Samenvatting van de 175e Overlegvergadering tussen de Centrale Studentenraad en het College van Bestuur gehouden op 2 april 2019

Van de zijde van de CSR 2018-2019: Jamie van den Berg, Sofie ten Brink, David Nelck, Omar Seleim (14:36), Sugeet Shahs, Malou Sprinkhuizen, Blink Ujjin, Liesanne van Veen (14:33), Roeland Voorbergen; Afwezig: Casper Colenbrander, Kseniia Golub, Alex Gritsay, Michele Murgia, Ivanna Slipets;

Van de zijde van het College van Bestuur: Karen Maex (rector magnificus), Geert ten Dam (president CvB), Mariska Herweijer (bestuurssecretaris), Iris Kingma (central student assessor);

Technisch voorzitter: Mark Džoljić
Verslag: Tamara van den Berg (ambtelijk secretaris CSR)
Publieke tribune: -

Conceptagenda

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10. UAF // UAF (Refugee students)
11. W.v.t.t.k. // Any other business
12. Rondvraag en sluiting // Questions and closing the meeting

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

2. Vaststellen van de conceptverslagen // Adapting the minutes
Setting the minutes of OV1902026 is postponed until next meeting.

5. Doornemen actielijst // Checking the actions list

Action point 190226-01 & 190226-02 These reports can be expected within short notice.

-- Liesanne van Veen enters the meeting. --
Action point 190226-03 & 190226-04 The CSR was invited for a meeting with Jan Lintsen and Harold Swartjes. Nelck explains that the pros and cons of the CSR’s advice have been discussed. Lintsen asked Cormet to make counter-proposals to the CSR’s suggestions. This response is currently being awaited.

--- Omar Seleim enters the meeting. ---

Action point 190226-05 & 190226-06 The CvB explains that the Dutch parliament agreed to set a new law on smoke-free campuses; measurements will be taken in this regard. The President of the CvB adds that differences between so-called ‘open’ and ‘closed’ campuses need to be considered as well as the UvA’s responsibilities towards the neighbours. The CvB informs the CSR about the steps being undertaken in preparation for creating smoke-free campuses. (action) The rector adds that the CvB is also considering the current problems with regard to applying the smoking policy and maintaining this.

Action point 190115-01 The setup of the 8-8-4 semester planning and possible improvements are being discussed; the extra week of holiday, as proposed by the CSR, is a part of this. The CvB agrees to give feedback on the outcome of the discussion before the summer recess.

The CvB and CSR discuss the list of pro memorie action points.

4. Mededelingen // Announcements

Announcements from the CSR:
- The report on the CSR’s participation in the International Youth Forum in Minsk, Belarus was sent this afternoon.
- Advice on internationalization and rebranding the faculties was sent yesterday, April 1st.

Announcements from the CvB:
- The CvB is writing a memo for the planning and process of the Institutional Plan 2021-2025. When the memo is finalized it will be sent to the CSR and COR and discussed with the CSR during OV190507. (action)

5. Duurzaamheid // Sustainability

The CSR sent a letter about the first concrete proposals for writing a sustainability vision. The CSR hopes to give Ewout Doorman, the newly appointed policy worker sustainability, a positive starting point and is looking forward to work together on this file. The CvB will provide a written response to the CSR’s letter. The CvB agrees with the importance of improving communication about the UvA’s sustainable work. The recommendations on financial investment, emissions, warmth-cold pumps, will be taken into account and need further consideration. The intention to include sustainability into educational programs is up to the programs itself but the rector explains that the UvA has signed the Manifest Circulair Onderwijs of the Amsterdam Economy Board. With regard to research, the UvA needs to make visible what is currently being achieved, such as being accepted into the NERA.

Van den Berg thanks the CvB for their feedback and suggests following up on the CSR’s letter and CvB’s response together with Doorman. The CvB asks the CSR to allow Doorman to get started before initiating this discussion Voorbergen agrees and suggests communicating the
collaboration between CSR and CvB on sustainability via the official channels. The CvB agrees and will ask BC to include this in the newsletter. (action)

6. **Profileringfonds // Profiling Fund**

The CSR sent a letter about the requirements and procedures that students need to follow when applying for the Profiling Fund (PF). In the CHBO ruling of 01-11-2018 [CBHO 2018/080] it was stated that the regulations implemented by the institutional board should be limited to rules of a procedural nature. The CSR argued that a revision of the PF regulations is necessary and proposed updating the regulations concerning the 1st year and part-time students. Ten Brink adds that the CSR would also like to expedite the start of the evaluation process to the calendar year 2019.

