



University College Student Representatives of the Netherlands

Minutes General Assembly at 13:30 May 20, 2017  
Amsterdam University College – Hannah Vreeburg

## Minutes

### 1. Welcome

Joris van Schie (Chair): Before we begin this General Assembly, I would like to ask if LUC and EUC are present? LUC and EUC are not present. Then I would like to welcome all others to the last General Assembly of our Board year.

The voting procedure for this General Assembly will entail raising the yellow placard that has been received at registration. This will ensure that the Independent Body can more easily count all votes.

### 2. Approval of the Agenda

Joris van Schie (Chair): Are there any questions about the Agenda? No, then the agenda is hereby approved by acclamation.

### 3. Approval of the Minutes

Joris van Schie (Chair): Does anyone have any questions about the Minutes? No, then the Minutes are hereby approved.

### 4. Elections for the Executive Board positions 2017 – 2018

Joris van Schie (Chair): The procedure for the elections will resemble that of last year. The candidates will be allowed to give a 3 minute speech. Afterwards they will receive 1 question from their position's current board members and lastly there will be 5 minutes allotted to questions from the audience. The election booklet is also still to be found on the website. Lastly, upon filling in the ballot sheets that each UC has received, please bear in mind that not filling in the ballot sheet is regarded as an abstention. The Independent Body will collect and count the voting ballots. But firstly I would like to ask for a big round of applause for the candidates.

#### a. Chair

Joris van Schie (Chair): And the first position to be decided is that of Chair. I would like to invite candidate Daniel van Hemert, from UCR to the stage.

Daniel van Hemert (UCR): Thank you. Firstly, I would like to say that I am honoured to be allowed to run. I am running for this position because I had a vision for what should happen. In my experience, a lot of good changes were made in the past years, but there are still some new plans that should be implemented. These plans are: Over the year, I have noticed that having representatives in a committee is taxing on members of the UCSRN, especially the Social Committee. In case an event is organised, the hosting UC should be responsible. The Social Committee, however, should not be in charge. These representatives should be focused more on running their study association at their individual UCs. The Committees are more of a platform to ask questions to these other social board members. I am a suitable for the position of Chair, considering my experience as Treasurer for RASA. I am up for the challenge, and

people will find in me a good listener. For the implementation of plans it is important to receive a mandate from the GA. Lastly, I will make sure to do everything in my power to make the UCSRN more and better.

Joris van Schie (Chair): Thank you for the speech. Now for the question: Now the UCSRN has established the lobbying structure, what is going to be the next step?

Daniel van Hemert: The lobbying efforts of the UCSRN are a two way street, the UCSRN is after all only the mouth of the study associations. So before we engage in lobbying, we should inform ourselves of the opinions of these study associations, and find out what results these members want to get from lobbying.

Joris van Schie (Chair): Alright, are there any questions from the audience?

Elly Dreyfus (UCM): How do you think you will manage the workload of this position. Also considering Middelburg is quite far away, how do think you will manage to navigate around the UCs all the time?

Daniel van Hemert (UCR): My RASA board member term will end shortly, so I will not be running for a double position. True my locations might sometimes be a pain, but most of it can be solved by technology, such as skype. However, I will indeed be sitting in the train most of the time.

Lance Bosch (AUC): Sometimes it can be a difficulty to actively engage UCs in the UCSRN, what strategies will you adopt to tackle this issue?

Daniel van Hemert (UCR): For this I have a two-fold solution, the idea of events – that the hosting UC would be responsible since it is easier to take care of an event if it takes place at your UC, which are a nice impression for our students. GAs and the like I am in favour of a more minimalistic UCSRN, since members are unwilling to show up every other week. Only every time an event happens, such regular meetings are vital.

Ilen Madhavji (AUC): At the last GA – we organised a think tank, with some solid points for developing a UC diploma amongst others. What would be the next step?

Daniel: At this moment in time, I don't know the exact conclusion of that GA, and the members, but I would suggest to build on that. I will make sure to discuss this with the Board.

Louis Parker (UCU): For example, during the AC Conference, it was necessary to take an authoritative role. Do you have any such examples of moments where you have shown leadership?

