

## Annual report of the Personal Circumstances Committee (CPO) for academic year 2020-2021

**December 2021**

This annual report provides an overview of the activities of the Personal Circumstances Committee (CPO) during academic year 2020-2021. The remarks and recommendations of this report are presented first.

### Remarks

1. The total number of applications assessed by the CPO concerning Force Majeure Allowance is comparable with academic year 2019-2020. The sum of the Covid-19 waiver was deducted from the Force Majeure Allowance students received. Insufficient feasible study programme due to Covid-19 was in academic year 2020-2021 not a recognizable circumstance because of ministerial decree. In total 2.6% of the total number of non-EU/EEA students enrolled in academic year 2020-2021 had their Force Majeure Allowance application assessed. Compared to Dutch and EU/EEA students, non-EU/EEA students submitted much more often an application for assessment of circumstances concerning Force Majeure and BSA.
2. Due to the Covid-19 crisis, no negative binding recommendations were given in academic year 2019-2020 and the CPO did not have to assess personal circumstances under the BSA terms. Therefore, the number of BSA applications in academic year 2020-2021 cannot be compared with the previous academic year. However, a comparison can be made with academic year 2018-2019, with taking in mind the lowering of the standard to 40 EC in academic year 2020-2021. The number of applications and recognitions are almost similar with academic year 2018-2019.
3. In academic year 2020-2021, most circumstances which the CPO recognized resulted in either a positive or postponed binding study advice (BSA). A negative binding advice was issued in 25% of the applications.
4. Although there are no major differences in the number of applications between faculties, the CPO notices that there are differences between the faculties in type and amount of guidance for students with specific circumstances.
5. Almost 50% of the students who submitted an application for assessment of circumstances concerning BSA were EU or non-EEA students. Preparation and realistic expectations are essential for international students who want to study in the Netherlands. The CPO experiences that international students have more difficulty in understanding the procedures and providing the right documents for assessment of circumstances. Especially access to medical help is unclear and students often seek help in their home country, which causes further delay and insufficient certified evidence for illness. The CPO has the impression that there is given insufficient information to non-EU/EEA Master's students during the Open Days about the FOBOS and MoMi regulation.
6. The CPO noticed that often students with personal circumstances who switched between study programmes did not succeed after the switch. Personal circumstances can influence the study progress of these students. The question remains whether a switch of study is in the interest of the student and study programme when personal circumstances endure.

7. There CPO received a number of applications of students who had delay because they had difficulty to find an internship. Study programmes mostly indicate that finding an internship is a responsibility of the student. However, when an internship is an obligatory part of the study programme, the responsibility for providing an internship for students lies with the study programme. Study programmes should deal with this in a pro-active manner.
8. Psychological problems are a major cause of study delay among (first-year) students. The CPO remarks that psychological often were already present before the beginning of the student's first year at the university. The Covid-19 crisis has made it clear that the mental resilience of students is important. The student support structure must be in line with the amount of (psychological) problems among students so that every student can make use of (timely) guidance by e.g. study advisors and student counsellors and is aware of these facilities. Especially concerning the applications for BSA and MoMi, due to the high influx of applications in a short period, students sometimes are confronted with waiting lists for an appointment.

## Recommendations

1. The CPO wants to recommend, as in previous year, to adapt the FOBOS regulation regarding the maximal allowance of €8.000 for reasons of equity and financial stress of international students. The maximal allowance under the current FOBOS is based on the restricted lower tuition fee, which Dutch and EU/EEA students pay.
2. Information about the procedures and preparations for international students should be well known to international students. The support system for international students should be inclusive and should be aimed at the various problems international students face, such as housing, financial problems and finding their way to student guidance. In line with the recommendation of the CPO in 2019-2020, safe housing, and stable financial situation should be facilitated. A stable financial situation should encompass the ability of students to finance possible study delay. Furthermore, good information on the organization of the Dutch health care system is an important issue. The CPO recommends to continue including these preconditions in the Student Wellbeing plan.
3. As the number of students increases, the number of applications for assessment of circumstances related to FOBOS, BSA and MoMi increases as well. The current procedure and corresponding number of students puts a high amount of workload in the summer months on the CPO members, student counsellors, study advisors and registrars. For example, each student has an appointment with a student counsellor regarding their personal circumstances for both BSA, MoMi and Force Majeure Allowance. With the prospect that the number of students will further increase, the CPO recommends to evaluate the current procedure.

