

# Concept minutes of the *Plenaire vergadering* of the CSR on 14 December 2021

Present	Joselyn Moran, Sukrit Bhatia, Alicja Staszak, Sara Kemper, Thomas Riedlsperger, Abigail Gilchrist, Mark Sivolap, Nicole Golovenko, Yourie Bras, Tessa Trapp, Tosca Manrique Hehl, Sofia Neumayer Toimil, Manish Jhinkoe-Rai;
Absent	-
Guest(s)	Dikran Kassabian (student assessor), Babette Stolk (YOUvATODAY), Koen Oostinga (FSR FNWI),
Minutes	Olav Abbring <i>Ambtelijk Secretaris</i> .

## 1. Opening

*Manish Jhinkoe-Rai opens the meeting at 8:52h and welcomes the meeting participants.*

## 2. Mail

*The emails that the CSR received are read.*

## 3. Adapting concept minutes

The concept minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> of December have been set with the following change:

On page 6 of the concept minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> of December the phrase 'The support of the dry January campaign will be discussed next week.' Will be removed.

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*Thomas joins the meeting*

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## 4. Checking the action list

*The action points are checked. See attachment.*

## 5. Announcements

On Wednesday the 15<sup>th</sup> of December there will be a second PV, starting at 09:00.

The CSR has had the vaagheidszonetraining from TAQT yesterday.

Sara can only attend a meeting on the University Forum on Friday from 1:30 to 2:15pm.

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*Tosca leaves the meeting*

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There is a meeting with the COR on digitalization on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December.

### Mandates

Sukrit mandates Abbey.

13 eligible votes. The quorum is met.

## 6. Updates DB & taskforces, delegates, central student assessor

Sara states that the FSR FGw supports the letter of the CSR regarding COVID & Exams. She asks what they should do. Manish states that he will meet with the FSRs today. He will send an email to the FSRs today, in a reply to which they can co-sign the letter.

## 7. Setting the agenda

*The agenda is set in the following order: 8. Stating up a microaggression repression page; 9. Video request on the functioning of the complaints committee; 10. Hybrid or online meetings; 11. Student health desk; 12. Unsolicited advice on the CSB; 13. COVID pass; and 14. Chief diversity officer.*

30 *The agenda points Usage of CSR social media, Unilife & MijnUvA app, and Digitalization are removed from today's agenda and will be discussed tomorrow.*

## 8. Starting up a microaggression repression page

Undoubtedly, the University is committed to providing a positive study and work environment in which we treat each other with respect, nobody feels unsafe, and everyone can develop their talents. Students can turn to a student counsellor or study advisor if they are experiencing an unsafe or personal situation that is affecting their studies that can refer the students to external bodies. However, there is no official forum or external body where students can go to get their grievances arising from their subjection to microaggressions be redressed.

Arguably, it can be established that being subjected to microaggressions affects not just the students, but also the teachers and hinders the UvA in its vision to become a positive study and work environment. In my opinion. For the UvA to foster inclusive spaces for all students and teachers to thrive and grow, there must be an intentional effort to confront bias and discriminatory behaviours head-on. All these arguments compel towards the need for establishing either a website landing page where students can share their experience with microaggressions and be redirected to an external body, trained and equipped in dealing with these situations and providing adequate redressal for the grieving party.

45 Sara asks if there is any data available on the microaggressions that students are experiencing. Sukrit states that data is not available but can be gathered. Additionally, Sara asks if there are statistics available that can back up the arguments of the CSR. Sukrit states that there is data available from last year's experiences of Asian student regarding micro-aggressions concerning COVID-19. Sara and Tessa agree that adding these numbers will inform the CSR more.

50 Sukrit explains that the voting proposal is to have a microaggression repression page. And that the CSR will join a working group to make sure that this page will be uploaded on the page of the UvA.

55 Tessa states that the voting proposal should be rephrased to make it clearer. The page will be part of the website of the UvA, on the social safety segment of the existing website.

Manish wonders if such a website will not interfere with the complaints committee that is active at the UvA. Sukrit explains that microaggressions cannot be addressed with the complaints committee.

60 The attending members of the CSR agree that more testimonials should be attached to the meeting piece. This should be done anonymous, or the meeting piece should be confidential.

65 Sara states that she believes that the CvB will not agree with adding this page on the website, with the argument that there are other entities that these issues can be brought up with. Counter arguments or reasons why other entities at the UvA will not pick this up will be added to the meeting piece.

## 9. Video request on the functioning of the complaints committee

70 Since 2012, a Complaints Committee has been established at the UvA to which all formal complaints go from both students and employees of the UvA. The committee is charged with handling and advising on complaints about administrative bodies of the UvA. The Complaints Committee also can make policy recommendations to the Executive Board. The formal complaints procedure is governed by the 'Regulations Governing the Handling of Complaints by Staff and Students of the University of Amsterdam'. The working method of the



Complaints Committee is described in the 'Regulations Governing the Complaints Committee of the University of Amsterdam'.

