

Minutes of the *Plenaire vergadering* of the CSR on the 14th of February 2018

Council members	Sasha Borovitskaja, Sofie ten Brink, , Jern Ken Chew (from 17:16), Pim van Helvoirt, Bram Jaarsma (until 17:59), Kjeld Oostra, Sebastian Proos, Deval Raj, Mees van Rees, Loraine Smith, Teodor Todercan (until 18:03);
Council assistants	Quinta Dijk (from 16:58), David Nelck;
Absent	Guido Bakker, Michele Murgia;
Guest(s)	Moataz Rageb <i>Studentassessor-CvB</i>
Minutes	Tamara van den Berg <i>Ambtelijk secretaris</i>

Concept agenda

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1. Opening

Pim opens the meeting at 15h04 and welcomes everyone.

2. Mail

The council discusses the in- and outgoing mail.

3. Concept minutes

Setting the minutes of PV180117, PV180124, PV180131, and PV180207 is postponed until next week.

4. Checking the action list

The action list gets updated.

5. Announcements

- 5 • Sofie ten Brink has officially been appointed as the new representative from the FSR FdG.
- Pim thanks everybody for sending their PV pieces timely. Sasha asks the council to stick to all deadlines.
- Sasha asks the council to send their OV-strategies timely.
- Pim asks the council to pay care and attention to the *vergaderstukken* as they are also shared with the FSR's. Loraine asks to use fewer abbreviations in updates and meeting pieces.

6. Updates DB & taskforces, representatives, Studentassessor-CvB

10 *The written updates discussed briefly.*

- Moataz asks Loraine about the FTE for the Diversity Officers at the FMG, and she explains there function descriptions.
- Kjeld gives a summary of the 3 points that came out of the meeting between the delegates in the CSR which could improve the relation and communication between the CSR and FSR's:
 - 15 1. Choosing the ENG word 'delegates' as official translation for '*afgevaardigden*' (not representatives or deputies);
 - 2. Writing updates to faculty student councils collectively;
 - 3. Getting a clear overview of upcoming topics in the CSR to form opinions in the FSR timely;

7. Setting the agenda

The agenda is set without changes.

8. Instellingscollegegeld

20 *The CSR decides on including the FSR's in the followed procedure on the institutional tuition fee.*

Sofie asks whether the proposal is only aimed at the academic year 2018-2019 as the allocation models' variations will apply afterward. Bram explains how the proposal is only about setting the fees but not about the allocation of the funds. Sasha asks for an explanation about the standard procedure for opportunity costs, and Bram explains how institutional fees are set for 3 years based on the *wettelijk collegegeld* and *rijksbijdrage*.

25 Bram proposes to include the advisory right for FSR's on setting the height of the institutional tuition fees. The other option would be to safeguard this centrally. Sasha asks what the preferences of the FSR's are, but this is not known. Bram says that the FSR's might not be dealing with this actively yet as they do not (yet) have formal rights in this. Mees asks whether giving advisory rights to the FSR's could have negative consequences. Bram does not expect this to be the case while offering them these rights could safeguard the file for the upcoming years. Sofie asks whether the fees are a part of the budget advice, and Bram explains how this falls under a different advisory right.

30 Raj is in favor of asking the evaluation committee to grant the FSR's these rights, and David, Bram, and Sebastian agree. Teo does not want to follow this strategy as the FSR's did not ask for it. Sasha in favor



35 of setting these rights for the FSR's in stone and proposes to rely on the delegates in the committee to
safeguard the FSR's stances if the rights are not granted. Kjeld also thinks that the FSR's should be
involved and proposes to inform the committee that the CSR thought this had been arranged already.
Mees states that the members of *De Vrije Student* agree with Kjeld. Loraine says that *Hervorm-FMG*
40 does too. Sofie suggests inquiring the preferred option of the FSR's first. The council agrees to follow
the proposal of Kjeld.

9. Education service desks

The CSR decides on its stance on the name change of the education services desks.

