



*Facultaire*  
**Studentenraad**

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Datum 11 februari 2019  
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Locatie REC A7.23

Aanwezig: Anne van den Bergh, Anna de Koning, Ginger Mooren, Alexander Gritsay, Minh Quan Bao Nguyen, Latif Sleibi, Jinane Araqi, Svedha Krishnaraj, Felix Wolthuis Scheeres, Ingrid van den Oord, Jan Dijk, Benjamin van Rooij, Arthur Salomons en Andre Nollkaemper (decaan).  
Afwezig: Anna Schröder, Guillianio Payne, Vanessa Romeijn, José Brugman-Augustijn en Radboud Winkels.

Voorzitter: Anne van den Bergh

Notulist: Myron Warta



UNIVERSITEIT VAN AMSTERDAM

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## Agenda

### 1. Opening en vaststellen agenda

Council member van den Bergh opens the meeting at 10:36h.

### 2. Mededelingen

Council member van den Bergh states that council members Schröder, Romeijn and Payne cannot be present at this meeting. Nollkaemper states that Brugman-Augustijn and Winkels cannot attend the meeting.

Council member Gritsay states that point 7 will discuss selection criteria for bachelor and master instead of Numerus Fixus in the Master.

### 3. Sociale veiligheid

Council member van den Bergh states that the FSR was pleased to receive the document containing an overview of resources on the university from the board. Council member van den Bergh states that the FSR has several questions regarding the document. Council van den Bergh asks that page two mentioned annual interviews. Council member van den Bergh states that she would like to know who would be involved in these interviews. Nollkaemper states that the annual interviews are held with all employees. Council member van den Bergh asks between whom the interviews will take place. Nollkaemper states that the chair of the department will interview all the lectures and personnel within the department.

Council member van den Bergh states that the document mentions several training sessions that staff can follow. Council member van den Bergh states that she would like to know if these training sessions are compulsory or actively encouraged. Nollkaemper states that the training sessions are not compulsory, but that it is strongly encouraged to personnel to attend these. Nollkaemper states that within the faculty there is specific policy on social safety, which include special training sessions. Council member van den Bergh asks when this will start. Nollkaemper states that it will first be discussed with the department and then it can be taken further. Nollkaemper states that he expects the training sessions will start in April or May.

#### 4. Studieadviseurs

Council member Krishnaraj states that, from both of the experience of FSR members and complains from other law students, study advisors have shown to struggle with providing information that students seek. Council member Krishnaraj states that the FSR would like to ask some questions in regards to the study advisors. Council member Krishnaraj states that the FSR would like to know if there is a training or procedure provided that study advisors can follow. Nollkaemper states that Ingrid van den Oord (head of ESC) is invited to answer questions on this topic. Van den Oord states that there are several modules that train study advisors, employees at the education desk and at career services. Van den Oord states that these modules entail a range of subjects. Study advisors can register for these modules the whole year and the subjects can be seen on the UvA website. Besides this there is an intensive course of a year where he or she will research a subject within the faculty to make a plan. Council member van den Bergh asks what subject are researched in this intensive course. Van den Oord states that a subject can be for example 'how to deal with students that show deviant behavior'. The study advisor researches what the university can do to guide such a student and which resources are available. Van den Oord states that the study advisors are constantly being educated during their job.

Council member de Koning asks if study advisors are focused on the psychological aspects of a student or factual knowledge of courses. Van den Oord states that there are four types of students that appeal to the study advisors. The biggest group is students with questions in regards to study planning. Followed by students that are in special circumstances. Thirdly study advisors deal with students that have questions regarding educational choices of minors, masters and courses. Lastly new students from other universities do an appeal to the study advisors. Council member de Koning states that students complain about the study advisors in regards to questions of study planning. Often the information that is given by the study advisors is available via the UvA website. Council member de Koning states that this made the FSR concern the factual knowledge that study advisors own. Van den Oord states that it is a goal of the university to provide students with sufficient information about these matters through the website. Van den Oord states that study advisors can help a student with making a choice. Van den Oord states that when a change of curriculum is being made, it will not automatically change in SIS. There is an ongoing project that will map students that have a change of curriculum and will make their study plans up-to-date. Van den Oord states that this project will benefit everyone in the university in regards to these problems.

