



Facultaire
Studentenraad

MAATSCHAPPIJ- EN
GEDRAGWETENSCHAPPEN

Minutes of the Plenaire Vergadering (11) of the FSR FMG '23 - '24
Faculty Student Council of the Faculty of Social and behavioural sciences

Date: November 24, 2023

Location: On-site

Present FSR '23-'24: Rachel Ham, Varvara Gorbunova, Kianush Monschau, Elisa V Neiva, Vidhi Khandelwal, Clara Ricci Curbastro Ruiz de Arcaute

Absent FSR '23-24: Samarth Kambli, Serena Song (mandates to Varya), Diana Andreea Burduja (mandates vote to Rachel), Sonia Batreja, Serena Song, Julie Nesse Barikmo

Minutes: Kamyab Moteabbed

Concept agenda

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1. Opening

Rachel opens the meeting at 15:18.

2. Announcements

Late arrivals: Varya and Kianush.

Vidhi has to leave at 16.30.

Kamyab had a question about the DeepL subscription Sterre informed him on.

Rachel informed Kamyab that they will share their DeepL account as a temporary solution to the official translator issue. The secretary was chosen since their position is held longer than any council member.

Rachel also suggested making another folder to archive translated documents on Google drive.

Sara will be the technical chair!

3. Setting the PV minutes

The minutes of PV10 are set.

4. Action Points

The action list is updated.

231012-6: Rachel/Varvara schedules the meeting with the director. (haven't, they start in January)

231030-4: Vote about denouncing the newly enforced house rules on protests and religious, and political expression.

231109-2: All file holders should send Clara a small paragraph of what topics are tackled in the file and what tasks they have. This is particularly important for E&C as Clara is not part of the committee. Due December 1st.

5. Mail

Netherlands-Asia Honours Summer School (NAHSS) sent an email to the FSR, informing the council of who they are and what they represent. However, they did not mention anything specific they wanted the FSR to do. Therefore, until any specifics are brought sent, the FSR dropped this subject.

6. Updates

Updates delegate to the CSR

No new updates

Updates worker's council

No new updates.

Updates O&F

No new updates.

Updates E&C

No new updates.

Update on House Rules: Elisa discussed the CvB letter published about the 'conflict' in Palestine. The letter cleared up some questions the FSR wanted to ask, such as whether it is acceptable to protest on campus. Hence, some clarifying questions are now redundant.

7. Setting the agenda

Agenda has been set.

8. Topic 1: Final OV ideas

Rachel noted that, unfortunately, it will likely not be possible for every council member to meet with Sara before the OV. Hence, she will start a document immediately, to get a summary of everyone's topic to send to Sara.

This document can be found on the Google Drive, in the OV2 folder.

Rachel asked the FSR whether there are any specifics the technical chair needs to know.

Elisa noted that she wants the technical chair to keep the discussion with the dean on-topic. In response, Rachel asked what approach Sara should take. Elisa responded with an approach that grounds the discussion; kind but direct.

Clara wanted the technical chair to steer the discussion in a way to get concise 'yes/no' answers, with clear elaborations. She notes that the conversations should be conclusive, without ambiguity or going into circles. She also wants to express the FSR's appreciation.

9. Topic 2: Kaderbrief proposal

There was some general confusion regarding this topic, especially since Diana, who informed the FSR on this, was not present. Varvara noted that this is an important issue, according to Diana. Rachel noted that the kaderbrief concerned REC campus developments.

Rachel noted the kaderbrief concerns getting the FSR more involved in REC decision-making, and that the FSR has to vote on whether we want to respond to it. The FSR will have to draft advice on it.

Varya asked if the FSR has to vote on every question. She wondered whether the FSR should first vote on the first question and send it out, and vote on the other questions at a later date.

According to Rachel, there is concern that there are no minutes taken during meetings regarding the REC, so taking accountability is difficult. Rachel will inquire about Varvara's question.

Elisa and Vidhi were neutral since they were vague on what the kaderbrief entails.

Clara and Varvara were in favor, but the latter thinks there is some ambiguity.

Rachel suggested that she draft a response to the CSR.

Rachel messaged Diana for more clarity. According to her, the document should be drafted and sent out ASAP to the CSR, as Diana informed the FSR earlier. Vidhi asked when the deadline is, and suggested to ask Diana about this too.

Varvara asked whether the rules and meetings would start this academic year or the next. Clara responded that it would likely be in effect the next year.

