

1. Welcome

Stephen McCarthy (Chair) opens the UCSRN GA at 13:23.

2. Approval of GA Agenda

Stephen presents the Agenda. A few changes were made in comparison to the send out version:

- AB presentation is moved to next GA since the Board is not complete yet
- Order of elections & results presentation has switched

There are no objections to the Agenda. The Agenda has been approved.

3. Approval of the Independent Body

The current IB comes forward. It consists out of Amber te Winkel (AUC) who is currently abroad in Singapore, Natasha Birari (UCT), and Annemijn Ooms (AUC).

Gilles Luyendijk (EUC): What is your function as the IB?

Natasha: We mainly assure the Executive Board stays within the rules of the Policy and the Statutes. We also audit the finances twice a year to make sure they are correct, and we process appeals from members if necessary.

Unknown (EUC): Why do you think you are right for this position?

Annemijn: Last year there were not enough IB members. Me and Natasha stepped up and we hope we can do a good job in this IB. We are still looking for more members.

Kirsten Kapteijns (EB): The IB will also receive a specific IB training, as was started with last year.

No further questions. The IB is approved.

4. Approval of previous GA Minutes

This concerns the minutes of June 9th 2018.

Kirsten: Last year unfortunately our Secretary has personal problems, which led to Mirre (Stevens, UCU) taking over the GA Minutes task. Unfortunately her laptop was stolen during the summer with the minutes from this GA on them. Luckily we still had a recording, but we had to fully transcribe that. It was my task, but I also had to make a budget for 2018/2019, finish my results from 2017/2019, and my grandfather passed away 2 weeks ago. I therefore only finished the minutes rather late. They have been published on our site as usual, but we understand if not everyone could have read them and if needed the vote on these minutes can be postponed.

Ruben van de Akker (UCR): I propose to postpone the approval of these minutes until next GA.

The motion is seconded and approved. The minutes of June 9th 2018 will be voted on next GA to give everyone a proper change to read them.

5. UCSRN 2017 – 2018

a) Results 2017 – 2018

Kirsten Kapteijns (former UCSRN Treasurer) comes forward to present the results of the last financial bookyear.

Kirsten: Feel free to at any moment in time during my explanation raise your hand and ask questions. I have seen these numbers a lot, so I might think it is very logical, but you might have a question about it so please don't hesitate to ask them. The results document has been published on our site and I will go over that right now.

- Income

Everyone has paid their **contribution fees**. With **sponsoring** you see here that nothing has happened. However, this is slightly untrue, however, since any sponsoring that happened did not go through our bank account but directly to the event's organisation the UCSRN cannot put that on their financial overview anymore. There thus has been sponsoring for UCSRN events, but we have not directly been involved with this anymore due to the new system of event organisation.

- Expenses (general)

Website costs and bank costs are set costs we have to pay to host our website and have a bank account that can make transactions. The bank costs are a little bit higher than expected. This is because we based our budget on last years results and the €100 fitted perfectly for the amount of costs, but later we found out they forgot one bank cost post, so it was a little higher than the €100 we based our amount on. I have also made the budget for this year, so I guess I advised myself to make sure that next year's bank costs budget is set higher to take this into account.

With our **promotion budget** we mostly promoted FB posts, we also for instance got stickers that you all have gotten to distribute and get our name out under the students. We did not use everything because we did not have a specific use in mind, and did not just want to spend money for the sake of spending money. We also got quite some unexpected discounts on our FB promotion since we suddenly started using it more and they gave us coupons because they were happy with us and wanted to incentivize us to keep paying for those promotions.

External costs are if we for instance want to pay for someone's travel expenses if they come visit us or give them a small present. **Representation costs** are for instance if we have to pay an entrance fee to a lobby event. They were set quite high, because we did not really know what to expect, since we only started our lobby efforts fully this year. We found out that 90% of the lobby events are just free so we did not use this budget. We never invited anyone over, since the UCSRN does not really have a building anyway so we mostly travelled towards people we wanted to meet, like the ministry. I again would advice next years to put this budget way lower, and have also done so for the coming year.

General Assemblies are the lunches we provide for you during GAs. We used less than we budgeted. We just did the groceries we needed for a small lunch and this were the costs, we did not feel like buying more or more expensive food just because we had the money if this was just fine, we always had some food leftover and did not feel like wasting more.

Unknown (UCT): Could it be there is a computational error in the last column of expenses? Because if you add all separate posts you don't get that total.

Kirsten: Yes, that is possible. Some last minute changes were made so it might be that the slides still have the wrong totals, my apologies.

Transportation is when we reimburse delegates for travelling towards the GA up to €7,50 and if we ourselves travel towards a lobby event or meeting we get reimbursed.

Gilles (EUC): Does that also count for driving or only for the NS travel?

Kirsten: It also counts for driving, but only if delegates let the Treasurer know beforehand and it is also only for the amount of €7,50.

Gilles (EUC): Per person in the car?

Kirsten: Yes.

IB & EB Training: The IB received a training at the start of this year to help them with their tasks. The EB training was planned at the start of the summer but of course we did not really have a Board at that moment so we postponed it. The costs still fall under the last financial bookyear though as one of the payables.

