University College Student Representatives of the Netherlands

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General Assembly Minutes

Chairing the GA: Mai Thai de Rijk
Minutes: Preksha Bapna

Date of General Assembly   6th of June, 2020
Location of General Assembly   Zoom
Time of General Assembly   14:00 (Meeting room opens at 13:30)

General Assembly Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Approval of GA Agenda of the 6th of June, 2020
3. Approval of Minutes of the 29th of February, 2020
4. Voting Procedure
5. Elections
    a. Chair
    b. Secretary
    c. Treasurer
    d. External
    e. Academic Committee Chair
    f. Social Committee Chair

BREAK

6. Advisory Body Policy Manual Changes
7. Updates
    a. Board Update
    b. External Update
    c. Financial Update
8. Academic Committee Update
9. Social Committee Update
10. Election Results
11. AOB's
12. Closing

General Assembly Minutes

Attendance of the General Assembly:

AUC 3 delegates attended, with 0 proxy votes.
UCM 5 delegates attended, with 0 proxy votes.
UCR 4 delegates attended, with 0 proxy votes.
EUC 0 delegates attended, with 0 proxy votes.
UCU 6 delegates attended, with 0 proxy votes.
UCT 6 delegates attended, with 0 proxy votes.
TUC 6 delegates attended, 7 attendees total, with 0 proxy votes.
UCG 6 delegates attended with 0 proxy votes.
LUC 6 delegates attended, with 0 proxy votes.

Total number of votes: 42

1. Welcome

Mai Thai: Thank you everyone for attending today's General Assembly. I will now ask those who are not speaking to mute themselves so that there are no background sounds in any kind of way. Again, before starting the General Assembly, I want to make it clear that the chat is for chatting purposes of your own needs, however, if you would like to say something that would formally address either myself, the board, or the candidates, please raise your hand and Preksha will give you speaking rights to do so. When you have the speaking right, please state your name and your UC - this is for the minutes. Your first name and University College is enough. And if you have any questions, don't forget, please do ask them. I know this is on Zoom, but we want to make this as helpful for you as it is for us and we are doing our best that we can through this online platform but things may not always go super smooth so please be patient with us. With that being said, I would like to formally open the General Assembly and welcome everybody.

2. Approval of GA Agenda of the 6th June 2020

Mai Thai: If we could go to the next slide, I would like to present the agenda. We have 12 main points on the agenda. As you can see from the agenda that we have sent out versus this one that you see, there is one small difference which is agenda point number 6. It says Advisory Body Policy Manual changes. For those who attended the last GA, you will remember that we have discussed that there were Policy Manual changes regarding the Advisory Body that we wanted to make back on December 7th during our other General Assembly, however, this was voted by acclamation. It was brought to our attention by the General Assembly that votes such as that are not allowed to be done through acclamation but has to be done through simple majority and we have promised to do that vote within the General Assembly of February 29th and we did not because of lack of time and therefore, with the promise that we would bring it up at the next GA, we have brought it up today. When the agenda point comes, we can discuss this a little bit more because we understand that some may not feel comfortable with voting for many reasons. One being that we had this late realization of this occurrence last night so we had sent this out extremely late and when we did send them out, the document was inaccessible. However, we do want to remind that this was something already discussed and voted on and sent out long ago and next to that, we understand that this is uncomfortable to vote on because of the fact that it is through Zoom, rather than in person. If we were to vote on this, we would be doing this via the poll option where you will be able to choose, to vote for, against, or abstain, but we will get into the discussion more later on how that will be done and what we are voting on. This is the agenda, these 12 points, I would like to ask everyone to take a look at them, ask any questions if you have them, and if there are any questions, Preksha do let me know.

Preksha: One second. Either you guys, can you please not send the message to all panelists if you have something to say to the IB because they are not a panelist, so please make it all panelists or attendees or you can send them a message via email or something. Otherwise, if it's easier then I can make one of the IB members a panelist. Is that easier? Mai Thai?

Mai Thai: Oh I thought you were asking the IB. We can make one of the IB members a

panelist but I think it's fine if everyone just sends the message to all panelists and attendees. If you have specific information that needs to be recorded, I think it's also more appropriate to send it via email anyway and if you're talking about votes or which delegate gets which vote, then it's also more appropriate to send it through the email itself because then we have official documentation and can look back at that.

Preksha: Yeah, and Amy from UCG has a question. You should be able to talk now.

Amy (UCG): I just had a question about the minutes because you asked us to say our name and UC. Why is it only our first name and not our full name? Because let's say, in a hypothetical scenario, there's two people with the same name from the same UC for example. How do you keep a record of that in the minutes if it's only the first name?

Mai Thai: Yeah, we have never had that before but if that were to be the case, then we would use the first letter of their last name.

Amy (UCG): Okay.

Mai Thai: Yeah, but as of now we have never had that occurrence happen before, however, if you believe that this is something you would like to change for the long term, we can look into getting full names of everyone for the minutes. However, in addition to that, the reason we don't do that is because these documents are online, available to everyone on our website and due to privacy reasons, we believe that it's best to just keep the first name and the University College because in that way, when you are in the UCSRN circle, you can track down who that is, however, if you have the full name, people can search you up and find that document online.

Amy (UCG): Okay, thank you.

Mai Thai: Alright, any other questions? I will take that as a no. So then, we will move on to the next slide to the approval of the agenda. When I ask anyone this question, "would you like to discuss?", this means that I would be proposing whether anyone would like to a) discuss it, if there's a problem with it or if there is anything you would like to add. But if you agree to the vote and I ask would you like to discuss, I am going to assume that a silence or a no would mean that this would be able to be approved by acclamation in order to proceed in a more efficient and effective way. Therefore, with this being said, would anyone like to discuss the GA agenda of today, of June 6th 2020? Preksha, are there any hands raised or anything? No? Then the agenda has been approved by acclamation. Thank you very much everyone.

Agenda is approved by acclamation.

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3. Approval of Minutes of 29th February, 2020

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Mai Thai: Moving on to the approval of the minutes of February 29th, 2020. We understand that we have sent this document out late. We are more than understanding that you may want more time to read over the documents as we had a lot of discussion during the GA about the budget so you probably want to go over but if you had had the time to read the minutes, we can also vote on that. So, would anyone like to discuss the approval of February 29th 2020 GA minutes? No? No hands?

Minutes are approved by acclamation.

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4. Voting Procedure
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Mai Thai: We have today the Elections General Assembly for the Board of 2020-2021 so welcome all candidates. I would please like to invite an IB member to explain the voting procedure for today's candidates so that everyone is aware of how it is going to happen once more.

Kamiel (IB): So, just to recap what I already sent out in the email, we are going to be voting through Helios voting, which is an online platform and each of you has received 6 links, each of the members because you have the right to cast 6 votes. So if anyone has not received the links yet, let us know please because you should have the links in your inbox to the email addresses that you gave us. So you click on the link and you have a voter ID and password in your email and you just copy those to login and you get into this online environment and you can just vote for the people and you can submit your vote and that's it. So it's quite self explanatory that the website itself, you just click on the link in the email and you will be all good. After the break, when everyone has voted, we will close the vote and announce the results. So yeah, that's it.

Mai Thai: Perfect, thank you so much. Does anyone have questions regarding the voting procedures? No questions? Preksha, please have a look. Okay, then, I will explain how. If you have a question, please raise your hand, do not type on the chat because I will not address it otherwise. Any questions, I'm going to ask that again?

Amy (UCG): Sorry, I just wanted to know through this platform if there is a way to abstain or not or it's only possible to select one of the two candidates?

Mai Thai: IB, could you answer the question?

Kamiel: I think, yes, in the platform, you can also not vote for a position so you can either abstain completely by not clicking on the link at all but also if you want to vote for some positions and for other positions, you don't know, then also leave that blank.

Amy (UCG): Okay, thank you.

Mai Thai: Perfect, good to know, thank you very much. We will then move on to the next slide where I will explain how the voting procedure happens.

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5. Elections
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Mai Thai: So, the candidates already know this but the candidates will receive a couple minutes, around 3 minutes, to give their speech of which I will give a warning of one minute when the time comes. And then I will let them finish off their sentence and then we will thank them for their speech. The EB will ask two questions. We will ask one general board question and one position specific question. They will be offered a number that the candidate can choose out of, say 1 to 3, 1 to 10, and we will keep track of those so that they are not asked twice and then the candidates will have a couple minutes to answer those questions.

After that, the General Assembly will receive approximately 5 to 10 minutes to ask any questions that you have and then we will move on to the next candidate. Which means, we will be going on to the first candidate if no one has any questions, which is Diya, so everyone give her a warm applause in the chat if you will.

a.   Chair

Diya: Can I start my speech right now?

Mai Thai: Whenever you're ready.

Diya: Good afternoon, everybody. My name is Hridya Harikumar but I normally go by Diya. That's why my name is Diya on the zoom chat. To begin with, I'd like to briefly mention my qualities that I believe would be an asset for a committee. Since high school, I've always been involved in leadership positions and very comfortable with dealing with organizational and time management issues. And I'm comfortable working alone as well as in a team, I would describe my leadership approaches as democratic and a politician, but with the focus on motivating individuals. I've been training public speaking skills for competitions from an early age. And this has helped me in commanding a room and leading discussions and debates, which is I think, an essential part in meetings, for instance, regarding policy plans. And I would also like to bring my own unique perspectives as an international student studying here in the Netherlands. And my main motivations for applying to this committee, as well as what I would like to do if, as a part of this committee to begin with, is that to me, I believe that University Colleges are a unique form of education. They're essentially excellent and diverse, but they're not often recognized for their intensive curriculum. And I would like to focus on leveling the playing field for these UC and helping them get recognized on an international level, especially from my own personal experiences regarding for instance, their master requirements. Most people can't fulfill their master requirements because UCs are even doing a very broad education. It's very difficult for them to get into master programs and stuff. I would like to coordinate with the most programs in order to make a particular major, for instance, the courses much more generalized, I would say. And in light of the current corona crisis, I feel that the mental wellbeing of students is at an all time low and UCs are not just about academics, but also building a sense of community. And we need to focus on keeping the morale up and supplement students with necessary resources as the committee for all UCS. And also UCs inculcate a sense of togetherness, even though they're mostly composed of students with diverse backgrounds and in light of the current events happening around the world, I wanted to help as UCSRN, keeping the sense of community amongst the students. And to conclude I'm a motivated individual. I want to join this board with the idea in mind that I should not eradicate change and introduce new ideas, but rather add to and acclimatize its policies to current events. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Mai Thai: Thank you so much. Awesome. We're going to start off with a chair question. I have four numbers from one to four and you can choose a number and I will ask the question.

Diya: Three.

Mai Thai: Okay. Different members on the executive board have expressed their dissatisfaction with a specific board member's work ethic. You have sat down with this

specific board member and have made a general remark on how their work ethic is affecting the board. Unfortunately, after having had that conversation, the dynamics have remained the same and the different members on the EB (Executive Board) have had to pick up the Slack for the remainder of the month, but are extremely unhappy. What do you do?

Diya: To begin with, I would have another meeting with this particular member. Probably I personally, I would say that it might be a reason why there is a lack of their job. So I think that first having an open discussion about this is important. And if this still continues, I think maybe giving them a probation period would be essential. And even after the probationary period, if the work ethic remains the same, then I would have a democratic vote off process occurring, if this problem continues. But I think it is essential to get the person to probationary period because it needs to be a fair process.

Mai Thai: Thank you. We will now ask the general board member questions. You can pick a number between one and nine.

Diya: Three again.

Mai Thai: In general, as a UC general board member, you are not very often in contact with your members, namely the university colleges. However, it is quite important to at least know them a little bit. How will you maintain a good connection with them?

Diya: I think through social events, I think that would be an essential way to get in touch with students from other universities, find their opinions, just pretty good rapport with them. I think for social events, that would be quite nice maybe through bar crawls or some pub quizzes, things like that. I think UCSRN is interested within the students as well. So I think those events are very important on my part to create a sense of comradery between people.
So I think I would essentially approach this through that.

Mai Thai: Perfect, thank you so much. Now, I will open up questioning by the General Assembly. Feel free to raise your hand and Preksha will allow you to speak.

Manuel (UCM): As you all know that all university colleges pay the same fees and so they should all be treated equally. You said that you would attend events at UCs and as such, I would just like to ask you, if you would also be willing to come out to the far out use university colleges, uh, such as Maastricht and Groningen.

Diya: Can you repeat the last part of your question?

Manuel (UCM): The last part is basically asking if you would be willing to come out to the further away university colleges who are usually or not usually, but sometimes.

Diya: Yes, definitely. I think that is, again, all about equality, So it's not fair if I would only go to events next to me, but rather it is important to make sure that, again, you know, people and you maintain a relationship with people outside of your comfort zone. So I think it's better to also meet with people in like Maastricht and Groningen as you said.

Manuel (UCM): Can I follow up with that?

Diya: Yeah.

Manuel (UCM): So do you think it's a lot more important to have these discussions in person? Or do you think that through technology, you would be able to reach these same personal connections with, be it, board members in other university colleges, but also people there.

Diya: Currently due to the corona crisis that is not possible, but I do think a personal interaction is necessary. There are just things that cannot be said properly and expressed properly online. I think a person to person communication level would help with understanding different perspectives on a particular matter. For instance, something that all UCs are probably having an issue with, I think that it is essential to have like face to face interaction, always, unless not possible.

Mai Thai: Can we see if there's anyone else who has questions?

Preksha: There are. Maybe we can come back to this later. We still have some time.

Mai Thai: Yeah, let's have another question by someone else.

Robin (UCT): You mentioned in your speech that you would like to make or increase the value of our bachelors that we will receive at the end of our times at university colleges and our possibilities when entering masters programs. Now I was wondering if you have any concrete ideas, how to go about this and what measures and steps you plan to take in order to achieve this goal.

Diya: I think that we need to consider specific master programs regarding the major and take that into consideration and probably start structuring the curriculum in such a way like maybe coordinate with like committees, student councils of different colleges. Maybe coordinate with them to give a proper structure to these and properly describe exactly what you're doing in these courses, so these master programs are also well aware of how much we're actually doing in these intensive courses, but not just that, I think that also having open days where people from different universities come in and the interaction between these college students would be also essential so that both parties know exactly what to expect. I don't think that our bachelor's to begin with is not valuable. I think it's a lot more valuable because we have a very open education and I just think that there is a misconception about what we learn. I think that needs to be targeted first.

Robin (UCT): Okay. Thank you very much for your clarification.

Mai Thai: Thank you. Any other questions?

Boris (AUC): I would like to ask what your views are on the UCSRN and what kind of leadership you can provide to the UCSRN as an Executive Board President? You're going to be the face of the UCSRN, leading the GAs and you talked a lot about goals for the UCSRN but I was wondering what are your goals for the UCSRN internally? There have been some policy changes, with the tournament and also with the other committees. How would you approach that?

Diya: My personal views on the UCSRN is I think it is essential to have an open channel of communication between all these university colleges, especially considering the form of education that they're offering. I'm not really sure what you mean by internally but my interpretation is that what I would want for the committee myself? I'm not really sure, can you

maybe repeat that part?

Boris (AUC): I can clarify. So because the UCSRN has student associations as well as student councils of all the different bodies. What is your vision for the UCSRN? Because in the last year, we had very intense discussions about sometimes small things but also big things. What is your view on the UCSRN as a body? What should it be?

Diya: I think that it should be a body that makes generalized policy plans, but then, collaborates with the internal student councils within each college to actually properly implement the plan. So I think the UCSRN is more like a committee where a generalized view on a particular issue is made, and these can be adapted to different UCs because of course you cannot make a general policy plan for everybody. So I think it's more like adapting those plans with respect to each university college.

Mai Thai: Thank you. Does that answer your question Boris?

Boris (AUC): Yes.

Maurits (AUC): You're going to be the president of the UCSRN, which also means that you will be the leader of your board so you'll be doing this along with five other board members. I was wondering because you mentioned coronavirus and other recent events happening. I was wondering how you would keep yourself and your own board motivated while being distanced with each other. And the next thing is I was wondering if you have any previous experiences being like the head of a board or the leader of the board?

Diya: I think to stay motivated, the most important thing is just to keep in contact. I think that during these times, it's very easy to let go of your work and maybe fall out of your normal pace in life. So I think more importantly, you need to build like this relationship with your committee, I think that's very important as well. So keeping each other motivated, not just means always work, but rather, you know, asking them about their lives, at least at a base level, maintaining a level of friendship. I think that's how I would try to keep my team motivated in my personal perspective. And I was a president in my high school of the student council in my high school.