## Recommendations CPO annual Report 2019-2020

### Recommendations CPO 2019-2020

1. Safe housing environment and stable financial situation should be facilitated by the University (as part of the Student wellbeing plan).
2. The maximal allowance of €8.000 under the current FOBOS is based upon the restricted (lower) tuition fee, which Dutch and EU/EEA students pay. For reasons of equity and the financial stress of international students, the CPO recommended the WAR to adapt the FOBOS regulation.
3. The CPO recommended to take a closer look at the (legal) foundation and the principles of the hearing and comparing these with reasons for making use of it and subsequently make some agreements on this matter.

## Annual CPO Report 2020-2021

### Introduction

The CPO is an advisory body of the Executive Board of the University of Twente. It implements the financial support regulations of the University of Twente and assesses personal circumstances in the context of the (binding) recommendation rule and the Modern Migration Policy.

1. As part of the **Profiling fund**, the financial support regulations are:

1.1. The [FOBOS Force majeure allowance scheme](#)

On behalf of the Executive Board of the University of Twente, the CPO decides on funds to students under the FOBOS scheme. The recognized circumstances for the allowance are laid down in the Law on Higher Education (WHW) and include:

- Illness and psychological problems,
- Pregnancy and delivery,
- A physical, sensory or other functional disorder,
- Exceptional family circumstances such as illness or death of partner, parents, child, brother or sister, divorce of parents, relationships problems,
- Home, social or integration problems
- An insufficient feasible study programme.

1.2. The [FOBOS Activism grants scheme](#)

The Student Union, together with the umbrella organizations, allocates the available grants to the organizations. The granting of Activism grants is standardized and is officially handled by the CPO registry. Applications are only assessed by the CPO in deviating situations.

1.3. The [FOBOS support scheme for Top-level athletes and Top-level artists](#)

The committee Top-level Sports and Arts determine whether applicants meet the criteria. The granting of grants is standardized and is officially handled by the CPO registry. Applications are only assessed by the CPO in deviating situations.

Assessment of personal circumstances:

2.1 [\(Binding\) Recommendation rule for first-year Bachelor students \(BSA\)](#)

The CPO assesses the legitimacy, duration and severity of personal circumstances and advises the Programme Directors.

2.2 [Modern Migration policy Act \(MoMi\)](#)

The CPO assesses the legitimacy, duration and severity of personal circumstances of non-EU/EEA students with a residence permit for study purposes. The CPO advises the MoMi Committee on the assessment of circumstances in relation to the lack of study progress for the purpose of omitting a notification to the IND.

This report will provide information about the assessment of applications concerning regulations of the Profiling fund, such as the Force Majeure Allowance, Activism Grants and Top-level Sports and Arts, and will also provide information about the assessment of personal circumstances for the (Binding) recommendations rule for first-year Bachelor's students (BSA) and the Modern Migration policy (MoMi), respectively.

## 1. Profiling fund

### 1.1 Force Majeure Allowance

When students apply for financial support in case of study delay to certain specific circumstances, the CPO assesses these circumstances and decides whether to recognize these circumstances. If the circumstances are recognized as a cause of the study delay, the committee determines the period of delay and determines the extent of the support. Table 1 shows the number of applications, percentages recognized and the total allocated amount of financial support.

**Table 1**

*Force Majeure Allowances 2018-2020*

	2018-2019	2019-2020	2020-2021
Applications assessed	73	135	127
% granted	93	90	90
Allocated amount (Euro)	112.522	271.268	266.028

As can be seen in Table 1, the number of applications assessed, percentage granted and the allocated amount in Euro's in the current reported period is comparable with academic year 2019-2020. The awarded amount is a compensation for the tuition fee in the recognized period.

