Minutes of the *Plenaire vergadering* of the CSR on the 29th of November 2017

Sasha Borovitskaja, Jern Ken Chew (until 16:44), Pim van Helvoirt, Bram Jaarsma, Michele Murgia, Kjeld Oostra, Sebastian Proos, Deval Raj, Mees van Rees, Loraine Smith, Teodor Todercan (from 15:08);

Guido Bakker, Loraine Smith;

Kathelijn Verdeyen *chair FSR FdG*, Geertje Hulzebos *chair FSR FMG*

Tamara van den Berg *Ambtelijk secretaris*

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1. **Opening**

*Pim opens the meeting at 15h03. and welcomes everyone.*
2. **Mail**
The in- and outgoing mail is discussed.

- The letter from the FSR FGw on dean appointments is being taken up by taskforce Democratization & Policy.

3. **Concept minutes + action list**
Setting the minutes of November 15th and the minutes of November 22nd is postponed until next week.

4. **Checking the action list**
The action list gets updated.

- Providing a bilingual letter for the housing advice will be addressed at the W.V.T.T.K.

5. **Announcements**
- Teo apologizes for the course of the evaluation last Saturday. Pim invites Teo to join the group on ‘room for discussion’. Michele will contact Mees about the division of the evaluation groups, as it is currently not stated correctly.
- Ken will leave the PV at 16h30.
- Pim asks who will attend ISO’s werkgroep medezeggenschap. Mees will probably join.
- Pim has received a message from the FSR FMG on Schakeltrajecten, which will be discussed in taskforce Programs & Accessibility after Pim forwards it. (action)
- Pim has received a request from FSR’s to organize New Year drinks together with the FSR’s of the FEB, FdR, FMG. Taskforce PR will take this up. (action) Pim forwards the e-mail.
- Ken sent a message about the Health Portal meeting and asks the council to confirm attendance.

6. **Updates DB & taskforces, representatives, AMC, Studentassessor-CvB**
The written updates discussed briefly.

- Mees asks Michele about the dispute of the FGw. Michele explains that the negative advice of the FSR FGw about the inclusion of an end term in the OER regarding 12EC for proficiency in English has been countered by the faculty board.
- Kathelijn explains that the FSR FdG 16|17 will be asked for more information on the rights of the OC’s and FSR’s to propose candidates to meet the new board.
- Ken says that the functional limitation steering group has sent a proposal to CvB on improving the level of physical accessibility. There will be an improvement in this regard, but not up to the maximum ITS level.
- Geertje gives an oral update on the FSR FMW, who are focusing on files such as schakeltrajecten, selection, master criteria, ILO, buddies, course evaluation, and digitalization.

7. **Setting the agenda**
The agenda is set without changes.
8. CSR Regulations

The CSR discusses proposing amendments to the CSR Regulations.

Article 12:5 Pim adds that confidential insight in the CBO minutes has been granted, so the proposed change should be updated with this latest information.

Article 14:2 Bram suggests also including ‘non-binary’ people, and not just updating the definitions as proposed here.

New article 2:2 Sebastian proposes ‘sole representation’ of students of Amsterdam. Bram says FSR’s should not be excluded or bypassed, but this will be solved by the way of phrasing.

The exact phrasing and numbering of the articles will be discussed outside of the PV. Representatives check whether the articles from the CSR regulations that apply to FSR’s are also taken up in the faculty regulations. (action) Mees asks in which language (Dutch and English) the Regulations would be binding. Sasha will inquire this with JZ. (action)

9. Letter to ISO

The CSR discusses its concept letter on the role of the CSR in ISO.

Pim suggests to attach the letter of the CSR 14|15 on the inclusion of a beta party, and Bram suggests to also refer to this more in the letter the CSR will be sent.

Geertje explains that the FSR FMG wants to corporate with ISO on schakeltrajecten, and therefore is not in favor of the UvA boycotting ISO, and Pim explains that a boycott is not in place.

Bram suggests to harden the tone or to write a better conclusion for the letter. Pim says that sending a letter, even if nuanced, is already a statement. Michele suggests making the letter more assertive. A stronger conclusion will be written on the legitimacy of the organization.

Sasha wants to address the timing of receiving the agenda and meeting pieces as this influences the preparation that member parties can have. Michele would like to see a list of other issues also added to the letter. Kjeld suggests to bring these things up during a conversation. Pim suggests to add a list of other issues at the end of the letter, and included will be the letter on funds for technical universities, the timing of meeting pieces and the agenda, and the composition of the members which are unions and councils.

