



**Verslag van het overleg tussen de Raad van Toezicht en de Centrale Studentenraad,  
gehouden op 11 december 2019**

*Van de zijde van de Raad van Toezicht:* Marise Voskens (RvT-voorzitter), Omar Ramadan (RvT-lid met bijzonder vertrouwen van de medezeggenschap), Arne Brentjes (secretaris RvT);

*Van de zijde van de Centrale Studentenraad 2019-2020:* Pjotr van der Jagt (voorzitter CSR), Luca Babovic, Artem Gryshchenko, Ömür Güven Kirli, Alicja Kępka (vicevoorzitter CSR), Anna de Koning, Maya Moreno, June Ouwehand;

*Afwezig:* Roos Creyghton, Mariia Lisova, Daniëlle Nobel, Hahae Son, Pelle Padmos, Saachi Samani;

*Van de zijde van het College van Bestuur:* Geert ten Dam (voorzitter CvB), Karen Maex (rector magnificus), Mariska Herweijer (bestuurssecretaris), Iris Kingma (Studentassessor-CvB);

*Afwezig:* - ;

*Verslag:* Sacha Both (ambtelijk secretaris a.i. CSR)

1. **Opening en vaststellen agenda** // Opening and setting the agenda
2. **Versterken medezeggenschap** // Strengthening the *medezeggenschap*
3. **Taalbeleid & Internationalisering** // **Language Policy & Internationalisation**
4. **Presenteren van gestelde doelen voor CSR 2019-2020** // Presenting the CSR's goals for 2019-2020
5. **Sustainability**
  - i. **Catering**
  - ii. **University Quarters**
  - iii. **Education & Research**
6. **Integrity & Equality**
  - i. **Accessibility**
  - ii. **Diversity**
  - iii. **Mental Health**
  - iv. **Social Safety**
7. **Student engagement & Community building**
  - i. **Social Media**
  - ii. **Elections**
  - iii. **Student engagement**
8. **Rondvraag** // Questions
9. **Vaststellen verslag d.d. 02-07-2019** // Setting the minutes
10. **Sluiting** // Closing the meeting

## 1. Opening and setting the agenda

Voskens opens the meeting at 11.19h and welcomes all participants. The primary goal of the meeting is informing the RvT on issues that are (most) relevant to the CSR. The WHW overleg is not a decision-making body. To the RvT the meeting provides an excellent opportunity to learn about the points of view of the CSR. The agenda is extremely full. As concluded during the preparation of the meeting by Van der Jagt and Voskens the aim is to properly address a number of items rather than scanning all of them. Items on the agenda that as a result cannot be dealt with, can be picked up at a later moment

*-Moreno enters at 11.22h-*

## 2. Strengthening the *medezeggenschap*

Van der Jagt states the main topic of interest for the CSR, which is the strategic plan and budget in relation to the rights of advice and consent at a central and decentral level. The CSR has determined three levels in the discussion to be considered: a legal, a practical and an ideological level. Voskens asks if the request comes from the FSR's or the CSR itself. Pjotr replies it was discussed last year by the previous CSR on a central level, this year the CSR has taken it to the FSR's. Ouwehand elaborates on the practical issues the CSR has identified. The CSR is seeking legal advice and will discuss this with the FSR's to see if they agree on pursuing this course of action. Van der Jagt points out that in particular for the budget, the CSR does not find it desirable if one FSR can also stop the entire process at central level if they decide to vote against their faculty's budget. The CSR is looking into this to see if this can be changed. Ramadan asks if the CSR has consenting right on parts of the budget or just on the whole. Van der Jagt explains the CSR has only consenting rights on the main items ('hoofdlijnen'), the choices the faculties make in their specific budgets are not disclosed to the CSR which is therefore misses the complete picture. The CSR is asking for additional rights, not a transfer of rights.

## 3. Language Policy & Internationalisation

Kirli elaborates on the topic. Because of the increasing number of international students on the CSR and at the University in general the CSR has proposed the INTT language course for the coming years for the council members, which focusses on university-related terms and context. Internationalisation has not been a specific dialogue; it is intermingled with most other topics. Because of the increase in bilingual students there are consequences for the educational programmes. Voskens asks if the CSR has formulated its point of view on this topic. Kirli answers it is such a diverse one that one point of view is not possible. Voskens asks if the CRS has an idea why more than half of their council members are from other countries. Moreno answers that it might be related to their different educational background, for example international schools have more extracurricular activities, the Dutch do more social activities not related to their studies. Gryshchenko adds that for international students it is a way of making social connections.

## 4. Presenting the CSR's goals for 2019-2020

Van der Jagt explains how the CSR's goals were set at the beginning of the year. These three pillars have been determined with related topics. On each topic a file holder from the council will give a short explanation.

### a. Sustainability

- i. **Catering** – Babovic explains the process and why it is a pillar of sustainability as this helps to achieve multiple goals. The committee had a meeting with Harold Swartjes of Facility Services.

Achievability of set goals was discussed and gave the CSR a broader perspective to follow up on its plans.