Mai Thai: Perfect. We have only time for one question left.

Manuel (UCM): I just said one last question and I would like to raise two recent events and diversity. As some of you may know or may not know, UCSRN has previously already signed petitions, political petitions, with other organizations. So I would like to ask you whether you would continue this way as having UCSRN as an organization that also represents political ideals. If you choose to do so, would you be willing to show support for the recent movement that's been going on in the United States?

Diya: I do think that UCSRN should get political as well because our lives do not just revolve around academics. It's about building a community and, at its core values, being a global citizen. Yes, I do think that UCs are all about diversity as its values. I do think it is very important to support these causes, especially due to what's happening now. I think that personally, I would definitely support this cause and want to maintain UCSRN from a political perspective.

Manuel (UCM): Just a small follow up. You said you would personally be in favor of these

causes, but as UCSRN, because then you would also be representative of UCSRN, would you be willing to show that UCSRN is representing this cause or would it just be personal?

DIya: Well, from my perspective, at the moment, as a candidate, I am personally supporting the cause but again, even though I'm representing a whole committee, it is a democratic process. I would always be in favor of the motion but if a majority is not, that is what will be happening. So I think it's less of a personal perspective, but as also a leader and as a person who is representative of the community, I think it's important to display the majority opinion.

Mai Thai: Perfect. Thank you so much. Thank you for answering your questions and thank you for a great speech. We will now be moving on to the next candidate. I won't ask for the sharing screen to be back on for the presentation, just so we can see the candidates while they speak. But next is Julien. Whenever you're ready, I'll start the timer.

Julien: Thank you. Hi everyone, my name is Julien. I am a second year from Belgium, social science student majoring in economics at AUC. I've had the privilege and opportunity this year to be a treasurer of the AUCSA. This experience, in addition to teaching or sharpening my skills, has enabled me to gain a better grasp of what is the university college about, and so what is the UCSRN about. This past year, I went to multiple UCSRN General Assemblies and the UCSRN Spotlight and then the online tournament and this experience showed me the passionate and ambitious community that I saw when I came to AUC was also present at the UCSRN at a larger level. Seeing all these student associations, council, and students of the UCSRN coming together to discuss important topics or to enjoy supporting the colleges made me realize that I also wanted to contribute. Before talking about contribution, let's back up a bit. So in 1998, history lesson, UCU, the first university college of the Netherlands was founded. It was then followed by many others like UCR in 2004 or EUC in 2013. The UCSRN has been established, along with the emergence of these UCs, in 2015. At the time the UCSRN was smaller and only a handful of UCs were part of it. Over the years, more and more UCs have come to join and more positions and bodies respond to growing interest with particular projects. I wish to have my own contribution to this part of progression in innovation and I hope to innovate as a chair of three different points.

Firstly, I want to make all students aware of what the UCSRN is and what it does, and I do not think that that many students do not know what the UCSRN is. And for those who do, they do not know exactly what it does. I see it crucial to the growth of UCSRN. When people become aware of the UCSRN, we increase the participation of students in events like a tournament or spotlight or collaborations. We also increase the number of said collaborations. And lastly I would also be inclusive of candidates for the UCSRN boards, which can only be beneficial.
Secondly, I want to create a better and more collaborative environment and system for SAs and SCs to meet, communicate, and exchange. I will do so by organizing committee assembly, the thing of the year where SAs and SCs can meet and bond and another one later in the year where they can exchange the knowledge they have acquired.

Thirdly, I want to create an acquisitions team for the UCSRN, which will first gather funding for the UCSRN. Secondly, together, the acquisitions teams of different student associations coordinate and share knowledge.

That's it for my vision but I want to tell you today that the UCSRN is not only about being excellent, diverse, or making connections. It is my opinion about making memories with

people you've met at all kinds of events. We've done the tournament, spotlight, parties, activities, and GAs and yes, it is possible to make at GAs. You remember these memories for the rest of your life, and as UCSRN's next chair, I intend to make these memories as wonderful as possible. Thank you for listening and for bearing my French accent.

Mai Thai: Thank you so much. We have a chair question for you. You can pick number one, two, or four.

Julien: I pick number two.

Mai Thai: Your board members are having difficulty managing their time. Seeing as it is finals week and their committees at their home universities have events and a UCSRN event is coming up and no one is able to help prepare. What do you do?

Julien: Well, first I would fail my task if I fail to prepare for it in advance. If we probably know that it is coming during finals, then we should prepare in advance sufficiently. I think as chair you are supposed to take responsibility and if no one can make it, I should make it. I think we have to analyze the priorities of each board member. How important is it for you to succeed in your academics? How important is it for you to go to your UC event and how important is the UCSRN for you? I think these are things that need to be clear in the beginning of the year so you know in this kind of situation, who is going to do what and you can respect the decision. If you have a final and decide to go study for that, it's totally okay, you've said it much earlier. So after discussing with each other, we need people to go to the UCSRN event because that's part of the responsibility you carry as a board. So we will have a big discussion and discuss who can make it. And I think as chair, you have to take the end responsibility.

Mai Thai: Thank you very much. We then have a general board member question. You can pick a number from one, two, or four to nine.

Julien: Two.

Mai Thai: As a member of the EB, you are working in a team. How would you ensure that the team spirit is upheld, even if you're seeing your fellow board members mostly online?

Julien: I think there are lots of ways to do that. So I think it's very important to get to know each other and have physical interactions at the beginning of the year so you build a strong foundation and you don't build your board during meetings. I think what could be nicer, depending on my board members if they want to decide or not on that, but to have monthly physical meetings or mostly physical bonding. I think it's very nice to see each other for GAs also, depending on the COVID 19 crisis, before and after the GA to chill together and discuss and not continue to work. I think you can do a sort of check in at the beginning of the meeting so you can ask each other "hey how are you doing?" or "how are your academics?" or plans for the weekend and stuff like this. I also think that the candidates will be from different UCs but most of us have another candidate in the UC they're from so they could also bond with each other without being exclusive to the rest of the board

Mai Thai: Perfect, thank you so much. Now I will open up the question and answering for the General Assembly.

Manuel (UCM): How would you make sure that students from the further away university

colleges become more interested in UCSRN and more active? What would your role be in that?

Julien: The physical distance is there, that is a fact so we must find a way to get around it. I think what would be nice is that the buddy system was created this year of being paired with another UC. You can interact more with this one and create extra bonds. I think the UCs that are closest to each other can do something together because physically it is very complicated to do an event with all the UCs together and the tournament is a huge effort, spotlight as well. So I think UCs that are close to each other could do something together. I think the UCSRN should really be the model and the way to go for all the UCs. So the board members of the EB could go to the introduction week of each UC to present themselves like "hey we're the UCSRN" and try to involve more people. I think maybe a special fund for collaborations could be created but that kind of falls under the social and academic chair as well.

Manuel (UCM): Just as a short follow up, I saw on your CV that you were co-chair of the Diversity Commission. What did you exactly do there and how are you going to bring that into UCSRN?

Julien: Yeah, so what I did there is I had a team of eight or nine people and we organized some monthly events and weeks. So we had a monthly event of AUQueer, which is a kind of safe space for people who are queer to talk about the problems and seniors to give advice on how they've dealt with that because it's sometimes hard. We had Let's Talk event, where we pick a topic and people can come and debate on every opinion is welcomed and it is a good discussion platform. Then we had weeks, or we called them awareness weeks, and they were each on a different topic, for example, accessibility week, which was a week about, we had a workshop and a lecture about disabilities in academia and how to deal with that and how to be open with people with disabilities, and how to have a safe and respectful dialogue in schools. How would I like to bring this to UCSRN? All the experiences that I have that I can say "hey guys, that's not okay to say this" or "please use all the pronouns". I think putting your pronouns in the signature is also a very good thing because it shows openness because it doesn't hurt to put them there and it helps support a lot of people. I think also in the events we sponsor for the social or academic committee, we can make sure that all events are open to everyone in the diversity of students and backgrounds.

Robin (UCT): I was wondering and I understand that you are the current treasurer of the AUCSA and based on that, my question is what made you decide to run for the position of Chair - perhaps certain insights were experienced during your current board year and perhaps also as a nice follow on - what experiences of being the treasurer do you hope to take in to your role and incorporate in your role as possible Chair of the UCSRN board?

Julien: Yeah, very good question, very big one as well. So about why I wanted to become chair is because I love learning and doing new things and I have already explored budgeting, accounting, bookkeeping all this year as the treasurer and so I'm ready to move on to something else. I have gotten a taste of what it entails to be a chair as the co-chair of the Diversity Commission and Acquisitions Commission and the Winter Formal. I got a taste of that and I was like "oh that's something that suits me" and I would love to push you and become better so that's why I wanted to do that. Also because I have seen so many Excel files and I have had my share of Excel. Your second question was how can I bring my experience as treasurer to the UCSRN right?

Robin (UCT): Yeah, perhaps some insights that you gained during your board year as a whole and just some of your past experiences with the UCSRN as well. And how would you plan to incorporate that in your possibility of being a Chair?

Julien: Yeah so I really learnt a lot so I am probably not going to go through each thing but I think that the general skills I have learned such as time management, managing meetings, sending emails, etc. About the treasury - I think I have learnt a lot about the bookkeeping, accounting, etc, and I can really help the treasurer with that. We can collaborate on this and we can help train with that but it's not my position so I'm not going to try to overshadow anyone in that. About the insights - one thing that I really learnt is keeping motivated as you have a very high workload and stress because of your academics as well. That's something I've learned the most about this year and it would be very useful for the UCSRN.

Robin (UCT): Thank you very much and good luck.

Mika (UCT): You answered that you would like to see what the priorities of every board member would be. How would your priorities lie in combination with your academics? One of the other answers was if tasks are not picked up, you would pick them up as responsibility of the chair. How do you afford to overload yourself with work?

Julien: So I think both of these should be made in June or during the summer so it's set for the year but it's also something flexible. It can change - not like because we've done this in July, it has to be like that for the whole year. Personally for my academics, my first policy was passing AUC, which is not something I'm struggling with. It's just a priority because I don't want to drop out but I'm not especially looking for high grades or anything. UCSRN will be ranked very high in this priority. Second question was if there's no one else or nobody to pick an event or task right? If I'm not mistaken?

Robin (UCT): Yes, you answered one of the questions that if people fail to pick up the tasks that are assigned to them, you considered yourself end responsible and you said you would pick up the task. How do you afford yourself getting overloaded with work in such a scenario?

Julien: When I realized what, there's no task that needs to be picked up because we have set expectations and we know who is supposed to do what but it's always possible to have a crisis like COVID 19 or anything else and something needs to be done very quickly and it's not assigned to anyone. I think it kind of comes to the chair because the chair has less fixed tasks so the chair should be the ones flexible to respond to a crisis that can happen, but it's always something that needs to be done together. It's all collaboration and I'm willing to be overworked. I think it's always important to, again, set expectations with the board and say "hey guys, in two weeks, I will have my finals so I'm probably going to be less present for the UCSRN and I want you to be aware of that" and there's no surprise. About not being overworked - I generally just work. When I'm done, I'm done but we're already overloaded so that should be fine.

Mai Thai: We have time for only one question left so if there's anyone still having their hand raised. No? Thank you very much Julien for answering the questions and for the speech.

b. Secretary

Mai Thai: We will now be moving on to the secretary candidates, which is Kayna.

Kayna: Hi everyone. I'll keep this speech short and sweet. My name is Kayna Duport-govindin and I'm applying for secretary and I'm a student at the Amsterdam University College. I'm really interested in both the physical and mental side of the human body, so that's what I study at AUC - pre-med. I think that I would be an effective secretary for the board because I'm very enthusiastic, I'm social, I'm hardworking and reliable. Furthermore, I have learned many of the valuable skills needed to be a secretary from past board experiences as an assistant manager as well as volunteering in childcare, and also by being a member of the volleyball team for most of my life. So I decided to apply to the UCSRN because I support the goals that they presented including, but not limited to, the uniting of university colleges, offering their students better opportunities prior to, and after graduation and also working towards the recognition of the liberal arts and sciences bachelor as a valuable degree. I wish to help the UCSRN achieve their goals by being a member of the board. I decided to apply for the position of secretary specifically because I'd also like to work towards increasing the awareness of the UCSRN both internally, to the university colleges, and externally, because that's a very big part of UCSRN. I would like to make the university college student body aware of the UCSRN goals, and the help that the UCSRN can provide them with. Thank you.

Mai Thai: Thank you. Then we will ask some questions. First with the secretary question, you can pick a number between one to three.

Kayna: Two.

Mai Thai: So you're registering your board members to dos and have noticed one of your EB members has not kept up with them. You've messaged them to see if they're okay and they simply respond with all is well. The board member lies during the meeting and when they're giving their update on their task and has gone unnoticed by the chair. What do you do?

Kayna: Can you repeat the question? Sorry.

Mai Thai: Of course. You're registering your board member's to-do's and have noticed one of your EB members has not kept up with them. You've messaged them to see if they're okay and they simply respond with all is well. The board member lies during the meeting and when they're giving their update on their task and has gone unnoticed by the chair. What do you do?

Kayna: I think that it might be something that is hard to own up to, falling behind in front of a big group, even though we're supposed to feel comfortable with the rest of the board. So personally, I would take the person aside and have more of a private discussion so they don't feel as intimidated when asked the question. I also think that it's important to talk about this face to face rather than over text, especially if the texts just say everything's fine, in order to get more information. I would make sure to remain empathetic and friendly towards the person and not blame them for falling behind because that's something that we can all fall into. So yeah, I think just approaching them by themselves in obviously a very friendly manner and not cornering them would be the best way to go.

Mai Thai: Thank you. Now, we will have a general question and you can pick a number from one or four to nine.

Kayna: Six.

Mai Thai: Imagine that you heavily disagree with one of your fellow board members on an important topic. Neither of you seem to be willing to make a compromise and the rest of the board is impartial. However, at the GA, the said board member, advocates their opinion, despite the disagreement. How would you act in this situation?

Kayna: If they advocate their opinion during the GA. Sorry, let me restart.

Mai Thai: Yeah, take your time to think about it. It's no rush, by the way.

Kayna: Thanks. I think it's very normal that people don't agree and even if the rest of the board stays impartial, I think it's important that we both share our opinions and also try to make sure to really understand the other person's point of view because we may in the moment think that we're in the right and the other is in the wrong but if you take a step back and think about it, you might actually find that you might be in the wrong. So I think that it's important to stay open minded and as for the GA situation, if it's put up for debate and they state their opinion, then I think it's only fair that both sides state their opinion and give all the facts that they have in order to allow the rest of the GA to make an informed decision.

Mai Thai: Thank you. I will start the timer now for the general assembly to ask any questions they may have.

Ruben (UCM): So you mentioned you want to make the UC student body more aware of. the UCSRN and its goals. So I'd like to ask, do you have a plan in place for how you want to accomplish that?

Kayna: Yes. What I'd like to do is during the intro weekend, although it might be a little more complicated and would obviously need adaptation because of the whole corona situation, is to have representatives of UCSRN board, or even other committees of the UCSRN go to the university colleges and present on the UCSRN and inform the student body of their goals and what they can provide to the student body because personally, I wasn't aware of the UCSRN until recently. I only knew of the UCSRN tournament and it's only after doing some research that I found out that the UCSRN was actually like an organization of its own and not just the tournament. So yeah, I think that by going around the UCs and presenting and making the students aware through presentations and maybe even workshops, that would be a good way to do it. Does that answer your question?

Ruben (UCM): Yes, thank you.

Natasha (AB): One of the main organizational tasks of the executive board is to create and send out certain documents on time, documents such as general assembly minutes and important updates. It's also an easy task to fall behind on. While this is a task shared by the entire board, as the secretary, what would you do personally to ensure that documents are made and sent out to the members on time?

Kayna: I think an important part of getting work done is planning. So after A GA, I would make sure that the minutes are written and then I would set reminders for myself, and even maybe ask my board members to help remind me because it's a team effort. Yeah, through planning, setting reminders, and making notes, I would make sure to set deadlines for myself

in advance so that even if I happen to miss one, I can always get the document sent out before their final deadline if that makes sense.

Natasha (AB): This might seem like a question that's a bit too nitpicky or too detailed in asking about your workflow. That wasn't the intention. It's more that these kinds of documents are collaborative, but you, as the secretary, often have the final responsibility to send them up so it becomes a team effort but you have the end responsibility. So it's a little bit more than just setting yourself up for your share; it's also making sure your team does their work on time.