Sofie asks for the reasoning behind the suggested names. Sebastian presumes that the 'service desk'
would deal with practical issues while the 'education desk' deals with faculty matters related to studies
and programs. Sofie asks whether there are issues between central and faculty desks, or only within
45 the faculty. Kjeld supposes the latter to be the case, but no one can confirm this.

Sofie proposes changing the names to 'central student service desk' and 'faculty desk'. Loraine says this
might cause confusion between the 'central student desk' and 'faculty education desk'. Kjeld suggests
clarifying the differences between central and faculty desks. Sofie does not find it important to
harmonize the names on a central level, but Kjeld says this would support students who follow
50 interdisciplinary studies. Raj says that the newly proposed names are too long.

Voting proposal: The CSR is in favor of changing the names to 'central student service desk' and
'education desk' on faculty level as harmonized names for the respective desks..

In favor 8

55 Against 1

Blanco 1

Abstain 1

The voting proposal is adopted.

60 Guido and David write the advice letter before 18.30h. **(action)**

10. Housing & Internationalisation: CSR stance + press statement

*The CSR discusses its stances on the housing problems in relation to internationalisation, and discusses
the proposed shared press statement on student housing.*

Policy; Mees asks what the official policy of the UvA on student housing is. Bram says that the staff is
working on this, but that the housing policy in relation to the housing of international students is not
65 formalized yet. Mees says that the CvB is discussing the matter with different housing corporations,
but Bram says that short stay contracts are not discussed with those parties. Loraine says that short
stay contracts only do damage control but that there is a need to look at the long-term as well. Bram
says that offering short-term contracts for several years is legally problematic, but Loraine says that
this concerns mere which therefore cannot be anticipated. Bram is sure that regular rooms are taken
70 from the housing market by making them into short-stay contract houses for international students.
Mees suggests Bram to ask the CvB or Mariska Herweijer for policy document on student housing.
(action) Loraine says that the working group will shortly come with a policy document after finishing
their research on short stay housing. Sofie asks whether CvB acknowledges that these problems exist,
which Loraine and Bram confirm. They state that the current situation is unsustainable.

75 **Press statement** Bram asks the council members to comment on the press statement, which will
afterward be put to the vote by the different councils. Kjeld says that press statements should not be

signed but merely mention the involved organizations. Mees questions whether sending a press statement would be a job for ASVA instead of the CSR, but there are no other council members who are against sending a press statement to the political parties.

80 **CSR stance;** Kjeld suggests to form an opinion and decide on the follow-up actions next week. Sasha requests to include more data and the *Bestuursconvenanten* to back up the stances of the CSR. Mees suggests to include the KPI's. Sofie suggests to give less priority to housing international students in the center of the city but to offer them housing in places that can be reached easily by public transportation instead. Bram says that sustainability of the contracts should be taken into account.

85

Voting proposal: The CSR is of the opinion that short stay housing for international students should not be offered at the cost of regular student housing.

In favor 11

Against 0

90 Blanco 1

Abstain 0

The voting proposal is adopted.

11. Housing & Internationalisation: creative session

The CSR discusses organizing a creative session to debate the housing problems.

95 **Method** Kjeld says that Commoning UvA is very busy at the moment so might not be available to help. Loraine will contact them to see whether they would like to help to organize the session.

Theme Sofie suggests making the issue broader, as the housing interacts with the short-stay issue and the lack of available houses. Loraine agrees and suggests to look beyond the short-stay contracts and problems with housing for international students, but to look for solutions in the broader sense.

100 **Aim** When the event is successful, the findings and solutions could be presented to a broader audience, for example to politicians. Mees would like to invite politicians for the first session as well. Loraine wants to ensure that it is possible to have an equal discussion during the first workshop session, without having policymaker or politicians dominating the conversation. Mees and Raj think this would mean that essential information is missing, as policymakers can help solving the problems. Loraine suggests inviting (academic) experts such as invite urban planners to have an informed workshop and work towards a master plan, without being restricted to the boundaries within which policy or other institutionalized ways of thinking already happen. Sofie, Bram, Raj, Kjeld, Sebastian, and Mees are in favor of inviting policymakers and politicians, although Mees does believe that Loraine's proposal could work. Kjeld is positive about the creative approach but stresses the importance of having reality checks in between. Bram says that it is important to only think about the possibilities, and questions how a creative session could lead to building more houses or reducing student numbers. Bram suggests asking very concrete questions about the assigned area for housing or deals with public transportation for international students.