Daniel van Hemert (UCR): At RASA we have a different structure. My experience in our board, where at some point we remained with only 3 board members, all in charge of organizing certain events and leading teams should be provide proof of my leadership.

#### b. Secretary

Now for the position of Secretary, we would like to call on Evi from AUC to give her speech.

Evi Sifaki (AUC): Thank you for being here. I am an AUC first year, from Greece. This pas year I was part of the UCSRN Tournament Team, where I really got to know the UCSRN better. And it made me realize how lucky I am to be a part of a UC, the true UC spirit. It feels like a home, where you can grow as a person. Therefore I would like to give back in any way I can and

represent the UCs on a national level. The UCSRN is part of you, each and every one of you. I believe the UCs should connect more with the UCSRN. I would like to do this by improving communication and the way you feel about the UCSRN. Additionally, I really like trains and busses, and to travel around the NL. I believe in the UCSRN. As Dami said: 'Believe in whatever miracle you want to be'

Hannah Vreeburg (Secretary): Considering the UCs are spread across the NL, how will you foster effective communication between those UCs?

Evi Sifaki (AUC): I will try to foster it in the old-school way. I want to meet up more with the representatives and with the Members, to try and be there from the beginning. This changes the spirit and helps a long way in fostering effective communication. It might be a pain to travel around, but it is important to prioritize a better connection.

Rob Verbeek (UCT): What do you mean with change the way people feel about the UCSRN?

Evi Sifaki (AUC): I have noticed that most students do not feel a part of it. It should be a platform for you guys to take advantage of. Nobody should feel like it is a weight on the shoulders, but instead a useful tool which we make you feel a part of. I will not just be taking minutes, but also contribute to this organization as a person.

Marieke van der Maden (UCM): Your agenda and points seem quite different from Daan. Why did you not run for Chair?

Evi Sifaki (AUC): I think I position myself more as a listener, and communicator, that fits my character best. I am a nice add as a spirit to stand behind a strong chair. I don't think I would be as strong of a chair, also since I do not have the experience for it.

Louis Parker (UCU): Will you mostly be communicating via email? Or will you also be using direct communication and inter UC students. What strategies, processes will you be communicating via FB, videos or the website?

Evi Sifaki (AUC): As a first year student, I was indeed not directly in touch with the UCSRN, this was only through my application to the Tournament Team. We have representatives at every UC, who can promote it more at their UC. I think the UCSRN can do more PR. But this also hinges on changing the attitude, making it more positive.

### c. Treasurer

Then for the position of Treasurer, there are two candidates. Firstly, I would like to ask Kirsten from UCR to come to the stage and present her speech.

Kirsten Kapteijns (UCR): Hi everyone, my name is Kirsten, for the past year I have been on the RASA board as a secretary / cao, and also became the Social Committee representative this year. I think the UCSRN has a lot of benefits, it provides an easy path for communication with other UCs, sometimes a little bit much. However there are also some concerns to work on, which also the reason why I am running, to raise these concerns at other UCs. We are an organization with 8 UCs and thus 8 different opinions. Therefore we require meetings with the other UCs, mostly over skype. I am positive about the changes we can make, instigated to run and implement these changes. Last year, we lowered the fee and created a completely new reimbursement system. As a Treasurer, these are things I need to look into, also to precisely state how much money we need to make the organization work. I have also had Yearbook team experience as a treasurer. Additionally I really like the bottom up event idea. A Social Committee event should be responsibility of the hosting UC, not the Social Committee. But for facilitating these events, UCs need monetary means to do this, which is where the UCSRN can help. It is important that UCs bring proposals to the UCSRN. As a CAO for RASA I also had to talk to societies about proposals, similar to what I think will happen with the UCSRN.

Jonathan Seib (Treasurer): The travel cost reimbursement has always been a hot topic in the UCSRN. We are not necessarily looking for a number or calculation, but how would you approach the issue of setting the height of the travel cost reimbursement when drafting the annual budget next year?

Kirsten Kapteijns (UCR): I would base the initial estimation on the NS groupsticket price. In the overall budget, I can then estimate how much is available to see how much can be reimbursed.

Mirre Stevens (UCU): How will you ensure to try to get all the opinions, and not too strongly represent UCR?

