Concept minutes of the informal *Plenaire vergadering* of the CSR on 14 September 2026

Present	Richard Brante, Anton Siemonsma, Anass Errami, Palmis Yahoo, Audrey Fabbri, Carlos Fitton, Risa Narsinghani, Sára Bystrovová, Anastacia Piersma, Sebastian Bosma, Amanda Jansen, Roy Houtman, Kacper Farbisz, Selin Stefanova, Anass Errami.
Absent	
Guest(s)	
Minutes	Abbey Gilchrist (*Administrative secretary)*.

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

1. Opening

Carlos opens the meeting at 12:20 and welcomes the meeting participants.

2. Mail

The mail is discussed.

3. Adapting concept minutes

The minutes from the 7th of September are adopted.

Kacper enters 12:23

4. Checking the action list

The action list is checked. See attachment.

5. Announcements

Sára and Risa will leave at 14:00 for another meeting.

There are 11 eligible votes.

6. Updates: *DB, delegates, central student assessor*

The updates are discussed.

Audrey met with Henry to provide updates on the recent CSR PVs. Henry will fill in the update form as he has been unable to attend PVs due to scheduling conflicts. The budget for deep cleaning the office has been approved and Audrey is working with CREA to coordinate the cleaning. Audrey is looking into a budget for office groceries. Audrey is planning the first outing for the CSR on the 24th of September. Carlos shares he has access to his work phone now. Carlos has created a group with all FSR chairs and the first DB GV meeting has been set for the 2nd of October. A draft of the CSR year plan has been written. The COR has asked if the GV can be rescheduled from the 9th to the 16th of October. The CSR agrees to move the GV date to the 16th. Carlos will inform Gerwin the GV can be moved to the 16th of October [**action**].

The financial team has met with Richard and the COR on the kaderbrief. Sára and Richard met on the topic of AI integration in education with the file holders at the UvA. Sára met with Vaisakh for a transfer for O&B. Sára will receive a draft of the educational vision advice later today. Sára will meet with Saskia about the advice to have this finalized and sent by the end of the month. Risa and Sára will meet with Jasmin on the policy on

studying with a disability. Kacper shares the education awards are upcoming and the committee will take part of the jury. The committee has also discussed promotional materials for the FSR's which the committee will propose for an upcoming PV.
The FSR FEB is having a budget proposal meeting on Tuesday. Sebastian would like to invite the chair of the FSR FEB to the CSR PV to see how CSR meetings are structured to help better structure FSR FEB PVs. The FSR FdR has discussed Taal Bubbl and is looking into whether they will also promote the initiative. The FSR FGw is planning on signing the Green Commitment and will discuss the CSR Diversity Commitment.

7. Setting the agenda

The agenda is set.

8. Student Organization Support

The CSR has informally discussed a proposal for supporting student organizations. The fund for supporting student organizations aims to host events that do not have funding or access to central UvA funds. The current proposal for the fund is around 15,000 euros, in which each organization can request a maximum of 1000 euros. The CSR is informed that annual budget for 2026 has already been set, in which several budget lines are inflexible. The budget will need to be evaluated further, but currently there may only be around 3000 euros for supporting student organizations. Carlos recommends to look further into what parts of the budget are available to understand what can reasonably be allocated.
Richard asks if the organizers themselves should also pay a certain percentage for events that the CSR sponsors. Selin clarifies the form for organizations to apply would have to include their own budget expenditure and share the overview of the costs. Even so, some organizations without any funding would still be eligible by providing an overview of their total budget/income. Sára would like to focus on sponsoring events that are not already funded or offered by the UvA.
Sára finds it would be important to focus on events and organizations that are not financially established or already existing at the UvA. Selin proposes to focus more on emancipatory functions or extend funding to organizations that would like to do events without the proper funding. Richard shares there may be a risk in the diversity of events if the CSR advertises that priority is given to emancipatory events. For a batch of events, if the priority goes to events with specific goals, a part of the student population may not be included, for instance sport or education focused organizations. Richard shares it may also be important for the promotion of the fund to ensure that a diverse array of student groups apply. Anton recommends the CSR can state they want to sponsor events where they can learn about people's experiences. Anton clarifies the goal of the funding would be to gain access to certain student groups and reflect this in the proposal from organizations, rather than the event in itself.
Carlos shares he would prefer that applications are sent to the general CSR email than to the O&I email. The O&I committee would like to have the applications sent so that they can go through them and provide an overview to the PV. In this way, the CSR agrees the applications should be approved by the PV, organized by O&I.

