# Concept minutes of the informal *Plenaire* vergadering of the CSR on 30 November 2023

Present Noah Pellikaan, Titus van der Valk, Noah Benjamins, Stefana Feciuc, Joaquim Becker, Sanaa Kashif, Diana

Burduja, Saar Schnieders, Jessey van Oostende, Roza Wagenaer, Sofia Frumkina, Ihab Laachir, Mic Cimmino,

Ruben Brouwer.

Absent

Guest(s) Maarten Krugers Dagneux (Student Assessor 23-24); Bora Fiden (Versterking Medezeggenschap); Willem Volker

(guest).

Minutes Abigail Gilchrist (Administrative secretary).

A list of general abbreviations can be found at the bottom of this document.

## 1. Opening

Noah P. opens the meeting at 13:17 and welcomes the meeting participants.

#### 2. Mail

The mail is read.

Ihab enters 13:18

#### 3. Adapting concept minutes

The minutes of the 23<sup>rd</sup> of November are adopted.

#### 4. Checking the action list

The action list is checked. See attachment.

Saar and Stefana enter 13:21

#### 5. Announcements

Diana announces she will leave at 14:55.

Ihab announces the CSR has organised with Amsterdam United and UvA Ideas for a documentary screening on Monday the  $4^{th}$  at CREA.

Noah P. states a protest was held at the Maagdenhuis yesterday for Palestine.

Bora states he has not received many survey responses from the Medezeggenschap and requests input from the councils to bring feedback to meetings with stakeholders. Bora states the meetings with Deans will take place one on one with Bora. All delegates will ensure their councils have filled out the surveys from Bora Fidan [action].

Roza announces she has been hired as a student assistant for a project at the UvA at Academic Affairs. Titus announces the democratization event is taking place later today at PC. Hoofthuis.

Joaquim announces the CREA tab is open tomorrow again but CSR members were still using the tab. Joaquim proposes to change the tab name as it may have been used by others outside the CSR. Jessey recommends asking for individual tabs for the members. If individual tabs do not work the CSR will change the tab name to [redacted].





Jessey and Ruben enter 13:23

**Mandates** 

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14 eligible votes. The quorum is met.

6. Updates: DB, delegates, central student assessor

Diana will provide an update from the FSR-FMG OV.

## 7. Setting the agenda

The agenda is set. Language Policy is taken off and moved to W.V.T.T.K.

## 8. Credits for Medezeggenschap

Noah P. has written a draft unsolicited advice in which the proposal is to allow for students who participate in Medezeggenschap to apply for ECTS credits. ECTS credits currently exist for students in political science and PPLE. Maarten clarifies the profiling fund is not compensation for work being done but rather compensation for the lack of student financing you receive in order to study another year. Maarten mentions pushing for council work as ECTS should be framed as an internship in place of compensation given it applies to all students.

Titus asks if it is accurate that the CSR works 52 weeks. Noah P. clarifies the weeks are allocated in the profiling fund but the amount of weeks does not change the argument. Noah P. agrees to change the weeks. Jessey clarifies what the added value of applying ECTS is. Mic explains it would be to make it an equal opportunity for all students in Medezeggenschap since other programmes already offer ECTS.

Titus adds the council is a lot of work but ECTS is a measurement of skill and knowledge. Titus mentions this is not what the CSR does and does not see how it makes sense. There is no measurement at the end that would display the same goal. Noah P. responds the CSR is an extracurricular activity so members should get extracurricular credit. Noah P. clarifies the members would have to prove their activity in the council and verify their knowledge and skills. Joaquim asks if a report would have to be written similar to an internship, which Noah P. confirms would be an option.

Sofia adds the extra credits would help for international students in Medezeggenschap as to keep her visa she needs to take extra courses to maintain the number of credits to stay in the country.

Titus mentions if a member has an internship, the student has a check in with an advisor to report on the process. He asks if a check-in would be required to receive ECTS. Noah P. responds it would be more effective for the examinations board to receive a confirmation letter from someone present at all the meetings, such as Abbey. Titus asks if this would be a way that the secretary writes a confirmation the council member has put in the work. He states if it could be a tool to encourage members to contribute equally. Noah P. states it should be based on what is outlined in the working agreements for active or inactive members.

Sofia mentions it would be good to get more information on all the existing methods of evaluating credits to understand how this could be implemented across faculties.