Kirsten Kapteijns (UCR): I have raised my concerns at all UCs, and will try to meet with all of them to hear their opinions. Concerning our recent email, I for example travelled to AUC to talk to them. I think all UCs should be involved in. I will personally go there, not have them come to Middelburg. I am very willing to travel to UCs.

Marieke van der Maden (UCM): How will you incorporate budget specific recommendations from the IB?

Kirsten Kapteijns (UCR): I think it is important to discuss the budget thoroughly with the IB, and that for meetings or more information they can always contact me. I am also willing to go to them and discuss these. Or provide training if needed.

Joris van Schie (Chair): If there are no other questions for Kirsten, then we will now proceed to Amber from AUC.

Amber te Winkel (AUC): Hello everyone, my name is Amber and I study in Amsterdam. There I have developed some insights ideas for the UCSRN. I think it should be more visible for the Study Association. I personally only got engaged in the UCSRN at the Tournament. We also need to foster the UC community, and introduce you to external parties. We do not want to force you to work for us, but the other way around. Therefore, we should engage actively in forming a platform, where you can discuss similar problems, via us. So we can gather knowledge together. I also believe we should strive for a better position and connection at/to the Minister of Education. And make the programs more clear to outsiders. One of the biggest concern of UC students is precisely that external people do not know what it is. This is something we can improve more.

I also think we should improve our collaboration with the IB. I am a passionate and thoughtful person, and also have some experience as a treasurer, which got me excited about this position specifically.

I would like to congratulate the changes concerning the reimbursement and membership fee the past year. But there have also been some mistakes, and we can improve that. As a 2<sup>nd</sup> year, I do have less experience. But this also motivates me to do this. I am a first year applying, but I am really excited. Vote for me.

Jonathan Seib (Treasurer): The travel cost reimbursement has always been a hot topic in the UCSRN. We are not necessarily looking for a number or calculation, but how would you approach the issue of setting the height of the travel cost reimbursement when drafting the annual budget next year?

Amber te Winkel (AUC): This is something I cannot decide by myself. Instead I would discuss it with the IB, the former treasurer and the SA's. Kirsten mentioned some percentages. An example would be 5 euros max or 1 euro for tram. Everyone needs to agree upon it. The EB cannot enforce it upon you.

Rob Verbeek (UCT): Are you saying the current EB made some mistakes, or do you have specific plans for the UCSRN?

Amber te Winkel (AUC): I believe there are some things that can be improved, the way they approached things. They didn't always follow up on ideas. I believe we need one clear framework, not just on one UC, but really as a part of the whole UC community, across the country. That is something we need to do more and improve on.

Rob Verbeek (UCT): How do you want to accomplish that?

Amber te Winkel (AUC): I think the UCSRN should be more visible, as a national organization. That you feel connected with this UC and can organize this event or work together, for example on the well-being of students. That there exists a real connection between the UCs.

Louis Parker (UCU): You don't seem to have a mass of experience; do you have any treasurer experience? With a budget of around 25-30.000 euros.

Amber te Winkel (AUC): I was the Treasurer at the honours association of Amsterdam, in high school. And I am currently doing physics and economy. I don't think it is a problem.

Mirre Stevens (UCU): Similar question, you are in the same UC as another candidate for this board. How will you ensure that you represent all the UCs, not just AUC?

Amber te Winkel (AUC): I am very motivated to go to other UCs, and personally get to know them. My family lives in Middelburg and the Achterhoek, so travelling is not an issue for me. I don't believe I have a biased opinion. But I will make sure to clearly look at the UC, and see what you want and what can I do for you.

Xenia Mainelli (UCT): What is opinion regarding building up a reserve. The current board does not have an extensive reserve, only savings.

Amber te Winkel (AUC): We need to consider the long-term, and it is an important thing that the UCs pay their fees. But as the UCSRN we should also spend the money for you. It might important to save something as well, for events that go wrong, however you should get something for the money that you spend.

#### d. Academic Committee Chair

Then we would now like to call Mirre from UCU to the stage, who is running for the position of Academic Committee Chair.

