

Spuistraat 134 1012 VB Amsterdam (020) 525 3278 fsr-fgw@uva.nl studentenraad.nl

Concept minutes Plenary Meeting 28th of February 2024

Aanwezig Noah Benjamins, Angelina Senchi, Carlos van Eck, Teun van Kasteel, Giovanni Prins, Hidde Heijnis, Huy Le (online)

Afwezig Sarah Boll, Rembrandt Tip, Sean Berg, Ivar Kracht

Gast
Notulist Liesje Verhave

Agenda

1. Opening

2. Mail and action list (15 min)

3. Confirmation minutes (5 mins)

4. Announcements (1 min)

9 **6. Updates** (10 min)

The chair, vicechair, workgroups, and CSR delegate share updates.

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7. <u>Discussing:</u> OV subjects (10 min) (attachment: -)

13 The FSR potential OV subjects.

5. Confirmation agenda (3 min)

8. Deciding: Printing budget (15 min) (attachment: 1)

The council discusses budget for printing posters.

9. <u>Discussing:</u> FSR budget proposal (20 min) (attachment: 1)

The FSR discusses spending our own budget on Heijnis's proposal.

10. <u>Discussing</u>: Instemmingsverzoek OER'en ACASA (10 min) (attachment: 7)

The FSR prepares the consent request regarding OER ACASA.

20 **11. PR of the Week** (5 min)

21 The FSR discusses PR of the week.

22 **12. Final points and closing**

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37 38	1.	Opening Senchi opens the meeting at 15:06.
39 40 41 42 43	2.	Mail and action points (15 min) The council discusses the email list. The council discusses the agenda. Heijinis and Senchi will attend the meeting regarding the honours program and internationalisation.
44 45 46 47 48	3.	Confirmation minutes (5 min) We will confirm the minutes at the end of the meeting. The council confirms the minutes from the 7^{th} of February and the minutes of the 14^{th} of February. Lastly, the minutes of the 21^{st} of February are confirmed.
49 50 51	4.	Confirmation agenda (3 min) The agenda is confirmed.
52 53 54 55	5.	Announcements Prins has to leave 10 minutes earlier. There are no other updates. Tip, Kracht, Boll, Van Eck are absent. There are no mandates.
56	6.	Updates (10 min)
57 58		Chair, vice-Chair, workgroups, and CSR-delegate share updates.
59 60 61 62		Senchi has had contact with the board regarding the FGw museum night. Maria Hagen will have a meeting with Senchi regarding the date decision. Senchi will meet with a CSR member of UvA Sociaal to discuss mandatory attendance in the OER.
63 64 65 66		At CSR-level they will discuss during the upcoming OV; internationalization, democratization, cirfood etcera.
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68 69	7. <u>I</u>	Discussing: OV subjects (10 min) (attachment: -) The FSR potential OV subjects.

We will be discussing the letter regarding university ties to Israel. Heijnis wants to ask the board if they acknowledge that critical voices are important at Israeli universities and if they can also acknowledge that something is wrong. [ACTIONPOINT] The council will read the IMRQ3 before the upcoming OV.

8. **Deciding: Printing budget** (15 min) (attachment: 1) The council discusses budget for printing posters.

The council decides to use 72 euros to print the posters. This will be for 6 posters. Verhave will organize the poster [ACTIONPOINT]. A test version will be printed during the break.

9. **Discussing: FSR budget proposal** (20 min) (attachment: 1)

The FSR discusses spending our own budget on Heijnis's proposal.

Heijnis introduces the meeting piece. He asks the council if they agree on spending the specific budget on promotional material and cutlery. The council agrees.

Voting Proposal: The FSR FGw 2023-2024 proposes to allocate 500 euros of its budget to use on the proposal for the Anti-Kantine.

	Voor	Tegen	Onthouden	Blanco
Activistenpartij	4	-	3	-

The voting proposal is accepted. The FSR FGw 2023-2024 decides to allocate 500 euros of its budget to use on the proposal for the Anti-Kantine.

