

Concept minutes of the informal *Plenaire vergadering* of the CSR on 6 May 2025

Present	Stefana Feciuc, Roza Wagenaer, Dina Nikolić, Wiktor Misiak, Georg Trischler Vinje, Maximiliano Okpala, Willem Volker, Francesco Bruseghini, Yashi Tripathi, Martrim Yousef, Brody Xin, Aysenaz Cimsit, Lola Fioole.
Absent	Ivana Djurica.
Guest(s)	
Minutes	Abigail Gilchrist (<i>Administrative secretary</i>).

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

1. Opening

Stefana opens the meeting at 16:07 and welcomes the meeting participants.

2. Mail

The mail is read.

3. Adapting concept minutes

The minutes from the 22nd of April are adopted.

4. Checking the action list

The action list is checked. See attachment.

5. Announcements

- 5 Abbey reminds members that the Heisessie will take place next Monday evening. Abbey has sent all members a memo on the agenda for the upcoming OV cycles for the remainder of the current academic term.
Georg will introduce a petition on contemplation rooms in the next PV.
Willem will leave at 17:55.
- 10 Abbey informs all members she has forwarded an email on the CSR transfer dates and information for incoming candidates to the FSR's and student parties. Abbey asks members to help their parties if they have questions with making declarations. w

Martrim mandates Maxi

Ivana mandates Willem

- 15 14 eligible votes. The quorum is met.

6. Updates: DB, delegates, central student assessor

The updates are attached below.

7. Setting the agenda

The agenda is set.

8. Academic Freedom OV

20 Roza and Willem have met with Academic Affairs to discuss academic freedom at the UvA. The meeting aimed to address what the UvA has done so far on the topic of academic freedom and to learn more about how the staff views academic freedom. Roza and Willem also met with the ombudsperson on the existing complaints procedure within the UvA and how this would work in the context of a meldpunt on academic freedom. Currently the meldpunt only addresses concerns related to social safety. The ombudsperson recently finalized the annual report on the complaints received through the social safety meldpunt, but did not receive any 25 complaints related to academic freedom. The existing meldpunt is not broad enough to include possible complaints members of the UvA community may have on academic freedom. Roza finds the core of the problem is that academic freedom seems to be more institutional rather than a specific complaint about behavior that can be submitted. Alongside a meldpunt, Roza and Willem would like to propose specific trainings for teachers and lecturers to create space for an open and inclusive debate, as well as creating a 30 information guide for exchange students on their rights when studying in the United States. Finally, to gain further insight into the topic at the UvA, Roza and Willem have proposed sending a questionnaire to tutorials about self-censorship.

Wiktör asks if there is a specified date when the CSR can expect the KNAW to publish their position paper on academic freedom. Willem states the KNAW plans to publish the paper in the summer. Stefana asks if the 35 reporting point (meldpunt) on academic freedom would be the responsibility of the ombudsperson, or if the reporting would be delegated to another department within the UvA. Willem clarifies the ombudsperson does not only focus on social safety and within the existing infrastructure is the most accessible within the UvA. Willem mentions academic freedom can be a social safety issue if you feel you cannot express what you want to.

40 *Lola joins 16:27*

Francesco asks if the ombudsperson has capacity to manage the meldpunt on academic freedom, as the team currently exists of only three members. Willem would like to discuss capacity with the CvB as the 45 ombudsperson was unsure how the meldpunt should take shape within the university. The ombudsperson would like to change the current description of the meldpunt for social safety to include self-censorship in the description. Other aspects of the meldpunt for academic freedom should be discussed with the CvB.

Georg finds the current framing of the meeting piece focuses on the student experience within the UvA. Georg asks if academic freedom should also include UvA as an institution for outside bodies or threats. At the 50 moment, Willem states there are not ideas to include external pressures at the moment but is open to brainstorming on how to incorporate this. Stefana recommends bringing the an academic freedom meldpunt to the GV as the staff may have more suggestions and input. Willem also states he would like to bring the exchange guide for the US students in the OV as well. Willem will ask in the OV for more information on a statement from UNL on academic freedom.