Both the **bonding events** did fall through mostly because they could not find a date that the full, or almost full, committee could make it.

- Expenses (event fund)

On the slide you can see which events either the SC or AC approved, for what amount they approved them, and what amount they in the end actually requested in reimbursements. The transportation costs you see here are mostly the busses that were used for the Tournament. Each participant can get €3,50 per person.

Unknown (EUC): Why was the approved MUN budget not used?

Kirsten: I do not know, they did not request any funding in the end.

Victoria Mai (AUC): I can explain that. We made a profit in the end so we did not need the funding from the UCSRN anymore.

Unknown (UCM): So why was the profit not reflected in the results?

Kirsten: We never gave them the €500. You can only get the money if you show us prove of payment, so since they made a profit they did not request any money. We only sponsor the event so we do not profit if they profit, but we also do not overspend if they themselves go over budget.

Gilles (EUC): So my question for the Tournament, and I was not on the GA this was decided on, but how come that when a larger sum of money was requested this could not be done. €4000 was set aside for the Tournament, the Tournament happened quite late in the year and now in the overall results there is still money left in the fund. However, there was still a decision made against increasing said Tournament budget.

Kirsten: To get the entire reasoning of the GA, that was 2 GA's ago, you would have to read those minutes. The discussion was quite long on that GA, so I can't give you a summary in one sentence. In general, the €4000 was what was agreed upon on beforehand. The leftover you see here also still took into account that UCU might still host a summer event but that eventually fell through, however the €4000 was what was decided at the start of the year already with the team and the SC together.

Gilles (EUC): Without the Tournament Team right?

Kirsten: No with the Tournament Team, we had a meeting at the beginning of the year in Rotterdam, in the Bagels & Beans if you remember.

Gilles: Oh yes, that meeting.

Jonas (EUC): What will be done with the pretty big discrepancy between the budget and the real costs? Will that go into the reserves or into an increased budget for next year?

Kirsten: The positive result of these results go, by rule, into the reserves. However, the budget is also discussed today and a big part of the reserves will also be used in that proposal. So, technically the event fund next year can be as big as is going to be proposed, because we have this positive result.

In this general overview you can see the end results, and what we have in reserves as of now. You can also see that there is €650 in payables, that is for instance the EB training that still needs to be paid, the AUC transportation for the Tournament. They already send us within the deadline of 4 weeks their invoice, so we can still pay them, but since we needed some additional information after that and this happened after the end date of the bookyear it is a payable. Most of the payables also have been paid already but since they are technically after July 1st they are classified as payables from last year.

Ruben van den Akker (UCR): Is there a list of payables on the slides?

Kirsten: No not on the slides, but I can show you an overview.

Unknown (EUC): You just explained these were only the AUC Transportation and EB training right?

Kirsten: Those are the only open payables, but there are more. We for instance had a GA June 30th, and delegates are allowed to request a reimbursement within 4 weeks after the event so these requests happened after July 1st which is the official closing date of my financial year. Since the deadline has not passed they are still allowed to request it, but it gets classified as a payable.

Unknown (UCM): So it just happens that the payables and equity adds up to your assets?

Kirsten: Yes, that's how it works. So the payment account is what we have currently on our account, the saving account is what we have on our savings account, so this is what we have money wise. However, the €650 payables still has to be paid to certain parties so if you subtract that you will get what we have left as equity.

There are no more questions.

b) Overview 2017 - 2018

Daniël van Hemert (former UCSRN Chair) comes forward to give a short overview of the last UCSRN year.

Daniël: The UCSRN Policy Manual states that we have to give an overview of what we achieved. We know this is a very full GA, so we decided to keep it short and leave it to some quick points and an opportunity for questions. Some highlights of last year include that we visited most UCs personally to provide more visibility. We had a long discussion with our members on how to structure our event fund, because last year it was radically changed and this year we wanted to evaluate and see what can be improved still, the consensus in the end was a good middle way between the old and new system that the new board can use. We had quite some visits to members of parliament involved with OCW (education), the highlight of that was that we also got to speak in parliament on the

transition from bachelor to masters and internationalisation, since we notice that a lot of UC students have the qualities but these get not acknowledge by master programmes. We set up a lobbying structure so we hope that the next board can use that, especially with an External position.

Sebastian (LUC): Did you leave a structure for the next Board?

Daniel: We set up this new position for External to give them the ability to really look into this, and we made further meetings with OCW people next year (and NUFFIC).

Jonas (EUC): But is there a written manual?

Daniel: There is a transition manual for the board and the committees. In the boardbook it includes this lobbying. We did not transition this specifically yet, because there was no external, there is a document with contact details.

c) IB Audit Letter

The IB Audit letter can be read on our site.

Natasha: We concluded that the documentation that Kirsten provided was complete and correct. There was enough proof for everything. There was no separate proof for the payments of the FB promotions, but when logged into Facebook this can be checked as well.

The last Board had a lot of obstacles last year and they did a fantastic job, so disclaimer, this is not criticism towards them. We would advice that next year really looks to these results to be able to make a more accurate budget since certain posts were not used at all. The Event Fund should have a lot of promotion to get it used fully.

Overall we are very happy and we are in a financially healthy situation.