75 Currently, the information regarding the complaints committee at the UvA can be found here. However, it can be agreed that the information is extremely dispersed, confusingly formulated and perplexing. Since issues regarding academic integrity where "errors can be made anywhere at any time and there are many degrees and types of misconduct. Good scientific practice is only possible when there is full adherence to the principles of scrupulousness, reliability, honesty, impartiality, responsibility and respect" (Appendix 1 to the UvA's Academic Integrity complaints regulations, 2012). It cannot be denied that in order to tackle such 'errors' regarding academic integrity, proper and centralised communication about the existence of such a complaints committee should be made.

85 There are no questions of the CSR members on this meeting piece.

A voting proposal needs to be added. But if this is done, the item can be voted on during the PV on the 15<sup>th</sup> of December.

## 10. Hybrid or online meetings CSR [confidential]

[confidential]

## 11. Student help desk

Thomas states that different names are used for the to be installed entity. It will be called student help desk.

90 **Voting proposal:** The CSR 21-22 votes in favour of writing a letter to the CvB in which we recommend the CvB to give the order for the installation of a student help desk at all faculties within the UvA for 1 or 2 fte [per faculty].

In favour: 13

95 Against: 0

Blanco: 0

Abstain: 0

*The CSR 21-22 votes in favour of writing a letter to the CvB in which we recommend the CvB to give the order for the installation of a student help desk at all faculties within the UvA for 1 or 2 fte [per faculty]. (decision)*

100 **Voting proposal:** The CSR 21-22 votes in favour of starting this student help desk as a pilot for only 12 months after which an evaluation can be held to check whether this idea has been a success or not.

In favour: 13

Against: 0

105 Blanco: 0

Abstain: 0

*The CSR 21-22 votes in favour of starting this student help desk as a pilot for only 12 months after which an evaluation can be held to check whether this idea has been a success or not. (decision)*

110 **Voting proposal:** The CSR 21-22 votes in favour of harmonize this student help desk within the responsibility of the education (student) service desk per faculty.

In favour: 13

Against: 0

Blanco: 0

115 Abstain: 0

*The CSR 21-22 votes in favour of harmonize this student help desk within the responsibility of the education (student) service desk per faculty. (decision)*

120 Manish and Joselyn will write an unsolicited advice on the student help desk as an addition to the responsibilities of the student service desk for a pilot of 12 months that will be send to the CvB [action]. The advice will be made available before it is sent to the CvB.

This point will also be discussed during the OV of the CSR and the letter will be sent to the ombudsperson of the UvA.

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## 12. Unsolicited advice on the CSB

Thomas spoke with Jacqueline again; she states that she advised to have her read over it and give her own input on the letter. Sara states she does not agree with this. She believes that the CSR should send out the letter as is and add the CSB in the CC.

**Voting proposal:** The CSR 2021/22 votes in favour of sending the unsolicited advice regarding the limited functionality of the CSB to the CvB and in CC the CSB.

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In favour: 12

Against: 0

Blanco: 0

Abstain: 1

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*The CSR 2021/22 votes in favour of sending the unsolicited advice regarding the limited functionality of the CSB to the CvB. (decision)*

## 13. COVID Pass

Joselyn wonders what the alternative is to the last disadvantage. Alicja states that the app does not need to be installed, because it is possible to print the pass. Sara specifies that this law makes the QR-code mandatory. It can be printed. But the QR-code is not privacy proof.

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Manish adds that the minister of health stated that this national law will be left on the shelf for a couple of weeks. The Covid pass will not be mandated to the universities before that. The proposed law also includes that the *medezeggenschap* will not be included in the decision-making process on the COVID pass.

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Tessa adds that one of the disadvantages that the CvB can bring up is that a lot of people need to be hired to check the QR-code. Additionally, over 90% of the students is vaccinated.

Sara states that the LSVB and ISO are both against the implantation of the COVID pass and against the *medezeggenschap* having a say on this.

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Manish adds that he has met with all other *medezeggenschap* chairs in the Netherlands. There it was stated to *no medezeggenschap* was in favour of having the mandatory QR-code check at the universities.

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Tosca believes that preventing people to access the basic rights of education is unethical. Tessa replies that if this measure can prevent the university fully than she is in favour of having COVID passes. Yourie states that the platform follows the money published a story stating that having the mandatory QR-code was based on two sources. One was a lobby group, and one was a research done on presumptions.

