

NEWS

SPECIAL

UNIVERSITY COUNCIL

A prelude to new relationships?

The new academic year not only started with a new educational model, but also with nine new students in the University Council (UC) and a new chairman of the Executive Board (EB). Is our university therewith starting a new phase with different and preferably better relationships between managers, participation, employees and students? Those involved within the EB and the participation definitely want to try so.

On Wednesday the 6th of November the EB and UC discussed the intraorganizational relations within our university during a meeting about management and participation. On the one hand, it was discussed that EB and UC had a few fierce disagreements during the recent years and that mutual trust is important. On the other hand, and much more important, the feeling that the UT enters a new administrative phase after RoUTE'14+ which should have much less a top-down nature with a large administrative openness, according to all present, was discussed.

Victor van der Chijs, EB-chairman, gave a presentation on the obvious necessity to develop a new strategic outline for the coming years. Thereby he discussed the complex environment of the university, the challenges waiting for us and the fact that it is unavoidable to make strategic choices. He also made clear that the EB currently is at the start of the process to come to this new strategic outline. The EB wants to involve the UT community of both employees and students in this process. The question was raised how this should be done.

Related to this the UC and EB talked about the long existing plans to come to more administrative involvement of the whole university community, consisting of employees and students. It is not only about better information on policy discussions on administrative level, but especially about an effective interaction between board and this community.

In the future employees and students will be involved in discussions on future policy at an earlier stage. This will be done by means of advisory committees or by asking the different levels of research groups and also study associations for input or advice in advance.

Therefore, groups should not be surprised if they are asked for their opinion on the vision and mission of the University of Twente for the coming years. Where do we, as the UT-community, want to go in the next few years and what do we want to achieve in the foreseeable future?

We will keep you informed.

For general information you can also see our website: www.utwente.nl/uraad/en

About the University Council

The UC is the central participation body of the UT and has regular meetings with the Executive Board. The UC has 18 members (9 students and 9 employees) and influences UT policy on central level.

Three parties are represented in the council: Campus Coalitie, UReka and PvdUT.

At the moment the members of the University Council are: Herbert Wormeester (Chairman), Gert Brinkman, Frank van den Berg, Barend Köbben, Victor de Graaff, Jörgen Svensson, Winnie Gerbens-Leenes, Jeroen Tjihuis, Anton Stoorvogel, Carmen Edelijn, Luuk Geurts, Mathijs van de Zande, Janine Koning, Ellen Hamelers, Abdul-Kadir Mumuni, Willemijn van de Meent, Finn Sauër and Teun Lassche.

UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE.