Samenvatting van de 171e overlegvergadering tussen de Centrale Studentenraad en het College van Bestuur gehouden op 4 september 2018

Van de zijde van de CSR 2018-2019: Jamie van den Berg, Casper Colenbrander, Ksenia Golub, Alex Gritsay, David Nelck, Omar Seleim, Sujet Shams, Ivanna Slipets, Malou Sprinkhuizen, Blink Ujjin, Roeland Voorbergen; Afwezig: Sofie ten Brink, Liesanne van Veen;

Van de zijde van het College van Bestuur: Karen Maex (rector magnificus), Geert ten Dam (president CvB), Mariska Herweijer (bestuurssecretaris), Miek Krol (chair Legal Affairs department) from 16.00h, Moataz Rageb (central student assessor);

Technisch voorzitter: Naomi Appelman
Verslag: Tamara van den Berg (ambtelijk secretaris)

Publieke tribune: -

Conceptagenda

1. Opening en vaststellen agenda // Opening and setting the agenda
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4. Mededelingen // Announcements
6. Centrale studentassessor // Central student assessor
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9. W.v.t.t.k. // Any other business
10. Rondvraag en sluiting // Questions and closing

1. Opening (14:30 uur) en vaststellen agenda
   The technical chair opens the meeting and welcomes the participants. The order of the agenda points is adjusted.

2. Vaststellen van de conceptverslagen // Adapting the minutes
   - The minutes of OV180501 are adapted.
   - The minutes of OV180619 are adapted after updating the text of phrases 173-174. The President of the CvB explains that, due to the upcoming accreditation, the KPI’s will not be revised. They are not considered to be a goal in themselves but will remain standing as a part of the Institutional Plan. The context in which they apply is explained in the oplegger.
   - The minutes of OV180904 are adapted.
3. **Doornemen actielijst** // Checking the actions list

*Action point 180904-01*  
The CvB indicates that Van Tienderen is in charge of restructuring the honours programs. An update will follow at the beginning of 2019.

*Action point 180904-12*  
Erik Weijers will contact the CSR about the revision of the OC manual.

*Pro memorie 180904-01*  
The rector indicates that the input of the *medezeggenschap* was gathered in preparation for the annual talks, as is the standard procedure.

Ujin asks whether the Dutch *pro memorie* list can be translated. The rector states that this will not be done since the UvA is a bilingual university. International council members should acquire a basic proficiency of the Dutch language. The CvB provided the *medezeggenschap* with a budget which allows the international students to follow language courses.

4. **Mededelingen** // Announcements

**Announcements from the CvB:**

- The CvB asks the CSR for their views on the UvA Health Week Evaluation. The CSR is still discussing this and will provide their comments at a later moment.
- The CvB asks the CSR to elaborate on their plans to attend the International Youth Forum in Minsk, Belarus. Voorbergen explains that the CSR received an invitation which was accepted after internally discussing the usefulness of attending the forum. The CSR’s delegation will receive a partial reimbursement of their travel costs from the CSR internal budget. Voorbergen acknowledges that some FSR’s disagree with this decision and that the decision got negative attention through the *Folia* article. The CSR will give an update after attending the forum.
- A book titled "1001 Vrouwen uit de Nederlandse Geschiedenis in de 20e eeuw" was published, telling the story of 1001 woman in Dutch history. The UvA contributed by listing 10 women (9 full professors and 1 chair of the university council). The stories of these women are exhibited in the *Allard Pierson Museum* and the *Amsterdam Museum*.

**Announcements from the CSR:**

- Liesanne van Veen, the chair of the FSR-FdG, has been appointed as the new delegate of the FSR-FdG in the CSR after Stijn Tesser stepped down.


De CSR en het CvB de medezeggenschapsplanning voor het aanstaande semester en de doelen van de CSR voor 2018-2019. // The CSR and CvB discuss the planning for the upcoming semester and the goals of the CSR for 2018-2019.

Voorbergen tells that the CSR has been working on setting shared goals that will be listed in a year plan booklet that the CSR is composing. The shared goals are *Sustainability, Student Engagement, Education and Accessibility*, and setting a sexual harassment policy.