The CvB states that the set planning will be upheld. Suggestions and evaluation criteria for the evaluation are currently being gathered. The evaluation will start next academic year and the PF can be updated afterwards. In response to the CSR’s request to update the PF after the CHBO ruling, the rector explains that the UvA will not update the regulations at this moment but will act in accordance with the law. The legal department is currently studying the ruling and will advise on necessary action. The CvB explains that is a standard procedure to change the execution in case of a legal ruling that requires to do so. This change of practice can be decided based on the decision of the court and will then be of immediate effect. A decision of the court, therefore, could change the current practice. Ten Brink stresses that this would cause problems as the current PF regulations would give misinformation to students. Ten Brink argues that the regulations should be updated to comply with the law instead. The CvB disagrees and suggests discussing with JZ how the proper information would be provided to students; i.e. by using an oplegger. Voorbergen questions whether this would be the best solution, as he argues that advancing the evaluation and updating the regulations would solve the problem more properly. The CvB stresses again that changing the practice until a revision of the regulations is a standard procedure. Voorbergen and Ten Brink express their disagreement about this procedure due to the legal change. The rector stresses that this case does not concern a new or updated law, but seems to be a difference in interpretation. Therefore, the practical execution can be changed while the updating of the PF will follow at the prior agreed moment.

Van Veen stresses that not only students should be informed about a possible changed execution of the PF, but (policy) staff as well. The CvB agrees. The CvB/JZ set up a plan for informing students and staff about the changed execution of the Profiling fund and the change in interpretation in the law if this occurs. The CSR is updated about this progress regularly. (action)

7. **Honoursprogramma’s // Honours Programs**

Sprinkhuizen explains that the CSR is considering the setup of honours programs. The CSR wants honours program to be (more) open for all students and not to only benefit a small group of students based on strict entry requirements. The rector explains that this is a large project which needs thorough discussions. Sprinkhuizen indicates that the number of students following honours programs is growing and thereby also negatively affecting the accessibility of these programs. This also has an effect on regular courses and electives.

The rector offers to provide information about the supply and demand of honours courses. Before OV190507, the CvB informs the CSR about the number of students participating in honours programs and numbers of regular students participating in honours courses. (action)
Ujjin says that not only the accessibility of courses needs consideration but the general accessibility of the honours programs as well. This would help in making the honours programs as accessible as possible for the entire student population. The rector offers to make an inventory of the differences/similarities between the UvA's honours program and the honours programs at other some universities in order to answer these questions. (action)

8. Sociale veiligheid overzichtsnotitie // Social Safety overview note

Ten Brink states that the compensation that trust persons receive for their work is unclear (amount of hours, financial situation). The CvB indicates that the position of trust person is included in the existing contract of an employee and the facilities differ per faculty. This needs to be considered indeed as this helps to create transparency about the function. The CvB agrees that it is important that trust persons are offered facilities such as a private room to discuss matters at all different campuses. The rector adds that the facilitation of trust persons was not considered as a limiting factor in the BING evaluation.

Ten Brink points out that trust persons do not receive anti-discrimination training. The CvB agrees that this can be important – it was also included in academic leadership programs – and will consider this. Ujjin asks whether this type of training will be made available online for all university staff. Ujjin argues that for employees the hierarchical relation between staff and team leaders is clear. Students, however, stand in a hierarchical relationship with all university staff and therefore it is important that all staff receives this training. The CvB thinks that it is not viable to offer e-learning on this topic to all employees and refers to the UvA’s Code of Conduct. Currently, new employees are informed about this Code of Conduct but do not receive any training. This will also be discussed when setting the Strategic Plan 2021-2026.

The rector informs the CSR that the dean of the UAMC set up a plan to prevent problems regarding sexual harassment that students can face during their internship (co-schappen). The CvB will share this plan with the CSR and FSR-FdG. (action)

Ujjin asks the CvB about their views on centrally coordinating the efforts from the sexual harassment expert group. The CvB stresses that transparency is important and should be improved as well as the monitoring of complaints. UvA secretary Euving is considering ways of improving this and would like to discuss these topics with the CSR. A meeting will be organized, and if necessary follow up will be given next OV. (action) Ujjin adds that there needs to be awareness of the cultural background of complaints. This will be addressed in the meeting with Euving as well.

The CvB indicate to agree with the comments in the report of BING (Bureau Integriteit Nederlandse Gemeenten) about dealing with anonymous complaints. Ten Brink states that the CSR's proposal concerns anonymity for both the complainer and the person about whom a complaint is filed. The CvB explains that the annual report of trust persons already anonymously lists the number and type on complaints in a non-traceable way. However, a complaint cannot be filed anonymously and it is important to monitor the type of complaint or issue that trust persons deal with. Ten Brink suggests allowing for anonymous complaints in order to register these, without the option of a follow-up procedure.

Ten Brink explains that the CSR wants to consider the secondary roles of trust persons both in terms of conflicting roles (i.e. working for Legal Affairs) and expected methods (i.e. offering mediation). The CvB acknowledges this and adds that transparent information about
the UvA trust persons is necessary to allow students and staff to approach all trust persons from outside their faculty. The CvB also agrees that the mediating roles of trust persons should be carefully considered as well as other forms of help that are offered.

The CvB follows up to the input of the CSR and other gremia on the Social Safety overview note. (action) More information about social safety will be published on the UvA-website.