55 Francesco asks if the complaints committee is not currently enough for the complaint procedure. Willem states it is currently unclear how to utilize the complaints committee for other complaints that are not social safety related. Roza adds the complaints committee is utilized as a formal procedure that is not as accessible and is in an institutional format. Willem would like to map out the problem to measure how big the issue of academic freedom is at the UvA, which can be done through a meldpunt. Willem would like to use the 60 opportunity to handle complaints on a case-by-case basis.

Roza is concerned that the meldpunt would be misused and would like to ensure the meldpunt would be adding something to the UvA community. Roza would like to discuss mitigation measures, such as defining types of cases students can submit to the committee or the meldpunt.



Georg asks if it is known to what extent lecturers receive training. Willem clarifies new teachers and lecturers receive trainings and all staff can go on a voluntary basis to TLC. Dina recommends adding ensuring a safe space is kept at the UvA for the complaints.

9. RvT Advice Request [Confidential]

The CSR discusses a confidential point on the advice request from the RvT..

Voting Proposal: The CSR 24-25 votes in favour of giving a positive advice on Richard Goldstein for the position of FP&C file holder of the CvB.

In favour: 14 (Stefana, Georg, Lola, Dina, Maxi, Francesco, Willem, Roza, Ivana, Aysenaz, Brody, Martrim, Yashi, Wiktor)

Against:

Blanco:

Abstain

Decision: *The CSR 24-25 votes in favour of giving a positive advice on Richard Goldstein for the position of FP&C file holder of the CvB.*

10. Petition Cutting EN Psychology Programmes

During the OV of the 15th of April, the CvB announced their intention to negotiate with UNL to ask the government to remove English language bachelor program restrictions from the Internationalization law. The UvA announced they would cut the English bachelors program in Psychology as a part of the negotiations package from UNL. Stefana has attached a petition on the UvA's decision to negotiate cutting the English track of the Psychology Bachelors program.

Willem finds the proposal was a smart move from the UvA to protect international programs, but also finds it important to continue to push back against government proposals that harm the university. Francesco updates the negotiating counter proposal from the UNL was not accepted by Parliament. Francesco understands the decision to negotiate with the psychology program had to be made behind closed doors but finds it is still problematic there were no student consultations.

Brody leaves 16:41

Dina would like to cement the point that the CSR was not consulted in the process, and they find it concerning there was a lack of student consultation. The CSR was only informed a few hours before the press release.

Georg informs the CSR that the FSR FMG supports the petition.

Wiktor finds there is a growing tendency where medezeggenschap bodies are pressured into giving their consent due to procedures that have not been followed correctly, such as consent requests that are sent too late or in which decisions have already been made and medezeggenschap is consulted after the fact. Wiktor would like to underscore the fact this is not how medezeggenschap works. Stefana has spoken to Gerwin in which there will also be a discussion on medezeggenschap consultation at the next GV.

Willem adds he has heard that the head of the psychology department was also not informed about the UvA's decision to negotiate with the psychology program. Willem finds this is also problematic. Stefana informs the CSR there are psychology students organizing protests against the CvB's decision. Stefana would like the CSR to support the psychology students.

Voting Proposal: The CSR 24-25 votes in favour of signing the petition *Against Language Barriers: A Call to Protect Education in Dutch Academia*.



In favour: 8 (Stefana, Yashi, Wiktor, Dina, Francesco, Georg, Lola, Aysenaz)

Against:

Blanco: 5 (Willem, Maxi, Martrim, Roza, Ivana)

Abstain:

Decision: *The CSR 24-25 votes in favour of signing the petition Against Language Barriers: A Call to Protect Education in Dutch Academia.*

11. Working Agreements

The CSR was previously informed on the proposals for adjustments to the internal working agreements of the CSR.

For the proposal for online meetings, Wiktor would like to make an exception for those that are participating in labs are not required to have their cameras on. Georg recommends adding a mechanism within the working agreements to monitor participation, as sometimes members may need to turn their videos off due to poor internet connection.

