

BETREFT

Minutes Meeting FB / ODC / FSR BETA

DATUM

03 september 2024

LOCATIE

HG 05A16 en Teams

Tijd

14.00 – 15.30

GENODIGDEN / AANWEZIGEN

*ODC Bèta:*

Ivo van Stokkum (vz), Anton Feenstra, Els Ufkes, Yves Bollen, Paul Jennings, Ad van Dommelen, Gwenn van den Brink, Christian Bick, Trynke Hoekstra, Priyanka Rao-Ruiz, Meike van den Beuken

*Toehoorder / auditor:*

Anne Linnartz, Brecht Reintsema

*FB:*

Aletta Kraneveld, Esther van Hengel, Johan Gemser, Maaïke Verbree, Judith ten Brink (HRM), Mareanne Karssen, Pieter van Beukering, Iwan de Esch

*FSR Bèta:*

Mila Feneva, Brothin Choudhury, Jasmine Chen, Annelie Mars, Erika Kulic, Sree Balaji, Alexandru Mititelu, Cassandra Budai, Debdutta Guha Roy

*Notulist / Minutes:*

Xavier van de Kastele

1	Agenda	Bijlagen/Attachments
	Opening and adopting agenda	<p>1. Agenda FGOV 3 September 2024</p> <p>During the introduction the FSR makes clear their chair is stepping down due to a negative BSA. They will try to resolve the problem during this week and have a new chair as soon as possible.</p> <p>The OLC advice the FSR, they should prefer someone who understands Dutch to some extend to lead and follow the FGOV's.</p>
	<b>Minutes and announcements</b>	
2.1	Notulen / Minutes FGOV	No comments.
2.2	Notulen / Minutes FB	<p>The ODC has indicated that they are still waiting on the meeting minutes, and the "Besluitenlijst" (list of decisions) was last updated in April. Additionally, they are seeking clarification on what the FB means by "Het FB stelt het veldwerk rapport vast" (The FB approves the fieldwork report). Lastly, the ODC does not understand why the report has not yet been submitted to the FGOV.</p> <p>The FB clarifies that they approved the report and incorporated all the comments. Additionally, they are implementing a standardized financial budgeting system to ensure consistent methods, enabling better monitoring. Furthermore, the FB notes that the report has no direct educational implications but is more technical in nature. However, they acknowledge that it should have been communicated to those who provided feedback that their comments were included.</p> <p>The ODC explains the Earth Sciences department expressed that they were hurt by the comments made by the external adviser. They feel that the entire process was suboptimal, particularly due to the adviser's strong statements. We want to emphasize that we have listened to the staff at the Earth Sciences department and acknowledge their concerns.</p> <p>There have been meetings with Pieter acknowledging the way this process was handled.</p>
	Notulen / Minutes AHO	<p>The ODC supports the point in the last paragraph there should be a central invoice system in order to save money.</p> <p>The FB explain they are working towards a collective buying system, but a central invoice system doesn't save the faculty money. The FB is looking into a collective buying in and between departments.</p>

