

**University Council
Third Plenary Meeting
Erasmus University Rotterdam**

Date and Time: 25/04/2023, 14:00 – 16:00

Location: Langeveld 1.12

Present in the Meeting: **Ivonne Cune-Noten (chair)**, Sebastiaan Kamp, Max Wagenaar, Nikita Schoenmaker, Jaap Cornelese, Natascha Kraal, Patryk Jarmakowicz, Aleid Fokkema, Ernst Hulst, Simo Azzarhouni, Albert Wagelmans, Irena Boskovic, Emese von Bóné, Tom van Dijken, Erin van Gestel, Luuk van Tol, Nawin Ramcharan, Wesley Hennep, Wincey Randoe, Veerle Bakker, Georgiana Carp, Friso Roos, Cagla Altin, Lobke van Steenberg (Clerk), Ellie Cercel (Minutes).

Absent: Sandra Constantinou Juhasz.

01 Opening

01.01 Setting of the agenda

The agenda was set without any adjustments.

01.02 Minutes previous plenary meetings

The minutes of the first and second plenary meeting were set without any adjustments.

01.03 Announcements

- Invitation Ombudsperson

The Clerk invited the Ombudsperson to a future plenary meeting in June to better go over the questions and requests of the council.

- UC survey

The councillors who conducted the previous survey wish to conduct a follow-up in the upcoming cycles; the survey is tabled for the upcoming third plenary meeting and the results will be shared in the final cycle of the academic year.

- Waiver

Councillor Erin had received a waiver of her duties due to sickness. We are hoping that soon she will resume her role.

- Support UC

The UC Clerk is currently involved with the ELC, Culture Campus, and Institute of the Arts, besides her tasks within the UC. Due to an increase in workload in the two projects, the Clerk has decided to step down from her duties within the UC as of next academic year. Administrative Affairs is currently preparing to hire a new person for the role, preferably someone with links to the EUR and the UC. There will also be an onboarding of the new Clerk. The councillors were asked to give some input with regard to this transition. Several requests were: involve the current Clerk in the hiring process, have prior knowledge of the University structures and council work, involve the new Clerk in the last UC cycle of this academic year, and request legal or administrative affairs background or knowledge. Also, the UC would like to review the job profile with the current Clerk before the recruitment takes place.

02 Agenda items plenary meeting UC

02.01 Starter Grants policy document (short term)

The letter of consent on the Starter Grants policy document was shared in Teams on the 24th of April. The UC is satisfied with the efforts of the TF. The UC agreed on sending the letter including the remarks added in Teams.

Action point: The UC Clerk will format the letter of consent on *Starter Grants policy document* and send it to the EB.

02.02 Code of conduct elections

The UC is awaiting input from CPC to clarify whether there are policies preventing candidates from getting external funding. As a result, the UC does not have a proposal to change the text.

Also, the UC would like to review the party system following the conclusion of the current elections, given that this is the second year of its implementation. This system was criticised in the meeting as it does not ensure uniform representation of all faculties by the student members. Councillor Nawin will collect the input of the student members of the UC and share it with the Clerk in preparation for this discussion next cycle. Also, the councillor will share the passage of the law regarding financing policies with the UC. The revision will be tabled for the upcoming cycle.

Action point: The UC members will prepare feedback on the elections. The decision on the revision of the *Code of conduct elections* for the upcoming academic year will be tabled for the next cycle awaiting input from CPC.

02.03 Evaluation CM

The councillors evaluated the previous CM.

- Restricted campus opening hours

Councillors Albert, Luuk, Max, and Irena will collaborate to deliver a letter of advice to the EB on the topic, in light of the conclusions drawn during the discussion at the previous CM.

Particularly, the UC is dissatisfied with not having been included in the procedure of this decision. Next to that, the council will share the remarks about the content of the procedure, which were summarised in the previous meetings. The council wishes to make it clear to the EB that we endorse changes contributing towards sustainability, but do not fully agree with the procedure.

Also, in advance of the third plenary meeting, the EB was expected to provide us with an answer explaining whether the office reservations can be done in advance for recurring days or longer periods of time, such as the duration of a course; this remark will be included in the letter as well.

Action point: councillors Albert, Luuk, Max, and Irena will draft the letter of advice to the EB on *Restricted campus opening hours*. The topic will be tabled for the next cycle.

- Convergence

During the CM, the EB agreed to update the document and schedule another meeting to better inform the council of the state of affairs regarding Convergence. The UC received answers to the remarks shared with the Convergence Office.

