



University College Student Representatives of the Netherlands

Election General Assembly Minutes

Chairing the GA:
Minutes:

Julien Vandermosten
Kayna Duport-Govindin
Alexandra Deffner

Date of General Assembly
Location of General Assembly
Time of General Assembly

08th of May
Zoom
13:00 (Walk-in starts at 12:30)

Election General Assembly Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Approval of GA Agenda
 - a. Vote
3. Minutes of previous GA (06/02)
 - a. Vote
4. Voting procedure
5. Elections
 - a. Chair
 - b. Secretary
 - c. Treasurer
 - d. External
 - e. Academic Committee Chair
 - f. Social Committee Chair
 - g. Vote

Break

6. Elections results
7. Board update
8. Financial update
9. External update
10. Social Committee update
11. Academic Committee Update
12. New member update: UC Fryslan
13. Open Floor (AOB's)

Election General Assembly Minutes

Attendance of the General Assembly:

AUC members attended (0 proxy)
EUC members attended (0 proxy)
LUC members attended (0 proxy)
UCTilburg members attended (0 proxy)
UCG members attended (0 proxy)
UCM members attended (0 proxy)
UCR members attended (0 proxy)
UCT members attended (0 proxy)
UCU members attended (0 proxy)

Total of votes: 000

1. Welcome

Julien (EB): Welcome everyone, I hope you can all hear me clearly. As you can see on the panel, you can see all the applicants, the EB, Sophie and Eldi on behalf of the IB. Here is the

agenda. The IB will take care of the voting through the platform Helios, I want to remind everyone that if something needs to be voted on I will ask if anyone wants to vote and if you want to, raise your hands, and we will have a vote on it. Please be polite to each other, and listen to each other. If you have any questions, state your name and your UC for the minutes, and if you leave or come back into the room please let the IB know. And if members are coming in later let the IB know too.

2. Approval of the GA Agenda

Julien (EB): Now to go over the agenda, the candidates will be questioned in the order of their position following that we will have the vote and then a break, after the break we will give updates about the board and UCSRN and the new UC Frysland, and finally we will have the opener floor. Are there any questions?

a. Vote

The agenda was passed by acclamation.

3. Minutes of previous GAs

Julien: *The minutes of the previous GA were sent 2 weeks ago, does anyone have any questions.*

Q1. Manuel (UCM): *I just wanted to say thank you for the minutes, they are very well written.*

A1. Kayna (EB): *Thank you!*

Q2. Robin (UCTwente): There is a typo in my name on page 7 in question 10.

Q3. Ruben (UCM): In questions 11 Manuel's name is also spelt wrong.

Julien (EB): Then we will vote on the minutes according to these changes.

a. Vote

The 19.09.2020 minutes were passed by acclamation.

4. Voting procedure

Sophie (IB): The voting procedure will be done through the Elios link you have just received and eldi will explain how that works.

Eldie (IB): Apologies, but the links have been sent again with a new list of candidates for each position. In the email you will find your login details (username and password), you will

then be able to fill in the ballot and please make sure to confirm, otherwise it will not be counted. The vote cannot be seen as it is counted via Elios and we'll share the results with you.

Q4. Ruben (UCM): I have three people behind one laptop, is that an issue?

A4. Eldie (IB): This is not a problem since everyone got a specific log-in detail per email.

Julien (EB): Are there any more questions, if there are any during the GA ask me and I'll pass it onto the IB or help you myself.

5. Elections

a. Chair

Julien (EB): We will start with the chairs, Chiara, Invite you to give your speech.

Chiara (UCTwente): My name is chiara and I'm 21 from milaan, I'm in my second year at UCTwente, I'm majoring in responsible innovation and management. I want to be in the USCRN as I am ambitious, and I love difficult challenges which I envision the chair of the USCRN to have. The work done in the past was good but we are facing many issues such as recognition of the USCRN. I have spoken to my classmates about the USCRN and not many people know about it. I think it should have a more central role in the UC community as we represent the university college students of the Netherlands and I think we should focus on creating visibility within and outside the UCs, voting and engaging with them. To create opportunities for internships and masters, as we are all honors students in a liberal arts setting, which is relatively new to many. Another important challenge is restarting everything after COVID, I think we have to support them in their academic career, and we need to collaborate closely with UCs so they can achieve those. And provide more opportunities for students to communicate.

Julien (EB): Thank you Chiara, we will now go into the position specific questions, please pick a number between 1 and 5.

Chiara (UCTwente): Question 3.

Julien (EB): An important USCRN event is coming soon. Your board has a heavy workload to organize it but some of your board members are in their finals week and say they cannot put as much work in as it is needed. What do you do?

Chiara (Candidate): Delegation would be very important and I would ask another board member who could help out and share the workload. I think it's possible for the other board members who do not have as heavy a workload to step in and take a bit more responsibility. In the next event, the people who worked a little less in the previous one can then put in more work to keep things balanced. At the end of the day there is always a way to find time but it's important not to overwork people and the student associations hold go along with your studies and not hinder them. So I think delegation and getting others to help out.

Julen: please pick numbers between 1 and 8 for the general board questions.

Chiara (candidate): 7

Julien (EB): Hypothetically speaking: There is a challenging dynamic between you, the EB, and a committee that is organizing the event on your behalf. The committee is making some major decisions that you as the EB disapprove of, you communicate this clearly with the committee, yet they still continue to make these decisions. What do you do?

Chiara (candidate): I think it depends on the decision and how it plays out and somebody can have strong opinions and choices. Sometimes it is fine to disagree and if both options work out it is fine. But if there is something that creates problems, then a clear discussion would be needed between me and them, where a compromise can be found to find a middle ground. Most of the time a disagreement starts based on a difference in values or communication. Therefore, talking it out would really help find a middle ground.

Julien (EB): Ok so we'll move on to the GA questions for 5 minutes, please raise your hand and i'll allow you to talk.

Q5. Manuel (UCM): Thank you for your speech. You mentioned a lot about visibility, which has been a difficulty for a lot of study associations. Do you have any concrete plans and examples on how you would improve the visibility

A5a. Chiara (candidate): Something I think is very important, is putting a lot of work in their social media. If we can create engagement. The way I came to know of the UCSRN is from our student association posting things, and I think that's a way of sharing, and if theory finds a nice page with information that would be great. I also mentioned events that can be social and academic. I was talking to Alexandra (EB) and they were thinking of having a career fair where there are potential masters and internship opportunities, and that can increase awareness of the UCSRN if they host it. Those are usually things that Universities pay for so that coil also brings in a budget for the UCSRN.

A5b. Manuel (UCM): Thank you for your answer.

Q6. Robin (UCTwente): Thank you for your speech. I have a question for you based on the previous question on increasing the prestige and reputation of University Colleges and the community. So I was wondering what your thoughts and ideas are about achieving this?

A6a. Chiara (candidate): That's something I still have to brainstorm on, but I think it's fundamental as we are honors colleges and we should have access to prestigious universities, masters and opportunities. So a way to do this is to increase the prestige of the name of the UCs over the world. We can do that by presenting ourselves to companies in a favourable way that can be done through social media and others.

A6b. Robin (UCTwente): Thank you very much and good luck for the rest of the day.