Kayna: Yeah, that makes sense. I definitely would put pressure on my team members to get their work done, but if it happens that one person is falling behind, I would make sure that they get the help that they need in order to get their work done on time so that we can send these documents in due time because I understand that other people rely on having systems and still keeping documents at the given moment.

Natasha (AB): Okay, thanks Kayna.

Reinier (UCU): You mentioned during your speech that you find it important that internally the UCs know about UCSRN but also external parties. If you were to give priority to one of the two, which one would you choose?

Kayna: That's a good question. In order for the UCSRN to work, they need external support, but the UCSRN is mostly a representative of the students of university colleges. So I would prioritize internal communication because if the students aren't aware of who's representing them, I don't think that's like an ideal situation. So I would prioritize internal communication. Did that answer your question?

Reinier (UCU): Yeah, that's good. Thank you.

Mika (UCT): For the secretary, it's also an important task to take minutes during meetings and during the general assembly, how would you describe yourself as a minute taker? What kind of minutes do you make?

Kayna: Well, I have never really written minutes but when I was preparing for another election, I looked into how minutes were to be done and how I would take minutes would just be following the procedure. Well, not following the procedure but following the timeline of the meeting and just writing down key points and if necessary, maybe even record the meeting and then make sure to complete those minutes at the end of the meeting because some notes go missing or don't get written down. Other than that, I think just like everything, practice makes perfect and through practice of taking minutes, I'll get better.

Mika (UCT): Thank you.

Mai Thai: We have time for one last question.

Maurits (AUC): Seeing that you'll also be in charge of the communication internally with your board, not to put you on the spot or anything, but would you already have a plan on how you structure the internal communication with your board?

Kayna: I think that to communicate within my board, something along the lines of instant

messaging would be better, so like Whatsapp. Things like this would be easier to have a group chat and communicate there, but in order to organize information, it would be easier to have a shared Google document where everyone can include what they're working on and of course, be a way to keep everyone up to date with what the others are doing.

Maurits (AUC): Thank you.

Mai Thai: That was relatively short so if people still want to ask one more question, time will allow. No? Thank you very much for answering all their questions and thanks for the speech, Kayna.

c.   Treasurer

Mai Thai: We will now be moving on to the treasurer candidate, Renzo. Whenever you're ready.

Renzo: Thank you Mai Thai for the rights to speak. First of all, I just want to share that it's good to see how many new names for me are amongst the familiar names already in the list. I actually wanted to see some faces but I'm not seeing everyone's faces so that's quite a shame. Secondly, I actually want to thank the executive board for the amazing job they've been doing this past year. I remember showing up the the first UCSRN GA as a board member of SA Atlantis where you all suited up and ready to take on the coming year in which you organized a small constitution drink and successful GAs and you guys actually brought us here to this online GA, so thank you for that. Then, I assume you all already know that I am the candidate for the treasurer position. I hope to follow in the footsteps of Felipe and do an excellent job at this as well. Of course, it is also important for you to know why I chose to apply for the UCSRN board for the upcoming year. To make sure I share what I want to share in my three minutes, I'll keep it short. My first contact with the UCSRN was during my first year at the spotlight hosted by UCU and I was directly hooked on the UCSRN and the tournament followed soon, where each UC was our enemy. These events is of course not only what the UCSRN is and what they do. They also provide a platform for UCs to come together which I value very much as this opportunity to share ideas and learn from each other. In the current situation, sharing ideas might be more important now than ever as UCs experience the same challenges with the coronavirus currently. I think a perfect example of the power that this platform has was the online tournament. We just organized with several awesome people of which a few were actually impressed as well. So once again, thank you for that. Then moving on to the reason why I chose to apply for treasurer was actually quite simple. I want to keep developing myself as I think learning is interesting and one should never stop learning. So I hope Julien can actually help me out with that. Besides that, after a year of getting the money for Atlantis as the commissioner of external affairs, I actually am looking forward to a year of experiencing spending money for once. If I become a part of the executive board of the UCSRN, there are actually two things I want to focus on next to bookkeeping of course. The first thing I want to do is promote across city events. There are a lot of ways to do this, especially not in these times, it makes it even easier to find a way to host these events online. I think that the new buddy system that's implemented will help with this as well. Secondly, I kind of want to do the same thing as Julien mentioned of setting up an external committee. However, I saw that more as a platform where we learn from each other as I experienced last year that there are a lot of different approaches to acquisitions in all the UCs. I think by sharing these things with each other, we can learn from each other and actually improve acquisition for the UCSRN. And

actually to finalize, as a wise man once said, Walt Disney, the way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing. Thank you for your time and I'm curious about your questions.

Felipe: I have two potential questions for you so you pick a number between one and two.

Renzo: Let's go for a second one.

Felipe: Alright. The use of the travel reimbursement budget is almost criminally underused by the general usage of UCSRN populace over the past few years. Do you have any ideas on how to improve this (that preferably does not involve modifying the travel reimbursement policy as it should be noted that it was modified this past year)?

Renzo: I think the best way to actually get people to use the funding more is simply by creating more awareness about it. I'm actually not sure how much it has been used this year after the GA we had about it but I think the most important thing is making sure that people know that it's there and make sure that it's accessible so it's not a long process that take a lot of time to actually declare the travel costs but make it simple, keep it easy, and make sure that people know that it's there.

Felipe: Alright, now moving on to the general board member question. The ones remaining are one, four, five, and seven through nine.

Renzo: I'd like to take seven.

Felipe: Imagine that you experienced extreme lack of motivation somewhere during the year, deadlines are stacking up. Your academics are not going very well. And your board is constantly asking you to finish your to dos. How would you deal with the situation including conveying this to your fellow board members?

Renzo: Of course, I would be honest with my board members. I'm sure that if the situation would appear, there are reasons for it and I think those reasons are the most important thing to share with the other board members. Last year, I had been a board member as well and I've already acquired quite some skills of time management and learning from that. I think this actually is the case that you'd see and the most important thing is just being transparent about it and trying to look for ways to solve the problem.

Reinier (UCU): Thank you for your speech. You talk about being [...], however, also due to corona, the buddy system never really was able to get started properly. How would you try to motivate the UCs to make use of this buddy system? Would you be budget free or motivate them some other way? What are your ideas for that?

Renzo: I think our key two ways of motivating UCs to encourage using the buddy system. First of all, as you already mentioned, of course, making it budget free. For my knowledge, there has always been a budget for extra events and I think this year, it might be smart to dedicate a specific amount of budget to the buddy system, probably focused at like the different connections. Secondly, I think, here again, awareness is quite important and I'm mainly focusing on the awareness amongst the members of the UCs and not necessarily the board members. As I experienced last year as well, the UCSRN is not a very well known body amongst a lot of the students, even though they usually do recognize the name and know that the tournament and spotlight is happening via the UCSRN but they don't really know what it is. I think a good step is to make it more of a thing within your UC. I think a

good example is Mitchell, who is the current social committee chair, managed to get three candidates from University College Twente to sign up. I think that actually shows that knowing about the UCSRN is actually the most important thing to get the connections coming. Does it satisfy your question?

Reinier (UCU): Yeah. I was wondering more about people knowing about the UCSRN though because I fully agree that people should be more aware but that has been something that has been said for years now by people that they should raise awareness and it never really fully works out and every year, it's repeated by people that UCSRN should become more known in a sense. What would you change this year, specifically in your potential board year?

Renzo: I've been thinking about this as well. Some things that I have heard personally and before today is having some sort of tour that we simply join certain events at each university college or actually have specific events of UCSRN at university colleges explaining what we are, what we do, and why we're important. In that sense to both show the UCSRN physically to the people who are present at the events if that's possible, of course, given the measures, and otherwise effective promotion via social media accounts and trying to make that more of a thing.

Reinier (UCU): Okay, thank you.

Alex (AUC): Thank you Preksha and thank you Renzo for your speech and participation. I would like to know if you have any specific ideas for updating or reinventing the treasury system as Felipe has been working hard on it but I was wondering if you were going to apply any new ideas to it, also for a better overview of all the UCSRN board members?

Renzo: I actually do not have a specific answer yet and I also do not have a lot of bookkeeping experience, so I hope to learn a lot about that from Felipe and also Julien. Additionally to that, I will, of course look more into ways to make sure that the board members have more insights into our financial situation as I think transparency is very important in an organization like this. So there are no specific ideas but I am very open to any suggestions or opportunities to look into that.

Alex (AUC): Okay. Could I also ask you then if you are intending to update your knowledge on treasury systems or maybe how Excel works however Felipe works without any help from Felipe himself or an executive board member of the UCSRN.

Renzo: Yeah, I'm actually going to follow an online course and I'm going to start next week about it for my academics as well because it's also one of my interests and additionally to that, I will also follow more courses on financial analysis and accounting next year as well. Additionally, I do have some education about it from high school and also from personal finances, which is not comparable of course but it's a start. So I will make sure to get to the level that's expected without any help. However, I do indeed expect that there will be some transitioning as well as to make sure that I understand the current systems in place

Alex (AUC): Thank you for your answer.

Renzo: You're welcome.

Manuel (UCM): Last general assembly, there was a case at the general assembly that

somebody made an argument that they wanted to cut a lot of the budget for the executive board. How would you react to something like this personally? Would you take it to heart when you take it personally if the general assembly deems that the budget allocated to the executive body is too much?

Renzo: I think that's a very interesting topic in general anyway. I think the most important thing here is to make sure that both the EB and the GA make sure that both sides are prepared. For me, it's reasonable argumentation. There might be reasons to not get the budget. I think that's something that we together as the organization should decide upon.

Manuel (UCM): Follow up question then. At the end, who do you think makes the final decision? Would you say that it's the executive board or the general assembly that has the final word on these things? How would you see this?

Renzo: I think it's the general assembly that in the end has to vote on it. The executive board of course has its reasons and I will provide argumentation of why the budget should not be cut. However, as we are a student association and our members are indeed the people who attend the GA, they will also by law have the final vote. Does it satisfy?

Manuel (UCM): Thank you.

Renzo: Alright, thank you for all the questions and time to speak of course.

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d. External

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Mai Thai: Thank you for your speech and answering the questions. Next, we will have Tiffanie for the position of external. Whenever you're ready.

Tiffanie: Good afternoon. My name is Tiffanie and I'm running for the position of external and even though I'm sure you guys all love zoom calls, I'm going to keep this speech short as I don't want everybody to fall asleep. So as I said before, my name is Tiffanie and I'm a student at Leiden University College. So a few things to know about me would be that I'm half French, half Dutch and I grew up in Paris. I'm a very active debater and I'm fluent in English and Dutch, which is essential when handling external communications, certainly when talking to external partners and sponsors. Furthermore, the position of external communication, in general is not an unknown position for me and I have previous experience in the field on several levels. First of all, I was the head of external for a startup for the duration of two years. This means that I'm familiar with writing press statements, position papers, meeting external sponsors, getting sponsors, and maintaining good relations with partners. I'm also on the board of several other committees. This has ensured that my writing skills are on point and that public speaking is something that I like and I'm good at. Furthermore, where negotiations are concerned, which are skills that are important in general when being head of external, I have some practical background as a debater and member of committees, as well as the theoretical background as I followed a few courses at Yale University. This said, as head of external, I hope to solidify already existing bonds we have with external partners, as well as create new ones with other partners and get more sponsors. I'm convinced that the university college community is incredibly talented and I hope that we can give it the recognition it deserves. On a last note, we're living in difficult times and I hope that we can turn these corona challenges into opportunities to make this year of 2020 a year to remember where we can all come together. On that note, I open

myself to questions.

Mai Thai: Thank you so much.

Maxim: For the external specific question, you can choose between one to four.

Tiffanie: Three.

Maxim: Based on your experience as a UC student, what do you think are the greatest differences between liberal arts and sciences and regular education?

Tiffanie: That's a very good question. I think that, as university college students, we have this advantage of taking a liberal arts program, which means that we get a broader version, a broader education, which is our biggest asset. As, for example, studying only politics gives you a certain view of how politics works, but if you manage to mix it with economics, for example, or biology, you'll get this overall view. And in the world where we live in today, having such a specialized approach to certain problems is insufficient and this is why the advantage of a university college is that we can tackle global challenges through a different lens than others. And certainly, in times where everything changes so fast where social movements are happening, I think this is the greatest advantage we have at university college.

Maxim: Thank you. Then for the general board member question, you can choose between the following numbers – one, four, five, eight, and nine.

Tiffanie: One.

Maxim: It is in the middle of the semester and you're drowning in deadlines, running on four hours, sleep for nights and with all the stress you forgot to send an urgent email, which the other person of the email contact presents, how do you take care of the situation?

Tiffanie: So are we talking about an external board member or an external partner that's not a member of the UC?

Maxim: Whomever you were supposed to send the email to.

Tiffanie: The moment I remember, I would put down my academic work for like 20 minutes and have a think through what is the best way to approach this situation. Is it best to approach it right now and say "I'm sorry, this email should have been sent before" and send it anyway or should I wait a little bit more and ask for the input of other people because maybe they need documents or I. know that their follow up email is going to require some documents. If I already have them, I can ask another board member or myself to add these documents to the email.

Mai Thai: Thank you so much. Now we will open up the questions to the GA.

Amy (UCG): As external, you will be asked to represent UCSRN to a variety of parties. If you get asked to sign, for example, a political petition, how will you decide whether or not to do this?

Tiffanie: That's a very interesting question, certainly with everything that's happening at the moment. So, when we consider politics, I think it's important to remember that politics can

divide the same way that they can unite. And that we're a variety of university colleges and university college students where not everybody might have the same political opinion. So taking all this into account. I think before signing a political petition, I would bring it up to the GA and we have a discussion where all university college representatives come together and say and express their opinion. And if there is a majority I think that this is representative of the university college team spirit and the university college values, then yes.

Amy (UCG): Wonderful, thank you so much.

Manuel (UCM): So I just want to add on to what was just said by Amy – you have a political thing going on right now and you need to decide on something right away. You don't have time to consult the general assembly. What would you do to make sure that you're still representing university college students in that case? You don't have time to contact or to convene a general assembly so what would you do? Would you act on it, would you not act?

Tiffanie: If we're discussing an external party that has political values, then I wouldn't, because as I said, previously, political opinions and political values are very different. And for me, the UCSRN is representative of its students and my political opinions might not match other students and I'm standing here because I'm elected or because people believe that I can do my job. And my job is to make sure that their interests are taken into account the best way possible.

Manuel (UCM): So you would not try to get in contact maybe with externals and kind of get a feel for what other university colleges feel about a certain issue?

Tiffanie: I would, of course, contact. I got the impression you were talking about, like meeting on a personal level. What I would do if I had the time was contact externals from other universities, have a GA or contact my board members. This is like my first approach. If that is not possible, if I cannot reach anybody from different university colleges or my board members, and I would not make the decision by myself.

Manuel (UCM): Okay, then maybe just one last follow up question. You mentioned in your speech that you wanted to turn even bad situations like a corona crisis into something positive. How would you briefly do this?

Tiffanie: Well, one of the challenges that emerges during a corona crisis is that some tournaments or some UC events cannot happen, which means that moments where different university college students could have interacted are canceled because we can't have physical meetings. So one of the ideas would be to try to turn this into an online event. Maybe we can find a way where all students can still meet each other, can still come in contact with each other, using the new technology we have at our disposal.

Manuel (UCM): Just one last thing, so you said that you were, in your speech, on a number of boards of committees and the position of external of UCSRN, I think, takes a lot of time. Would you be willing to step down from these positions or are you going to remain on the boards of these committees and at the same time, take on the extra workload which is being the external executive of the UCSRN?

Tiffanie: That's a very good question. I think as a student from a university college, I would put UCSRN as a top priority compared to other committees where I am a board member, but I'm not necessarily as involved as I would need to be for the UCSRN.

Manuel (UCM): So initially say that you would continue being a board member on these committees or would you say?

Tiffanie: Yes, I would continue being part of the board for the time being. Also because I think that being part of the student association is necessary, the student board is also necessary for me to understand what people actually want. For example, I'm on the board of my debate club and something that would be nice is if several debate clubs could get together from different university colleges and having a place on that board will allow me to make it possible. However, where workload is considered, or if a decision has to be made on what to prioritize, UCSRN would get my priority.

Manuel (UCM): Thank you.

Mai Thai: Sorry to intervene for a little bit but if you're asking questions or if you're muted, I please ask you to turn off notifications. Do keep in mind that this is being recorded so when you're speaking and there are notifications in between, we're going to have a hard time listening back. Apologies for that. We have about two or three more questions.

