

## MINUTES 142<sup>ND</sup> FC MEETING – 1 NOVEMBER 2012

### Attendees

FC Members	Guests	MT	Official Secretary
Juup Essers	Rik Hendriks (STAR)	Frank van der Kruk	Joy Kearney
Sharmayne Schneijderberg	Jan Willem Huising		Umit Duman
Marnix de Kool	Anne van de Graaf		
Marlies Koolhaas			
Niall Deasy			
Thomas Eichentopf			
Pascal Redaoui			

### 1. Opening

Juup opens the 142<sup>nd</sup> FC meeting at 10:30 am.

### 2. Agenda

There are no questions or further points to be added to the agenda.

### 3. Minutes

The minutes are approved without further remarks or amendments.

### 4. Announcements

There are no announcements.

### 5. Update Master redesign

Juup thinks the sequencing of certain courses, the research clinic, the proposal and the thesis needs to be looked at. Anne explains a document has been sent out by the Dean last June or so, which gives a clear picture of the planned actions. Co-readership involvement is being discussed and if he/she should be from the same department. Furthermore, the defence will be no longer public but private instead. A grading matrix is used, but it is not very well documented so it is not very easy to retrace the grade. We should ask Paul Beije for all the different formats for theses. He will be looking at it with the Examination Board to see if there are common denominators. If they are within common bandwidth, it will not be so difficult. We will then use this to rewrite Master brochure. A generic SPSS course is possible to implement across the board (Raymond van Wijk). He started looking at systems and procedures; e.g. does a student have to go physically with signed paper to the administration? The ambition is to do this electronically in the future. A support system for coaches and co-readers should be developed for uploading the thesis, thesis monitoring or routing system. Thesis coordinators currently work with spreadsheets. A questionnaire has to be filled in before submitting a thesis. In autumn 2013 the new system will be implemented. The programmes are currently busy with designing all the programmes. The final plans should be submitted by 15 December. Most programmes will keep the same topics. The thesis has to have separate learning outcomes.

Sharmayne asks if there is still the possibility to go on exchange during the Master. Anne replies that exchange is possible after they finish the curriculum and the thesis, and leaving an elective open. You can only defend your thesis once a year; so finish everything and then go on exchange. Marlies thinks it's the same now. No procrastination fines any more. Niall thinks if there is competition for internships, it is interesting for the companies to choose. Sharmayne claims that accounting students normally write their thesis while on internship. Anne

disagrees; that's not what the director told me. Sharmayne knows several accounting students who have done this. Anne replies that students can do internship only with a student status. Otherwise you can graduate and then do an internship in your own time. Having a student status means you also have to pay fees. Niall asks about numbers of students doing a graduate placement. Anne estimates it is around 20%, but this is an approximation.

Juup asks if there is a limitation of thesis topics. Anne replies that it will be streamlined, but there are no limits to it. Topics will be clustered. Juup says the FC would like to hear how different programme advisory committees think about this.

## **6. Update BIT**

Jan Willem explains that the IT shut-down caused some concerns, but it is solved already. There is a small delay in the whole planning of the reorganisation. Jan Willem will send us documentation mid-November. The English version will be sent to him today. Employees will receive a letter what their new place will be mid-November. Decisions will be made mid-April and in place by the end of April.

Juup asks Jan Willem to elaborate on the cause of the delay. Jan Willem explains that the financial consequences needed to be made clearer. Juup asks why some jobs are 0.8 FTE. Frank says that the Faculty Councils replied in a separate letter. It should be all in the project group remarks. ESE had some sharp remarks. Thoroughness will lead to a proper process. It takes longer to read through the documents and absorb everything. Jan Willem says that tailor-made issues were a concern for Finance and this was one of the reasons for the delay. Juup asks if we have to wait another few weeks and we will have a reorganisation plan on which to draw up advice. Jan Willem replies the FC will have all the relevant documents before 6 December.

Frank has an appointment with the project leader of reorganisation on 7 November. He will have some input then, so a meeting with a smaller project group as in the past would be useful. Frank adds that if the FC didn't receive the documents, we shouldn't mind to just walk in and ask for it. Marlies asks what the atmosphere is like. Jan Willem replies that everyone is impatient; it is better for everyone to just go for it. Marlies asks if it will be a surprise. Jan Willem replies no, everyone will do more or less the same. Questions will be who are my new colleagues and boss, and will I like them etc. It is more about personal issues. If they are not satisfied, we have to talk about it. This is going on already. Frank adds that everyone knows each other now and regular integration drinks are organised so they can get acquainted.

## **7. Update Nominal = Normal (N=N)**

Pascal wrote to Ad Scheepers; he will talk to other parties about how to incorporate students in committees. Niall has been in contact with Joachim Streefkerk about the changes. Now there are announcements on various changes.

Juup says these measures are part of formal regulations and are part and parcel of the TER. It involves a sequencing of how grades are being given. Niall says that passing rate was very high last year: around 85%. So it is not a big deal. Pascal adds Ad says they are closely monitoring the developments in IBA. Niall thinks the results are good so far; learning early provides results.

Lecturers are sometimes missing, which is very unprofessional. Sharmayne says that the STAR Master Study Clubs want to facilitate students in the PCs. Rik states we would like to facilitate in an objective way. Juup says we will formally take you up on your offer. The Dean has to formally say so. PACs need to be fixed in the Faculty Regulations. The Dean will not follow up and support our proposal. What we have to do is get the Dean to come with an alternative and also admit the current situation is undesirable. It is a new angle then to propose to include

the PACs in the Faculty Regulations. Marlies feels it will be a challenge to implement these new committees in this academic year. Juup says the Dean obviously does not want this. Marlies is concerned about the peaks and priorities, since the person who wrote Steef's letter is responsible for the Master trajectory. The PACs should draw up advice that comes to us directly as well. The legal standing of PACs should be reinforced.

### **8. Any other business**

- *Master Thesis*

Juup has still worries on the Master thesis. Last year 770 students passed the Master and the standard of theses was worrying. Students will have to be able to seek recourse if they don't agree. We, as FC, have to keep close tabs. Somebody should be involved from the FC. Marlies confirms; no students in that group. Pursey Heugens is the contact person.

- *Confidence indicators*

Juup has access codes to surveys by ERIM. It has to be decided about sampling and how it is going to be done. Thomas asks how we are going to master data collection every six months. Niall asks how representative will they really be (if only strong motivation is the reason to fill in survey). Juup suggests we can use it as a trend-watching mechanism. Niall wonders how public are we going to make this. Juup feels this is where we see the pragmatic effects. The Board will be looking at the surveys; then it serves as watchdog mechanism. Niall thinks we should do one before Christmas so we have something before the New Year. Pascal offers to send surveys.

### **9. Closure**

The meeting is closed at 12:30 pm.

**Next FC meeting 6 December 2012 10.30 am in T03-42.**

### **To do before the next meeting**

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Task</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>
Letters of advice	Send an overview of topics the MT needs advice on of the FC	Anne
BIT reorganisation	Send all BIT reorganisation documents to the FC	Jan Willem
BIT reorganisation	Put the topic on the agenda of 6 December	Joy
N=N meeting	Organise an N=N meeting on 16 November	Joy