



besluitenlijst

Faculteitsraad GMW

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21.20344

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- 01** **Opening, adaption agenda and minutes**
Since a long time, the meeting is back in B.128. The Chair warmly welcomes those present.
The agenda is established.
The minutes of September 14th are adopted.
- 02** **Written questions following the minutes of**
02.01 **The meeting of the Faculty Council 14 September 2021**
02.02 **The meetings of the Faculty Board on 2, 9 and 16 September 2021**
- Sarampalis: It is most probable that the introduction of Brightspace will be delayed. There are concerns about this. As Van Veen is absent, the topic will be postponed to the next meeting.
- Sarampalis: The necessity of double exams has broad consequences for the workload for teachers. There are concerns about this amongst teachers. This topic will be postponed to the next meeting too.
- Assen, September 2nd: There seems to be a misunderstanding about the written question on the influx and enrollment numbers. The student faction wanted to know what makes the difference between the numbers so big. The board indicates that it does not know the exact reason. Fortunately, there has been no unmanageable growth in student numbers.
- The question on the policy of language in education is postponed to the next meeting, to be answered by Van Veen.
- Haagsma notes that at the faculty there are two groups dealing with inclusion and diversity: the Internationalization group and the Diversity & Inclusion group.
Aarts clarifies that both are non-official working groups with different goals, but with overlap on the topic of D&I. Both groups have a signaling function and can alert the FB when problems occur.
- 03** **Topics for discussion**
No topics for discussion.
- 04** **Announcements from the Chair and the Deputy Chair**
No announcements.



- 05** **Announcements from the Faculty Board**
- Last week the FB had the bi-annual meeting with the University Board. It was a good meeting. The University Board is satisfied with the accomplishments in general and the quality of education. Also we discussed the consequences of blended learning.
-The FB discussed the future personnel policy with all directors and chairs of the units. The FB aims to finalise the new personnel policy in May.
- The Hybrid working group will have its first meeting at the end of October.
-De Jonge: The new Head of the department of Research Support is Stefan Suurmeijer. He will start December 1st. We welcome him to this new position.
- 06** **Faculty Budget 2022-2025 (inform)**
This year we have a positive result due to different beneficial reasons (a.o. the extra fund Ruggesteun). The personnel expenses will increase and will be borne by the budget of the coming years. The reserve from this year will be used in the coming years in order to absorb the deficits.

The Faculty Council expresses its positive feeling about the multiannual budget forecast 2022-2025.
- 07** **Faculty Regulations and Appendices**
07.01 **Faculty Regulations - English translation (inform)**
No questions.
- 07.02** **Rules of Procedure Faculty Council BSS (adopt)**
The council wants to include the possibility that a councillor can mandate another councillor to vote for him/her.
Veenstra will add this to the regulations.
- 07.03** **Rules of Procedure Programme Committees (adopt)**
The change is in the rearrangement of the text sections. As not all PCs were aware of this, they will be contacted first.
- 07.04** **Appendices 1, 4, 5, 6 and 7 (inform)**
No questions.
- 08** **Questions**
Van der Kooij: Due to corona, everything is slightly delayed, but we hope to have more information about the procedure for Teacher of the Year soon.
- 09** **Closing**
15.45 hrs.

Written questions & discussion points for the FC-meeting of October 12th, 2021

Written questions

Meeting of the Faculty Council 14 September 2021

- 02.02 > With the delay of announcing Brightspace as the new Nestor software, there are concerns the system will not be entirely ready next year, posing extra demands on teacher workload. Are we anticipating delays and what can we do about them?

The FB shares this concern (actually this concern is shared university-wide), though right now no delays are expected. The whole process is closely monitored and carefully prepared.

- 03. > Whom can staff contact when they have concerns about ventilation. There is still a lot of confusion among staff.

They can contact Erik Vermeeren, facility manager of City Center East.

Minutes FB-meetings September

- 2 september
 - 05.02 What is the difference between the influx and the enrollments?

Influx ("aanmeldingen") are the numbers of potential students subscribed in Studielink. These figures are not so reliable, because students can apply for more than one programmes/universities. Enrollments are the actually registered students at the RUG.
 - 07.01 When will we receive this?