Q7. Ebbe-Tim (UCTilburg): I would like to tie in with one of your earlier points when you talk about affairs. Do you think the current structure of the UCSRN supports this goal?

A7a. Chiara (candidates): I do not know if it supports it but things can be changed to

support it, i don't think we should stay tied to our past if it hinders future aspirations. Even a new committee could be created if need be. The UCSRN is currently focusing on the spotlight and the tournament but these events do not push our students, which the focus should be, to unite our students. But definitely something should be worked out for the fair or something else if that is not liked by our members.

A7b. Ebbe-Tim (UCTilburg): If you get 20 or 30% of the UCSRN member base for an academic event, would a committee be enough to organise an event for over a 1000 people, these are very big and complex plans you are talking about.

A7c. Chiara (candidate): Yes, I realize that. But I am going to give you an example, we have a similar fair at UT, and this fair is organised only by the students and they join the board sometimes without any experience and the fair turns out really well. And this shows that this is possible and is something that can be worked on. I am sure people would be more than happy to collaborate with us, such as the University Colleges as these also have to gain something from us.

Julien (EB): Thank you Ebbe-Tim, we have time for one last question. It has already been answered so we will move on to the next candidate.

b. Secretary

Dominique (Candidate): Good afternoon everyone, my name is Dominique and I am 18 years old a UC student from UCM. My experience is in social media management with previous secretary experience and this has inspired me to apply for this position. In high school I was the student council secretary, I was drafting email, recording minutes, and informing members. I also gained valuable experience as a government member where I would write monthly newsletters and manage the clubs in Aruba and curacel. I also worked as a spokesperson and PR committee president for the youth committee of Aruba i held committee meetings and managed social media and TV appearances. As part of EuroMUN marketing communication as a member, I designed posts for social media and helped design the website. Furthermore for my task related goals I hope to relay information as clear as possible for the internal and external community, as well as take as good minutes as the current secretary Kayna has and keep up the UCSRN's Social media presence and engagement which is really important as well because as a first year student i had never heard of the UCSRN before.

Kayna (EB): I will now ask you to pick a number between 1 and 5 for your question.

Dominique (candidate): 1.

Kayna (EB): You have been sending out emails with important information to the University Colleges but have not heard back from them, what do you do?

Dominique (candidate): In this case I would first try to talk about it with my board members to see if we can get in contact with them. I would maybe try to contact them individually with their personal contact; If I have them, I can try sending out more emails. If it is really important we could travel to the university and

Kayna (EB): I will ask you a general board member question. Please pick a numbe between 1 and 8 but not 7.

Dominique (candidate): 4

Kayna (EB): As the UCSRN EB, you come from different UCs and it will be hard to meet your fellow board members in person. What do you think are your responsibilities as a board member to keep the team spirit going despite that issue. How would you go about keeping the team spirit going?

Dominique (Candidate): Having zoom meetings is important to get a general feel of the board members. Besides that we should have more events which will allow more people to come and we can have more inclusion. We could continue with the competitions that were already done and also have more academic and professional events which will generally keep the initiative going with the UCs.

Kayna (EB): Thank you for your answer, now the GA will get to ask you any question that they have.

Q8. Robin (UCtwente): Thank you for your speech and pleasure to meet you. You indicated that you would like to work on the promotion of diversity and inclusion of the different UCs, in your eyes how far do you think the justification of the UCSRN should go with this regard but also on a more general levels, and at what point do the student associations of the respective UCs take over this responsibility and duty.

A8a. Dominique (candidate): I think that it is part of the UCSRN to create this initiative to continue this diversity as the UCS are diverse in community and curriculum. Maybe we should get data to compare this change over the years, I do also think that it should be taken up by the different UCs as well.

Q9. Ruben (UCM): Thank you for your speech. You are looking to improve inclusivity within UCSRN. As UCM is far from the randstad, how do you plan in accomplishing this?

A9. Dominique (candidate): Working with the board members I would be able to get a clearer plan. More events could help to make this goal more doable. But right now, if elected, I would like to work on accomplishing this.

Q10. Bram (AUC): I was wondering, earlier people talked about social media and what I've noticed is that some people are engaged through one platform and others to another, instagram is trending in the younger crowd than facebook, and there are people that are not engaged with social media, so how would you increase awareness beyond social media usage and how do you get the UCs board to join you in this?

A10. Dominique (candidate): So, I find communication important especially with my experience and EuroMUN. Online, facebook and instagram are most engaging but there are a lot of people who are less engaged on social media. Hence word of mouth or even on a more UC school level, such as the monthly publishes, and telling your friends and the UCSRN would allow more engagement and attract more students.

Julien (EB): Thank you Dominique, thank you Bram.

Q11. Ebbe-Tim (UCTilburg): You talk about wanting to do more events, what would you say is the reason that there weren't all of the events this year.

A10a. Dominique: In a straightforward manner I think that corona has been a difficulty for the planning, which also lowers the participation. This shows how important social media is. For EuroMUN we have a lot of participation and social media can really help with that.

A10b. Ebbe-Tim (UCTilburg): I'd argue that the year before this year didn't have that many events either, so I don't think Corona had that big an impact, so what do you think was the reason then?

A10c. Dominique: My real response would be that as I was not part of the UCSRN before I am not sure how to answer this question, I think this question is more towards the previous board. Getting to know the organisation will allow me to get more insights on this but not at this moment.

Q11. Bram (AUC): To talk about communication, what is mostly noticed is that there are some students that get hooked into social media communication and will continue to check, but there are others that do not and are not aware of these events and things. So if you still focus on social media as your strategy then how will you get those people involved?

A11a. Dominique (candidate): I think it is partly, it should be partly the UCSRN and partly the UCs to spread the UCSR information. In terms of UCSRN I agree, I think to get them hooked, engagement is really important such as instagram, polls, stories. For EuroMUN we did trailers which worked great. This would allow people to get more engaged and invested.

A11b. Bram (AUC): thank you for your answer, since you are the only candidate it's more targeted to get you thinking for next year.

Julien (EB): Thank you dominique and everyone who asked questions, now moving on to the treasurer candidates.

c. Treasurer

Mahi (candidate): Hello everyone, I am Mahi Shah a second year at AUC originally from India. To find my place at AUC, at the start of the year I joined a lot of committees for which I often was treasurer. I would like to apply these skills I gained to the EB and the UCSRN. I have always been a people person and love forming new connections and meeting new individuals and the UCSRN is the best platform for me to do this since uniting UCs under 1 umbrella gives us all the chance to connect even if we live in different parts of the country. I have always been fond of the school spirit and I would like to bring this forward. As for my plans, I would like to enhance the experience of being a part of the UC, this may sound vague but by that I mean to take the UCSRN to a new height in terms of involvement, competition and spirit and I would do this through finding new sponsors who are willing to invest in this cause. I am currently doing an internship in corporate fundraising that has taught me about sponsorship, professional relationships, striking pitches etcetera. I would be able to apply this experience as the treasurer of the UCSRN and this would be my way of increasing our funds, allocating them responsibly along with the board and basically enhancing all of our experiences be it for the tournament, spotlight of the student initiatives. As a general board member I am hoping that we will be able to conduct our events in person and I would like to encourage more people to take part in these events which are part responsibilities of the EB and the individual UCs. Given the possibility of Corona continuing, I

would like to build on the foundations established by last year to maintain the online platforms, see the mistakes that were made, try to improve them etcetera. Additionally, I would like to increase the online visibility of the UCSRN.