Robin (UCT): For me, at least the integrity of the UCSRN depends on how well the students feel they are represented by the board or at least how well the UCSRN as an organization represents the university college students. Now I was wondering how you hope to ensure that the companies or external parties that you've maken deals with, as hopefully the external of the UCSRN board, do also represent all of the students or at least the university colleges and her students?

Tiffanie: So this was a question that comes up often when you are the head of external and having previous experience, how you usually approach this is you take a look at what the values are of the companies you want to work in collaboration with. You also take a look if they have bad press recently or if they have any political involvement and you see if those match the criteria that we as a university college board wants to approach and represent and then I'd compare both of them and if they fit, if they seem to work together, and if there seems to be coherence of why this company, for example, supports diversity, I would see a reason why they would get involved with us. If I feel like they've been making some exclusionary statements recently that do not necessarily represent what we as university college stand for, then I would probably put it on hold.

Robin (UCT): Okay, thank you very much. Is there still time for me to ask a follow up question or do we need to proceed?

Mai Thai: There's still time.

Robin (UCT): Okay, great, thank you. Up until now, questions have been raised, as the external position, it's more of a political position, yet at our university college and I'm sure at many others, the position of external is also considered to be a business position and when it comes to acquiring funding, in our case, the association, but then in your case, the UCSRN, how do you hope to approach this? How do you view your position yourself? Is it more of a business position or is it, as has been discussed earlier today, more of a political position?

Tiffanie: So I see it as more of a business position. However, it can take on some political

aspects at some point. First of all, I see it as a way for us as a student body to get funding, to get into relation with external organizations. Well to our relations with them, we can not only acquire funding, but also raise awareness. I think that this builds on some things that were addressed previously about the lack of recognition in some cases. Well, if we partner up with the right organizations, I think that there are opportunities for internships, for example, that are going to open. We're going to raise awareness about what university college has actually entailed because having this two-sided perspective of being partly Dutch with having grown up in France, I know that the university colleges do not necessarily get the recognition that they deserve because it's a very talented community that sometimes goes upon unnoticed because people are not familiar enough with what liberal arts college actually entails. And so I think that as an external, your goal is not only change for funding, it's also to ensure that the name gets out there.

Robin (UCT): Thank you very much and good luck for the rest of the afternoon.

Mai Thai: Thank you so much. We're going to have one more question and that will be the last one.

Preksha: There are no other questions.

Mai Thai: Perfect. Then, thank you so much for your speech and answering questions.

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<tr><td>**e. Academic Committee Chair**</td></tr>
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Mai Thai: We will first have the AC chair, so the academic committee chair, and that is Esh, so whenever you're ready Esh, I will start the timer.

Esh: Good afternoon, everyone. I'm Esh and I'm currently a second-year student from India studying politics, law, and sustainability at UCU. I'm honored to declare my candidacy for the position of the academic committee chair for the UCSRN board of 2020-2021. As UC students, we pride ourselves on being at the forefront of progressive academic thought and why shouldn't we? [inaudible] truly passionate about learning and having a place to thrive. I believe that the key to unifying the UCS and improving what we have is through something called transformational learning and transformational leadership. What this implies is that leaders work to identify needed change, create a vision to guide this change and execute the change in tandem with committed group members and this is precisely my vision for the UCSRN and the academic committee. I believe that being a young organization like UCSRN has a long way to go. If elected, I would like to focus on three things. First being communication - by focusing on effective communication among and between UCs and implementing a decision feedback loop between students and the executive board by striving to maintain and better our already high quality of education together with student councils at member UCs. Within this, I would like to focus on creating structures of support post-graduation. Lastly, visibility - one way to achieve this, I believe is by planning visits to all member UCs at the beginning of every board year which can go a long way in making sure that the UCSRN and its mission is presented to member students quite early on. And the academic committee, I believe, is quite uniquely positioned to allow representatives of different UCS to come together and communicate openly and constructively to create an effective and hopefully, one day influential network of students from all over the Netherlands. And my passion for student representation, leadership and educational policy is what has brought me here, asking you to put your faith in me, to lobby for your academic interests and

to carry out my responsibility of making a liberal arts and science education accessible to everyone who considers it. And allow me to make one last conjecture about myself. I am intellectually curious and unfaltering so I can immerse myself in a simplistic unconventional idea and see where it takes me. I have an undeniable fervor for leadership. I'm motivated, and I value the bigger picture. I want you to know that you can rely on me to see the vision and the mission of the UCSRN are being upheld. If there's one thing I hope to bring to the academic committee, as well as the executive board, it's this. I'm passionate, I'm committed and above all I genuinely care. I want to make sure that you feel heard and adequately represented, not just by your own UC representatives, but also by the UCSRN.

Mai Thai: Thank you so much. Preksha, feel free to take the lead on asking the questions.

Preksha: So I'm going to ask you an academic committee chair specific question and you can choose a number between one to three.

Esh: One.

Preksha: Okay. How would you ensure that all members of the academic committee are fulfilling their tasks and how are you going to keep them motivated throughout the year?

Esh: So from what I understand, the academic committee meets twice a month or once every two weeks. And I feel like first you need to have a bond between the members that are in the academic committee and the academic committee chair, so that the representatives that are in the academic committee feel some sort of ownership, but also responsibility to work for the UCSRN and not just your own personal university council in their universities. And I feel like one of these ways would be to have a checking round in every meeting that we have to see how everyone is doing so this would build   the   bond   between representatives of each UC but also as just a board in general, as a committee sorry. Stuff like this actually really establishes a bond between representatives, but also in the board so I feel like once you have ownership over the things that you're doing for the UCSRN, you'll be able to make sure that you're also holding yourself accountable for work that you have to do.

Preksha: Thank you very much. So now for a general board member question, you can choose between four, five, eight, and nine.

Esh: Nine.

Preksha: Okay. At some point in the year, a couple of UCs expressed their dissatisfaction with the executive board in terms of communication and following the statutes. Although you gave your best, deadlines and academics take their toll and you're struggling to keep up with the board matters. How will you respond to the UC that brought up their concerns?

Esh: Yeah, because that's already quite a difficult one because it seems that, as a member of the executive board, you've not really been doing a great job. I do feel communication is key, no matter what – first within the executive board so to make sure that everyone on the board has come to some sort of consensus as to how to engage with the situation, but also communication with the member UCs that feel this way. And I think in the end there will be some communication problems and difficulties, but I feel like we can reach consensus as long as we make sure that we're communicating effectively.

Preksha: Thank you very much. So now are there any questions from the audience?

Eldi (UCT): So this year the academic committee has, I believe, we finished and we updated the academic database, which basically explains different aspects of the education and the curriculum that are present in all the UCSRN members. Now, do you have an idea on how you want to incorporate this into your vision?

Esh: Thank you for your question. I did mention this in my letter of motivation as well and within the general goal of education, I think, the first thing would be to go through the UC database that's been created, but also update it within the year. And while that is a smaller goal, I feel like that, along with the master sheet which is something that the academic committee has been working on, along with the goal that I just mentioned, us creating structures and support for students after they graduate - internship opportunities, research opportunities, work opportunities, masters prospects, all of these could add to the database so that we can create this UCSRN wide database that allows students to look through and after they've graduated and find some sort of comfort in the fact that the UCSRN is looking out for them even then. I hope that answers your question.

Eldi (UCT): Thank you.

Vitor (UCM): Hi Esh, I have a question for you. Recently we have been talking about political polarization and how a lot of UC curriculums focus on mainly leftist or more inclined to leftist agenda and we talk about diversity and how UCs are a place for diversity and inclusion and my question relates to where do you think that we should place the line between creating a majority or following a majority to political opinion and how should we incorporate the other ones that sometimes seem themselves as disregarded and in those curriculums in one way we can be, I don't want to say too much attention, but we need to kind of find the balance between acknowledging their existence and acknowledge the existence of different opinions. Where do you think that this line can be drawn?

Esh: I'm sorry, I just want to make sure I understand your question right. So you ask where to draw the line between accepting diverse opinions?

Vitor (UCM): Yeah.

Esh: Okay, perfect, I think this is a really sensitive topic and being a student of politics, I am quite opinionated myself so when it comes to stuff personally, there's times where I can't see beyond what I believe but I feel like once you take up office, representing students, especially 4000 students, it becomes really difficult to make sure that everyone's opinion is heard. I think where I would draw the line is if an opinion becomes insensitive or threatens the social inclusion of others. I think that's where I'm going to draw the line. Even if, at a GA, when you come to a conclusion where an opinion deserved and got majority but it kind of threatens fundamental values of diversity and inclusion, I think I would raise my voice. I wouldn't do anything myself but I would make sure that I would communicate it very clearly to members UCs.

Vitor (UCM): Can I do a follow up question? Just a small thing.

Preksha: Yep.

Vitor (UCM): Thank you for your answer. One of the issues that I think still needs to be clarified a bit more and I think it's important is which role liberal arts education could play and

I'm going to take a radical example. Most of the academic community follow these more liberal, more inclusive, more leftist approach to education and the curriculums kind of reflects that, which in consequence, when we go, for example, on internet comments and Facebook, there are posts about someone taking a more right wing position, so to say, and we hardly criticize them but we [inaudible]. We are not being included in such sense so there's this duality. I don't want to say between who's right or wrong but rather in the sense that liberal arts teaches us how to argue and how we should use the skills to reflect our own opinions. [inaudible]. How do we think that content on the other side of the picture, so to say, on this more conservative side of the issue should be included in that curriculum because we argue that they are towards our side, but then we also argued that they are ignorant. On the other side, we also don't have the knowledge to understand and we basically are also going to be kind of discriminatory towards them. So where do you think we should include this kind of content? More on the side to create understanding, to promote more fruitful debates on such issues?

Esh: I don't think I understand your question.

Mai Thai: Could you perhaps type out the question because I haven't understood the question very clearly either so if you could type out the question and send it in the chat and then we'll move on to another question for now because it's taken quite a lot of time.

Robin (UCT): Whilst we are all liberal arts students, all of our colleges or most of the colleges place a different emphasis on how to approach education. How do you plan to mitigate these differences while still being the representative of liberal arts students and liberal arts education in the Netherlands?

Esh: Thank you for your question. I think that's a really good question. I think it really depends on the issues that we tackle at a certain moment in time in the community. And I think having this diversity in how we value education at different UCs in itself offers diversity to have fruitful and effective conversations, when we do discuss in the committee, I mean. I see like, uh, regardless of the representative of certain UCs. I feel like if we come together in the committee, I think most things would happen by majority if I'm not wrong, otherwise not at all, if there's no consensus.I think the fact that there is diversity in itself is a really good factor in how, and once you get to like the points that we decided, and it just kind of legitimizes the things that we decide on.

Robin (UCT): Thank you for your clarification and also to you, good luck for the rest of the afternoon.

Manuel (UCM): So you just mentioned a little bit about diversity and you're going to be in charge of the academic parts. So I'm going to ask you, how would you bring more diversity of ideas, perspectives into the curriculum of many university colleges, or how would you try to promote this idea that diversity is important and that we should strive towards having not only a diverse student population, but also diverse academic content?

Esh: Thank you for your question. I'm not sure how much I understand about the mandates of the academic committee, how much it would allow for me or the committee to decide on things that are again, very personal to each UC. But I think the first place we can start is obviously, as you mentioned, the students that we take, but also faculty, I feel like having diverse faculty is also a really important thing that sometimes you don't tend to remember. When it comes to talking about diversity, but also a curriculum, at UCU specifically, I know

that having different professors, they're from a different background and they choose to do things in a very different way. We can have a varied reaction to it but mostly it's been good and I think in that sense, it's also something to address.

Manuel (UCM): Just to clarify, you are for diversity, be it student population, but also in the curriculum.

Esh: Yes, definitely.

Mai Thai: So the question from Vitor, I'm going to shorten it a little bit so we can get the essence and don't have to draw the discussion for too long. The question technically addresses that in a liberal arts and science education, the education is a notion as more liberal or a certain stance in politics. How would you ensure that both stances or more than one political opinion or background of the type of education whether it's resources or represented in the system?

Esh: I have to go back to the mandate of how much my position will allow me to do in situations like this. As I mentioned earlier, diversity in the representatives in the committee as well as diversity in how much and how differently we value a liberal arts education but also I'm sure there's stereotypes, as you mentioned, of different UCs as well. So to have that diversity when we're having discussions is already quite significant. I hope that if a UC student doesn't feel represented in the academic committee, that they hold us accountable for it, because that's what we're here for essentially. I just hope that you need to get to a consensus and if you don't and you disagree with things that we decide, that you hold us accountable for it.

Mai Thai: Perfect. Thank you so much. I hope that answered everyone's questions and thank you for your speech.

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f.   Social Committee Chair

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Mai Thai: We will now move on to the final position of the social committee chair. First person we're going to have is Young Ho.

Young Ho: Hello everybody, thank you all for being here and I have heard some amazing speeches and I am already really looking forward to actually doing this, if you all vote for me of course. For me, I realized tthat I am someone that has very basic needs, just like everybody else. And one of them being a sense of community. And for me, I have already found such great community in my own study association, but I wish to expand this community. In the UCSRN, I think that as a social committee chair, I'm in a position to really effectively expand this community and allow for more integration between the different agencies, which is something I tell you a lot and was not in the motivation letter. For me, if I would become social committee chair, I would really like to implement the buddy system again. And hopefully that will not be a worldwide pandemic to stop that buddy system. Because for me, I was working with EUC and TUC for the buddy system, and we had such nice ideas and I was really bummed out that I could not work. Luckily, I was able to still be able to organize something that allows for more integration between the different UCs - the online tournament. There was such a great team and I'm so happy that I could be a part of that team and make sure we all have really nice [inaudible] for the actual tournament, which I hope will be really amazing next year. One thing that in my motivation letter stated that

would become difficult in my board year would be my possible exchange. The University of Twente has said that all in- and outgoing exchanges would be possible if also accepted by the host university and for me, this is still unsure. The exchange program for me will be in Korea and the 7 hour time difference will be with difficulties but I was wondering myself if it's worth it and if those difficulties outweigh my enthusiasm and motivation for being in the board and being able to be part of such a great community and actually being able to help make this community even more wonderful. Then, a few days before the deadline of the motivation letter, I thought to myself this inconvenience should only be an inconvenience to me. It's also just like a baker who wakes up everyday at 4 am to bake bread for the community to have bread. A GA at 7 in the evening would be a GA at 4 in the night for me in Korea, which will be extremely difficult and inconvenient. Yet, I am already so excited to have this GA at 4 am if need be. I cannot have physical contact with anybody in the first half of the year. I have done work in the activity committee and the connection committee of our study association and I feel like I'm creative enough and especially with my problem solving skills, I think I can make this a beautiful work year while still being able to get to know all the fellow board members and still be able to create that relationship, even though we cannot meet physically. Then if we can meet physically, I will be able to bring my enthusiasm if we're in person, meeting everybody. That was my speech. Thank you for listening and I'm open to any questions you guys have.

Mitchell: Thank you. I have five questions and you can pick a number.

Young Ho: I would like the first one.

Mitchell: You are very busy with academics and have an important task for both the EB and the SoCo. Which one would you prioritize and why, and how would you communicate with people involved – so both the social committee and the executive board?

Young Ho: For me, academics will be my number one priority at all times just because academics are really important. Without my academics, I wouldn't be able to do this, but I would communicate that with my fellow board members as I think communication is really important, however, I would try to make as much time possible to fulfill my task still because I feel like I've applied for this and I will know what kind of responsibility that will take and I feel like I can take up that responsibility together with my academics. Even in busy times, I wish to pursue that and think I will be able to.

Mitchell: Nice. Then, also a general board member question. So the ones left are four, five, and eight.

Young Ho: I would like four.

Mitchell: Imagine a second wave of corona will start in the Netherlands. Any events will be cancelled for a longer period of time. How will you ensure that you still fulfill the goals of creating awareness for UC students, bringing UC students together, and ensuring excellent education at all UCs?

Young Ho: So for the first thing of bringing people together – I think this past year we had the online tournament as a substitute for the actual tournament, which was cancelled because of the coronavirus and I feel that it is a great starting point for more online events, especially when third years will be abroad. Also in later years, not just this year, because more people will probably stay home, but I think these online activities for me, it was really fun to be there,

to see all the submissions, and I think that we have built a nice foundation to be able to work with that. As for the educational activities – I think that for universities, in general, to be aware that these pandemics might happen and that is a possible threat and I think everyone has woken up and tried to make the most of online education. I feel like online education has a lot to still explore and with the UCSRN board, I wish to give my ideas, my input, for example, maybe giving teachers a small video editing course so a 45 minute lecture could also be 15 minutes or maybe change it from a big, long lecture format to smaller videos just on one topic for students. I think those things are what or just ideas for now that could be made real in communication with the different university colleges and the UCSRN board.