Dina finds the proposal to ask prospective council members not to go on exchange as reasonable. Francesco states it is difficult to work on files jointly if members are on exchange abroad as there are often work groups that cannot be attended online. Maximiliano finds the amendment is not necessary as he found the previous experience with Willem on exchange did not hinder the CSR. Willem states he would not recommend doing CSR and going on exchange, but it is a personal choice. Willem finds it is a valuable experience and would not like to take it away from CSR members. For Dutch students that do not have an international experience, it would be difficult to request members not to go. Willem is in favour of recommending exchanges should not be done while you are a member of the CSR, but finds it important to still enable personal preference. Stefana shares that in the FSR FdR there was also a member that went on exchange which was not ideal for the council. Francesco suggests adding the clause in the profiling fund that those who go on exchange may not receive the profiling fund during their time abroad as this would allow the CSR to have extra budget for hiring a council assistant.

Georg mentions for Dutch students that would like to participate in the CSR, they are able to take a year off for council work more than international students are able to. Georg finds sometimes a choice will have to be made. Stefana adds the profiling fund is present to encourage members to take time of their studies to dedicate to a board year. Stefana notices a growing trend in which members do not take time off from studying. Stefana would like to see more incentives for students to take time off from studying full-time. Yashi finds it is rare for someone to go on exchange during their CSR year. For attending PVs, Willem was always present. Yashi adds members may be in the Netherlands and still not regularly attend PVs or complete their work within the CSR. Yashi finds that extended vacations and internships are also similar to exchanges as it affects the council work.

Martrim leaves 17:27

O&F will discuss student exchanges during a CSR term within the profiling fund **[action]**. O&F will look into identifying CSR responsibilities and work for CSR members in the profiling fund **[action]**.

Maximiliano states if the CSR wants to implement the regulation, he does not find the working agreements are the place to address exchanges. Maximiliano states he would like to create a structure to inform the coming council members of expectations for their term in the CSR in the next year. Willem states he agrees it would be problematic for DB members or delegates to go on an exchange. Willem finds the idea of a temporary council assistant as a good solution but would like to formalize that agreement.



Yashi leaves 17:34

155 Stefana would like to add to the working agreements the clause that members are public representatives of the student population at the UvA and should be prepared to have their name and photo on the website as such. Willem states when the Austrian TV channel came to film, some CSR members were not comfortable with PR videos. Willem would like to allow that people can state they are not comfortable in appearing in PR videos or more than a picture on the website. The CSR can add an exception clause for those that are
160 uncomfortable with appearing in promotion material. Georg recommends including at a minimum, CSR members should expect to publish their name and picture.
Stefana would like to amend the working agreements to include when absences are motivated for the minutes, versus when they are not motivated or notified in time.

12. W.V.T.T.K / Any other business

165 Wiktor did not receive any further feedback on the testing platform for elections. All CSR members will test the voting platform by 12:00 Wednesday [action]. Francesco finds using the Microsoft two-factor authenticator will decrease voter turnout.
Willem, Roza and Maxi participated in a video for DVS that will come out on the CSR.
The OV agenda for May 13th is discussed.

13. Input requests for the FSRs / to the media

There are no further requests.

14. Evaluating the PV

170 *The PV is evaluated.*

15. Questions

There are no further questions.

16. Closing the meeting

Stefana closes the meeting at 17:58.

Decisions

- 175 **250506-01** The CSR 24-25 votes in favour of giving a positive advice on Richard Goldstein for the position of FP&C file holder of the CvB.
250506-02 The CSR 24-25 votes in favour of signing the petition *Against Language Barriers: A Call to Protect Education in Dutch Academia*.

Action list

- 180 **250506-01** O&F will discuss student exchanges during a CSR term within the profiling fund.
250506-02 O&F will look into identifying CSR responsibilities and work for CSR members in the profiling fund.
250506-03 All CSR members will test the voting platform by 12:00 Wednesday.
185 **250422-01** Committees will evaluate what files should continue to be worked on for the remaining OVs.
250422-02 The DB will make a plan for utilizing more email votes.
250422-03 ~~All members will send input on email votes before Wednesday the latest.~~
250408-01 ~~Lola will share the student assessor vacancy once it is online.~~



- 190 **250401-01** Stefana will look into confidentiality regulations and frameworks for the next PV to further outline possible argumentations against student involvement in appointment procedures.
- 250310-03** O&M will create a communications strategy for the CSR social media to discuss in the PV.
- 250303-02** Stefana will schedule a meeting with Ivana and Dina on writing an article on the WIB for Folia.
- 195 **250303-04** O&M will send a reminder to the FSR's to invite them to participate in the Night of the Refugee.