Bram suggests adding to the second paragraph that the current practice of ISO undermines their democratic legitimacy as an organization.

The letter will be updated and sent for an editorial round on before December 4th the latest. (action)

10. CSR Rules of Procedure

The CSR discusses the Huishoudelijk Reglement of the CSR.

Bram suggests to open up the HR for additional changes coming forward from the evaluation. Sasha suggests to already implement certain changes now and to also later in January reopen the discussion based on the evaluation or role of the council assistants.

Article 6; Sasha suggests to not remove this article, but Pim and Kjeld suggest to not incorporate this in the HR and just refer to the CSR in which the legal rights of the CSR are stated. Agreed is to refer to the CSR regulations and the WHW articles that apply.

Article 7; The council agrees.

Article 8; (a) Sasha suggests to update the length of the terms of the Raad van Advies (RvA). Sasha will look into the regulations of the Advisory Council. (action) (b) The documents of the CSR are currently not being shared with the RvA actively. Pim suggests to ask the advisory council whether they would like to receive this, and the RvA can think of a way in which this would be favored. (action)
**Article 10:** Sasha suggests rephrasing the article to make sure it is possible to hire a council assistant if a vacant seat emerges. Michele explains that as a continuous council the status of being incomplete emerges after elections when not all seats are filled. Michele suggests Sasha taking this issue up with CSB. (action)

**Article 11:** There will be a reference to the CSR Regulations and WHW.

**Article 12:** The council agrees.

**Article 18:** Pim says FSR’s might request meeting documents. Michele says in practice this can also be taken up by the representatives, but this could create differences between faculties. Kjeld says making meeting pieces public might be problematic, as they also concern strategies or insiders information. Kjeld, therefore, agrees with sharing the meeting pieces with the FSR’s but not with the public. Ken is not in favor of publishing meeting documents online, as minutes and agenda should be sufficient. Pim is in favor of publishing meeting documents online and sending them to the FSR’s. Michele says meeting documents are for internal use and to prepare a discussion, but only the results of this need to be communicated. Tamara agrees with Michele based on the different status of the documents, which would also require a lot more editing. Kathelijn says it would be good if meeting documents could be requested. Teo suggests asking the FSR’s for their meeting pieces as well.

**Voting proposal:** The CSR is of the opinion that (non-confidential) meeting documents should be made available to FSR’s.

- In favor: 7
- Against: 0
- Blanco: 2
- Abstain: 2

The voting proposal is adopted.

**11. WHW-conversation**

The CSR gathers input for the WHW-conversation RvT-CSR of December 1st.

**General (Pim):**
- Introduction meeting with Gerard Mols in September

**Central and faculty responsibilities (Michele/ Pim):**
- OC’s and elections
- D&D last year between central and faculties
- M-OER and the relation to faculty OER’s
- Responsibility of university made explicit: central or faculty, university responsibility & accountability of CvB deans not taking the responsibility

**Access to information (Raj/Sasha):**
- Plan for implementation of policy & number of internships – (Raj will ask the FEB on general issues with the dean. (action))
- Process of giving information [example CLC]
- Process and content of budget and the way in which CvB takes responsibility in this
- Restricting the contact between FSR and policymakers
- Timely reactions to advice of medezeggenschap
- Not providing documents in English and structurally supporting internationalization.

**Language Policy (Ken/Teo/Bram/Michele):**
- Lack of language policy and vision for general and practical problems
• Internationals being excluded from MZ
• Internationalizing to counter lowering student numbers
• Dutch courses
• Housing for internationals and in general and the way in which housing is advertised to aspiring international students and increasing the numbers of international students

Topics from Werkgroep Sterke Medezeggenschap (Sasha/Pim):
• Restricting contact FSR and policymakers
• Composition of working group, direction of questions
• Blaming the medezeggenschap
• Studiesucces measures and BSA
• Facilitation of OC’s

12. Allocation model

The CSR discusses the involvement of FSR’s in the allocation model process.

Mees asks why this is discussed plenary and not in the Taskforce. Pim says deciding to involve the FSR’s in the allocation model discussion is something to decide on plenary as it deviates from the current procedure and is also related to the consenting rights of the GV. Sasha asks what the mandate the Taskforce asks for would be entailing precisely, and Pim says would be to give a heads up to FSR’s. Sasha asks how the advice of FSR’s on the allocation model would be aligned. Bram suggests to bring this up in the finance committee of the GV as well. This will be further discussed in the taskforce Finance & Collaboration. Kjeld says advice of FSR’s to the GV would be sent to all GV-members and discussed plenary regardless.