Palmis leaves 12:56

The CSR agrees to keep the contact person as O&I for applications. Anton will create an updated overview of the CSR internal finances [**action**].

9. Microsoft File

Risa enters 12:57

The O&F committee would like to open a new file on alternatives for Microsoft at the UvA. Roy would like to propose that the UvA move away from Microsoft as a company due to ethical concerns. Audrey shares the file would include looking into creating a pilot for a part of the UvA infrastructure as a first step. Richard would like to open the file as well to ensure there is more digital autonomy, and would not like the UvA to be dependent on certain companies. Kacper asks which part of the infrastructure would be proposed for a pilot. Roy states the file would be opened to further explore what is possible, but the work has not been done yet. Sára agrees with opening the file but has concerns regarding education. When entering the job martket, working with Microsoft is an expectation and required skill for many graduates. Sára finds it is important the UvA continues to prepare students for the workforce and gives students necessary experiences/skills that will be expected following graduation. Risa shares if open source is used, it works the same as Microsoft, which would not impact student's abilities to learn Microsoft related skills. The functions are still the same but are not sourced on the same server as Microsoft. Anton shares there is a broader movement in Europe that is moving away from American companies, such as Microsoft. If the UvA only moves away when others do, there will not be larger societal transition. If the UvA takes responsibility and makes the step, it may encourage a larger transition. If students are taught in open sourced environments, it will also ensure that it is easier for companies to move away from Microsoft later on. Richard states he does not see educational aspects would be lost and adds that Germany and France are currently looking into open-sourced alternatives that work similarly to Microsoft.

Anastacia enters 13:12
Amanda enters 13:14

10. Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty

The CSR was previously informed on the open letter to request that the UvA sign the fossil fuel non-proliferation treaty. Roy would like to advocate that the UvA sign the treaty to continue to encourage other institutions to follow. Anton would also like to sign the treaty to encourage the UvA to further look into what should not be continued, not just ways to improve. Richard agrees with the point to phase out fossil fuels but states the treaty focuses on the specific agenda items. Richard shares he does not have enough knowledge to form an opinion on the specific agenda items and does not know specifically whether the connection on how it can be done is possible for the UvA to follow. Richard shares he also finds it important that disengaging with fossil fuels should always go along with looking into alternatives to avoid rising costs to ensure this does not disproportionately affect people. Richard adds the treaty does publicly attach the UvA to certain goals but currently the UvA does not achieve it's own goals, which may further make the UvA less credible. Roy states signing the agreement may add more external pressure to the UvA more than the internal goals set by the UvA. Risa shares the UvA has already stated they would not like to collaborate with fossil fuel companies unless it is very specific research that promotes more sustainable alternatives, which aligns with the treaty. Audrey shares in the integrated progress report for sustainability last year, the report mentioned the lack of concrete indicators and a clear framework in the White Paper for approaching sustainability. The problem is present in implementation without a clear framework for faculties to implement. The UvA needs more specific indicators and priorities to achieve the goals set out. Audrey shares the main idea in signing the treaty would be to centre sustainability in the UvA's agenda, rather than achieve all goals in the treaty. Richard shares the UvA can take elements from the treaty without signing it. Richard does not see how signing the treaty would benefit the UvA. It may increase symbolic pressure but there are several reasons the goals are not being met that are outside the UvA's control. Roy shares it is not a success only when the UvA signs it but also to address the issues of sustainability with the administration. Roy sees the CSR can already do this to keep the discussion going about sustainability and fossil fuels, rather than leaning on the White Paper.

