



*Centrale*  
**Studentenraad**

**College van Bestuur**  
**Postbus 19268**  
**1000 GG Amsterdam**

Nieuwe Achtergracht 170  
1018 WV Amsterdam  
(020) 525 3726  
csr@studentenraad.nl  
studentenraad.nl/csr

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Contactpersoon	<a href="#">Jamie van den Berg</a>	E-mail	<a href="mailto:csr@uva.nl">csr@uva.nl</a>
Bijlage(n)	-		
Betreft	<b>Instellingsplan 2021-2026</b>		

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*Dit betreft een Engelstalig advies*

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Dear Executive Board,

With this letter, the CSR would like to give you input on the *short overview elements & process Strategic Plan 2021-2026* d.d. 26-04-2019. The points listed below are recommendations for the discussion at the start of the process of the Strategic Plan 2021-2026.

In regard to the *Strategic Themes*, the CSR proposes to include a fifth point which underlines that the UvA is, on an educational and research level, a diverse university and should remain this way in the coming years. The importance of scientific independence and freedom should be one of the pillars the UvA is built upon.

When considering *Education*, the CSR believes that the development of internationalisation and the bilingual university based on the UvA's language policy needs close attention. The main language of the UvA's research and education, but also on a societal level, should be made clear in the Strategic Plan in order to avoid any confusion or unforeseen consequences. Secondly, not only (physical) limitations, but also functional limitations should be included. Thirdly, the CSR is of the opinion that the appreciation of teaching should be one of the larger educational points of discussion. As Research & Education are two of the UvA's main goals, the CSR believes that being a teacher shouldn't feel like a mandatory task that happens alongside researching but should be valued in itself. Lastly, the interdisciplinary character of education isn't listed separately but is described as a sub-theme of *Research*. Considering the differing consequences that interdisciplinary education can have per faculty or even programme, the CSR would like to see decentral discussions in all faculties about the balance between specialized and interdisciplinary education.

Concerning the paragraph about *Research*, the CSR wants to stress that all forms of sustainability are equally important and equal attention should be paid to the different forms when writing the Strategic Plan 2021-2026. The CSR would like to refer to the UvA's Sustainability Vision for working out these different aspects of sustainability.

At the fourth point of *Valorisation and innovation* it should be made clear that the connections, relationships, and communication with UvA Alumni should be strengthened for their inherent merit and not only for aimed income from the '*4de geldstroom*'.

The CSR would like five more points to be added to the paragraph *Strong foundations*: Communication, Social Safety, Privacy, Mental Health, and Diversity. The CSR believes that Social Safety should be an integral part of the UvA's policies and as such should be included in the Strategic Plan and be discussed throughout the UvA. With regard to Privacy, in this day and age where (digital) privacy can be severely endangered, it is important that the UvA as an institution with a large societal impact focuses on this danger. Thirdly, the Diversity of the UvA remains an important topic that should also be a point of focus for the period of the upcoming Strategic Plan. As a fourth point, research has shown that students and staff suffer from Mental Health issues. One of the *Strong Foundations* of the UvA should be focussed on preventing and resolving these Mental Health issues. Finally, one of the other key items should include the communication of education and the UvA in general, as this also influences almost every other focus point of the UvA.

Regarding the *Process*, the CSR is worried that the possibility of having discussions about the Strategic Plan 'during' and after the summer could lead to less or lower quality input from the *medezeggenschap*. The CSR asks the CvB to create a failsafe or alternative process that avoids the chance of less input from the academic community and the *medezeggenschap* during (or shortly after) the summer period. One textual remark is that in the document it is mentioned that '*In de herfst*' a two-day conference will take place. It should be clarified that this refers to the Autumn of 2019, if understood correctly.

Finally, the CvB asked the CSR to think of ways to involve the wider student population. The CSR proposes to involve study associations and FSRs and to promote and actively involve students through workshops, themed breakfast sessions, a (digital) suggestion box, *denkme.uva.nl*, and discussion in the University Forum. The actual presentation of the Strategic Plan could be done through a format that is similar to the Allocation Model presentation in combination with a PowerPoint, fact sheet with different themes, and possibly an informative (YouTube) video.

We look forward to your reply, as well as further discussion of the subject.

With kind regards,



Roeland Voorbergen  
Voorzitter CSR 18|19

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