

Parts of documents of April 2021 from the CvB and UR about the position of student assistant at the CvB at UU

Utrecht

Purpose of the position

The primary objective of the position is that the student-assessor represents the student perspective and contributes to the decision-making process of the Executive Board, in order to increase the quality and transparency of decision-making. The Board and the council share the view that the position of student assessor is not an extension of the representative body, nor of the Executive Board. The assessor has the freedom to partly determine his own tasks.

Information position and presence at consultations

The council and the executive board find it important that the student assessor has the same information position as the members of the CvB: the assessor has access to the same documents and may be present at all meetings of the executive board. For the student assessor, just as for the other members of the CvB, confidentiality must sometimes be observed. The presence of the assessor in informal consultations should not be underestimated either. Whether the student assessor can also be present at the university crisis team, depends on the crisis and the composition of the crisis team.

Appointment procedure

The proposal is to set up an application procedure in which the student perspective is optimally represented. The aim of this procedure is to appoint a candidate who enjoys maximum support among students in the university, as well as among the Executive Board and the advisors in the administrative department.

Support

The support of the student assessor must be in line with the support of the staff of the University Administration, of which the student section of the council is also a part. This means that the assessor can make use of a workplace in the Administration Building in the same way as UBD employees and of facilities related to the workplace (such as meeting rooms, printing and coffee facilities).

Vacancy text Student Assessor CvB at UU 2021-2022

Are you an involved student and do you like to think along about developments in the field of education and studying at the University of Utrecht? Then you might want to become a student-assessor of the Executive Board.

The position

The Executive Board of Utrecht University is looking for a student-assessor for the academic year 2021-2022. As a student member of the Executive Board you will discuss university policy, whereby your focus will mainly be on education- and student-related matters. You advise the Executive Board and bring the student perspective into the decision-making process. You maintain good relations with students within the university and are well-informed of what is going on among them. With this knowledge, you make an important contribution to decision-making at university level.

You participate as an advisor in the weekly meeting of the Executive Board, the meetings with the University Council and other consultations relevant to the performance of the function, such as the consultation of Utrecht student assistants. You consult regularly with the rector magnificus who is responsible for education and students in the Executive Board.

You maintain a good relationship with the student assistants of the faculties, the Utrecht student organisations and students from the employee participation body.

What do we ask?

If you are interested in the position of student assistant and meet the following profile, we would like to invite you to apply.

- You are interested in developments in the field of education and are aware of current issues in higher education and at Utrecht University;
- You know what is going on among students;
- You can communicate well in Dutch and English and you make contact easily;
- You can quickly grasp complex issues and are curious about new developments;
- You are good at working independently;
- You are enterprising and have integrity;
- You are enrolled as a student at Utrecht University and in the 2021-2022 academic year you will not be fulfilling a position on the board of a student organisation, trade union or in the university's employee participation body;
- Administrative or co-determination experience, inside or outside the university is an advantage, for example as a faculty student-assessor.

What do we offer?

You are appointed by the Executive Board for the period of one year. The appointment period runs concurrently with the academic year, from 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022. The maximum duration of the position is 32 hours per week. The compensation is in accordance with the "regulation governing board scholarships for student members of university bodies" ([link](#)) and depends on the size and the programme in which you are enrolled.

Procedure

The student-assessor is appointed by the Executive Board on the recommendation of an appointment advisory committee. The committee consists of the rector magnificus, the director of Students, Education & Research, a faculty student-assessor, a student member of the University Council and a representative of VIDIUS.

Apply

Everyone deserves to feel at home at our university. We welcome staff and students from a wide variety of backgrounds and perspectives. Are you interested in applying for a job? Send your cover letter and CV using the application button below before [4 June]. If you have any questions about the position, please email the committee secretary Lennart van Wageningen: I.j.vanwageningen@uu.nl (hyperlink)

Appendix: Experiences at the UvA and RUG

This appendix provides a brief summary of the results of our discussions with the university student assessors of the UvA and the RUG, the CSR of the UvA and the UR of the RUG.