Mirre Stevens (UCU): My name is Mirre Stevens. I am upcoming year's Academic Committee representative from UCU. And I am running for the position of Academic Committee Chair. Personally I have a great deal learned from the past board's efforts, and have developed my vision for the Academic Committee. I believe it should be an information sharing platform, where a UC could introduce any issue / problem they have. Experienced colleges could then inspire less developed colleges, share best practices and combine knowledge.

This was not the practice of the Academic Committee last years. Instead of brainstorming, most time was spent on events. I believe this has led to a lack of focus, where mostly people were

complaining about events not happening. I wish to change this. During transition of my student council, I have already attended council meetings (UU), where I experienced multiple rounds of issues, discussions of processes in place most commonly leading to a document being sent with useful information or best practices. I envision the UCSRN to do the same. We have to go implement this solution. However, not all UCs are as established, so there are going to be issues that are unique to UCs. As the Academic Committee Chair we can look beyond the University College community for inspiration, external inspiration that is.

Bas Kellerhuis (UCU): Your committee members are busy people, engaged with their work at their individual UCs. How will you make sure to keep them involved?

Mirre Stevens (UCU): I would aim to schedule a regular meeting time, and make sure representatives prepare for these meetings. AC reps will all be knowledgeable on Academic affairs at their own UC, so their contribution to the discussions are vital. With this I would like to schedule less but more efficient meetings, so that representatives have time for their other commitments.

Danielle Wagenaar (AB): So you plan on hosting less events, or none organized by the Academic Committee representatives. Then how will you engage all students with what the AC is doing?

Mirre Stevens (UCU): The Academic Committee representative will be responsible for this promotion at their UC. I rely on hard working and willing representatives, and I will dedicate my attention to helping them figure out PR and creating that feeling with Students. That is my intention. And they should express it to their students.

Rob Verbeek (UCT): You seem to have quite a strong vision on the AC should be doing. What if other AC representatives think something different, different from your vision?

Mirre Stevens (UCU): I have not met with the potential representatives. They will still be able to give me insights into their ideas, I am not unapproachable. As chair, if it is necessary that 1 person does take the decision, I will take that ultimate decision.

#### e. Social Committee Chair

Milou van Nederveen (UCT): Thank you for being here. I am a 1<sup>st</sup> year student at UCT. There I will become part of the Board of Atlantis, taking up the position of internal affairs. I think it is important to ask ourselves what the Social Committee does and should be doing, for the UCSRN. Communication between different UCs is important, much advantages would be yielded from a frequent and efficient communication between the UCs. If there is a problem such UCs can check with other UCs and together find a solution. Also, the Social Committee can be used to organize new events, where one can easily get to know contacts at the different UCs. Thus we can also integrate with new and/or other UCs. I personally have quite some experience with project work and committee structures, and that is why I believe I will serve as a good chair of the Social Committee of UCSRN.

Aleksandra Blazeusz (SC Chair): You will be in a quite similar position as me, doing both the Executive Board, The Social Committee and Atlantis. How will you be distributing your time? Envision yourself in three positions, how would you prioritize?

Milou van Nederveen (UCT): Don't want to do half a job, but want to commit and get the most out of my position. Being in the board of Atlantis, the EB and a SC Chair takes up a lot of time. But I am willing to put time and effort into it. I think it is also going to be a lot of fun, not just work and I look forward to it. I will have to think about my priorities, where I am needed the most. I

really like the association, but UCR / UCM and the UCSRN are very important to me too.

Louis Parker (UCU): With the proposed changes to the Committee structure, it will mean much more boards organizing events? How do you plan on keeping an oversight?

Milou van Nederveen (UCT): Good question, I envision to have some more smaller events, which create interaction between the UCs. So for example AUC meet up with UCT. I would like to encourage those events. Specific events might be for the Social Committee, which we should look into, also together with treasurer.

Louis Parker (UCU): But how about keeping an oversight, for ticket sales and or to do lists?

Milou van Nederveen (UCT): Discussions will be mostly about general issues, as the Social Committee representative at the UC is still responsible for oversight, communication and meeting up with people.

Lance Bosch (AUC): How do you see yourself in a chair role, contributing to the Social Committee as a chair?