**Table 2**

*Force Majeure Allowances academic year 2020-2021, per category*

Category	Months awarded			Applications assessed			Rejections			Amount awarded (€)		
	NL students	EEA students (non-NL)	Non-EEA	NL students	EEA students (non-NL)	Non-EEA	NL students	EEA students (non-NL)	Non-EEA	NL students	EEA students (non-NL)	Non-EEA
Illness	486	14	137	50	5	27	1	0	3	85.208	2.189	99.741
Physical, sensory or other impairment	135	3	3	10	1	1	0	0	0	22.291	536	536
Special family circumstances	134	7	32	7	3	13	0	0	2	22.485	1.240	27.127
Pregnancy/childbirth	8	0	0	4	0	0	2	0	0	1.051	0,0	0,0
Insufficient feasible educational programme	0	0	3	2	0	2	2	0	1	0,0	0,0	3.625
Other circumstances	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0,0	0,0	0,0
<b>Total</b>	<b>763</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>131.035</b>	<b>3.965</b>	<b>131.028</b>

As can be seen in table 2, most assessed applications included physical and psychological illness, both for EU/EEA students as non-EU/EEA students. Compared to the previous academic year, there was an increase in both the number of months and the financial compensation awarded to non-EU/EEA students. The number of applications, months and amount of financial compensation awarded to EU/EEA students decreased. The financial compensation awarded to non-EU/EEA students is nearly similar to that awarded to EU/EEA students, although fewer applications from non-EU/EEA students

were assessed. A reason for this is the higher amount of tuition fee for non-EU/EEA students. The Force Majeure Allowance awarded is dependent on the amount of tuition fee a student pays, with a maximum of €8.000, no matter how much tuition is paid.

Table 3 shows the number of students enrolled coming from different regions, the number of applications assessed and the number of applications assessed per students enrolled.

**Table 3**

*Force Majeure Allowances academic year 2020-2021, per region*

	NL Students	EU/EEA students	Non-EU/EEA students	total
Students enrolled (#)	9747	2656	1683	14.086
Students enrolled (%)	69.2	18.9	11.9	100,0
Applications assessed (#)	75	9	43	127
Applications assessed (%)	59	7.1	33.9	100
Applications assessed per students enrolled (%)	0.8	0.3	2.6	0.9

The number of applications assessed as percentage of total non-EU/EEA students has slightly increased (2.1% in 2019-2020 and 2.6% in 2020-2021). Proportionally, non-EU/EEA students submit a request more often compared to NL and EU/EEA students. Dutch students more often submit a request compared to EU/EEA students.

Table 4 shows the distribution of Force Majeure assessed applications across the faculties.

**Table 4**

*Force Majeure Allowances academic year 2020-2021, assessed applications per faculty*

Category	BMS*			EEMCS			ET*			ITC		
	NL students	EEA students (non-NL)	Non-EEA	NL students	EEA students (non-NL)	Non-EEA	NL students	EEA students (non-NL)	Non-EEA	NL students	EEA students (non-NL)	Non-EEA
Illness	9	3	3	4	0	13	17	1	9	1	0	0
Physical, sensory or other impairment	2	0	0	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Special family circumstances	0	1	0	3	2	4	2	0	4	0	0	2
Pregnancy/childbirth	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Insufficient feasible educational programme	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other circumstances	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>

Category	TNW			UCT			Total		
	NL students	EEA students (non-NL)	Non-EEA	NL students	EEA students (non-NL)	Non-EEA	NL students	EEA students (non-NL)	Non-EEA
Illness	18	1	2	2	0	0	51	5	27
Physical, sensory or other impairment	5	0	0	0	0	0	12	0	0
Special family circumstances	2	0	3	0	0	0	7	3	13
Pregnancy/childbirth	2	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0
Insufficient feasible educational programme	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	1
Other circumstances	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>41</b>

