
Annual report 2020–2021

Organisation of Study Associations



Introduction

Dear member of the GMA,

The following sections of the annual report will elaborate upon the progress and matters the OS Board 2020-II and the OS Board 2021-I have been engaged with and have accomplished over the past 12 months. A reflection will be given on the four main themes as highlighted in the policy plan at the start of the academic year.

Regarding the first main theme, we aimed at increasing the quality of our external visibility which focused on both improving the website's usability and user experience but also increasing the aesthetics and, next to that, increasing the engagement on social media with the main focus on Instagram.

The second main theme focused on the internal integration amongst associations to increase connectedness. The focus was put towards facilitating the integration between the functions of different boards but also the connectedness between associations and OS by coffee dates and adaptations to the OS cup.

The third main theme focused on internal evaluation as an increased online environment asks for larger attention to gathering feedback and exchanging ideas. By an increased focus on COVID-19 during GMA's and the reoccurring FocOS groups, associations were able to exchange information and hopefully use it as input for their own activities.

Lastly, the OSb has put efforts towards the construction of a Book Contract Committee, setting the foundations for the upcoming year.

The OSb hopes to inform all members of the assembly sufficiently about the progress made over the past academic year and welcomes them to contribute to the discussion on the annual report during the GMA on the 15th of September 2021.

Kind regards,

OS-Board 2021-I

Lieke, Patrick, Lars, Ruben, Boudewijn, Imke

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Structure of the board

<i>Function</i>	<i>Name</i>
Chair	Lieke Pullen
Secretary-Treasurer	Patrick van Oerle
Faculty Representative ET (CTW)	Ruben den Hertog
Faculty Representative EEMCS (EWI)	Lars Essenstam
Faculty Representative BMS	Boudewijn Steenbreker
Faculty Representative S&T (TNW)	Imke Nijenbanning

Committees & Responsibilities

<i>Committee</i>	<i>Responsible Board Member</i>
Activism Grants Committee (ABC)	Imke Nijenbanning
Alcohol Umbrella Committee	Ruben den Hertog
Audit Committee (KasCo)	Patrick van Oerle
Convention of Education Officers (CEO)	Lieke Pullen
External Affairs Assembly (EA)	Boudewijn Steenbreker
GalOS	Lieke Pullen
Internationalisation Committee (ICOS)	Boudewijn Steenbreker
Kick-In Organisation of Study Associations (KIOSK)	Boudewijn Steenbreker
Study Trip Committee (SC)	Patrick van Oerle
University of Twente Education Award Committee (UTea)	Lars Essenstam
IT Council Committee	Lars Essenstam
Book Contract Committee (BCC)	Lieke Pullen

<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>Responsible Board Member</i>
BHV/IVA	Lars Essenstam
CantOS	Lars Essenstam
FOBOS	Ruben den Hertog & Imke Nijenbanning
FocOS Groups	Boudewijn Steenbreker
ICT/Boardsite	Patrick van Oerle
OS Kegs	Patrick van Oerle
Social Media	Lieke Pullen
Student Union Meetings	Lieke Pullen
Umbrella Meetings	Lieke Pullen & Imke Nijenbanning

Policy evaluation

1. External Representation

1.1 Social Media Presence

Social media is a tool that can be used to present what the OSb does, especially for the new boards. The OSb noticed that social media is used quite sparsely and could be used more frequently. To achieve this, the OSb will come up with a social media plan which would be followed and if necessary, altered. Furthermore, by being more present on social media such as Instagram, Facebook, and LinkedIn, the OSb aims to reach out not only to study associations but also other parties within the University.

Status: As stated in the semi-annual report, Instagram seems to have the most reach of students of all social media platforms. Over the past year, for every activity, an Instagram post has been made. As well as the current board members at the beginning of the academic year, the candidate board members of OS were introduced via the Instagram page. It is therefore recommended to mainly focus on Instagram.

1.2 The Website

The website could be used more frequently by the study associations' boards than it is as of now, which could be a result of both lack of understanding of how and what to use it for and lack of promotion of the website itself. This will be tackled by writing a short guide on how to use the website and promoting it amongst the boards. Secondly, the website is not updated frequently, thus the OSb would post informal monthly updates on the website on what has been achieved. Additionally, the website has a simple, yet outdated appearance. This will be changed by altering the template of the website to achieve more of a professional look. Information for boards can be found easier, and the login will be reviewed.

Status: The new website has finally been released on the 1st of February. More information can be found in the semi-annual report of 2020-2021.