Milou van Nederveen (UCT): I really like project groups and making sure communication goes well within such groups. I think being a chair will involve taking up leadership and for example agenda setting.

Joris van Schie (Chair): Thank you Milou, and with the last candidate we have now concluded all speeches. Therefore, we will proceed to voting, I would like to ask the Independent Body to hand out the voting ballots and we will resume the General Assembly after a short break.

*Short break*

#### 5. Proposal: partial refunding of the contribution fee

Joris van Schie (Chair): We will now proceed with the General Assembly. The results of the voting will be announced at the end of the GA. Jonathan will explain the proposal.

Jonathan Seib (Treasurer): So since not all funds were used for travel cost reimbursement and the Academic events were not organised, the UCSRN has 10.000 euros left at the end of this year. Therefore, we propose to refund 50% of the fee. So each UC will receive 1250 or 625 euros respectively back. Remember that at the start of the year, we still had 2000 euros in reserves. After this year, after the refunding, the total reserves will amount to 5.000 euros. The reasons: This is your money so you should be able to spend for your study association. Besides that, if we have too many reserves asking for subsidies and sponsors is less easy. Therefore, we have decided to refund a healthy amount, half of our yearly budget. Are there any questions? Is anyone against?

Joris van Schie (Chair): Are there any questions regarding this proposal?

Louis Parker (UCU): Should we not refund this after all expenses of the UCSRN year have been paid, such as the District Fest which is still to be hosted.

Jonathan Seib (Treasurer): The District Fest is already included in this proposal.

Mirre Stevens (UCU): The document is no longer available for us to see on the website.

Jonathan Seib (Treasurer): Apologies, it will be back in one minute.

Jan Willem (IB Chair): Does anyone want to vote?

Joris van Schie (Chair): Then if nobody wants to vote, the proposal has thus passed by acclamation.

## 6. Establishing a long-term vision document

Joris van Schie (Chair): The currently presented document is a result of the UCSRN weekend. With this document we tried to answer the following questions for the UCSRN: Where the UCSRN goes in the next years and why. The document is useful in the process of asking for subsidies and in our communication to external partners, for example the national student union (LSVB). The document entails multiple goals and definitions, divided into three groups: External, Quality of Education and Internal. The document itself is concrete, but leaves more than enough room for interpretation and execution by different board. The document can be found on our website.

Are there any questions regarding the long-term vision document as it is now?

Marieke van der Maden (UCM): During the UCSRN weekend we had a thorough discussion on Socio-economic diversity. About making the UCs less elite and more accessible. I am quite disappointed then, for in this document there is only 1 short phrase. Either we should elaborate on it or make it a separate goal.

Joris van Schie (Chair): It is included in our long-term vision, so the UCSRN will focus on it in the coming years. We deliberately chose not to specify the goal further, because we should not try to bind next boards, and it can still change in the future. The next Board will be in charge of developing it further and making concrete steps. We did already have discussions at the Ministry of Education about socio-economic diversity and ways to increase it. This we will surely pass on to the next board in transition, so we can find concrete ways to achieve this goal.

Marieke van der Maden (UCM): If it is that important, why not elaborate on? Or change the word diversity into socio-economic diversity.

Joris van Schie (Chair): Do you have an amendment in which you propose that change? Please send such an amendment and then we can vote on it.

Lance Bosch (AUC): We should not predefine diversity, since it also includes socio-economic diversity. It was intentionally vague, to leave it open to interpretation.

Marieke van der Maden (UCM): Then let's make it a separate point, I only want to change the phrasing.

Joris van Schie (Chair): Thus, please make an amendment and send it in an email to us.

Hannah Vreeburg (Secretary): Then we can include it in the slides!

Joris van Schie (Chair): Then we will now move to the discussion of the first amendment consisting of some minor changes. Take some time to read it. Are there any questions? Does anyone want to vote? Then it passed by acclamation.

Moving on to the second amendment, UCM would like to elaborate on this amendment.

Elly Dreyfus (UCM): We would like to stress that the policy is not binding, UCs do not necessarily have to integrate this in their Policy Manual. If we would want to include it in the policies, we have to decide on it in their respective GAs

Aleksandra Blazewicz (SC Chair): Thus we propose to make the clause more broad, so that UC SAs don't have to change their PMs.