11. Taal Bubbl

The CSR was informed last week on the initiative regarding an app for Dutch language learners and the request to integrate the app within INTT courses. Anton is in favour of the request for funding of around 5000 euros of the 800,000 allocated to Dutch courses, given it focuses on the encouraging an entrepreneurial spirit of students and targeting language learning goals. Sebastian asks if there is prior information on a successful pilot from the app. Carlos shares the data on the pilot is available and open sourced. The finances are open sourced as well. Sára shares when reading the results of the pilot, there was a type 2 error, yet results still showed a significant decrease in anxiety for users when communicating in Dutch. Sára believes the app is further valuable as it is tailored to UvA students. The funding coming from the UvA would also decrease the risk of privatizing the app.
Richard asks if the UvA can make a condition that, with the 5000 euros, a report is given for how it was utilized by the creators. Carlos shares if the CSR supports the initiative, the CSR would discuss with the INTT and UvA policy makers, including on terms of the agreement and funding. Amanda likes the idea behind Taal Bubbl but sees the app focuses on language for social activities. If the 5000 euros is given, she would like to ensure that activities are centered around education rather than only social activities. Sára shares in the research report, the app aims to help with entry level support for students learning Dutch. The goal is for students to learn and practice Dutch in real life scenarios without needing to attend a course. Carlos shares the level on the app does go up to B2, which makes the program flexible for how the students can later attach the learning within an INTT or more advanced vocabulary.

12. Mandatory Attendance Unsolicited Advice

The O&B committee has created a proposal for an unsolicited advice on establishing a framework on attendance in force majeure situations. The idea came from the lack of clarity within faculties and programs for enforcing mandatory attendance during the national OV strike on the 9th of September. Per course, students may be required to attend class when it is not physically possible to attend. The O&B committee has prepared a draft of the advice. The committee would like to present in the advice during the OV on the 29th of September. Richard shares it would be good to mention specifically that before something happens, students should be able to find what measures are possible within a central framework. The committee will make adjustments and bring the advice for a vote next PV.

13. CSR Year Plan

The CSR has received a draft of the year plan from Carlos. Amanda informs “De Nieuwe Mensa” is spelled wrong throughout the document. Carlos will amend the spelling. Richard shares within the subsection on academic freedom, he would like to mention bringing the student perspective more prominently for relevant discussions and decision making processes. Sára shares under the community subheading she would like to emphasize that students that do not speak Dutch should still be able to equally participate. Roy asks if it is necessary to distinguish between international and Dutch students. Richard shares it would be important to ensure there is more energy towards helping international students feel included in the local community. The CSR agrees to amend any further comments and discuss remaining points in the next PV.

Anass leaves 13:51
Risa and Sára leave 13:55

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

Kacper shares there is a cleaner’s strike this week. Kacper asks if the CSR should post in support of the strike. A post will be shared on the CSR Instagram.

The CSR has received an email from UvA Spotlight. They have mentioned that posters for their events are being torn down at REC. The association has asked if the CSR can make a case to advertise events in REC within the digital space. The CSR will ask facility services and communications for digital advertisements on behalf of UvA Spotlight. The CSR has also been invited to participate in a collaborative event.
Audrey shares on the fossil fuel treaty, the treaty has been endorsed by several municipalities in Europe, including Amsterdam. Audrey shares the WHO also endorses the treaty as well.

15. Input requests for the FSRs / to the media

There are no further requests.

16. Evaluating the PV

The PV is evaluated.

17. Questions

There are no further questions.

18. Closing the meeting

Carlos closes the meeting at 14:00.

Action List

260914-01 Carlos will inform Gerwin the GV can be moved to the 16th of October.
260914-02 Anton will create an updated overview of the CSR internal finances.
~~**260826-01** O&I will discuss a social media plan for the council year.~~
260818-02 Delegates will share the FSR O&B contact information with Sára.

Decisions

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 O&I 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.
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.
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.
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.

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

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