Unknown: So should we just take you by your word? What are we voting on?

Annemijn: We have send out a letter to all members, which can also be found on the UCSRN website, with our findings during our Audit of the UCSRN financial situation. This is one of the tasks of the IB. You vote on if you accept these financial results as presented by Kirsten and audited by us.

d) Vote on results

The results are approved.

e) Vote on discharge Executive Board 2017 – 2018

Unknown: Can you clarify what positions are applied for today and what positions are getting discharged right now?

Stephen: If we discharge everybody, including Kirsten who is our Interim Treasurer, that would mean that temporarily, for two slides, we would be one member short. I feel for the sake of practicality it would be easier if we have this vote now. If the GA would rather move this vote after the elections.

Kirsten: Only the AC Chair position is open but that is an internal discussion among the AC members themselves as no external UC students can run for that position. You also discharge us for responsibility of our own year, so even if I would not be discharged and no Treasurer would get elected that would not force me to stay on as Treasurer still.

6. Elections

Every candidate gives a 2 minute speech, will get a question from the Board, and there will be a 5 minute period in which the audience can ask questions:

Unknown: How many votes per UC?

Kirsten: At the start of the GA ballots were handed out. Each UC gets a maximum of 6 votes. Depending how many delegates are present each UC gets a number from 0 – 6. If you have a ballot currently you can vote, otherwise you cannot.

a) Secretary

- *Nilesh Lalbahadoersing (AUC) gives his speech*

Juliette van den Brule (EB): Will you be okay with being on everybody's back and we are all respecting our deadlines? Will you mind being the mom sometimes and reminding everybody of their job in regard to deadlines for example?

Nilesh: I don't think that might be necessary that much. I believe in a strong board. The board as a whole should function as one and everyone could pick up this role. I do not necessarily me being this person, I believe in everyone in the board supporting each other.

Unknown (EUC): Do you have any previous experience?

Nilesh: Not as a secretary, but being in boards yes. Right now I am the head of logistics for AUCMUN. I was an AUC ambassador last year.

Ruben (UCR): In your speech you mention you want to improve communication and cooperation. Do you have any practical ideas in what you want to change.

Nilesh: I want to get all the UCs closer so we can learn from each other and work together as well. I believe that if one UC excels in something they can share this with each other.

Ruben: But how do you want to do this within the UCSRN?

Nilesh: I think the power is also in your hands, if the UCs are willing to come together and see the benefits I think the rest of the process will go easier. It will be like a snowball-effect.

Unknown (UCT): What do you think about national lobby?

Nilesh: I think this should be a UCSRN opinion not my personal opinion and we should work together as a board to see what we want to do.

Jonas: I like the idea that you want to work as a board but right now but I want to hear your thoughts right now. What are your own ideas, because they will matter.

Nilesh: I want to focus on the external vision of the UCSRN and the UC study, people do not know the UC structure and I want the recognition for this type of study there.

- *Mai Thai de Rijk (UCU) gives her speech.*

Juliette (EB): What would your ideas be towards communication to the outside world?

Mai Thai: Facebook can be used much more. I want to make the website very accessible.

Marik (AUC): How do you plan to improve commitment to the UCSRN by the student associations?

Mai Thai: Being clear and direct is a very important. Enticing people in different ways. Asking the UCs themselves what they want so we know what they expect and how to connect our goals to theirs.

Daan (LUC): In your speech you mentioned what you want to do, but what I was wondering is why do you want this position within the board?

Mai Thai: I actually ran for CAO within UCSA, I love the sense of community and communication and I think I can reach that within this position specifically.

Jonas (EUC): You talked about the website that you want to improve, do you have any experience in webdesign?

Mai Thai: Yes, my dad is an IT man so I learned HTML very early. I made the website for Enactus that is online and I can show you.

Jasmijn (AUC): It has always been a couple of UCs that are interested in the UCSRN, not all. UCs need a reason to go the website, how do you want to include them all.

Mai Thai: I think we should find a common ground and having them directly involved.

Gilles (EUC): You mentioned the bottom up approach. What we struggle within EUC at least, is to motivate people to organize something. How do you plan on getting to this stage that everybody knows they can organize something for the UCSRN?

Mai Thai: I agree with the bottom up approach to an extent. I am willing to give a helping hand to start it up. We should be there along the way, but give freedom to the organisation as much as possible.

b) Treasurer

- *Justin Smael (AUC) gives his speech.*

Kirsten (EB): In your speech you mention a lot of positive qualities you have being a Treasurer, but if you would to think of one weakness you have and how to solve it in regards to the UCSRN Board, what would it be?

Justin: A weakness of mind is that I tend to overestimate my abilities. In my past experience I have gotten to know myself better and I know how to prioritize. And of course this will be a priority for me.

Zoë (UCU): You are in 7 committees and you want to do this, how do you plan on doing this?

Justin: I am planning to drop 1 or 2, and I am good at time management so I should be able to make it work.

Unknown (EUC): How do you plan to avoid the underspending of the budget.

Justin: Use everything you have, I think with the money we have we can achieve a lot. We can achieve more of our goals and use more of our budget for new projects.

