



To Dah Loo

About the UvA-VU collaboration and other scientific stuff

Especially made for
UvA Science Students

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 **Facultaire
Studentenraad**

Dear students,

In the September edition of To Dah Loo the Faculty Student Council introduced itself. After a month of hard work, we are ready to present some of the main goals of our policy for the academic year.


Our common goal is the inclusion of students' opinions at the decision-making level. Therefore, we will continue the regular meetings with study associations, conduct several surveys and aim to be visible and approachable for students. In addition, we aim for more transparency at different levels: the Faculty Board, the Examination Boards, the Boards of Studies, the Faculty's allocation model and so on. But subjects like additional study costs also require more transparency and will be evaluated with scrutiny. Furthermore, it is essential that the university provides clearer, readable and objective information on the collaboration with VU Amsterdam and similar important issues.

Besides transparency, this year's council focuses on academic development of students inside and outside of the lecture halls. We want to propose interesting subjects for the regular Students' Colloquium, flexible but stable timetables and high-quality study places in a sustainable, clean environment with sufficient (digital) facilities. Evaluation results of courses, UvA Matching and binding study advice (BSA) need to be taken on board and should lead to improvement of the quality of education. Furthermore, the Council intends to propose a framework for more interdisciplinarity within Bachelor programmes, combined with necessary expertise.

The Council will continue to ask critical questions in order to reach well-considered decisions, supported by the whole academic community. To this end, we are always curious to know about your point of view!

More information? Please visit room A1.26, send an email to fnwi@studentenraad.nl or go to studentenraad.nl/fnwi

Six UvA-VU programmes become joint degrees

 Six UvA-VU programmes received accreditation to become a joint degree. As of September 2016, students enrolling in the BSc programmes Chemistry or Physics & Astronomy, or in the MSc programmes Chemistry, Computational Science, Computer Science and Physics & Astronomy, will receive their degree from both universities. Current students with an expected graduation

date after 1 September 2016 can re-register with the joint the degree programme next academic year to receive their degree certificate from both universities.


For years, these programmes have been jointly taught by lecturers from both UvA and VU. The accreditation formalizes this partnership. Karen Maex, dean of the science faculties of both universities, says: 'This is wonderful

news, especially for our students. Their degree certificates will now reflect them having received education at both universities. This wasn't possible before.'

The application for accreditation came about with input from the programme directors as well as the Board of Studies for the programmes involved. The plans have been approved by the faculty student councils of the respective science faculties.



Decision framework for choosing location of educational programmes now available

 Last month, we reported about the procedure with regard to changes in the educational programme in the collaboration with VU Amsterdam. In addition to this procedure, a decision framework for choosing the location of educational programmes has been formulated.

The framework is the result of a consultation round with both educational staff and the Faculty Student Council and is to be used by the exploratory committees in their advice

on the choice of location for programmes in their discipline.

The framework defines quality of education as the main criterion in deciding on the location of programmes. Other considerations are for instance: the frequency of travel between different locations for students and staff, aiming to establish one main location for first year BSc curricula and organizing Master's programmes/tracks at the location of the corresponding research institute.

Sustainability at the Faculty of Science

Did you know that plastic bottles are collected in the main hall for use in the 3D-printer at Amsterdam University College?

At last month's student colloquium, the Faculty's Director of Operational Management Maaïke Lürsen presented on sustainability at Science Park 904. At the suggestion of students present, more waste paper bins will be placed throughout the building. The next student colloquium is on binding study advice (BSA), see Events for details.



EVENTS

Monday 12 October, 12:00, Science Park 904, C1.112, FSR student debate: 'Profielschets CvB' (in Dutch)

Wednesday 14 October, 12:00-13:00, Central hall Science Park 904, BètaBreak

Wednesday 14 October, 17:00, Brainwave, FSR Policy presentation and formation drinks

Tuesday 27 October, 17:00-17:45, Brainwave, Student Colloquium