\*1 student was enrolled at both by BMS and ET

## 1.2 Activism Grants

Activism grants are awarded per calendar year in different domains. The available grants are allocated over het categories by the Student Union in close consultation with the Umbrella Boards. The allocation of these grants is standardized by the CPO. Only in deviating situations, applications are assessed by the CPO. This was once necessary in the calendar year 2020. In the calendar year 2020, for the first time, a distinction was made between part-time- and fulltime grants because of the adapted FOBOS regulation with starting date September 2020. This was retroactively applicable from January 2020. Also, for the first time in calendar year 2020, obtained ECs were taken into account for calculating and awarding grants to specifically student teams (according to the September 2020 FOBOS regulation).

**Table 5**

*Activism Grants calendar year 2020, per category*

Category	Number of grants awarded			Number of applications			Amount awarded (€)		
	NL students	EEA students (non-NL)	Non-EEA	NL students	EEA students (non-NL)	Non-EEA	NL students	EEA students (non-NL)	Non-EEA
Study	992	99	66	230	22	12	171.278	17.081	11.249
Arts and Culture	90	13	6	47	5	4	15.300	2.210	1.020
Social	307	0	0	95	0	0	52.605	0	0
Sports	519	26	16	166	10	6	88.454	4.420	2.720
Other	106	29	21	36	12	10	18.020	4.930	3.570
Pub/Clubhouse/Shop	207	5	0	59	1	0	35.190	850	0
World	22	1	33	8	1	14	3.740	170	5.610
Business	90	10	0	23	2	0	15.300	1.700	0
Category 3	391	12	39	81	4	9	67.208	2.051	6.110
Category 4 Teams	687	45	24	108	20	10	119.045	7.700	4.080
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.411</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>853</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>586.140</b>	<b>41.111</b>	<b>34.359</b>

## 1.3 Support Scheme for Top-Level Athletes and Top-Level Cultural Artists

The Top-Sports/arts committee assesses the applications for recognition of top-level athletes and top-level artists. Artists and athletes can be recognized in either category 1 or 2. Students in both categories have the possibility for tailor-made study counselling and may use the UT sport facilities free of charge. Students who are recognized in category 1 are entitled to financial compensation. These grants are awarded per calendar year in expected arrears. The application for a grant must be submitted by the student before the 1<sup>st</sup> of December and the applicant must be eligible for support as laid out in Chapter 1, Article 3 of the FOBOS regulation. The compensation has a maximum of 4 grants per student per academic year, of which one grant consists of 1/12th of the tuition fees paid. The allocation of these grants is standardized and handled by the CPO Registry. Only in deviating situations, applications are assessed by the CPO. This was not necessary in academic year 2020-2021.

Table 6 shows the number of recognitions over academic year 2020-2021 and the number of grants awarded in 2020-2021 to students who were recognized in category 1 in 2019-2020. Compared with academic year 2019-2020, the total of recognitions decreased from 43 to 41 and the amount of grants awarded increased from €8.411,73 to €11.109,12.

**Table 6**

*Top-level sports/arts recognitions and grants in academic year 2020-2021*

Academic year 2020-2021	EEA students	Grants awarded	Non-EEA students
Category 1	17	64	0
Category 2	24	0	0
<b>Total / total amount</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>€ 11.109,12</b>	<b>0</b>

## 2.1 (Binding) recommendation rule first-year Bachelor students (BSA)

Students that are at risk for not meeting the BSA standard due to personal circumstances can submit an application to the CPO for assessment of those circumstances. Based on the application, the underlying evidence and the information of the study advisor and student counsellor, the CPO decides whether they recognize the circumstances as a possible reason for the incurred study delay. The advice of the CPO will be sent to the Programme Director who will take it into account for the final binding recommendation. In academic year 2020-2021, due to the Covid situation, the 14 Universities agreed to lower the binding recommendation rule with a width between 10% - 15%. In line with this agreement, the University of Twente decided to lower the binding recommendation rule from 45 EC till 40EC. This lowered standard did not apply to students whose binding recommendation was postponed in academic year 2019-2020.