Krishnaraj asks what study advisors job entails exactly. Van Rooij states that study advisors have several functions ranging from education to personal problems that affect their study behavior.

Council member de Koning states that the FSR would like to raise one more point in regards to the study advisors. Council member de Koning states that students, that



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have a problem where the study advisor cannot help, are not being adequately referred to a university body that can. Council member van den Bergh states that this is for example a problem of Honours students that have overlap with the regular courses. These students do not know if they should ask this within Honours or that they can go to the study advisors. Van den Oord states that she would like to have a separate meeting about this matter. Council member van den Bergh asks if the FSR can contact van den Oord in regards to these matters. Van den Oord states that the FSR can contact her. Salomons states that the education desk and study advisors would like to receive feedback. Van den Oord asks if it would be a good idea to create a place where students can give feedback about the study advisors and education desk. Council member van den Bergh states that this would be a good idea.

## 5. Vakaanmelding

Council member Nguyen states that FSR is not satisfied with the system of course registration in regards to how it offers students a place in working groups. Council member Nguyen states that several students who were unable to register on time do not have a place in the working groups. This is against the promise of education and, compared to ALF and Honours students that have an automatically registration, unfair. Van den Oord states that if a student registers within the period that is given he or she will have a guaranteed place in the working groups. Council member Nguyen states that even if students register within that period it happens that working groups are already full. Then the students cannot partake in the working group education, which was promised to them. Van den Oord states that for these cases there are waiting list groups, but there is a guarantee that if a student registers on time he or she will have a place. Council member Nguyen states that the fact that there are waiting lists shows that not every student receives the education that was promised. Van den Oord states that in regards to the mandatory courses solutions are being made to enable these students on the waiting list to partake in working groups. Van den Oord states that this is often done in the form of extra working groups. Van Rooij asks if these groups get the same education. Van den Oord states that these working groups receive the same education.

Van Rooij asks what problem the FSR would want to address and if it can give an example. Council member Nguyen states that problems emerge also when students register within the period. Council member Nguyen states that council member Schröder is following a course that only provides the answers to the questions that are discussed in the normal working groups. Van Rooij states that this is not the policy. Van den Oord states that there is a TGOW group, where students will make the exam but not partake in the working groups. Van den Oord states that all the mandatory courses have sufficient working groups. Council member de Koning asks if students, when they register for a working group at the time of registration, would be assigned to a working group or will it take longer. Van den Oord states that a late register period is available for students that did not make use of the initial period. These students can register, but are not guaranteed a place in the working group. However in the first week of education teachers will fill in the attendance sheet. If students do not show up, their places will be filled with the students from the late registration period. Council member de Koning states that the students that do register in the five-day-period have a guaranteed place at the beginning of the course. However there are students that cannot register for working groups because these are already full and have to resort to the reserve groups. Even though, they registered within the time of registration. Van Rooij states that he would like to see examples from students because this is not policy.

Council member Gritsay asks if there is discrimination between students that register in time and the ones that do not. Van Rooij states that there are rules and that the students need to follow that for the education to be planned well. Van Rooij states that course registration will be better communicated to the students.



## 6. Pilot flexstudereren

Council member de Koning states that recently it is not possible anymore to study part time at the Law Faculty. However the FSR believes that flexstudereren could be a good replacement. In 2017 a pilot started at Arbeidsrecht with flexstudereren. Council member de Koning states that the interim advice from the CSR was positive about this pilot. Many students partake in this pilot due to financial reasons and it increases the accessibility of the university. Council member de Koning asks if flexstudereren could be possible for the bachelor of law.