9. **Kader Diversiteitsbeleid // Framework Diversity Policy**

Given that the CSR needs extra time for preparing their contribution, the CSR suggests giving their input to the CvB by letter on April 15th following the deadline for giving input via denkmee.uva.nl. Ten Dam offers to discuss any questions and concerns with the CSR, if necessary. The CSR can also direct questions to Jaap Overbeek.

10. **UAF // UAF (refugee students)**

Shams explains that the CSR finds it important that the covenant between the UvA and UAF will be renewed to continue the collaboration that exists since 2016. Shams also asks the CvB to set up transition programs for refugee students at the UvA. This would allow them to integrate into the Dutch higher education system and helps motivated refugee students to continue their education. The rector explains that the UvA has the intention of renewing the covenant – conversations about this are being held. The rector also explains that it was agreed that the VU offers the transition programs for refugee students in the Amsterdam area. The rector questions whether it would be useful to offer double transition programs within this region since prospective UvA-students are also allowed to participate in the VU-UAF transition programs. Ujjin asks whether the switch from the VU-UAF transition program to the UvA is functioning well or whether points of improvement exist. The rector says that any concrete problems can be addressed. The rector offers to investigate how many refugee students who follow the UAF/VU transition program continue their master’s program at the UvA. (action)

11. **W.v.t.t.k. // Any other business**

Nothing.

12. **Rondvraag // Questions**

- Van den Berg asks the CvB to reflect on the position of the UvA according to the LSvB’s research about the accessibility of transition programs (HBO-WO). The CvB is looking into these results and initially was surprised to see the negative results of both the UvA and VU. The CvB comes back to this during OV190507. (action)

13. **Sluiting // Closing**

Voorbergen invites all meeting participants to join the informal discussion about social safety and events after the meeting.

The technical chair closes the meeting at 15.50h and thanks all participants for their contributions.

**Actielijst OV**

190402-01 The CvB informs the CSR about the steps being undertaken in preparation for creating smoke-free campuses.
190402-02 The CvB sends the memo about the planning and process for the Institutional Plan 2021-2025 to the CSR when finalized, and for discussion during OV190507.

190402-03 The CvB asks BC to communicate the appointment of the policy worker Sustainability and the role of the CSR in this regard.

190402-04 The CvB/JZ set up a plan for informing students and staff about the changed execution of the Profiling fund and the change in interpretation in the law. The CSR is updated about this progress regularly.

190402-05 Before OV190507, the CvB provides the CSR information about the numbers of students participating in honours programs and the number of regular students participating in honours courses.

190402-06 Before OV190507, the CvB makes an inventory of the differences/similarities between the UvA’s honours program and the honors programs at different universities.

190402-07 The CvB shares the social safety plan for master students at the FSR-FdG with the CSR.

190402-08 The CSR discusses their concerns about the social safety overview note with Calluna Euving. If necessary, follow up to this meeting will be given during OV190507.

190402-09 The CvB follows up to the input of the CSR and other gremia on the Social Safety overview note.

190402-10 The CvB checks how many refugee students following the UAF/VU transition program continue their master’s program at the UvA.

190402-11 The CvB responds to the negative results from the LSVb’s research about the UvA’s transition programs during OV190507.

190226-01 The CvB informs the CSR about the number of Dutch student following programs with a numerus fixus and the effects of installing a numerus fixus on the number of Dutch students in a study program.

190226-02 The CvB informs the CSR about the current decentral selection procedures of programs with a numerus fixus.

190226-03 The CvB asks FS to set the default for ordering catering via OrderDirect to vegetarian.

190226-04 The CvB asks FS about the possibilities for sustainable catering as suggested by the CSR in their unsolicited advice.

190226-05 The CvB/FS updates the CSR about the response of the Amsterdam municipality with regard to smoke-free zones at the front and back entrances of the PCH.

190226-06 The CvB/FS updates the CSR about the possibility of relocating the smoking area at REC after discussing this with the respective faculties.

190115-01 The CvB considers the CSR’s suggestion to implement an extra week of holiday during the second semester and discusses this in the CBO. The CvB reports back to the CSR during OV190402.

190115-03 The CSR informs the chair of the University Forum about their suggestions for restructuring and evaluating the University Forum.

181127-01 The CSR sends their report about the International Youth Forum in Minsk to the CvB.

181127-03 The CvB forwards the possible focus points for the evaluation of the Profiling Fund to AZ, JZ and StS and sends a proposed evaluation and subsequent timeline to the CSR.

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

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

**Pro memorie**

181127-02 The CvB keeps the CSR updated about the steps that are taken with regard to (alternatives to) the NSE.

180904-01 The CvB emphasizes the importance of incorporating the input of the medezeggenschap while preparing for the annual talks with the deans.

161011-01 Het College houdt toezicht op de betrokkenheid van promovendi en postdocs.

140604-01 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 studieadvisering.

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 artikel-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.