

REC A, Room A0.04  
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Date Friday 23 November 2018  
Time 09:00-11:00 uur  
Location A6.65  
Contact person Anne van den Bergh  
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Present: Anne van den Bergh, Anna de Koning, Ginger Mooren Guillano Payne, Alexander Gritsay, Minh Quan Bao Nguyen, Latif Sleibi, Jinane Araqi, Svedha Krishnaraj, Felix Wolthuis Scheeres.  
Absent: Anna Schröder, Ginger Mooren, Vanessa Romeijn  
Guests:  
Secretary: Myron Warta

### **Agenda**

#### **1. Opening of the meeting**

Anne opens the meeting at 09:07.

#### **2. Setting the agenda:**

##### **a. Termination of the Research Masters – Vote + Discussion on What to Include in our Advice**

Anne states that the OC has only send an advice. The advice states that the OC is in favour of terminating the research masters. Anne asks if the proposal for the new master will contain a transition period for the academic year 19/20. Quan states that there is still a transition period, but he is not sure if this will also be the case in 19/20. Anne states that there will be a transit period in which students can finish the research master in the next academic year. Anne states that questions if the transition period contains terms for students that cannot finish the research master in three year. Latif states that this scenario can be problematic and should be looked at. Anne states that she spoke to members of the OC and that she thinks that the FSR says no to the termination of the research masters, unless if there is a clear proposal to the one-year master in cooperation with Maastricht and Tilburg. Guilliano asks if the cooperation between the UvA and the other universities entails that students need to travel to Maastricht and Tilburg. Anne states that this is not clear. Svedha states that the cooperation could entail an exchange of teachers instead of students.

Guilliano states that it is important that there is a special master for research, because other universities do offer these. Guilliano states that he would be in favour if the program is not too expensive in costs for traveling and for the general education. Anne asks what the council members would think of a ‘no, unless’-vote from the FSR. Guilliano asks what the OC thought of terminating the research masters. Anne states that the OC was

mainly discussing the transition period of the masters. Guilliano states that there is a lack of interest in the program itself. Guilliano states that he is in favour of a vote that states 'no, unless'. Quan states that a plan of strategy on what to do next is important for the university and students. Quan states that he understands the argument of Guilliano that a university without a research master can be problematic. Anne states that the proposed plan is too vague. Therefore this plan should not be the reason to terminate the research masters. Anne asks who would be willing to write the advice for the board. Latif states that if the advice can be written in English he would be willing to write it.

Voting: the FSR decides to vote no for terminating the research masters, unless the proposal will give more clarity on what the new master will entail.

In favour: 9 Against: 2 Abstaining:

**b. December 10 GOV Agenda Points?**

Felix states that the OER amendments will definitely be discussed. Anne states that this will be discussed. Anne states that the FSR should think of arguments to defend the OER amendments. Felix states that the FSR could listen to the discussion about the OER amendments, not giving a reaction and plan a strategy for the next GOV. Anne states that the FSR need to prepare the perspectives on the OER amendments. Felix asks if there is a second round for the OER proposals. Anne states that there is not a second round.

Anne states that diversity could be discussed during the GOV with emphasis on the diversity commission. Quan states that more information on the plan for a diversity commission is needed. Anne states that, in regards to the budget, questions could be asked about FTE of the diversity officer. Anna de Koning states that she believes it might be better to meet with the diversity officer in person to talk about the FTE. Anne states that the FTE could be increased from 0.1 to 0.2 by hiring another person.

Jinane states that the FSR could ask questions about the plan for a mental health survey within the university. Anne states that the survey could be dispersed among the students through the Studentennieuws email. Quan asks if many students read the Studentennieuws email. Anne states that students scroll through it and do read it. Quan states that the survey could also be dispersed through JFAS. Anne states that this is a good idea.

Quan states that within PPLE there is a problematic issue that is increasing. Namely that PPLE classes are being taught by PPLE post-graduates. Jinane states that the council members tried to have a meeting with Radboud Winkels about this but that the meeting has not yet been conducted. Quan states that this problem has to do with the BKO and educational improvements. Anna de Koning asks Quan if this problem has been discussed with the PPLE OC. Quan states that the OC is not willing to discuss this matter. Anna de Koning states that the PPLE students need to complain in bigger amounts and write an official complaint. Anne asks if the classes that are being taught by post-graduates are lacking quality. Latif, Quan, Svedha and Jinane all state that the education within PPLE, especially within Economics, is lacking quality. Jinane states that she had a professor who could not explain the simple terms that were mandatory to know. Anne states that this matter

could be brought up during the GOV. Latif states that a strong fundament will not be reached and maintained if the tutors are not able to provide good education in the classes. Anne states that this point will be brought up during the GOV meeting.

