



Concept minutes of the informal *Plenaire vergadering* of the CSR on 11 December 2025

Present	Francesco Bruseghini, Saskia Koe-Krompecher, Noor Hajra, Maximiliano Okpala, Philipp Greiner, Victor Nieboer, Pieter-Joost van der Plas, Vaisakh Karuvath, Florence Lynch, Vincent Nap, Kacper Farbisz, Yipeng Chen, Alies Vercouteren, Dina Nikolić.
Absent	
Guest(s)	Richard Goldstein (<i>CvB FP&C member</i>), Willem Volker (<i>Student assessor 25-26</i>), Roos Eggers (<i>AcZ</i>), Susanne van Weelden (<i>AcZ</i>), Sangita Jaghai-Bajulaiye (<i>profleringsfonds</i>), Rosa Baggelaar (<i>profleringsfonds</i>).
Minutes	Abigail Gilchrist (<i>Administrative secretary</i>).

[A list of general abbreviations can be found at the bottom of this document.](#)

1. Opening

Francesco opens the meeting at 11:01 and welcomes the meeting participants.

2. Mail

The mail is discussed.

3. Adapting concept minutes

The minutes of 4 December are postponed.

4. Checking the action list

The action list is checked. See attachment.

5. Announcements

5 There are no announcements..

There are 14 eligible votes. The quorum is met.

6. Updates: DB, delegates, central student assessor

The updates are discussed. See attachment

The updates will be shared in written format.

7. Setting the agenda

10 The agenda is set.

8. UvA Strategy

The Strategy team is present to discuss the UvA strategy. The purpose of the strategy document is to ensure the document is inspirational and concise. The UvA would like to ensure it is not a fully comprehensive document. There should be building blocks as a frame that will inspire separate policies. In collecting perspectives outside the UvA, the feedback given is that the UvA is difficult to work with and self-focused. The CvB envisions in four years' time that the UvA will be more open and warm. For the priorities, the UvA would like more information on what in-depth sessions the CSR would like to see.



Kacper enters 11:07

20 Vincent asks if there are specific causes for the current feedback on the outside perception of the UvA. From 2015 until now, demonstrations have created discussion on how the UvA should evolve. The intention and focus has been directed inward previously, while now the UvA feels more comfortable in discussions to look outwards.

25 *Dina enters 11:10*

Richard would like CSR input mainly on the current proposed foundation, for the UvA to be a great place to study and work. In a student survey, Richard shares 50% of international students do not feel at home at the UvA. The CvB would like to make this feeling a priority in the coming years.

30 Victor mentions in the ambition to provide room for talent, the square meters are decreasing in the office space. Victor asks if there are certain follow-ups to create a more independent university to ensure there is physically room for talent. In the strategy, the UvA would like to aim for city campuses and everything that creates a beating heart around it. Richard clarifies room for talent includes making a career at the UvA attractive to all members of it's community. The UvA is debating whether room for talent should be integrated as a great place to work. Having a nice office or student environment with enough space to work together is an important part of this ambition.

35 Vai asks if there are certain KPI's that would measure the success of the goals and ambitions of the UvA strategy. In previous years of interaction between the CSR and the CvB, the responses have often been quite formal between the bodies. In Richard's view, the CvB values the questions and insights of the CSR. In four years' time, the CvB would like that the CSR reflects they feel listened to in the responses of the CvB through more openness and warmth provide more warmth and that there is more openness in the response. Pieter-Joost mentions a point to look into would be connecting programs to the labour market. Pieter-Joost recommends further creating the connection to the labour market at a KPI. Other KPI's will be addressed and elaborated further on in the process.

45 Saskia appreciates the values and ambitions of the strategy. Saskia would like to ensure that there will be a focus in the future on concrete policy that will follow from the strategy. Saskia notes that it would also be important for the UvA not to be afraid to go against the national government to ensure their students and staff feel at home. Richard understands the dilemma of protecting the environment of the UvA as an open and international university. On the other hand, it would be important to identify what the UvA would ask internationals in return. Richard mentions that policies are good to have but he is more keen in the execution of policy. Richard is more concerned on ensuring that policies are implemented in a way that works for the UvA community.

