



# minutes

## Meeting Faculty Council (FC)

Date and time

9 July 2024, 13:30-15:00

Final

Eliza van der Ploeg

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Present

FC: Gwenda van der Vaart (chair), Roselinde van der Wiel, Dimitris Ballas, Paulo Cigarro, Jovan van den Berk, Timothy Laukens, Saskia Enuma

FB: Johan Woltjer, Arjan van den Assem, Nienke Bastiaans, Julia van Wijk, Harm Verbeek

Others: Erik Meijles, Ibn Battuta

Landleven 1

9747 AD Groningen

The Netherlands

Absent with notice

Annet Kempenaar, Zeqiang Pan, Gunnar Mallon, Diana Velea

Minutes taken by

Eliza van der Ploeg

Last minutes (28 May 2024) approved

Yes, with text changes

## 1. Actions

Number	Who?	What?	Dead-line?	See point
20231031-4	Ballas	Reaction from HR about employee satisfaction survey?	9-7	
20240416-3	Van der Ploeg	Sign up for health and safety group for making risk assessments by email to Van der Ploeg -> one new PG student member and one staff member.		5
20240709-1	Van den Assem	Check missing course evaluation PC SPD.		3a
20240709-2	Van der Ploeg	Add strategic vision to FC agenda in September	19-9	5
20240709-3	Bastiaans	Contact staff member about setting-up staff association.		
20240709-4	Van der Vaart	Email Bastiaans staff mail about language training course.		

## 2. Finished actions:

**20240416-5:** Van der Ploeg has made the schedule for 2024-2025. As agreed upon, the day of the FC meeting has been changed from Tuesday to Thursday (for 2024-2025). The pre-meeting stays on Tuesday.

**20240416-6:** From 14 June – 14 July, the 2024 European championship football takes place. The FC suggest making it possible to watch the game(s) in the Equator and perhaps organize a team bowl. Not applicable anymore.

**20240528-1:** Van der Ploeg has e-mailed the union response on the demonstration protocol to the FB.

## 3. For information/received documents

### a. Update PCs:

There are concerns about the climate conditions in the Equator. The loud noise during lunch time and temperatures are hard on students. Bastiaans is already trying to have the climate conditions better controlled/improved.

One course evaluation for the PC SPD was/went missing (action Van den Assem).

### b. Update Faculty Board:

1) Most of the activities at the moment are related to/focused on finances.

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- 2) Student survey came out. All programmes have an improved score. Some programmes are even the best.
  - c. Board of the University's response to the report of the Netherlands Labour Authority on workload and unacceptable behavior at the UG: for information. The faculty started two years ago with improving social safety by among others: offering training, improving the reporting mechanism and installing an informal safety person. The faculty will continue in this line. In addition, the faculty is looking at how to improve the measuring. Observations will be included in the report about over time, work pressure. Furthermore, the faculty participates in the national pilot New academic year.
  - d. Report informal administrative meeting spring 202: for information. One mistake in the minutes: all board members were there.
  - e. Annual report ombudsperson: for information.
  - f. Concept year schedule 2024-2025: for information.
4. **Concept minutes of 28 May 2024**  
The minutes are approved of with text changes.
  5. **TER**  
TER MSc: Van der Wiel has made text corrections in the document on Google Drive. The Faculty Council appreciates being able to see the comments in the documents. The Faculty Council expresses a positive opinion.
  5. **Finances and who we are as Faculty**  
The Faculty Board (FB) is in a broader discussion with other faculties about the Framework Coalition Agreement (=Hoofdlijnenakkoord). FB members joined the departmental staff meetings for answering questions. Measures at the moment:
    - 1: if the government announcement will happen then the university/faculty receives structurally less money and this will be quite severe;
    - 2: stringent replacement of staff;
    - 3: freezing some spending (for example the Sectorplan funds);
    - 4: be critical about traveling; register leave; external funding
    - 5: extensifying programmes;Action Van der Ploeg: add strategic vision to FC agenda in September.
  6. **Review past year & functioning FC**  
Following an article in the U-krant.  
Woltjer stresses the importance of working together as FB and FC in showing strength. The overall feeling of the FC is of a good atmosphere. The FC intends to keep working on providing positive feedback. The FC is always open to brainstorm with the FB and would like to be involved early on in the process.
  7. **Input from Pro Geo & Bursary PhD**  
The new Pro Geo board consists of five students. Several initiatives are ongoing: digital skills, improving premaster representation and late grading.
  8. **Input from staff**
    - a. One staff member suggested to look into the possibility for setting-up a Staff Association. Bastiaans will contact the staff member (action).
    - b. Extra attention should be paid to include the education staff as they are not connected to a department.
    - c. Dutch language acquisition - what is the status? On intranet an announcement will be made about training possibilities. Van der Vaart forwards the anonymized email to Bastiaans (action).

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## 9. Any other subject

This is the last meeting for the Pro Geo board members. Their contribution is very much appreciated. The chair thanks the student members for their constructive input and efforts of last year and wishes everyone a nice holiday.

## 10. Closure and date next meeting

The next meeting is 19 September 2024. The chair closes the meeting at 14:36 hrs.