Manuel (UCM): I just wanted to ask you about your involvement with UCSRN and how the experience that you've gained has helped you and how you think it may help you in the future? You've mentioned a few of the skills that you've gained, but could you maybe elaborate a bit on those skills?

Young Ho: In my first year, I have my first encounter with the UCSRN in the spotlight and later also in the tournament. In that year, I was only really involved in a participating role and more of an observant role for myself to see "hey what is the UCSRN?". For me after the first year, I already developed some really great enthusiasm for the UCSRN, for the events, because for me, those were the highlights of the year. So in the second year I have been part of the connection committee of our study association, which focuses on activities and integration outside of the study association. So I have helped with the communication with the spotlight and our university college made sure that all the signups were going well, then later also with the actual tournament which sadly got cancelled. For me, that was already a really good first experience with the people involved with the UCSRN. Then, with the online tournament, I got to know a lot of people and I saw how things work with different UCs, different wishes, different visions, but overall I think that's the difference in those perspectives have really helped me gain a better insight of what different UCs value and what they are good at, and also what could be interesting to do in the future. I think that those experiences have really helped me in that way – more on a social level, but also on a content level.

Manuel (UCM): Small follow up. How confident are you in chairing meetings with externals from all over the Netherlands? I know that it's quite a challenging thing and requires lots of motivation and commitment. I'm sure Mitchell knows.

Young Ho: For me, in meetings, I am most comfortable in a chairing position because I would like to have a sense of control during meetings, albeit, with people that I know, people that I've already worked with. I've also been the chair of the activity committee and the connection committee within our study association. So I already do have experience with chairing meetings and also in the semester projects, I am a chair. So for me, the chairing of a committee with representatives from all over the Netherlands is something I'm really looking forward to, rather than something I find scary so I'm feeling quite cooperative.

Manuel (UCM): One last question, sorry. You mentioned in your speech, I don't know if it was an answer to the question or speech, but you said that you would implement changes to academics in terms of the length of videos or lectures. So my question is, do you really think it's the role of the social chair to implement these changes on academics?

Young Ho: I think the responsibility lies with the academic committee chair first, yet I feel that the board is a team consisting of multiple people, all have different thoughts and opinions

and I wish to share my opinions with this person and hop that we altogether can make something really great happen, especially with online education following the first week and maybe during the second week, make sure all the universities are more prepared, but I still think it is also partially my responsibility as I would be in a board, and as a team, where we all work together to reach certain goals.

Diva (LUC): My question is, as the social committee chair, you'll have to interact with the social committee, the tournament committee and the EB. How will you remain impartial towards your interest?

Young Ho: Thanks for the question. Yes, it will be a challenge to stay impartial. I think for me I could do that by trying to focus on other people's wishes instead of my own and listen to others instead of talking. I hope that answers your questions.

Diva (LUC): Yes. Thanks.

Sara (UCG): So last year, the social committee tried out the inter-UC buddy system and due to some circumstances, it did not work out very well. Do you have any ideas on how to improve this or any other inter-UC events for the social committee?

Young Ho: Thank you for your question. So within our study association, I was somebody who was in charge of organizing this buddy activity, and for me, the final decisions on which buddy you would be with came up a little bit on the late side so I wish to have that earlier so there's more time to schedule a date. You have more time to organize any events so I think that would already really help by making this known earlier and also spreading more awareness about this buddy system. I've heard from a lot of people that they don't know about the buddy system. Then as for other events, I had heard that EUC and AUC or the Randstad UCs sometimes have these sport events or a football tournament and I think that these smaller things with less UCs would also be really beneficial to the further away UCs like Twente, Groningen, Maastricht, Roosevelt and Tilburg. So I will be looking into ways to make that possible and fun as well.

Sara (UCG): Thank you. Maybe follow up on that. Do you think it's feasible for UCs that are further away to have such a buddy system and to organize football tournaments if they are this far away?

Young Ho: I think it is feasible. I don't think it will be super easy but I definitely think it's feasible as some of the further away UCs, some of them, not all of them, so that will be a challenge in itself, are quite close to each other, for example, Groningen and Twente, the distance between them is quite doable. Then also maybe the Randstad UCs could also incorporate the UCs they are closer with. I don't think the frequency will be as high as the Randstad UCs but I think that already creating this opportunity, it's a great step in the right direction.

Sara (UCG): Thank you.

Ruben (UCM): You, of course, played a big role in organizing the UCSRN online tournament, which I will say was a lot of fun. You also mention the possibility of doing more online events so would you consider doing something along the lines of weekly or monthly game nights? I know a lot of students showed interest in that during the tournament.

Young Ho: So for one, I think that the discord server that was set up by Alexander or you as well, I'm not exactly sure anymore, it would already be transformed to create some sort of gaming hub maybe for the university college students. I think the game nights would actually be fun. They require less effort in terms of travelling so I think that game nights could be a really fun thing to do on a monthly or maybe weekly basis. Yeah, not everybody is a gamer so I think it would only be targeting one part of the community instead of everybody but I definitely think it's a great idea and it's something that I've already thought of myself as I do enjoy playing video games. I hope that's an answer.

Ruben (UCM): Yeah, perfect, that answers my question. Thank you very much.

Robin (UCT): I know, Young Ho, that you have had lots of experience with the UCSRN and some other university colleges throughout your committee work, and also some of the UCSRN work you've done over the past year. You mentioned earlier that you, most of the time thought this was a great experience, but I'm sure that there were also times when things didn't go as you would have liked them to go. I was wondering how you hope to change the UCSRN, perhaps the internal structure within the social committee or how other UCs deal with each other to prevent such frustrations from happening again?

Young Ho: Robin, thank you for your question. Yes, there were also a few lesser experiences during this committee work. It was sometimes really difficult to get in contact with other UCs to organize an event. I believe some boards were on a break which made things even more difficult as a lot of them were third years for their other projects and deadlines. So I think the very important thing to address these issues is through more careful planning of the activities, but also when will you tell the people about the buddy system. Will you tell them that just before people will go on a break or something which makes it really difficult to immediately establish any connections. Can you maybe do that before? I think in the social committee, having the academic calendars of all the different UCs would be great, also to do in collaboration with the academic committee. So I think that giving information of all the activities would already help a lot along with the lesser experiences I have but also in the online tournament, later during the tournament day, we discovered "hey there are some things that we forgot that we missed" and I think it's really important to have a more structured way of doing certain things because for me, the online tournament was really fun to organize and I think it was a great experience. I feel like the organization internally could have been a little bit more structured so we wouldn't have forgotten a few things but it maybe comes down to small organizational changes which would make a big difference. Hope that answers your question.

Robin (UCT): Thank you very much and good luck for the rest of the afternoon.

Young Ho: Thank you.

Mai Thai: Thank you so much. We will now be moving on to the next candidate. Thank you for answering the questions and your speech. I see that someone, I don't know if this was a serious comment or not, to motion for two minutes. I am trying to keep time but we are not and I'm looking to finish this in the next hour or so. If in the end you still feel like your question must be asked, we can allow that, but for the time being we'll move on to the last but not very least candidate, Alexandra. Whenever you're ready.

Alexandra: Thank you. Hello everyone, my name is Alexandra Deffner, but I usually go by Alex. I'm a German and French first year student at the University College Twente. Within

the study program, I'm building my academic profile in the direction of industrial design engineering. And in my free time, I like to be active and out and about either by playing football or going skiing, scuba diving and surfing, of course only when it is possible. A passion of mine is traveling wherever and wherever possible. And what fascinates me most about traveling is meeting new people and having discussions about various topics and different points of views. Actually during my gap year, I went to Australia and Southeast Asia. I learned a lot about myself, my capabilities and my limits. Since then, I've been wanting to keep challenging myself and to grow as an individual and learn from new experiences. Working as part of the action committee as well within our study association has led me to discover the UCSRN and treasure the university college community even further. I think that the skills acquired make me a respectable candidate for the position of the social committee chair of the UCSRN executive board. I believe myself to be open minded, honest and hardworking person who's always ready to help and support others. Due to my determination and perseverance, I've managed to often stay on track of tasks and overcome challenges on the way. Thinking creatively in solutions rather than problems is a skill that allows me to keep the bigger picture in mind and not really forget about the goals at hand. In teamwork situations, I consider myself to be a reliable team worker and not afraid to take on leadership if necessary. My positive mindset and general optimism has proven to be very motivational for my group members, also including myself, and make me an approachable and communicative person. As potentially being part of the UCSRN board, I would be interested in fostering engagement and interaction between the different UCs and within the UCSRN community. As a first-year international student, I also felt like the UCSRN was not approachable enough for the individual student. In order to build a connected and thriving community, it is important to get to know the students better that makes each UC so unique, possibly achieving this by increasing the contact between the UCs and host more small-scale inter-UC events. Additionally, I would like to suggest to share more information with the UC students regarding the UCSRN and let the individual students be a bigger part of the UCSRN itself, henceforth, this could aid in making the UCSRN more accessible for the individual student at the UCs and get more students interested in both within and with the UCSRN. Thank you.

Mitchell: Like I said to Young Ho, we have five social committee questions, but there's only four left so you can choose one of them.

Alexandra: The fourth.

Mitchell: Imagine one of your social representatives does not show up for meetings anymore and does not respond to your messages anymore. How would you handle this situation?

Alexandra: Thank you for this question, Mitchell. So I think I would start off by calling because often like talking, even if you're not able to visit this person, because the UC might be too far away, is a good start to call them because that shows just more involvement and more personal contact. So I would start by calling them and then if all contacts and efforts have not been successful, I would maybe contact other members of the board of this person's UC study association, and try and find out what is behind this lack of attendance or communication. Of course there might be a reason, there might not. I think that there is a valid reason that needs to be taken into account. So I think a step by step contacting and trying to figure out what is behind this change or what's happening right now, I think is the best way forward.

Mitchell: Okay. And for the general board member questions, there's only two left – five and

eight.

Alexandra: I'll take eight please.

Mitchell: There are some major issues between your EB and the tournament committee that made a lot of decisions that you, as a board, do not approve. Despite communicating your concerns with them multiple times, they still continue with handling things their own way. How will you handle the situation? Who will you approach and what consequence will you take?

Alexandra: The way I understand it is that at the start of the year, one of the UCs gets voted on, or it gets decided which UC gets to hold this tournament. So of course, this tournament committee is going to be more in charge of the tournament than probably the EB itself.

Although, I do believe that a tight communication between the EB and the tournament committee needs to happen, but I think by voting on this certain UC to hold the tournament and also have their own people working on it. It's important to trust them to a certain extent and give them freedom because it's going to be in their city. Most people who will be on the board will not know what exactly, of course, if they're from the UCs then yes, but if they don't know where it is, what's going to happen. They might not be able to understand it as well as possible. But in case of negotiations or uncertainties, I would just encourage meetings, encourage discussions. Communication is very important. It's important to talk about it. And often find reasons why things are happening a different way than the EB was imagining it. And then also try and find solutions for how there might be a middle ground and how people can be "okay we can agree on this and then just decide upon this". I hope this answers the question.

Mitchell: Yes, thank you very much. I think we will now go to the general questions from the others.

Alex (AUC): How will you ensure that, if you are chairing the social committee, that you get collective and equal inputs on all of the social events of the UCSRN, especially from all UC social representatives?

Alexandra: Thank you for your question, Alex. I think that's very important, especially as being the chair because of course the person as a chair can get people to talk more. I think it's also about motivating people and letting people know in advance what is going to be discussed, handing out the agenda in advance for people to prepare because some people might not be able to come with ideas on the spot. So I think that by giving people the time to prepare and also during the committee meetings, it is important to give everyone the chance to talk. So once people are over the time, or even if people seem to be contributing less, just address them directly and ask them if they have any input and just so make sure that everyone can voice your opinion, which is very important and just get their opinion heard by everyone and discuss this. I hope this answers your question

Alex (AUC): Yes it does, thank you very much.

Manuel (UCM): So we talked a lot about the buddy system. Me and Reinier are supposed to be buddies but we've had quite a difficult time in organizing buddy events. And so my question to you as potential future chair of the social committees is how would motivating people like me and other externals to pursue these buddy goals?

Alexandra: I think I would start off and also pick up the point that Young Ho mentioned is that I was also trying to help get the buddy system of UCT moving, but the thing is that the information got out for us pretty late, so we weren't able to get anything done because the semester was already starting. So I think to answer your question, I would say that it's important to mention the goals at the start, be open, be transparent, mention what should be achieved or what we would like to achieve and then build from there and also stay active, stay in contact with the people representing or in charge of the system for each UC. They can make a separate Google docs, whatsapp chat, where the person as the committee chair can then just make sure and check on people how it's going. Because often if it's not mentioned on a weekly basis or on a timely basis, people forget. I've also noticed that for myself and then maybe just reminding people and staying in contact and staying in touch would improve that. I hope that answers your question.

Manuel (UCM): Yeah, it does, but I think it also is a question of being able to motivate students. I think Mitchell has done a great job at that, but it goes further than just reminding students because I get reminders quite often, but then it's how do you motivate that person to actually do this? That's the question I have.

Alexandra: Thank you, yes, that's a very good question. I do think that some of the points like being transparent, knowing what is expected or what this buddy activity entails, because I think often if students want to participate and often if they don't know exactly what this is about or what they can do or what this will let them do or what the aim of this activity, this buddy system might not be motivated and understand, and also not see the benefits in participating or wanting to participate and bring this forward. So I do think that information and communication is very important for this. I hope this clarified it.

Manuel (UCM): Yes, thank you.

Lieke (UCT): I've been a social representative in the social committee this year and something that we notice is that sometimes it's difficult to think of a way to make sure that we communicate effectively, not just about motivation as Manuel mentioned earlier, but also just making sure that people read stuff, and messages and important notifications still get lost along the way. How would you approach it? Like how would you structure the communication with all the social representatives? Because you have the meetings, of course, but besides that you will also have to communicate and discuss things with each other sometimes. So how would you approach that?

Alexandra: Thank you for your question. I think this is a very good question and I think there's also different ways. It depends on what preferences there would be so I think even though this is often discouraged - having different channels to talk about different things. So for instance saying WhatsApp chat for the pressing and important information, and then maybe using email for different things or for longer so you kind of have like a step by step things that you can check and that, you know, and for instance, having email with more information or more important information and then WhatsApp for daily, weekly communication or just reminders. And of course it's just also depending on the representative in the social committee itself, if then this will help and will not and of course there's discussion about it, it can always be changed depending on personal experience, more ideas or different ideas. So I think there's quite a lot of options open, but I would say that different channels with a certain purpose can make this easier and also knowing where to find what information.

Lieke (UCT): Follow up question. So I don't think you have a lot of experience with chairing, is that right?

Alexandra: Yeah.

Lieke (UCT): So how are you planning to chair these meetings? Like what would your approach be?

Alexandra: Yes, that is true. As I only joined UCT last year, I've been secretary of the connection committee. When I got to the university college first, I didn't really know what everything was about and I felt slightly intimidated. So I just wanted to learn more while being in there and accepting different things and just learning. And so being secretary kind of helped me see how to structure an agenda or how to just be able to write down minutes and what should be said and what is expected. So in order to challenge myself and just learn more and also experience something else, I think I would first need some pointers on how to chair a meeting but I believe that I would do a good job. Did that help?

Lieke (UCT): Yeah, I guess it's difficult to exactly point out how you would chair a meeting but yeah.

Robin (UCT): I was wondering, because of course you have to be the chair of the social committee, but next year you will still be a UCT student, a member of our association. How do you hope to gain your understanding and stay up to date about the sort of social status quo, so to speak of the other associations?

Alexandra: I think that most of it would go with meeting, just getting to know the people first, because of course now people are just faces on the screen and we don't really know what people are like or what makes these UCs so unique, as stated before, or what makes people these people. So I think most importantly it would be to visit all the UCs. I'm not sure how feasible this is, especially during this time, but then I guess it would be about having meetings and just asking the right questions, making sure that everyone is heard, making sure that everyone participates as well and just learning while going along and getting to know the people better. And yes, I think that would be one way of doing this. Also just staying up to date because of course UCs are similar in a way, but also different and I think that there's quite a lot of points that are similar and opinions or things that are shared, but it's also important to get to know different UCs and also interesting meeting new people, getting new points of views, getting new discussion topics. So I think that would be very interesting and a very good point that that would be very important. I hope this answers your question, Robin.