### 2.1.1 Numbers of first-year Bachelor's students UT

The total influx of first-year Bachelor's students in 2020-2021 (cohort 2020) was 2701, based on the numbers of enrolment (students enrolled in two programmes and students that switched programmes are counted twice).

The dropout rate for first year Bachelor's students was 32% in academic year 2020-2021. This percentage includes students who switched to a different programme and students who quit their programme. As can be seen in table 7, the dropout rate of first-year Bachelor's students in academic year 2020-2021 is higher than in previous years. The low percentage of first-year students who dropped out in 2019 can be explained by the one-time general postponement of the BSA in that academic year.

**Table 7**

*Influx and dropout of first-year Bachelor students, based on numbers of enrolments\**

	2017	2018	2019	2020
Total influx	2.008	2.323	2.649	2701
Total dropout in year 1	28%	29%	23%	32%

\* Including students who switched to a different programme and students who quit their programme.

Table 8 shows the amount of first-year bachelor students split out by nationality (NL, EU/EEA and non-EU/EEA). The number of students in table 8 differ from table 7 because, in contrast to table 7, students enrolled in two programmes are not counted twice.

**Table 8**

*Influx of first-year Bachelor students based on nationality, based on numbers of unique students\**

	2017		2018		2019		2020		Increase/decrease in 2020 compared to 2019
Total NL	1.347	69%	1.439	64%	1.547	61%	1586	61%	2.5%
Total EU/EEA	511	26%	599	27%	729	29%	687	26%	-5.8%
Total non-EU/EEA	94	5%	194	9%	264	10%	331	13%	25.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.952</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2.232</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2.540</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2604</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2.5%</b>

\*Percentages and numbers may differ slightly due to rounding

The total number of students has slightly increased compared to the previous year. The highest increase is in the number of non-EU/EEA (25.4%) students.

## 2.1.2 Number of BSA-recommendations

Due to the postponement of BSA recommendations in academic year 2019-2020 it is not possible to compare the number of postponed or negative recommendations with academic year 2020-2021. The number of positive recommendations can be compared; however, it must be taken into account that the standard for which a student could receive a positive recommendation is 40 ECs instead of 45 ECs.

In 2019-2020, the number of positive recommendations issued was 1614, including those issued with due regard for personal circumstances and those for students who were enrolled in previous years for the first time. A negative binding recommendation was issued to 30 students and for 774 students the binding recommendation was postponed until the end of academic year 2020-2021 because of Covid regulations. In total, the recommendation of 832 students was postponed (including both postponements because of the Covid-19 regulation (774) as postponements as a result of personal circumstances or switch of programme (58)).

In 2020-2021, the number of positive recommendations issued was 1694, including those issued with due regard for personal circumstances and those for students who were enrolled in a previous year for the first time. A negative binding recommendation was issued to 571 students. For 174 students the recommendation was deferred until the end of next academic year because of personal circumstances. The final recommendation of these students will be included in the CPO annual report of 2021-2022.

## 2.1.3 BSA-recommendations compared to CPO advices

In academic year 2020-2021, the CPO handled 196 BSA applications. In 158 cases the circumstances of the student were recognized as a possible reason for the study delay and in 38 cases the circumstances were not recognized by the CPO.

**Table 9**

*Types of recommendations issued by the programmes in 2020-2021 after CPO advice*

BSA-recommendations	Circumstances recognized by the CPO	Circumstances not recognized by the CPO	Circumstances not assessed by the CPO
Total	158*	38	
Positive recommendation, >40 EC (student has met the norm)	21	7	
Positive recommendation, <40 EC (i.e. with due regard for circumstances or because student is found suitable for programme)	18	3	
Negative recommendation	20	20	
Recommendation was postponed because of switch programme			37
Recommendation was postponed until 2021-2022 because of personal circumstances	100	8	35

\* Including 1 double degree student, which results in a total of 159 recommendations.

Table 9 shows that when the CPO recognizes the circumstances, in most cases the study programme postponed the recommendation. A negative binding recommendation was issued just as often for students whose circumstances were recognized as for students whose circumstances were not recognized.