#### 9. Working Agreements

The CSR has discussed the working agreements last week and continues discussing points of identifying votes, hybrid meeting request and standardising physical meetings. Noah P. states they wanted to confirm with CSR members if they are okay with adding their names in the minutes for the voting proposals. The CSR does not see a need to add the amendment to the working agreement.



- Saar restates from last week it seems the structure of the meetings differs per committee and does not see the need to add the amendment. Mic is in favour of adding the amendment for in person meetings as a rule to enforce in person meetings to make hybrid an exception rather than an option. Titus mentions the wording does leave space for the committee chair to decide what makes sense for the meetings.
  - Joaquim asks why the CSR would need to request 12 hours in advance for a hybrid meeting. Noah P. mentions the CSR can be flexible on the 12 hour request but would prefer to standardise it. Saar recommends the phrasing could be worded to include a reasonable time and can be left open to the committee chair. Stefana is not in favour of the committee chair deciding whether a person attends online or not. Stefana mentions it could add pressure to the chairs to say yes to people. Titus responds it makes sense to have someone responsible for making the decision. Stefana mentions she would not like to abolish any decisions but the timeframe is important to include as a framework.
  - Ruben asks if the meetings should be in the House Rules as well. Ruben adds for a small committee it may be depend on which committee you are in for hybrid of in person meetings. The CSR agrees it could be included in the House Rules as well.
  - Noah P. asks if the CSR is in favour of the committee chair having the final decision on whether a meeting will be hybrid. Sofia proposes to vote separately on the amendment.

**Voting proposal:** The CSR 23/24 votes in favour of the amendment to the working agreements section 2 article 3.5.

In favour: 10 (Noah P., Titus, Noah B., Stefana, Sanaa, Mic, Joaquim, Diana, Roza, Jessey, Saar, Sofia, Ihab)

Against: 1 (Ruben)

Blanco: 0 Abstain: 3

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Decision: The CSR 23/24 votes in favour of the amendment to the working agreements section 2 article 3.5.

 $\underline{\textbf{Voting proposal:}} \ \text{The CSR 23/24 votes in favour of the amendment to the working agreements section 2}$ 

article 3.5.A.

In favour: 7 (Noah P., Titus, Noah B., Mic, Diana, Saar, Ihab)

Against: 3 (Ihab, Ruben, Jessey)

Blanco: 0

Abstain: 4 (Roza, Sanaa, Joaquim, Sofia)

Decision: The CSR 23/24 votes in favour of the amendment to the working agreements section 2 article 3.5.A.

**Voting proposal:** The CSR 23/24 votes in favour of the amendment to the working agreements section 2

Article 3.5.A.I.

In favour: 6 (Titus, Diana, Saar, Sanaa, Roza, Joaquim)

Against: 3 (Ruben, Jessey, Sofia) Blanco: 3 (Noah P., Stefana, Mic) Abstain: 2 (Ihab, Noah B.)

Decision: The CSR 23/24 votes in favour of the amendment to the working agreements section 2 Article 3.5.A.I..

#### 10. RvT Profile

Marise Voskens term will end the 31st of May. The CSR has received the job profile for the new chair of the RvT. Stefana asks if the RvT is appointed by the minister. Noah P. confirms but states there is still an



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application process involved in selecting a candidate. Titus clarifies if the RvT will push a candidate forward and if the minister usually confirms the selected candidate. Noah P. confirms that is normally the case. Sofia asks how the CSR's advice will be implemented. Noah P. says the advice will most likely be considered and adapted.

#### 11. CSR Personnel Increase

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Noah P. proposes to increase the CSR by two or three members. Noah P. would like to have a delegate from the AUC as AUC students vote for the CSR but have no formal representation in the council. As the CSR has been discussing the workload of the CSR, it has been brought up as a solution to expand the council as well. Ihab states he would be in favour of including AUC and mentions the CSR is in too little contact with the AUC council. Ihab is in favour of the honours council as well. Noah P. adds the honours council is not directly elected and would serve a problem for representation.

