Minutes of the Plenaire vergadering of the CSR on the 14th of March 2018

Guido Bakker (until 18:03), Sasha Borovitskaja, Sofie ten Brink, Pim van Helvoirt, Bram Jaarsma (15:05-18:05), Michele Murgia (from 15:36) Kjeld Oostra, Sebastian Proos, Deval Raj (until 18:02), Loraine Smith (from 15:05), Teo Todercean;

Council members
Guido Bakker (until 18:03);
Council assistants
Guido Bakker, Sasha Borovitskaja, Sofie ten Brink, Pim van Helvoirt, Bram Jaarsma (15:05-18:05), Michele Murgia (from 15:36) Kjeld Oostra, Sebastian Proos, Deval Raj (until 18:02), Loraine Smith (from 15:05), Teo Todercean;
Absent
Jern Ken Chew, Mees van Rees;
Guest(s)
Moataz Rageb Studentassessor-CvB, 1 visitor (Annabel Wildschut)

Minutes
Tamara van den Berg Ambtelijk secretaris

Concept agenda
1. Opening
2. Mail
3. Approving the concept minutes
4. Checking the action list
5. Announcements
6. Updates DB & taskforces, representatives, Studentassessor-CvB
7. University Forum
8. Student assessor evaluation [confidential]
9. Instellingcollegegeld
10. Honours & Excellence
11. Institutional Research
12. Burnouts
13. Internationalization & medezeggenschap
14. Schakeltrajecten
15. Learning Analytics
16. Turnitin
17. W.v.t.t.k. / Any other business
18. Input request from the FSR's
19. To the media
20. Questions
21. Sluiting

1. Opening

Pim opens the meeting at 15.01h and welcomes everyone.
2. Mail
The council discusses the in- and outgoing mail.

-- Bram Jaarsma and Loraine Smith enter the meeting --

3. Concept minutes
Setting the minutes of PV180307 is postponed until next week.

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

5. Announcements
- Sofie will leave the meeting early.
- Guido suggests discussing the number of working groups that are working on similar topics within the UvA’s governance model.
- Moataz suggests the CSR to discuss the letters of the different student parties with the CvB.
- The DB had a first discussion about merging the taskforces Facilities&Housing and Finance&Collaboration and is positive about the suggestion. However, the practical consequences need to be worked out and discussed with both taskforces.
- Pim attended the meeting from WO-in actie and recommends to read the article on Science Guide.

6. Updates DB & taskforces, representatives, Studentassessor-CvB
The written updates discussed briefly.
- An update on the meeting with BC about the visibility of the medezeggenschap is given. Both short term and long term alternatives to CANVAS for improving the visibility (of OC’s, FSR’s and CSR) have been discussed, such as via uva.nl or via an informative student newsletter. A new meeting with BC and PR will be scheduled.

7. Setting the agenda
The agenda is set with changes.

8. University Forum
The CSR decides on the follow-up steps after the first University Forum meeting.
Quinta proposes sending the CSR’s recommendations to the CvB. Quinta sees potential in the forum and says it could function as in an important place to include people who are not a part of the medezeggenschap. Bram says that the current form has potential, but cannot get the approval of the medezeggenschap as they have listed their concerns multiple times but these were not taken into consideration. The CSR should, therefore, distance itself from the forum, despite not asking for its abolishment. Loraine suggests sending the recommendation, and if needed, discuss them during an OV. Guido does not want to take action on this matter. Pim suggests taking action after the second meeting took place. Sasha disagrees and prefers sending the recommendations to be included in the organization of the second session. Bram asks why the CSR expects the CvB to take these recommendations seriously.

-- Michele Murgia enters the meeting --
Loraine suggests including the reactions of the CvB to their recommendations into an official advice. Sebastian suggests writing a public statement.

**Voting proposal:** The CSR is in favor of sending an advice to abolish the University Forum.

- In favor 3
- Against 5
- Blanco 2
- Abstain 1

*The voting proposal is not adopted.*

**Voting proposal:** The CSR decides to distance itself from the University Forum.

- In favor 4
- Against 2
- Blanco 3
- Abstain 1

*The voting proposal is not adopted.*

**Voting proposal:** The CSR decides to advise the University Forum with the Old Senate.

- In favor 3
- Against 5
- Blanco 1
- Abstain 3

*The voting proposal is not adopted.*

**Voting proposal:** The CSR decides to send their recommendations about the University Forum to the CvB.

- In favor 7
- Against 1
- Blanco 2
- Abstain 2

*The voting proposal is adopted.*

Quinta will send the recommendations for an editorial round before March 21st 10.00u. Editorial round until March 22nd 10.00ur. *(action)*

9. **Student assessor evaluation [confidential]**

The CSR decides on the set up for an evaluation of the function of student assessor CvB.