Salomons states that there is agreed to wait for the end evaluation of the pilot flexstudereren. The results are not all positive and therefore only one master has been made available for this. Salomons states that flexstudereren should be imbedded in the OER and there have not been any proposes for this. Only when this is done flexstudereren can be enabled in the bachelor. Salomons states that the Faculty for Economics was enthusiastic about the pilot and has applied it throughout its program. Salomons states that these results should be awaited.

Council member van den Bergh asks what the concerns are in regards to flexstudereren. Salomons states that it can create behavior that will slow down the study rate. Council member de Koning states that flexstudereren only applies to third year and master students that have to do one or two courses to finish their degree. Salomons states that master students can do a new master through flexstudereren. Salomons states that he is hesitant at this stage, but that for the next educational year discussion between the FSR and the Board on this matter should take place.

Nollkaemper states that he sees the positive aspects of flexstudereren, but that he shares the view of Salomons in waiting for the final evaluation. Nollkaemper states that this will be a point for the next FSR and can be an agenda point for September to look at the advantages and disadvantages.

Van Rooij states that the curriculum of the master and bachelor are hard to align with flexstudereren in regards to skills education and the thesis. This requires a certain level of intensity that is not suitable for flexstudereren. Council member de Koning states that the pilot had several rules on who could enter this program. Salomons states that the pilot at Arbeidsrecht was available for fifteen students and that this number was not met, which shows that the need was not great.

## 7. Selectie criteria voor de bachelor rechten

Council member Gritsay states that this point will be on selection criteria for the law bachelor program.

Council member Gritsay states that this year there were cases of lecture halls being too full and sit on the stairs. Also other lecture halls were used for students to look at the lecture.

Council member Gritsay states that the course registration also shows this problem.

Council member Gritsay states that many students are not accommodated well in the university. Van Rooij states that the course registration, when done in time, guarantees a place in a working group. Council member Gritsay states that this situation undermines the education at the faculty. The FSR believes that there are academic standards and commitments that have to be fulfilled by the students, but there are few means to let students dedicate to the study. Council member Gritsay states that the dropout rates for the bachelor of law is 32% according to the data from UvA. However students say half of their class dropped out at the first year. Council member Gritsay states that the FSR would like to fight back these problems with selection criteria to allow fewer students to the bachelor. These criteria entail intrinsic motivation and enthusiasm to study at the law bachelor program. Council member Gritsay states that selection criteria could also be helpful for creating more diversity within the Faculty. By selection criteria a more contextual assessment of an applicant can be made. Council member Gritsay states that the FSR would like to create a working group with the board on the matter of selection criteria. Furthermore the FSR has made criteria taken from other selective programs.

Nollkaemper states that he would first like to make a point of order. Nollkaemper states that agenda items of this scope are presented in writing, to properly read and prepared. Nollkaemper states that this is a big topic and cannot be discussed in depth during this meeting. Nollkaemper states that he understands several items that are said. However these items are factual not correct, for example the admission to working groups. Nollkaemper states that the general trust of selection criteria is one that he shares with the FSR, but that this topic is huge in regards to the accessibility of the university. Nollkaemper states that he would like to discuss this topic further with the FSR in the next meeting. Nollkaemper states that he would like to receive a document on this topic from the FSR. Van Rooij states that he shares the concern of the FSR. Van Rooij states that the main problem in this matter is how it should be implemented. Van Rooij states that he has seen the cost and problems from selective admissions. Van Rooij states that in improvement of education a goal is to increase the motivation of students. There could be alternatives to accomplish that, rather than selective criteria.

Van Rooij states admissions in the US are selective and that even the best schools have a negative effect on people from less advantage groups. Van Rooij states that the costs for selection criteria can be high especially when the Law Faculty admits a thousand students each year. Van Rooij states that the FSR should also take into account the negative sides on a wide scale.

Council member van den Bergh states that the FSR is curious to how the selection criteria that are used in Psychology are being reviewed and that this can be used for the discussion. Council member Gritsay states that information on the motivation of students within AUC



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and PPLE was reviewed by the FSR. This motivation is high and the selection criteria are not biased.