2. Internal Integration

2.1 Integration of Board Functions

Every year, the monthly chairman outings ensure a great integration between chairmen of the study associations. The OSb encourages this, but also always sees significantly less integration of the other board functions. Therefore, the OSb will support the integration by organising a function outing for every board function separately at the beginning of the academic year. These outings have an informal nature and are focused on the integration of boards. For the CEO and EA, these outings could happen after these meetings. The OSb will organize the first outing for each function, and then suggest a faculty to organize the next outing.

Status: All functions have had at least one outing. Partly online and partly physical. Not every function has made a claim on the OS budget. We advise the candidate board to pay attention to this point at the beginning of their board year.

2.2 Coffee dates

Coffee dates are an easy way to contact boards of study associations and will increase the visibility of both OS and the board members of study associations. The OSb is planning on doing coffee dates both semesters with associations. By doing this, the OSb aims to be more approachable.

Status: Over the past year, we have organised a coffee date with almost every study association. We think the coffee dates are a nice opportunity to informally talk to the associations, as well as show the boards what OS does and what we can help the associations with. We therefore recommend the new board to organize such coffee dates with the new study associations boards.

2.3 OS Cup

In order to stimulate interaction between study associations, in previous years, the OS Cup was introduced. The OS Cup increased the interaction between study associations as this was an extra reason to have fun together. Nevertheless, the OS Cup can be further improved. The faculty ET changes board in February, half a year shifted from the other associations, which makes the OS Cup less interesting for the ET faculty. Additionally, the

winners of the OS Cup only get rewarded after a whole year. Due to this, associations may lose interest in the OS Cup. To solve both problems, a half year sprint will be added to the OS Cup. This sprint will end before February, making it possible for the ET study associations to also have a chance at winning. Next to this, the addition of a sprint will act as a reminder of the OS Cup for the study associations. Hopefully, this results in an even more fierce battle for the OS Cup.

Status: Halfway through the year the OS pubquiz has been organised. The activity was perceived as fun by many participants and it has been fun to organise as OSb. Solely based on this, the OSb recommends the candidates to continue a half-year sprint combined with an activity in either January or February. Little concrete can be said about the effect of the half-year sprint on the participation in the OS Cup. There has been an increase in activity after the OS Cup, however it is unsure whether this is the true for this.

Next to the policy points mentioned, the OS board has also organized First DatOS to help integrate boards. With over 50 current and former board members signed up, a total of sixteen couples were made, of which four had a successful date. We heard a lot of fun stories and would encourage the candidate board to organize such an activity again.

3. Internal Evaluation

3.1 FocOS group

To get better insights into how the study associations view certain topics at university, the OSb would like to extend upon the work done by the previous board and enable FocOS group sessions. In line with the vision of the previous board, the OS GMAs might feel too formal to allow dialogue and the pre-meetings are limited due to the fact they are only held with boards of the same faculty. The FocOS groups will serve as an additional moment beside the pre-meetings and GMA in which board members of study association can share their views on a specific topic. They are meant to be a place where associations can come and talk freely. The aim of these FocOS groups is to help study associations with possible problems they encounter. Additionally, they give the opportunity to help the university hear the voice of the study associations. Depending on the topic of the FocOS group, external parties can be consulted and asked to contribute to the meetings. The meeting will be documented and spread amongst the boards.

FocOS group: Moving forward after COVID-19

The outbreak of the coronavirus has meant for many boards an anticlimactic end of their year and a challenge for many new boards. The OS wants the new boards to adapt to the situation as adequately as possible and still continue the association as it should be. Therefore, a session will be organized in the first quartile for boards to get together and share their ideas on how to work with the measures and possibly move forward after the virus has slowed down. Ideas about how to re-engage members, committee work, activities, and networks can openly be discussed.

FocOS group: How to be a good Chair

Whilst the Student Union also organizes a moment for future chairs to come together, the OSb experiences that an extra moment later on in the year is useful for the chairs to get information on how to be a good chair and to discuss together what problems they have run into. This will be organized in such a way that the Candidate Chairs of the ET faculty are also able to join and hear the experiences of those who have had some experience already. This is of course possible during the pre-meetings, but the OSb perceives it to be valuable to organize a moment in which board members from all associations can come together and engage in dialogue.

Status: The FocOS groups were intentionally designed to present board members with a separate opportunity than the GMA to delve into a subject that could be either helpful or interesting to their board or them as a person. Whilst the goal is to still attract an external party to these discussions who are familiar with the topic, the aim for these FocOS groups remains on the dialogue between the participants rather than having it be a lecture. The online environment added another challenge to stimulating that dialogue.