Rachel notes that the issue concerns the UvA's budget, which the CSR has not yet consented to. Rachel hopes Diana will clarify this issue.

10. Topic 3: Study spaces

Clara informed the FSR that, on Monday, she had a meeting with Linda van der Weg (Learning Centre Team Leader) to gauge students' opinions on study spaces. The issue concerns the limited amount of space and showed the approaches they have taken in the past to improve this.

She informed the council that, according to Linda, there are six students for every study space. She wants a pilot program to have the library open on the weekend, and open the V-building on exam weeks, yet no one showed up. Clara noted that she had not heard of this herself. Clara suggested a PR collaboration, and to message the study advisors within the FMG.

Vidhi asked why this was not on the news letters. She suggested this should be used also. Clara agreed and suggested to Linda to give details before the next exam weeks on her plans, so the FSR can help spread the word. Elisa disagreed with Vidhi's suggestion and thought that these letters were barely used. But Vidhi affirmed that if it is in the title, students will pay attention.

Clara also suggested using Canvas to inform students, since it is often checked.

Elisa also suggested posters to inform students.

Clara noted that there will likely be a further meeting with the FSR-FEB regarding the V-building.

11. Topic 4: Student assistant

Varya asked the FSR how urgent the need for a council assistant is. She also expressed the possibility of dropping the Dutch-speaking requirement.

Clara responded that the Dutch-speaking requirement is important for attending Dutch PCs and making connections there. She adds that O&F feels the absence of this person.

Kamyab informed the council that he knows one person who may be interested in the position.

Clara suggested using LinkedIn to advertise the position and asked if the FSR has a LinkedIn account. She and Rachel also suggested finding a way to post the vacancy on the UvA site.

Varya asked Elisa whether she wanted to work on changing them or editing the House Rules. Elisa responded that the OV is to ask how they should be clarified, so afterward they will be changed.

12. Topic 5: PoliSci Graduation (10 min)

Vidhi left.

Varya informed the FSR that this is Diana's topic. She received a message from Sanne about the graduation. Varvara thinks this is more of a PC issue, and should be brought up then.

Rachel noted that Sanne had communicated with her before, and she will ask Sanne again to get a better meeting piece. Perhaps this is something to bring up with the director or PC meetings. She also noted that the FSR time is limited, and stuff like the OER is more important.

Elisa agrees with the sentiment of the FSR that it may not be relevant to the council.

Varvara suggested that perhaps it is better if people who are interested in graduation should work on it.

Elisa agrees with the general sentiment. However, she suggested to still focus on subjects students are passionate about, to some extent at least.

Varvara and Clara agreed, and the latter suggested bringing it up only to the PC and not the dean.

Kianush agrees with Elisa. He is fine to bring it up since it is important to the people the FSR is representing.

Rachel agrees and notes that issues of inconvenience are still important, especially for one's graduation. This issue should not be brought up in OV2, however. Perhaps in the future.

Varya notes that the location of one's graduation is also a big factor, and she asks why some of the money spent on the intro week is not on graduation.

Rachel notes that it is also important to consider that the graduation is organized very differently per discipline. Uncertainty about how the dean will react. She suggested researching and asking the PCs, and bringing it up only if something specific comes up, or if it is discovered that the discontent is more widespread among different programmes.

Varvara reminds that the issue is that there is a lack of ceremony to landmark the end of students' programme.

Elisa also suggested a faculty-wide approach if it is brought up in the OV.

Rachel suggested closing this issue for now.

13. Topic 6: ...

No points.

14. Any other business

Tell Varya the names of all people who have not received their payment yet (administrative grant).

Clara and Varya just received their salary. Elisa received hers yesterday but is still waiting for the CSR payment.

Varya will contact Sonia to resolve this.

Varya asks everyone to fill out the Christmas dinner form.

Elisa wanted to vote on the Kurdish event. She wants to be conservative with the budget, but allow for the event to proceed.

In favor: 5 (+2 mandates); against: 0; abstained: 0. The event will proceed.

Lastly, Varvara reminded the FSR to fill in the Christmas event attendance sheet.

15. Points for the CSR

No points

16. Points for the Media

Rachel noted that Angelie from Periodic (education committee member) would like the FSR to repost an event on menstrual solidarity.

Varvara informed the FSR that, in the future, for any uncontroversial posts, just message the PR team.

Rachel will message the FSR the answer to the kaderbrief questions.

17. Questions and Closing

No questions.

Rachel closes the meeting at 16:49.

Action list

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