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Annual policy report 2018-2019



Introduction

Since the end of the year is coming up, a reflection of past year is created. Both as OSb 2018-II as well as OSb 2019-I, we are proud on the execution of our policy and look back with a smile upon our faces. For the coming year five new board members and one current board member will take over. With the knowledge received from the past we are certain that this board will function as desired and that they will do their utter best. In this document first our policy will be evaluated where after some small notifications of the past year will be mentioned.

We enjoyed being the umbrella board for you past year and wish you the best of luck in the future. Aside from this we hope that the connection between the OS and the study associations stays as strong as it is currently. Because if this is the case, the sector study will keep flourishing and we can keep performing our excellent work for the university and our students.

With kind regards, OSb 2019-I

Book Contract

The current book contract has expired at the end of the year. The Book Contract Committee (BCC) started this year by taking stock among the study associations and relevant committees. There has been correspondence with different suppliers to investigate their options to deliver all the books. StudyStore has been chosen to start phase three, drafting the actual contract. After an informative moment with StudyStore and all the commissioners of educational affairs the last questions have been answered. Afterwards, the contract has been signed by all committees. Updates were given at the OS GMA's and the CEO meetings. Umbrella associations of other universities have been asked about their book contracts and they gave us insightful information. This has been taken up to intensify the communication with our sister associations. A more elaborated evaluation can be found in a separate document.

Internationalisation

Since September the GMA's have always been held in English. The same accounts to the minutes of these meetings. Aside from this the struggle for English IVA courses continues, however progress is booked. From next year July these will be given in English, it could be the case that from January this is already arranged but this is still uncertain. The two activism grants documents have been translated, together with the alcohol rules.

ICOS will receive some changes, since not all the meetings were equally useful in the past year. What these changes are, can be found in the policy plan of OSb 2019-II.

Archiving

Due to a forced transition from WESP, both the website and internal drive have been transferred to other services. The website is now up to date to the newest available technologies and its content is generally up to date, but can still be improved visually. The internal drive is now stored in Google Drive, which makes it more accessible and easier to manage. Every function within the OS board holds its own mailbox, which makes the transition to new boards easier. For both the chairman as well as secretary/treasurer transition documents have been created or updated to make sure that knowledge is not lost due to the transition of boards.

Networking platform

During the previous year, the OSb has been a platform for board members to communicate through. During different meetings, like the OS GMA, CEO, EB meeting and other committees, problems encountered by the study associations could be discussed as well as sharing knowledge. Next to this, the after GMA drinks and different outings were also a place to communicate in a more informal way. The OSb believes that they were visible and approachable for the board members when they had questions and/or problems.

OS room

Last year, the OS room has had some updates. There is a logo painted on the wall. In this way, the room is really the OS-room and if we invite people, they can see it is our room. Furthermore, some practical stuff is added like a clock and some office supplies. For the future new furniture could be purchased. This is however a possibility and not a must.

Lustrum

Last year the Organisation of Study associations (OS) celebrated its 4th Lustrum. In order to properly celebrate this the "new-year" activity was turned into a lustrum activity. This activity was open for all current boards and former boards of study associations. The remainder of the lustrum budget was used to make the OS BBQ nicer by providing food of higher quality, ice and candyfloss. The possibility of a Gala was not feasible in the last quartile of the year due to the start of the wedding season.

FOBOS

At the beginning of this year, the OS stated that it was discussing a new FOBOS model together with the other umbrella organisations, provided by the Student Union. Since then the model has been finalised and utilised to divide the extra incidental over the umbrella associations. The model consists of five categories concerning grants: "Part-time boards that not get FOBOS according to the FOBOS model, "Must (receive grants)" "should", "could" and "probably not". Next, the umbrella's associations are allotted to a category based on three factors: Substantial (workload - hrs/week), Core (connection to the values of the association) and essential (to the existence/continuity of the association) (e.g. Study Tour to "must" and excursion committee to "probably not"). This resulted in the OS receiving a total of 375 grants. At the end of the year a new system was based to evaluate the committees and to ask questions at other umbrellas. There is more time for questions and therefore a solid base will be formed, which makes it easier for the continuity of the model.

Alcohol policy

This year was the first complete year with the new Alcohol permit and the corresponding Alcohol Covenant. In the beginning of the year, the idea was to plan a meeting with a BOA (Buitengewoon Opsporings Ambtenaar) of the municipality to ask and discuss what this new permit had for implications. Although it took a long time, this meeting took place in March 2019. This meeting was very useful and compliments about the execution of the new rules by the drinking locations were received. Furthermore, the OS-Board visited every location to check if everything was done properly and if there is a need for an update of the permit. These possible updates will be further investigated coming year.

New member

During the year Komma presented themselves as a new member. After a short explanatory session from Komma and the opportunity to ask any questions they have joined the OS and therefore we now count 19 members. A visit to the study association SAB was also executed, however after a short meeting it was concluded that the collaboration opportunities were limited and therefore the decision was made to not include them. They do however join in with the UTea and are welcome to open the conversation in the future if they find this necessary.