



Vision of the 13th Board of Extra Muros

Academic year 2020/2021

Introduction

We, the 13th Board of Extra Muros, have become the Board in turbulent times. Due to the COVID-19 crisis, things have changed drastically at university. Despite uncertainty about the near future, we will utilize our board year to mature Extra Muros as an organization. Professionalism and continuity are keywords within this organizational improvement. Next summer, we want to hand a stable and healthy association over to the 14th Board of Extra Muros. This goal consists of two pillars:

- I. In order to maximize the facilitating function of the association, we want to revamp the image of Extra Muros. To a larger extent, this image has to be representative to the entire LAS community. As an organization we play an essential role in community building, according to the LAS Core Staff. In addition, Liberal Arts & Sciences has as a study program an open and divers character. We want to emphasize the same elements to attract a wider group of people in the LAS community.
- II. Better communication is closely connected to the point above. Communication to both members (internal) and non-members (external) must improve in its consistency and clarity. As well as we emphasize the establishment of continuity in achieving the overarching goal, we do the same in the context of communication. The power of communication lies in both its frequency and its quality.

With these two pillars in mind, we divide the year and our goals into two semesters. In addition, the first month is described.

September

Because of the extraordinary nature of the current situation, it is more important than ever to stimulate integration and community building of freshmen students. The first month (starting at the end of August) is going to be crucial in this process. This month we want to accomplish three things:

1. The establishment of a new communication system which facilitates the LAS student in a clear manner. Our events and activities - both offline and online - need to be communicated properly. This goal is intertwined with our new branding and promotion on our social media and website.

2. In addition to the output we provide to members - as described above - we force ourselves to be accessible and approachable for all input. Experience teaches us that freshmen students have a lot of questions, especially in these times. Extra Muros is a place they can go to, without any threshold.
3. Finally, the first month is eminently the moment to increase the number of active members. It is important that also people who will not be able to be on campus get the chance to consider a membership of Extra Muros and to participate actively.

First semester

The first semester is likely to be heavily influenced by government and university corona measures. A significant part of the students will not be on campus and all lectures and tutorials will have an online alternative. Taking these circumstance into consideration, Extra Muros has three special focus points in the first six months:

1. The creation of a platform that allows freshmen students to connect. Looking at its duty as community builder, Extra Muros can and must be the platform on which students are able to connect with others.
2. The facilitation of informative and educational help. The demand for information will mainly arise from the freshmen, but the other years will also have corona-related questions.
3. The stimulation of complete cohesion throughout all years and majors. After the division into the five majors that takes place after the first year, it is important that social cohesion maintains within the particular year. In addition, we want to see more connection between the years.

Second semester

We anticipate two possible scenarios in the run-up to the second semester. Choosing between the two will depend heavily on to what extent corona measures will continue and whether more will take place on campus.

1. Scenario 1 assumes more offline possibilities and permission. If university expands its offline supply in terms of lectures and tutorials, Extra Muros will focus on the next step in community building. The emphasis will be on social activities and events that were not possible in the first six months.
2. Scenario 2 assumes no relaxation of the current situation, or even a stricter policy than what is now being executed. This would mean Extra Muros continues and develops its approach of the first six months.