**Sustainability** – The CSR is working on an ambitious, university-wide vision of sustainability that is worked out in four different sub-visions: the UvA’s finances, housing, education/research, and operational governance. The CSR is discussing these sub-visions with different (student) parties and organizations in order to gather input for the upcoming meeting with Boels and Lintsen. The CSR also finds it important to make the measures that are currently being taken
(more) visible for the academic community.

The rector stresses that a chapter on the UvA’s work with regard to sustainability will be included in the UvA’s Annual Report 2018 (cf. 2017) The rector also listed different programs and tracks that deal with sustainability in the speeches she gave over the recent period. The CvB will provide an overview of the tracks and programs dealing with sustainability. (action)

Student engagement – The CSR finds it important to strengthen the relationship between students and the university, and subsequently between the university and the medezeggenschap. This will help to increase the turnout rate for the student council elections. Moreover, the CSR finds the high dropout rates within certain programs worrisome. Strengthening the relationship between students and programs could help to counter this.

The rector asks whether the CSR is in contact with BC about the election plans in order to follow up on the discussions that took place before the summer. Voorbergen indicates that the CSR does not only want to focus on the election’s turnout but on the larger connection with students and the academic community and throughout the entire year. The rector proposes starting by communicating the accomplishments of the CSR (in collaboration with the CvB) to visualize trajectories that take longer than an academic year, and which are worked out together with the CSR during a period of multiple council years.

The rector asks whether the CSR is considering the links between study programs and study associations, which the CSR does indeed. Voorbergen adds that the CSR focuses on the interests of international students as well, who would be helped by improving their connection to the university, for example by improving their Dutch language proficiency or by a connection with the study associations.

Education – The CSR is taking note of the report Study Success 2.0 and is considering the option of flexibilization of the year lay-out or semester planning, by implementing an extra week of holidays during the second semester. The CSR acknowledges that this has possible implications for specialized and interdisciplinary education, and extra-curricular activities.

The CSR indicates to be looking forward to the update from Van Tienderen about the restructuring of the honours program and the ways of dealing with prestatiedruk (‘pressure to perform’).

Accessibility – The CSR finds it important to continue working on ways to improve the (physical) accessibility of the university for students with a functional limitation. Voorbergen proposes to include active students, i.e. those who were for a year a part of the medezeggenschap, in long term projects as well. The CSR believes that the university could benefit from this blijvende betrokkenheid (‘long term involvement’).

Voorbergen states that an example of accessibility policy that could be achieved with relatively low effort is the installment of gender-neutral bathrooms at all faculties. Hashemi Shams agrees that this is a small change that is very important for some members of the academic community.

Voorbergen states that the recent occupations reminded the university that, despite the steps that have been taken, the current diversity policy is not sufficient enough and the academic community should be kept up-to-date about the progress. The CSR is currently discussing the CDO-team ‘plan of action’ to link this with their own focus points.

Voorbergen proposes to consider abolishing the requirement that a department chair needs to be a professor, as this complicates finding suitable candidates without greatly benefiting
the program. The President of the CvB suggests discussing this point more elaborately, as the department chair is not only managing the department and research but is responsible for the scientific development of a discipline as well.

The CSR is very concerned about the current situation of student housing for both Dutch and international students, and is looking at ways to influence the municipality or to set up their own initiatives. The CvB is very concerned about the situation as well and suggests to collaborate with ASVA.

Sexual harassment policy - Gritsay explains that the CSR is working on setting up a sexual harassment policy that is more student-friendly and which provides informal resolutions for dealing with the problems, besides the existing formal ways. The CSR finds it very important that sufficient information is spread throughout the university to inform the academic community about steps that can be taken when dealing with sexual harassment. Gritsay suggests following the example of the policy that the AUC’s Anti-Sexual Assault Program (ASAP) set, and to consider creating a central organization which could coordinate the claims.