**c. Updates Campusoverleg (Svedha)**

Svedha states that there were questions about the natural light. Svedha states that there were many complaints in regards to the natural light. Svedha states that the FSR should contact Hinke from facility management to discuss this matter. Svedha states that creating natural light is hard in REC A. Felix states more plants in the building would be a great solution to brighten up the building.

Svedha states she asked about not having a light switch in the council room. Svedha states that the light switch can be installed in the room.

Svedha states that there is a budget for accessibility and that this is a priority. Svedha states that there will be made a timeline for spending this budget. Svedha states that this timeline will be presented in the next Campusoverleg meeting. Svedha states that the air and temperature circulation will be examined and that in the next meeting there will be an update about this.

Svedha states that the contemplation room will open next academic year in the C building and will be in the FMG building. Anne asks if this room is accessible for people with a physical disability. Svedha states that accessibility was discussed in context with the contemplation room.

Svedha states that there are complaints about the products that are sold in the store in the main hall of REC A. Anna de Koning states that the idea behind this broad range of products is, that students will buy their groceries. Guilliano states that the store should not close at 17:00. Guilliano states that he has doubts about the choice of products at the store. Anne states that the products are expensive. Alex states that the CSR voted on keeping certain products in the vending machines and in the store. Anne states that she would like to have insight in the needs of students and what they are buying. Anna de Koning states a poll on Facebook can give insight in the needs of students.

Svedha states that during the meeting there were questions asked about the study spaces. Svedha states that these questions were about opening the study spaces during the weekends. REC A1 will be open during the weekends. Svedha states that the FSR's will get a schedule on what parts of the building are open during the week and/or weekends. Svedha states that there is an increase on opening the classrooms during the exam week for studying. Felix states that the law library asked the FSR to repost the messages of the law library-website and Facebook. Guilliano states that the FSR should post in all UvA law Facebook groups. Guilliano states that more students can be informed and it will increase the visibility of the FSR on social media.

Svedha states that companies own the classrooms and that this causes the unavailability of rooms. Svedha states that teachers reserve sections with classrooms to prevent that they have to book a room weekly. Anna de Koning states that these rooms should be available during the weekend, because then the rooms are not used for classes. Jinane states that securing the building is a factor, because all the parts of the building need to be secured. Anna de Koning states that other buildings can be opened for students during the weekend. Jinane states that building A, B, C could be opened instead of H.

Svedha states that building JK will be turned into study spaces, but this will be a project for the next four years. Svedha states that building F will be used for several faculties and that there are communication problems between the construction company and the university. Svedha states that faculties will have to pay for the amount of students that will make use of the room. Svedha states that FEB is a priority now because of the increasing amount of students at that faculty.

Svedha states that for the Campusoverleg study associations will be included to the next meetings.

**d. Opening Hours FSR Room (Ginger).**

**e. FSR Member to Join Taskforce Communication of New Course Registration Policy**

Anne states that this taskforce is about the change of the registration policy for exams. Anne asks who would want to be joining this taskforce. Jinane states that she would like to join.

**3. To Dos**

TD's:

- 181123: All council members will send Anne potential topics for the GOV agenda
- 181123: 2-3 council members will write an advice to the board re the termination of the research masters
- 181123: All dossier file holders will write a short update on latest developments + ideas for future projects/collaborations
- 181123: All council members will send in PV agenda points

**4. Other updates**

**5. WTTK**

Alex states that a five-point document is created and will be introduced by the CSR for the vision on education. Alex states that it consists of five points:

1. Sustainable admissions process. In regards to the growth of the university and a more sustainable environment in providing study spaces.
2. Numerus Fixus on English Track Program: Alex states that this point does not mean that there will be a numerous-fixus UvA-wide, but that certain faculties, CvB and programs within the university can get it. The international environment is growing on the university and there is a needed for maintaining the quality of education.
3. Broader selection criteria: Advocating for new tools and means for enrolling students. More in depth survey for example on grammar and language proficiency.
4. Affirmative action: Alex states that there will be more focus on preparing high school students for university.
5. Decentral approach: Alex states that the previous four points will be pursued and advocated. Alex states that there will be an active discussion about point 5.

Jinane states she is afraid for problems that may rise of the numerus fixus for the diversity. Alex states that the numerus fixus will not form problems for diversity. Anne states that the vision on education will be discussed during the next OV and that she would like to be updated by Alex on the meetings with the CbB.

Alex states that he would like the opinion on the grading policy at the university. There are several discussion topics. Alex asks how the council would feel if there would be a standard grading policy. Latif states that the grading is different per faculty. Anne asks what the extent of the differences is. Alex states that he will look at this.

Alex asks the council if it would be better to give students with ADHD, dyslexia etc 30 minutes extra or 25% extra time. Anne states that 25% of the time would be a better solution.

Alex states that the department of education wants to add a new tool that the performances of students can be compared to each other and that the progress of grades can be viewed. Alex states that he was opposed to this plan. The council states that it is against this new tool.

## **6. Closing of the meeting**

Anne closes the meeting at 10:51.