Students who did not consult the CPO or whose circumstances the CPO did not recognize could make use of hearing. In 6 of the 8 cases in which the CPO did not recognize the circumstances, the final recommendation was postponed after a hearing.

A comparison can be made with academic year 2018-2019. In 2018-2019, the CPO handled 191 applications, of which in 168 cases the circumstances were recognized. The number of cases and recognitions do not deviate much compared to academic year 2020-2021.

## 2.1.4 CPO BSA applications per type of circumstance and nationality

Personal circumstances can be recognized in one or more categories. Table 10 shows the categories in which the personal circumstances were recognized.

**Table 10**  
*BSA recognitions per category*

BSA-CPO recognitions	Categories (amount)	Total (%)
Physical illness	24	13%
Mental illness	92	49.7%
Physical, sensory or other dysfunction	17	9.2%
Exceptional family circumstances	52	28.1%
Total	185*	100%

\* Total exceeds number of recognitions (158) because in some cases more than one category of personal circumstance was recognized.

As can be seen in table 10 most of the recognitions included psychological problems, followed by exceptional family circumstances.

Table 11 presents an overview of the nationality of the students whose applications were handled by the CPO.

**Table 11**  
*BSA applications per nationality academic year 2020-2021*

BSA-CPO Applications	Circumstances recognized by the CPO	Circumstances not recognized by the CPO	Total	Total (%)	Percentage of students per nationality on 31-08-2021
NL	83	17	100	51%	6.7%
EEA	39	7	46	23.5%	4.7%
Non-EEA	36	14	50	25.5%	14%
Total	158	35	196	100%	6.9%

In total 6.9% of all students who were enrolled on 31-08-2021 submitted an application for an assessment of circumstances. Following from table 11, more non-EU/EEA students (14%, expressed as percentage of the total population on 31-08-2021) submitted an application for assessment of circumstances compared to Dutch and EU/EEA students (6.7% respectively 4.7%).

In comparison with 2018-2019, the number of Dutch students as percentage of the total applications decreased from 66% till 51% in 2020-2021. The number of applications from EU/EEA students is comparable (22% in 2018-2019; 23.5% in 2020-2021). The number of non-EU/EEA applications increased from 12% in 2018-2019 towards 25.5% in 2020-2021.

### 2.1.5 BSA applications per faculty

In table 12, the number of applications per faculty are set out, including the percentage of the total number of first year students per faculty. The faculty ITC is left out because only applications from UCT (ATLAS) were assessed by the CPO.

**Table 12**

*BSA applications per faculty*

BSA-CPO Applications	Circumstances recognized by the CPO	Circumstances not recognized by the CPO	Total	Percentage of total applications	Application as percentage of first year bachelor students enrolled on 31-08-2021
BMS	37	13	50	26.7%	8.2%
EEMCS	52	4	56	30%	13.6%
ET	24	14	38	20.3%	10.2%
TNW	39	4	43	23%	10.2%
Total	152	35	187	100%	

There are no major differences between the faculties regarding the number of applications assessed by the CPO. There is also investigated whether there are major differences between faculties in terms of the number of applications by either EU/EEA and non-EU/EEA students expressed in the total influx of EU/EEA and non-EU/EEA first-year bachelor students. There were no major differences between the faculties.

### 2.1.6 Final BSA-recommendations issued by programmes in 2020-2021 in comparison to postponed recommendations in 2019-2020

Because in academic year 2019-2020 all binding recommendations of students who did not meet the BSA standard at the end of the year were postponed, no comparison can be made between CPO recognitions from academic year 2019-2020 and binding recommendations in 2020-2021 for students whose recommendation was postponed due to personal circumstances. Therefore, all postponed recommendations are taken into account.

In academic year 2020-2021, 497 of the 832 students whose recommendation was postponed in 2019-2020 received their binding recommendation. In total 335 students did not enrol next academic year at either the university or the same study programme. Table 13 shows which recommendations these students received in case they re-enrolled in 2020-2021.

