

## FGOV Notulen

<b>Datum</b>	18-03-2025
<b>Tijd</b>	14.00 – 15.30
<b>Locatie</b>	Hoofdgebouw, Forum 2 en Teams
<b>Voorzitters</b>	Brothin Choudhury
<b>Leden</b>	<p><b>ODC:</b> Ivo van Stokkum (vz), Anton Feenstra, Els Ufkes, Yves Bollen, Paul Jennings, Ad van Dommelen, Christian Bick, Trynke Hoekstra, Priyanka Rao-Ruiz, Meike van den Beuken, Elwin Janssen, Martin van Velzen.</p> <p><b>FSR:</b> Brothin Choudhury (vz), Jasmine Chen, Annelie Mars, Erika Kulic, Sree Balaji, Alexandru Mititelu, Cassandra Budai, Debdutta Guha Roy.</p> <p><b>FB:</b> Aletta Kraneveld, Pieter van Beukering, Iwan de Esch, Johan Gemser, Mareanne Karssen, Esther van den Hengel, Maaïke Verbree, Judith ten Brink.</p> <p><b>Toehoorders:</b> Anne Linnartz, Brecht Reintsema, Melissa Bakker</p> <p><b>Notulist:</b> Xavier van den Kastele, ambtelijk secretaris FSR</p>

## **1. Agenda and announcements**

### **1.1 Opening and adopting agenda**

### **1.2 Announcements**

- The FB has decided to replace the old faculty teaching policy with the VU teaching policy, as discussed in the previous meeting. It will be published in VU-zine, and they will link it on the website as soon as it is published.

## **2. Strategie**

### **2.1 Update bijsturingsmaatregelen**

The FB explains that they have meetings with all the MT's of all the departments to discuss their personal plans. The actual cuts will be discussed in the autumn.

The Budget Committee is looking at the KDM gap. They are considering how it could be distributed differently than this year, but that is yet to be determined. This will be advised to the FB and will not be submitted as input to the FGOV. However, an overview will be provided in the Financial FGOV and the FGOV will be updated on this matter.

## **3. Onderwijs / Education**

### **3.1 Update Onderwijs / Education**

The FB elaborates that the application trends are alarming. There has been a declining trend over the past few years, with a current 23% drop in bachelor's applications and an 8% decline in master's applications. The decline in master's programs is expected, following the downward trend in bachelor's applications in recent years. Other faculties at the VU are experiencing a similar decline, as are other science faculties across the Netherlands. In fact, most universities are seeing an overall drop in applications.

The FB believes this is largely due to fewer international students applying, following changes in government policy on the matter an effect that was already visible last year. There is a growing call for reshaping the academic structure in the Netherlands.

### **3.2 Staking Hoger Onderwijs 17 maart**

The ODC proposes following the UvA's example in facilitating the planned VU strike on April 7 by organizing an education-free day, allowing students and employees to participate.

The FB highlights that they are already working towards making this happen and are awaiting confirmation on whether it will be implemented centrally. If not, they will aim to implement it at the faculty level. Additionally, activities will be organized during the strike.

#### **4. Bedrijfsvoering / Business operations**

##### **4.1 Housing (only when there are updates)**

The FB emphasizes that all groups that needed to move from the WN building have relocated, while those still there will remain for the next two years. Regarding the IT Service Desk, nothing is known about their stay, as they are not part of BETA.

#### **5. Onderzoek / Research**

##### **5.1 Aanpassing reglement Ethische toetsingscommissie BETHCIE**

After evaluating the Commission for Ethical Testing for research and studies involving human data, some changes will be made. The commission will now only provide either a positive or no advice, no longer a negative advice. Additionally, they have stopped conducting audits (samples). If you pass the self-check, a full review will be required, as some cases still did not receive a positive outcome after self-checks.

The ODC notes that advice was given in the AHO to include examples of well-completed forms. However, this will not be implemented, as there is concern that these examples might be used as templates. The ODC is shocked that such a statement is even necessary, as everyone has a responsibility to complete the forms seriously or it could indicate high work pressure.

#### **6. Notulen / Minutes**

There is a remark regarding the minutes, specifically point 4.4. Xavier will contact Maaïke about the proposed changes. Once these changes are made, the minutes can be approved.

##### **6.1 Notulen/Minutes FB**

The ODC raises questions regarding the minutes of February 21, particularly the financial annual report, which for the first time includes a table outlining the surpluses and deficits of each department. They wonder whether there has been any contact with the CvB about this, as they feel it is quite a rigorous step, especially given that discussions on the deviations in the tables are still ongoing.

The FB clarifies that there has been no contact with the CvB yet, as the purpose of the table is to provide insights to department heads and the CvB. This was requested to improve transparency, and the AHO did not raise any concerns about it. The matter will be revisited in the summer for the next budget discussion.

##### **6.2 Notulen/Minutes AHO**

No comments.

#### **7. Overig / rondvraag**

##### **7.1 Representation Earth Sciences students**

The FB expresses that they missed the FSR at the Earth Sciences meeting and found it unfortunate the student council was not present.

The FSR explains that there was an internal miscommunication regarding the invitation. They deeply regret not attending the meeting and acknowledge the importance of their presence.

Additionally, the FSR had a meeting with some Earth Sciences students who raised concerns. They questioned why their program is facing the biggest budget cuts and how the VU plans to maintain university quality if teachers are laid off.

The FB points out that minutes from the meeting are available on the Canvas environment of the Earth Sciences department, where the second question has already been addressed. However, they do not have a concrete answer to the first question yet and will discuss it internally before providing a response.

The ODC highlights that if the FSR feels they are not receiving enough information, they can reach out to Brecht, who will ensure they stay in the information loop regarding earth sciences.

## **7.2 Request for a small update on KDM changes**

The KDM itself will not change, but the overhead system for projects will. As a result, project leaders should not be discouraged from submitting research proposals. The idea is that the revenues remain within the department, allowing them to cover their own KDM gap.

The cost coverage model (KDM) currently has a €10 million gap, which is partially covered by tuition from non-EU students. The remaining gap mainly concerns lab costs, for which no new system is in place yet. A policy document will be drafted on this matter. The overhead allocation will be communicated through Finance, and the Budget Committee will present a proposal to address the KDM gap. The goal is to remove the negative incentives associated with projects.

## **7.3 New study association**

The FSR received an email of students who are trying to set up a new study association and have some questions. The FB suggest forwarding the matter to Cas, as he is the specialist on the matter.