



Minutes General Assembly 22 March 2022

Opening of the GA by Laura

Laura opens the General Assembly and asks permission to record it for making the minutes.

- Christiaan: what is this recording used for?
- Laura: Jazlyn uses it to make the minutes.

Proposing of the Agenda

Laura proposes the Agenda. And asks David to explain the voting process.

- David: the voting is done by a raising of hands

Vote on the Agenda

- 9 votes in favour
- 0 against
- 0 abstain
- The agenda passed

Vote on the minutes of last GA, this was on the 1st of December 2021

- 8 votes in favour
- 0 against
- 1 abstain
- The minutes passed

What we have done so far:

Sebastian tells what we have done since the last GA in December.

- We have done the brewery tour to the Stadsbrouwerij
- The day trip to Maastricht
- The photo competition
- The cocktail workshop
- International meal deal

Financial update:

Beatrice explains that we have gotten 800 euros.

- A bankcard was retrieved from two years ago. There was a study trip where they split the cards and they forgot to put the money back again at the end of the year.
- Christiaan: will some of the money go to the gala?
- Bea: yes, some, but not all, because we have more committees
- Julia Theißen: this was from 2019/2020 right?
- Bea: yes, everyone was refunded
- Julia Theißen: how did this happen? This is quite a bit of the budget
- Bea explains that there had been a separate card for the study trip a few years ago, to be able to pay for things during the study trip.

- Julia: so there is no more money lost somewhere?
- Bea: the bank called Tosca and told her there was still money in a bank account in the name of Extra Muros, and Tosca got into contact with me to get the money back. Everything should be good now.

Organisational change Academic Committee:

Jazlyn explains that our Academic committee head quit, which means that there is no Academic committee head for the rest of the year, but she will be stepping in as acting committee head for the remainder of the academic year.

Discussion topic: Committees:

Laura: As a board, we are very excited about all the events our committees are organising, they are all working very hard. What we noticed is that maybe, the current structure is not entirely optimal, because we noticed there are a lot of committees with not a lot of committee members, so we were wondering whether it may be beneficial to have less committees next year and maybe put some committees together that have been taken apart in the past. We are very interested in what you all think.

- Sebastian: making any decision about this would in any case be done with the board of next year.
- Lison: what I noticed, I don't know how many people committees have, but in the past it was very easy to sign up and not do anything, so if the committees are bigger, then how do you prevent people from just being part and not actually doing anything?
- Tess: party committee has 4 people
- Lison: how do you keep everyone active? Very difficult to hold meetings when above 6 people in a committee
- Bea: could have a committee head and a sort of vice head.
- Julia Theißen: the more people you have, the less responsible people feel. Why so little people signed up for committees is covid. This year it was also difficult to sign up, because not everyone was on campus, so I think there will be more people signing up next year
- Laura: I am wondering how much impact covid really had on committee sign ups this year.
- Julia Theißen: I think it had a big impact
- Jazlyn: I am not sure about that, because we also had a lot of trouble finding committee heads.
- Julia Theißen: not being able to find committee heads or committee members is maybe not enough of a reason to merge or dissolve committees.
- Jazlyn: this is also not the only reason behind wanting to merge, another important reason is that a lot of committees overlap a lot in their events, like for example Academic and Educational.

Academic and Educational committee:

- Jamie: so far we have done crash courses, there is not a lot of need for crash courses, so it does not take that much of time. We wanted to do more. Once getting to the more academic side, we are getting told, academic committee should do that. Can make a split within the committee, when still being involved in the whole committee
- Lison: we did some good events, but they probably should be merged, and with the mentorship program we could do study groups, but there is no need for that anymore. Crash

courses are not the way to go, everything I wrote last year was thrown out of the window. Only first year students benefit from educational committee. They could be merged.

- Laura: should we keep doing crash courses or stop with them?
- Lison: they could be outsourced, they are prone to critique from lecturers, you do not want to be too authoritative.
- Robin Heesakkers: Q&A's are almost never used
- Lison: Benjamnin and Itai who carried the crash courses are gone, for this you need someone who is really good at the course. For courses except TAS almost everyone is able to pass them and the crash courses are not needed.
- Jamie: I recognise what you are saying, we also discussed doing study groups, but there is no need for them and the Q&A's from the lecturers are not very popular, so it does not make sense for us to hold them.
- Laura to Robin and Christiaan: you are in academic, do you think this is reasonable?
 - Answer is yes.
- Sebastian: do not want to throw out the whole structure, but to get rid of the frustrating thing of having so many committees which sometimes work inefficiently.
- Christiaan: how about mix the events the committees do?
- Sophie: it becomes chaotic if you mix events, maybe encourage more collaboration between the committees.
- Christiaan: what way is the chaos bad?
- Sophie: if creative would do the crash courses, it would be strange .
- Jamie: it might be a budget issue as well, allocating budget will get way more difficult as well.
- Laura: committees are not limited, can still ask another committee to collaborate in any event.
- Tess: as party we really struggled with this as well, because still covid and we still need budget for the gala at the end of the year. Doing cocktail workshop, which could be a social activities event.
- Christiaan: cocktails more social? What differentiates the party from the social activities committee?
- Tess: it is very difficult.
- Beatrice: the main thing is the gala.
- Tess: could do a gala committee and put party and social activities together.
- Lison: before we would have contracts with bars, so better keep them separate.
- Julia: Theißen social activities would do board games every week and bonfires.
- Tess: keep them separate.
- Laura: another thing that overlapped was internationalisation and culture and outreach.
- Comments were made about the past events of the Internationalisation and Culture and the Outreach committee and in how they differ.
- Laura: is outreach going to do volunteering again? Because that would set them apart
- Julia Theißen: I would say yes
- Beatrice: it is not up to us, it is up to the committee head what they are going to do with the committee.
- Laura: I&C what did they do in the past?
- Beatrice: went to the Efteling, Halloween pub quiz, thanksgiving dinner, we didn't do a lot last year, because of covid as well, tried to set up aid for health insurance for international students.
- Tess: they could help with things as duo and OV.
- Beatrice: Dutch banks accounts.

