**MINUTES OF THE SURPLUS AND ELECTION GA 17-6-2020, SPRING 2020 SEMESTER**

49 Attending: Joost Wijffels, Manuel Davy Ntsoumou, Michiel Nieuwenhuijs , Antoniya Spirova, Augustin Lambert, Carla Laudien, Caroline Déharbe, Charlotte Salmon, Cata Schielinger, Clara Maxwell, Katrin Dorfs, Elena Catalina Lungu, Emilia Goessler, Emmanuelle Boucher, Era Georgiade, Francesca Celenta, Friederike Leppert, Harriot Grimmel-Moore, Ilaria Hernst, John Horstmann, Jonathan Travenier, Kendra Kibbey, Lara Gierschmann, Laura Smith, Lou Petrone, Ludwig Schulte, María Oriol Valls, Maxime Kramer, Julia Connelly, Hanne van den Werf, Michelle Reitano, Moritz Odersky, Nicholas Pleij, Nik Martins, Noa Zogo Ayissi, Raviv Ben Gal, Ruben Backx, Rufus Busse, Sanne de Jong, Sarah Kiegeland, Stephen A. McCarthy, Stijn Willemse, Ties Keim, Viebeke Gootzen, Vitor Francisco da Silva, Joost Boswinkel, Phillip Kreiss, Sanne de Jong, Phineas Shapiro