110 The CSR is in favor of organizing a creative session about housing and doing this in collaboration with ASVA and Commoning UvA. Loraine will make a concrete proposal about the setup and the financial aspects of the session. **(action)**

115

12. Priorities CSR

The CSR discusses setting shared priorities with the CvB.

Kjeld gives an update on the goals from PR. Teo says that it is not realistic to have 3 vague goals as the council would not agree on the details or ways of achieving something.



- 120 *All council members state their 3 preferred goals from the list of proposals:*
Mees: (1) Student involvement, (7) Internationalisation, (8) Excellence & honours
Kjeld: Student involvement, (5) Impact of medezeggenschap, (8) Excellence & honours
Sebas: (1) Student involvement, (5) Impact of medezeggenschap, (7) Internationalization
Sasha: (1) Student involvement, (5) Impact of medezeggenschap, (6) Sustainability
125 **Teo:** (1) Student involvement, (3) Digitalization, (7) Internationalization, including the Dutch language courses
David: (1) Student involvement, (5) Impact of medezeggenschap, (7) Internationalization
Raj: (1) Student involvement, (6) Sustainability, (7) Internationalization
Pim: (1) Student involvement, (2) Democratization, strengthening the position of students, (6) Sustainability
Bram: no goals. Does not care.
130 **Sofie:** (3) Digitalization, including the facilities, (1) Student involvement, (7) Internationalization
Loraine: (4) Diversity, (5) Impact of medezeggenschap (7) Internationalization

The three main goals from the CSR in collaboration with the CvB are:

- 135 **Student involvement**, creating a student culture in which students are involved with the creation of their own education, implementing *collegedgeldvrij besturen*, lowering burnouts in the *medezeggenschap*, getting medezeggenschap mentioned in Canvas, creating a higher turnout for the elections
Internationalisation, a sustainable way of internationalization, honesty about the problems with student housing, internationalization only for the benefit of education, offering Dutch language courses, integrating international students in the university, setting a concrete language policy.
140 **Impact of the medezeggenschap**, evaluating the function of the student assessor CvB, developing a procedure for the *Middelen Wet Studievoorschot*, organizing OC-elections, *versterking medezeggenschap*, decentral consenting rights on policy budgets from the allocation model

-- Quinta van Dijk enters the meeting 16:58--

13. Burn outs among students

- 145 *The CSR brainstorms about setting up a discussion on burnouts, together with the CvB.*
Sofie asks whether the CSR has any data about burnouts amongst students to present to the CvB. Pim says that the CvB wanted to address the burnouts amongst medezeggenschap only. Kjeld says that all council members of the FSR FNWI work more hours than allocated. Sasha says that burnouts in the medezeggenschap are representative for the burnouts of students from other study or student
150 organizations. Sofie suggests also looking at burnouts in the general student population as there are many people affected by this. Pim says this is being addressed in the *mental health* file.
Main reasons Raj thinks the UvA could teach students to manage their time better, as students sometimes lack the ability to manage their time while maintaining mental tranquility. Students in the medezeggenschap also follow too many ECTS which create a high workload. David agrees and things
155 offering the option of a tuition fee free board year could help as students don't know their limits and often have to work part-time jobs besides their council work. Teo says that students work too much and they set themselves goals which are too big. Sasha says that the procedural and bureaucratic way of working in medezeggenschap is basically working professionally and therefore takes a lot of energy. Sebastian sees structural problems with the functioning and organization of the medezeggenschap.
160 Moreover, the delegates have too much work and medezeggenschap should not be full-time but only extracurricular. When the council would set priorities and not just, as a continuous organ take up all the work from earlier years, this would be possible. Mees thinks that students lack awareness about

the workload of the medezeggenschap and herein lies a task for the university. Loraine agrees with Raj, Sebastian, and Kjeld and she states that there is a lack of empathy for the workload which causes pressure on top of the issues coming from the (monetary) structures. Sofie agrees that the workload for the delegates as problematic but that, nationally, all students in medezeggenschap are under pressure to finish their studies in nominal duration. The hours of work should be revised. Bram agrees with the problems for the delegates and says that the UvA staff makes the medezeggenschap often very difficult. Quinta agrees with Loraine and stresses that the burnout problem is larger than medezeggenschap and that an environment in which people give a sign when problems arise should be created. Pim agrees with Bram and Sasha and says that the work is not divided well within the council.