Organising FocOS Groups online is somewhat hard, since an online setting does not encourage a discussion too well. The first FocOS Group did have a nice discussion being moderated by the OSb, where the second FocOS Group was somewhat more informative rather than a discussion.

FocOS group: Mental Health

Previously named “Moving forward after COVID-19” the FocOS group held in October 2020 was renamed to “Mental Health”. This change was made to make the topic more broad and more understandable. Additionally, at the time of writing the original document the OSb had

a different perception until when COVID-19 would be of influence. For this FocOS group, a total of 18 board members signed up to be part of the discussion. As an addition to the discussion, Annett de Kiewit was asked to participate as she had been working with COVID related mental health issues at the university. In preparation, video's and links to a canvas page were presented to the board for them to get familiar with the topic before the discussion. The discussion was fruitful and many were actively involved. Some examples of discussion points were related to the mental health of the members, the role of the board in this topic and the role of the university in collaboration with the boards. Following the discussion, separate meetings were organized to further discuss the role of the board in this topic. This, in turn, resulted in the setup of a new committee of OS that will be concerned with Mental Health and Well-being.

FocOS group: Effective Leadership

Previously named "How to be a good Chair" this FocOS group originally wanted to focus on chairmen and them being able to discuss qualities needed for this. The eventual FocOS group has been restructured into a way in that it is also interesting for other board members as it talked about leadership in a broad sense which could be applied to either a board or a full association. The FocOS group took place on the 11th of December 2020 and was visited by 12 board members. As an addition to the discussion, Celeste Wilderom was asked to give a short presentation beforehand and join the conversation as she has been working with effective leadership and behaviour at the university. The discussion was less lively than the previous FocOS group, possibly due to the combination of the online environment, decrease in participants, inclusion of a mini lecture beforehand or the topic. Following this session, the recordings were shared together with the presentation of Celeste Wilderom.

FocOS group: Motivation

The third FocOS group conducted has as a central theme Motivation. The OSb had noticed that many boards were struggling with finding motivation to go another half of their year with little prospect that the situation would get any better regarding events and board work. We invited Annett de Kiewit back to assist us in discussing the topic of motivation. A short presentation about motivation was given beforehand to then open the discussion. The discussion was more lively than the previous FocOS group. The recordings were sent to all participants afterwards.

FocOS group: Policy Writing

For the last FocOS group of the year the OSb felt it more valuable to aim their efforts towards the Candidate Boards rather than the Current Boards. It was expected that the interest was going to be low due to the year almost ending. Therefore, we wanted to focus on providing a session for the Candidate boards to help them with writing their policy. In a situation like this, every bit of extra help might be very welcome. For this session, we asked old Stress chairman Jelle van Pijkeren to give a workshop on policy writing, giving tips and guidelines on how to approach the writing of a policy best. Six candidate boards ended up joining the session. The session was perceived as useful by the candidate boards and in general they got a lot of good tips for the writing of their policy. The only feedback that was given was that some would've liked to see more examples of policy points. The recording of the workshop was afterwards send to all candidate boards.

A fifth FocOS-group will be organized by the board in collaboration with the new OS-board, which regards the complicated system behind FOBOS-grants.

3.2 COVID-19

The OSb recognizes that many associations will still face difficulties with the effects of the COVID-19 and the measures taken by the Dutch government and the University of Twente. The OSb wants to act on this in two different ways. Firstly, the OSb aims to stimulate the sharing of knowledge and ideas in relation to the effects of the coronavirus crisis between associations. This will be done by providing opportunities for discussion at GMAs and pre-meetings and by encouraging the sharing of plans and other important information. Secondly, due to physical activities having been limited for a time the bonding between (candidate-)board members will be more important than normal. The OSb wants to stimulate the organization of outings, both faculty-wide, function-wide, and university-wide.

Status: Every GMA, the agenda point 'Current COVID-situation' has been discussed, which gave associations the opportunity to discuss anything regarding the corona measurements. If something was unclear, the study associations could contact the OS-boards, which then contacted the party responsible for the unclarity.

To increase bonding between board members, some budget was available to organize function-outings, which was used by every function. At the end of the year, more physical activities were organized, which improved the bonding. We therefore recommend to the new board to look further into improving the bonding between boards, depending on the regulations regarding the COVID-19 crisis.