4: Proxy: Bela Ashworth, Lea Grandémange, Vilde Toft, Sophie Groenewegen

**Total: 53**

*GA is opened*

President introduces us to the general assembly

* IB explains the rules of the GA
  + Use hand signal to wish to speak
  + No button for procedural motion
  + Voting works via internal polling system
  + Vote example
  + For proxy votes, please use chat function
  + Please do not use chat function to chat
* Rules of the GA are presented by the IB
* New President opens the GA
* New President presents the Agenda of today’s GA
  + Agenda moves to a vote
  + Agenda passes (97 % for, 3 % abstain)
* New President presents the Minutes of last GA
  + No questions asked about the minutes from last GA
  + Minutes move to a vote
  + Minutes pass (31 people voted yes, 9 abstentions.
* Old president takes the word
  + Thanks the IB for organising GA
  + Last GA there was a discussion about paying a UCM student for taking Board photos
    - Apologises for inconvenience
    - We are looking into solutions
  + Corona update
    - Old president appreciates the motion forms
    - It is not certain whether we can hold events next semester
    - News will be spread as soon as SB has it
    - Thanks outgoing boards of AC, IB, and SB.
    - Thanks the committees for their input during Covid-19
* New president thanks the old president
* A word from the IB
  + IB believes that the selection procedure for new board members was fair and independent.
  + They were present at all interviews
* Independent body selection procedure presentation
  + All members were invited for an interview’
  + IB checked all boxes of the policy manual
  + For the interviews, two people from the AC/SB were present
  + Advisory council was present at two interviews
    - IB thinks these processes were also fair
  + IB received notes on selection new members and asked critical questions to ensure there was a valid justification.
* New Academic Council members represent themselves
  + (Belle) Presents herself as Treasurer of the AC.
    - * Has previously been IB member
    - It is asked whether they have other commitments aside from the AC job.
      * No, not really. Mainly committed to being Treasurer of AC.
      * She wishes to be a good student representative
    - Do you have any experience with finances and financial auditing?
      * Yes, as an IB member, they are very experienced with the financial happenings of UCMSA Universalis.
  + Vitor presents himself as External Executive of AC
    - * Excited to work on starting conversations about polarisation
    - It is asked why he is interested in this position specifically.
      * Because he is interested in Diplomacy and wishes to strengthen theties with other University Colleges
    - It is asked whether he has a job on the side.
      * He does work on the side but does not think it’s an issue because he has worked on multiple projects at the same time before.
    - Do you have any other experience within the UCM community
      * Not that much because he is part of the February intake. But he was active within Poetry Society
      * He wishes to give back to the community that he appreciated.
    - Question asked whether he has any ideas to increase UCSRN’s academic contribution to UCM?
      * This has been talked about quite a bit already.
      * He wants to increase travel reimbursement for UCM.
      * He thinks of organising other special events and cooperating a lot more.
  + Ilaria presents herself as AC event coordinator
    - * Education has always been super important to her.
    - It is asked whether Ilaria has any other major obligations that may take up too much time.
      * Not really. She mainly has been active in the community events already but this will not get in the way
    - It is asked whether she has any new ideas to bring to the AC?
      * She wishes to improve the process of course evaluations by organising events relevant to course evaluation forms. She has some other ideas but also wishes to develop these more during transition and summer break.
    - It is asked whether she can stand her ground in EPC.
      * Likely so, she can adapt to professional situations quickly and has experience with standing her ground in important crowds. She believes she has the relevant communicative skills.
    - Are there initiatives you wish to support?
      * Political polarisation and the inclusivity issue would be interesting to invest time in and she wishes to possibly organise more events around these topics
      * As for EPC, that depends on what happens next year and what needs are expressed by the student body.
    - How would you deal with the bureaucratic slowness of processes from the EPC?
      * She wishes to break down projects into steps, so one can take one step at the time instead of trying to cquitehange everything at once.
    - It is asked whether she could cope with the burden of Academics and AC work simultaneously.
      * She is quite certain she can handle these things. She has grown a lot and believes AC work is good for her.
* Social Board presents new members
  + Ruben presents himself as treasurer for the Sb
    - Has built up a lot of experience being a treasurer and feels prepared to be treasurer of the SB. He looks forward to representing student body.
    - It is asked whether he has any external obligations that could take away necessary attention from the Social Board work.
      * His biggest obligation was committees, which will fall away next semester. He also has a small internship but this will not get in the way.
    - It is asked whether he might have conflicts of interest in terms of budgeting.
      * He admits that he loves the committees he was part of, but thinks that this will not be in the way. He knows that there are many elements, like statutes and policy manual and board members, that can keep him in check. He does not think this will be necessary, though.
  + Maxime presents herself as SB social executive
    - She is delighted to work for the SB and is mainly looking forward to being an executive of committees.
    - It is asked how she plans to implement the measures of covid during the introdays.
      * She is working with staff and the AC to make things happen, online *and* on-site. This is still being developed.
    - It is asked whether she is easily able to communicate with people in a position of authority.
      * She believes she can, because she has done it in the past.
    - It is asked what she is most excited for in this position.