Joris van Schie (Chair): Are there any questions? Then if nobody would like to vote, we can pass this amendment by acclamation.

Joris van Schie (Chair): There is another amendment being typed up by Marieke, however we

will discuss this after the Academic and Social Committee updates.

## 7. University College Tilburg

Joris van Schie (Chair): Then we will now move to the presentation by University College Tilburg. This UC is quite new to the stage, only having been established as a UC recently. All the way from Tilburg, two of their board members would love to give a little bit more of an explanation about their UC.

UCTilburg: Thank you for having us. Tilburg has only been named a UC this year. We started as LAS degree within Tilburg University. Only since this year we have officially changed our degree to a University College. We think it is interesting to see how other UCs in the NL are doing. We offer 4 majors: Law, Humanities, Social Sciences and Cognitive Neuroscience. With respect to our study association, it is called Extra Muros. It has existed for 8 years now, amounting to a total of 78 members now. To clarify it is not like most UCs, for it is not mandatory to be part of the association if you study at Tilburg UC. We have a number of social and academic committees, like for example the Last Lecture committee. We host a number of cultural activities including movie nights or eastern eggs hunt. We don't live together, so for us it is nice to meet each other over dinner or a movie. With regards to our social life. We have our own bar, and host some really good events such as an annual gala. Our mascot is a turtle. In April, we hosted a study trip, where we visited 3 different countries.

Joris van Schie (Chair): The Board also visited Tilburg and board members from Extra Muros were present during our Tournament. Together we are currently considering a Membership proposal, which would make Tilburg UC our 9<sup>th</sup> member. Are there any questions?

Rob Verbeek (UCT): How would we go about abbreviating UCTilburg? Since UC Twente is currently UCT.

UCTilburg: That is something we have not decided on yet.

Lance Bosch (AUC): Firstly, UC Tilburg should bring a membership proposal to the General Assembly. So we can have an extensive discussion about the finances within the UC, and how that would work?

UCTilburg: Our membership fee is only 20 euros, which is quite a small amount. We also only have 80 members. Joining the UCSRN is thus quite expensive for us. We have also discussed this matter with our course staff and they might be willing to subsidize us to join.

Danielle Wagenaar (AB): Not all your students are part of the Association? Or as a UC, members of the UC are going to be paying for all your students being part of the UCSRN? The Association will then be paying the bill for everyone.

UCTilburg: Our UC needs to decide on this. They are currently making some changes, so it might become obligatory for every student to become a member.

Danielle Wagenaar (AB): Just make sure to keep it in mind.

Joris van Schie (Chair): Alright, after these questions, I would like to thank UC Tilburg for coming and explaining a little bit more about your UC. Hopefully in the future we will see much more of you!

## 8. Academic Committee update

Joris van Schie (Chair): Then we will now move to Bas for the Academic Committee update.

Bas Kellerhuis (AC Chair): When we started this year, we had quite grand ambitions. The plan

was to host two events and run two projects. And our vision for the Master's transition was that the situation would improve quickly. However 1 by 1 this year didn't turn out as easy as expected. The Academic Conference, which was supposed to be our first event in November, turned out very difficult to organize. Firstly we didn't find a venue in time, making us postponing it to February, when we still had no venue in time nor speakers. However after we postponed it to April, where finally both venue and speakers were arranged, we didn't have enough ticket sales. It was supposed to be a free event in Rotterdam, for which we did mostly FB promotion and reached a total of 6000 people (more than our total number of Students). Unfortunately the grant total of sign ups was only 12, including 2 non-members. Therefore we ended up cancelling the event. Still we tried to ensure lively debate the UCs, and for example sponsored the PINE conference at UCM. The Master's Conference on the other hand also fell through. We can thus safely say, that we didn't reach our goals, and instead dedicated time to outline some steps on how to make right what happened this year. And to prevent such situations in the future. Currently we still have 2 running projects. One of these is the Journal, which is still undergoing, however we don't have enough submissions for a printed version. We also received very few responses from the Deans and others. Currently we are exploring an online version. The next update in the coming UCSRN year will hopefully give more clarity. The other project is the Survey, for which we came up with particular questions at the start of the year, mostly regarding Master's Transition. Those questions have all made it in the Survey, which will be conducted in the Summer. These we can then use to work with in our lobbying efforts to improve the Master's transition for UC students. Overall there were some major things that went wrong. I think we concluded that is very difficult to organize events with a team that is nationally based, different locations trying to host something in one location. The event that gave the least amount of trouble was the Tournament, and I believe that was due to a very dedicated Tournament Team. Next year the Committees will be arranged differently, where the AC and SC will have an overseeing role rather than a dominating one. And I think then the AC will be able to do a much better job. For next year we also want to increase the engagement of some members, since two of representatives have left us in a burn-out, where they had too much work to do. Having replacements throughout the year proved to be a significant obstacle. Our discussions this year were mainly focused on events, the secondary goal of knowledge exchange didn't get the recognition that it deserved. Instead we were overseeing events, whilst we would have love to be more dedicated to discussing BSA and Rules and Regulations (OER). Next year there will be time to discuss them, since there will be no obstacle of events.