Noah B. is not in favour of having a delegate for the Green Office and the honours student council. He mentions it would be nice but may take away some of the CSR democratic legitimacy. Noah P. mentions they have addressed the concern in the meeting piece by proposing to elect an internal CSR member to send as a delegate to the Green Office. Sofia asks how the CSR members are regulated. The CSR has internal regulations made by the CvB, in collaboration with the CSR, which regulate the number of members in the council. Sanaa mentions she likes the idea of getting in contact with the Green Office and honours council but believes it is a slippery slope. She mentions there are a lot of other bodies at the UvA that would benefit from a CSR delegate and having specific representation for some bodies could cause issues with other stakeholders at the UvA. Maarten mentions the CSR may run into a lot of issues as the program is led in collaboration with the VU where the rights of the council differ. If the AUC would like to change policies they have to negotiate with UvA and VU. Maarten recommends the CSR should ask if the working group on the profiling fund could discuss the additions to the profiling fund and discuss a policy on inactive members.

Saar responds that ACTA is also UvA and VU. She does not understand why AUC would not be able to participate if ACTA has a seat in the CSR. Saar is in favour of an AUC delegate as well as an additional member. Maarten adds ACTA had allocated the Medezeggenschap position to UvA and is not sure if AUC is allocated to UvA or VU.

Noah B. had checked the rules on the Medezeggenschap regulation in which the FSR's have a maximum of 12 council members. The CSR regulation allows for 14 seats. Noah B. asks if there is a qualified majority in the GV. Noah P. states a qualified majority is needed and adds the COR has 16 member given representation from the GOR. Noah P. states it would be good to match the current number

Joaquim asks if AUC can run for the VU council as well. Bora adds the AUC Medezeggenschap is currently a part of the VU.

Ihab proposes to discuss the expansion of the council with the COR and Noah P. updates they have discussed with COR members and it is not currently an issue for the CSR to propose additional members.

Saar states she would not be in favour of two extra general members as the representation of FNWI and FdG is already a lot smaller given the distribution of voters per faculty and worries it may cause an imbalance.

#### 12. OV Topics

Titus updates the next OV will take January 16<sup>th</sup>. The CSR has their last PV on the 14<sup>th</sup> of December before the winter break, which gives the CSR only three PV's before the next OV. The DB discussed a few topic proposals for the next OV. Titus asks what the CSR would like to discuss during the OV.

Mic adds the DB planned to address the CSR's concerns on UvA's statement on Palestine-Israel with the CDO. Sanaa asks if it would be possible for the UvA to create a guideline for making statements on communication during political conflicts. Sofia mentions the statement guidelines should be focused on creating a balanced



framework of communication if it is politically associated. For instance, creating a framework the bureau of communications or CDO follows if there are political disagreements. Noah P. suggests whether the communication framework would tie into crisis policy. Roza adds it would be good to tie into the crisis policy. Stefana mentions it would also be in the discussion on house rules.

Stefana adds the CSR would like to work on house rules with the GV which is why the CSR would not bring it forward to the OV.

Titus summarises the possibility for the CSR to bring the topics of AUC delegate, accessibility roadmap, democratization, and the canteen to the OV. Noah P. recommends being more strict in advocating for the fulfilment of action points following the OV's.

Titus suggests if there are topics members want for the OV, CSR members should already write an informing piece for the next PV.

## 13. Profiling Fund

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The CSR has received a request for consent to increase the profiling by 9%. The 9% is currently tied to the base of the profiling fund, not including the additional allocations for committee members and DB members. The contact person on the file will meet with Noah P. next week to discuss the changes to the profiling fund. If the CSR consents positively, Noah P. recommends adding in certain conditions the CSR would like to see in the advice and set the agenda for the changes to the profiling fund.

Saar states she thinks it is important to accept the current change in order to make progress in increasing the fund. Joaquim cautions that he would not like the CvB to say the fund has been increased after the 9%. The CSR is informed the 9% is from the CSR 22/23 which is unrelated to the current CSR topic on increasing the profiling fund overall and to revisit the regulations.

Titus states the CSR should write a "yes, but" advice. Sofia mentions the CSR should provide a strong advice on an explanation on how to distribute the costs further based on the current understanding the additional funding for committee members and DB would only be around 4%.

#### Diana leaves 14:53

Saar asks if it is reasonable to ask for a 9% raise on the additional compensation for committee members and DB. It has not been discussed with the CvB and she is unsure if the CvB is aware. The CSR can ask for the 9% to be attached to the additional compensation but if they say no it is not possible to change.