50 Vincent values the ambitions in the strategy and finds the core values would bring the UvA to achieve the goals. Vincent is missing the warmth in the current proposal. Vincent would like to see more warmth in, for instance, building relationships with other universities. The intent to foster relationships and open the university up would provide more warmth. Vincent feels the current ambitions are not tangible in relation to being a warm and open university.

55 Saskia finds it is crucial that the UvA should be open to the outside world but remain critical of society and to strike a balance. Saskia mentions it would be important to remain critical while also ensuring students are connected to the labour market.

60 Francesco shares one concern he has is that opening up should be done in a way that is easy to exist in society. Francesco finds that if there is an opening to funding and rely more on external funding, the UvA can become more vulnerable to societal pressure. Richard recognizes the difficult balance. Currently, the UvA does not get



65 funds outside of subsidies and tuition fees. If big societal issues are to be solved, the UvA will need to bring society closer. Every funding opportunity should be assessed independently. Pieter-Joost finds it is also important to balance relying on funding from the government, as too much reliance on the government leads to difficulties in standing against the government. Alies adds different sources of income provides more stability and more independence as well. If the UvA is able to diversify funding, the UvA can then also decide not to continue funding streams that are unethical. Dina mentions there would need to be guardrails for private funding to ensure there is academic freedom. Dina finds further down the line, they are concerned it would be more of a risk to increase private funding and donors. Richard recommends including more debate in another session on the funding streams.

70 Philipp shares with strategic choices, the Dean of FEB and the FSR FEB has spoken that the UvA does not leverage the alumni network at its maximum potential. By fostering a more connected and engaged way of alumni, more involvement and engagement may foster closer relationships with partners and networks. Saskia would like more focus on specific districts in Amsterdam as well to increase the UvA's connection to all parts of Amsterdam

75 There will be three team sessions in January and the strategy team will keep the CSR posted on the process and provide a draft.

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Maximiliano enters 12:01

9. Profiling Fund – Student Support Funds

85 The file holders working on the profiling fund are present to discuss the new version of the house rules. Over the past year and a half, a committee has been evaluating the current profiling fund to discuss proposed changes and how the fund works in practice. The basic grant has been restored which has direct impact on the profiling fund. When students have a student delay during their nominal duration, the basic grant for DUO is not sufficient. The profiling fund is there to compensate for the fact that you may be studying for longer than the nominal term of four years. The UvA would now like to link the DUO basic grant and the profiling fund. The profiling fund will be more flexible in terms of board membership. The standard amount for the board grant will stay at 324 and will increase based on inflation. If students do not receive finance through DUO, this would be based on the living alone finance of 324. For students receiving board grants, students living on their own receive 324. Saskia asks if there is leeway on whether students have registration with their parents but live on their own. Due to legality, the fund would not be accessible.

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Volker leaves 12:19

Board grant

100 Officially, and by law, you are only able to receive a board grant as a Dutch and EU student if you receive a performance grant. For more than 10 years, this has not been followed by the UvA in which students have received a board grant even without receiving a performance grant. The UvA has also given a board grant for students in their fifth year. The grant is for 24 months for your entire study duration. It used to be 24 months for a board, a student organization and an advisory board. The idea is to restrict the amount of years a board grant is given to ensure study success for students.

Participation council

105 In 2024, it was decided there should be an extra allowance for students on a participation council. The advice is to make it attractive for students to participate. The extra allowance will be advised to become a structural part of the regulations. This consolidation was decided to reflect what students contribute to the university. From a financial perspective, given the structural recommendation to increase the costs, last year there was 500,000 euros added to the profiling fund for this adjustment.



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Recognition of Student Organizations

The policy advisors have spoken directly to student organizations regarding this process. The committee is advising on several changes, firstly the calculation for recognizing a student organization. The calculation model has been simplified and the criteria has been clarified. The criteria now considers the actual time that is spent on board work and the value of the work done. There is more attention for smaller study associations and programs. There is a threshold to have 100 members for recognition. For study associations, this can be 50 as long as 75% of the students within a program are a part of the study association. The study association percentage has been lowered to include more small-scale associations. The threshold is now 30 instead of 50 and 65% of the students in the program should be a member.