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Tosca states that she believes that we will never get to the point that a mandatory QR-code is the only option to keep the university open. Sara does add that if it ever gets to the point that mandatory QR-codes are the only option to prevent the university from closing, than the CSR should discuss this topic again. Tosca agrees with this. Sara believes that the CSR can take a principal stance right now, but if it is necessary the situation can be discussed again.

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Mark adds that the CSR should differentiate between 2G and 3G. Sara states that the implementation of 2G has been postponed until after January. She states that this discussion is not relevant currently. Manish adds that if the government will consider the 2G proposal, then the CSR will discuss the topic again. This was also agreed on by the GV. Alicja states that she also considered having separate proposals, but she choose not to do this due to the discussion not being relevant currently.

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Manish states that the right to education is a fundamental right, stated in article 24 of the Dutch constitution and that the CSR should focus on and fight for this right. Manish states that the university for years has

175 claimed that there are financial struggles, so he wonders how the university will pay for and check all QR-codes. Manish adds that he believes that education money should not be spent on checking QR-codes. If the QR-codes will be made mandatory it should also be very clear on how students that cannot attend campus will be able to access education.

180 For some faculties it might not even be possible to offer alternatives, because of the necessary physical education.

Alicja will alter the meeting piece based on the discussion today. Alicja will alter the meeting piece and bring it to the PV tomorrow.

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*Babette and Koen leave the meeting*

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#### **14. Chief diversity officer [confidential]**

[confidential]

#### **15. W.V.T.T.K. / Any other business**

*No any other business.*

#### **16. Input requests for the FSRs / to the media**

*No input requests to the FSRs / to the media.*

#### **17. Evaluating the PV**

#### **18. Questions**

190 Tomorrow all interviews for the complaints committee will be done. The goal of the application task force is to have a decision before the winter break. So, a meeting piece might be sent as a *nazending* to the invite for tomorrow's meeting.

#### **19. Closing the meeting**

*Manish closes the meeting at 11:05.*

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#### **Decisions**

**211214-01**

[confidential]

**211214-02**

The CSR 21-22 decides in favour of writing a letter to the CvB in which we recommend the CvB to give the order for the installation of a student help desk at all faculties within the UvA for 1 or 2 fte [per faculty].

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**211214-03**

The CSR 21-22 decides in favour of starting this student help desk as a pilot for only 12 months after which an evaluation can be held to check whether this idea has been a success or not.

**211214-04**

The CSR 21-22 decides in favour of harmonize this student help desk within the responsibility of the education (student) service desk per faculty.

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**211214-05**

The CSR 21-22 decides in favour of sending the unsolicited advice regarding the limited functionality of the CSB to the CvB and in CC the CSB.

### Action list

- 210 **211214-01** Manish and Joselyn will write an unsolicited advice on the student help desk as an addition to the responsibilities of the student service desk for a pilot of 12 months that will be send to the CvB.
- 211207-01** All CSR members will archive their files on the p-drive before the 10<sup>th</sup> of December.
- 215 **211207-02** Tessa will invite Mark to the O&O committee meeting to discuss the topic of international students and growth at the UvA.
- ~~**211130-01** The CSR will discuss if the student assessor can be present during the vaagheidszonetraining on the 13<sup>th</sup> of December.~~
- 211123-01** Sukrit will inform with the CvB how the free menstrual hygiene products are a remuneration for staff members and why this prevents the UvA from offering the free menstrual hygiene products at the UvA.
- 220 **211116-04** Manish will send his faculties' alcohol policy to Mark. *FdG has none. FGw is currently writing a letter about it. FNWI is working on it. FMG will investigate it, by asking the faculty board.*
- 211109-05** Tosca will write a meeting piece for the first PV of January about the CSR's advisory board.
- 225 **[211021-04** Yourie will write an unsolicited advice regarding installing HEPA filters at the UvA locations.]

### Pro memoria

- 140908-04** The DB keeps an eye on late meeting pieces, is strict about *nazendingen* and being present in time.
- 141208-04** The committee chairs notify the PR-committee after their meetings which files that the CSR is working on should be raised in the media.
- 230 **161017-04** The committee chairs make sure that everyone gives proper feedback in their committees about the work, steering and soundboard groups, and they make sure the documents are saved on the P-drive. Council members archive all their documents in the P-drive.
- 161017-05** The committee chairs oversee the diverse division of speakers for the OV.
- 170201-04** The DB oversees a proper balance between small and large files in the PV.
- 235 **171108-04** The delegates check whether the agendas, minutes and letters of the FSR's are being published online.
- 190904-01** The DB protects the diversity of the council and supports a just and coherent working environment.
- 201002-01** All CSR members send their updates before Monday 17:00.
- 240 **201020-02** A double check on the spelling and grammar should be done for all *formal* communication. Committee chairs have the final responsibility in this.
- 211007-01** The committee chairs will send the committee agenda + minutes to the CSR on Monday at 17:00