Renzo (EB): moving on to the treasurer specific questions, pick a number between 1 and 5.

Mahi (candidate): Question 3.

Renzo (EB): You notice that there are no requests for funding for the academic fund, the social fund or the self initiative fund, what do you do?

Mahi (candidate): I think one of the reason why there would be no request is because not many people know that these funds exist and this goes with my plan of visibility, so along with the secretary and the chair said, it's important for the UCSRN to be put out there so the student body knows what is out there for them as platform with more than just having the website.

Renzo (EB): Then a general board member question, please choose a number out of 1 and 8 except for 4 and 7.

Mahi (candidate): 1.

Renzo (EB): Question 1, Being part of a board heavily relies on efficiently working together. You have had some difficulty working together with one of your board members due to differences in personalities and priorities. Despite that you have been assigned to work together on a project for the UCSRN. How will you handle the tension between you and your board member and ensure that the project will run smoothly?

Mahi (candidate): In my opinion there should not be a form of friction and tension so I think the key term should be transparency where everyone should be able to express themselves, and that could be done with a check in at the beginning of the year. If there is tension and I don't agree with something that they do I would point it out to them individually and try to figure it out with them.

Julien (EB): We will now move on to the GA questions.

Q12. Bram (AUC): Thank you Julien and I have a few questions. First one is about self-evaluation. A lot of the time I get pulled into being the authority so I have to give reliable advice and not a lot of people can check my work. Since everyone makes mistakes. What are the things you have done in the past, that you would do better and how would you evaluate them and improve them in the future?

A12. Mahi (candidate): That is something to think about but in the sense of what I have done until now, is that it is super important to be organised as the budget is not an easy thing to deal with, I have gotten confused before and there have been mistakes, but i think that being organised and more dextrous and looking at the intricacies of the budget more clearly would really help me do better and keep everything together as well as help me answer questions. Knowing what is going on with your role but also other board members is important in order to be able to inform people.

Q13. Bram (AUC): Thank you, very good answer. I have another question if that is

possible. This has to do with the past. Everyone will be familiar with this, two boards ago a treasurer left without any knowledge from the GA that the treasurer was leaving. There had been money missing and no clear answers could be obtained by the GA. How would you deal with this and do you think that you should give answers to the GA after you left, so once you finished your board years. Do you think you should be committed to answering questions regarding problems during your own board year?

A13. Mahi (candidate): because it is a continuum and this year affects the next. I would not be responsible for that year, but being the only one with the information then I would make myself available to answer those questions and maintain transparency.

Julien (EB): Thank you Bram, Robin you can go ahead to ask a question.

Q14. Robin (UCT): Thank you for your speech and answers. My question is about representation. How will you represent the financial interest of all the students? And what will you do to shift away from a Randstad focus now that we are moving away from online events.?

A14a. Mahi (candidate): Well, that is a difficult question to answer. Because I will be doing the money allocating. It is difficult to cater to all the different needs of the students. So based on what we think is right we will be allocating the budget and by taking into account the past years. Depending on what happened in the past years and the board's opinions we would allocate the money accordingly. For the second part of your question, since I was not aware of this but I think that travel reimbursement is a possible idea towards it but administratively it could be problematic. Maybe Moving away from the west and moving to more central areas could be an option. However, If it is not possible and we have a lot of events on either side of the country which would result in a lot of travel, then I think what could really help would be travel reimbursement. This is a good question and I would like to discuss this with the whole board either way as this is important to get everyone involved and engaged and geography should not stop that.

A14b. Robin (UCT): thank you for your answer and good luck.

Q15. Ebbe-Tim (UCTilburg): You talk about how visibility is the issue with the budget not getting spent. But I was in the social committee this year and I would argue that in both the social committee and the academic committee there was definitely visibility as all 9 UCs are represented, so we are all aware but money didn't get spent so what do you think the problem was and how would you solve that in the future?

A15a. Mahi (candidate): So, within the committee was there a reason why there was no proactive initiative to not spend the money? Because in my opinion, especially in the social committee, there isn't much to be able to do because of our current situation with COVID, but i'm not sure what happened in the committee to be able too answer that, but depending on my situation if this happens then I would like to get into contact with these committees myself and figure out with them what is going on and how we can solve it.

A15b. Ebbe-Tim (UCTilburg) : I think that one of the main issues was that if an event did not include all UCs they would not get approved. So how would you change that?

A15c. Mahi (candidate): So at the end of the day if it is a democracy it is on the committee that involves either more or fewer UCs or you conicent he other to vote for you. As treasurer

I would encourage it as much as possible for the committees to spend that money. In the end since it is a democracy there is not much as the EB that we can do.

Julien (EB): Thank you Ebbe-Tim thank you Mahi, we will now move onto the external position.

d. External Affairs Officer

Tiffanie (EB): Welcome Luuk, the floor is yours for your introduction speech.

Luuk (candidate): Hi everyone, I'm a dutch first year student at UCTwente. I want the UCRN as External to make myself available for the wellbeing of students. A week ago the big UCSRN tournament happened. Although I love to see my UC win, I was also disappointed when the final results came in and I saw the lack of participation. I thought the big tournament of which I heard so much was meant to be amazing, all UCs coming together, battling against each other with the title of ultimate UC. with the last 2 tournaments being online and assuming the next one will be in person again. The new tournament committee has an opportunity to as well as a big challenge ahead of them,. The challenge is making people excited again, however, I see an opportunity to set a standard, to make the UCSRN tournament great again. I see potential in the tournament so I want to join forces with the tournament committee to organise an amazing tournament next year. The touement is not the only thing Corona took, it took out our social life, some of our freedom and our mental wellbeing. I first hand noticed the effect of corona, the lock down and the business study here in amsterdam, sadly I can't imagine it going anywhere else much better. I would like to take the opportunity of being on the board to address pressing well being issues of the UC and discover their roots. I believe students undergo a lot of pressure and more attention should be given to this. I feel like students are underrepresented and their voices should be heard, I want to make myself the voice the UCs will all hear. I want don't want to set up somerhting that ill help students during corona, i want to set up something that will help students for years to come, and i would like to ask you to give mve me the opportunity to achieve my goals of setting up a mental support system and seeing each other at an amazing tournament next year, hopefully then in person. Thank you very much.

Tiffanie (EB): Thank you Luuk, we will now move on to questions please choose a number between 1 and 5.

Luuk (candidate): 5, please

Tiffanie (EB): Suppose it's December and in the midst of juggling your upcoming exam week, personal life and UCSRN external tasks you notice that you forgot to answer a pressing email sent by an external partner. How would you go about this situation?

Luuk: I think that if I forgot something it would come first, so I would send the email and apologize for the delay and then focus on my studies.

Tiffanie: We will move on to more general board members related questions. You can choose a question between 1-7

Luuk (candidate): 6.