Unfortunately, we cannot yet provide a complete overview. This will follow.
 - 08 Second dash > Do you already have any ideas about this?

This question is not so clear to us. It was communicated with the central board that the timing for non-EU students was not the right one. We did not receive any requests of non-EU students to enroll online.
- 16 september
 - 05.01 What is the purpose of the language policy inventory from van Veen?

One of the questions that was raised is whether students can make an exam in Dutch when the teacher does not master the Dutch language. Or the other way around.

Furthermore, do you know more about the inclusion working groups? Because there are more than one and it is not clear what our role is.

We would appreciate to hear from you which inclusion working groups you are thinking of. Since mid-2020 there have been some meetings between FB and a broadly composed informal working group led by Sofie Lorijn. We do not see a self-evident position of the FC in this group but it is also clear that smooth communication between the working group and FC is desirable.

- 11 Third dash > In the previous year there were some discussions about the competition part of the teacher of the year. Not everyone thought it was nice. Will there be done anything different this year?

Already last year the procedure was changed into the Best practices of the year that will be celebrated and discussed. It is not clear yet what the procedure will be at the university level, though it is communicated that GMW will no longer participate in the teacher of the year election.

Faculty Regulations

- 7.4 > We don't start on the first of September, but we start at the first faculty council meeting in September (not a question, but a thing we noted).

Thank you very much for this correction. It will be included in the next round of amendments.

Rules of Procedure Faculty Council BSS

- Paragraph 3 > Article 20 > .10 > If you are not able to come to a faculty council meeting, you can't vote on matters that are discussed there. Can't we introduce the rule the can you mandate someone else to vote for you?

In general, Rules of procedure are a document in which mutual agreements on the proceedings of meetings, for example, are recorded in writing. The council itself can make changes to these. If you mean "someone else" is another council member, there seems no objection to put such a mandate rule in the Rules of procedure.

General questions:

1. Is there already an update on the hybrid working group?

The university group produced a policy paper. The main regulations are already communicated by the faculty board into the faculty. The faculty hybrid working group will organize its first meeting in short time.

2. (Staff) On the 7th of November 2019, a confidential note was discussed in the Faculty Council about the grading and evaluation of (temporary) university lecturers and the career policy regarding lecturers. As a Faculty Council, we were asked for advice. We have responded positively to the note. The note included, among other things, that lecturers can also carry out research tasks of 25% or less than the scope of their employment.

Has this memorandum been converted into policy and are we therefore allowed to employ teachers for a maximum of 25%.

With the new collective agreement (the final text is not published yet), we will have to look again at this memorandum to see what is possible. Furthermore, we would like to include the memorandum in the discussions on Recognition and Rewards and the broader discussions on Tenure Track / promotion policy within the faculty.

3. (Staff) Many teachers are facing difficulties with needing two separate assessment procedures, one for in-person and one for online students (because of absent exchange students or students with health concerns). What can they expect in terms of how long this will impact their teaching and how can we better communicate (before and after such decisions)?

This only applies to the first semester and no longer to the 2nd semester. It was communicated in June 2021 to all teachers because at that moment decisions were taken at the central level about the first semester of 2021-2022.

4. What are the (medium-term) plans/vision for housing and workspace at GMW?

The university is in the process of reshaping its housing plans. From the faculty side, two projects are still in the planning stages: renovation of the Heymans building and replacement of the Bloemstraat location. At this moment we do not have clarity on when these projects will start.

Discussion point:

- Zinkeviciute: Internationals and their role in the governing bodies
 - When the governing bodies of the faculty are searching for new candidates in the spring, internationals who arrive in September are not able to join. Can we change something about this?

We recognize that it is difficult to impossible for newly arriving students to become active in faculty committees immediately after arriving in Groningen. Since the academic year has a strict annual cycle, it is extremely difficult to change the timing of committee formation without damaging other aspects of this cycle. Therefore, we do not see possibilities for an easy change. Generally speaking, newly arrived Dutch students (for instance from other universities) are in the same situation.