Mai Thai (UCU): I talked about helping hand. What if there comes a day a committee you are in gives you a task with a deadline, there is also UCSRN deadlines that need to be done and someone asks for help with their event, and you have an exam the next day. How will you time manage yourself.

Justin: There are 24 hours in a day, using all that time and looking at what needs to happen immediately I would be capable to prioritize, this happens quite often to me. We want to know what we are capable of and thus far I have not had that situation in which I cannot manage.

Ruben (UCR): You are in an odd position, because you are running for Treasurer now and the budget is going to be presented today which is still made by Kirsten as Interim Treasurer. What is your vision on the budget that is going to be proposed?

Justin: Well I would say, let's first see it, and I would still like to sit down for transitioning with Kirsten of course. That way I have a clear goal of what we can do this year.

Ruben (UCR): But did you look at the budget that was published?

Justin: I have not looked at it no.

Natasha (IB): With the underspending. Large amounts were reserved for events that did not need it anymore, do you have ideas?

Justin: Get in very close contact with them and stay closely updated.

c) External

- *Felix Kuijken (AUC) gives his speech.*

Stephen (EB): What is your current stance on the UCSRN lobby?

Felix: We should do a lot of transition so I can fully understand the position as the position last year did not exist.

Unknown (UCT): What experience do you have?

Felix: I do not have experience in that field, but this makes me more motivated to show you I can do that.

Unknown (EUC): I did not know one of the jobs for the External would be lobby. What does that entail? If you would have to explain that to someone what would you say?

Felix: I would promote UCSRN, show what we accomplished and can accomplish to parties like the ministry, through this lobbying I would try to get something in return such as get funding.

Ruben (UCM): Would you lobby for UCSRN or as a representative of the UCs

Felix: UCSRN, but they can overlap a lot since we are the same students group. The UCSRN has the interests of UC students as their main focus, but I cannot as UCSRN Board member say I represent the UCs.

Unknown: What are you looking forward to the most?

Felix: I want to get stuff done and I want to give back to the students what I got from the UCSRN.

- Victoria Mai (AUC) gives her speech

Stephen (EB): What is your current stance on the UCSRN lobby?

Victoria: We should continue the spread of information about UC students and what is an interesting point is that the Dutch parliament is going back to more Dutch focused education and I think there is an opportunity for the UCSRN to get into this discussion.

Ruben (UCR): You don't speak Dutch, do you think that is an obstacle since you have to meet with Dutch politicians?

Victoria: I don't think so. We all study in an international environment. I think we should promote that we study in English.

Unknown (UCT): There is also a UC Dean's network consisting of all the UC Deans. How would you interact with them?

Victoria: I do believe it can help a lot to work together with them. I would love to work with them. I would ask them if they have ideas we can help with.

Unknown (UCT): Would you want to be involved in their meetings?

Victoria: I have not thought of that, but yeah, if they would allow this I would approach them about it.

Unknown (EUC): You seem like someone that is on top of your planning. How would you describe your social aspect? You will have to talk to a lot of people at bigger events.

Victoria: Experience that I have is that I have been in a council and know how to approach people, I have been an AUC ambassador and promote UCs already.

Jonas (EUC): You will be involved with Dutch politics, to what extend do you know the Dutch political system?

Victoria: I do not know the structure entirely. As I stated earlier, I think the most interesting thing now is that they turn away from English spoken courses.

Stephen thanks the audience for the questions and the candidates for running. Stephen invites everybody to fill in their ballots and the IB will go around collecting them. The break will also start right now. After the break the results will be announced.

Ruben (UCM): What is the proper procedure for an abstention?

Kirsten: You can leave the line where you should fill in a name open. If you want to disapprove both candidates for a position you fill in disapprove. Otherwise fill in the name you want to vote for.

BREAK

d) Election results

The IB comes forward and thanks the delegates for voting, and the candidates for running.

Secretary: Mai Thai de Rijk

Treasurer: Justin Smael

External: Victoria Mai

They wish the new Board all the best in the upcoming year.

7. Vision 2018 – 2019

Stephen explains that the vision of the upcoming year is incomplete. This was done because only 2 out of 6 positions had properly been filled and they do want the insights of the newly elected board members to finish their vision. This will be discussed at the next GA.

Stephen: We want to focus on participation as also mentioned before. We want to hold another discussion session considering the event fund to work out some minor details that were voted on 2 GAs ago after the first discussion session. We also would like to see what you all expect from the UCSRN so we can re-assess the mission of the UCSRN and see if it should be adjusted.

8. Budget 2018 – 2019

Kirsten Kapteijns (Interim Treasurer) comes forward to present the budget for the upcoming year.

Kirsten: As a first statement: I will of course not be the Treasurer anymore, because you just elected Justin. However, because it would be unpractical to wait for another GA to even be able to make transactions we did decide to make and present a budget, this is also in accordance with our PM. Of course, if the new Board decides to make slight changes they can do this at the following GA, but this way they can start their year functionally.

The budget presented can be found on the UCSRN site

As you can see there is a **negative result** budgeted. We do this because we have quite some reserves and we do not need this much on our savings account. We think it is best the use this money on the UC students and for instance use it for the high amount in the fund. We have €5000 in reserves and we propose to spend €2000 of this. We also are taking into account that the year after us will be the first lustrum year of the UCSRN so we might want to organize a big gala or something like that, so for that reason we also still would like to leave our reserves at €3000 so we can use a bit more of it in that year without increasing the fee in that year.

