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Half-yearly policy update



Structure

In the past half year, adhering to the structure as presented in the policy plan has been achieved. All GMA's took place on the set upon dates and documents have been sent to the members in time. Only the December was cancelled, after consulting our members, due to insufficient discussion points. Next to that, the intended structure of the meeting cycle has been upheld. In the policy plan, it was mentioned that the board was to look for possible improvements of the year circly. After evaluating the current circle, it was decided to keep the circle as it is now.

Work on the house style of the OS has begun, but has not yet been completed. The board hopes to have the house style completed as soon as possible.

In regards to internationalisation, plans were made to change the official name of the OS. OS members were invited to send in their ideas on this and all options were considered. Some were rather jocular, like "Overly Subsidised" and "Omniscient Scholars". In the end, the board decided to stick to a serious name, that best represents the organisation, and Organisation of Study associations was chosen as a new meaning for the abbreviation "OS".

Communication

To further improve the communication from and to the OSb, several measures have been taken, as proposed at the GMA of September. As intended, all the communication from the OSb has been in English. All third parties whom communicate via the OS communication lines have been asked to also communicate in English, and while some third parties found this rather difficult, generally all information sharing has been done in English. This will of course be continued in the further to guarantee all information is accessible to everyone.

During the GMA's the spoken language was depended on the attendance. If no internationals were present, it was asked at the start of the meeting if anyone opposed to having the meeting in Dutch. This caused most GMA's to be in Dutch, but when an international board member joined the GMA there was no problem with switching to English. All documents shared on the GMA's, including the minutes, have been in English. Even though our GMA language policy is different from our vision at the beginning of the year, our current execution seems more practical. It make everyone feel a bit more relaxed when the GMA is in Dutch if no internationals are present and if there are internationals, everyone is aware of switching to English and this is also not really a problem for anyone.

Lastly, the OSb is happy to announce that there is now a OS boardroom in the Bastille. Due to the limited workforce over the past period the room still needs to be furnished. As soon as this is done the room will be fully operational and become the new central base of operations for the OSb. When we have fully moved in, we will notify all our members.

Integration

The OS as a networking platform for all boards of study associations has been performing quite well. There has been a successful drink after every GMA with lots of board members showing up. It showed that activities organized by the associations were highly appreciated and highered the attendance rate. We will continue to encourage everyone to turn the drink that they're responsible for into something special. Also the OSinterklaas has been organised which was a great event. A lot of board visited this event with "lovely" poems about each other. The organisation of the very first OS prom is in full effect and the GalOS is working really hard to make it an amazing event.

Another event that will take place is the new year's event. This will occur next month at the end of March. Before the summer the well-known OS barbeque will take place as well, but we'll have to wait a bit longer for that.

The OS cup is also in full effect and a lot of points have been divided. Everything can happen and we are all very curious to see who will take the trophy home!

Internationalisation

Since the beginning of the year, quite a lot has changed. All documents are translated and the name has changed, just like all committee names. The name change does not really change a lot, except for it being easier to explain what we do to internationals and also it looks a bit neater when talking about internationalization. We expect the committee names to take a year or so before everyone is completely adapted to the new names.

The SIP meetings are still happening every 6 weeks and the conclusion of these meetings are discussed during the ICOS meetings. There has been a meeting with international students which proved to be really useful for understanding the wishes and needs of them better.

The ICOS meetings went quite well the past half a year. Sometimes they were rather short when nothing came up to discuss, but sometimes there was a lot of input from the associations which is really nice to hear. There has been put effort in the manifesto, the general Kick-In and association specific topics this last half a year.

The Unite meetings are sometimes quite useful to see what is happening, other times they do not prove to be very useful. It might be a better idea to look at the agenda or discuss with Unite whether they think it is useful for OS to be there. We will look into that.

Other

The past few months, the OSb had twork with less board members compared as usual. From November until February, Martijn was absent due to his minor. Furthermore, due to unforeseen events, the board lacked an additional person (Yanick) to perform their tasks.

During these times, we tried to be as transparent with our members as possible to not create any mistrust. The redistribution of the Martijn his responsibilities went rather smooth and this didn't affect everybody's other tasks. Nevertheless, in the last few weeks we noticed that we weren't able to execute all our tasks as desired with two board members missing. Even though it didn't affect our day to day tasks, it prevented us from excelling. Luckily the board is complete again, which allows us to retain our proactive approach that we had before the christmas break. This will be a focus point for the remainder of the year.

Committee and responsibility distribution 2018

If the discharging and charging of Simon Huijink discharged and Duncan Lorraine is successful, we will continue with the following task distribution.

Committee/Responsibility	Responsible Board Member
Activism Grants Committee	Yanick Verkerk
Alcohol Umbrella Committee	To be determined
University of Twente Educational Award	Ruben Uineken
Convention of Educational Officers	Martijn Koers
External Affairs Assembly	Thomas van Tilburg
Audit Committee	Thomas van Tilburg
ICT & Website	Yanick Verkerk
Internationalisation Committee Organisation of Study associations	Xadya van Bruxvoort
SIP representative	Xadya van Bruxvoort
Kick-In Organisation of Study associations Committee	Ruben Uineken
Internationalisation Committe e + SIP representative	Xadya van Bruxvoort
Study tour Committee	Duncan Lorraine
GalOS	Duncan Lorraine and Yanick Verkerk