4. Responsibility

4.1 Book Contract Committee (BCC)

The current book contract will expire at the end of the year 2021-2022. From the evaluation of the BCC 2017-2018, it is recommended that the new BCC will be formed in this academic year already. Therefore, the Book Contract Committee (BCC) will be formed at the beginning of March 2021. Committee members will be searched for mainly within the OS GMA's, CEO meetings and former OS board-members. The OSb will then start the negotiations at the beginning of the academic year 2021-2022.

Status: The Book Contract Committee has been formed in April 2021, currently consisting of Lars Essenstam, Patrick van Oerle, Jelle van Pijkeren, Meltem Lampe and Job Noordkamp. Information has been gathered by the committee to explore the wishes and needs from the associations regarding the current and new book contract. A list of potential new suppliers has been set up, and will be contacted from September on. The aim is to have a definitive contract in December or January.

Committee evaluation

1. EA

The External Affairs Consultation had monthly meetings to discuss issues related to sponsorships, external contacts and events with a professional nature. During these meetings, a large focus was devoted to discussing the contact with companies and the organization of formal events in an online environment and how associations could improve that in the current situation.

2. Audit Committee

The Audit Committee has been hard to reach over the past year. There was little initiative from the committee to check the treasurer, and the letter for the semi-annual plan was only delivered after the GMA. For next year, the OSb encourages the treasurer to have more contact with the Audit Committee.

3. SRC

Due to the corona crisis, there was a different kind of work for the Study Tour committee. The committee was mostly responsible for communicating about canceled study trips, and deciding what to do with the grants for study tour committees. Some new members have been charged at the beginning of the year, and they are still motivated to continue their work.

4. ABC

The ABC worked very hard last year to revise the former FOBOS policy. The new policy (the OSFM) was approved by the GMA in March. The grants for 2020 are divided based on the former policy, whereas the provisional distribution of 2021 is based on the new OSFM. Last year, the ABC encountered a lot of misunderstanding by association on FOBOS, since it is quite a hard, but important topic. Therefore, on September 29, a FocOS group will be held to inform the new boards about the procedure and different levels of FOBOS.

On the level of umbrella's, Ruben and Imke discussed the division of the committees with the other umbrella's and the Student Union. Furthermore, they managed the sixth board member to be acknowledged in receiving FOBOS. This point is still work in progress, so we advise the candidate board to look into this further.

5. ICOS

The ICOS has focused their effort towards the internationalization at the UT. For this committee, irregular meetings were held as monthly meetings seemed too much. Due to the lack of physical events, the ICOS could focus less of their attention on the organization of events which it hopes to do more in the coming years. This year they have been largely involved in facilitating integration for internationals during the Christmas break. Besides setting up a livestream themselves, they paired up with Buddy, SU and ESN to set up a buddy system and create the share & take care platform. This all in the hopes to give the internationals more opportunities to entertain themselves during the Christmas break in which it might've been harder to travel home. Besides that they have adapted an existing transition document and proposed a setup for the coming year.

6. CEO

The Convention of Educational Officers has taken place every first Wednesday of the month. Until January, Laura Janssen from ConcepT has been chair, after which Astrid Hornman from S.V. Paradoks has taken over. During the year, most of the meetings have been about education regarding the coronacrisis, at which André de Boer from the Crisis Committee Education (CC-Ow) was also present to give some background information. This topic includes physical examination and proctoring for example. Next to that, someone from the Quality Agreements has also been present to talk about the Wet Studievoorschot (WSV) and the Shaping 2030-topic has been discussed. All in all, the CEO is a well self-functioning organ.

7. IT student council

The IT student council has had meetings with CES and LISA approximately every 6-8 weeks. Some meetings were more useful than others, however in general LISA and CES found the advice and feedback useful and want to continue these meetings. As most content relates to the use of the current IT services (e.g. Canvas and Osiris) the OSb recommends to have a combination of students that are currently studying to give feedback in addition to officers of educational affairs to give advice on more broad matters.

8. UTEA

The UTea took place on the 27th of May 2021. The event was fully online with 4 candidates giving a mini-lecture to be judged by the audience and the jury. The event itself was rather

successful, with a total 230 attendees. During the event there were approximately 180 people present constantly. The committee has heard a lot of positive feedback from both students and staff members.

Some troubles arose with the jury, with one member leaving early and the jury unwilling to give some feedback. This irritated some of the losing candidates as well, who complained afterwards. The committee has several recommendations to a new committee which will be presented in a separate evaluation at a future GMA.

