Dear students,

I hope you had a good start of the academic year!

This edition of the To Dah Loo is all about sustainability. We have an interview with my fellow councilmember Pjotr, and his visions on sustainability, and there’s an update on the new roof (it contains solar cells!). However, in this column I would like to inform you about some other things that we are working on in Faculty Student Council.

With exams coming up, a lot of students will be studying in the library. Since we heard talk about an increase in laptop theft, we would like to inform you about the site uva.nl/veilig. In the unfortunate event your laptop is stolen, this is where you can notify the UvA. By reporting the theft there, you help us to see the full scope of the problem and put laptop theft on the agenda of the UvA. So make sure to file a report!

Another thing that has kept us busy is the Budget Framework, concerning the Faculty of Science’s financial planning for the upcoming year. This includes the ‘Quality Agreements’ (‘Kwaliteitsafspraken’), in which the Faculty uses the funds that became available with the discontinuing of student finance for improvements in the quality of your education.

That’s all for this month. Don’t forget to mail us at fnwi@studentenraad.nl, in case of any issues.

Kind regards,
Jasper Claessen,
General councilmember
The Faculty Student Council FNWI 19/20

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Events

Saturday 5 October, 12:00-17:00,
Open Day Amsterdam Science Park

Wednesday 16 October, 12:00-13:00,
Betabreak,
central hall SP904

Wednesday 30 October, 17:00,
SLAALS drinks,
SP904

For all events, check student.uva.nl

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New roof is a sustainable gem

Between Monday, 14 October and Friday, 1 November, the temporary roof construction in the central hall of Science Park 904 will be replaced with a new glass roof containing solar cell technology.

The tiny black solar cells are fully integrated in the glass and not only generate energy, but also diminish the heat from the sunlight so as to not disrupt the building’s temperature regulation. The energy generated by the solar cells will immediately feed into the building’s electricity network. The construction works will cause some inconvenience, scan the QR code to check the planning.

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‘We are all responsible for a sustainable university’

Pjotr van der Jagt (21, BSc Biomedical Sciences) is the Faculty Student Council delegate and chair of the Central Student Council. Here, he shares his ambitions for a sustainable university.

How will you stimulate innovative ideas for sustainable practices at the University of Amsterdam?

For starters, I think we should continuously ask students ‘is there a ‘greener’ way to do this?’ Also, we need to let students know where they can go with their ideas. For example, the UvA Green Office or the Startup Village.

Can you give an example of good practices?

Here at Science Park, a lot of attention is being paid to waste separation and, of course, we have the solar panels on the roofs. In addition, sustainability is a topic in many courses in the programmes that are being taught here, with Future Planet Studies as a flagship.

Do you have tips for fellow students?

Realise that many people doing a small thing can have a big effect. For example, bringing your own mug for coffee: if 34,000 students drink two cups of coffee every day, that makes a difference of 68,000 cups. In the end, we are all responsible for a sustainable university environment!

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Sustainability

Check out ‘Sustainability’ (or in Dutch: ‘Duurzaamheid’) in the A-Z list, for a summary of projects and initiatives at the Faculty of Science. Also, on Thursday, 10 October some activities concerning sustainability will take place in the central hall.

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More information? Visit us in room B0.112, send an email to fnwi@studentenraad.nl or go to studentenraad.nl/fnwi

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