-- Jern Ken Chew enters the meeting--

Ken says that medezeggenschap tries to be professional and adhere to a large number of deadlines simultaneously. The medezeggenschap is treated as a full-time job by the UvA-staff members although this is not officially the case.

Pim suggests listing these issues and to discuss them with FSR's at a later stage. Sebastian, together with the rest of the group, will summarize the points and write a new meeting piece. **(action)**

14. Quality agreements: letter by LOF

The CSR discusses the letter from LOF to the minister, addressing the quality agreements.

Sofie asks whether SOM is also included, but the initiative is still only from LOF.

Mees is not in favor of signing the letter because he is against setting limits to the funds more in-depth than the existing 5 broader goals. The institutions and universities should be free to spend the funds according to their preference and needs. Kjeld agrees with Mees and, despite seeing how the investment in medezeggenschap could improve education, this would not be clear to all students and it should be visible how the funds improve the quality of education. The proposal would only lead to small additions or changes. Bram agrees with Mees and Kjeld and is against the medezeggenschap promoting itself. Ken says that LOF makes valuable points and proposes to send a message to inform them why the CSR would not like to sign the letter.

Voting proposal: The CSR decides to sign the letter from LOF on the facilitation of the *medezeggenschap* in line with the quality agreements.

In favor 0

Against 9

Blanco 1

Abstain 1

The voting proposal is not adopted

In the letter that will be sent to LOF on Monday it will be stated that the CSR is not signing the letter, despite the valuable points about the facilitation of the medezeggenschap, as this was not the goal of the medezeggenschap. Mees wants to tell LOF to not specify the means of spending the funds of the quality agreements.

15. Student assessor evaluation

The CSR discusses the set up for an evaluation of the function of student assessor in the CvB.

Sasha will inform the chair of the CvB that the CSR will discuss this issue next week. **(action)**



16. Besturingsmodel

205 *This agenda point is postponed until next week*

17. Evaluation: budget lunch

The CSR gets an update on the financial costs for the lunch with the students from Belarus on January 31st.

Bram finds the course of events and costs that are made problematic. Kjeld explains that Sebastian accepted the invoice from Cormet since they didn't give the impression to have made any changes. Later, it turned out that the invoice was very different from the first one. Bram finds this unacceptable and suggests disputing the agreement. Sasha wants to know more about the follow-up procedure and possible costs before deciding about this. Bram says that what happened should be countered by principle. Quinta says that it only concerns a miscommunication. Kjeld suggests meeting with Cormet to find out what went wrong and discuss a potential follow up. Sebastian, Mees, and Bram will meet with Cormet. **(action)**

18. Raad van Advies

215 *The CSR gets informed about the procedure for appointing new members of their advisory board.*

Sasha explains the statement that needs to be signed to become a member of the advisory board. Sasha will ask which ex-council members from the CSR 16-17 would be interested to join the *Raad van Advies*. **(action)**

19. UCO

The CSR gets informed about the course of the UCO-meeting on February 8th.