**Table 13**

*Types of final recommendations issued in 2020-2021 to students whose recommendation was postponed in 2019-2020*

<i>Final BSA-recommendations</i>	<i>Postponed recommendations in 2019-2020 and final recommendation in 2020-2021*</i>	<i>Percentage of total</i>
<i>Positive recommendation, &gt;45 EC (student has met the norm or was found suitable for the programme)</i>	341	41%
<i>Positive recommendation, &lt;45EC (i.e. with due regard for circumstances)</i>	17	2%
<i>Negative recommendation</i>	126	15.1%

<i>Not re-enrolled for 20-21 academic year**</i>	335	40.3%
<i>Discontinuation or prolonged due to early discontinuation</i>	12	1.4%
<i>Deferred due to personal circumstances</i>	1	0.1%
<i>Total</i>	832	100%

*\* Including UCT (ATLAS) which had a BSA standard of 60 EC in academic year 2019-2020 and a BSA standard of 54 EC in academic year 2020-2021*

*\*\* In the same study programme or at the university*

As can be seen in table 13, 41% of the students received a positive recommendation in their second year and almost the same amount did not re-enrol for the second year. A negative binding recommendation was issued to 15.1% of the students.

## 2.2 Modern Migration Policy Act (MoMi)

The Modern Migration Policy Act requires all non-EU/EEA students with a residence permit for study purposes (known as ‘MoMi students’) to achieve sufficient study progress each academic year. This study progress amounts to 50% of the ECs the student could have obtained during the academic year, dependent on their moment of enrolment. Students with insufficient study progress must be reported to the IND by law. However, if the student has a justifiable reason for the insufficient amount of study progress, such a report can be omitted. To omit such a notification to the IND, the university regulations regarding MoMi state that it is necessary to have a recognition of circumstances by the CPO or that a signed Study Progress Form is submitted to the MoMi Committee.

In total 69 students submitted an application for assessment of circumstances, from which the CPO handled 56. Applications were withdrawn by 13 students prior to the meetings because they met the MoMi standard. As can be seen in table 14 both the number of MoMi students as the number of MoMi applications increased. The percentage of MoMi students who submitted an application has slightly increased from 4.2% till 5.2%.

**Table 14**

*MoMi applications to the CPO*

Academic year	(rounded) numbers of MoMi students*	MoMi applications handled by CPO	% of MoMi students
2016-2017	400	14	3.5%
2017-2018	560	28	5.0%
2018-2019	750	32	4.3%
2019-2020	945	40	4.2%
2020-2021	1070	56	5.2%

\*Monitored MoMi students at the UT for August that year

Table 15 presents the type of circumstances the CPO has recognized and the categories students indicated on their application in case the CPO did not recognize the circumstances. Of the 56 applications, the CPO recognized the circumstances in 50 cases and did not recognize the circumstances in 6 cases. Of the 50 student whose circumstances were recognized, a notification was omitted for 49 students. One student obtained sufficient credits after assessment of the application. The results show that most of the recognized circumstances concerned psychological circumstances.

**Table 15**

*MoMi applications assessed by the CPO according to the circumstances*

Assessed circumstances	Circumstances recognized by the CPO*	Circumstances not recognized by the CPO**
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>6</b>
Mental illness	22	2
Physical illness	18	1
Physical, sensory or other dysfunction	0	1
Exceptional family circumstances	12	2
Infeasible study programme	0	1

\*Total amount of categories recognized by the CPO exceeds 50 because in some cases multiple circumstances were acknowledged

\*\* Total amount of category’s indicated exceed 6 because students could indicate more than one category on the application

**CPO Committee:**

*Prof.dr. B.J.R. van der Meulen (chair)*

*Prof.dr.ir. A. de Boer (member)*

*Dr.ir. A. van den Boomgaard MBA (member)*

*Drs. D. Brandwagt (member)*

*Mr. C. van Dijken (advisor)*

**CPO Registry:**

*M. van Heijst*

*W.A. Eendebak MSc*