

# NEWSLETTER

# UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

The agenda of the May discussion meeting featured as main items the memorandum on leadership development UT, the evaluation of the continuation of the Honours Programme, the policy on minors and the project plan Economic Aspects of Education. During the written questions before closure it was asked whether several target groups could participate in the accompanying extra training at pre-university education level within Twente Academy. Also the strained relationship between the Central Residents' Council on behalf of the tenants and Woningcorporatie Veste as owner was discussed.

## The next two weeks will be dominated by the elections!

Make use of your right to vote and, if desired, consult the site of the University Council for more information: [www.utwente.nl/uraad/verkiezingen2010/](http://www.utwente.nl/uraad/verkiezingen2010/).

## Memorandum "Leadership Development UT 2009-2014"

The memorandum deals with training supervisors in recognising talent among staff and creating opportunities to develop talent, but also involves a culture change in the way in which we treat one another. The UT is to become an organisation in which clarity is central and agreements are honoured.

The Executive Board has opted for outsourcing the implementation of the leadership programme as described in the memorandum to a competent firm specialised in leadership development. This implies, however, that the party which is to receive the assignment must have sufficient

knowledge of the present culture within the academic community and of a technology-oriented university such as the UT in particular. This will be taken into account in the tendering procedure.

The University Council has advised positively about this outsourcing.

To respond, send an email to:  
[f.houweling@utwente.nl](mailto:f.houweling@utwente.nl)



## About the University Council

The University Council (URaad) is the central representative body of the UT and holds regular discussions with the Executive Board. The University Council has 18 members; nine staff members and nine students. The council has a say in UT policy at the central level. Five parties are represented in the University Council: Campus Coalition and UReka, Pro-UT.

At the moment the members of the University Council are:

Oscar Bloemen, Nikolai Oudalov, David Smits, André Veenendaal, Jan van Alsté, Frits Lagendijk, Laura Franco Garcia, Sandra Hackurtz, Mark Franken, Dick Meijer, Stas Verberkt, Silke Kücking, Jann van Benthem, Peter Prins, Frans Houweling, Herman Poorthuis, Jan de Goeijen and Nick Leoné.

## Continuation Honours Programme

In the meeting the University Council has taken a decision on the Honours Programme: an extra-curricular programme for excellent students. The Council certainly acknowledges the value of the programme focusing on a broader and more comprehensive curriculum, but the high costs, set against the small number of students participating and the special funding made that the Council was unable to agree whether the programme should be continued in this way or whether changes were required. Therefore the Council advised to examine - and the Executive Board has promised to do this - whether students could possibly opt for participating in the form of a special minor and whether the programme could be reduced to one year in order to increase the number of participants.

In addition, the programme is to be included in the considerations following the investigation into the economic aspects of education (BAO, see below) and will be included in the regular quality management.

After these promises the University Council gave a positive advice about the continuation of the programme.

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## Policy on minors

The University Council has definitively agreed to the new policy on minors. The main change is that all educational programmes will get a 30 EC minor and that the principle of "paradigm shift" will no longer be leading, but that a more in-depth minor will also be accepted if students prefer this. A major advantage of the 30 EC minor is that attending minors in other cities (for example 3TU) or abroad is made easier. The University Council has been promised that a sound implementation plan will be put in place to ensure a smooth transition phase from 20 to 30 EC to prevent students from having too little choice. Besides, we have made proper



agreements on the evaluation. In 2014 it will briefly be assessed how things are working out and this will be followed by a thorough evaluation in 2016. Educational programmes which do not manage to set up a 30 EC minor in 2014 will require permission from the Executive Board with a positive advice from the University Council.

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## Economic aspects of education (BAO)

The Executive Board has presented the project plan "Economic Aspects of Education" to the University Council. In the past, the University Council pointed out on several occasions that it is desirable to make the costs of education visible, for example by means of educational budgets. Optimal insight into the costs of education enables a financially better informed assessment regarding many subjects. Consider for example: starting a new educational programme, changing the allocation model, the size of training spaces in the real estate plan, incorporating the Technical Medicine programme into the UT allocation model and the level of tuition fees for non-EEA students. In all these kinds of situations the model for educational costs to be developed would be a useful tool.

After some discussion the Executive Board and the University



Council agreed that initially this would primarily involve a model that gives a proper description of education in all its forms and levels of aggregation.

Subsequently, (partly) based on this model it is possible to discuss the policy choices with respect to education.

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Under the agenda item 'written questions before closure' it was asked whether several target groups could participate in the accompanying extra training at pre-university education level within Twente Academy. Apparently, this was not yet the case.

The regular target group for Twente Academy is pre-university education pupils. Because pre-university education subject matter is discussed in this context, this service is eminently suitable for providing extra training under supervision to candidates for admission to MSc educational programmes at the UT. Some MSc educational programmes have formulated separate admission requirements at pre-university education level, for example for mathematics. If parties interested in such an MSc educational programme are unable to submit a pre-university education certificate that includes the subject in question, they can obtain another certificate that corresponds with pre-university education level. In that case it can be very useful to receive supervision from Twente Academy to acquire



knowledge. Because the facilities exist anyway, this is very efficient. The Executive Board is not yet able to state whether this is possible - this will be looked into - , but 'considers it conceivable' on the condition that a successful instrument (Twente Academy) is not allowed to fail due to its own success.

**To respond, send an email to:**  
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