Also, the council did not receive input from the participatory bodies of Delft and Leiden Universities in preparation for this meeting. The Chair will request this in preparation for the next meeting.

02.04 M&C

The current UC M&C Officer is going to be absent from work for an unspecified period. In the meantime, her tasks will be divided among the members of the secretariat. For the onboarding, the program overview has already been laid out; the secretariat is currently working on the specific locations and training options. Similarly, the secretariat will be working on the Eureka week events. Also, Annemieke Sterrenburg of the Central M&C office will assist the UC with the visibility of the council by setting up the website, managing a communication campaign for the elections period, and keeping the councillors and candidates informed of developments as well as expectations.

However, the UC was consulted regarding organising activities for the election period, the Lustrum, and the upcoming ISS visit.

Firstly, the UC discussed how to proceed given the absence of the UC M&C Officer. The councillors believe that this absence takes place during a critical period in the UC calendar, as we are in high demand of promotional activities to increase the visibility of the council and the candidates. It was debated whether to hire a replacement, divide the work among several councillors, or request help from the Central M&C Office. However, as the length of the absence is not known yet, the UC agreed to divide the tasks between the secretariat members awaiting the return of the M&C Officer. Also, the Chair suggested consulting the M&C Office about the relevance of maintaining our social media account during the elections; however, the council decided to request the help of Annemieke for managing our accounts right away. Also, the UC would like to know the options candidates can expect from the election campaigns. One suggestion was to share one post per list on the social media accounts.

Secondly, the UC decided to continue organising the debate; therefore, all list participants will be invited to take part. The debate will take place in the week of 15-22 May, which coincides with the voting period. The secretariat will decide on the location of the debate on campus. Due to the high workload of this task, councillors Georgiana, Albert, and Veerle will help the secretariat organise the activity, as they are not participating in the elections. The Clerk will be organising a separate meeting where the workflow will be discussed.

Thirdly, during the ISS visit on the 13th of June, the programme will consist of the plenary meeting and of discussions with students and employees. The secretariat asked for the help of the ISS council member to help with the communication and development of the program.

Lastly, the secretariat asked for the help of the M&C TF to organise the Lustrum activity. The TF needs to prepare a specific proposal before mid-June and request funding. The Clerk will share the necessary information with the TF and based on this, the TF will decide whether to take it on.

In conclusion, the UC established a plan for managing the absence of the M&C Officer during the elections period.

03 Incoming documents

03.01 University of the Arts Rotterdam – planning

The UC was informed that the merger will take place during the next academic year, thus it will concern the next council. Thus, the UC discussed how to take this on. Several suggestions were made such as inviting the newly elected councillors to part of a meeting in our final cycles or tabling the discussion during the handover taking place in our final meeting coinciding with the first meeting of the next council.

Action point: The Chair will discuss with the Clerk the option of tabling the discussion on the *University of the Arts Rotterdam* with members of the next council.

04 Any other business

04.01 Awareness session RE&F

RE&F organised a session for raising awareness towards accessibility. All UC members will receive several Outlook invites in order to plan the best fitting time. If interested in joining, the councillors were requested to select one of the dates as they see fit. The UC members recognise that it is important that we have a role in this matter.

Action point: UC members are requested to respond to the Outlook invites for the *Awareness session*.

04.02 Campaign financing

Councillor Nawin investigated the article in the National law describing the campaign financing; he will provide the Clerk with more details in an email.

Currently, the financial situation of the candidates is uncertain for some, and the council would like to receive clarification on the allocation of the funds. The Chair reassured the council that the candidates will not receive less funds than previously arranged. Further, the Presidium was contacted by the Central

Election Office with the suggestion of increasing the budget of candidates and with new guidelines for the division of the funds. The Chair is currently in communication with the office to determine the source of the funds and how the change will be implemented.

The council requested to be informed of any updates regarding the financing situation as soon as possible, via Teams or email.

Action point: The Chair will inform the councillors of the decision regarding the extra funding for the election candidates.

04.03 Rooms availability on campus

There have been several discussions about the availability of rooms on campus. The council would like to ask the EB for some information as to which spaces are lent out to external parties and therefore not available to EUR staff.

Action point: The Clerk will email the EB asking about the status of rooms on campus.

04.04

Councillor Chaya's role as project controller is being centralized as part of CPC; however, the project controller team does not agree with this decision. This matter will be brought up with the ELC.

05 Closing