think of accessibility, structure, programs?

22. Questions

- Guido addresses the COR letter on the publication of UvA-Q reports, and whether the law had been broken and whether this was willingly and knowingly. Mees suggests to take this up with the COR. It should be also taken into account what the interests of students are. Guido will write an informing/discussing PV piece based on taskforce discussion. *(action)*
- Linda says that the OC-event is next week, which Michele and Ken will also attend.
- Sebastian says the plan for student council elections will be presented at the 13th of December, at which the CSR would like to serve drinks. Tamara asks from which budgeted post this will be taken. Sebastian will bring this to the PV next week. *(action)*
- The CvB suggested to go over the OV-action list prior to the OV. Pim and Tamara will take this up with Mariska, and other council members can join if interested.
- The taskforce evaluation will take place on Saturday November 25th. All council members should fill a survey to prepare for this.
- Sasha made a list of all decisions of the CSR 17|18 so far.
- Sasha asks the taskforces to agendize internal taskforce evaluations.
- The meeting with the Raad van Advies will start at 19h00.

23. Ending

Sasha closes the meeting at 18h02.

**Decisions**

171115-01 The CSR decides to compensate Commoning UvA €150,- for the organization of the CSR-evaluation.

171115-02 The CSR sends a positive advice on the Regeling Selectie en Plaatsing Fixusopleidingen.

171115-03 The CSR states that it is fundamentally against the M-OER and will in the OV discuss the binding regulation on fraud and plagiarism and the article on master selection. The other articles will be addressed in the advice.

171115-04 The CSR mandates Bram to convey the opinion that the CSR agrees with the FSR's to open the empty tutorial rooms as study spaces.

171115-05 The CSR in favor of asking the Caterer to remove all Black Pete illustrations from the canteen, but not to waste food by giving it away for free.

171115-06 The CSR in favor of asking the Caterer to explain why they are giving away all Black Pete materials for free.

**Action list**

171115-01 Sasha will check whether the CSR is attending the LOF Christmas dinner.

171115-02 Taskforce Facilities & Housing agendizes the letter from the FSR FEB on Housing.
Taskforce Finance & Collaboration takes up the concept questions from LOF on the Taakstelling OCW-Begroting.

Taskforce Digitalization & Study Support discusses providing an English version of the Studiegids.

Taskforce Facilities & Housing discusses the functioning of printers.

Michele summarizes the input from the CSR and writes a new piece on promotion material for OC elections.

Bram will check how the faculties advice on the budget and the request for information have been addressed by the GV over the last years.

Taskforce Facilities & Housing summarize the main points of all faculty budget advice and the answers from Erik Boels during the Technisch Overleg.

Bram writes a concept letter on using the empty tutorial rooms as study spaces and brings this back to the PV.

Council members can inform taskforce Programs & Accessibility on input possible questions for the meeting with Albert Feilzer.

Tamara will ask whether it is possible for the CSR to delegate 2 members to the evaluation meetings of the student assessor.

Raj checks the regulations for UvA-Matching at the FEB.

Guido writes a meeting piece on the UvA-Q reports.

Sebastian writes a meeting piece on the presentation of the plan for the elections.

Council members fill the survey for the evaluation.

Sebastian takes up the request of ASVA to join their searching committee for new board members.

Sasha and Tamara arrange a training on the writing of meeting pieces and time management.

Pim discusses the document on the general guidance of students with taskforce PR.

The representatives check whether the agendas, minutes and letters of the FSR’s are being published online.

Tamara, Sasha, and Mees will further investigate the legal possibilities of granting voting rights to the council assistants and come back to this in January.

Mees will send the letter on the Regeling Studiekeuzeadvies for an editorial round, that will be open until November 9th 12h00.

Tamara will inform Annelieke Muller that the CSR does not ask for a refund of the D&D campaign money.

Pim drafts a concept letter to ISO.

During the IAO, the DB will address to the CvB that the CSR is internally discussing the M-OER and still waiting for input from the FSR’s.

Bram and Pim write a meeting piece on Instellingscollegegeld and the availability of information.

Taskforce Facilities & Housing writes a concept vision on sustainability and brings this to the PV. To draft this statement, the taskforce will take into account the works of the previous file holder.

Taskforce Digitalization & Study Support discuss the obligatory purchase of binders with study materials.

Guido mails the central and faculty councils about problems with digitalization in the broadest sense.

All council members archive their documents in the P-drive — pro memorie

Mees, Kjeld, and Loraine discuss the plan for setting up the ILO soundboard group.
Loraine will contact Mariska to get more information in the controlling role of the CvB in the application of the fixus selection criteria.

Loraine drafts a positive advice letter on the *Regeling Selectie en Plaatsing*.

Raj discusses the file on medezeggenschap for international students with Bram, Kjeld and Ken.

Council members send their suggestions on the organization of the UB night to the PR taskforce.

Pim will inform the CvB that the CSR has issues with the materials used to promote the vacancy for the Studentassessor-CvB 2018.

Pim mentions the housing and internationalization issues to ACTA.

Facilities and Housing will organize a meeting on Catering for the file holders, where they will discuss the possibility of setting out surveys per faculty.

Taskforce Democratization & Policy discusses the role of Onderwijsdirecteuren in the medezeggenschap.

Kjeld will further investigate the possibilities of a tuition fee free board year, and will present this to the PV.

Pim announces at the GV that all GV-members have the opportunity to put topics on the GV-agenda.

Taskforce Education & Vision researchers the amount of study weeks at the UvA in comparison to other Dutch universities.

The representatives ask their FSR's to discuss the relation between internationalization and student housing problems, and the proposal to write an unsolicited advice together with the medezeggenschap in Amsterdam.

If the FSR's give positive feedback on the proposal to write an unsolicited advice on the housing situation, Bram will contact the USRVU and CMR.

Teo prepares a statement regarding the language in the GV and Pim or Sasha assists him with this. Teo sends out a Doodle to organize this.

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.

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.

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. and write their updates linked to all specific files of the taskforces.

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 proper feedback in 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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Note</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>170823-01</td>
<td>The AMC letter regarding the allocation model will be taken into account during the upcoming discussion on the new allocation model.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>170823-06</td>
<td>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. → move to actions list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>171018-02</td>
<td>The taskforce heads agendize ‘the media’ for every taskforce meeting.</td>
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<tr>
<td>171101-01</td>
<td>All council members archive their documents in the P-drive.</td>
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