



minutes

Meeting Faculty Council

Date and time
 14 January 2020, 13:30-15:00

Reference
 final

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Present

FC: Gerd Weitkamp (chair), Merel Flap, Freddy Cawthorne-Nugent, Roos den Boer, Jelmer de Rijke, Cheyenne Raskeyn, Roberta Rutigliano, Jodi Sturge, Samira Barzin, Tess ten Have (Ibn Battuta), Claudia Yamu, FB: Oscar Couwenberg, Tialda Haartsen, Tess Tjokrodikromo

Landleven 1
 9747 AD Groningen
 The Netherlands

Absent

Esther Marije Klop

Minutes taken by
 Eliza van der Ploeg-Bout

Last minutes (3 December 2019) approved
 Yes, without changes

1. Actions

Number	Who?	What?	When?	See point
20190709-4	Weitkamp	Memo/proposal for DoE about improving Digital Skills in 2019-20.	In progress	
20190930-4	Board (Klop)	Zero tolerance action points: - make policy working document	Ongoing	
20200114-1	Couwenberg	Final edit (layout and minor text changes) of tenure track policy document.		3.1
20200114-2	V/d Ploeg	Invite DoE next time	2-3	
20200114-3	Couwenberg	Improve text of notification on Nestor (zero tolerance policy).		4.4.c
20200114-4	Board	Lecturers should know about zero tolerance policy information for students: -> include in Handbook for Lecturers and announcement on intranet?		4.4.c
20200114-5	Weitkamp	Reply to letters about zero tolerance policy.		4.4

2. Finished actions:

20190212-5: Weitkamp has talked with the DoE the role of the resit in the programme. The FC gives the board a formal advise to look into improving the efficiency of the resit (see 3.2).

20190930-4: Concerning the zero tolerance policy action points, students have been notified by an announcement on Nestor (see also 4.4.c). Furthermore, the suggestions on improvement/best practices of other universities, mailed by Sturge and Barzin, have been taken up by central HR.

20190930-7: Weitkamp has discussed with the board about including the Geodienst-suggestion in the Strategic Plan.

20191029-1: Pro Geo (together with Ibn Battuta) would consult with the DoE about making a short announcement in courses/lectures for students about the zero tolerance policy. Instead, an announcement has been put on Nestor. See 4.4.c.

20191203-1: Items NSE and Tenure Track policy have been put on the agenda.

20191203-2: Checking the voting procedure was not necessary anymore as all FC members are present.

20191203-3: The comments about the Master Introduction Day, the Grading system and course guides have been taken up by Pro Geo with the PC's and Ibn Battuta.

3. Decisions/Advice

3.1 Tenure Track Policy:

Decision: the Faculty Council approves the updated policy.

Note: the Faculty Council comments that attracting excellent staff might be more difficult because of the limited tenure track positions that are offered.

Action Couwenberg: document needs some final editing (f.e. chapter 5. Add bullet 'Three independent (external) reviewers. Revision date first page is January 2020. Page 16: 5K is €500.000,-).

3.2 Resit policy:

Advice: the Faculty Council advises the board to look into improving the resit/efficiency of the resit (action board).

The current scheduling of resits compete with the regular course activities, which could further delay a student's study progress. Also, the current way the resit fits into the programme allows for some students to perceive the first exam as a trial and the resit as a second chance. The faculty council advises the board to see how the resit regulations could be improved to stimulate a better student performance in the first exam and to decrease the workload for staff in the resit.

4. For information

4.1 Update Housing: Executive board meets in about two weeks about the masterplan. After the approval of the masterplan other decisions about f.e. budget can be made. To be continued.

4.2 Update Internationalization: Ongoing. Workshops will be in Spring. In January Rutigliano meets with two speakers.

4.3 Staff survey: Klop attends a meeting this afternoon where general outcomes will be discussed.

4.2 Update Research visitation: Update by Haartsen: the report protocol is agreed upon with Utrecht and Amsterdam universities. In March the self evaluation report will be discussed. PURE needs to be up to date. Ongoing.

4.3 NSE: For information. Next meeting documents about monitoring, overview of actions based on the survey will be available. Action Van der Ploeg: invite Director of Education.

4.4 Zero tolerance policy - update by Faculty Board:

a) Workshops for FSS: Ongoing.

b) ThinkTank: Sturge updates the Faculty Council as much as possible (considering the confidential aspect) about the progress of the ThinkTank. Two meetings have been organized with HR and an external advisor. Subjects of discussion: policy, practice, (scope of) research/investigation (and whether or not to include students), approach, methods and advice to board.

Note from Faculty Council to ThinkTank: accountability could/should also be a subject for discussion.

c) Information for students: 1) The central UG is looking where to put information in Nestor (button, section etc) -> ongoing. 2) An announcement has been put on Nestor. However, students comment that the text could be improved (action Couwenberg). In 2020/21 Nestor will be replaced. 3) Lecturers should be aware of information given to students about zero tolerance policy -> include in a section of the Handbook for Lecturers + announcement on intranet for lecturers? Action: board.

e) Email with suggestions on improvement/about best practices of other universities (mail Sturge and Barzin) has been taken up by central HR -> ongoing.

f) Policy working document for the FC: relates to the quick scan of external advisor (4.4.b). Klop is working on it. Valuable to have it.

minutes

Action

Action FC: reply to letters about zero tolerance policy. In cc to board. For issues formally brought to the board, actions have been contemplated or have been/will be taken. However, the board cannot report on specific cases due to confidentiality.

Next meeting **2 March 2020**.