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# Annual report 2023–2024

Organisation of Study Associations



## Introduction

Dear members of the GMA,

In this document we report to you about our achievements from the past year. We refer to our plans formulated a year ago, and reflect on the quality in executing those.

Two topics which sparked major interest towards the end of the academic year of 2022-2023 were *sexual harassment policies* as well as *finding a Candidate Board*. With these two sub goals in mind we planned on providing the Study Associations with clear guidance which can be used for years to come. We deem these plans to be executed successfully. More on this to be found in chapter 1.

Further, we planned on focussing on several aspects of integration within associations. These aspects included an additional focus on the *attendance of after GMA drinks*, the *set-up of the OS-cup* and the *organisation of faculty and function outings*. We think we did our best in the realm of integration, but not all methods were successful. We elaborate on these activities in chapter 2.

Regarding committees and responsibilities, we set out to *restructure ICOS*, *install SOS* and *add additional focus to the UTEA*. In chapter 3 we describe this in more detail. We added a reflection of *FOBOS*, the alcohol covenant and the *FixCo* too. All these plans differed in degree of success.

Kind regards,

OS Board 2024-I.

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## Structure of the Board

<i>Function</i>	<i>Name</i>
Chairman	Roel ten Broek
Secretary & Treasurer	Joep Meussen
Faculty Representative ET (CTW)	Twan Hendriksen and Roan Spits
Faculty Representative EEMCS (EWI)	Niels Berg
Faculty Representative BMS (MB)	Naomi Loffeld
Faculty Representative S&T (TNW)	Melle Fopma

## Committees & Responsibilities

<i>Committee</i>	<i>Responsible Board Member</i>
Activism Grants Committee (ABC)	Roan Spits & Melle Fopma
Audit Committee (KasCo)	Joep Meussen
Convention of Education Officers (CEO)	Roel ten Broek
External Affairs Assembly (EB)	Naomi Loffeld
Internationalisation Committee (ICOS)	Roan Spits
Study Trip Committee (SRC)	Joep Meussen & Roan Spits
University of Twente Education Award Committee (UTEA)	Roel ten Broek & Niels Berg
Student Input Digitalisation (SID)	Roel ten Broek
Book Contract Committee (BCC)	Naomi Loffeld
Sustainability Committee (SOS)	Roan Spits

<i>Responsibility</i>	<i>Responsible Board Member</i>
Alcohol	Roan Spits & Melle Fopma
CantOS	Roel ten Broek
Coordination group KIC	Joep Meussen
ERO	Naomi Loffeld
FOBOS	Roan Spits & Melle Fopma
FocOS Groups	Roel ten Broek
GalOS	Joep Meussen
ICT/Boardsite	Joep Meussen
MentOS	Naomi Loffeld
OS cup	Roel ten Broek & Melle Fopma
Social Media	Naomi Loffeld
Student news	Niels Berg

Umbrella Meetings	Roel ten Broek & Niels Berg
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# 1. Supporting the Study Associations

## 1.1 Sexual Harassment Policies

Throughout the academic year Naomi and Roel have worked on the creation of a centralised sexual harassment policy. The motivation behind this stemmed from uncertainties which policies to follow, and even where to look for them. Later in the year it became evident that the issues encompassed much more than what we initially expected. While collaboration with third parties was already planned, it became evident that it was much more important than initially expected.

We have been in contact with the Student Affairs Coaching and Counselling (SACC) the Integral Safety Team as well as the Student Union (SU) and the Student Wellbeing Improvement Programme (SWIP) from the University for initial meetings and gathering of information. These parties have aided in the creation of the final version of the guideline document. As mentioned in the mid-year report, we wanted to be cautious, and not rush the process. This resulted in the document being presented and discussed in the last month of the academic year.

Fortunately, during the discussion phase, the Study Associations were critical and raised questions and concerns with regards to clarity of the presented document. These points were either argued for, or adjusted accordingly. Hence, after the last MentOS meeting of the academic year the guidelines for Study Associations with regards to transgressive behaviour within Study Associations was completed. The updated document was sent to all associations, and can be found on the OS website.