The CvB indicates to be considering different ways of updating the sexual harassment policy as well and is looking forward to setting up a sexual harassment policy in collaboration with the CSR. The rector asks the CSR whether they think sexual harassment is a large problem within the UvA, as there are few formal complaints submitted, which might implicate the seriousness of the problem. The CSR is unsure how extensive the problem is but worries about the extent of the problem as well.

Planning - Voorbergen stresses that the CSR would like to receive more specific planning for the upcoming files of 2018-2019 as the current planning is not very detailed. The CvB agrees that it is important to provide more detailed planning in order to avoid that the workload accumulates at the end of the academic year. Herweijer is working on this, in collaboration with the ambtelijk secretaris of the CSR.

6. Diversiteit // Diversity

De CSR en het CvB bespreken de positie van de facultaire Diversity Officers. // The CSR and CvB discuss the position of the faculty diversity officers.

Hashemi Shams was invited by the Central Diversity Officer (CDO) to attend the monthly meeting of the Diversity Officers (DOs). At the previous meeting, the DOs of the FEB, AMC, FNWI, and FGw were present, while the FdR, FMG, and ACTA were absent. Hashemi indicates to be positive about the impression of the DOs from the FdG, FEB, and FNWI. She also expresses concerns about the first impression that the DO-FGw made.

Hashemi Shams adds that the DO-FGw is available only during 1 timeslot a week and does not receive financial reimbursement for her work. The President of the CvB says that this has been discussed with the dean of the FGw prior, but that the needed facilities will be taken up again. The dean has indicated to find this position important and will install a Think Tank to support the DO. Voorbergen indicates that the FSR-FGw is also working to counter the current problems regarding the position of the DO-FGw and the ThinkTank.

Hashemi Shams states that it is important that student councils strengthen their relationship with the CDO. The President of the CvB agrees with the CSR’s statement that the team of DO’s works for the entire academic community instead of for employees only.

The rector stresses the importance of acknowledging the recent achievements that
followed the initial struggles of last year. The CDO-team is quite optimistic about the upcoming period and work that will be taken up. The rector is positive about this progress, considering the differences between faculties and the topics that need to be addressed. The CSR is still discussing the CDO-team plan of action. Voorbergen asks the CvB for their views on the plan of action. The CvB finds it important to discuss the (draft) plan of action and form a policy step-by-step. The President of the CvB states that the most important goal of the plan of action is to discuss which goals are striving after and which activities can be set up to help achieve these goals. The current draft plan of action will be discussed during a public meeting of the CDO-team on November 8th in CREA as well. Afterwards, monthly meetings for the academic community will be organized by the CDO-team.

7. **Centrale studentassessor** // Central student assessor

De CSR en het CvB bespreken de profieltekst voor de werving van de centrale studentassessor 2019 en de compositie van de benoemingsadviescommissie. // The CSR and CvB discuss the function description for the central student assessor 2019 and the composition of the Appointments Committee.

The composition of the BAC – Van den Berg indicates that the CSR proposes composing 50% of the Appointments Committee (BAC) of student members who are appointed by the CSR. For the upcoming year, the CSR wants to appoint 1 CSR-member and 1 non-CSR-member. The CvB agrees.

Job application / function description – The CSR asks the CVB to publish and promote the job application widely. Herweijer explains that besides the standard publication as listed, BC arranged that the job application will be announced via a banner on Folia, via narrowcasting, and in the student newsletter that will be sent by the end of October. The CvB informs the CSR about the promotion outlets that will be used. (action)

The CSR suggests rephrasing the position of the CSR not as the ‘highest’ medezeggenschap organ, but the body at the ‘central level’. The CvB agrees. The CSR suggests listing the different meetings that the central student assessor attends: UCO, CBO, and University Forum. The CvB agrees. The CSR suggests updating the calendar year of the job application to 2019. The CvB agrees.