So for now, half your contribution will be refunded. I sincerely apologize for this unfortunate situation. I hope that instead you can use this money to organize more effective event for your members and improve student life at your UCs. We have pushed for some Policy Manual changes, so they should help. Currently we are making sure that we have strong transition, so that both issues won't be expected and dealt with easier.

Then I have one last proposal: Since we are no longer confident that we can organize a successful Master's fair, we want to propose to undue the reservation for Master's fair. Are there any questions about this?

Joris van Schie (Chair): Since there are no questions, we can hereby conclude that this proposal is accepted by acclamation.

#### 9. Introducing the new Academic Representatives

Bas Kellerhuis (AC Chair): Would the new Academic Committee members that are already here please come forward to the stage

Xenia Mainelli (UCT): I am currently on the candidate board of Atlantis, for the position of secretary and educational affairs.

Mirre Stevens (UCU): I will be the Academic representative for UCU.

#### 10. Social Committee update

Aleksandra Blazeusz (SC Chair): Overall I must say that I am happy with the work we did, and definitely appreciate what we accomplished this year. Meeting regularly was really a strong part of our team and we can be proud of what we made happen. Over the past year we have finalized the Committee Database, through which committees can reach each other. We have also effectively installed a collaborative platform for next year. Then for the figures. At the our event the Spotlight. 231 people attended. We did have some small issues, but overall we learned from our mistakes. I think most of us really enjoyed the Spotlight and we have an elaborative evaluation document to show for it. Then I want to extend a warm thank you to the UCSRN Tournament Team for doing such an amazing job hosting it here at AUC. This event went much more smoothly than the Spotlight, and had a grand total of 522 people attending. Everyone had a great time and we are currently finalizing documents for the evaluation. We are also thinking about sending a survey to the participants.

Then in terms of the District Fest I would like to give the floor to Louis Parker from UCU.

Louis Parker (UCU): So how to brand the District Fest. This should be the task of the SAs. It is an opportunity to meet different students from different UCs, there will be laser tag (UCR), massive catapult practice, dodge ball, an escape room and a riddle. 8 students from each UC can participate and we will organize a grand festival in the evening. The event is free. It will be on June 3<sup>rd</sup>, excite your students and come! Also as an announcement, Hannah (Secretary) has decided to join the District Fest team.

Milou van Nederveen (UCT): What is the purpose of the 8 people limit participating during the day?

Louis Parker (UCU): These 8 people can participate, but you can bring along any number of people to watch, there will be inter-uc teams.

Milou van Nederveen (UCT): How should you still get other people to go there?

Louis Parker (UCU): There will be a high valued prize and overall a really fun day. It is a chance to meet new people, but it is mainly a social event.

Milou van Nederveen (UCT): Okay then other UCs should also be promoting it.

Aleksandra Blazeusz (UCM): It is the first time we are hosting such a 3<sup>rd</sup> event, unlike last year when they had to cancel it. It is the aim of mixed teams, where UCs actually get to know each other. The music festival in the evening is unlimited to any number of people.

#### 11. Introducing the new Social Representatives

Milou van Nederveen (UCT): I think it will be a lot of fun.