10. **Instellingcollegegeld**

The CSR discusses the institutional tuition fees and involving the FSR’s in the procedure.

Bram explains the difference in procedure for small-scale and intensive programs; it concerns special regulations that require permission from the minister of OC&W.

Sofie asks which faculties have tried to apply equal fees for non-EEA students. Bram explains that this wouldn’t work as it cannot be subsidized through the 1st geldstroom.
Sofie why the prices for programs are set based on percentages, instead of by a flat rate. Bram expects that this is due to the impossibility of calculating the exact costs. Teo says that an estimation of the costs is only known after all the students have enrolled. Bram explains that the fees for 2020 are set before the summer of 2018, setting the policy for 3 years. The CvB could be asked for an evaluation before the end of 2020.

Sofie asks why a research fee is included in the institutional tuition fees. Bram says this had been discussed with the FEB, as hiring extra staff for educational purposes only would misbalance the faculty and would have a negative effect on research-based education. Pim says that on basis of the new allocation model, the FEB would receive more money as research would follow education. Pim questions whether the institutional tuition fees, therefore, still need to cover the research as well.

Sofie asks whether the institutional tuition fees should be covering central costs, i.e. for administration. Bram explains how the services are financed via the allocation model and the faculties.

Kjeld informs the council that Anouk Tso explained that it is not within the scope of the working group to advise the CvB on decentralizing the rights from the central level to FSR’s. It should be asked from the deans to include the FSR’s. The council is still in favor of including the FSR’s in the procedure, and discuss how to achieve this. Kjeld suggests writing a separate, unsolicited advice on this matter, separate from the advice on the methods for setting the institutional tuition fees. When the formal advice request is received, taskforce Finance & Collaboration will draft up the proposal for the response letter based the input of the PV.

Sofie questions the contribution of students who pay an institutional tuition fee to the central, total amount of costs for services, housing, and such. Bram states that these costs differ per study and per student. Sofie is in favor of setting a flat rate and increasing the fee for (more) expensive programs. Sofie wants to include this flat rate as an option in the evaluation. Bram says that it is undesirable to approach this topic by calculating the specific, student bound costs.

11. Honours & Excellence

The CSR discusses the setup of honours programs in relation to its stances on excellence.

Guido stresses that not the accessibility of the programs as such, but the specific courses of the programs for regular students should be discussed.

Michele will meet with Brigitte Widdershoven next week to discuss the honours programs and structure of the UvA-VU honours committee. Michele wants to suggest placing inter-faculty courses under an OC to have a regular check on the entrance requirements and quality of the courses and to make sure that there is an OER under which the courses fall.

Pim says that this is arranged differently for certain inter-faculty programs, but Michele disagrees. Michele says that IIS is set up differently, and is working on this together with the FSR-FNWI. The proposal that is being worked out is to make IIS into a separate education unit, including an educational director and OC. Kjeld explains that in the current structure of IIS there is no formal OC.

Michele explains that the proposal is similar to other universities and therefore does not require an experiment with permission of the OCW minister. Pim states that Lucy Wenting is not in favor of the proposal.

12. Institutional Research

The CSR prepares for the meeting of the program group Institutional Research on March 15th.

Sasha suggests asking for a translation of the memo of UvA-Q and Data Lab.

Sasha suggests giving an update after the IR-meeting. (action)
Pim asks for more information about the memo on personal awareness. Sasha says this memo was set up in February and deals with ways of educating students on giving a scientific contribution to society. Michele says that the underlying intention on the pieces about valorization will be addressed during the meeting – the text seems to be written in a vague manner purposely. Michele will also ask for a translation. Michele says that the approaches to valorization should be set faculty specific and not based on a central model.

13. Burnouts

The CSR discusses how to address and avoid burnouts amongst students in the medezeggenschap. Sasha Borovitskaja is appointed as technical chair for this agenda point.