10. Discussing: Instemmingsverzoek OER'en ACASA (10 min) (attachment: 7)

The FSR prepares the consent request regarding OER ACASA.

The council has a discussion regarding mandatory attendance. Heijnis says that he understands why some courses are necessary to have mandatory attendance because the value of education comes from group interaction in some courses. Senchi responds that it depends on the student and some students learn and study in different ways. Once mandatory attendance is used for a course like Wetenschapsfilosofie it can be applied for everything.

Heijnis says that mandatory attendance can make people decide to actually attend class.

Benjamins says that mandatory attendance puts a lot of stress and pressure on students who have legitimate reasons for not being able to attend certain classes.

Van Kasteel says attending is important and it prepares students for the rest of their life. Furthermore, it differs a lot per faculty, and at the FGw in class discussion is very important.





113 Prins says that if a student cannot attend, they should pick a course that fits their schedule. He says 114 personally he hates mandatory attendance because he feels like he's in high school but it does force him to 115 attend for example 9 am classes. 116 Senchi also says that if your course is so easy that you can pass it without attending the curriculum should 117 be changed. Class importance should come from class content and not from mandatory attendance. Prins 118 agrees that this element should be included in classes, but class attendance is also part of discipline. 119 120 Heijnis says that now some courses in the faculty have guidelines where there are repercussions once a 121 student misses three classes. This also ties into the discussion for the borders of responsibility for teachers. 122 123 Senchi asks if adding it to the OER solves the issue. 124 Prins says he never met a teacher who made a big fuss about students having legitimate reasons for 125 126 attending classes. However personally, lower attendance ruins the course for him. Senchi and Heijnis agree 127 that it should be decided on the level of the course and not the level of the program. 128 129 Benjamins asks the council why the university should force students to attend. Heijnis says that in an ideal 130 world, the quality and difficulty of a course will make attendance necessary, but in the current situation, 131 low attendance makes the class quality even worse. 132 Prins also says that EC's and the classes are part of the education and not attending harms your education 133 which is a legitimate reason to force students to come as often as they can. Having a structural rule where 134 it's not mandatory every time but you have one or two free skips gives students the flexibility of not 135 attending when they are not able to. Senchi says that mandatory attendance is too strict, she is more in 136 favor of participation grades. It also gives students the option to improve their grades by just showing up 137 and participating in their courses. 138 139 Heijnis proposes to double down on the participation grade. 140 141 Benjamins says that in his program even when there's no mandatory attendance students still show up. 142 Senchi agrees that in her classes she also has good attendance. Prins says that in his experience the only 143 full classes he has participated in - even if the course is not the best attendance improves the quality. 144 Ideally, it can be fixed on the course level, but the best of the worst options is to have an attendance policy. 145 Benjamins agrees that attendance is good for education, but a mandatory attendance policy is a draconian 146 way to go about it. Ideally, you want motivated students attending your class, not students who are forced 147 to be there. 148 149 Heijnis concludes that there should be no mandatory attendance but allow participation grading. If teachers 150 complain that they do not have enough tools to get students into the classroom, they then can use the 151 participation grade and that this is encouraged by the faculty. 152

Senchi likes the idea of having a reward system that shows up instead of punishing the students that do not

attend. Van Kasteel says the FSR should also talk to teachers about this. Senchi says that we should

inventory where the most complaints are coming from, and which programs struggle the most with having

students attend classes.

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Van Kasteel is in favor of mandatory attendance for all courses. He thinks we should talk to teachers about this as it can lead to more administrative tasks but having a group of students that attends weekly creates a sense of community and a personal classroom experience. Prins proposes to send an email to different professors he has had classes with to ask about their positions. Senchi proposes maybe organizing a session about mandatory attendance at VOX-pop to discuss this topic. 11. Final points and closing The meeting is closed at 16:46.





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251		plan of action in the meeting piece regarding quality agreements to the central level.						
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