## 1.2 Finding Candidate Board Script

Last year, several study associations noticed it was harder to find (enough) candidates for their new board. OSb 2023-II wanted to provide a general document stating tips and tricks on how to ensure continuity and find enough candidates each year. The goal was to have a document with tips and examples available on the OS website. For creating input for this document, we held a FocOS session. The minutes have been sent out, but to extract a script from the session, is in our opinion difficult. Therefore, in case associations desire it, the session can be organised in the future again. We advise associations to evaluate their recruitment process with the contributions of other associations during the FocOS session, and consider archiving the minutes for future reference.

## 2. Integration

### 2.1 After GMA Drinks

Boosting attendance of after GMA drinks has been amongst the priorities of OSb 2023-II. We believe that these drinks are a great and casual way for Board members to bond and thus aim to make these drinks attractive for as many Board members as possible. To do so we have hosted several themed after GMA drinks such as SinterkIOS and the Glühwein after drink. Both of these were well received by the Study Associations and showcased that the after GMA drinks are a place for Board members to come together to have fun.

The after GMA drinks were shared on the Instagram of OS, faculty representatives ensured that their faculties knew about the after drinks and finally verbal promotion was always done by the entirety of the Board to get as many people to the drink as possible. In addition, OSb 2023-II aimed to pair an activity or add a special touch to the after GMA drinks, ensuring that there's always something to look forward to. For example, the drink of October included herfstbok and in January the GalOS theme reveal was linked to the after drink.

We believe that we have achieved our goal because the attendance of the drinks has been greatly improved from last year and we hope the next boards will be able to continue this success.

### 2.2 Faculty Outings

The intention of this point was to generate more awareness amongst the faculties that there is the possibility to hold a faculty outing. We have reminded the faculties multiple times, but not all faculties have had an outing. Sadly the budget for these outings was halved from the originally intended budget. With these factors combined, we are not satisfied with this goal.

### 2.3 Function Outings

Similarly, not all functions have had an outing this past year. Perhaps we have not encouraged this enough, or there are other factors that have led to this. In any case, this goal has not been achieved.

### 2.4 OS cup

Due to low motivation perceived, we cancelled the OS cup after it had started. At the start of the year we did not have an alternative for the OS cup, and because we perceived it as not too much effort, we continued the competition. However, we also understood from the beginning that such an event is in no way an end in itself, but a method towards integration. We are convinced we worked on integration well via different ways, but unfortunately, through the OS cup this goal has been nowhere near achieved.



## 3. Committees and Responsibilities

### 3.1 ICOS

The way ICOS was set up in previous years was quite inefficient since it consisted of a lot of people with a lot of shared responsibility. This resulted in longstanding action points without yielding useful results. This is why the structure was reformed by the OS Board. At the beginning of the year, interviews were held and a six-people committee had been set up. OSb was under the impression that this was going to improve the efficiency of the committee.

Sadly, this was not realised. Meetings were not well attended and as the year progressed it turned out to be increasingly difficult to plan a meeting, let alone work on action points. Both the Board representative and the committee tried their best to make it work, but without success.

For the upcoming year, it is advised to have new interviews and form an entirely new committee. Moreover, it is advisable to have set meeting moments and to make the committee a (partially) continuous committee rather than having to set up a new committee every academic year. In addition, it is advised for the new OSb to have an active role in the committee.

### 3.2 SOS

Sustainability is a very important topic these days and will only become more important in the future. This is why the OS Board has set up a committee with the help of W.S.G. Isaac Newton. The structure of the committee is the same as the proposed structure for ICOS was. The OS Board has supported in finding people to fill the committee and guide them in realising several goals.

Currently the Sustainability committee has been set-up and consists of 4 members. At the moment the committee is busy working on the sustainability script. In this script you can find helpful links to funds that can be used to make events more sustainable, but also how you can make already existing activities more sustainable.

In the document they also put in what workgroups there are within the university that focus on sustainability, they have also put in the contact information of these groups so study associations can reach out to them for additional information.