Amsterdam (UvA)

The University Student Assessor was established at the UvA on the initiative of the Executive Board (CvB) as a result of the Maagdenhuis occupation. Originally, the position, at least according to the the Central Student Council (CSR), the main purpose of the position was to work in close cooperation with the the CSR to work on transparent decision-making and improving information flows. The assessor was appointed by an appointment advisory committee (BAC) in which the students had the students had primacy. The position was created for 32 hours per week, and per calendar year. In recent years, a number of recalibrations have taken place. For instance, the assessor has sought a better balance between the CSR and the CvB and the centre of gravity for the appointment has shifted to the CvB. This year the appointment term was also changed from calendar year to academic year.

Various experiences have emerged over the years. For example, it is of great importance that the assessor is independent of both the employee participation and the CvB and at the same time enjoys the trust of both. In an ideal situation, the assessor's position will bring benefits to both the CvB and the employee participation body, and this will only be possible if the assessor can share information between both parties and is also included in informal consultations and decision-making.

Trust and discretion are essential for this. Another particularly important point is the independence of the assessor function. A warning image is an assessor who looks too much at CVs. An image that is feared is an assessor who creeps too much in on the Executive Board or UR. This damages trust and hinders transparency and free information flows. Transparency and free information flows. An assessor who places his loyalty with the UR may not receive full openness from the Executive Board, an assessor who places his loyalty with the Executive Board runs the risk of being used as a pawn of the Executive Board against the codetermination. The best is an assessor who explicitly preserves the independent middle. Usually, the assessor has a background in co-determination or as faculty assessor.

The task package of the assessor is almost completely free to fill in by the assessor. The assessor attends the relevant consultations, keeps in touch with the student community, keeps in touch with the the faculty assessors and offers independent insights from the student point of view in

policymaking. The assessor does not have his own annual plan/policy agenda. The consultations the assessor attends are in any case the following:

- CvB-meetings
- CvB-deans
- Executive Board-RvT
- CvB-UCO (consultation educational directors)
- CvB-CSR
- CSR-RvT
- CSR agenda meeting
- CSR-internal
- FSRs-rector
- Assessors consultation (chair)
- Workgroup study associations

In addition, the assessor seeks consultation with many other actors, such as the directors of departments and the local student union/association ASVA.

Groningen (RUG)

In Groningen, the assessor function has existed for some time: about 10 years now. Before the assessor was instituted, it was good practice for the vice-president of the UR to hold meetings with the Executive Board. For this purpose, a separate position was created at a certain point, which became separate from the UR and became the assessor. The position is 32 hours a week and has a free interpretation. The assessor is closer to the Executive Board than to the UR: the assessor is present at the Executive Board meetings, but not at the CSR internal meetings. It is worth noting that college meetings in Groningen look different to those in Amsterdam or Utrecht: the relevant directors and other support are also present, but the Executive Board makes the decisions. Until now, only the first assessor has come from the employee participation; the assessors usually come from the club life or have experience as faculty assessors. Also, in Groningen the independence of the assessor is mentioned as one of the most important characteristics. A difference with Amsterdam is that the Groningen assessor has an annual plan that is discussed with the UR. Apart from that, the range of tasks is similar to the Amsterdam one, although the consultations in which the assessor is involved do differ. The Groningen assessor, for instance, is much less involved with the study associations, which are explicitly the responsibility of the faculty assessors. The meetings where the assessor is present in Groningen are among others the following:

- Executive Board meetings
- Administrative Consultations with deans, directors of services and deans of projects
- CvB-UR
- UCO (Education Advisory Committee)

- UCW (advisory committee on science)
- Board of Assessors (chair)
- Corona crisis consultations

In addition, the assessor participates in most of the policy preparation committees and advisory committees. The principle "involved, unless" applies: the assessor is in principle involved in all

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