



**Conceptsamenvatting van de 187^e Overlegvergadering
tussen de Centrale Studentenraad en het College van Bestuur
gehouden op 9 oktober 2020**

Van de zijde van de CSR 2020-2021: Nina Hol, Ivan Mušo, Elias Hidoussi, Evelyn Pomasqui, David Steenmeijer, Julia Nguyen, Tijmen Dietvorst, Kaleem Ullah, Assamaul Saidi, Daan Rademaekers, Chimira Obiefule en Taimoor Baig.

Afwezig: Evrim Hotamis, Sofiya Koba;

Gast:

Van de zijde van het College van Bestuur: Geert ten Dam (president CvB), Karen Maex (rector magnificus), Mariska Herweijer (bestuurssecretaris);

Afwezig:

Gast:

Technisch voorzitter: Mees van Rees;

Verslag: Olav Abbring (ambtelijk secretaris CSR);

Publieke tribune: Rijk van Beek (student assessor). Fas de Koning, Marie-Claire Dijkman, Juliette.

Conceptagenda

1. **Opening en vaststellen agenda** // Opening and setting the agenda
2. **Vaststellen van de conceptverslagen** // Setting the concept minutes
3. **Doornemen actielijst** // Checking the action list
4. **Mededelingen** // Announcements
5. **Samenwerking met andere partijen** // Collaboration with third parties
6. **Samenwerking met Huawei** // Collaboration with Huawei
7. **W.v.t.t.k.** // Any other business
8. **Rondvraag en sluiting** // Questions and closing the meeting

1. Opening (13:00uur) and setting the agenda

The technical chair opens the meeting and welcomes all participants.

5 The agenda is set without changes.

2. Setting the concept minutes

The minutes of the OV of the 30th of June 2020 and the 1st of September 2020 have been set without changes.

3. Checking the action list

10 *The action list was checked. See the attachment.*

The items 200901-01; 200901-04; and 200630-06 are discussed.

200901-01 The information regarding the availability of study places in the UB is clearly stated on the website. This action point will be removed.

15 **200901-04** Hidoussi clarifies that he meant to ask making face masks mandatory for areas in the library where students cannot keep the 1.5m distance, so more rooms in the library can be used. Ten Dam explains that the CvB follows the guidelines of the government. She states that students and employees can themselves choose to wear face masks. Even with face masks the 1.5m is still



20 compulsory. It will not change the accessibility of rooms in the library. This action point will be removed.

200630-06 The CvB states that Facility Services is currently very busy with taking care of the safety of students and employees and the distance in the buildings. They cannot work on the contemplation rooms right now. The CSR will inform the ambtelijk secretaris what they will do regarding this point. This action point will be removed.

25 **4. Announcements**

Announcements from the CvB:

- Maex announces that she believes that it is not desirable that items that are on the agenda to be discussed between the CSR and CvB are first discussed by the CSR with the media.
- Ten Dam announces that the use of the buildings is being monitored. Facility Services is now looking into a system where students can make reservations for rooms in order to prepare group assignments or other educational tasks.

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Announcements from the CSR:

- *No announcements.*

35 **5. Collaboration with third parties**

35 Saidi asks what the regular procedure is for a collaboration with a third party. Maex states that it is important that the collaboration has added scientific value for research. And that the research is conducted within the regulations of the University and in accordance with the scientific etiquette of the university. For example that the results of the research will become public and that the research adheres to the code on scientific integrity .

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Maex explains that when researchers define a subject on which a collaboration can take place a research plan is made. A contract, which is offered by the University via Innovation Exchange Amsterdam (IXA) will be used. These contracts have the above mentioned criteria, regarding scientific value and scientific etiquette in them.

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Nguyen asks what organs or departments of the UvA are involved in the setting up and finalizing such a collaboration agreement. Maex states that IXA is involved in order to set up the contract. When the collaboration entails more than (around) €250.000 per year, and thus exceeds the mandate of the dean, the collaboration needs to be approved by the CvB. Also, the research plan must be approved by the faculty ethical committee in those cases the researchers will work with personal data, as detailed by European regulations. The ethical committee will check if the personal data is processed according to the GDPR. The ethical committee linked to the faculty or institute where the research will be done will conduct this review.

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55 Saidi asks what the role of the medezeggenschap is in these situations. Maex explains that there is no role for the medezeggenschap for individual contracts according to the regulations. Hol asks, taking the OV's pro memoria point 140604-01 into account why the CSR wasn't informed of this collaboration. Maex explains that this point of pro memoria originated from a collaboration between the UvA and the VU. It entails a different kind of collaboration which are not covered by our regular rules for contracts for research collaboration with a partner.