-- A visitor, Annabel Wildschut, enters the meeting --

Raj asks whether it is more important to ask for more facilitation/compensation, or if the image of what medezeggenschap is needs to be changed. Sasha says that involvement as a member of the medezeggenschap should be facilitated. David says students can also lower their expectations. Teo suggests limiting the rights of the FSR’s as this would give less workload. Guido says that it should be considered whether people applying for the medezeggenschap are mentally capable, but Michele says that this is very condescending and adds that it is not democratic.

Pim says that offering training in time management is not helpful, as council members do not show. Guido suggests having mandatory talks with study advisors or psychologists. Sasha suggests having a revision of the work hours, but Michele adds that the work itself needs revision as well. Loraine suggests working with a dakpanconstructie in the CSR and says that the structure of the CSR and the delegates should be revised. Moreover, files and work such as student involvement and PR should be done by professionals.

Teo says that the council work does not feel rewarding, and suggests working more directly together with UvA-staff to have a direct impact.

Raj states that the stress and (financial) problems are even more substantial for international students. Pim says that there should be more focus on mental health, but also to the (mandatory) attendance at meetings and working hours. This would have a positive effect on the division of workload. Loraine is against the proposal of making attendance obligatory in the strict sense, as this would only add to the (financial) stress that students experience. Michele adds that council work should come from an intrinsic motivation and that taking a break from studying could help to improve the medezeggenschap. Guido suggests hiring more council members. Sasha suggests considering the structure of the medezeggenschap to look for causes of burnouts and possible solutions.

Moataz suggests that the CSR could track their work hours to make visible what their workload is. All council members compose an overview of the hours they spend from March 19th until March 23rd on council work, studying, their job, and other obligations. During PV180317 it will be discussed whether this will be done for another week. (action) Bram says that the combination of exam weeks and meetings add to the stress level. Sebastian, Ken, Sasha, Pim, and Michele discuss the setup of a memo to the CvB about burnouts in the medezeggenschap. (action)

14. Internationalization & medezeggenschap

Postponed until next week.
15. Schakeltrajecten

*The CSR gets informed about transition programs in preparation for the working group on March 22nd.*
Loraine says that the CSR will have an advisory right on the transition programs policy in September. This will be included in the transfer to CSR18-19. *(action)* Loraine says that it concerns a headline of the UvA-budget.

Kjeld asks if the new policy could be seen as an indirect cut of the programs. Guido says that it does not concern a budget cut. Pim explains that the ministry of OCW only funds the programs up to 30ECT; after this, the financing comes indirectly from other students. Moataz gives a recap of the history of financing these programs up to 30ECT. Loraine says that different ways of funding are being looked into, to afterward consider the *randvoorwaarden* and possible policy. The deans have asked the CvB to fund the programs. Kjeld suggests refraining from speaking about terms as cutting. Loraine says that a financial analysis will be made in March/April and discussed next meeting. The council will wait for the inventory of the working group and discuss this. Loraine wants to keep eye on setting a maximum to the funding at 30ECT as this is not sufficient enough for all students. Teo asks whether exceptions can be made for low-income students.

16. Learning Analytics

*Postponed until next week.*

17. Turnitin

*Postponed until next week*

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

- AVG; Pim and Sasha will attend the meeting. Michele has a simultaneous taskforce event. Pim stresses the importance of the meeting.

16. Input request from the FSR’s

*Nothing.*

17. To the media

*Nothing.*

18. Questions

- Kjeld asks the delegates to gather the contact details of the student council parties for the upcoming elections *(action)*
- Sasha is disappointed that only 6 people attended the time management training.

-- Deval Raj, Guido Bakker, and David Nelck leave the meeting --

- Bram has principled problems with the working of Cormet in the prize of the lunch. Sebastian will need to follow up on the meeting that was supposed to be organized.

-- Bram Jaarsma leaves the meeting --

- Michele says that taskforce Programs & Accessibility does not want to follow up on the request to include the Bachelor and Master Anthropology in the pilot flex-studying based on the informal request. This will be discussed in PV180321. *(action)*
- Quinta has joined the taskforce PR and is creating a schedule for the CSR to visit the campus and increase visibility. **(action)**
- Tamara urges the council to clean the office in CREA 1.16.

### 19. Ending

Pim closes the meeting at 18:07h.