Tiffanie (EB): The question is the following: You have noticed that you are taking on more work than you can handle and feel overworked, whilst you feel that other board members are barely doing any work, how do you go about changing that?

Luuk (candidate): I think it's important that there isn't too much work. Mental wellbeing is important so there should be an open discussion and where everyone can say what they need to say so we can all figure out a solution.

Tiffanie (EB): Thank you for your insight. The GA now has 5 minutes of open floor for questions.

Julien (EB): Thank you Tiffanie, Robin please go ahead.

Q16. Robin (UCT): in your speech and in the letter you place a large emphasis organising the UCSRN tournament, as the EB you do not organize it, that task is delegated to a university college. How do you envision your role in relations to the tournament committee and the tournament?

A16. Luuk (candidate): Of course I do not organize it myself, I recognize it. But on my coffee date I was told that the current board was able to support and help the tournament committee by being more supportive and taking on an overarching role.

Q17. Robin (UCT): At previous GAs the concept of the UCSRN being politically engaged came up and different opinions arose. What are your thoughts about the political position of the UCSRN?

A17. Luuk (candidate): I think it is up to the GA to decide and when they are divided the external should make a choice themselves to become politically active based on the EB goals and this is necessary.

Q18. Robin (UCT): Thank you for your answer. Since this is a prominent topic, and with over 4000 students, there is a very diverse population, and that applies to their political interests, how will you find the overarching political opinion so you can represent them?

A18. Luuk (candidate): That is an important question. I could not talk to all 4000 students themselves. So I would be dependent on the GAs and the people I do have contact with to get an overview. And the most important point is transparency, based on my work and my views as well as the views of the UCSRN and the students. Based on this I could get comments and feedback and adapt my views and approach.

Q19. Bram (AUC): From whispers that I have heard, I have come to know that politically, the UC that are quite expensive to be funded are mostly funded with the motivation to deliver high performance for students every year. And it seems that, at least at my UC, there is a lot of pressure and emphasis on graduating in 3 years. That means that doing a board year means a lot of burn outs. And UCs are still known as an institution that produces graduates in 3 years. So how will you make sure that people that are higher in organisations, politically, will see the other values of UCs, the interdisciplinarity, the thinking beyond your discipline instead of just graduating in 3 years.

A19. Luuk (candidate): I was not necessarily aware that it was a problem. And it is important to discuss and we are all just people and we do our best and if we cannot finish in three years that is fine too. An open discussion would be very useful, and highlight the other values of University College education such as the interdisciplinary and bringing that across as well.

Q20. Ebbe-Tim (UCTillburg): You talked about creating mental support for all students. Poor mental support is worse than no mental support, so are you an authority to provide this mental support and what would that look like on a UC to UC plan?

A20a. Luuk (candidate): That is a very good question. Of course I would not give mental support myself. But I will invite the UCs, or somebody from their management team or their deans to discuss this at a round table. At Twente this was done through a survey which resulted in potential tips and solutions. This would allow us to gain information which then could be solved with the UCs together, and my role is to making them aware of these problems and helping them set this up

A20b. Ebb tim (UCTilburg): So are the UCs qualified?

A20c. Luuk(candidate): I think we can find people who are actually qualified.

Julien (EB): thank you for the questions we will now move onto the academic committee chair.

e. Academic Committee Chair

Kayna (EB): Please present yourself Susana and take the floor.

Susana (candidate): I hope everyone is still focused, my name is Susana Arias. I'm half dutch half spanish. I am currently studying at UCU and majoring in law and politics. I personally believe that the interdisciplinary aspect of the UCs is very valuable in solving complicated issues and I think that by looking at how other disciplines or looking at how other people approach matters can bring forward wonderful things and is of great importance. The AC does just that as it connects members from diff SC from different UC, and thus brings together and unifies contracting views together. The pandemic has shown us that we all face similar problems such as issues linked to online class and exams, the similarity in UC programs call to discussion efforts to overcome the similar problems, the importance of working together is great and i trust that we can achieve a lot within the committee. Therefore, I would look to contribute to that with the position of AC chair. I personally believe that i would eb a vailabel chair for this committee due to myt experience for example in the politics committee at UCUand when it comes to my vision for the future of the UCSRN,i feel that there are certain elements that we have discussed also already that could make the body more available, these issues are linked to the buzzwords visibility inclusivity, and community. An idea i have to address these would be the implementation of a representative system that would consist of students of every UC that would be a direct link between the students and the EB, in both the AC and SC there already are academic and social reps front their respective committee of bodies at the UC, however those representatives are also busy with the management of their own board and their own UC, by implement students that are UCSRN representatives the body could learn more about issue that students are concerned with and be more visible to the students on campus. This

would also relate it to the issue of inclusivity as smaller or further UCs would receive equal representation. Hopefully I could add this during my position at AC if I get elected. As I've mentioned before our colleges are wonderful and I would like to contribute to that even more by connecting different views in the academic committee. Thank you.

Kayna (EB): Thank you, please pick a number between 1 and 5.

Susana (candidate): Question 3.

Kayna (EB): It is over half way through the year and the Academic Committee budget is not used, how will you promote this fund? Would you rather spend the money on an event anyway even if you don't think it is fully worth it?

Susana (candidate): I think spending money anyway would never be the best option. But I think that as the academic committee chair I would address this during the meeting with all the representatives and try to find some event that we could spend it on. But if the event could not be done during that scholyear, I would prefer to not spend money for the sake of spending it, would want to spend it on something valuable or talk to the treasurer to see if there are other ways in which the money could be spent.

Kayna (EB): So onto the general board member question. Please pick a number 2, 3, 5 and 8

Susana (candidate): Question 3 again.

Kayna (EB): A board member of yours has been working on organizing an event with a UC. Your board member has been updating you and your board that everything is going well. However, you hear from people at this UC that the project is not going well and that measures need to be taken which your board member is not taking. What do you do?

Susana (candidates): I would try to have a conversation with the person organising the event, not to accuse them but to talk about it and mention what I have heard, not from whom of course. I would have a conversation with the person to try and understand why they cannot do their task, and I would try to connect the 2 people. Although that would not really be my position as an academic committee chair but as an executive board member, I think it would be important to address this problem as otherwise the event would not be nice and that would not benefit anyone.

Q21. Manuel (UCM): Thank you Julien and Susana. Do you have any plans to reach out to the dean network to support your missions and get them more involved?

A21. Susana (candidates): I think that the dean's network would be a valuable factor to connect the UCs more, but in terms of the representative system it would be more valuable to form a connection between the student association and councils, as that is something that should live within the representation of the students rather than the dean network that is at the top. But I do think it is important as well, so these could go alongside each other.

Q22. Manuel (UCM): I actually have a question about this representative system that you mentioned in your speech, I agree that it would increase visibility and create a sense of

community in the UCs and would show what UCSRN has to bring but wouldn't you agree that it would also make it more difficult coordinate activities between the UCs so student associations and the student councils and the UCSRN is we establish independent representatives?

A22a. Susana (candidate): I think that this should clash as these representatives would be normal students and would be part of the committee and would be part of the representative system and would inform people of what is going on. I have heard that it is hard to promote over social media as these are only for the UC students and these representatives could take on this job. Hence, I don't think that it should not clash with the representatives

A22b. Manuel (UCM): But you would keep the structure that we have with the AC, SC and EB right?