Robin (UCT): Yes, it does, thank you very much and good luck.

Mai Thai: Perfect. Thank you everyone for all your questions that you've asked the candidates now. That is all for the election section of the general assembly. You have all received links from the independent body to vote for your favorite candidates that you would like to see in the next board of UCSRN 2020-2021. We will be now taking a 15-minute break and in this 15 minute break, feel free to vote during that time and grab whatever you want to get comfortable. Then we will be adding back to the general, for the second half of the agenda. I saw on the chat earlier, someone asked what was in the second half. Second half is about the policy manual changes regarding the advisory board, updates from the EB,

externals and finances, academic committee updates, social committee updates, and then I will be announcing the election results.

Break

6.   Advisory Body Policy Manual Change

[*NB: The first part of this agenda point is missing, therefore there are no minutes of the beginning*]

Mai Thai: Does anyone have anything else you'd like to ask or add or discuss?

Amy (UCG): I just wanted to say that I support the clause as it currently is because this clause does give the GA the right to suspend as an entity but then, as was being said, if an executive decision needs to be made quite fast, then the three bodies have to collaborate together – the EB, the IB, and the AB – which I think is fair enough so then through this clause, the GA does have the power to make that kind of decision, but if a quick decision needs to be made, then that's also possible.

Marik (AB): I think that's a great summary, thanks Amy.

Manuel (UCM): The thing is, my concern is whether the AB would really be willing to suspend one of their own. I understand what was mentioned if there's someone who's incompetent, but what if the Executive Board would like to get rid of someone and the General Assembly agrees with the EB and the IB, would the AB then just be able to block that because that's what I understand, but that last part, it says that and other members of the AB so my idea was just to scrap that last part.

Mitchell: Yeah but 9.5 is about being suspended and 9.4 is about being removed, so the GA has the right to remove someone and 9.5 is about being suspended so you're still actually in the AB but you don't have the right for documents, etc and at the next GA, you will be removed, only by the GA. So the AB cannot do anything about being removed by the GA but they can do something about being suspended by the EB.

Boris (AUC): This is also why I'm a bit puzzled why this motion was raised, I understand your concern. However, in the way you phrase it in the chat, also the IB is taken out of the equation, while I think it's very important that the IB takes oversight in these kinds of situations, because they can make sure that the correct proceedings are being followed as well as they can help hold the Executive Board accountable. Also in a way that it's phrased, other members of the GA, so I don't fully understand what you mean by that.

Mai Thai: Would anyone like to respond?

Manuel (UCM): I think now with the clarifications offered by Mitchell, I kind of understand 9.5 a little better and I personally would like to remove my motion.

Mai Thai: Would anyone else like to discuss anything regarding this or any questions at all? Do not hesitate to ask.

Boris (AUC): Maybe this is a weird technicality, if we're talking about clause 9.2, do we want it to be an EB member that has been in the previous board or do we want it to be just a former EB member in general? Right now, it says at least one former EB member, but that sounds like this requirement can be satisfied by any member who was in the UCSRN Executive Board three years ago.

Mai Thai: Yeah that's correct. It doesn't have to be from the year before but could be within the past UCSRN years of being at least one member who once upon a time has been in the Executive Board of the UCSRN.

Boris (AUC): Maybe we can add a clause that there needs to be a certain time limit, because I think that UCSRN is subject to a lot of change and that present experience might be more valuable than older experience.

Mai Thai: I understand that, but I think that for the time being in the upcoming years, an example would be Jonathan, who is also part of the AB, I think he's going to still be in the Advisory Board for quite some time, or at least working in close relations with the Executive Board and he helps us a lot with the website, he helps with the servers, he helps us in general with transition, which Marik and the rest of the AB this year have also done very well, but he's been quite involved in the UCSRN for quite some time so I'm just kind of explaining that if we put a time limit or a year limit, then that would exclude members such as Jonathan, who's been involved every single year and possibly the current AB would like to stay within the UCSRN and stay active, that they would be kind of not given the opportunity to and also what if, you know, we say that the time limit is two years but no one in the past two years wants to be in the AB.

Boris (AUC): I do want to say that it would not mean that he couldn't be in the AB because you can still be in the AB as another member, just not the one that is the former EB member, but I get your point so I don't think we should raise it and move on.

Mai Thai: Okay. Any other questions or remarks or comments or thoughts?

Amy (UCG): I apologize if my question comes from a place of lack of information, but I was just curious as to how this former EB members gets selected or applies? Is it the new EB that makes the decision of who to ask or is it the outgoing EB? I basically just want to know how this one former member would get chosen or selected.

Mai Thai: As you see on the screen as well, article 9.4 – on the recommendation of the EB, so the current time of the EB, the members of the AB shall be appointed and then the GA gets to vote on that. So the EB comes together during transition and a little bit after transition, they sit together and they're like okay these are the members we have interacted with during transition and these are the people we're going to interact with throughout the year, who do we want as our Advisory Board and then they get to select them on their own accord. The old EB doesn't get any say what they should or shouldn't do. They can obviously recommend it, but that's up to them to decide and then you'd bring it up to the first General Assembly of the year where it's brought to a vote.

Amy (UCG): Thanks for clarifying.

Mai Thai: Okay, would anyone like to discuss? No? Then, Preksha, could you please send out the polls for these changes of the policy manual?

Preksha: I believe that you should be able to see it now, although technically candidates can also vote since they are attendees but if you're a candidate please do not vote. I don't think there are any proxies for this, but I have a proxy vote poll anyway, I don't know if you can see it all together but yeah.

Mai Thai: If you're sharing a screen with other people and you've already agreed with your UC regarding voting who gets how many votes, you can add the additional board members or delegates vote onto the proxy poll.

Preksha: So with 17 votes for, 2 votes against, and 10 votes abstaining, this motion passes.

Mai Thai: Yep, thank you very much. If the IB could note down the results, that would be greatly appreciated. Thank you so much. We're going to move onto the next slide now, onto the exciting parts of the General Assembly – the updates.

7. Updates

a. Board Update

Mai Thai: I'm going to give a little bit of a generic update about the board and how we've been doing in the past few months since the previous GA and then I'll give you an end of the year reflection that we've made in the beginning of the year, what we've achieved. So starting off with how COVID-19 affected the semester. Well, obviously, very unfortunate, but the UCSRN tournament got cancelled along with a couple University College events that we were sponsoring or aiding with financially, which is unfortunate, such as a few MUN events, we were going to do the buddy system events this time around. We were also going to come visit some University Colleges. We were planning on doing a paintballing session with EUC and UCU and go down the canals with AUC, which we're very upset about but we're hoping that the regulations in May 2021 will be lifted so the least that can occur next year will be the tournament because we know how hard people worked for the event and we're very upset that it couldn't have happened this year. I don't know if many have been updated through their social committee representatives but there were spotlight cleaning costs and a couple of incidents that had occurred. To first address the incidents, there were a couple of occurrences that happened during Spotlight and at the after party, which we found to be unrepresentative of what it means to be a University College student or a member of the UCSRN. We were very upset by the news of what we heard and deeply apologetic towards LUC and hope that this doesn't happen again. I do hope to ask all University Colleges and all members that when you attend a University College event that is not at your home university, to treat the other university with respect and make this clear to your students. Unfortunately, that was not something that happened, one of the incidents which was an accident, was a student was not doing well after having attended the event and had actually ruined one of the carpets of the venue and that concluded in a huge cleaning cost and it was a total of around 400 euros, which will be explained later, I think Felipe will get into it. Originally, we were not going to pay for these costs because UCSRN is technically not liable for any additional costs for third party liabilities. However, seeing as what had happened at the Spotlight event and to our students at LUC, we were very upset and we felt that this is something we want to contribute to and help with. Unfortunately though, this is not something that the UCSRN can do because this was a huge cut in the UCSRN budget this

year, obviously there is something in that regard because of COVID-19, but what we're going to do for the next year and with the new board is we're going to create a contract system where from here on out, if UCSRN events or if there is a UCSRN event that we are leasing our name to or if there's a University College that we are sponsoring a certain amount of money for their events, to sign a contract and this increases professionality, but in addition to that, we will be able to specific expectations of both parties and what will and will not be done by the end. In addition to that, we will update the policy manual to become more clear and strict into what the article would say. There is an article in the Policy Manual that states that the UCSRN board isn't necessarily liable for these third-party liabilities, however, it is loosely termed and can be interpreted in many ways. Lastly, what we want to update in general part of the Executive Board is the absence of our secretary Nia Alexieva. Some of you may or may not know, we've brushed upon this topic within our email that we sent you, not only for this GA but prior to that is that, Nia has not been available on the board for the past couple months, I would say since mid-March. It has been very upsetting for the Executive Board but obviously we respect her decision and are unable to ask her for anything else but thank her for her hard work that she has given us for the past half year. However, we found it important to mention this during the General Assembly, because, due to her absence, there has been a lot that the Executive Board has to catch up with and there are additional things that the UCSRN Executive Board has to prepare for the next year, such as transitioning, we have still a lot to do in that regard, because of her absence. There were many projects that were led by her, which unfortunately now will either not happen or will have to be taken upon by us or have been taken upon by us. Therefore, we found it important to share news with you because we felt that there have been many moments this year where we have not communicated clear enough or have not been functional enough with our documents sending and also being very clear in regards to what we mean or what we're trying to say and therefore we wanted to be completely fair and honest and say that, unfortunately, because of this, the board has not been up to par as to the standard that we would like to be, but hoped to still work our best to still come out with a result that everyone would be satisfied with at the end of the year. That is all I have to share regarding these general updates from the board. If anyone has any questions, please let me know, otherwise I will move on to the next part.

Boris (AUC): First of all, thank you for these updates, I think they're very insightful, so thank you for that. I have two questions – both can be questioned in relevance. Firstly about the Spotlight incidents and cleaning costs. I want to sympathize with you because I know it's a very hard situation but has there been an attempt to hold specific members accountable for their behavior also in damages or is that not a policy that the UCSRN wants to enforce?

Mai Thai: It isn't necessarily a policy that is currently stated anywhere, however, we were trying to look for the student that wasn't feeling well but also in other cases, other incidents that happened at the University College, we also tried to chase down who it is. We have narrowed down in specific to one case, which University College was a guest to LUC, which have misbehaved but we are still in contact and waiting for responses from both sides to hear how to proceed so the case isn't completely closed yet. We are still waiting for the student to respond to our emails. Regarding the cleaning costs, we tried to find who it was but we couldn't find anyone in the end.

Boris (AUC): Thank you for your answer. Then the second question, so I understand how hard it is that one of your board members may decide to withdraw, also giving the tough situation with COVID. Is there anything in the statutes or policy manual that sort of organizes a way to find a replacement, even if its temporary? Is that something that maybe we should

look into?

Mai Thai: In technicality, it is stated in the Policy Manual that the moment someone officially drops out, we have, I believe, six to eight weeks to set up a new GA to vote for a new member or a previous EB member may take role but as much as we wanted to do that, the first month, I think that the absence kind of was gradual. So in the beginning, it was only sometimes that she would be there and then we were in contact with her and that she still had the intention of joining again or to be more involved with the UCSRN after having left, but within the last month, it has proven that it was impossible for her to join and therefore we had only a month left to figure something out. Instead of that, we have just asked our AB and the people around us to help us a little bit with some of the work that we have, but we didn't see the benefit of finding someone for only four weeks, or well, excluding June.

Boris (AUC): Totally understandable, thank you.

Mai Thai: No worries, any other questions?

Amy (UCG): A suggestion more than a question. I think you may want to add to the policy manual, and I'm not suggesting it as a motion so we don't have to deal with this now, but maybe for the next GA, maybe it's a change in the policy manual that if someone does drop out that the EB can make an executive decision to divide the tasks between the board, if they see it fit as you guys did. I think it just might be helpful for you to have that in the policy manual to support your decision.

Mai Thai: I completely understand and thank you for that. If this is something that the General Assembly wants as well then we can obviously do that for the next time. However, I think that such decisions don't have to be bound to the policy manual because I think that in the policy manual, either way, it says that the EB members have to work to the full extent for the best of other University Colleges, which implies that is someone does have to drop out, you would still do your best in order to create a good end result. But if this is something that is of interest to other people as well, we can add this into the transition and have the new board consider how they want to formulate this and add it to the policy manual. Then we're going to move on to the end of the year reflection and update. In the beginning of the year, we presented five main goals of things that we wanted to achieve – number 1) being improving the internal structure within the UCSRN, 2) increase inter-UC events, 3) maintains and increase partnerships and sponsorships, 4) expand UC and committee databases, and 5) continuation of professionalization. If you can go to the next slide, I will expand on our first goal. Over the year, we've created and completed the following. We have made the UCSRN travel reimbursement system, which is now what we believe to be more fair and more just across University Colleges from different distances. We've established a little travel option booklet where you can see the different travel options, how the discounts work, where can you buy tickets in order to make sure that people are using the cheapest travel option possible. With the advisory board, we did some restructuring and improving relations with the board and this year, we have been able to create a relationship that has not only been beneficial to the EB organization but also personally to become better board members. In the beginning of the year, we created a code of conduct for the board, basically a list of things on how we communicate with one another and our expectations of one another and this is something we want to continue with the next board as well and hope to integrate that within not only the board book, but also in the transition weekend, which we did this year as well and hopefully, we'll do it next year as well if COVID allows. With that being said, our transition again, I think was one of the most successful things that we've done this year and

in regard to understanding the flaws and the positive things and the beauty of the UCSRN and seeing where the strong points and negative points are, and a lot of reflecting that did happen. We took a lot of time to learn and bond. We have also created a social media regulations form. This is specifically for Tournament and Spotlight and also for ourselves as the Executive Board of the UCSRN – what we should and shouldn't post and what kind of language we use, etc. We found this to be super important because as an EB at the end of the day, you get transitioned and you kind of know what you want UCSRN's name to sound like and what you want to present to students. Of course, you want to give also a lot of flexibility to the students that organize UCSRN events because that's what we want. We want to see creativity, we want to hear the voices, and therefore, we wanted to just set some kind of outline of what can or can't be done and then allow people to have fun within that range. Next, something that we kind of mentioned in the email, I believe, was that we're going to open up a GA feedback platform. So we want to do this in a form version where people can give us feedback on the GAs, do you feel like your voice is heard, do you feel like things are addressed enough or not. This is something we wanted to do in the very beginning of the year as well after our first General Assembly after we heard your voices regarding the coalition Y signature. However, after some time, that was lost with the to-dos and it was never discussed again and then after the February 29th GA, we thought back again and wanted to implement this so this is something that we've been working on and hope to have this done for the year. It's practically done but there's still some edits and changes we have to make and we hope that this is something that everyone can fill in so that we can learn and that we can register these opinions. Lastly, kind of already mentioned earlier, about the board book. We're working really hard on improving each year's board books. So there were board books in the past but they haven't really been extensive nor as helpful as we would like it to be, so we've been working hard on doing that and making sure that there's something that can be reused every year, rather than each board having to make a new book. The transition book is something that kind of goes along with the board book that we wanted to have information that the next board can use for their transition. Before I move on to the next slide, I want to ask if everyone has voted for the candidates. I hear from the IB that there are still eight links that have not been used so I don't know if those people want to vote or not but just a warning that the time is coming close and that we're going to close the vote soon. If you think that it might be your sister boards then contact them so that we can close the voting. Moving on to the next slide, I will discuss the increase of inter-UC events and promotion. We've increased our Instagram presence a little bit more. We've gained followers as well as our Facebook. However, we feel that we have gained better momentum and kind of rhythm of doing so, although we haven't posted an extreme amount. We are happy with the content that we have posted this year as they were meaningful and have done better than most Instagram posts in the past. Constitutional drinks was one of our events that we really enjoyed over the year. We still talk about it a lot in the Eb because of how fun it was to not only get to hangout one a 1-on-1 level with everyone, but to see all the UCs be able to bond and interact and laugh, not only at our CoBo but also at the other CoBos where we got to see others, we really enjoyed that. We planned YouTube videos, we are currently working on one video regarding what is the UCSRN that we really want to post because that last time we had a video, it was when Joris Schie was still chair and that was a couple years ago so we want to update that and we're going to hopefully have that done by the end of the UCSRN board year as well. We've created the inter-UC Facebook group for students. Many of you are already in the group as I saw but we created this group because we wanted there to be a way to contact your sister UCs and also just being able to share and have something in common with other people because something that we discussed was that we know we have something in common but we never get to engage in that dialogue, especially now more than ever with COVID-19,

that's more difficult because these events aren't happening as much, so we're really glad that we've included that and we've specified during our meetings that it doesn't have to be anything formal and that at the end of the day, this could be just a social media platform where people can just share any posts, such as memes or photos or general information about their respective boards. We're hoping to still formalize the inter-UC acquisitions platform. It's going a bit slow, but we hope to do this with the new EB as well. There were a lot of discussions over the year about this happening, and we have different members from the University Colleges that were quite enthusiastic. However, it died down at some point, in regard to a lot of people being busy and some University Colleges were less adamant about joining than others and therefore we weren't able to continue to tie the knot. However, hearing the amount of times the new candidates have mentioned acquisitions, I'm sure that it will be something that they would love to work on. Next up, the Herring, with the self-initiative fund this year, thankfully, we have been able to support students from AUC. They are an independent student newspaper and they asked for funding and we believe that it was not only a fun initiative but also were a good cause to support as they were independent and they wanted to connect the different UCs more and they will be writing 3 to 4 articles a year about the UCSRN. One has already been published so you can check that out.