- Jazlyn: so, you want to reshape the committee?
- Beatrice: it can be, it would be a nice thing.
- Laura: I am thinking about the format, because, would there not be a place to find this information, or a better way to help with that?
- Jamie: University website.
- Julia Theißen: it would not be very helpful, it would help to have a Dutch person because everything is in Dutch.
- Tess: it would be helpful to have an biweekly hour where people can go for help with translation and stuff.
- Lison: give it an activist committee, manifesto thingy, write an article to the university about them not caring and they only want to get money. You could make it a mission, keeping in mind it is not our job, but we do it because we care.
- Julia Theißen: I think it is a really good point, if you want a decision made like this it doesn't go through the faculty, it needs to be done on the university level, they argue they are enough, but they are not.
- Lison: make it more activists.
- Laura: I am not sure about the form though, you need very passionate people to accomplish that.
- Lison: make it small and keep it realistic, it might not change but you can try. Write an email to the dean, not Alkeline, but the educational board and keep the committee in life and ask some professors that might want to help, ask the program committee.
- Julia Theißen: if you want to take an activist standpoint, people could help to sue the Dutch government about the public transport.
 - Small discussion on when one is able to get free OV when not a Dutch National
- Julia Theißen: people in their third year could help with this, as they are doing internships.
- Lison: to branch off, I think it would be a good idea, it would be very practical and helpful. When I was doing Extra Muros it wasn't always very practical, because Benjamin and Itaï were people who would be very passionate about this, so nice to get the activist thing back that is still practical.
- Sebastian: we want to try to not give too much direction. This has to do with how committees will be managed next year.
- Laura: are we forgetting a committee?
- Jazlyn: please dissolve PR
- Sebastian: it is nice, but it is not necessary to have one, I was sad that I could not do anything on the long term with the PR Committee
- Laura: we have Academic, Educational, Social Activities, Party, Internationalisation and Culture, Outreach, Yearbook, PR
- Jazlyn: Creative
- Jamie: we are all three in creative, (three means, Jamie, Anandi and Sophie), like Sebastian said, we can do things what we like and we try to have broad events, we do not have a lot of issues invading on other committees territory.
- Laura: Academic and Educational would be better together, then we should have eight committees
- David: do we know how other associations are doing this?
- Sebastian: Cicero, they have three large committees that do things and also have a deficit members.
- Tess: having a bigger committee is not necessarily an issue. Then you can split it up more easily

- Jazlyn: also if you have 6 people in a committee and 2 people cannot come to a meeting it is less of a problem than when there are only 4 people in a committee.
- David: two GA's ago we had a discussion about that the academic committee wanted 50 euros more, maybe if you merge committees, they have more budget per committee. And then they can organise larger events.
- Robin: I am not sure why we even wanted more money?
- Jazlyn: none of the money was used this year, but they asked for it because Ebbe Tim was pushing for it.

The Outreach committee and the Internationalisation and Culture committee could be joined together.

- Sophie: why would you the committees if you again split them within?
- Jazlyn: then you can switch between areas within the committee instead of it being two having to coordinate with each other
- Sophie: how would this improve the situation?
- David: higher quality for the events
- Sophie: but does the quality become better?
- Jazlyn: then you could put two people on an event instead of just one.
- Lison: it also still needs to be attractive for the committee head. Need a tight knit community as committee. Side note: people used to think it is easy to join as you do not need to work a lot for it. It has a lot of pitfalls in it. I do not think the quality would increase.
- Tess: I haven't decided how certain I feel. I was on social activities last year and we would have a main meeting and then we would split up in different groups.
- Jazlyn: but I do not think it should be only meeting up with the whole committee only once a month
- Laura: it also depends on how many enthusiastic committee heads you can find.
- Tess: you struggle most with finding Outreach and Internationalisation and Culture
- Jazlyn: it depends on the year.
- Jamie: cooperation in bigger teams, instead of merging more stimulate committee heads to do more things.
- Tess: we have a group chat, we talk around GA and stuff, which reminds me, we have not had a committee head meeting in a while.
- Jamie: maybe there could be more communication between the members of committees, like with a big group chat.
- Laura: a group chat may seem a bit forced. Does anyone else have to add anything?

Open floor:

Laura: then we are going to close this part of the GA, and go to the next slide, which is the open floor

Question from Beatrice: Julia do you know if there is any money I should know about?

- Julia Theißen: no, people have been refunded from last year, and Tosca put money on a credit card to pay for things we wanted to do when in Dublin, because she didn't want to walk around with 800 euros cash.
- Beatrice: To my knowledge everything now has been restored to the reserves.
- Sebastian: we do not know about anything from the year before last year.

Comment from Julia Theißen: about the gala, April is really close.

- A long discussion on finding a possible new date for gala followed

Laura: is there anyone who has another point for the open floor?

- No one comes forward. Laura closes the GA.

End of the GA