While it’s freezing outside and the days are at their shortest, we take a brief moment to reflect on what we have been working on since we started in September.

We are currently in talks with the board of the Faculty of Science about the possibility of holding elections for Programme Committee membership. Also, while we have advised positively on the Faculty’s budget, we did raise concerns regarding housing and have asked for more clarity on how funds that have become available since the discontinuing of study financing will be spent. We’ll be actively involved in meetings regarding these matters, and will keep you all updated as much as possible.

On a more practical note: from early 2018 onwards, lockers at Science Park 904 will be repaired and swept regularly and it will become possible to reserve study spots using an app. We’ve also formed a focus group with the student councils from other faculties and the caterer to improve what the canteen has to offer and better meet the students’ needs.

Speaking of your needs: we’ve heard the demand of Faculty of Science students for an extra break in the year loud and clear, and have brought this up with the Central Student Council and the UvA executive board. The UvA is now investigating the possibilities for implementation of this request.

Last but not least: we are looking for a new administrative secretary! Are you interested in these topics and do you want to support the council administratively? Then send us an email at fnwi@studentenraad.nl!

Enjoy your holidays!

The Faculty Student Council

More information? Please visit room B0.112, send an email to fnwi@studentenraad.nl or go to studentenraad.nl/fnwi

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Dear students,

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‘Looking back on 2017, I can certainly say it was an eventful year; for the Faculty of Science and for me. The relocation that didn’t go through, the continuous expansion of the Faculty (and the accommodation issues to go with it), the debate about diversity and democracy… it meant I had lots of meetings, discussions and coffee.

There being only one student assessor at the Faculty, it can be a lonely job sometimes. But of course I was always in conversation. Aside from board meetings, I spent my time in meetings with the Faculty Student Council, having coffee with the UvA student assessor and talking to fellow students in general.

This year, I have learned that it is important to be a bit bold at the right times. That is also what I would advise my successor: don’t be afraid to say what you think, but also know when it’s better to wait or keep your opinion to yourself.

Imagine: you have an exam, you overslept, so you rush to your exam, you want to enter the room just within the allowed time limit and… you’re rejected access. Or: as you’re sweating on your exam, you need a bathroom break, but the exam invigilator won’t let you, even though they should. Or perhaps: due to your dyslexia you’re entitled to a time extension, and after studying for days and writing for hours you’ve come close to finishing your exam, but because you didn’t get the extra time you should’ve gotten you failed your course.

Seems familiar? If you feel your rights at an exam have been violated, the Central Student Council has set up an Examination Policy Hotline for you: meldpunt-tentamenbeleid.nl.

The Faculty of Science wishes you happy holidays and a wonderful 2018!

Don’t forget to register for your courses!

Registration is open from 5-19 December

Science Park 904 will be closed from 23 December to 1 January.

Comments or suggestions about the To Dah Loo? Please send an email: info-science@uva.nl