Noah B. adds the profiling fund meeting will take place next week and the response does not have to be sent quickly. He proposes the CSR can vote once there is more information on what has been taken into account. Joaquim asks if the CSR consents negatively, the CvB has to provide a response. Noah P. clarifies the CvB would then not need to send another proposal. Stefana asks why the CSR cannot advocate for more in the OV. Noah P. states the CSR would have no guarantee of getting another proposal. It is possible the CSR can ask for an increase for the additional compensation for committee members and the DB in the OV. The CSR will vote next week.

## 14. Supporting the Walk-Out

Stefana updates there was a walk-out in support of Palestine that took place yesterday. People walked out of the offices and classes at 12:00. Stefana updates the protest was peaceful, protestors voiced concerns and spoke about the oppression of demonstrators at the university. In the meeting piece, Stefana collected instances of UvA, AUC and VU targeting protestors specifically in support of Palestine. Stefana would like to make council members aware that the UvA is stifling a show of support for the Palestinian struggle.



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Roza mentions Stefana wrote about UvA's intimidation tactics in her meeting piece regarding targeting those speaking out against Israel as antisemitic, events around sit-ins or humus making workshops are seen as antisemitic. Roza recommends the CSR should be careful in condemning UvA policy or making certain allegations. Stefana mentions it is only for the meeting piece but not made public.

The CSR is given the update that the UvA would not like to see teach-ins outside lecture halls. Many Jewish students are also feeling unsafe on campus. Those students who need to go to UvA should feel safe and the UvA is fine with teach-ins in the room but not outside. Facility Services has been cancelling a lot of events as well due to security issues. Joaquim states he does not believe it is true the UvA allows teach-ins in lecture rooms as students who try to organise those events have them cancelled. Joaquim shares at FEB they have tried to organise a documentary night on Gaza which was rejected.

Joaquim asks which part of the meeting piece the CSR will vote on. Stefana would like the CSR to support the walk-out and its' demands. Stefana mentions the demands include to openly teach about the occupation of Palestine without intimidation, particularly as there have been reports of bodyguards outside lecture halls. Ruben recommends voting for the UvA to stimulate more dialogue rather than asking the UvA not to do certain things. Ruben would like the CSR to communicate in a non-polarising way. Ihab mentions he agrees there should be more respectful dialogue in order to understand each other's perspectives.

Jessey states he understands why the UvA is blocking events as it is a very polarised issue at the moment. Jessey mentions many people are afraid to speak up as they are afraid of the negative feedback from others. Jessey adds it would not be an equal dialogue in that case.

Titus leaves 15:14. Titus mandates Sanaa.

Roza asks Stefana to send the internal guidelines drafted to monitor academics. Stefana mentions currently the UvA is working on creating guidelines on heated moments in class.

**Voting proposal:** The CSR 23/24 votes in favour of supporting the national walkout for Palestine and its demands.

In favour: 8 (Noah P., Sanaa, Titus, Mic, Noah B., Joaquim, Stefana, Ihab)

Against: 4 (Saar, Roza, Ruben, Jessey)

Blanco: 0

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Abstain: 1 (Sofia)

Decision: The CSR 23/24 votes in favour of supporting the national walkout for Palestine and its demands.

<u>Voting proposal</u>: The CSR 23/24 votes in favour of requesting the UvA to facilitate safe academic dialogue regarding polarising conflicts.

taking a stance in favour of the UvA stimulating an academic dialogue on the ongoing Palestine-Israel conflict.

In favour: 13 (Noah P., Titus, Noah B., Mic, Saar, Ihab, Ruben, Jessey, Stefana, Roza, Sanaa, Joaquim, Sofia) Against: 0

Blanco: 0 Abstain: 0

Decision: The CSR 23/24 votes in favour of requesting the UvA to facilitate safe academic dialogue regarding polarising conflicts.

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

Mic reminds council members to be aware of the language they use in their official capacity as the CSR has signed the diversity commitment. They want to ensure council members remain respectful.

The FSR-FdR has received a letter today on the FSR funding. The evaluation weekend money is coming from the Versterking Medezeggenschap budget.

Sofia is working on the language policy discrepancies in the Dutch and English policies. Sofia asks members if there is a policy needed from members not available in their language to let her know.