A22c. Susana (candidate): I would keep the structure.

Q23. Mika (UCT): So, I have a question regarding the organization of events and based on my experience it is hard to organize and get a budget from the UCSRN. This budget is often used for decreases in ticket price and travel reimbursement and makes it much harder. Hence, students do not try to get this funny to have plans to make it easier or do you think it is good the way it is.

A23. Susana (candidate): To be completely honest, I think this is a every fair point. I have also noticed that not many elope request this fund. I can't come up with a solution now, but it would be good to have a discussion with people in the committee last year and look at how it works. I'm not aware of the ins and outs of it.

Q24. Mika (UCT): last year I noticed that all events were brought up by the UCs themselves rather than the Academic committee organising events.

A24. Susana (candidate): Organizing events throughout the AC would be very valuable. But if we organise something I should attract people such as the masters fair only if it attracts people. Hence if no one shows up it would be a waste of money and time. This could be discussed with the AC and this could be done together. Especially with online events it takes away the geographical factor.

Julien (EB): We have time for 1 more question.

Q25. Robin (UCTwente): Thank you for your speech and your candidacy. I have a question regarding the AC Chair position and your member as the EB. Different UCs put different emphasis on their diverse educational systems. How will you mitigate these differences and make your position as AC chair representative of all Ucs and the wider LAS concept that we have in the Netherlands as diverse as it may be across the UCs?

A25. Susana (candidate): That's a very good and fair point, because I'm of course only a student at UCU so I only know how that curriculum works. I did visit other Ucs before deciding to apply here and therefore saw those differences, but i feel that it would be beneficial to discuss all the rules and regulations of all the curriculums in ne of our first meetings and explain how it works at every UC so that every member and the chair can understand where each person comes from and the problems that may come with those frms of planning a curriculum. But in the end we are all from a Liberla Arts and science

degree which has a similar underlying philosophy.

f. Social Committee Chair

Pookhao (candidate): Hi everyone, my name is Pookhao and I am a first year student at UCTwente. My vision for the UCSRN is an inclusive, tightknit, interUC community that is connected even when we are apart, our second home. Back in august i moved to the netherlands for the first time and i didn't know anyone and was very nervous. It really surprised me how quickly I felt at home because of the people. I made friends and became active in my study association and I discovered how valuable and impactful it is to have that bond and sense of community, the network support that you can always count on. That is really the core of my vision as SC chair. i want to bring the UCSRN closer together, closer than we are now and forus to become not an association but a family, as a second home for all UC students. I have seen that the UCSRN is not that well known and for many it still feels far away which is a shame because with over 4000 students we have so much potential to go beyond our bubble and reach out to build a tight knit inner UC network and so my first step as an SC chair is to raise awareness about what the UCSRN stands for and to establish familiarity earlier on in the year. I am going to do that by first increasing the number of activities and placing more emphasis on relationship building and bonding activities. The UCSRN is known for their spotlight and their tournament which are on their own iconic and totally brilliant but we could use more team building activities that are not necessarily a competition between UCs but a more collaborative experience. Acticitesliek escape room, or the pen pal projects a couple months ago, I thought were really good additions and another idea i had was the uCrSN study trip, when corona regulations decrease, it would be a lot of fun and a good opportunity foreboding. so oi hope to bring my skills and ambitions to the UCSRN and bring the community closer tegterhandforus to become a second home for every UC student.

Alex (EB): Thank you for your speech Pookhao, loved to hear your ideas. I will start off by asking you a position related question. Please pick a number between 1 and 5.

Pookhao (candidate): 3

Alex (EB): There is a big event coming up, and one of the UCs says that they do not want to participate. Would you still try to convince them to participate, and if yes, how would you do that?

Pookhao (candidate): if they don't want to participate there may be a reason, so that would be good to know why they don't want to participate. Then that is something that we can work on before I try to convince them.

Alex (EB): Now onto the general board member question you can pick between

Pookhao (candidate): Question 5.

Alex (EB): You have noticed that you are doing less work than the rest of your team whilst

other members seem overworked, how do you go about fixing that?

Pookhao (candidate): in the board meeting I think that there are tasks that are not anyone's and I would like to take those up. If that is something that is consistent then I would like to come up with a solution together.

Alex (EB): Thank you for your answers Pookhao. Now the floor is open for the GA to ask further questions.

Q26. Manuel (UCM): Great speech and thank you for applying for this position. It is a scenario question: If a representative refuses to show up to your bi-weekly meetings, how would you proceed?

A26a. Pookhao (candidate): if it's recurrent, I think communication is important so I would reach out privately in case there are private circumstances involved. So before taking any drastic decisions I have to know their perspective. I would then reach out to their board members if they don't react.

A26b. Manuel (UCM): Thank you for the answer and good luck.

Q27. Bram (AUC): In the hypothetical situation where a member of the SC keeps blocking the ideas and plans of the social committee. How would you deal with this and how would you go about the consequent underspending?

A27a. Pookhao (candidate): if that happens on a regular basis then it would be a problem of difference in visions. So a preventative measure would be better than trying to fix this, we would do so by establishing an initial code of conduct or vision of the social committee. If that does not work and it becomes something serious then I would have a private word with them to check how they are doing and how they feel about the SC and why they disagree. I think that if you are going for a democracy then the majority should still be respected, but it's important to get their perspective and see if we can make compromises.

A27b. Bram (AUC): Thank you.

Q28. Robin (UCTwente): thank you for your speech. I have practical questions about representation. There is a big likelihood that 50% of the board will come from UCT students. But it's important for the UCSRN to represent all the UCs rather than just those on the board, so how will you ensure that everyone is represented equally?

A28a. Pookhao (candidate): Good question, the fact that SC and AC exist already help a lot. And I think that if 50% from one UC, we could set-up more committees if that is necessary and have one representative per UC such that these feel represented. And during the GA it would be great for them to express their concerns and opinions. I hope this answers your question.

A28b. Robin (CUT): Thank you very much and the best of luck with the rest.

Julien (EB): Thank you Pookhao, we do not seem to have any more questions. Thank you to everyone who has asked many questions. Sophie from the IB will take over and we will take a 15 minute break till 15:00.

g. Vote

Sophie (IB): I will send a link in the chat, in which you should be able to log in with the username and password and vote. We can only pass people in the position if 50% of all the votes casted in the positions. Make sure to send off your pole sheet. We will stay here in the chat and answer questions if you have any.

Break

15 minute break. 15:05 - 15:20.

6. Elections results

Chiara has been voted into the position of chair.
Dominique has been voted into the position of secretary.
Mahi has been voted into the position of treasurer
Luuk has been voted into the position of external.
Susana has been voted into the position of academic committee chair.
Pookaho has been voted into the position of social committee chair.

7. Board update

Julien: This year we wanted to do this differently from previous years, so we thought we would make a final report at the end of our term, concerning how our goals went, in addition to anything else that we think important to mention. Since there are 2 months left, the final report will be different from the GA.

Robin (UCTwente): Thank you for the update and consideration to shorten the GA. Will there be an opportunity for the GA to question these decisions and the report?