- Income

The contribution fee is the same as last year. This will be the second year that is has been lowered from €2500 to €1000 and we think it is a fair amount. The sponsoring we had in our budget last year has been removed, because as said during the results section of this GA, the sponsoring is mainly for events and those money streams do not go through the UCSRN anymore. If the new Treasurer feels like looking at other options of course he should feel free to and can also inform you during next GA, but right now in light of last year's results, we removed it.

- Expenses

We put the **event fund** at €9000 again, even though last year it was underspend. We do this because we think in the new structure and the fact that the fund will be more known (it was only the first year with this structure) we will get more proposals and know better how to deal with enticing UCs to organise events. The underspending of last year enables putting this year at €9000 as well, because as you can see the total income is also only €9000 and we have some other expenses as well.

We made the **bank costs** a bit higher as explained during the results discussion. We cannot change these costs. We also think we might make more transactions in regards to the event fund, so the costs will be a bit higher than last year as you pay per transaction.

Promotion has stayed the same even though we underspend last year, because we think the new board can find more promotional options and want to give them the opportunity to do so. **External and representation** costs are way lower than last year since last year we used this properly for the first time and we saw that there was less need for it than we anticipated in regards to for instance entrance fees of lobby events. We still put a bit of money in there because there might be one or two events with a fee since we now have a special External position. We also want to give the board the opportunity to buy a little present for our partners if necessary. This might be a 'happy birthday' card for a LSVb or ISO birthday party.

Jasmijn (AUC): Do you think these €30 external costs will still be enough?

Kirsten: I of course do not know what the new Board will do, from my experience a little present does not cost a lot and we don't invite people over to us but go to them so there is no money needed for that. If they notice it is too little the board can ask a next GA to raise this amount, but I expect it to be alright like this.

Unknown: Does this budget include promotional material on a professional basis like cards?

Kirsten: No, it does not.

Unknown: But if they want to change anything the new Board can right?

Kirsten: Yes, at any GA the Board or a delegate can make changes, it is just preferred to have it as right as possible since otherwise you have to wait for a GA to happen to spend certain costs.

General assemblies and discussion sessions is again to just provide you with a small lunch, we put it at €75, we spend a bit less last year because we of course do not want to buy more food than necessary and not all GAs were attended by all UCs. Discussion sessions are basically meetings focused on a larger topic to get insights in what UCs think. Sometimes these meetings take place on the same day as a GA for which thus no extra costs have to be made.

Marik (AUC): I would like to raise a motion. This is the first GA of the year and we are happy to receive all you guys. Since the GAs tend to be a bit undervisited by certain UCs, we wanted to organize something after the GA to make it more worthwhile to come. I like to propose a little budget to have a nice event with some snacks and drinks in the café afterwards. This would cost between €100 - €120.

The motion is to allocate an extra €120 towards this GA for the event afterwards.

Unknown: Is this for all GAs or just this GA?

Marik (AUC): My current idea is just for this GA, but if you would like to do it again than we can raise that later as well.

Mai Thai (UCU): It would also be nice for the last GA to thank everyone.

Juliette (SC Chair): The SC is actually looking into making this a structural thing. To ensure that more people feel like attending GAs.

Unknown: So where would this money come from?

Kirsten: Since it is extra, it would come from the reserves.

Ruben (UCR): I really like the idea of having a borrel after the GA, and I encourage everyone to join, however, I would also like to say I would be fine with paying it myself and not have the UCSRN pay for it. I do not think it fits the UCSRN to pay for beer and bitterballen. I really enjoy having everyone here also on a Saturday afternoon, but I do not think this is a justification for spending association money paid for by student associations on an afterborrel.

Sarah (AUC): There was budget available for bonding within the Board and why would this not be allowed in light of that?

Ruben (UCR): What budget are you referring to?

Sarah (AUC): The AC and SC Bonding budget. If there is a budget for that, than why can't this bonding activity not fall under UCSRN.

Kirsten: We will have these final comments and then we will vote on the motion.

Unknown (UCM): We have not approved this budget yet, so we did not say yes to the bonding either. The results are already negative, so adding this would only create a larger negative result.

Jip Wolterink (UCR): I agree with Ruben. All associations pay €1000 toward the UCSRN and I don't think it is okay to spend it on drinks for us.

Unknown (AUC): You can also see this not only as money going towards beer, but also money to try and get more people motivated to come towards the GA.

The IB comes forward. Kirsten repeats the motion for the GA. The motion is disapproved.

Transportation is the same as last year. It is the delegates travelling towards GAs or EB members travelling to meetings or events necessary for the UCSRN itself, for instance going to a meeting with an politician in the Hague.

Last year money was reserved for **SC and AC Bonding** after a GA discussion to make the committees work together more efficiently since they would be able to get to know each other outside official meetings. Because they could not find a date together it was not used. We have kept it in so it can be discussed again, but pre-emptively lowered it because it was quite high in comparison to other posts.

Ruben (UCR): In light of the discussion about the after-GA activity and the fact that last year it was quite a discussion as well, I would prefer to have this removed as well.