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Tuition fee waiver

The threshold has been reduced so that more students can apply for a tuition fee waiver, to lower the threshold from 12 to 10 months. More students will be able to apply for a tuition fee waiver, which would increase to around 8 students more, with a financial increase of around 20,000 euros.

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Structure of the regulations

The regulations now include further clarification by establishing separate sub regulations for their specific situation. There will be different files on the website but aims to create more clarity for which group the students belong to.

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Vaisakh is happy with the improvements for student organizations that reflect the current situation. The profiling fund is also advised to have an interim financial evaluation to address concerns on tying the DUO basic grant to the profiling fund. The profiling fund clarifies that the 24 months will apply for your entire study duration. The advisors will clarify the number of months for the FSR, CSR and board months. Saskia is concerned about the 24 months for the duration of studies and would like to encourage longevity in medezeggenschap. Saskia states in practice students do not take study delays while participating in medezeggenschap. Saskia would propose a maximum of 24 months for bachelors students and 12 months for masters students. From the study advisor perspective, they often see that students are struggling to work alongside the workload of their studies and medezeggenschap. The CSR will collect further concerns or points of feedback which will be shared with the profiling fund advisors.

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10. House Rules

The CvB would like to receive the house rules advice by this week. The CSR will need to adopt the advice in the PV. Based on the discussion from the last PV, Florence and Francesco have adapted the advice. The CSR is asking for more clarification rather than requiring certain changes. In the draft letter, there is a summary of the discussion and further points for clarity. The current proposal is to provide consent if certain points are changed/clarified. Pieter-Joost would like to separate clarification from the consent if response. Francesco would like to ensure the house rules is that the document should be as clear as possible and would like to keep the clarification points within the proposed change. Vaisakh is considered about the timeframe of the house rules as having a policy is more important than not having a current one. Vaisakh sees the CSR should be more involved in checking whether the house rules are properly implemented. Vaisakh sees the current formulation is receptive to the concerns the CSR had and the CSR should take on the responsibility to clarify and communicate to students.

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Francesco proposes to include a sentence in which the CSR will provide consent based the CvB's response on the clarification points. Vaisakh would like the advice to be more clear on what the CvB would actually need to

155 adjust to push forward a consent and to ensure it is clear to the CvB. Francesco finds the advice is clear, in which it states the clarification points are necessary for consent as well. The CSR moves to voting.

Voting Proposal: The CSR 25-26 votes in favour of sending the response letter to the CvB on the house rules and code of conduct.

160 In favour: 8 (Francesco, Dina, Vai, Noor, Kacper, Victor, Saskia, Florence)

Against: 3 (Pieter-Joost, Yipeng, Philipp, Maxi)

Blanco: 2 (Vincent, Alies)

Quorum: 14

165 *Decision: The CSR 25-26 votes in favour of sending the response letter to the CvB on the house rules and code of conduct.*

11. Moral Ambition Initiative

The CSR has received an informing piece from Alies on a moral ambition initiative. The initiative focuses on connecting the UvA community to increase the support systems and prevent burnouts and high stress loads. Alies invites members to contact her if they are aware of anyone who may be interested in participating in events related to the initiative.

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

There is no further business.

13. Input requests for the FSRs / to the media

There are no further input requests.

14. Evaluating the PV

The PV is evaluated.

15. Questions

There are no further questions.

16. Closing the meeting

175 *Francesco closes the meeting at 13:20.*

Decisions

180 **251211-01** The CSR 25-26 votes in favour of sending the response letter to the CvB on the house rules and code of conduct.

Action list

Pro memoria

185 **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 OI committee after their meetings which files that the CSR is working on should be raised in the media.

- 190 **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.
- 171108-04** The delegates check whether the agendas, minutes, and letters of the FSR's are being published online.
- 195 **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 an hour before the PV.
- 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.
- 200 **220113-02** CSR members will inform the vice-chair if they are absent during a meeting or event of the CSR.
- 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.
- 205 **240215-01** The DB will be attentive to social activities and council cohesion.
- 250310-01** All CSR members will include abbreviations in their meeting pieces.
- 250901-01** The DB will enforce the working agreements from the beginning of the council term.

Important transfer tips

- 210 **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