

UNIVERSITY OF TWENTE.

Newsletter, April 2022



The University Council is the central participation body of the University of Twente and holds regular consultations with the Executive Board, which enables the University Council to exert influence or give advice on the policy of the University of Twente at a central level.

The University Council consists of 17 members: eight staff members and nine students. Six parties are represented in the council. For the students: UReka and DAS. For the staff members: Campus Coalition, PvdUT, list Weppelman and the P-NUT party.

For the academic year 2021 - 2022 the members of the University Council are:

Employees

Herbert Wormeester (chair), Hanneke Becht, Dick Meijer, Anton Atanasov, Pieter Boerman, Cynthia Souren, Emile Dopheide and Jacqueline Weppelman.

Students:

Sjoerd van den Belt, Giel van Weezel, Atis Kazaferi, Jeroen Assink, Jaime de Bruin, Tim Achterkamp, Danique Damen, Imke Verschuren and Bram van Uden.

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Kick-off meeting Quality Agreements

On the 31st of March 2022 all level of participation bodies of the UT gathered together at the Grand Café in the Gallery. It was a meeting on Quality Agreements and participation at the UT. The rector Mr. Tom Veldkamp opened the meeting and stated that every faculty has different solutions to increase the quality. Mrs. Merijn Snel (policy advisor department SP) gave an explanation on the programmatic approach of the quality agreements by showing a [presentation](#). She informed the members of the participatory bodies about guidelines and their specific shared responsibility for the WSV plans and budget. Furthermore, the new participation website was launched! Together with a nice flashy promo film. [Participation @ UT | Participation at the UT](#) Attention was also called to the Nomination Day (de dag kandidaatstelling) on the 20th of April 2022. You can stand for election of many councils until the 20th of April 2022.

MEETING CYCLE MARCH

During the consultation meeting on the 30th of March 2022 a number of important topics were discussed. A written report of the following topics discussed is provided below:

Evaluation of Priority Alignment Team, Evaluation Kick-In 2021, Evaluation Kick-In 2021, Problems different working groups at the UT, CPO annual report 2020-2021, Guideline EER, Boerderij Bosch, Approval bi-location VU-UT bachelor Creative Technology in Amsterdam, Institutional Tuition Fee, Proposal for 'free period product' pilot, Vision on integral safety, Employee well-being final report 2021, Whistle-blower Code, Whistle-blower officer and House of Integrity, UC request on personnel matters and questions about the Corona crisis: when is the crisis finally over?

EVALUATION OF PRIORITY ALIGNMENT TEAM



UT priorities

Late 2020, the EB and Deans of the University of Twente engaged in a series of discussions to set the main priorities for the UT. This process was discussed with the UC, and in January 2021, six priorities were announced.

[Read the full article](#)



KICK-IN



Evaluation Kick-In 2021

This cycle, the University council received the Evaluation of the Kick-In from the previous Kick-In committee. Immediately the UC noticed that too many comments, especially focused on structural changes, are once again not changed/improved.

[Read the full article](#)



Problems different working groups at the UT

Upon inaction of a working group involving students of the university council (the WAR). [The council](#) took the initiative to put the issue on the agenda. It turned out that this is not the only working group at the UT being inactive. The executive board pointed out that understaffing is an issue for the UT and that this is one of the consequences. The board also noticed that they are working on solutions for the understaffing. Keeping track of the functionality of the working groups is important, therefore the UC sought the attention of the board on the topic. The board did manage to tackle the short term problem of the WAR and is working on the long term problems of understaffing.

CPO ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021



CPO annual report 2020-2021

The UC received [the annual report CPO 2020-2021](#), which is about the committee for personal circumstances. The document provided an overview of the various allowances that were granted to students with personal circumstances.

[Read the full article](#)



Large groups of users of the campus site 'Boerderij Bosch, Stal and Blokhutten' had shared their [concerns](#) about recent developments on this site. The UC had stressed the need for attention for these concerns.

[Read the full article.](#)

GUIDELINE EER



Re-exams and enrolment for courses

This year the EER has seen some significant changes. A large overhaul of [the document](#) has been done, restructuring and rewriting parts of it. During the previous cycle students and employees of the council have had the opportunity to give input into textual and content changes of the new document.

[Read the full article](#)



APPROVAL BI-LOCATION VU-UT BACHELOR CREATIVE TECHNOLOGY IN AMSTERDAM



Separate decisions

After the start of Mechanical Engineering in Amsterdam, in collaboration with the VU 3 years ago, Creative Technology could be the second VU-UT bachelor programme in Amsterdam.

Before a university can start a new location for an existing programme a macro-efficiency evaluation by the NVAO has to be requested.

[Read the full article](#)



INSTITUTIONAL TUITION FEE



Accessibility and Inclusion guiding principle

This cycle, the University Council (UC) received the Institutional Tuition Fee document, sent for advice. The document was presented after careful consideration from a number of stakeholders, including UC-E and S&P.

[Read the full article](#)



VISION ON INTEGRAL SAFETY

The University Council got presented the UT's [vision on the integral vision](#) on safety within the University. This safety included everything from personal to data safety, vision on illnesses and other crisis. [The council](#) was a bit confused as the vision did not really entail any information. After talks with the EB, the council got to know that there are multiple documents already in place on the different above named safety aspects, only they were not included as back group information when the vision was presented. With this knowledge, the council decided to advice positively on the acceptance of the vision.

EMPLOYEE WELL-BEING FINAL REPORT 2021



Council less optimistic

The main conclusions of the well-being report 2021 were that employees are, in general, very positive about their work and working environment, but on the other hand still experience overload and stress a high levels, especially by the scientific staff and employees in supervising positions.

[Read the full article](#)



WHISTLE-BLOWER CODE, WHISTLE-BLOWER OFFICER AND HOUSE OF INTEGRITY



Independent whistleblower officer

Last year the UT adopted the Whistle-blower Code. This year this Whistle-blower code needed already some adjustment to stay in line with guidelines of the European Commission. The adjusted Whistle-blower Code provides a better protection of the reporting staff member or student in case of any suspected wrongdoing.

[Read the full article](#)



GOOD EMPLOYER-SHIP



Personnel matters

The UC repeatedly asked the EB to terminate hiring Capra lawyers for legal advice and law suits. Their attitude towards employees in conflicts and in reorganizations at the UT and at other government institutions is a disgrace for “good employer-ship”.

[Read the full article](#)



CORONA CRISIS: WHEN IS THE CRISIS FINALLY OVER?

Now the number of severe covid-19 cases is decreasing, it is time to consider whether we enter a new reality. Is our organization capable of reacting on new measures without emergency procedures?

What did we [learn](#)? [Read the full article](#)



PROPOSAL FOR 'FREE PERIOD PRODUCT' PILOT



long term financing

Proposal for 'free period product' pilot

Together with the Diversity & Inclusion office and the Student Union, student Council members of UReka worked on a [pilot proposal for free period products](#).

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