The CSR asks why the sentence indicating the accountability of the assessor to both the CSR and CvB has been removed. The CSR wants to include this phrase to clearly indicate that the central student assessor has a *schakelfunctie* (‘bridging function’). The President of the CvB explains that it was previously agreed between the CvB and CSR that this limits the freedom of the assessor, as the function entails a bridging function towards the university as a whole. This would also prevent the assessor from intervening in the relation between CSR and CvB, as the assessor is not a part of the *medezeggenschap*. The CvB states that the article indicating the assessor’s accountability to both CSR and CvB needs to be removed in order to avoid confusion in this regard. Van den Berg states that the assessor needs to have accountability towards the CSR in order to maintain a good working relationship and fruitful collaboration. The CvB agrees that a good working relationship is important, but states that the assessor only has formal accountability towards the CvB.

--The meeting is suspended (10minutes) for the CSR to internally discuss the CvB’s proposal--
Voorbergen states that the central student assessor has an informal bridging relation, due to the attendance at the meetings of both CSR and CvB and the exchange of information. The CSR, therefore, feels that this should be combined with a certain level of informal accountability. The connection with the CSR and close collaboration are detrimental for a student assessor to function properly. The rector proposes mentioning that a good work relation is needed. The CSR will consider this alternative phrasing and reply by October 17th. (action) The CvB will check whether it is possible to extend the publication deadline of the application with one day.

--- Miek Krol enters the meeting. ---

8. CSR Reglement // CSR Regulations

De CSR en het CvB bespreken het opnemen van de positie van raadsassistenten en de wervingsprocedure voor de centrale studentassessor in het CSR Reglement. // The CSR and the CvB discuss including the position of council assistants and the selection procedure for the central student assessor into the CSR Regulations.

Council assistants – Sprinkhuizen indicates that the CSR has been working on revising the CSR Regulations since last year and has suggested to include a clause about the position of council assistants. It is important for FSR’s and CSR to define the rights and role of council assistants in order to avoid problems or misinterpretation in the future.

Krol states to be positive about the proposed clause, which can be included in the CSR Regulations as the CvB agrees. Krol stresses the importance of clarifying the role and position of council assistants, who cannot be granted voting rights. Krol adds that JZ will consider whether the position of council assistants in the Profileringsfonds needs to be updated as well.

BAC student assessor – Sprinkhuizen notes that it was agreed today that 50% of the BAC will consist of student members who are appointed by the CSR. Krol and the CvB agree to include this in the CSR Regulations.

The request for consent for the CSR Regulations will be sent to the CSR before the end of 2018.

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

• Action point 180904-04  Krol explains that there is no final decision regarding the trajectory of setting the decentral selection criteria at either central or decentral level so far. For the time being, a plan of action for the for the central procedure has been composed. Before sending the request for the (updated) selection criteria to the CvB, a dean needs to discuss these selection criteria with the FSR, which allows the CSR to follow the advice of the FSR’s. The Draaiboek Selectie en Plaatsing will be updated with this plan of action and sent to the CSR. The procedure for setting the decentral selection criteria 2020-2021 will be started in November.

10. Rondvraag // Questions

• Van den Berg asks for an update about the status of the Regulations for Access Control and Camera Surveillance. Herweijer explains that these are different regulations. The Camera Surveillance regulations are currently up for consent with the COR. A practical plan for the use of cameras will be worked out after setting the regulations.

• Sprinkhuizen asks to provide vegan cookies during the meetings. This will be arranged.
• Gritsay asks the CvB to reflect on the fact that the UvA’s Times Higher Education ranking has dropped. The rector states that the CvB values excellence. However, rankings can indicate the level of excellence, but should not be considered a goal in itself. The UvA constantly considers how the university can be improved, but this doesn’t always translate into a high position on the ranking list. Moreover, the UvA is still listed highly and might be ranked higher over time when new the policy plans of the UvA start to show their results.

• Gritsay indicates that the CSR is always available for discussion or questions regarding their decision to send a delegation to the International Youth Forum in Minsk, Belarus. The CvB values getting insight into the motivations of the CSR.

• Krol asks the CSR to appoint two student-members for the Complaints Committee. The CSR is working on this.

11. Sluiting // Closing

The technical chair closes the meeting at 16.16h and thanks all participants for their contributions.