Steven (UCM): I am looking forward to meeting all of you.

Louise ten Bosch AUC: I will be the SC Rep and also the Secretary of the AUCSA. I think it is going to be a good year.

Joris van Schie (Chair): Are there any questions? No then we will move on to the EB update.

#### 12. Executive Board update

Joris van Schie (Chair): At the start of this year, I think we were a little naïve, we truly didn't know what to expect from our Board year. We had stated very fondly that we would not change the structure of the UCSRN, however we did. But also remember what we mentioned about

putting the UCSRN on the Map. Well we went from UC Twente to the University College in Middelburg trying to represent all University College students. We also created a new website, published a total of 8 articles to stimulate debate among and about University Colleges in the NL. One of the major things we accomplished through such articles was the apology by the Keuzegids for publishing a flawed list of the University Colleges. All because of the critical response we published. That is the power of the UCSRN, and should be our focus for the coming years. Another detail to note is that the amount of likes on our FB page has almost reached 2000.

During this year we also kept publishing the UCSRN newsletter, used paid advertisement on FB to become even known as an organization and of course we were highly engaged in our lobbying efforts. Over the past half a year we visited almost every interest group and not only made connections at Dutch student organizations, but also European Colleges. I didn't do this on my own, but I also have to thank my fellow board members, for having such a fun time together. Please give a round of applause to my fellow board members. Then I want to extend a personal thank you to AUC for hosting the Tournament this year, in particular the Tournament Team which was highly successful. One person should be called out in particular, Heleen Vos, thank you for your dedication and time, you put a lot of work into the Tournament. You might not always get the credit that you deserve, but you did a very good job!

Heleen Vos (AUC): I just want to extend a personal thank you to Louise, Llen and Evi for their help in organizing this Tournament.

Joris van Schie (Chair): Are there any questions? No then we can move on.

Jonathan Seib (Treasurer): Before we move on we want to also extend a round of applause to the Chair. And on behalf of Ola and Bas, we want to thank you and our Academic and Social Representatives.

Joris van Schie (Chair): And last but not least we want to extend a thank you to the IB and AB.

### 13. Third amendment – Long term Vision

Joris van Schie (Chair): Then we move on to the discussion of the third amendment as presented by UCM. Are there any questions for UCM?

Rob Verbeek (UCT): In terms of promoting accessibility for the Colleges, what can the UCSRN really do there?

Marieke van der Maden (UCM): The exact implementation and course of action will be up to the next board.

Mirre Stevens (UCU): Should we then also not change the table contents?

Joris van Schie (Chair): Yes indeed, let's edit that too.

Joris van Schie (Chair): Does anyone want to vote upon it? No, then it is passed by acclamation.

Joris van Schie (Chair): Now we move on to the voting on the Long term Vision in general. Seeing as no one wants to vote for it, we can also state it has passed by acclamation.

#### 14. Announcement of election results

Joris van Schie (Chair): Then we now move on to the announcement of the election results, for this I give the floor to Jan Willem from the Independent Body.

Jan Willem (IB Chair): So for the elections results, we had 5 positions, for which there was only one contested position. Everyone received their preferred position, and Kirsten became the Treasurer.

Joris van Schie (Chair): Then I would love to extend a big applause to Amber for running.

#### 15. Open floor

Joris van Schie (Chair): Does anyone have any points for the open floor?

Jan Willem (IB Chair): The Independent Body is still looking for members to join. You will be in charge of auditing and an independent vote count. Please also tell your UC students.

Elly Dreyfus (UCM): I would like to ask the next board to schedule the Election GA later in the year, preferably June, so that we can propose SC and AC chair candidates, since our own elections are only later.

Joris van Schie (Chair): That is a valid point, during transition we will work together with the new board to create a year planner and mention this.

Andy o Daab (AUC): Before we leave we would like to invite everyone to Dormfest on June 24<sup>th</sup>. See our trailer.

#### 16. Closing

Joris van Schie (Chair): Thank you all for coming to the General Assembly. We invite you for a borrel and some small activities to break the ice amongst the newly elected UCSRN and study association board members after the General Assembly at Oerknal.