Felipe: Just about the Herring, I would just like to emphasize that our sponsorship with the Herring is completely not censored, just to be able to give them both the platform […]. So we're reading what they're saying but we're not by any means controlling what they're saying and yeah, that's just something to emphasize.

Mai Thai: Yeah, thank you so much. Moving on, Maxim will go over this in a bit as well, though we were planning on this year, we were hoping for inter-UC events of career opportunities with Integrand which unfortunately won't happen this year, but we will continue to do so next year. And then as mentioned a couple times throughout this Assembly so far, is the buddy system and associations assembly which I will not go in depth so that Mitchell can have the opportunity to elaborate on those. So moving on to the next slide, this is obviously more in relation to external so I won't cover too much on the actual topics and what not but we have Coalition Y, we've been in discussion with LSVb, working with Integrand and ECOLAS, which is a European wide Liberal Arts and Sciences organization. We've shifted our goal on how we've been working with ECOLAS due to certain extremities that Maxim will also go into. Moving onto the next slide, the fourth one is expand UC and committee databases. Obviously, Preksha and Mitchell, the academic committee and social committee chairs will go in depth on this, but in essence, what I want to share is that they are both complete and we're very happy with the outcome. Lastly, on continuation of professionalization, we've used part of the budget to create suits this year as well as money from our own pockets too. They've been of great benefit and we have also used them very frequently, which we're very happy with, especially for example, the ISO meetings, which I attended and those ISO meetings have improved our relations with ISO partners but also with other organizations and other associations across the Netherlands that we were in contact with. That is also how we came into contact with Integrand and that's how we came in contact with many student associations such as in the medical faculty, sports faculty, and so forth. There's also a new organization that has joined the ISO Covenant partner meeting, which we were originally in contact with in the beginning of the year but we'll see how our relations improve over the next year, which is the Dutch Honors Society but that will be rather more for next year. Something that Maxim will also go over is that we have been working on an EU wide UCSRN. We've also established many projects for the next year's board to get the ball rolling over the summer already. So then we have that over our summer that we're trying to provide for this board that we had to have at ours was that we had a slow

momentum in finding the things that we wanted to pursue and what our goals were and with this, we hope that the new board will be able to jump start on exciting projects in the beginning already and keep the enthusiasm for the year. As many of you may or may not have seen, we changed up the website significantly and for those who have already seen the website and contacted us and complimented us on the website, thank you so much and we really appreciate it. We've heard that it is so much more easier to navigate now and it's much more pleasing to the eyes. Lastly, Maxim will also explain more, is the loan system survey. We'll be presenting his analysis in an upcoming article. Before I give the floor to Maxim, Kamiel from the IB has stated that the voting will close within 10 minutes from now for the elections so if you would like to vote or if your UC would still like to cast your vote or talk to your sister boards and ask them if they have voted or not. That being said, Maxim, go for it.

b. External Update

Maxim: The first thing I want to talk about is Integrand, as Mai Thai already mentioned. We planned on organizing some events on job opportunities and internships. This was also mentioned in the previous GA slides. We have been in contact with Integrand, asking whether they are still available for organizing these events and they have been very enthusiastic and so were we, so what we have decided on now is that we will allocate these events to next year and of course we'll make sure that this has transitioned nicely with the new external so that they can take on this fun and exciting project because I think it's a great opportunity for UC students to work on their future so that will be something for the next year. Moving now, so we have also been in contact with ECOLAS which is basically a European organization on Liberal Arts and Science education. We have discussed a little bit on in what ways we can collaborate and be of mutual help to each other. What we have come up with so far is that ECOLAS is very eager to establish some kind of European network between students and then student representatives, in particular. That would be nice to expand our network but also to get some novel insights from other people in Europe and broaden our horizon basically. However, we did do some research on that but the UCSRN seems to be unique in its form in Europe so other countries do not seem to have a national Liberal Arts and Sciences student body so this is a process that will take some more time. Anyway, ECOLAS has expressed that they are very keen on helping us in that regard and that they might also be able to provide some financial means which is quite exciting, especially for the new external, I think that this would be an amazing task to take on. Something else, Preksha will also share a bit about this but we have been in contact with potential new members for the UCSRN, two University Colleges specifically – University College Fryslan and University College Venlo. Preksha might want to tell us a bit more about UCF.

Preksha: I've been in contact with UCF, specifically the student assessor and we've basically just been having a conversation about what the UCSRN is and what opportunities does it provide to UCF and why they should join. The student assessor also joined part of the Academic Committee meeting, just to get an idea of what the UCSRN is like and specifically what the Academic Committee meetings are like and what kinds of things are discussed. The student assessor also got to hear a bit more from the AC representatives about their experience so it's a bit less biased and I would be a bit more biased as a member of the Executive Board. We also shared resources such as the UC database with them so they could get to learn a bit more about the different UCs and just kind of understand how the UCs work in general. I think we've made quite some progress with them and it looks quite

good if I can say so.

Amy (UCG): Just wanted to add that we've also been in contact with UCF and they have updated us that they are establishing a study association hopefully starting from September so I think once they have that up and running, they will be able to join the UCSRN.

Maxim: I have been trying to get into contact with University College Venlo and unfortunately, communication has not been going as smoothly as we hoped but finally we have been able to get in touch with them but because of the communication, we have not been able to make many advances which is unfortunate, but we will do our best to see whether they are interested in joining the UCSRN and we will continue the process next year. Any questions up until now? Then I'll move on. Something else is Uni-Life which is also quite exciting. For those of you who attended the last GA, Joep, the owner of Uni-Life, was there and he told us a bit about the app. For those who are unfamiliar, it's basically an app where we can post events and share it with people from other UCs, so it's really aimed at increasing inter-UC connections, which is great and one of the goals of the UCSRN. Just a little background information, they also struggled because of the crisis, since they are an app that's very reliant on events. However, some of you might have seen Uni-Live. It was a kind of web page where people could organize online events, for example, they did an online wine tasting. I know that, for example, Erasmus University has been very active on there, which was great to see. But for us, we have sat together with Joep and we chatted a bit about the problems they encountered so far, in what ways we can provide meaningful help and the kind of plan we have so far is that UCSRN will kind of be a coordinator. Something that you experienced was that University Colleges are often times very eager to start using the app but then, once there has to be some practical steps, things don't go so smoothly. In that way, we can help because we can, for example, nudge UCs a little bit to provide some information or if there is information that we can provide that Joep needs, then we can do that and release some pressure from the UCs, so this is quite nice. We are also staying with the idea of moving to a structural partnership in the future, which could mean, for example, Uni-Life could sponsor us for some events, for example, but these are all quite hypothetical at the moment, but it still provides us with a nice perspective. This could actually be a very fruitful collaboration, which is quite exciting. Lastly, as Mai Thai mentioned, earlier in the year, we conducted a survey on loans and finances. One of the reasons for this was that some years ago, the Dutch governments changed the loan system for students, and it was quite impactful. We wanted to see how University College students, in particular, are coping with that. All the data has been recorded and we have quite a lot of participants and almost every UC, other than one, is represented. Currently, I'm working on an article and making an infographic of all the data to see what the most interesting findings are and that will be published by the end of June. So yeah, that's it for me. Any questions?

Renzo (UCT): My question is in regard to Uni-Life, I missed discussions about this in the previous GA. However, I am questioning the added benefit of using Uni-Life for UCSRN. We've discussed using it amongst ourselves with Atlantis as well a few times and currently we are using our website and WhatsApp messages as the channels to communicate to our members and we don't see the benefit […] in our case, resulted in more chaos and worse communication. What is the reason why the Executive Board is so enthusiastic about using Uni-Life in UCSRN?

Maxim: It's a shame you weren't there for Joep's presentation because I think he made quite a compelling case but I can summarize basically what we think is so important about the app or so nice. Well, first of all, it's a new app and they have worked already with some

University Colleges and they are just quite excited to work with our demographic basically. So they have expressed that they were willing to kind of customize the app more or less to our needs. What that, for example, could mean is they have the option where you can kind of specify your topics of interest and based on that, you will be presented with some of these things. Besides, we also thought it might be a more clear way of promoting events than other platforms. That way, we also hope to increase inter-UC connectivity. On a more practical note, there wouldn't be any costs involved for us, which is obviously also a great asset. So yeah, those are some of the reasons why we were enthusiastic about this partnership.

Renzo (UCT): That's quite a clear reason. I actually have two follow up questions unless this has already been discussed. First, I want to mention that new, in my opinion, is not always better and freedom doesn't always mean it's good. You're mentioning it to use it for promotions of your events, however, the events are usually like once a month or once every two months. The way I see it, for us, it would basically mean that we would have our members download an application to get a notification of a GA once every few months, unless it would also be an idea to promote general events at other associations to all the UC students so they could join. Maybe just a thing that could be thought about how effective it could be.

Maxim: Good question and I think you kind of answered it yourself already. Perhaps I haven't said that very clearly but the main purpose was not, for example, very formal board related events such as GAs, but mainly for the fun social events and also, if individual University Colleges have a fun event that students from other UCs could also join, then Uni-Life would be a suitable platform to share that and for other students to see where they can go and where they can meet new people, stuff like that. I think that's also what you kind of suggested in your second part of your statement.

Renzo (UCT): Thank you for your answer and clarification.

Maxim: Then we will move on to finances.

c. Financial Update

Mai Thai: Before Felipe starts, I'd just like to state that the voting has been closed and that the election results will be announced at the end of this General Assembly. So Felipe, go ahead and take the wheel.

Felipe: Thank you all for sticking around this long. I know it's been a long one as GAs always seem to be. I've got a few things to say for a start. Firstly, depending on whether or not you have read the May update, you'll have a better impression of what I'm talking about but at the past GA, it was suggested that the UCSRN modifies their budget in order to be more specific in terms of costs so breaking up things in specific […], i.e., we spend money on business cards for representation, so instead of putting business cards under representation, and not really mentioning it as part of the budget from when I presented, there would be a separate budget term under representation, just for clarity. We did agree with this but unfortunately it […]. I apologize about that and it is something that I will be focusing on with the next treasurer so that is something to keep in mind and that is why the budget looks more or less the same as compared to when you last saw it. Second thing, this is an update, we're not voting on anything unless of course, you raise a motion or have any questions to ask. There are a few key decisions that I'm going to talk about and these decisions have all

been either through email or through the financial updates […]. I'm just going to summarize what we did […]. If you want more detail, […]. I think that discussing the numbers now digitally will be very time-consuming and I guess a little inconvenient maybe. So because of COVID, we had a few reallocations that […] just as our priorities change or are forced to change. The first one is unforeseen costs. Now I am aware that we can easily […] the unforeseen costs but since we had the capability of doing this and for ease of understanding of the overall reserves, we found that it would make sense, in accordance with the IB. The changes are summarized as you'll see in the next slide. We essentially moved money around where we seemed to be good so there won't be any travelling done for the foreseeable future, so we took most of them down there, and that is to make up for the Spotlight costs. Now we know that we're still in discussion to find out who did it and see if we can get some sort of compensation, but unfortunately this has to be sorted out now while it's still fresh with Fortuna and then it can rectified as soon as we find the responsible party. Moving onto the second point, we moved 100 euros from the GA to the website, obviously since this last GA isn't physical. We did invest money in upgrading the website, as you have seen or not as we noted. Part of that was to actually compensate an AB member that devoted a lot of his time to helping us and you can see the fruits of his labor on the website. Moving on to the third one, the tournament cost, just as a general note that I'm just summarizing the big changes, so the tournament went down by 2000 just because it was clear that there were no additional costs. Out of the 4000 euros, 600 was spent which is why it went down and most of those are things that would be used next year, most likely and in general, were small things that the UCT Tournament Committee had to spend in order to get the tournament going. From the 3000 euros, we moved 180 euros to the online tournament, […], but that was the initial measure so that's how much we moved but it is good to note that the online tournament committee found such a cheap alternative in order to still make the tournament run smoothly and in a fashion that everyone can enjoy. So now moving onto to the […] decisions, I'll see if I can summarize this in a precise way, the Spotlight decision, because of its controversiality in terms of not having really made clear that we aren't liable because our name is being used and then also not making clear of our expectations in terms of finances, we're forced to make tough decisions. So our rationale was that we decided to use the unforeseen cost budget of the final Spotlight budget and then essentially created out of how much they spent after separating the previous amount they spent on some costs and calculating it that way and then us, making up the difference from what they would have spent or could have spent based on 10% of what they ended up spending. Hopefully that makes sense, you can ask again for me to clarify it. That was appropriately dealt with for the time being and we haven't spent that money […]. Now the discount on next year's membership fee, when we initially made this decision, we did it with the intention of benefitting boards that were struggling that had incurred losses based on events that were almost completely planned and then just like that were cancelled. So we plan on giving, if you don't know already, a 25% discount off of the annual 1000 euro contribution fee for the next year. That will be implemented in accordance with the next treasurer as a strong suggestion. We can't make the decision for ourselves but we can strongly suggest and the way this balanced out with our finances for the upcoming years is that assuming we aim to spend more or less this year, we will be left with a little bit more […]. So just to give future boards an equal opportunity, to overspend […]. Moving onto the truly nitty gritty now, if you go to the next slide. So there aren't that many notable changes. Bank costs are pretty standard, just maintenance costs. There has been a very big increase in our promotional budget, which […]. But that money was spent on Facebook promotion as we trialed it. Our impression was that it worked to a good extent. We also find ourselves a little restricted in terms of how we can target University Colleges, because I believe certain University Colleges and their associations have turned off availability to be targeted by advertisements,

at least in theory, because when you try to look for them and try to target students that go to the University Colleges, nothing pops up so it's unavailable, which is fair enough. Ads are annoying but I guess these ads are a little different […] and that was just contacting or linking ads to people who are friends with us and their friends, which is a little broad but we do feel as if it was still effective. So external representation and representation, reimbursements […]. General Assembly expenditure has gone up a little bit because of the Zoom Pro upgrade. […] nothing unfortunately, EB transport also nothing. So the next point of interest is of course the self-initiative fund. There was an agreement with the Herring that we will give the entirety of the self-initiative fund to, and they have not requested reimbursement and I know that this may be a bit unconventional of waiting until final request to get the money and then I put it into the budget instead of assuming it'll be there because things happen and I like to be sure that it's really going to be a set thing before putting it in the budget. Now the tournament, you'll see that there is a 10 cent discrepancy. It's a really small error, clarified in the updates. It was a small calculation error by the UCT Tournament Committee which has since been cleared. Spotlight costs, the unforeseen costs for Spotlight haven't been added separately because we feel as if they fit more into the former category than the latter. The online tournament, as I mentioned before, creative solutions were found to the benefit of the UCSRN for sure and to the benefit of the online tournament and […]. So that's that, any questions?

Mai Thai: Perfect, then Preksha will be giving Academic Committee updates now.

