

REC A, Room A3.12
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Date: 1 June 2021
Time: 17:00 – 18:00
Location: Online
Contact person: Domenico Ricciuto
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Present: Domenico Ricciuto, Robert Lange, Jane Bhairosingh, Thomas Owens, Rogier Simons, Zarah Winters, Vincent Loos Alla Molibog, Katarzyna Niedzwiecka
Absent: Assamaul Saidi, Olaf Stolk, and Clemens Schreiber
Guests:
Secretary: Daniel Kraamwinkel

Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting

Domenico opens the meeting at 17:03

2. Setting the agenda:

a. Elections

Domenico asks if everything is going well with the elections.

Katie brings up the problem that not every party signed the fair-play agreement, which was mentioned by Folia. This is a problem because it undermines the fairness of the elections as has been discussed during the previous PV as pointed out by Rogier.

Alla explains that the main argument against the agreement is a bit vague, it is ‘outdated’. Thomas mentions that he does understand where some parties are coming from, none of the amendments have been passed because the CSR could not reach a quorum. Therefore, should the agreement be taken away from the CSR? Alla states that the agreement needs a body behind it, and as long as there is no better one it should stay with the FSR. There is general consensus on this.

Thomas also states that he understands the reasons why not everyone has signed it, but he is also still in favour of the document. One reason not to sign it is that provisions out rule third party financing which goes against the core of some parties.

Alla proposes the FSR to not just promote good behaviour, but call out the bad behaviour for the fairness of the elections, which is something the FSR is in favour of. Thomas states that he thinks this is too much of an aggressive act; there are currently no rules on what happens to non-signers or non-compliers, therefore the council cannot take an objective stance against the parties that decided not to sign the agreement. Domenico states that since the topic was discussed before, and the dynamics in the council have not changed, there will be no vote on Alla’s proposal

b. Project GLASS (Rogier)

Rogier explains that this is a pilot for signing up for classes which will be tested by the Dutch bachelor for next semester. It is too lower the stressful affair it is now. The idea is that students can sign up for their classes via a form between certain dates, and ‘ask’ for two favours to fit their schedule. Then, when everyone’s requests are in, the algorithm will create a schedule.

Thomas asks what happens if you actually need three favours. Rogier explains that you can swap classes through the algorithms as well.

Thomas also asks what happens if everyone wants eg Fridays off. Rogier states that the algorithm will take care of this automatically, but that this does mean that some will be placed in other classes.

If anyone has any ideas to improve the system, they are invited to make suggestions to either Domenico or Rogier. They are in these meetings not as an official body, but to do suggestions from the student perspective.

c. Kwaliteitsmiddelen

Domenico states that he and Robert are still preparing with Jan Dijk for a meeting about the kwaliteitsmiddelen (the budget), they hope it will actually happen.

Robert states that the main takeaway are the quarterly reports of the faculty that are send to the board. This is to understand the budget better because at the FdR everything is listed under ‘education renewal’. Dijk also referred to Salomons and Eeckhoud for more detailed explanations. The O&O committee will work with this and they will use it for the aforementioned upcoming meeting.

Domenico states that if anyone has any questions, they can always ask.

d. Reader shipping costs

Domenico explains we received an email from someone who was upset that she has to pay for shipping costs for her reader even though she cannot pick up her reader right next door.

Rogier states that this topic has been discussed before, the faculty’s defence is that there is a free PDF, which you can always print yourself. However, usually when you pick it up you do not pay for shipping costs, and since we are back at campus, why not let people pick up their readers? Thomas states that this is probably still because UvA wants as little as people at campus as possible. This is understood, but Rogier states that it is still disavouring the students. Domenico states that it can be brought up to the board at the WVTTK. Rogier states he can answer the email.

3. Other updates

a. Domenico states the coffee card is back! It is at the FSR room for all to use.

b. Domenico mentions the main two points for the OV are from the board: Covid update and onderwijsvernieuwing. Furthermore, we can bring up minor things at the WVTTK. Robert adds that he will present a proposal for sustainable travelling at the final OV.

c. Rogier states that he and Vincent will have an urgent meeting on onderwijsvernieuwing tomorrow. They are not sure what it is about but probably the board is struggling with the 15 EC for electives and the minors as has been discussed before. They will keep the council updated on the matter.

d. Domenico states that on the 9th of June, he is meeting with Maex (rector magnificus). He will be talking about proctoring and its problems, and if there are other general points, let Domenico know. Rogier says the council should try to bring up a couple of big points, we can think about it and discuss it next PV (the 8th) so that hopefully she will keep them in mind also for next year. Domenico seconds this idea.

e. Rogier states that there will be another email with our canvas page and election information send to students tomorrow.

f. Alla states that the PR committee and Olaf are working hard on the evaluation weekend: there is accommodation and transport. Also, the entire weekend of the 25th of June has been filled (leaving at 9, coming back end of the day on Sunday) so clear your weekend!

Thomas also states we can of course have a ton of fun, but this is not the place to throw a proper party

Rogier adds that everyone should test before, there is consensus on this.

Also Rogier brings up that the Friday is still part of exam week. However, no one appears to have exams so hopefully this will not lead to any problems.

4. WVTTK

Katie asks if we can change the PVs from Tuesdays to Wednesdays. This is no problem.

Katie also proposes to ask the board about the contemplation room at the OV.

5. Closing of the meeting

Domenico closes the meeting at 17:55

6. Action list

- Think about bigger issues that could be discussed with Maex.