Unknown (AUC): I still believe it is good to get the committees to participate more and get more active.

Mai Thai (UCU): I think bonding is important and agree that it would improve the workings of the committees, they should pick a date soon and we should give them the opportunity to try this.

Jonas (EUC): They should however try and do bonding cheaply and not just spend because they can.

The **Event Fund** on this slide is an indication. The €9000 is a set amount, but the events mentioned below this are just to give you an insight on how we think it will look. This is because the amounts for the events will rely heavily on the proposals that we receive. We put Tournament at €4000 because we see that every Tournament was fine with that amount of money, with the exception of last year,

but if a proposal says €5000 and the SC and Treasurer say yes to this proposal it will be higher. This year there will be a new division between UCSRN hosted and sponsored events. Spotlight and Tournament are hosted events that carry our name and the Board will be more closely involved with that organisation since last year this went wrong. The sponsored events will just get funding, but are not explicitly tied to the UCSRN (think of an MUN event).

Unknown (UCM): The undefined part seems to me a bit like a slush-fund, a fund that's appropriate but not determined what to be spent on, under the boards discretion. Would it not be more responsible to not allocate the budget now and wait for the proposals to come in and for the GA to approve later on. If we vote right now, then we the GA have less oversight over the proposals later on. Is that true?

Kirsten: This is not entirely true. Amounts are indeed not set, because we cannot know which events we will actually host. However, if proposal comes in, either the SC or AC screens it, and there are representatives from all UCs in those committees. Since GA's are rare, it's more convenient for the representatives to oversee then call GA's for every proposed event. The committee approval was specifically added because of this representation

Unknown (AUC): Is there anything in place in case of overbudgeting?

Kirsten: Yes, the SC screens the proposal, negotiates funding together with the Treasurer and casts a vote, that is the amount we fund. If they go over budget, then they need to go through a GA and ask the members if they are allowed to receive more funding even though the initial amount was already established. For UCSRN hosted events like the Tournament, there will be more oversight and members from the SC and EB will be more a part of the process to start with to prevent it from happening in the first place.

Gilles (EUC): The tournament is the crown jewel of the UCSRN, it gets bigger every year, is the budget shown enough?

Kirsten: This is only an indication of what we think it should look like now, an estimation, if we get a proposal that is larger and the SC votes yes, then they will get more. However, this amount has worked with exception of last year, so we are quite confident in this estimation.

Unknown (LUC): What does the new Treasurer think of the budget?

Justin: We should go over it with the whole board, I'd like to suggest that we first get this budget approved so we have something to discuss and then get your comments from today. We have something to work with, we'll have something to discuss, and can go over it at the next GA.

Unknown (UCR): Do you have an specific suggestions or thoughts that you'll discuss with the board?

Justin: I think the after-GA bonding will be a topic of discussion, the tournament budget, potentially, also clarifying the €900 'other events'.

Unknown (UCM): I want to point out that if we spend all the available budget that we have this year, then next year we will be worse off and won't be able to cover such a high fund.

Justin (AUC): I think having a reserve is always good but the current reserve is excessive. I mean, we just now voted to not use the reserve for the drinks, it's good to have a reserve but we shouldn't underspend, but we also should not spend everything.

IB comes forward. The Budget 2018 – 2019 has been approved.

9. Open Floor

Stephen opens the open floor.

Gilles (EUC): I would like to talk about last year's Tournament and the financial situation that EUCSA is in now.

Unknown (UCM): What is the actual point you want to discuss?

Gilles (EUC): I would just like to open a discussion.

Kirsten: Do you have any specific points to discuss? The Tournament finances in general is a too vague topic for the GA to be able to comment on.

Gilles: Well, one of the fundamental issues last year was the lack of oversight and overview and the unclarity with who is responsible in the tournament. So who is directly responsible?

Kirsten: It depends on the year you are asking about (*clarification it is last year*). Last year EUC was fully responsible for the tournament. This year the Association organizing it will be responsible still, but the UCSRN will be granted more insight and the ability to step in. In case of unforeseen difficulties that the organisation could not have been prevented, and when they have been completely open with the UCSRN Board and SC, the UCSRN is allowed to help with problems financially as well. The SC rep of the organising association will have to be in the Tournament Team.

Stephen: I believe two GAs ago, there was a vote and motion pass on who is responsible for bigger events like the Tournament, to be the responsibility the host UC in collaboration with UCSRN, and all other events are just sponsored by us but not directly involved with EB.

Gilles: Can you clarify what that means?

Stephen: It entails that UCSRN will have closer contact and communication with the next Tournament team, the social rep from that UC has to be on the organizing team, and that there will be a higher amount of check-ins and updates between EB, SC, and organizing team.

Justin: It also means that if we see something is being done wrong or irresponsibly, we will intervene.

Gilles (EUC): Since that wasn't present last year, I would like to make a motion to look into the debt that EUCSA has been putting due to the overspending of the Tournament last year.

Elise (UCR): Wait, does responsible also mean accountable?