      * Difficult question. She is really excited to work with committees, and to problem solve, *and* to organise the introduction days.
  + Noa presents himself as SB external executive.
    - He feels experienced and excited to get started!
    - He has a job next to UCM, but this is not a lot of work. (to combat the frequently asked question).
    - It is asked why he applied for external executive rather than the other positions.
      * He is not very good with money so treasurer was a no-go.
      * Being external matched his interests and his past experiences most, and it felt like a better choice for him.
    - It is asked whether he has felt any interest to be president of the Social Board or further development within UCSRN. It is also asked what kinds of events he wishes to organise (if possible).
      * He does not know whether he wants to develop further in UCSRN because he was just introduced to the UCSRN so he wishes to focus most on his current task.
      * He hopes to organise larger events once per semester, or smaller events between a smaller number of University Colleges.
* Independent body presents its new members
  + Jonathan presents himself as IB member Chair
    - He mainly wishes to continue the processes set in motion last semester, like rewriting the policy manual and improving communication with the AC and SB.
    - He also loves being on the IB.
    - He is applying for the chair of the IB.
    - It is asked whether he has any external obligations
      * He has classes but no skills which is no problem.
      * He is still part of the scouts in Utrecht but has always managed to combine these obligations in the past.
    - It is asked how he views the relationship between IB and the other two Universalis bodies.
      * He believes there has to be a full transparency with open ways of communication.
      * The IB should never go to the bodies to just give destructive feedback. Instead, it will be there for advise, future solutions for problems the bodies ran into.
    - Note from the IB:
      * Everyone can work on the policy manual if they want to!
    - IB asks how he imagines his job as the Chair.
      * He sees this as a policy manual obligation, so the position of chair is more formal than anything. Next to that, the chair takes the lead during internal meetings.
    - It is asked whether his experience on the Social Board has any upsides or downsides for his work on the IB.
      * He thinks that his time on the Social Board taught him to think iin solutions instead of problems, because this is important on the boards. Any advise given by IB has to have the benefit of moving forward.
      * He might have a slight positive bias for SB members. If this might happen, there are two fellow IB members who can correct him on that.
      * His experience on the IB gave him insight in policy manual, statutes, and role of the IB.
  + Carla presents herself as IB member.
    - She has a lot of experience with the procedures with the committees due to her experience on the musical theatre board, and wished to continue her commitment to the community by being on the IB.
    - It is asked whether she can be truly independent because she has experience with committees.
      * She would realise if she weren’t independent, but also knows that two IB members can point out when she is not so independent.
    - It is asked whether she has experience with understanding policy.
      * She is doing a project where she is reading a lot of policies and rules. What she doesn’t know she will learn.
    - It is asked whether she has read the policy manual and statutes.
      * She has read parts of the manual for her position in the musical committee.
  + Stephen presents himself as IB member.
    - Has a lot of experience with the policy manual, student handbook, and statutes, and has been to all GAs and chaired the UCSRN.
    - Has experience with SB and rewriting the policy manual.
    - He has no other obligations that will obstruct his work.
    - It is asked how he will try to remain independent or transparent about big changes that will be made to policy manual.
      * He iterates that it is okay to have opinions as long as they don’t determine everything.
      * He is a communicator and is always open to learn and change his mindset.
      * He has been on the Social Board before which might lead to some bias in cases of dispute. He hopes that this is not the case. He knows he has a duty as the IB to be impartial and trusts the community and IB to keep him in check.
      * He introduces the restructuring proposal which is aimed at integrating AC and SB which should remove institutional tribalism.
* Start of the voting procedure:
  + Every candidate gets an independent vote.
  + Belle Boss, AC treasurer:
    - Vote passes (42 yes, 1 no).
    - Belle is hereby appointed as AC treasurer
  + Vitor Francisco, AC external executive.
    - Vote passes (39 yes, 2 no, 3 abstentions)
    - Vitor is hereby appointed as external executive of AC
* Intermission: the IB explains why they share the results
  + Practically, they cannot share the results like during a physical GA. Normally they would just announce whether there is a majority vote. This cannot happen now, so for the sake of transparency results are shared immediately.
  + Question is raised why this is more transparent than AC and SB Chair and Presidency elections.
    - Zoom only allows one to share results with visible percentages.
    - There were other practical issues because two IB members had to share a spot.
  + Suggestion is made to reconsider voting procedure for future online General Assemblies.
* Resumption of voting procedure
  + Ilaria Hernst-Ites, AC Event coordinator
    - Vote passes (36 yes, 3 no, 6 abstentions)
  + Ruben Backx, SB treasurer
    - Vote passes (39 yes, 1 no, 4 abstentions)
    - Ruben is hereby appointed as Treasurer on the Social Board
  + Maxime Kramer, SB Social Executive
    - Vote passes ( 38 yes, 1 no, 4 abstentions)
    - Hereby appointed as SB social executive
  + Vote for Noa Zogo Ayissi, SB external executive
    - Vote passes (36 yes, 3 no, 4 abstentions).
    - Hereby appointed as external executive of the SB
  + Vote for Jonathan Schoen, IB chair
    - Vote passes (44 yes, 0 no, 1 abstention)
    - Hereby appointed as Chair of IB
  + Vote for Carla Laudien for IB
    - Vote passes (36 yes, 4 no, 3 abstentions)
    - Hereby appointed as IB member for upcoming semester
  + Vote for Stephen McCarthy as IB member upcoming semester
    - Vote passes (37 yes, 4 no, 4 abstentions
    - Hereby appointed as IB member for the upcoming semester