Julien (EB): we'll make ourselves available for you to ask us any questions, we officially get discharged by the next GA of next year. So you can always send us an email. Also for the financial report, since renzo needs to present the financial update our or eyar at next year's first GA. it also gives you all more time to react to the document. This eonc dpoin is the feedback. We had a meeting with all your UCs SA board. It was so nice to meet all of you and hear about what you are doing. And we talked about the feedback and we discussed it and we attempted to increase the social media, and we noted the points in regards to the structure that will be passed to the new board. For transition we have been in close contact with the AB and we have planned a transition weekend, but it is very much complete and includes all the important points. And we will make sure to have everything done by the first of july. Additionally, we will be available for help and support throughout the year. That was it for this quick update, we will not move on to the financial update if there are no questions.

Q29. Manuel (UCM): Did you guys manage to buy the suits that you were planning on buying?

A29. Julien (EB): yes we have them, we are wearing them.

Q30. Bram (AUC): I have to say that due to these clothes the GA has never gone smoother.

8. Financial update

Renzo (EB): I will keep this short. Since the last financial update, a total of 3 transitions have been made. I will be working on the transition with Mahi. The spending of the committees has been around 67% this year so thank everyone for that. And for the “to be determined” budget, I want to thank UCT and the input from the academic committee. But since I did not get a lot of input I would like to discuss the allocation of the next GA, and I want to remind everyone that this money should be spent on a long term project.

Q31. Marloes (UCTwente): I would not be in favor of discussing the TBD by GA at the next GA, so I think we should get to decide how this money is spent.

A31. Renzo (EB): I get your point, manuel do you want to add to that or is it a different point.

Q32. Manuel (UCM): I get what you mean but we did vote on last year’s budget, so i think it’s fine.

A32a. Renzo (EB): I get your point, you guys should have an input in what the money will be spent on but the main reason that I want it moved to next year, is that during the first GA of the year there is more input and more decisions are made, and we also barely got any input outside of UCT too actually dedicate it towards something so i wanted to make sure that I have input from all the UCs to dedicate it towards something.

A32b. Marloes (UCTwente): It makes sense, but the other UCS had the opportunity to give input and they decided not to so I don't think that's a valid reason to postpone this.

A32c. Renzo (EB): It would limit input from the other UCs as well as they did get the opportunity and did not provide it. Should it be voted on or should it be voted on at the next GA?

Julien (EB): In the end if all UC s agree with UCT’s contribution and all UCs approve and don’t need to say anything else then we can go along with UCT’s contribution, what isn’t spent this year will be spent this year.

Q33. Bram (AUC): What money are we actually talking about?

A33. Renzo: In the budget plan we have extra money from this year that we allocated to the reserve but we had leftover money around 1500 to appoint to a long term goal of the UCSRN.

Q34. Ruben (UCM): Yes, firstly I would like to apologize to Rento. I think Universalis did not have yet the time to give feedback as we have been busy working on our own association

and priorities.

A34. Renzo (EB): I will bring it up and Alex made a document where the input of the social committee was also presented.

Q35. Bram (AUC): My apologies that we were not proactive with suggestions and had similar problems with our own UCs. At our UC we did not notice that the year that is now graduating had two years of corona, and with the theft, an idea could be to stimulate some kind of activities during the summer to foster the interaction between the UCs such as organizing an encouragement for an informal exchange if corona allows. Such as sponsoring travel costs for the trips between UCs. There are so many possibilities, and we know a lot of our members have not been able to fully benefit from the potential of the UCSRN. This could especially be nice for international students as well.

A35. Renzo (EB): I think that it's a good idea and I hope that the baby board is taking notes as well. Going back to what UCT proposed. Although I would propose that we have a focus group over this to give everyone the opportunity to pitch it. UCT pitched, improved website and marketing, changed liability, which gave the law change. I think it would be nice to use some of the money to change the statutes, they brought up using the money for board clothes for the members, or distribute the fund as a prize for the UCSRN tournament.

Q36. Ebbe-Tim (UCTilburg): I was just looking at the budget plan at this date.

A36. Renzo (EB): This is the new budget, it has been updated, I sent it by email. I suggest we take a decision on determining the budget next year or create a focus group to discuss it this year.

Julien (EB): Since there is no reaction I assume that we can go forward

Q37. Marloes (UCTwente): I want to make this a motion to have the second option, to have a separate focus group or separate meeting.

Motion: To have a separate focus group to discuss the "To be determined budget".

Q38. Manuel (UCM): I do not think that it is that important to have a focus group and we are just going to over charge the treasurer and it's too big of a task and project to finish it during the last two months.

A38a. Marloes (UCT): I think it's a valid point but I think we should have a focus group. Because the board members that are in place now are experienced and have had a year to prepare UCSRN stuff, I don't think this decision should be left to new board members.

A38b. Manuel (UCM): I think that the board before you gave you the opportunity and I think it is a learning process, to learn. This is something more long-term for the next board to find what they can do, especially with changing conditions.

A38c. Marloes (UCT): I think we agree to disagree so we should go ahead with the voting.

Julien (EB): alright then I am launching the poll. There will be an extra poll for the proxies.

Julien (EB): 14 votes in favor, 13 votes against and 5 abstained. The focus group has

passed, so please join them if you are interested. We will follow up by email to organise the focus group.

9. External update

Tiffanie (EB): Good afternoon everyone, Here is a short external update as to what has been achieved so far concerning external relations and partnerships of the UCSRN. One of the goals this year was communication and increasing awareness of the UCSRN. We have worked really hard on increasing our presence on social media this second half of the year, with a special emphasis on Instagram. Not only did we post more and make our page more interactive, we also organized takeovers of our own and other UCs's instagrams. This point of communication also ties into our newly set up newsletter. We have used it to integrate our new opportunities that have come up for students as well as keep students in the loop on what projects we have been working on. I think this is a project that should be carried out next year as well. Lastly, Kayna, Alex and I have been working on redesigning the website. We would also like to thank Jonathan for his help because he put a lot of effort into it. It is not finished yet but it should be done by June and we are excited for you to see the final version.