Kirsten: To a certain extent. Two GAs ago we said with the proposals for this year the EB and SC would closely look where we can do check-ups and how, and in the end, if there are issues that are

really not solvable, even if brought to our attention in time, we can bring it to a GA and see if we can help, but it always has to go through a GA. If there is a problem the UCSRN was not informed enough, or they don't respond to communications, then the liability still lies with the organizing UC. However, this way the Team also knows immediately how and when to keep us informed. If things go wrong, that does not mean that UCSRN is bound to pay the bill, that is still up to the GA. All of this applies to the earlier mentioned UCSRN hosted events, since they are tied to our name.

Elise (UCR): Second question, if I saw the results for Tournament last year, there was €4000 budgeted and only €3880 spend, how can there be a loss if they have not fully used their fund yet? Why are they asking for more reimbursements?

Kirsten: We have a deadline for reimbursements, EUC was late for those deadlines, we extended them in collaboration with our IB, they were late again with some of them. We sent reminder emails that were unfortunately ignored. We were told that they filed reimbursements that were not taken into account by us, but they could not find the email where they filed it and we didn't see it either.

Unknown: So what is exactly your loss or what do you still have to pay?

Gilles (EUC): We still have basketball courts to pay for and in all honesty its very unclear because we have no invoices from them but that still needs to be paid.

Multiple raised voices.

Kirsten: Can we please keep it central, we want this discussion to be clear and not everyone can be heard right now.

Daniel (AB): You still don't know the exact amount you need to spend you say, and you don't have invoices or proof of expenses, so it seems you want us to pay you guys in blind faith.

Multiple raised voices.

Unknown (EUC): What was proposed is not the motion of paying us back now. What was proposed is to look into the financial situation. We might want to make an appointment with the new board or old board's Treasurer to go over this together so we have something real to present.

Daniel: Well, then I would suggest that you should have made an appointment to do that with the board, but now the books are closed.

Gilles (EUC): The issue with leaving it be, is that EUCSA would have to spend 2000 euros out of their association budget for a Tournament that was organized last year.

Elise (UCR): But EUCSA agreed to host and sponsor the event tight? There was a Tournament budget with this amount of money. Why was the budget not stuck to?

Gilles (EUC): That's where the discrepancy lies, the unclarity of who was in charge, I guess now if it is clear that EUC was in charge, then yeah, that discussion is final, however, simply because of the lack of communication, on our part as well-which I totally admit to-, I just think it is odd to expect an association to spend such an exuberant number on account especially considering that last year we

did raise a motion to increase the budget and we did attempt to raise the ticket price to encompass this excess amount of money. However, everything was denied by the UCSRN GA.

Elise (UCR): Last year, the Tournament was budgeted for €4000, and now you are asking us this year to give you €2000 while still €120 is left over because you were late with reimbursements? What were you planning in your budget? The €4000 was not the only income you received. The rest was not UCSRN, we were only a part. You knew the budget you were limited to from our end, it had a maximum of €4000. Where were you planning on getting all of that other money?

Gilles (EUC): Erasmus University College itself.

Elise: Why are you then now asking for more money from UCSRN?

Gilles (EUC): The core issue lies in who has to pay the remainder. When you look at the overview, EUC is the university, not the association, and contributed an additional €5000 to the Tournament already to see its success since it was our lustrum year. We can ask politely to cover it more but we figured, in the spirit of the UCSRN, if we want to see other tournaments to the extent at which we organized it, last year as well, to make this request. We understand that it is an exuberant amount, it is a lot of money, and it is way over budget. But it is what it is and part of the fault lies with us and part of the fault lies with the lack of oversight of last year.

Kirsten: I would just like to add that in our communications, of which we have the emails, we indicated that the relationship was just a sponsorship, meaning there was a maximum possible of €4000 to be requested, but you were mostly free in how you wanted to organize it. We couldn't pay any more than that, unless it was brought to our attention and voted on at a GA. The Tournament Team brought this issue to last GA *after* the Tournament already happened, where you asked for an additional €1000 because of a broken tent. Right now it is an extra €2000 because of basketball courts. Last time the GA voted against giving more money to the Tournament because of a multitude of reasons, one of them being the unclear communications in regards to the Tournament itself.

Daniel: For people who are new here. Can you explain the motion raised at the last GA and what the results were

Kirsten: The request the Tournament Team, through the EUCSA board, requested at the GA, was to cover an additional €1000 in order to pay for mostly (€800) a broken tent that occurred on the day itself. This was voted disapprove unanimously.

Unknown (EUC): And next to this there was a motion of reimbursing half or splitting it among the members instead of the direct UCSRN budget was also raised, but was also denied. The reason behind the extra €1000 was we figured that if we get the extra thousand from UCSRN, we'd also be able to make a request to EUC the faculty, not EUCSA, to cover the other €1000, which would appear more agreeable, to make our budget okay.

Kirsten: One last comment and then either we raise a motion or not. Otherwise the discussion will take hours.

Daniel: I want to note that at the last GA there was mention of stolen materials from the EUCSA building and a broken tent, that was the total number of debt that they had at the time, and now it's higher. I don't know where the new number is coming from now. UCSRN should not be held responsible for that.

Kirsten: One final remark from EUCSA.

Unknown: I would like to reiterate that this all began from us requesting to have a meeting to not only review what happened and look at the past, but to also make sure it does not happen again in the future. In the future you say it will be partly your responsible for the future but that does not clean the slate for the past.

