Development report Systems & Control RUG

17 March 2026

Secretary: Peter Hildering (Academion)

During the site visit of the master Systems & Control on 17 March 2026, panel and programme engaged in a thematic session with two topics.

Topic 1: Role of GenAI in the curriculum

The discussion focused on the impact of GenAI on education and assessment. The panel feels that it is important to rethink what is important for students to learn. Required knowledge and skills might shift now that GenAI is available. This should be aligned with developments in the academic and professional skills, and reflect how AI is used in daily practice in professional environments. This extends beyond GenAI: other forms of AI are expected to become relevant in the field of Systems & Control as well, and the combination of model-based methods and data-driven approaches is expected to play an important role, while the ideal combination is not yet known. Also, writing skills should be taught with GenAI in mind. Regarding assessment, the system of assessment needs to be AI-proofed. Soliciting external help was already possible (such as sharing assignments from earlier years between students), but is now extremely easy due to GenAI. Some forms of assessment, such as graded homework assignments, are not feasible anymore to use in a summative way. If AI tools are used, reference to it (possibly including the prompts used) are mandatory and missing references are punished as missing references to literature.

Topic 2: Profile and visibility of the programme

The programme wants to increase its influx of students. Option discussed are international marketing, increasing visibility within the Netherlands and even within the faculty (e.g. mathematics BSc graduates). Dual degrees with universities abroad are considered by the programme, although the panel notes that these tend to result in a lot of administration for a limited number of students. The panel feels that communication is key in attracting more students: appeal to areas such as robotics and autonomous vehicles and make these visible in course titles and descriptions. Mathematics students might be interested in the practical side of Systems & Control compared to a MSc in mathematics. A clear focus in presentation for the programme could attract students from within and outside RUG.