### Decisions

180314-01 The CSR decides to send their recommendations about the University Forum to the CvB.
180314-02 [confidential]

### Action list

180314-01 Quinta sends the recommendations about the University Forum for an editorial round on March 21st until March 22nd at 10:00am.
180314-02 Sasha sends the CSR’s proposal for the setup of the evaluation of the function of Studentassessor-CvB for an editorial round from March 16th until March 19th, and informs Mariska about this timeline.
180314-03 Sasha and Michele give an update on the meeting of the Institutional Research programmaraad during PV180321.
180314-04 All council members compose an overview of the hours they spend from March 19th until March 23rd on council work, studying, their job, and other obligations. During PV180317 it will be discussed whether this will be done for another week.
180314-05 The DB makes sure that the CSR 18-19 gets informed properly about the request for advice on schakeltrajecten that can be expected in September 2018.
180314-06 The delegates ask their FSR to notify taskforce PR or the ambtelijk secretaris about the information and contact details of the parties that will run for the council elections and the contact details of their treasurer.
180314-07 Taskforce Programs & Accessibility writes a meeting piece about the request of programs to join the pilot flexstuderen.
180314-08 Sebastian, Ken, Sasha, Pim, and Michele discuss the setup of a memo to the CvB about burnouts in the medezeggenschap.
180307-01 Guido writes an informative meeting piece on Learning Analytics for PV180314.
180307-02 Sasha writes a concrete proposal for the setup of the evaluation and will inform Geert ten Dam and Marioka Herweijer that the CSR will finalize the evaluation setup in PV180314.
180307-03 Taskforce PR sets up a schedule to increase the CSR’s presence at UvA-locations.
180307-04 Taskforce PR and Pim write a memo to the CvB about a structural approach to inform students about the medezeggenschap and to get them involved.
180307-05 After discussing the issue with Pim, Bram contacts ASVA about his proposal to address short-stay student housing contracts.
180307-06 Sasha sends an email to the FSR’s about the governance model. In addition, Pim will contact ACTA about the governance model this.
180307-07 Sasha asks Arne Brentjes for more information on the procedure for revising the governance model and the time frame for reactions.
180307-08 Bram and Loraine check whether the OC’s at their faculty receive the evaluation reports from UvA-Q. Guido will gather the information from FSR-FMG.
180307-09 Guido contacts the FSR-ACTA and AUC to ask whether the OC’s receive the evaluation reports from UvA-Q.
The DB asks for an update on building a new lecture hall at REC during the IAO.

Quinta updates the council on Turnitin and writes a meeting piece for PV180314.

Quinta sends a link to all the Grassroots projects that got funding to the council.

The DB discusses possibly merging taskforces Facilities & Housing and Finance & Collaboration.

Pim writes to Janneke van Marle to congratulate her on being appointed as director of StS.

Pim brings Arne Brentjes in contact with Michele about the programs that would like to be included in the pilot flexstuderen. Taskforce Programs & Accessibility discusses this request and the possible change of the regulations.

Bram composes a press statement that will accompany the letter on the student housing issues that is being sent to the municipality parties.

Bram further works out the proposal for creating an extra floor with study spaces in the new REC lecture hall, taking into account not only the marginal costs but the yearly (maintenance) costs as well.

Guido writes a meeting piece to discuss Blended Learning and CILT after the fileholder meeting took place.

Bram writes a meeting piece for PV180307 to inform the council about the financial aspects of offering international students a financial compensation for a delay in their studies due to a board or council year.

Loraine writes a concrete proposal with an estimate of the costs for the organization of a creative session about housing.

Sebastian, Pim, Ken, Sasha, and Bram write as a follow-up meeting piece for PV180221 about the burnouts amongst student organizations and medezeggenschap.

Sebastian, Mees, and Bram will meet with Cormet to discuss the preparation and costs for the lunch that was organized on January 31st.

Mees contacts Michele to discuss the honours report, as discussed during the UCO of February 8th.

Michele looks up more information about the temporary contracts which fall under the UvA-Holding.

Taskforce Digitalization & Study Support checks the shortage of examination rooms for digital exams.

David organizes a fileholder meeting on the procedures for dean appointments, after the initial stances of the council are known.

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

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 20th and write their updates linked to all specific files of the taskforces. Delegates send their updates before Wednesday 12th.

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, if mentioned explicitly during the PV.

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 Guido organize fun activities for the council on regular basis.

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

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

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

Council members try to take care of expressing their opinions and give arguments for their stand points.