
Policy Plan 2020–2021

Organisation of Study Associations



Introduction

Dear member of the GMA,

The following sections of the policy will elaborate upon the vision for the policy of the OS Board 2020 II and the OS Board 2021 I. In the following parts, four different main themes will be highlighted and explained.

To increase the external visibility of the OS and deliver a better understanding of the position of the umbrella amongst board and external parties, the OSb would like to expand its presence on social media and additionally increase the usability and unlock more possibilities on its website.

To encourage internal integration amongst associations and OS, the board would like to increase the connection between all functions by facilitating a moment for functions to come together. Next to that, the OSb would like to increase their connection with associations by engaging in more moments together in the shape of coffee dates. Final to this point is the integration between all associations is the improvement of the OS Cup to ensure higher engagement and motivation.

To pay attention to more in-depth evaluations, the OSb will continue to build upon the introduced FocOS groups in order to discuss certain matters more in-depth. Additional to this, with an unorthodox start of the year, many associations might have troubles adapting to the situation corona has brought upon us. The OSb would like to encourage dialogue between the associations to assist them during the preliminary phases of the academic year.

To take the future into account, the OSb will start with the preparations to launch the Book Contract Committee towards the end of the year.

The OSb hopes to inform all members of the assembly sufficiently and welcomes them to contribute to the policy during the GMA on the 24th of September 2020.

Kind regards,

OS-Board 2020 II

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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 Bos
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 (AC)	Imke Nijenbanning
Alcohol Umbrella Committee	Ruben Bos
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

<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>Responsible Board Member</i>
BHV/IVA	Lars Essenstam
CantOS	Lars Essenstam
FOBOS	Ruben Bos & 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

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.

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.

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.

2.2 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.

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.

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.

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.