220 Mees will contact Michele for more information about the Honours report **(action)** Taskforce Facilities & Housing will contact Peter van Baalen about the rescheduling the tutorial rooms at REC to create study places. **(action)** Pim suggests the FSR's from FdR, FEB, and FMG to contact their education directors about the study places and status of the plan. **(action)** This will also be brought up during the OV. **(action)** Moataz and Quinta ask whether the council members are familiar with a supposed alternative to *Turnitin* called *Scorum*, but no council members know this and Pim will ask ISO. **(action)**

20. W.v.t.t.k. / Any other business

- **Juridische Zaken;** Sasha says that JZ appears to have a high workload, which results in certain files or regulations taking a long time. This will be brought up during the OV.
- **Webton translation website;** Kjeld explains that the CSR wants to support creating a bilingual website but this was not possible to arrange within the councils. Webton has been contacted for their services and they will charge €520,- for the entire website. Bram questions how sustainable the website is and Sofie asks whether the RSS feed can be fixed. Kjeld explains that fixing all the small bugs would increase the costs substantially, so he will first look into those problems himself.

235 **Voting proposal:** The CSR decides to spend €520,- excl. BTW to create a bilingual website for all student councils on studentenraad.nl.

In favor 10

Against 0

Blanco 1

240 Abstain 0

The voting proposal is adopted.

-- Teo Todercan leaves the meeting --

21. Input request from the FSR's

None.

22. To the media

None.

23. Questions

- 245
- Bram asks the council members to inform him about any allergies.

-- Bram Jaarsma leaves the meeting --

- Sasha asks the council members to travel to the weekend away in groups.
- Pim and Mees will be attending the ISO-meeting on Friday. There are no objections against Pim joining the aspirant committee on the internal voting division of ISO.
- 250 • Pim and Loraine received the documents from the *Werkgroep Inrichting Medezeggenschap*.

24. Ending

Pim closes the meeting at 18h10.

Decisions

- 180214-01 The CSR is in favor of changing the names to 'central student service desk' and 'education desk' on faculty level as harmonized names for the respective desks.
- 180214-02 The CSR is of the opinion that short stay housing for international students should not be offered at the cost of regular student housing.
- 255 180214-03 The CSR decides to spend €520,- excl. BTW to create a bilingual website for all student councils on studentenraad.nl.

Action list

- 180214-01 David calls ACTA and FdR to gather their stances about the different procedures of dean appointments.
- 260 180214-02 Guido and David compose the positive advice on the name change of the central service desks and education desks.
- 180214-03 Bram asks Mariska Herweijer for policy documents on student housing.
- 180214-04 Loraine writes a concrete proposal with an estimate of the costs for the organization of a creative session about housing.
- 265 180214-05 Sebastian, Pim, Ken, Sasha, and Bram write as a follow-up meeting piece for PV180221 about the burnouts amongst student organizations and medezeggenschap.
- 180214-06 Sasha informs the chair of the CvB that the CSR will discuss the evaluation of the function of student assessor CvB during PV180221.
- 180214-07 Sebastian, Mees, and Bram will meet with Cormet to discuss the preparation and costs for the lunch that was organized on January 31st.
- 270 180214-08 Sasha asks the members of the CSR 16-17 whether they would be interested to join the CSR's *Raad van Advies*.
- 180214-09 Mees contacts Michele to discuss the honours report, as discussed during the UCO of February 8th.



