



FSR-meeting

Date 25-02-2016

Location E1.26

17:00-19:00

Minutes

Presents: Samantha van den Hoek, Mourad Farahat, Mick Fruytier, Victor Oprea, Rinus van Grunsven, Mink Perrée, Swiss Jurriens

Absents: Ioana Nicolau, Tijmen de Vos, Nickardo Postma

Secretary: Yirong Lo

1. Determine agenda

17.04

Blackboard update by Swiss is added to the agenda.

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| 1. Opening and determine agenda | 6. Information the FSR wants |
| 2. Minutes of previous meeting | 7. Blackboard update |
| 3. Announcements | 8. Questions and Closure |
| 4. Update committees & CSR-representative | |
| 5. Teaching and Examination Regulations | Remarks |

2. Minutes previous meeting

17.05

Minutes of 18-02-2016 are approved.

3. Announcements

17.06

- Tijmen, Nickardo, and Ioana are absent.
- Sefa contacted Rinus about the possibilities of being published in the toilet paper (WC-krant). The FSR wants to contact all study associations to ask whether they want to contribute as well. Rinus suggests everyone to think of and share relevant topics for in the paper. Suggestions: life at UvA, Human of the FEB, Think Tank, upcoming elections, etc.
- Mink lets the FSR know that he is not fully recovered from his injuries, but hopefully he will by next week.

4. Update committees & CSR-representative

Victor (chair E&R):

The main discussion point this week was the OER:

- point 4.8.2 - we disagreed that students could not get more than 42 EC per semester.
- point 3.2.11 - we disagreed on master students not being able to take BSc courses.
- point 4.4.6 - we were concerned about confidentiality issues regarding publishing grades
- point 4.5.3 - discussion arose regarding what grade to take into account: student's last grade obtained or the highest grade obtained. Will be discussed during PV.
- point 4.6.5 - disagreed that not showing up at an exam still counts as a try. Students may have different circumstances and a NAP on the "uncleaned" diploma is not really welcome.
- point 4.9.1 - discussion arose whether the review period should be at most 20 days. Will be discussed during PV.

Rinus (chair O&M):

- Tijmen and Ioana are in contact with Atma (he attended our last Think Tank event and he is interested in becoming a council member next year) because he can make photo's for our humans of the FEB file.
- Rinus has to send an email to Pauline Borsch about the facilities at the library learning center which we think could be improved. We think that the computers for fast printing are too slow and the table height is too low.
- Mick and Rinus received an email from the chairman of Sefa about the toilet paper. They asked if it is possible to write a piece for it. Right now we are thinking of sending an email to all the study associations and ask if they are interested in writing a piece for the toilet paper.
- Tijmen will make sure that the flyers are printed next week and Nickardo will make a schedule for it.
- Ioana is still in contact with the communication department about our PR-event.





Mink (CSR-representative):

-Profile fund outcome: Is not going to change much for this year. A big change for next year is that FSR members will be compensated more, while for the CSR it will be less.

5. Teaching and Examination Regulations

17.18

Mick made a list of the changes in the OER that are debatable and would like to hear the opinions of the rest of the council. The FSR gave their opinion on the following points.

Discussion points:

- [3.2.8 – Last year this article stated that every student is allowed to register for 42EC per semester with exceptions such as enough space in classes, studied nominal for 2 semesters, etc. In the new OER, they left these exceptions out and now students are allowed to register for 42EC without any exceptions. The question is, why did they leave this out?

o Advantage: Students are restricted in getting all points in one year.

o Disadvantage: Students are restricted in broadening their knowledge.

The FSR disagrees and thinks that registering for more than 42EC per semester should be possible for students who have been studying nominally.

- [3.2.9 – This article states that students need to have all the prerequisites for a specific course 4 weeks after the beginning of the period. The question is, is this something for an OER meeting?]

o Advantage: You need your prerequisites in order to be able to pass a course.

o Disadvantage: This causes problems for students who fail Intermediate Statistics and therefore are not allowed to take Econometrics.

The FSR disagrees because this would lead to a study delay for certain students, but is not clear if this is something for an OER meeting.

- [3.2.11 – This article states that students who participate in a Master Programme are not allowed to take ANY bachelor courses. The council tried to change this last year but so far did not happen. The ER committee does not think a bachelor course should be included in your programme but we think you need to be able to register for bachelor courses just to broaden your horizon. For example with a Spanish course]

o Advantage: More intelligent students

o Disadvantage: Expensive for the faculty

The FSR disagrees because this limits the possibilities and opportunities for students. For example, pre-master courses are bachelor courses which makes it harder to do a 2nd master. The FSR thinks that it is important for master students to be able to take bachelor courses.