8. Academic Committee Update

Preksha: So I'm just going to go over the goals first that we set out at the beginning of the year and just give updates accordingly. So the first goal was to use the platform to exchange best practices. From the time of last GA's update until now, we've mostly just been talking about COVID-19 and how different UCs have been responding, so things like switching to online studying, housing, what next semester is going to look like, and things like these to kind of share best practices and how we can help each other or give each other better ideas in how we should respond. So that's kind of been the main focus of the Academic Committee for the past couple months. From the last GA update, there weren't that many round table discussions conducted so this has mostly just been about COVID-19 responses. Second goal was expanding the UC Database extensively. From the last GA, we have officially published our first version of the UC Database and it's up on the website I believe. It's basically kind of like our first version of what was started last year, and we made a couple edits and just updated information and wrote stuff out. Now we're going to review it one more time to check what needs to be updated if there's anything that needs to be updated and also to add a couple more things, especially regarding how UCs responded to the coronavirus situation because we think that would be a very good set of information. We're going to try to publish a second version by the end of June and that is because we didn't think that we would have enough time to work on it now and we want it to be realistic so that's why we said end of June, instead of before the GA. Our third goal was to increase involvement of UCs that are relatively further away. Clearly, we weren't very successful in this goal, mostly because of the current crisis and how that cancelled all the events that we were going to support and also organize, which also ties in with the fourth goal. One of the main events that we wanted to organize and also help achieve this goal was to organize a focus group, which was going to be about 'Life after UC'. We were basically planning to have different round table discussions about it and just kind of seeing how we can improve the information that's given by different UCs in terms of graduate futures and master's programs.

So the fourth goal was to evaluate budget proposals for academic events and providing support. That was also not possible because the events that we were going to sponsor were all going to be after the last GA and all of them got cancelled so we didn't really have to spend any money on it necessarily. However, for the sake of clarity, the events that we were going to sponsor and support was AUCMUN where we had allocated a total of 300 euros – 150 of it would be for the organizing team and another 150 euros of it would be for reimbursing students outside of the organizing UC and partially reimbursing their tickets for the MUN itself. We were also going to sponsor TEDxAUCollege and we had allocated 250 euros for the organizing team. They had originally asked for 500 euros but we did not think it was reasonable. So we discussed it within the committee and concluded that 250 euros would be more appropriate. Next, we received a proposal by UCT for TweMUN, asking for 500 euros of sponsorship. However, after discussion we decided not to sponsor them at all for a couple of reasons. First of all, it was half of the total Academic Committee budget, which didn't seem reasonable to spend on one event. They also sent in their proposal fairly late so by the tieme we had reached a decision, there were only two weeks left to the event, which wouldn't have been enough time for promoting the event and ensuring that UC students outside of the organizing UC would be able to participate in it. We also thought that since we were already sponsoring AUCMUN, it might not be the best idea to sponsor another MUN on top of it. Lastly, we received a proposal by Springboard, which is like a career event organized by students at AUC. They asked for 300 euros in their renewed proposal after initially asking for 500 euros. We decided to reject both of the proposals because, first of all, their budget showed that they were making a profit, which would have returned to the association and not been kept for the future events. So in a way, this sponsorship would basically indirectly subsidize their membership fee. It did not really require UCSRN's sponsorship for the event to take place. Other than that, there were also a few other minor reasons regarding sustainability and importance of a few of their items that they were spending money on and for those reasons, we decided not to sponsor them. So we would have spent 550 euros from the original budget of 1000 euros and another 200 euros from that original budget would be spent on the focus group. However, none of that was spent and it's a bit of a shame because it would have been quite nice to see that money be used, especially after seeing that, during the last GA, a lot of you had advocated for more money. For next year, I would strongly recommend for the AC to promote events or to promote the Academic Committee fund in the fall semester already to ensure events in the fall semester as well and not just in the spring semester to prevent putting everything kind of altogether, and in general, just also promoting the budget because we've been receiving the same budget proposals and it would be nice to see some kind of diversity or some sort of different ideas in that as well. Other than that, in general, I think we had a fairly successful year with the other goals, especially and mostly in terms of being able to use the Academic Committee as a platform for discussion and as a platform for growth. We also had a reflection form that was sent out to the different Academic Committee representatives, which was mostly for me as a Chair, to improve the way I moderate the discussions and generally improving how the Academic Committee works. We also has two new members halfway through the year but we did not really get to meet them in real life, which is a shame. It would have been really nice to also go through with our board bonding, which also did not take place, but that's also something I would recommend for the next year's AC is to do the board bonding earlier in the year to avoid this mistake. So that was all the Academic Committee updates. Is there any other questions?

Mai Thai: Seeing as there are none, I think we should move on. Mitchell, please come give the SC updates.

9. Social Committee Update

Mitchell: Thank you for staying with us still for the final updates before results are being revealed. In this final Social Committee Update, I would like to give you an idea of what the Social Committee and I, as Social Committee Chair, have been working on during this past year. It was a year with a lot of creativity, motivation, and great projects. However, due to the COVID outbreak, a lot of those originally planned projects did not go through, however, as Social Committee, we are now busy with documenting all our ideas so hopefully the next Social Committee can work on them and bring all UC students together. Before I start, however, I would really like to thank all the Social Committee representatives, present and not present, for their amazing involvement during the year inside and outside of the meetings, and for their willingness to bring amazing events to all of their UC students. I would also like to thank all the SA boards, for discussing important issues and topics, enforcing their opinions over the year/ Lastly, I'd like to thank the Spotlight team, Tournament Committee, and the Online Tournament Team for the great work and fantastic efforts in making these events as great as they were, although we will notice this for the Tournament only next year of course. First of all, I would like to address the goals. Over the year, the Social Committee has done a very great job, in my opinion, in reaching goals that have been created at the start of the year. By setting up small scale events, improving the structure, and creating more awareness for the UCSRN, we try to bring more UC students together than before and convey to them what the UCSRN does and how it benefits them. The COVID outbreak caused a lot of our projects, like I said, to come to an instant halt, but we did a great job in creating a nice framework and more structure and we hope that the work benefits students in the years to come. So the first goal is to update the committee database and create a better structure. As you might've seen on the website, a new committee database has been uploaded that is more generic in our opinion and we hope that amazing events will come out of this. Additionally, we worked on the Social Committee archive, which is an archive for the Social Committee in which you can view all the previous drives of the Social Committee so no information will go to waste. Currently we're also working on bringing back the Social Committee transition book, which has been lost from two year ago. It has not been given to Mai Thai when she became Social Committee Chair, nor to me when I become Social Committee Chair because it was somewhere in one of the previous drives. Now we're updating it and adding a list with all the discussions that we had this year, including which minutes you can find them in so that in next years, you can exactly see what has been discussed and you don't have to reinvent the wheel every year. I'm very happy with the amount of structure we've created, and I think this goal has been reached pretty well. Then the second goal was to create a travel reimbursement system that is fair to all UCs. Like Felipe already mentioned in like the past GAs and we have already mentioned in past GAs, a new travel reimbursement system came and although the Social Committee did not make the reimbursement options, we actually gave a lot of feedback which I really appreciate. Additionally, another document was made with all the travel options for the cheapest travels with ways to get from A to B. This goal has therefore been reached and with great success. Third goal is to stimulate organizational events at smaller and further away UCs and get them to be more involved. So this was one of the points I actually mentioned in my speech when I was a candidate last year, that I wanted to get smaller and further away UCs more involved with the UCSRN. One of the things that we wanted to implement this year was the buddy events but we came up with them quite late and due to COVID outbreak, we could not organize it anymore, however, we worked on the structure and we worked on the ideas and we will definitely document that so that next year, you can already start organizing them at the start of the year, which I hope the next Social Committee

Chair will also pursue. Another thing that we wanted to do was the YouTube channel. We talked about it a lot in the Social Committee meetings, but in the end, we did not go through with it. We are working on an animation video right now as the EB, and I hope the next Social Committee can work on actually making more videos and creating more awareness for the UCSRN. I believe that the UCSRN body and UC associations have done a great job in stimulating the organization of events that involve smaller and further UCs and even though there's still a lot of progress to be made, the fact that already three people from UCT signed up as candidates for board members shows that, with the right promotion, UC students can really become interested and invested in the UCSRN. I hope that when this lockdown is over, we can continue the great efforts where we left them as associations and create an amazing network for even the smallest and furthest UCs. The last goal is to improve the bond between UC students and the boards. One of the things that we also wanted to implement to reach this goal was the buddy events. However, like I said, they could not go through, but we still believe that by organizing these, you will create a closer bond between two UCs or multiple UCs and we will definitely advise the next EB and the next Social Committee to pursue this. This year, we managed to organize the online tournament, thanks to some amazing UC people who were not even in the Social Committee or the EB. Eventually, a lot of people from the Social Committee also helped. I think, overall, it was a great way for students to bond via online platforms. We will collect positive feedback, but also constructive feedback and we will try to make it even better next year, if it still continues, or maybe if it gets merged with the actual tournament. Another thing that we worked on was actually an idea from AUC, which was the Associations Assembly. We tried to organize this in March, however, due to the lack of availability and the COVID outbreak, we decided that the Social Committee should organize it somewhere at the start of the next academic year so the UC boards can already get to know each other, including the UCSRN EB and you can already learn quite some valuable lessons at the start of the year by following workshops of, for example, AIESEC or LSVb. Even though I think overall this goal has not been reached completely because only two events were actually organized for students and the CoBo for the UC associations, we still managed to create a good framework for events to be organized next year and I hope that our efforts will not go to waste and make sure that UC students are interacting in the coming years. Then going on to three of the main events this year. First of all, Spotlight – like already mentioned, there were some incidents after the event happened, but I think overall the event was just great. Thank you for organizing it, LUC – Diva and other members that were helping with the organization. I really enjoyed it. The aftermath was a little bit troubling but we sorted it out now, most of it, so I hope we look back at a great event. Then the tournament – at the last GA, the Tournament Committee actually came to our GA and they told us that they want to move the tournament from the 18th of April to the 16th of May because there were some issues and now in the end, it turns out that the event had to be postponed completely till next year. I would still like to thank the Tournament Committee for their amazing job this year and because of this amazing job, we, as the UCSRN EB, decided, after hearing the advice from the Social Committee, the Independent Body, and the Advisory Body, to grant UCT's Tournament Committee to organize the Tournament again next year. This is also in line with both the Policy Manual and the Statutes and we will definitely discuss all the details with the next EB and the next Social Committee so the event will probably hopefully be as smoothly organized as it was this year. Then the last event that took place this year was the online tournament. It started after it became clear and apparent that the actual tournament would not go through. I think there were some UCs that took up the initiative to organize an online tournament and even though there were some bumps in the road, of course the organization could have been better but given the short timeframe, I think we organized a really nice event. It went quite smoothly and there were a lot of creative activities and I hope everyone

enjoyed the day itself. Like I mentioned before, I will work on the reflection so hopefully this event can be organized even better in the future. That was my update. So thank you all for being here again and thank you all for the people involved in the Social Committee this year.

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Mai Thai: That being said, before we get into election results, I think Mitchell has already shared a lot of very kind words, very meaningful words that I think that resonates not with only the Social Committee, but with the EB as well. We would like to say thank you to everybody, not only members in the Academic and Social Committees, but also the Independent Body as well as the Advisory Body for helping us and working with us throughout the year and helping us grow. I think without you guys, we would not have been in a position where we are today. There's been a lot of moments that we are very thankful for and all the hard work that you've put in, but obviously like always said, the UCSRN is nothing without its members – so for everyone who is here today and everyone who has attended our general assemblies, attended our CoBo, and invited us for events, have hung out with us at any point, I just want to say thank you so so so much for the incredible memories and the incredible times that you've helped us within the organization, but also us as people. You have given us a lot of feedback throughout the year, constructive criticism and everything that has helped us grow and for that, I think that even a thank you is not enough. I am kind of sad that I'm honestly not seeing you guys in person, because obviously it would be so nice to be able to hug goodbye and while not goodbye forever, but a lot of you I won't be able to see again, but hopefully I will still see some of you. And perhaps for the University Colleges, even the boards that we hadn't made plans with but for the boards that we did have plans with that when COVID 19 possibly isn't as pressing of an issue that we can possibly achieve those meetings that we wanted to do such as paintballing because that would be definitely super fun. With that being said, again, thank you everyone. I would like to invite the IB so that they can share the results. *[*Mai Thai gives everyone a virtual kiss*]*

Kamiel (IB): So the election has been closed and 48 people have voted out of the 54 so most of them, a few could sadly not vote but that did not affect the results of the election so I'm now going to share these results with you. Firstly for the chair who has won *[*drum roll*]* is Julien. Congratulations!

Kamiel (IB): Next, the secretary position has been won by Kayna. The treasurer has been won by Renzo. The external has been won by Tiffanie. The Academic Committee Chair has been won by Esh. Those were all without any competitors, so the answer was quite obvious. And then finally, for the Social Committee Chair, has been won by Alexandra. Congratulations everyone!

Mai Thai: Congratulations everyone! Congratulations to the new executive board of the year 2020-2021. I'm very excited to work with all of you. Thank you so much to the Independent Body for helping us with the elections. Very enthusiastic claps from the General Assembly in the chat! With that being said, if we can move on to the end of the presentation, I will give a few last words and we have AOBs.

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<tr><td>**11. AOB's**</td></tr>
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Mai Thai: Before we close, are there any other businesses or any other questions or topics

or anything anyone wants to bring up – now is the moment before this is our last GA as the 2019-2020 board.

Renzo: I think I can actually speak on behalf of everyone, we want to thank the previous Executive Board, we want to thank you for the full year. You have done a great job.

Mai Thai: Thank you! Any other businesses or any other questions or remarks? I don't see any hands up so I'm assuming no . Then, for the last time that I'll ever do this, and I want to say it with pride, because I'm so proud of the Executive Board – everyone and everything you've done this year, you've blown me away. Everyone has done an incredible job. I did this last year as well but I want to bring out some excelling points for every EB member. I'll just do it in constitutional order. For Felipe, I don't know if many of you have met Felipe, but I think that he is a very hard worker and he may seem very composed and quiet sometimes, but he's the man who always gets everything done. He is effective and efficient and does it with heart and soul and Felipe has taught me a lot. I think we've grown a lot together over the year and I just want to say thank you and I'm very proud of you. Maxim, for those of you who don't know, joined in October. Maxim was a late bloomer and he joined later and I was a horrible Chair and I had not transitioned him properly. There were many moments that I came to realize that I could have been a way better Chair to him than I was but he has been very calm and collected. He has immensely helped the External position a lot into improving and going into the direction that we want to go to. He has been a great negotiator with our partners and from how I see our partners communicate with him, I can tell that they're very satisfied. So Maxim, well done! You're only in your first year so it's incredible how much you've done in a year, I am very proud of you. I'm sorry to be sentimental, I just want this to officially be in the minutes so that people can look back and see how amazing they are. And then, I'm going to move on to the Academic Chair, Preksha. Honestly, loss for words. Before this, when you came onto the board, you were nervous about chairing, weren't sure where you stood as a Chair of the Academic Committee, but I have to say that you probably, I hope I can speak for everyone in the Academic Committee, have been such a great facilitator and such a hard worker. And even now, during COVID 19, even though you're in Thailand, hours ahead of us, you're like messaging us at 4 or 5 AM in Thailand being like "hey guys, this is the work that I've done, this is the things I have done for the board" and you've incredibly shown so much passion and enthusiasm for it. Anyone who gets to work with you in the future is very lucky and I want to say you've grown a lot and I'm very proud of it. And last, but definitely not the least, I think the whole EB agrees, Mitchell goes above and beyond for anything and everything he does. This man, if he puts his heart and mind to it, he'll achieve it and complete it and he'll do it with such great excellence. I met Mitchell before he ran and we had a coffee date and Mitchell showed enthusiasm the moment I opened my laptop and showed him the UCSRN drive and he was asking all these questions, wanting to know so much more, and very enthusiastic and eager to learn. That's just who Mitchell is as a person and I just want to say that. It's been a blessing to have worked with you. You have given me so many new perspectives on how to work with things around me and how to communicate and I really appreciate that. I just want to say to everyone that I'm very proud of you and that I couldn't have asked for a better board but I'm excited to work with the new board to transition you and to show you what the UCSRN is all about. With that being said, I would like to thank everyone for coming to the GA and as this is the last time we'll be closing, I want to wish everyone a wonderful weekend, but also an incredible rest of the semester. You will probably get a couple more communication lines from us via email but from after that, it will be from the new board. So thank you everyone for attending.

Mitchell: Before you close, we also have to thank you Mai Thai. This is the second year

you've been in the UCSRN. First, you were Secretary and then you also took upon yourself the task of the Social Committee Chair when the actual Chair left. Then you did a second year because you wanted to implement so much more and share knowledge to the UCSRN community and you've given us a lot of good insights about the UCSRN and just in general. Thank you so much!

Mai Thai: Thank you so much, I appreciate that!

12. Closing

Mai Thai: If the candidates could stay so that we can chat with them for a little bit, that would be incredible. With that, I would like to officially close this General Assembly.

The General Assembly is officially closed.