- 275 **180214-10** Taskforce Facilities & Housing contacts Peter van Baalen to discuss the study places REC, as a follow up to the UCO of February 8th.
- 180214-11** The delegates from the FdR, FEB and FMG contact their education directors about the study places and status of the plan to reschedule empty tutorial rooms.
- 180214-12** Bram asks the CvB for an update on the rescheduling of empty tutorial rooms during the
280 OV on February 20th.
- 180214-13** Pim asks whether other ISO members have information about the plagiarism software Scorum.
- 180207-01** Taskforce Facilities & Housing looks into the bike parking places that are available at the REC, and inquires whether the limited amount of bike parking spots is a problem for the other FSR's at the REC as well.
- 285 ~~**180207-02** Guido writes a meeting piece for PV180214 on the proposed name change of the Educational Desks.~~
- ~~**180207-03** The representatives check the names of the (educational) desks at their faculties and check why these desks have been installed and why they are named as they are.~~
- 180207-04** Taskforce Facilities & Housing addresses the solar benches that have been placed at the
290 UvA campuses, and asks Kjeld for more information, if needed.
- ~~**180207-05** Taskforce PR gives a financial accountability and budget overview about the lunch with the students from Belarus.~~
- ~~**180207-06** Sebastian, Pim, Ken, Sasha and Bram write a meeting piece on burn outs, to take up this issue with the CvB.~~
- 295 ~~**180207-07** Loraine, Ken, Bram, Raj and Guido will for next week write a proposal on the angle and organization of the a creative session on housing, and they will discuss who writes a meeting piece on the stances of the CSR in the working group.~~
- ~~**180131-01** Taskforce Democratization & Policy discusses whether setting the deadline for the FSR's to give input on the different procedures of dean appointments in 4 weeks is suitable.~~
- 300 **180131-02** Kjeld inquires what different possibilities JZ is researching to possibly compensate 1st-year OC-student members for their work.
- 180124-02** Michele looks up more information on temporary contracts in UvA-data and contacts UvA-Holding for information about the temporary contracts which fall under the UvA-Holding.
- ~~**180124-06** All taskforces set a goal (or two) which they sent to Pim, prior to February 5th. Pim shares the goals with Kjeld and Michele and they present an overview and plan at PV180207. Sasha makes sure all taskforce heads are informed about this plan.~~
- 305 ~~**180117-01** Sasha writes an update to inform the council why it is not possible to grant voting rights to the council assistants.~~
- ~~**180117-06** Bram writes a meeting piece for PV180124 on Housing and Internationalization.~~
- 310 **180117-07** Taskforce Facilities & Housing checks the shortage of examination rooms for digital exams.
- 180117-08** **Guido, Mees, Bram, and Loraine** The taskforce heads of Dig&SS, E&V, F&C and D&P write a short text of 150 words in Dutch and English about the files and subjects they are working on **in the taskforces**, before **February 16th January 26th**.
- ~~**180110-03** The representatives discuss the proposed procedures for dean appointments with their FSR.~~
- 315 **180110-04** David organizes a file holder meeting on the procedures for dean appointments, after the initial stances of the council are known.
- ~~**171220-05** Loraine checks whether the cleaners on the UvA locations are hired by different companies.~~
- ~~**171220-09** The representatives from the FSR FdR and FSR FEB check their FSR archive for discussions and information on the NSE.~~
- 320 ~~**171220-11** Pim and Sasha discuss the Draaiboek Opleidingsaanbod.~~
- 171213-05** Pim voices at ISO that the FSR FMG and the CSR see the importance of schakeltrajecten.

170823-06 Michele will make a plan to involve the FSR's in setting up the BSA-evaluation and informs the FSR's about the position of the deans in this.

Pro memorie

- 325 **140908-04** The DB is strict about *nazendingen* and being present in time.
- 140908-05** A double check on the spelling and grammar should be done for all communication. Taskforce heads have the final responsibility in this.
- 141208-04** The taskforce heads notify the PR-taskforce after their meetings which files should be raised in the media.
- 330 **150420-01** All DB-members send their updates before Sunday 20h. and write their updates linked to all specific files of the taskforces.
- 150907-02** Sasha sends a weekly Monday mail with all the activities of the upcoming week.
- 151019-03** Sasha notifies the FSR's after the PV on which topics the CSR needs input, if mentioned explicitly during the PV.
- 335 **160502-01** Pim and Sebastian take good care of the plants.
- 161017-04** The taskforce heads make sure that everyone gives proper feedback in their taskforces about the work, steering and soundboard groups, and they make sure the documents are saved on the P-drive.
- 161017-05** The taskforce heads oversee the diverse division of speakers for the OV.
- 340 **161031-01** Bram and Sasha organize fun activities for the council on regular basis.
- 170201-04** The council oversees a proper balance between small and large files in the PV.
- 171101-01** All council members archive their documents in the P-drive.
- 171108-04** The representatives check whether the agendas, minutes and letters of the FSR's are being published online.
- 345 **171129-14** Mees and Sasha keep in mind for the upcoming UCO-meeting on Honours that UvA-Q reports are filled in for honours courses, while there are no OC's to check these evaluations.
- 180207-01** Council members try to take care of expressing their opinions and give arguments for their stand points.