Jessey asks who the file holder for Canvas is. The file is located in DLO. Noah B. and Saar are working on DLO. If members are working on crisis policy, a meeting will be set up soon.

Joaquim mentions he is confused regarding who the CSR represents and would like to discuss the topic further.

Stefana states the law budget has been raised from 6,000 to 12,000.

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

There are no input requests.

## 17. Evaluating the PV

The PV is evaluated.

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## 18. Questions

There are no further questions.

## 19. Closing the meeting

Noah P. closes the meeting at 15:26.

245	<b>Decisions</b>	
	231130-01	The CSR 23/24 votes in favour of the amendment to the working agreements section 2
		article 3.5.
	231130-02	The CSR 23/24 votes in favour of the amendment to the working agreements section 2
		article 3.5.A.
250	231130-03	The CSR 23/24 votes in favour of the amendment to the working agreements section 2
		Article 3.5.A.I.
	231130-04	The CSR 23/24 votes in favour of supporting the national walkout for Palestine and its
		demands.
	231130-05	The CSR 23/24 votes in favour of requesting the UvA to facilitate safe academic dialogue
255		regarding polarising conflicts.
	<b>Action list</b>	
	231130-01	Bora states the meetings with Deans will take place one on one with Bora. All delegates will
		ensure their councils have filled out the surveys from Bora Fidan.
260	231123-01	The DB will look into the Twilight concert as a social activity for the council.
	231123-02	All members of the CSR will attend the pre-meeting for the WHW and prepare what they
		would like to discuss.
	231116-02	Noah P. will forward the CSR signature to the Research Master for Social Sciences.
	231116-03	Ruben will order merch and reach out to other companies for mugs.





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# Pro memoria

	140908-04	The DB keeps an eye on late meeting pieces, is strict about <i>nazendingen</i> 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.
270	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 Microsoft Teams. Council members archive all their documents on Microsoft Teams.
	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.
275	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 Wednesday 12:00.
280	201020-02	A double check on the spelling and grammar should be done for all <i>formal</i> communication. Committee chairs have the final responsibility for this.
	220113-02	CSR members will inform the vice-chair if they are absent during a meeting or event of the CSR.
285	220113-03	Meeting pieces that concern files of other file holders will be sent to the committee chair before sending the meeting pieces to be discussed in the PV.
	220307-01	Receipts will be added to the request for budget approvals that are brought to the PV of the CSR.

# **Important transfer tips**

**220120-01** The new CSR members should be brought in contact with the advisory board as soon as possible.

# **List of Abbreviations**

Abbreviation	English	Nederlands
CSR	Central Student Council	Centrale studentenraad
COR	Central Workers Council	Centrale ondernemingsraad
DB	Daily Board	Dagelijks Bestuur
GV	General Assembly	Gezamenlijke vergadering
GV meeting	General Assembly meeting	Vergadering van de gezamenlijke vergadering
CvB	Board of Executives	College van Bestuur
0&0	Education and Research	Onderwijs en Onderzoek
O&F	Organization and Finance	Organisatie en Financiën
PR	Public Relations	Promotie
PV	Plenary meeting (of the CSR)	Plenaire vergadering (van de CSR)
OV	Plenary meeting (with the CvB)	Overlegvergadering (met het CvB)
FSR(s)	Faculty student council(s)	Facultaire studentenra(a)d(en)
PC(s)	Program committee(s)	Opleidingscommissie(s)
FEB	Faculty Economics and Business	Faculteit Economie en Bedrijfskunde
FGw	Faculty of Humanities	Faculteit der Geesterwetenschappen

FMG	Faculty of Social and Behavioural	Faculteit Maatschappij & Gedrag
	Sciences	
FdG	Faculty of Medicine	Faculteit der Geneeskunde
FdR	Faculty of Law	Faculteit der Rechtsgeleerdheid
ACTA	Academic Center for Dentistry	Academisch Centrum Tandheelkunde Amsterdam
	Amsterdam	
FNWI	Faculty of Science	Faculteit Natuurwetenschappen, Wiskunde en
		Informatica
PPLE	Politics, Psychology, Law, and	Politiek, psychologie, rechten en economie
	Economics	
SA	Student Assessor	Student assessor
UvA	University of Amsterdam	Universiteit van Amsterdam
W.v.t.t.k.	Any other Business	Wat verder ter tafel komt