- ii. **University Quarters** – Moreno is part of the University Quarters workgroup which is focusing on energy neutral, smart buildings and indoor environment. Voskens ask about the other locations. Moreno answers the Green Paper focuses on the premises, the CSR has been informed about.
- iii. **Education & Research** – Van der Jagt puts forward that some of the minors on sustainability are difficult to get into because a specific background is required. Ramadan asks if the CSR is satisfied with the action the University is taking in relation to sustainability proposals and ideas. Moreno answers that the process is slow; the Green Paper is a step in the right direction as it summarizes all topics and it gives the CSR more ideas for the future. Voskens would like to know who is responsible for the follow-up of the Green Paper. Moreno answers the Green Office is at the forefront, the CSR discusses ideas with them and brings topics to the CvB. Facility Services is involved in the practical implementation.

#### b. Integrity & Equality

- i. **Accessibility** – Kępka explains that accessibility is a broad topic and covers for example buildings, education and also ICT. The CSR needs to focus on the University Quarters and its physically accessibility to all students. Voskens asks about the non-physical topics. Kępka answers that these have a lower priority at the moment. De Koning adds that the non-physical topics are covered in other items. Ouwehand had a meeting with the Student Disability Platform (SDP). On policies they seem to have no problems but the members do not feel heard. The CSR aims this year is to help them find their way in the organization as they have not been around that long. Gryshchenko adds that the SDP does not have any formal rights to make changes; the CSR can be their medezeggenschap-body to make them heard. Kirli elaborates Ouwehand is helping the SDP to create that bridge. De Koning adds that the CSR is thinking about asking for a seat on their platform.
- ii. **Diversity** – Kirli introduces the topic. The diversity policy was published at the beginning of this academic year. It contains many points of action, the CSR is evaluating the report, the file holders (4) are meeting with Anne de Graaf this week. Voskens is interested to hear the CSR's view on the policy. Kirli explains the council has not discussed this yet; on a personal note Kirli states that in his opinion a lot has been achieved in the past four years. The Diversity Paper gives a good handle for discussion. Voskens wants to know if there are obvious topics that need more attention, Kirli answers gender neutrality of the restrooms and non-gender binary can be more focused on. Gryshchenko finds the policy focusses on gender diversity, and less on racial or social diversity. Ramadan adds that in the view of outsiders the UvA is not very accessible. Is this a topic for the CSR? Kirli answers that the recommendations of the Gloria Wekker report are prioritized. So yes, this is an issue. However, the CSR is only here for one year and chooses to focus on attainable topics. He is confident about the future. Kirli points out that due to the decentralization, admissions and background are dealt with at faculty level. Is there is also a branding/image building to be taken into consideration? Gryshchenko mentions the issue with the Turkish student at the FNWI which was very damaging in his opinion. The follow up in communication was lacking. Ouwehand states the comparison between UvA and VU cannot be made because the UvA is a secular and therefore has a different character.
- iii. **Mental Health** – De Koning: last year's council worked very hard on this. The CSR decided to carry this on and is for example monitoring reduced waiting time for student psychologists. A lot

of plans are put in motion. The CSR is trying to streamline this process and is asking for more budget for student psychologists and study advisors. Voskens inquires how the CSR feels about the stress factor students experience. Ouwehand replies the CSR is discussing with the UvA to what extent this is the University's responsibility. Burn-out is seen as a serious problem. The Health Week works to a certain extent. It needs to be researched if the right people are being reached. Voskens asks if students could play a role here; this is for instance happening at the AMC and ACTA. Ouwehand mentions the buddy system but societal taboo stops students from opening up. The CSR tries to focus on making the topic and services more accessible. Moreno mentions Mental Health Day at her faculty. Kirli adds that one of the misconceptions is trying to find one reason of why students are having more mental problems, while there are a lot of factors.

- iv. **Social Safety** – Moreno explains the CSR is focusing on what it can do and finding out what the FSR's are doing. There are workshops in place; interaction with students is being focused on. The CSR is processing information and discussing the topic to think of ways to improve social safety and to organize workshops at faculty level. Voskens asks if all faculties have this as a priority. Moreno answers that all have a file open on it. Ramadan asks clarification on the teacher - teacher-assistant relationships topic. Is this an estimate or impression? The RvT is interested to find out how big this problem is. Moreno answers she knows it is an issue at her faculty, the lines are blurred and there seem to be no real guidelines. She is meeting with Jacqueline Schoone, the interim *ombudsfunctionaris*, this week.

c. **Student engagement & Community building**

Gryshchenko summarizes all three points together. In relation to student engagement: this priority is shared with the CvB which is appreciated. The **election dates** are already set (11-15 May 2020), which will give the CSR more time to engage students. The goal is to increase the turn-out at the elections by 4% to 15%, for example by supplying information to Folia and more collaboration with Bureau Communicatie. The CSR is looking at ways to work with other **social media outlets** which have more student followers. Strengthening the *medezeggenschap* by promoting **student engagement**.

5. **Questions**

None.

6. **Setting the minutes**

The minutes 2 July 2019 are set with changes.

7. **Following a question by Voskens the *ambtelijk secretaris* corrects the date for the setting of the minutes of the previous meeting to 2 July 2019. Closing the meeting**

Voskens expresses great appreciation and thanks the CSR for their involvement, input, work and dedication. The goals are clear and very ambitious; hopefully the CSR can, as intended, prioritize these in line with those of the CvB.

Voskens also thanks all meeting participants for their contributions and today's conversation. Voskens closes the meeting at 12.46h.