Secondly concerning external partners, our 3 largest partners this year were ISO, ECOLAS and Coalition Y. At the last GA, the point was brought up that we wanted to be more politically active and represented. We worked with ISO this year which is a partner that has ties to the dutch ministry of education. We used it as a platform to share knowledge on events and collect more in depth information on governmental decisions that impacted LAS students. Then, consider the european College of liberal Arts and Sciences which is an organisation that represents all the LAS programs around europe. It is important to be in close contact with them as they are a large organization from whose endorsement we could largely profit, especially with for example the AC and their master sheet. This year we have worked with them on several projects to connect Dutch UC, the UCSRN with other european LAS programs. Lastly in regard to Coalition Y, during our last GA the question was brought up on how to make the UCSRN more politically active. I put some thought in it and asked the different UCs for input on agenda points for the upcoming Coalition Y meeting and would like to thank the UCs who did. Unfortunately, nly one UC answered my email. If other UCs have any other ideas they want to submit, then I can set up a meeting where this can be discussed with representatives from the different UCs. In addition to that I have set up a roadmap for my successor if he decides to be more political. Considering smaller partnerships, we have shared more information on these in our newsletter such as mindsupport and the dutch glocal impact challenges. Following this I looked into a legal adviser for the UCSRN. With the help of ISO who have experience in this, they recommended two legal advisers: Vereniging Rechtshulp en Bemiddeling and Landelijk Studenten Rechtsbureau. Vereniging Rechtshulp en Bemiddeling is located in Utrecht and gives legal advice to our kind of organizations. Depending on the legal advice required their tariffs range from free to more. I suggest that if the UCSRN next year needs legal advice next year for status changes etc they reach out to them. Following this, there is the Landelijk Studenten Rechtsbureau who would be good to work with if we have any questions concerning education. They generally work for individual students. But from what I heard from ISO if we have any questions we can also reach out to them. Lastly, for the potential new UCs update. UCVenlo will not be joining us this year, they are interested but it doesn't fit into their plans for financial and event participation reasons. On the other hand UCFrysland wishes to become a member starting September of the upcoming year. I will go into more depth in the coming point regarding this.

Q39. Robin (UCTwente): Did the ISO come back to you about the fee reduction?

A39. Tiffanie (EB): The fee reduction in general, or how it would impact LAS students? The information that was passed on to me is that the government came up with a plan to reduce the educational field. However, there are a lot of unclarities and more explanations and details still need to be provided. The Chair of ISO is looking into it and will get back to me once she has more information.

Q40. Rene (UCU): abit the topics that you are going to bring up with coalition Y which one interests you and are you probably going to bring up with them?

A40a. Tiffanie (EB): Currently, only one UC has emailed me potential agenda points. I think it was UCU who emailed me back and wanted to bring across the point of transition and intro-week.

A40b. Rene (UCU): Yes I was wondering from the other topics that were sent, which ones will you be bringing up and discussing.

A40b. Tiffanie (EB): You were the only SA to email me back which was unfortunate especially based on the discussion we had at the last GA. It would be great if other UCs could also look at the email I sent out and send in suggestions so we can involve more UCs in this discussion.

Q41. Ruben (UCM): Could you check which email you sent it to as i'm not sure our secretary got it.

A41a. Tiffanie (EB): yes of course, i'm currently sharing my screen but once the meeting is over i'll contact your external rep.

A41b. Ruben (UCM): I'll also put manuel and I's email in the chat.

A41c. Manuel (UCM): Are you sending the emails to the academic representative?

A41d. Tiffanie (EB): I am sending these emails to the email registered under secretary ucmsa.

Julien: Thank you Tiffanie, I don't think we have any more questions.

10. Social Committee update

Alex (EB): The first goal was to connect the different UCs together, and we've come up this year with SOCO initiatives since not many were presented, those are the UCSRN penpal with 100 sign ups, also the UCSRN game night which was joined by UCVenlo who greatly enjoyed it, as well as the film festival, and finally the voice of the UCSRN. We are currently working on setting up the finale of the voice of the UCSRN. The other core events, spotlight and tournament, both happened in an online form. the second goal, to redefine the function of the SOCO, we are setting up a discussion session to discuss what the social committee is and to see if we can identify the flaws and pass them onto the baby board. We started the

year by setting up the association assembly but with corona there was no incentive to meet everyone, so we made a facebook group to meet online, but the group was a little silent, which could be improved next year or have the association meeting in person. We have noticed some discrepancies in the attendance and importance in the social committee so we have decided to set up a meeting to get the baby board set up in a new board. The social committee was also involved in promoting the events hosted, and it was nice to see the UCs involved in that. We also updated the buddy system from last year, it worked quite well with some UCs, not all but I think it should be maintained next year, as it allows UCs to bond on a closer basis. We updated the UCRN committee database to facilitate the set up of inter UC events. At the moment I think there is not enough awareness and it is too hard to access so those are things to change to facilitate its use. This is the run down from the odcail committee, if you have any questions please feel free to ask.

Q42. Manuel (UCM): Thank you Alex for the work you have done this year.

A42. Alex (EB): Thank you Manuel, that is greatly appreciated and I would like to thank the reps for all the work that they have put in.

Q43. Alexand (UCTwente): I felt like some UCs were way more represented than others this year, do you also feel that this has happened and how could you change that?

A43. Alex (EB): That is a good question we have discussed this in the EB and SOCO, it is hard because there are different reasons for these discrepancies, so it is fundamental things that I hope to be touching upon during those discussion sessions, as I have no idea how to solve this, but if you have an idea please let me know.

Julien (EB): That is also something that we can discuss during the open floor. Any more questions for the social committee?

11. Academic committee update

Kayna (EB): I just wanted to remind everyone that we had an academic transition half-way throughout the year so these are mostly things that we carried on from the beginning of the year that we worked towards completing rather than coming up with new initiatives. I will go through the goals that the academic committee set for themselves at the beginning of the year and see how they have evolved.

The first goal was to use the academic committee platform to exchange best practices; we had discussions on online proctoring issues, about the watchful nature of the softwares and the stress that it put on the students and from this discussion we created an open letter which was put together to discuss the issues of online proctoring, share our findings with the students and maybe having the students reach out to us with their experience. You can find this open letter on the UCSRN website and your academic representatives should have also distributed them in their respective UCs. Additionally we have reached out to the dean network with a formal letter asking them to make changes to the way that proctoring is used as they can support this cause and potentially bring about change given that it may be possible that education continues online next year. We have also nearly completed the UC database which contains information ranging from the curriculum of each UC to their housing style, and that can also be found on the website. This is also in accordance with our

next goal which is for the academic committee to be a medium of support for both incoming and outgoing students. This is because the document has a lot of information that prospective students can use to determine which UC they would like to apply for. In addition, we have been working on the UC mastersheet which is a document that provides information on the LAS education. We are also working alongside EUC who are working on a similar project where they are organising an event to teach students to sell themselves on the masters levels to present their strengths and the strengths of the LAS education in a UC, this will also be brought up in an ISO meeting.

The third goal is to increase the involvement of the UCs that are further away. This goal has not been worked on that much, since the structure is currently more set-up as funding instead of organizing events, we do however consider including when sponsoring events. And for the last goal which is to evaluate the proposal sent to the academic committee and provide support where necessary and justified, we have sponsored a total of four events this year, which we are very excited about. The first was the Extramuros election symposium for which we allocated 130€, ERASMUN who received 150€ for their event. Upcoming events include AUC's springboard which has received 300€ but has only asked for 147€, the last event is TedxAUC for which we have allocated 200€. Please attend the events. Additionally, I would like to point out that we are working on an academic committee transition. Furthermore, I would like to thank the AC representatives for their hard work in the AC and the UCs for sending in budget and event proposals

Q44. Manuel (UCM): thank you for taking on the role of academic committee chair and continuing with your secretarial tasks.

A44. Kayna (EB): Thank you, it's greatly appreciated!