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Saidi wants to know if the medezeggenschap can be informed earlier when the UvA is agreeing to collaborations. Maex states that when taking into account the amount of research collaborations and the fact that the CvB itself is also not always involved (in cases where the responsibility lies



65 with the faculties) this would not be feasible. The collaborations adhere to a framework as spelled out in the standard contract and explained above. Ten Dam adds that the agenda for CvB meetings, and the minutes are also publicly accessible. The collaboration with Huawei was not kept secret.

70 Saidi asks why the central ethical committee (AIEC) wasn't involved during the process of agreement of this collaboration. Maex explains that AIEC does not have a role in this. The ethical committee (AIEC) does not assess individual cases but can reflect on ethics related policies of the university. The committee was instigated when there were no integrity code nor scientific integrity committees in the university to check the ethical legitimacy of research. Currently, there are scientific integrity codes and trust persons who can be informed when there might be a breach
75 scientific integrity. Besides that, the ethical commissions in the faculty check the ethical issues related the personal data. Hol asks if the rights of the ethical committee can be discussed with the scientific community to see if they are up-to-date with current wishes of the scientific community. Maex replies that it would be good to have this discussion and to determine whether a new role of the ethical committee would be needed. In that case the university might need to define a
80 central framework (cfr the case for scientific integrity).

Maex states that currently we are deploying and discussing a code about the subject of dual use. Dual use means that results of research can be used for their intended purpose, but might intentionally, when misapplied, pose a significant threat. She adds that a draft code on dual use is almost finished.

85 Saidi states that that the CSR has a right of unsolicited advice. For the CSR to use this right they need to be informed about new affairs earlier. Maex explains that there are set documents on which the CSR has a right of advice or consent. The CSR is informed on university policy. However the CSR cannot be actively informed about specific (research) contracts which are adhering to the
90 current policy. However, every (unsolicited) advice the CSR sends will of course be read and taken into consideration.

Nguyen asks how the discussion of working together with different countries will be held. Maex explains that currently the aforementioned dual use code is being worked on. Secondly, the UvA
95 is not the only university that is considering how to deal with collaborations with foreign parties. Together with the central government in The Hague a discussion between universities is taking place on how collaborations should be judged in terms of knowledge security. A commission of the VSNU has been created for this subject.

100 Saidi asks if the CvB is willing to work together with the medezeggenschap to work on re-instigating the central ethical committee. Asking, specifically that the ethical committee also looks into the collaboration with all third parties. Maex answers that this committee should create a frame work withing which the research proposals of the scientists/researchers should fit. The committee should not be looking into all specific collaborations. Maex adds that there are
105 different integrity codes that are checked when a research project is started. The researchers have been in contact with the government for this collaborations with China and no objections were mentioned.

110 Nguyen asks why the ethical committees in the faculties only check whether and how personal information is being worked with and not moral codes. Maex explains that this is how the ethical committee has been set up, in line with current European regulations.

115 Saidi asks who will review if the dual use code is applied correctly. Maex responds that if there is a concern the scientific integrity committee can be asked to look into a specific case.

Saidi states that the CSR will look into sending an unsolicited advice regarding a change in the ethical committee.

De Koning, Dijkman and Julliete leave the meeting

120 **6. Collaboration with Huawei**

Saidi introduces that the CSR has informed itself on the involvement of Huawei in the breach of human rights in China. The CSR would like to understand the consideration of the CvB to agree to the cooperation with Huawei. First he asks if the CvB can start by describing the start of the collaboration and what the obligations of the UvA and Huawei are. Maex explains that this is a collaboration between information scientists of UvA and Huawei Finland. All contracts are within European regulations. The research is about improving the AI of search engines to better translate websites to European languages. And because the money involved with the contract exceeds the mandate of the faculty the CvB had to approve the research.

125 The specific collaboration is between different research groups of the UvA, VU and Huawei Finland and involves the appointment of 7 PhD's to conduct the research. The goal of the research is for civic applications.

130 Maex explains that the contract cannot be made public. However, Ten Dam states that there is a *WOB-verzoek*, which is a request to make information regarding this contract public. Depending on the outcome of this *WOB-verzoek* the document might become public.

135 Saidi asks if the CvB is aware of the involvement of Huawei in the delivery of a smart policing system to local governments in China to facilitate smart policing. Maex explains that she is aware of the information that is in the media. Saidi adds that Huawei Finland is part of the company of Huawei and is therefore part of Huawei China. Maex replies that the CvB wants the UvA to be involved in research that contributes to society and has academic value, as it is also the case for this collaboration. Saidi states that with this collaboration the UvA might also contribute to the human rights violations in China. Maex reconfirms that the research project as confirmed in the contract serves civic applications.

140 Saidi also argues that due to the agreement with Huawei the name of the university is being laundered. Meaning that Huawei gets positive press because of the collaboration with a prominent University. Saidi states that when the contract was signed the information regarding the involvement of Huawei in human rights violations wasn't public yet. However, now that new information regarding the human rights violations in China is made public in the media Saidi argues that the consideration frame regarding the collaboration may have changed.