Voting proposal: The CSR decides to set up a plan for including the FSR’s in the allocation model discussion.
In favor 10
Against 1
Blanco 0
Abstain 0
The voting proposal is adopted.

13. UB night

The CSR discusses the organization of an event for all students.

Sasha asks why an election party would be a reasonable alternative to the organization of the UB-night. Kjeld and Sebastian explain the lack of attendance at the UB night and as this election party would be timed differently it could involve all students while also making them more familiar with student politics. Sebastian wants to discuss the exact timing of the event with the FSR’s. Teo says many people at the REC-library are not UvA students but from the HvA and VU. Sebastian says there would be a set budget and that it wouldn’t be a problem when also other students attend to discuss student politics. Pim says an event at the end of the elections is already organized, but Mees explains that this is only a small event for the parties and faculties running elections. Most of the council members are in favor of organizing an election party. Mees asks if spending money on drinks might be a problem for the council, but this will be discussed at a later moment, just as the date will be decided on later.
**14. OV**

*The CSR discusses the course of the OV CSR-CvB on November 28th and sets the IO agenda.*

**General:** The strategy of interfering the points to speakers and back-ups is discussed, as is the way of making suggestions to the speakers and communication and behavior in general. It is suggested to create a separate OV chat to communicate amongst the council. Finally, discussions during the announcements should be avoided.

**Model-OER:** Pim had expected that *Juridische Zaken* would agree with the proposal of the CSR. Michele says that the arguments of the CSR on Fraud and Plagiarism were not prepared and discussed properly. Bram says that master selection in relation to the VSNU should have been addressed more, but Mees says that the broader national discussion was not relevant.

**Student assessor:** Michele says that the fundamental problems that were missing in the report of the evaluation talks were not addressed. Kjeld says implementing agreements of the CSR16|17 got confused with the agreements made between the CvB and CSR 17|18. Sasha will forward the agreements to see whether they can be included. Teo asks why this was not requested for before the next assessor.

**OC-elections:** The stance of the CvB is clear and FSR’s have been informed.

**Honours:** Mees says accessibility was not addressed properly. Michele says this was mostly a starting point for discussion and the FSR’s can now give input. A more formal meeting can be arranged later on.

**Decaanbenoemingen:** Pim says the presentation was not very reflective. Michele adds that if the CvB proposes changing the way of dean appointments this will be taken up in the University Regulations and therefore sent to the GV for consent.

**15. University Forum Regulations**

*The CSR gets informed about the Regulations for the University Forum.*

Bram states that the CvB worked out the University Forum in an undesirable form. Michele asks how many seats would be available for students, and this is 3 for all faculties, except for ACTA which has 2. Michele says that the old *Senate* which gives advice will remain in place, and Pim says the ‘senate new style’ should replace the old senate. Michele asks about the compensation, and this will not be monetary and is not worked out further. Quinta will look into this more, also in regard to the advice of the CSR 16|17.

Sasha spoke to Arne Brentjes, who said that the CSR can still give comments on the regulations and make a proposal on how to make the University Forum properly. If the CSR’s input is not incorporated this could still be included in an unsolicited advice. Bram says Folia can also be addressed, as the CvB would not be happy to have negative publicity on this Forum. Sasha explains that after the first public session in January, there will be a recap and discussion on how to evaluate the forum further.

Pim says the CvB should have communicated more clearly that the forum is starting. Tamara asks whether students have received an e-mail about the starting of the forum, as employees have been informed. This was not the case.

The University Forum will be further discussed during the next PV. The vision of the CvB on the role of the Forum will be addressed during the IO, as well as the means of communication.

**16. UCO on Honours**

*The CSR gets informed about the course of the UCO-meeting on November 23rd.*

Bram thinks the stance of the UCO on honors is reasonable. Pim says that the remarks made by Mr. Goedkoop are reasonable. Mees proposes to follow up on including honors in the evaluations.
Michele says that it is problematic that honors do not have an OC. Mees suggests to take this up with Brigitte. Mees and Sasha keep in mind for the upcoming UCO-meeting on Honors that UvA-Q reports are filled for the honors courses, while there is no OC to check these evaluations. (pro memorie)

Sasha asks whether FSR’s should be invited to all UCO-meetings, and Kathelijn is in favor of this. Pim says this is important due to the opinions the program directors convey in the UCO.