12. New member update: UC Frysland

Tiffanie (EB): The UCFrysland study association is very interested in joining the UCSRN. They have written an application letter as well as a document requesting a membership fee reduction. UCFrysland is applying for a membership reduction application which has been discussed with Sophie from the IB. The reason for which you have not yet gotten any information on this yet is that we are still waiting for their bank statements as a justification for the membership fee reduction. To give a small update on how much their reduction fee would entail, they would like their fee to be decreased from 1000€ to 500€, as they have few members at the moment, they consider that 500€ is all they can pay for the moment. They hope to be able to pay the full membership fee in 3 years time. You will get more detailed information once we have received all the information from them. Does the IB wish to add anything?

Sophie (IB): There were some documents missing but we are taking care that everything is here as that is a drastic reduction fee.

Julien (EB): To add on, this will be decided at the first GA of next year, so this is something that Tiffanie will carry on to the next year. Are there any questions for tiffanie?

Q45. Ebbe-Tim (UCTilburg): Does it work in accordance with the statutes that one UC pays less than the other UCs?

A45. Sophie (IB): It's possible for them to pay less, it needs to be approved annually and they need to provide a letter and proof of budget.

Q46. Manuel (UCM): If I'm not mistaken the statute says that the membership fee needs to be discussed and voted on by the GA.

A46. Sophie (IB): According to policy it needs to be voted on by the first GA of the year it applies to.

Julien (EB): That applies to everyone by the way, it is article 4.2 in the PM.

Renzo (EB): It has happened in the past to the UCSRN, especially in the first year of the UCSRN where the smaller UCs would pay a smaller fee to not hurt their financial health.

13. Open floor (AOBs)

Julien (EB): Then I guess we are done with that update, let's move on to the open floor, we will close the GA after that

Q47. Manuel (UCM): I will ask the IB and the other EB members as well. Thank you to the EB and great year, I hope you enjoyed it as well. And shoutout to Renzo as well.

A47. Julien (EB): Thank you Manuel, we really appreciate all of you for participating and being viable members. We have one point that we would like to bring up. There is a discrepancy in the participation of the UCs, it varies across the UCS, but we have seen it and the whole project is based on corporations, and to close the bridge between the UCs, we need participation and effort to be put in. For the tournament we know that people are fed up with things being online, but we need to keep everyone motivated and hyped. So we wanted to ask as we want to improve on the feedback we have gotten, and we want to see what you all think and how we can solve this discrepancy.

Q48. Ruben (UCM): I think that the participation at least for UCM is a wider issue and challenge that we are facing. Even for our own events only a few students are joining, hence motivation is lower for UCSRN events. Realistically we are hoping for COVID to be over to start having in-person events. It is a difficult problem, we have done our best to have UCM students join. But I would like to reiterate that this is a wider issue.

A48a. Kayna (EB): I totally understand that, but it is also concerning delegates and representatives in the social committee and academic committee meetings. So this includes more than just the students.

A48b. Rene (UCU): In addition to what Ruben said about attendance, we noticed that in this last period, over the last month or 2 there were a lot of UCSRN events that were overlapping into the group that they target, like the spotlight and voice of the ucsrn that is only targeted to artsy students, and that makes it hard to rally people, but it would be nicer to have them spread out over the year.

A48c. Julien (EB): yes that is something that we have discussed and that is why we are working hard on the transition to make sure that the baby board hits the ground running so we can have events towards the beginning of the year.

A49d. Ankita (AUC): I agree with what rubben and all things that were said. What KAYna was saying about the lack of motivation internally also comes from the lack of motivation from the students, so it's hard for representatives to be motivated when students are not. In my first year I didn't know about the UCSRN until the tournament arrived, so the UCs himself could work on improving visibility for the UCSRN before the end of the year.

Q50. Ebbe-Tim (UCTilburg): This might be a bigger point, I have been involved with the UCSRN and there are some structural issues that come up when trying to combine nine different UCs. Does the UCSRN currently support doing more events? If we look at the 4000 students we are trying to represent, there are only about 40 student representatives. Are those enough people to consistently do enough events to reach the goals that UCSRN tries to reach? Can we provide for 4000 people with such a structure? I'm not sure, I'm not sure if we should want that, and if we should want that we should think about what the UCSRN should look like. Right now we have a lot of great ambitions but I don't think we have the work power to get to that. There are also structural issues where it is very difficult to communicate with 9 UCs next year. It becomes very bureaucratic very quickly, I think the main issue with committees underspending lies in the fact that it is a democratic system which is fine in theory, but it means that you need 5 UCs in an event and that becomes very quickly hard to organise. So there is a lot of bureaucracy where it is not needed, my UC has organised events with LUC outside of the UCSRN to avoid a lot of that and be more efficient. We will have a discussion on that in the SOCO, so I won't go too deep into that right now. Another issue that haunts the UCSRN is because we are such a big and complex organisation we have a lot of issues on a metaphysical level. You see it this year again where we have a bunch of people who were not active in the UCSRN last year so they will have to get introduced to it this year and these issues will come up again. I think those are the underlying issues from both the reps and the students.

A50a. Julien (EB): These are good questions Ebbe-Tim. I think you are a bit wrong with the 40 people, the AC and EB don't organise events, and occasionally the SOCO does, but those events that were sponsored and those initiated by the SOCO had an external team working on it. The point is for the 4000 students to have the opportunity to organize those events and food use to provide them with the tools to do so. Someone recently reached out to the UCSRN because they found out about us on our Instagram. The goals are that the 4000 students organise events, and that each committee is trying to organise an event that can be attended by others.

A50b. Renzo (EB): He pointed out that it is easier to organise the events with one UC instead of the whole Social Committee.

A50c. Ebbe-Tim (UCTilburg): We were doing that before the buddy system and we had some events with UCM as well.

A50d. Julien (EB): I didn't think the UCSRN structure is that complex; we are a relatively young organization and so is the whole UC concept in the Netherlands. I am also a little more optimistic than you are because it is true that things are recurring but they are also improving. Everything that we talk about they are all things that the past board did not talk to us about but since we have discussed these with the GA and they are written down then we can get the baby board to improve these things. Patience is key with student associations and for big changes like that especially since the board changes every year, but there are small steps being taken. It is hard to represent 4000 students but we are on the path of

progression, even to students who don't know it. It is true that for a lot of them we are just the tournament of the year and online we had even less attendance. But we hope that by having these events that other people will talk about and get to know the UCSRN. Maybe you organised events with UCM and LUC because of the information that was provided by the SOCO and the UCSRN, so that is also something to consider.

A50e. Manuel (UCM): I don't think this is something that will not be solved in the next few months. This would include a structural change and a change in the PM. But everyone who is here today has done an incredible job.

A50f. Julien (EB): yea definitely.

A50g. Renzo (EB): I agree with Manuel as well, we are a small organisation and we are making changes, like the fact that smaller events including less UCs are being accepted now which was not the case before. So all we can do is to pass on the knowledge to the baby board so they don't make the same mistakes that we do.

Julien (EB): I think we will close it here then.

Sophie (IB): The IB is looking for new members, we have sent out emails but maybe not everyone got them. We just wanted you all to know that it would be great if you looked at those emails and shared it with your students as we need at least 1 member from each UC.

Julien (EB): Thank you for your participation and your work. It was a hard year this year. A lot would not have been possible without all your help. Maybe we will be able to meet each other again during next year's Tournament.

This GA is over.

Closing of the GA