Dear Geert, Karen and Jan,

The Central Student Council (hereafter: CSR) is glad to see that you are all still healthy in these turbulent times. Over the past couple of months we have been in contact with Karen and Mariska about our on-going work with availability of gender-neutral bathrooms. As the times are changing binary understanding of gender has started to lose its efficiency in the student community of UvA. We see that the majority of the student population perceive gender as a spectrum rather than a division between two outdated categorizations. As CSR, we are aware that UvA tries its best to keep up to date with matters of gender and sexuality, which is highly appreciated. In order to help with the process of gender neutralization of the university, CSR would like to present you this unsolicited advice on development of GNBs in UvA locations.

- **Signing of the GNBs:** One of the important details with GNBs is the way that they are presented around the UvA Buildings. It is crucial for the gender-neutral bathrooms to be visible to all students. Especially keeping the invisibility of gender-queer, gender-fluid and non-gender binary people to the UvA, socially safe and available places for minoritized groups should be at the top of visibility.

  Therefore, CSR suggests clear signing of GNBs in order to ensure accessibility and highlight the support for every student of UvA, no matter their gender identity.

- **Handicapped restrooms are not the same with GNBs:** In communication with Facility Services (FS), we have detected that restrooms for handicapped people are included as a GNB in the counts done. Even though, handicapped restrooms are gender neutral by nature, just like any bathroom at anyone’s house, that does not indicate gender neutralization of current toilets in our buildings. CSR thinks that both the issue of functional limitation and social safety deserve attention of the UvA administration. However, it should be clear that two issues cannot be offered a single solution, as mentioned above, due to the current lack of attention on both issues.

  Hence, the CSR proposes that university policy on GNBs addresses the irrefutable difference between a GNB and a handicapped restroom. Specifically, a GNB should always be a multi-stall restroom.

- **A planning for gender neutralization of bathrooms:** In light of construction of the new buildings, (e.g. University Quarter) space for GNBs seems to be secured. The CSR is delighted by the news on the upcoming buildings. We would like to see the same planning and development for the current buildings. UvA has 67 locations and the CSR believes that all locations where students are taught (REC, PCH, AMC, ACTA, Science Park, etc.) should have a GNB by 2022.
-A GNB in every building and every 3 floors: The CSR thinks that having a GNB in every building is a good step, but not enough. Although, it can be agreed that stopping after placing one gender neutral bathroom comes off as singling out, and even window dressing. On the other hand, the CSR understands that not every bathroom can be neutralized, based on religious reasons and personal preferences. As CSR, we think that keeping the practicality of bathrooms for students in mind is the solution. Therefore, the CSR believes that one GNB should be available in every 3 floors in order to make sure students have access to bathrooms of their preference. Many buildings in UvA have 3 floors such as REC JK, REC H, and Oudemanhuispoort. However, there are buildings with 10+ floors and that is where the need for a GNB on every 3 floors arises.

We look forward to your reply.

Bedankt en sterkte in deze tijd namens de gehele Centrale Studentenraad

Met vriendelijke groet,

Pjotr van der Jagt
Voorzitter CSR 19|20

Emma Fuchs
Voorzitter ASVA 19|20
Preferred Signs for Gender Neutral Bathrooms:

Insight on the importance of the sign of a GNB:

WHAT IS YOUR BATHROOM SIGN SAYING?

- nonbinary is in between or both male and female (not true)
- trans people are fictional
- the thought of including you is annoying and hilarious
- this is a bathroom

Everyone

RESTROOM

WE DON'T CARE

UNISEX
OPEN TO ANYONE WHO IDENTIFIES AS GENDER NON-BINARY, MALE OR FEMALE

RECENTLY UPDATED 3/1/2020

This restroom may be used by anyone regardless of gender identity or expression.