- [4.2.4 – This article states whether a students should get a 5.0 for their end terms or not. In the new OER, they put an extra rule to make sure teachers know they could even higher the 5.0 if they want to.)

o Advantage: Students who showed sufficient knowledge in the midterm can now no longer pass the course.

o Disadvantage: With such a rule, midterms will be seen as unimportant.

The FSR dislikes the 5.0 rule, because it is not effective. The midterms already weigh very little, so a 5.0 for a final exam is usually the minimum to pass. Instead of implementing such a rule, the FSR thinks that problems can be solved by improving the quality of education. However the FSR agrees that teachers should be able to decide the rules for their own exams. The FSR is thinking of raising their concerns in an email, but does not think this is something for an OER meeting.

- [4.4.6 – This rule is about how teachers should publish the grades of students. The rule is formulated in a good way but we think this rule needs to be controlled more often. We have seen multiple times during the year that teachers put the grades on blackboard with student names which is in fact not allowed.]

o Advantage: More privacy for students.





o Disadvantage: More work.

The FSR agrees with this rule, grades should be anonymous. Also, MyGrade should be used and controlled more often. Another point mentioned is what the consequences should be when a teacher exceeds the 10/15 working days for grading, because it happens and there is nothing that students can do about it. An option would be to put it in the course evaluation.

- [4.5.3. This point was discussed the most in the last ER committee meeting. The article is about whether your last exam counts or whether your highest exam counts. Currently the OER states that the latest try counts for SIS.]

o Advantage: The highest grade motivates students to take extra exams to improve their knowledge and their GPA.

o Disadvantage: Extra work, students might not take the resit that serious since they have don't have to worry whether their grade will still count or not.

The FSR disagrees and does not think it is fair because attempting a higher grade should be possible for students without the risk of a lower grade, otherwise it feels like being punished for trying.

- [4.6.5 – This article states that students who do not show up at an exam will get a NAP in SIS. They want this rule to make students unroll for courses in time so that there is enough space for others.]

o Advantage: Students are motivated to enrol for courses they think they are going to pass

o Disadvantage: NAPs will show up in an uncleaned grade list, this is not favourable.

The FSR believes that in practice not many students care/know about the effect of a NAP, therefore students do not unroll for courses in the first week or at all. Therefore the FSR thinks that it should be made clear how to unroll for a course in order to not get a NAP.

- [4.9.1 – This article states that students are allowed to check their exams within 20 working days after the results have been published. But this could lead to some problems when you take an exam in November but want to know what you did wrong on that exam right before your resit in July. After those 20 working days you don't have t rights to check your exam again.]

o Advantage: Students can check their exams right before their resits to learn from and be more prepared.

o Disadvantage: The UvA needs to keep track of all the exams till after the resits.

The FSR does not think this is an important point because it is possible to copy or take pictures but this is not always the case. However the FSR does think that it is important for students to be able to inspect their midterms before the finals, which currently does not occur. The FSR wants copyright for students.

Another point mentioned; there is no rule yet for unexpected injuries/circumstances regarding exemptions for taking midterm exams. Students only have the possibility to take the resit.

6. Information the FSR wants

18.05

This point was raised in the last PV. Samantha wants to know from each councilmember what relevant information/files they are missing.

Rinus: information on which parties are involved in the catering.

Mink: all documents concerning the budget, and a balance.

Victor: more input about the BSc split, including all the missing documents.

Mourad: concrete, more to the point, updates from the faculty to get a clearer view of where the FEB is heading to.

7. Blackboard update

18.20

Swiss explains what the current status is for the changes of the digital learning environment. It is possible to switch to another platform or upgrade Blackboard to make it more attractive. There are 2 competitors that could replace Blackboard.

One of the alternatives is Canvas which is a more open source platform with a lot of apps. The FSR FMG is organizing an event for students and teachers to try out the different platforms and get feedback on that. The council thinks that FEB needs to set up a testing area as well.

Remarks: -

Closing 18.27





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ACTIONPOINTS

151120-04 Rinus make sure to evaluate the promotion after one week and think of the next steps to take.

Pro-memory

151009-02 Respond to questions on Whatsapp.

151113-01 Actively invite students for the course evaluations (& Mink inform the council on time when the evaluations are).

151120-01 The council works according to the working agreements.

151211-01 During events you are representing the FSR, so no looking on your phones and act excited!!

160121-01 Every other week on Tuesdays the council is having Coffee Time from 12:00-14:00.

160218-01 Rinus and Victor make more elaborate updates.

