



Consultative meeting (OV)

Date: 16-06-2016

Location: REC E0.07

10.30 – 12.30

Present

The Faculty Board:

Han van Dissel – Dean
Jan Dijk – Director of Operational Management
Peter van Baalen – Director of Education

The Faculty Student Council (FSR):

Nickardo Postma – Vice Chairman
Rinus van Grunsven – Chair Organisation and Media
Tijmen de Vos – General council member
Mourad Farahat – Council assistant
Swiss Jurriens – Council assistant

Guests:

Toma Cern, Aleksandr Tikhonov, Eline Keemink, Atma Mahapatra, Raffaele Di Carlo

Secretary: Yirong Lo

Minutes

1. Opening 10.30

Nickardo opens the meeting and the agenda is determined as follow:

1. Opening and determine agenda	5. Allocation model
2. Determine minutes previous meeting	6. Quarterly Report Q4
3. Announcements	7. BSc split (BSA)
4. OER	8. Questions and closure
5. Educational vision	

2. Minutes previous meeting 10.39

The minutes of the meeting on 28-04-2016 are approved.



3. Announcements

10.44

From the Faculty Board:

- The Dean announces that UvA's Supervisory Board (Raad van Toezicht) has decided to step down. This means that there will be room for improvement.
- The Dean mentions that he has been asked to participate in the formal evaluation on the collaboration of the common board of the HvA because they need an external consultant to manage the evaluation process. He expects this to be finished before the 1st of September.
- The Dean states that the reorganization of the Education Service Centre are still being worked on, which the FSR has received a notice of.
- The Dean mentions the BSc Split meeting on the 20th of June.
- The Dean announces that AMBA is visiting the faculty today and tomorrow for accreditation. If all goes well, the UvA Business school is expected to obtain the 'triple crown' accreditation recognized Internationally and will be checked every 5 years.
- The Dean mentions that UvA will be evaluated in the NSE survey, which compares all Dutch institutions.

From the Faculty Student Council:

A round of introduction from the new council members: Toma, Aleksandr, Raffaele, Eline, Atma, and Tufan.

Toma and Aleksandr have to leave early.

4. OER

10.55

The FSR states that they are unsatisfied with the process of the OER this year. The FSR would like to discuss the process for the new council now.

The FSR suggests to have the Facultair Onderwijs overleg, where the whole faculty will come together and talk about the OER, on a monthly basis instead of somewhere in October or November. Peter van Baalen explains that that would be very tight on the planning. Furthermore explains that the FSR is different from the OR for example; the OR does not want to be involved during the process, they only look at the final draft. Therefore, meetings in between are not interesting for everyone.

The Dean mentions that separating the student council and the employees council is inconvenient because if the OR wants to change something, the board has to go back to the FSR, and so forth. He prefers to have one common meeting including students and employees to finish decision making for certain parts of the OER. The Dean suggests Peter van Baalen or Joris Marée (coordinator of the OC) to come up with a proposal to have an effective and efficient OER process.

Peter van Baalen adds that the OER is somewhat of a compromise in the end, taken into account the concerns of both the FSR and the OC. He would like all parties involved to have a clear idea what they want and stick to the deadlines. He suggests to have a meeting with Joris and the FSR to design the whole process.

The FSR will organize a meeting to start discussing the OER process in September **(160616-01)**.





5. Educational vision

11.10

The FSR heard that the faculty was brainstorming on the educational vision for the university. The FSR would like to give their input.

Peter van Baalen explains that the idea is to create a clear vision for the university. He asks how the FSR would want to be involved. Furthermore, Peter van Baalen would like to have a meeting separately with the FSR, and later have a faculty wide meeting. At the moment, he is inviting parties to send input and later plan a meeting. Peter van Baalen would like to have a student's perspective on this matter. He would like it to be straightforward, write your thoughts down and then have a discussion.

The FSR would like to have a meeting first to get to know the other parties and learn from each other's perspectives. The board agrees.

The FSR will brainstorm within the council, have meetings, and write a proposal starting in September (**160616-02**).

6. Allocation model

11.22

The FSR would like to know what the faculty would want to see regarding the change in the allocation model.

Jan Dijk states that the faculty needs money for teaching per student or per diploma. Each faculty gets a different amount. There are discussions on the different cost factors for each faculty and that UvA is the only university in NL that works with this factor system. There are 5 main points that will be gradually discussed. The new model will be effective starting in 2017/2018.