Pro memoria

- 140908-04** The DB keeps an eye on late meeting pieces, is strict about *nazendingen* and being present in time.
- 200 **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.
- 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.
- 205 **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.
- 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.
- 210 **201002-01** All CSR members send their updates before Tuesday at 15:00.
- 201020-02** A double check on the spelling and grammar should be done for all *formal* 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.
- 215 **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.
- 240215-01** The DB will be attentive to social activities and council cohesion.
- 220 **250310-01** All CSR members will include abbreviations in their meeting.

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



O&O	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 Sciences	Faculteit Maatschappij & Gedrag
FdG	Faculty of Medicine	Faculteit der Geneeskunde
FdR	Faculty of Law	Faculteit der Rechtsgeleerdheid
ACTA	Academic Center for Dentistry Amsterdam	Academisch Centrum Tandheelkunde Amsterdam
FNWI	Faculty of Science	Faculteit Natuurwetenschappen, Wiskunde en Informatica
PPLE	Politics, Psychology, Law, and Economics	Politiek, psychologie, rechten en economie
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

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PV CSR Update 250506		
	Person	Update
General Members	Stefana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Went to the University Forum and found out about some teachers at the UvA experiencing a lot of backlash on their research from right-wing publications and forums – a perspective I didn't hear a lot when talking about academic freedom! At the same time, I also found out that UNL is working on a memo on academic freedom; I will take that up with the GV The event I was invited to speak at on Palestine was in the meantime cancelled – FS cancelled the booking for the event at REC (after it was initially approved!) less than a week before the event was set to happen. They also informed MUSA that this cancellation was done according to the house rules, which justified that "two parties" would need to be represented. In my over a year and a half of working on this file I never heard about this justification; I am now looking into what happened. Fortunately, MUSA found a second location, but (1) they had to bear the costs for that and they don't have as much access to the UvA community and (2) it is strange that a discussion on this was simply cancelled at the university – despite the narrative that there are not enough efforts to have sat-down discussions like these at the university Me and Yashi a technical meeting with the financial department on the new kaderbrief, it was mainly informative, but I will make sure to send with O&F the remaining questions I had from that meeting Had a technical meeting on house rules, at the moment there are problems in terms of a timely timeline, but I hope we'll solve that with JZ
	Dina	- Nothing relevant.
	Yashi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Had a technical meeting with the financial department on the Kaderbrief preparation, and the meeting gave an overview of what O&F can expect. Kaderbrief is coming up soon! Had a meeting with Jan Buursma on accessibility, he suggested that the CSR conducts a survey with students with disabilities on facilities on campus (whether they are sufficient, and what can be improved). This will be worked on further within O&F, to be brought up in a GV before the end of the year. Working on compiling/ looking through existng memos on the budget and kaderbrief. Following up this week with Jan Linsten on any further memos we may need for



		the KB prep – possibly sustainability & accessibility related.
	Aysenaz	
	Maximiliano	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I acted in a clip on the upcoming CSR elections - I initiated and and co-ordinated the RfD debate this Thursday
	Willem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -made csr promotion clip -Had a chat with the ombudsfunctionaris
	Wiktor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finalised work on the voting guide for the CSR elections including finding the translator (thanks Lola!) - Still no updates on campaign spaces, reminded bureau communications to send me their answers ASAP
Delegates	Georg	Will finish Contemplation room petition this week and send it for approval in next PV
	Roza	Nothing relevant
	Francesco	<p>FSR FGw:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We are now an apartheid-free zone, a campaign brought forward by the BDS movement. - We're currently working on OER Bs. - We've sent unsolicited advices to the Faculty about student protests and the formalization of breaks in the schedule <p>Social safety:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Had a meeting with the Ombudsperson to discuss the 2024 report; talked about the upcoming meldpunt
	Lola	No important updates.
	Ivana	
	Brody	
	Martrim	
Student Assessor	Angelina	