Kirsten: The EB is always open to meetings and you don't need a motion for that to happen, we can agree to a date to meet and help with looking at the finances of last year. Of course we are always willing to help and looking into things together.

No motion is raised. The Board and EUCSA will however get into contact for a meeting.

Gilles (EUC): I would like to raise a motion to reimburse the remaining €120. It's true that we didn't submit the documents in time. I eventually submitted two receipts but one did not go through. I can't find the emails or proof, I think it went to spam which automatically gets deleted after 30 days. I would like to raise a motion to pay back the remaining €120 that was still left in the €4000. I still have the receipt, I no longer have proof of *when* I submitted the receipt.

Kirsten: We already discussed this yesterday over chat very shortly. We also asked the IB to look into it as they usually deal with these appeals. We don't expect all of you to know the PM by heart, so to clarify, it states that within 4 weeks after an event you have to hand in your reimbursement. If you do not have it yet, you have to state this to the Treasurer within these 4 weeks in order to get an extension. Otherwise we are unable to pay it anymore. That is why the €120 technically cannot be paid. There is no proof it has been handed in within the 4 week deadline.

Gilles (EUC): I still have the literal receipt, it's for the brochures printed out that were in the goodiebags. It is a receipt of €450.

Unknown: And you want only €120?

Kirsten: Of the €4000 that was initially promised to the Tournament there was €120 still left in their fund.

Gilles (EUC): So we are asking if you, the GA, can agree to overlook the 4 week deadline to reimburse the last €120 or something, and we'd re-submit the application, so it would come out of this year's budget.

Kirsten: No, we will have to still book it under last year's books. We will vote on opening the books and putting this reimbursement on there as a payable. First, comments from the audience and then the IB will give their view on it, then let's vote.

Unknown (UCM): So to clarify. You are asking us to re-open the books that we closed in this GA that we already voted on and the audit and everything, why did you not bring it up then? You are asking us to re-open the books from last year to give you that money and then close the books again?

Gilles (EUC): I was told to bring it up at the open floor.

Unknown (AUC): I personally think it is a little ridiculous that you missed the clear deadlines, missed the deadline extensions, and now want to set another deadline extension after the actual closing of the books. Deadlines are there for reasons, we need them to keep situations stable, and if there are no deadlines then the boards can't function. If we do this now, I think it sets a horrible precedent here.

The IB gets called forward to give their insight in the situation.

Natasha: There was an extensive chat about this between Gilles, Kirsten, and the IB Chair and essentially what we realized over the course of the discussion is that they were offered the extension because they had not received the invoices and receipts yet, and after repeated emails and messages about the deadline extensions, they still failed to meet them and only finally responded a week and a half. Even if there is now a receipt showing what needs to be paid, and that there is budget left in the closed books, it just seems that it is a little bit shady to let this through. Then also, there was no clear financial overview of the Tournament, during or after. The whole point of the integrity of the IB is to not allow these kind of proceedings. We would advise to not approve this and let the books stand as they do now as it would be a bad precedent.

Gilles (EUC): I'd like to generally apologize for not saying this when the books were still open, but I was told specifically to say it at the open floor. Hence why I'm saying it now. Had I been told to say it earlier I would have gladly done so. So uh, im sorry for having to force the books to be opened again.

Annemijn (IB): Please do realize, the main issue at hand is more so the lack of proof for the receipt and the precedent set for deadlines and submissions with no proof. That is the main problem, not the opening of the books right now.

Unknown (EUC): We figured that ucsrn would at least reimburse up to the capped 4000 which is why we are requesting only these €120 now. Then we would be at least a bit better off, aside from the basketball courts. We still need to pay 2000 more even if we get reimbursed, but would need to pay 2120 if it doesn't.

Unknown (LUC): But the amounts you mentioned earlier should be able to cover it, it's potentially more than 2000, why are you asking for a full reimbursement and one that is way past the deadline?

Unknown (EUC): Because that €2000 we talked about earlier is planned to cover supplies and stuff.

Kirsten: Since we plan on at least looking into the finances further anyways, let's move on with this discussion for now and vote on the €120 reimbursement deadline extension proposal.

Motion on the floor is to re-open the books, take €120 from last year to reimburse this, and closing the books again.

The IB comes forward. The motion is disapproved.

Unknown (EUC): Hi, new EUCSA board here, we'd like to make clear to the members for the future to have clearer transitions with your boards. The next board should have a clear overview with debts and reimbursements. Communication should be clear. We stress that when you apply for these

organizing positions you need to take them seriously. We are also students and life happens but we need to get stuff done.

Stephen: It is safe to say that the EB agrees and hopes to have clear, consistent, and fair communication with the boards and any hosts of the events, especially UCSRN events. We'll do our best. We'll have at the very least the SC rep from that board on the event team, and we'll keep communication channels open, at the very least one channel but hopefully and likely more. We'll work to make clear where obligations lay and who is responsible for what. Which, I also believe was clear last year with the proposals when applications were sent in but we'll make sure is also clear this year.

Stephen thanks everyone for attending, AUUSA for hosting and helping with setting up. He closes the UCSRN Election & Budget GA.