The committee consisted of 3 members and one OS representative. The OS representative was a working committee member as well. There was a member of every faculty, except for EEMCS. Four members were sufficient, however an extra member could have helped.

9. KIOSK

The KIOSK has a different look in the current situation due to the limitations of the Kick-In. Due to many restrictions, such as the prohibition of providing food and drinks and limited space, the tasks of the KIOSK were taken up by one OS board member as there is little need to set up a committee for the amount of work. The committee organized the setup during the Openings market and were asked to provide help with organizing the Kick-Out party on the last day of the kick-in.

Contact evaluation

Student Union

The Student Union (SU) has been an important contact during the year, via both formal and informal contact. First of all, every six weeks the umbrella meetings have taken place, where the SU and the umbrellas have discussed important topics, but also documents such as the Annual Report of the SU. The SU has been of great help in all different situations, varying from the WBTR (Wet Bestuur en Toezicht Rechtspersonen) to measures regarding the coronacrisis.

The first half-year, the portfolio holder of Education was Manouk Ramselaar. Together with Manouk, a proposal was made for the CC-Ow regarding how to improve the switch from physical to online education, which has led to the beautiful white tents at the O&O square and the Achterhorst. Next to that, a communication pathway regarding information of measurements has been set up together with the student-assessors, Campus Facility Management and Marketing & Communication.

In February, Maartje van Delden has taken over the portfolio of Education. Most of the contact with her was regarding losing measurements and what that meant for study associations. The main topic in the second half year was the reopening of the association rooms, and making sure drinks at the campus could be held again. Hopefully, more and more can be done for study associations over the next year.

ERO

The contact with the ERO has been decent throughout the year. In some periods of the year, giving ERO courses has not been possible. With feedback from associations extra courses have been given throughout the year to prevent problems at associations.

Kick-In

This year the Kick-In has decided to involve OS more in their activities to increase transparency and communication quality towards and from the associations. Throughout the year, six coordination group meetings have taken place that involved representatives from all faculties, the Student Union, OS and Kick-In. During these meetings, topics such as the feedback from previous Kick-in, goals for the upcoming Kick-in and other issues regarding the Kick-in were discussed. A large focus was devoted to the organization with regards to the regulations around COVID. Besides these meetings, OS was included in the information

stream and could provide this information more easily to the associations accordingly. The Kick-In was also asked to attend an OS GMA to clear up any confusion regarding the organization of the OKIC's.

Marketing & Communication

The communication with Marketing & Communication the past year was mainly via email. M&C would forward mails that might be interesting for study associations. When the OSb found it useful, these emails were forwarded to all study associations. An example of this was a survey regarding housing of students in Enschede.

Sustain & Green Hub

Elaborating on the work of the former OS board, the collaboration between Sustain and OS has continued this year. Together with Green Hub and the Student Union, a survey regarding sustainability has been made and set out to see where study associations stand within their association. The aim of this survey is to make a concrete plan on how to increase sustainability within the university. The survey was conducted in June, and the results are now being analysed.

KIVI

The Koninklijke Instituut Van Ingenieurs have contacted the OS Board to organize an activity to build a bridge between (recently graduated) students and engineers that have been working for a longer period of time. The event "Brug over de Generatiekloof" took place on the 1st of March and hosted over 130 participants. In this event, a recently graduated civil engineer discussed the working field with an almost pensioned engineer. The event was a success, but no further activities have been planned yet.

Exedra

In the beginning of the academic year, OS has been contacted by StOp Leiden, which is the umbrella organisation for study associations of the university and university of applied sciences in Leiden. The aim of the contact was to set up a national platform for umbrellas for study associations, to discuss topics that are important for all study associations and universities across the contact. The first meeting has taken place in January, with the decision being made that every semester, twice such a meeting would be held. The platform has been named 'Exedra', which is the Greek word for 'room for conversation', and has been

a nice opportunity for OS to be informed about structures of other universities regarding study associations. The chair of OS has attended these meetings and will continue to do so in the future.

Epilogue

Hereby, the annual report of the OS Board 2020-II and OS Board 2021-I is concluded. We want to thank you and your association or party for your collaboration the past year. Although most of the year has COVID-19 as the main character, we hope we've been the right party to talk to whenever needed, regarding the corona crisis, but also other subjects. Most of the GMA's have taken place online, but we are very happy to have seen most of your faces during the last GMA of the academic year.

Now, it is time to let OS Board 2021-II sail the ship. We wish them very much luck the upcoming year and we are confident that they will also be a good captain.

OS Vivat!