**Voting proposal:** The CSR decides to invite the FSR’s for every UCO-meeting.

In favor 9  
Against 0  
Blanco 2  
Abstain 0  

The voting proposal is adopted.

Sasha asks whether the CSR should make a statement on the timing of agenda and meeting pieces for the UCO. This will happen. (action)

**17. OC’s in year reports**

The CSR gets informed about the inclusion of OC’s in setting up year reports.

Sasha explains that the CSR should voice its earlier adopted stance that medezeggenschap organs on the decentral level should be included when Onderwijsdirecteuren write their year reports. However, in the UCO this was not accepted. Sasha says that if the CSR addresses this to the CvB, the board might simply refer them to the decentral level. Mees argues this is not the case as program directors are not taking this up by themselves, and the ITK is set on a central level, therefore concerning all faculties and the university as a whole in the same manner. Sasha asks whether the FSR’s agree with the proposal of the CSR.

**Voting proposal:** The CSR decides to write an advice on the role of OC’s in writing of the year reports for the upcoming ITK.

In favor 11  
Against 0  
Blanco 0  
Abstain 0  

The voting proposal is adopted.

Mees sends the advice letter for an editorial round on Monday, December 4th. (action)

**18. NSE**

The CSR gets informed about the Nationale Studentenenquête.

David says that the NSE by itself is not sufficient to tackle problems, and proposes, therefore, to look for similarities between the results of the NSE, the Alumni-survey, and UvA-Q. Mees asks David’s opinion on the general concept of the NSE, as complaints are uttered more often. David says not all topics that should be questioned are addressed in the survey.

Value of the NSE: Mees finds the value of the NSE irrelevant if the rest of the Netherlands does value the outcomes and if it is being used by the media. In this case, the NSE should be improved. Quinta asks whether it would be possible to discuss the questions that are asked by the organizers of the NSE. She suggests to use the NSE if it is nationally referred to, but while simultaneously addressing the
fundamental problems. Sebastian sees problems with the NSE and does not think it is the right device to address structural and long-term problems. Kathelijn says that the NSE is generally valued within the AMC, but as it is not filled in by many it is not very accountable. Michele agrees with Sebastian and Kathelijn and says the value should not depend only on the national use of the questionnaire. Kjeld agrees with Quinta. Raj says that the NSE reports do convey something, but the problem is that the NSE is not a valid means of citation although being referred to in policy making. Bram is against the NSE but says that it does point to things which councils tend to address to policymakers. Sasha agrees with Bram and Mees. Pim says David’s suggestion to approach the NSE in a broader sense would be the best. Geertje says that the FSR FMG questions the validity of the NSE.

Teo asks why the council considers the validity of the NSE, and whether this is because of the negative results the UvA scores.

Michele asks for more background information on the formulation of questions by subject/theme. These questions and the fundamental discussion on NSE and its validity will be addressed next week.

19. W.v.t.t.k. / Any other business

- **Internationalization and housing advice:** Sasha says last week it was decided that according to the working agreements between CSR and CvB the letter should also be in Dutch. Michele is in favor of sending a bilingual letter. Bram says that this is problematic, as those signing the letter from the FEB would not understand the Dutch version, and moreover the binding status of the letter will get confused if it is sent in two languages. Michele asks what happens when referring to Dutch law in English letter, but Bram says that this is not relevant to the current letter. Tamara says the CSR 15|16 has also sent an English letter, so it would be possible to do so if because of collaboration with the FSR’s. Raj says that as long as the translation is sufficient it would not be a problem to send a bilingual letter.

**Voting proposal:** The CSR decides to send the advice of the CSR and FSR’s on Housing and internationalization only in English.

- In favor 4
- Against 2
- Blanco 3
- Abstain 2

The voting proposal is not adopted.

Bram opposes to the voting, as the concept minutes of the PV in which the decision on the bilingual letter has not been set yet. The council does not agree with Bram’s objections as it is decided now to not write a letter in English only.

20. Input request from the FSR’s

- This agenda point is skipped due to a shortage of time.

21. Questions

- Kjeld says that a Doodle to organize the New Year’s drinks will be sent out soon, but that Taskforce PR is discussing different options with CREA.
- Kjeld asks the representatives to remind their FSR’s to translate the content of the website. (action)
- Mees asks the council for input for the WC-krant. (action)
• Geertje asks whether a central document on sustainability exists, and the CSR is currently working on creating one.
• Bram asks permission to help to organize a meeting to discuss the Deutsche Bank as the main bank of the UvA. Mees utters objections, so a meeting piece will be written for next week.