2.4	Mededelingen / announcements	The FB informs there are new VU-regulations on VU candidates, it's already set out and it will be sent to the FGOV as well. Additionally, it has been decided by the Dean not to continue with the head of the computer science department. They are now looking into an interim solution and in the meantime the FB is looking for a new candidate, keeping the possibility of a candidate outside the VU open.
<b>3</b>	<b>Strategie</b>	<b>Bijlagen/Attachments</b>
3.1	Bijsturingsmaatregelen	<p><b>Mondelinge update</b></p> <p>The FB has anticipated budget cuts for 2025 and is pleased with the cooperation demonstrated by all departments during this challenging period. However, the FB has identified the Earth Science department as an exception. The department's current financial model is unsustainable, and it may need to explore alternative strategies for the future. Additionally, the FB announced a new budget cut of 14 million, which is in addition to the previously announced 14 million cut. This time, the FB will not follow the same approach as before. Instead, they are organizing a two-day strategic planning session with the department heads to establish a new direction. The FB is confident that the faculty will emerge stronger from this process. They have developed a framework as a starting point for discussions. Before sharing this framework with the FGOV, the FB would like to gather feedback from the heads of departments.</p> <p>The ODC has expressed doubts regarding the necessity of the established budget cuts and the current approach. They believe that actions should be delayed until definitive decisions are made, for example, following the outcomes of "Prinsjesdag" (Budget Day).</p> <p>In response, the FB has reassured all parties that the measures taken are indeed necessary and that the calculated cuts are accurate. They emphasized that potential new legislation is already impacting student enrolment. A national trend is emerging, where fluctuations in student applications are observable year by year. This will have a direct impact on future budgets.</p> <p>The FB is confident in the robustness of their financial projections, and raising concerns about the numbers at this stage is counterproductive to addressing the current challenges.</p> <p>In conclusion, the ODC emphasized the significant impact of numerus fixus regulations. Due to the restrictive application rules, several programs are currently facing difficulties.</p> <p>The FB acknowledged the importance of the ODC's concern but noted that it is challenging to provide a generalized solution. They suggested that Pieter and Marianne should have further discussions with the ODs to address this issue.</p>
3.2	Bespreken brief van ODC d.d. 18 juli 2024	The FB elaborated on the third point in response to the ODC's request for further clarity. They explained that a commission has been formed, which developed three carefully justified scenarios based on the report. The FB expects that the management team of the Earth Sciences department will receive this information by mid-September. The FB emphasized that, in addition to financial considerations, other key indicators will be considered. In consultation with the

		Earth Sciences department, this information may be shared with the FGOV, but it remains confidential and should not be disclosed to other members.
3.3	Jaarplan 2025	<p>This Point coincided with 3.1 during the meeting, see notes above.</p> <p>The FB Clarifies they have calculated endlessly, based on facts. The cuts were indeed severe, with 12 and 14 million being a significant amount. The FB emphasized that they wouldn't just put this forward without serious consideration, and it is crucial not to reopen the discussion about whether it was really 14 million. This wouldn't help them, nor the departments. There is no possibility to wait until after 2025 to figure out how to approach the 14 million.</p>
4	<b>Onderwijs / Education</b>	<b>Bijlagen/Attachments</b>
4.1	Onderwijs / Education	<p>Mondelinge update Pieter van Beukering</p> <p>The FB informs most of the budget challenges are in education, the influx of students is problematic. With major decline in the bachelor tracks and they expect this will jump over to the masters. As a faculty we must start working together with other faculties and rule out competition between each other. SBE also face serious budget issues, they have introduced norms and guidelines a long time ago for small classes and education. That is what we as a faculty must realise now as well, E.G. aligning portfolios. Furthermore, the FB explains there are some working groups and specialisations where the measures are not efficient, and they need to investigate these programmes. In the AHO last Friday the FB wanted to set up a joint measure.</p> <p>The ODC makes clear it is a national problem, will it in the end not be survival of the fittest university.</p> <p>The FB acknowledges the point of the ODC and informs them, they are busy talking this over with other parties like the UVA.</p>
5	<b>Bedrijfsvoering / Business operations</b>	<b>Bijlagen/Attachments</b>
5.1	Housing (only when there are updates)	<p>Mondelinge update</p> <p>The FB elaborates that, last week the first parts of the faculty BETA moved in the new building, other departments will follow in October and November.</p> <p>The ODC gives a suggestion to attach the name of sponsors to buildings, to raise more budget.</p>
6	<b>Onderzoek / Research</b>	<b>Bijlagen/Attachments</b>
7.	<b>Valorisatie / Valorization</b>	<b>Bijlagen/Attachments</b>
8	<b>Overig, rondvraag en sluiting</b>	<b>Bijlagen/Attachments</b>