Actielijst OV

181016-01 The CvB provides the CSR with an overview of the existing tracks and programs dealing with sustainability.

181016-02 The CvB informs the CSR about the different media outlets that will be used for promoting the central student assessor 2019 job advertisement.

181016-03 The CSR considers the proposed changes to the application text for the central student assessor 2019 and informs the CvB on October, 17.

180904-01 The CvB updates the CSR about the new plans for the honours committee and honours programs and the subsequent timeline.

180904-02 The CvB checks whether extra bike parking places will be created to accommodate the increase of demand at REC-N.

180904-03 The CvB sets up a meeting between the CSR, Jan Lintsen, Harold Swartjes, and Ewout Doorman to discuss setting an UvA-wide vision on Sustainability. The CSR gathers input from the relevant parties in preparation for this meeting.

180904-04 The CvB informs the CSR whether the advisory requests for the decentral selection criteria 2020-2021 will formally be sent to the FSR or CSR. The CvB also informs the CSR about the procedure and timetable for setting the selection criteria 2020-2021.

180904-05 The CvB informs the CSR whether they will revise their advice about the decentral selection criteria and procedure for Tandheelkunde 2019-2020.

180904-06 The CSR provides the CvB with an example of examination and course material that needs an English language revision.

180904-07 The CvB checks which information (international) students receive during the UvA-matching period and whether this is representative.

180904-08 The CSR asks Intreeweek & Helena van der Steege which information is provided to international students and considers what is lacking in this.

180904-09 The CvB forwards the documentation from the workgroup Internationalizering to the CSR.

180904-10 The CvB incorporates the points of recommendation from the CSR into the Handreiking Internationalizering and keeps the CSR informed about the progress of setting up this document.

180904-11 The CvB informs the CSR when the discussions with the VU and HvA about the transition programs will take place and when the formal request for advice can be expected. The CvB will inform the CSR when the meeting with the HvA and VU takes place and informs the CSR about the trajectory for the medezeggenschap.

180904-12 The CvB informs the CSR about the procedure for revising the OC-Handreiking and the timing of involving the CSR in this.
The CvB and CSR discuss the evaluation criteria that could be used for the evaluation of the Profiling fund in 2019.

The CvB looks into the level of sustainability of the plans for building a new lecture hall at REC.

The CvB provides the CSR with a more detailed and precise planning of the running and upcoming files before OV181016.

Het CvB zal bij het opstellen van een taalbeleid het instellen van numeri fixi en de voertaalwijzigingen samennemen, en treedt hierover in gesprek met de CSR.

Pro memorie

The CvB emphasizes the importance of incorporating the input of the medezeggenschap while preparing for the annual talks with the deans.

Het College ziet er op toe dat de frase over het optimaal gebruiken van de wettelijke mogelijkheden van masterselectie zal worden geschrapt bij de herijking van het Instellingsplan voor 2020.

Het College houdt toezicht op de betrokkenheid van promovendi en postdocs.

Het College geeft indien van toepassing de CSR een update ten aanzien van de samenwerkingsplannen met andere instellingen of instituten.

De studentenraad wordt regelmatig geïnformeerd over de vordering op het gebied van studieadviesing.

Het CvB zal de capaciteit van fietsenplekken, studieplekken en ruimtes voor studieverenigingen tijdens het realiseren van de nieuwbouw en verhuizingen scherp in de gaten houden en ingrijpen wanneer een tekort ontstaat.

Voor het komende artikel24-overleg:

Het College voorziet de CSR van een halfjaarlijkse tijdsplanning voor adviesmomenten.

Er zal duidelijk worden stilgestaan bij (mondelinge) toezeggingen van het College, zodat er geen onnodige schriftelijke reacties hoeven te worden gegeven, maar de toezeggingen wel helder worden genotuleerd.

Indien de CSR vraagt om een motivatie voor vertrouwelijkheid van een stuk, zal het College het stuk daarvan voorzien.

De contactpersoon van de medezeggenschap kan ook worden benaderd voor vragen en het verstrekken van informatie aan de FSR’en.