145 Saidi asks if the CvB condemns the violations. Ten Dam states that the CvB condemns every violation of human rights. Saidi asks if the CvB would want to release a statement about this. Ten Dam states that the CvB is always willing to consider a request from the CSR, but she concludes that the UvA should focus on education and research, and not on politics. Maex states that it would be much more effective to discuss this in the university in view of making a framework for decision-making.

150 Hol asks what will be done to prevent this kind of situation from happening when a new collaboration is started. Maex states that, as mentioned before the CvB would very much appreciate to have a discussion about dual use with the academic community. She thinks the University Forum would be an appropriate body for this. The way the ethical code will be checked

once it is finished will be part of the discussion, but the implementation itself is not part of medezeggenschap.

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Saidi announces that the CSR and COR will create a working group regarding the ethical committee. Maex explains that the CvB as well wants to create a committee on dual use to start the discussion on looking into what ethical questions there are now and what an ethical committee should take into consideration when checking collaborations.

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Ten Dam closes with the statement that the CvB welcomes this discussion and emphasizes that the CvB is always very careful when human rights are involved.

7. Any other business

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Hol states that she would like to reply to the announcement by Maex at the start of the OV meeting. She explains that, regarding the message in the media on the collaboration with Huawei this information was public because the agenda of the CSR is public. Folia already knew that this topic was going to be discussed. Hol explains that she made sure that all information that was shared with Folia was already public. Maex states that it helps if the discussions about the specific topics are first discussed together.

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8. Questions

Herweijer states that the CSR will soon receive the Strategic plan. Herweijer asks if the CSR would like to have a technical session about this. The CSR agrees that this would be a good idea.

9. End of the meeting (14.51 hour)

The technical chair closes the meeting and thanks all participants for their contribution.

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Actielijst OV

- 200901-01 — ~~The CSR will look into the information offered on the UvA website regarding where students can study and how this information can be improved.~~
- 200901-02 — The CvB will ask Juridische Zaken if the CSR (and COR) can take part in the working group reviewing the procedure on the complains committee regarding social safety.
- 190 200901-03 — ~~The CvB will look into the link to MapIQ so students can reserve a spot at UvA Buildings.~~
- 200901-04 — ~~The CSR will have contact with van Schijndel to see when the libraries can be opened again.~~
- 195 200630-01 — ~~A meeting regarding the meldpunt for complaints will be organized by the CvB.~~
- 200630-02 — ~~Communication with the entails of the measures that will be taken to change the social safety at the UvA will be send before the summer break.~~
- 200630-03 — ~~Sen will go through the recommendations and make an overview of the points that in the view of the CSR have not been added to the diversity nota. The CvB will respond to this overview.~~
- 200 200630-04 — ~~The CSR will send information on how the diversity exhibition has been organised at the faculties.~~
- 200630-05 — ~~The CSR and the CvB will look into the minutes of the meeting regarding the INTT program to see what was discussed.~~
- 205 200630-06 — ~~The CvB will ask FS if they have the capacity to look into redecorating all the contemplation rooms at the UvA.~~
- 200303-01 — ~~The CSR will set up a meeting with Frank van Tatenhove to discuss the subject of IPv6.~~
- 200114-05 — The CvB will send the Kohnstamm report about first generation students to the council when it is published.
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Pro memoria

- 190619-01 The CvB pays close attention to the involvement of PhD's when getting input from the academic community.
- 215 181127-02 The CvB keeps the CSR updated about the steps that are taken with regard to (alternatives to) the NSE.
- 180904-01 The CvB emphasizes the importance of incorporating the input of the medezeggenschap while preparing for the annual talks with the deans.
- 140604-01 Het College geeft indien van toepassing de CSR een update ten aanzien van de samenwerkingsplannen met andere instellingen of instituten.
- 220 100907-02 Het CvB zal de capaciteit van fietsenplekken, studieplekken en ruimtes voor studieverenigingen tijdens het realiseren van de nieuwbouw en verhuizingen scherp in de gaten houden en ingrijpen wanneer een tekort ontstaat.

Voor het komende artikel24-overleg:

- 225 130610-01 Het College voorziet de CSR van een halfjaarlijkse tijdsplanning voor adviesmomenten.
- 130123-07 Er zal duidelijk worden stilgestaan bij (mondelinge) toezeggingen van het College, zodat er geen onnodige schriftelijke reacties hoeven te worden gegeven, maar de toezeggingen wel helder worden genotuleerd.
- 230 130123-08 Indien de CSR vraagt om een motivatie voor vertrouwelijkheid van een stuk, zal het College het stuk daarvan voorzien.
- 130123-09 De contactpersoon van de medezeggenschap kan ook worden benaderd voor vragen en het verstrekken van informatie aan de FSR'en.