22. Ending
Pim closes the meeting at 18h03.

Decisions

171129-01 The CSR is of the opinion that non-confidential meeting documents of the CSR’s PV should be made available to FSR’s.
171129-02 The CSR decides to set up a plan for including the FSR’s in the allocation model discussion.
171129-03 The CSR decides to invite the FSR’s for every UCO-meeting.
171129-04 The CSR decides to write an advice on the role of OC’s in writing of the year reports for the upcoming ITK.

Action list

171129-01 Taskforce Programs & Accessibility takes up the message from the FSR FMG on Schakeltrajecten, after Pim forwards this message.
171129-02 Taskforce PR will take up the request to organize joint New Year drinks with the faculty councils, and Pim forwards this message.
171129-03 The representatives check whether the articles from the CSR regulations that apply to FSR’s are also taken up in the faculty regulations.
171129-04 Sasha will inquire with JZ more information about the Dutch and English versions of the CSR regulations.
171129-05 Mees updates the letter to ISO and sends this out for an editorial round by Monday, November 4th the latest.
171129-06 Sasha looks into the regulations of the Raad van Advies.
171129-07 Sasha asks the advisory council in which way they would like to receive the documentation of the CSR.
171129-08 Sasha discusses the article on hiring council assistants when a vacancy emerges with the CSB.
171129-09 Raj gathers information on the problems the FSR FEB is facing in relation to their dean.
171129-10 Sasha addresses the timing of receiving the agenda and meeting pieces during the UCO.
171129-11 Mees sends the letter on the role of OC’s in writing year reports for the ITK for an editorial round by Monday, November 4th the latest.
171129-12 The representatives remind their FSR’s to provide an English translation of the text on their website.
171129-13 The CSR-members provide content for the WC-krant to Taskforce PR.
171122-01 Kjeld brings Sasha in contact with the ITK committee and Sasha will afterwards contact the other FSR’s about the ITK committee.
171122-02 Taskforce PR shares the link on the maintenance of digital UvA platforms.
171122-03 Guido forwards the information on the ratio of study places per student to Taskforce Facilities & Housing.
171122-04 Bram sends a bilingual advice letter on lecture rooms being used on study spaces for an editorial round on Monday, November 27th.
Michele e-mails the FSR’s to request from them that all OCs will be informed about the existence of the LSVb OC manual that is digitally available.

Sasha checks with JZ whether all articles concerning the faculties are also taken up into the faculty regulations.

Sasha and Tamara inform JZ about the CSR’s proposed changes to the CSR regulations.

Kjeld and Pim inform Taskforce Programs & Accessibility about the FNWI’s toolkit for the promotion of OCs.

Taskforce Programs & Accessibility contacts Eric Weijers about the promotion material for OC elections.

Taskforce Finance & Collaboration inquires how the faculties experience the current procedure for setting the Instellingscollegegeld.

Taskforce Finance & Collaboration inquires the correlation between the height of institutional tuition fees and student intake.

Taskforce Finance & Collaboration explores the legal framework of the procedure for joint degrees and setting the institutional tuition fees.

Guido and Sasha draft a message to the OC’s regarding the publication of UvA-Q evaluation reports on Blackboard.

Taskforce PR sends out a Doodle for the drinks that will be organized in January.

Mees contacts the FSR FNWI for an update on the rearrangement of the summer holidays.

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.

Taskforce Finance & Collaboration summarizes the main points of all faculty budget advice and the answers from Erik Boels during the Technisch Overleg. Pim will forward this information as a preparation for the GV.

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

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

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

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.

Pim drafts a concept letter to ISO.

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. Sasha will help with this.

Taskforce Digitalization & Study Support discuss the obligatory purchase of binders with study materials. Guido will ask Kjeld to provide the needed information.

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

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.

Pim announces at the GV that all GV-members have the opportunity to put topics on the GV-agenda.
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. This will also be brought up at the VZO.

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

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.

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. 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.

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.

The taskforce heads agendize ‘the media’ for every taskforce meeting.

All council members archive their documents in the P-drive.

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

Mees and Sasha keep in mind for the upcoming UCO-meeting on Hounors that UvA-Q reports are filled for honours courses, while there are no OC’s to check these evaluations.