The committee is planning to organise an input session where board members from all study associations can voice their opinions about this document. This will be done when they are a little further along with the sustainability script.

### 3.3 UTEA

It was a pity that a committee for this event could not have been found. Therefore, OS organised it on its own with great support by CELT (Centre of Expertise in Learning and Teaching). Mid July, we reflected with CELT. Further, one jury member was physically present and one member provided feedback via email. Some action points have resulted from these meetings and CELT was eager to include it in the week of education next year as well.

We aimed to achieve more with the event itself, but the achievements with regard to setting the tone for future years were bigger. Namely, for the first time, CELT has been extremely involved, it has been included in the Week of Education, the rector magnificus was present for the award ceremony and a lot of promotion to employees was carried out, which went through CELT. Finally, on initiative of CELT, the name has been changed to Teacher of the Year Award, since this was deemed more illustrative of the event.

### 3.4 FocOS

Last year, two people were responsible for this. In 2023-2024, only one person was main responsible for it and depending on the topic, a suitable/interested person from OSb would be chosen. This structure worked out well.

We aimed to organise four FocOS sessions throughout the year, which is one in each module. During the mid year we were already unsure whether we would reach 4 sessions and therefore removed a specific number of sessions from the goal. Ultimately, we organised 3 sessions.

Below, these 3 sessions are listed accompanied by a short reflection.

#### 1. Activity Density and Boosting Attendance

The session was of satisfactory quality. We think the insights were reasonably valuable, but many of the contributions were not too profound.

#### 2. Finding a Candidate Board

In our opinion, this FocOS session was a very fruitful and valuable one. The contributions were more thorough than the first one.

#### 3. Kick-in Do group system

This session was satisfactory again, but sometimes resulted a bit in a bashing session. This session was mainly meant as an input session for a newly set up working group of the KIC to possibly improve the current do-group system. To that end, the FocOS session was a really good way to find the opinion of the study sector.

### 3.5 FOBOS

Let us start of with the FOBOS applications of 2023. All of the applications, which have been approved by the GMA in October, have been submitted to the SU and approved by the E&I meeting. By now, every applicant should have received an email from CPO, regarding these applications. Applications for 2024 have by now also been sent to the E&I, and initially approved. So, if no large differences are submitted during the proofs phase, every application for FOBOS 2024 is very likely to be approved. This is under the condition that there should be enough grants available.

### 3.6 Alcohol covenant

For more than 2 years now, OS has been in talks with CFM and the SU regarding the creation of a new alcohol covenant. After many meetings, it was believed that a new covenant was agreed upon in January. However, a miscommunication occurred in these parties, leading to the withdrawal of their approval for the covenant. Unfortunately, this resulted in that the part of bartenders are allowed to drink behind the bar, is removed. This new version is in almost every aspect, very similar as last covenant. The new covenant is set to be signed shortly after the summer holiday.

### 3.7 FixCo

This project did not turn out as planned. Due to many other projects going on for the OS board at the same time, as well as study load we were unable to take sufficient initiative. There has been contact with the committee to continue next year, where we will try to still make it successful.

# Afterword

Dear members of the GMA,

With this we want to thank you for reading our annual report, and assume we have informed you sufficiently on our progress during the last academic year.

We want to thank all study association board members for their hard work during OS-related meetings, committees and events the past academic year. Without your input we would not have been able to push for the best outcomes So, thank you for that!

In addition to this, we want to thank everyone who has been actively involved in OS committees for their hard work the last academic year, and are happy to see that many will remain active within OS the coming year as well.

Finally, we want to wish our own candidate board members the best of luck and success in their upcoming board year. We have full faith that they will continue to work as hard as many of their predecessors have done before them.

If you happen to have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to reach out to us via [board@os.utwente.nl](mailto:board@os.utwente.nl). We also look forward to discussions at the GMA on the 3rd of September 2024.

Kind regards,

Roel, Joep, Roan, Niels, Naomi & Melle,  
OSb 2024-I .