



Faculty
Student Council

ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS

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File Lectures BSc Split
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Dear Prof. Dr. H.G. van Dissel,

Dear Prof. Dr. P. J. van Baalen,

Dear Prof. Dr. F.D. Belschak,

We are writing this advice on the reoccurring event of live-streamed lectures in the Bachelor Split on behalf of the FSR Faculteit Economie en Bedrijfskunde:

For the course “Business Operations and Processes” in the current block students have the possibility to attend one of three lectures: One being taught by the course coordinator Dr. A. Kuiper, the other two being live streams of the first lecture. At the end of block one, 908 1st year BA students were still enrolled at our faculty. Nonetheless, this “live” lecture has the capacity for 450 students, while the live-streamed lectures have the capacity for 54 and 50 students respectively, which is evidently not enough to host the whole enrolled student body.

This event has been reoccurring throughout the year, starting with “Financial Accounting I” in block one, then “Statistics for Economics I” in block four for EBE and now “Business Operations and Processes” in block five for BA. In the last OV between the FSR and the Faculty Board on the 13. March 2018, the Educational Director Prof. Dr. P. J. van Baalen reassured us that no more “live streamed” lectures are planned. Prof. Dr. H.G. van Dissel also reiterated that this practice is not policy at our faculty. Nonetheless we see the same development reoccurring again and again, despite continuous complaints and advices by the FSR.

Due to the fact that seminar sizes have also exceeded our agreed upon maximum cap of 40 registered students (see “seminar sizes agreement” attached) on numerous occasions (even when taking attending numbers as opposed to registered numbers), we believe that this event is pushing the FSR’s patience to the limit. Seminars were scheduled for up to 52 students, while in cases 46 attended classes. We would like to refer to our bachelor programme OER advice where we state that tutorial, seminar and lecture sizes should be capped to 30, 40 and 450 students respectively. Additionally the prohibition of “live-streamed” lectures is included.





The FSR FEB is disappointed by the fact that promises are not kept from the faculties end, especially if they have an immediate impact on the quality of education at our academic teaching staff and our students: We believe that every student should have the opportunity to attend a “live” lecture, as this results in the highest quality of education. We see the interaction between students and professor as the most vital factor contributing to an informative, modern lecture. This is unfortunately not given, when lectures are “live-streamed”. Moreover, seminars are supposed to help students practice numerical and theoretical exercises as well as go over difficult material on a rather personal level. This can also not be assured in class rooms, such as B3.08, where students cannot read what is written on the whiteboard and therefore look at a mirrored TV screen in the back row and where students have difficulties understanding the teacher vocally.

On numerous occasions we have advised faculty management to ensure that the necessary teaching staff is hired to ensure “live” 450-student lectures and 40-student seminars for all enrolled students, as this is the obligation of the faculty, who is responsible for supplying the services that students and the Dutch government pay for.

At this point, the FSR is considering mobilising the student body for a form of protest. If the democratically elected representative body of the students at this faculty do not have the power to make clear where our “red line” stands, maybe a larger share of students will. In order to avoid such detrimental developments within the medezeggenschap we propose the following:

- Dr. A. Kuiper, or a qualified second lecturer teaches an additional 450-student lecture
- Seminar sizes are scheduled for 40 registered SIS-students in this and next block
- The FSR will be supplied with data and proof of the implementation of the latter two points on a two-week basis
- A new agreement, explicitly outlining 40 registered SIS-student seminar sizes will be written and signed, effective beginning of the academic year 2018/19
- Before the beginning of the next academic year the FSR must receive a detailed plan of how this agreement will be upheld in the first two blocks. Included should be the registered SIS-student numbers per each seminar group, the name of the seminar teacher as well as the class size and room number. For lectures rooms and teaching staff need to be outlined for block one, two and three.





We hope the FSR can come to an agreement with the faculty management. If there are any questions, do not hesitate to contact us.

On The Behalf of FSR FEB 17-18,

Christof Bischofberger
Chairman E&R committee FSR FEB

Toma Cerniauskaite
Chairwoman FSR FEB