Council member Gritsay asks how this discussion could be set up. Nollkaemper states that the board could meet with a delegation of the FSR to discuss this topic. Nollkaemper states that he also would like to receive writing on this topic from the FSR. Van Rooij states that it is also good to look at what is done at this moment, for example UvAMatching. Council member van den Bergh asks if there is an evaluation on the UvAMatching. Salomons states that there is a document on evaluation.

Nollkaemper states that he would like to see a stable enrollment of students each year. This enrollment could be around 650 to 800 students. Nollkaemper states that a stable number of students would make it easier to arrange rooms for education. Van Rooij states that the board is in favor of the general idea. However how this could be achieved is still open for discussion. Council member Nguyen asks if the FSR could receive the UvAMatching evaluation document from the board. Nollkaemper states that this can be shared with the FSR.

#### **8. Gebouw REC A:**

##### **FSR kamer**

Council member van den Bergh states that the FSR would like to know when the room will be moved within the building. Dijk states that there is a redesigning of the third and sixth floor. The board has asked the architect to make a room for the FSR. Dijk states that the third floor is designed and that the new room can be placed near the moot court. Dijk states that this will have to be discussed with the FSR. Dijk asks which council member he should contact about this matter. Council member van den Bergh states that Dijk can contact her.

## 9. W.v.t.t.k.

Council member van den Bergh states that the FSR had questions in regards to the pilot lecture recordings at PPLE, but that this can be asked through the email to Winkels.

Council member Wolthuis Scheeres states that the OC has contacted the FSR about the rules of the Law library. The OC have indicated that they would like to see new rules on the study places in the library. Council member Wolthuis Scheere states that the OC would like to extend the rule on taking away the belongings of students to make a computer place free for someone else to regular places in the library. Council member Wolthuis Scheeres states that Paulien Bos (from the law library) said that this rule could not be extended. Council member Wolthuis Scheeres states that the FSR would like to know if the board can give an update on the active learning spaces in REC A.

Dijk states that the working group rooms and moot court are made available as study places before and during the exam week. Dijk states that study places are a UvA-wide problem. Dijk states that an effort is made to create more places.

Nollkaemper states that there are plans made to make the law library available exclusively for law students. Council member van den Bergh asks if it is not possible to enforce a policy that the staff of library can give the place to another student if it is not used for more than 30 minutes. Nollkaemper states that this policy has been used previously. Dijk states that the costs of this enforcement will be higher than the technical solutions that can be used. Council member Wolthuis Scheeres states that this was a policy for a while, but that this took too much work to enforce. Nollkaemper asks how big the problem in the UvA Library is. Council member van den Bergh states that from her own experience it is a big problem. Nollkaemper states that he is reluctant for strict enforcement, but that improvement of communication on this matter can be done.

Council member Gritsay states that he would like to raise a point in regards to the Program committee PPLE. Council member Gritsay states that the FSR believes the program committee is under performing. Council member Gritsay states that the OER advice was not elaborate enough and did not concern the concept OER. Also program committee does not post their minutes. Lastly, that the FSR are not invited to their meetings.

Nollkaemper states that the OER advice from the program committee was minimal, but that he will discuss the points from the FSR with Winkels. Nollkaemper states that during the next OV he will come back on this matter.

## 10. Rondvraag en sluiting

Council member van den Bergh closes the meeting at 11:42h.

### Actiepunten

**AP 161219-01 Nollkaemper houdt de FSR op de hoogte van de HRM discussie.**

### Besluitenlijst

**150928-01 Zodra er meer informatie is over de minoren wordt deze met de FSR besproken.**



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Pro Memorie

**150420-01 Nollkaemper zegt toe dat zware afspraken met de medezeggenschap niet in de zomer zullen worden gemaakt. De zomer houdt in half juli tot en met 1 september.**

**160208-01 Voorstellen voor de OER moeten voor de deadline van het bestuur worden opgestuurd (1 oktober).**

**160606-02 Het bestuur houdt de FSR op de hoogte omtrent besluiten over REC-A.**