The FSR asks whether there are any discussions about the budget for the Maagdenhuis. The Board answers yes, there is an overhead group working on this topic.

7. Quarterly report Q4

11.37

The Dean explains that due to the lack of information that the FSR experiences, they have decided to send Quarterly Reports to the FSR from now on.

The FSR likes the idea and will keep the reports in the treasury file.

Comments on the Quarterly Report Q4 from the FSR:

The FSR states that the Key Performance Indicators (KPI) are quite narrow. The FSR would like to see measures of the value of education such as Blended Learning, smaller workgroups, etc. The board states that these measures are simply not in the process, and the KPI's have a different purpose to be informational. The Dean states that they will have their own internal KPI's.

Peter van Baalen mentions that Blended Learning is being working on regarding the interface of IT and learning. They have produced a flyer explaining how Blended Learning will work. Also, Blended Learning will be implemented in certain courses, particularly in the first year.





8. Bachelor Split

11.48

Tijmen mentions that BSA memos are currently in Dutch, which is problematic for the FSR to work with. Peter van Baalen states that there will be English translations in the future. Furthermore, there is an informative meeting about the BSc Split on the 20th of June.

Tijmen de Vos states that raising the BSA to 48ECTS is not favourable to students and therefore the FSR does not support it. This is because the BSA is originally meant to filter students who do not qualify to finish the program and the FSR believes that this group will not change after increasing the BSA.

Peter van Baalen explains that the main reason for increasing the BSA is to limit students from taking 1st year courses into their 2nd year. They want students to start their 2nd year as clean as possible. He believes that setting higher standards will help to stimulate students to achieve better. The FSR disagrees with the argument because the BSA is originally meant to filter out inadequate students, not to improve study success. The FSR believes that students who do not meet 48ECTS in their first year, would still be capable in successfully completing their studies. Therefore, the FSR does not agree with the reasoning of raising the BSA.

The Dean mentions that the Mathematics requirement is taken out.

Swiss Jurriens explains that he attended a meeting about the selectivity of BSc programs. During the meeting it was mentioned that a lot of students begin their study with a false start. The switch from high school to university is problematic and therefore students struggle a lot in their 1st year. A solution for this would be to offer study groups with trainings on how to study effectively, how to solve problems faster, etc. This would result in a higher performance and less dropout. The FSR believes that offering help to students who are struggling would be more effective than increasing the standards.

Peter van Baalen agrees and states that such a process has to be implemented in a very early stage. At the moment there are smaller skills groups in the first year which mitigates this.

The Dean adds that in the new Bachelor there will be a switching possibility for students to switch from Economics to Business or vice versa when students find out that they are not doing well in one. Also, UvA Matching will be implemented so that students who enrol have a better view of what their study will be like.

The FSR asks if it is possible to implement a special workgroup to students who are failing. Peter van Baalen states that it is possible to start organizing such a workgroup in September 2017. At the moment, they are looking into the 2nd year slump where students who were successful in their 1st year perform less in their 2nd year. They want to find out what the causes are and solve this.

9. Questions and closure

12.11

-Tijmen mentions that people keep putting up signs on the piano in the E-hall.

The Dean confirms that he has received some complaints but states that the signs may be taken away.

-Tijmen states that an extra resit for nominal students is taken out of the OER.

Peter van Baalen confirms that it has been taken out of the OER. Only students who have special





circumstances are eligible for an additional resit.

The FSR states that students are not aware of this change. The Dean agrees and mentions that students should be informed better.

-The Dean mentions that the faculty invest a lot in community-feeling and encourages everyone to come to the REC Summer Festival on June 23.

Closing 12.22

Action points

~~160428-01 The board will send the reorganization plans to the council.~~

160428-02 Peter van Baalen will send a schedule of contact hours to the council. There will be a meeting next Monday with a presentation of the new plan of the curriculum. Total contact hours will slightly increase.

~~160428-03 The board will send the guidebook (who is responsible for what) to the council.~~ Jan Dijk proposes to have a meeting with him and José with the new council members.

160616-01 The FSR will organize a meeting in September with Peter van Baalen or Joris Marée to discuss the OER process.

160616-02 The FSR will write a proposal on the Education Vision for the university.