*10 MINUTE BREAK!*

*The GA resumes at 20.25*

* Surplus Budget
  + Available Budget: E 10.000
    - Treasurer explains that surplus budget is E10.000 Most of this money will likely go to Surplus and Budget. The rest of budget will go to savings. Many committees spent less than budgeted for due to Covid-19.
    - New President asks whether we are doing good or bad.
    - Treasurer responds that financially we are doing well. She had hoped to see more online events, and ideally the surplus budget was a bit lower.
    - New president thanks committees for their efforts.
    - Treasurer thanks all committees for their smooth transition to the online environment.
  + FILM: Surplus motion to buy a committee camera for E1000.
    - Film committee explains that they have wanted this camera for a long time to help them make a film. They ask for 1000 euros because it is the necessary threshold to ensure good quality.
    - Motion presented.
    - It is asked whether they cannot use cameras used for documentary project.
      * These cameras are prioritised for students, and so Film committee can often not use these.
    - One asks where this camera would be stored and will it come with a bag?
      * Film will invest in a camera bag.
      * It might be placed under a member’s supervision, but will likely be put in the Okzaal
    - Motion to open floor up for discussion.
      * Motion does not pass (19 yes, 11 no, 11 abstentions)
    - Technical question: have you considered an insurance?
      * It has been considered but does not fall under the budget as of right now.
    - Nature of technical questions is clarified: ***they are really about policy.***
    - Motion moves to a vote.
      * Motion passes (30 yes, 4 no, 8 abstentions)
  + It is clarified that any ad hoc motions can be submitted because the subject of the Surplus Budget is itself a motion to which we can add.
  + Sports Committee: E 450 for sports materials (table tennis table and/or foosball paper)
    - Decisions on the location of the sports material can still be discussed in the GA.
    - Motion to open the floor up for discussion with a limit of 10 minutes
      * Motion passes (28 yes, 6 no, 6 abstentions).
      * Floor opens for discussion
        + Someone thinks it is a fun idea, but one asks whether one has looked into getting a mobile table-tennis table and whether sports committee has thought about a location to store it.
        + Sports committee wants to get tables with wheels, locations are yet unclear.
        + Someone emphasises that it is good to store them inside, but also asks how they will be kept clean
      * My zoom stopped working
      * Someone asks whether the table-tennis table would hold up in the weather.
        + Sports guarantees that these table-tennis tables can hold up.
      * Someone raised that UCM did not allow a table-tennis table last year.
        + Sports says that they will look into it.
      * Procedural motion to lengthen discussion by 10 minutes
        + Vote does not pass (12 yes, 17 no, 8 abstentions)
      * Point is raised that it might be a big distraction
      * Point is raised that balls and paddles need to be rebought often
        + Sports think that this is not a big issue because people would not easily steal paddles.
      * Motion moves to a vote
        + Motion passes (21 yes, 10 no, 6 abstentions)
  + Theatre and Music: Lighting equipment for E2644, 32
    - Member of GA presents Motion
      * Lighting equipment is very old and has been repaired earlier. It is time to replace old material with newer, safer, more modern equipment.
      * LED lights (of which some will be white lights and some will be multicoloured lights) are more expensive than older lights.
      * Additionally, there is an optional addition of a strobe light and smoke machine.
    - Someone raises that lights indeed were very unstable.
    - Procedural Motion to extend discussion or not
      * Motion passes (23 yes, 11 no, 3 abstentions)
      * Floor opens for discussion
        + This equipment is used by many different committees and thus is maybe the most used piece of equipment.
        + Ad Hoc motion put forward to remove smoke machine from Motion

Ad Hoc motion presented. Considering that the smoke machine is optional and pricey, some wish to remove the smoke machine. (removing E 81, 90)

Ad hoc motion moves to a vote.

Ad hoc motion passes (30 yes, 3 no, 3 abstentions)

* + - * + Motion (E2562,45) moves to a vote.

Motion passes (34 yes, 1 no, 1 ab)

* + Music: Motion for E917,60 for music equipment like guitar, ukulele, strings, microphones, cables, a tuner, mic stand, condenser mics
    - Motion is presented
    - Procedural motion to open the floor for discussion
      * Motion does not pass (13 yes, 22 no, 2 abstentions)
    - Motion moves to a vote
      * Motion passes (27 yes, 1 no, 5 abstentions)
  + Request for Treasurer to clarify how much money motions represent so far.
    - About E4930,05, this was the last surplus motion.
  + Ludens: Motion to pay for games and server money for E41,52
    - Motion is presented
    - Procedural motion to lower voting time to 30 seconds
      * . Passes by acclamation
    - Procedural motion to open floor up for discussion
      * Motion does not pass (15 yes, 11 no, 6 abstentions)
      * Floor does not open for discussion
    - Motion moves to a vote
      * Motion passes (32 yes, 0 no, 2 abstentions)
  + Surplus budget: E4972,05.
    - Surplus budget moves to a vote
      * Surplus budget passes (35 yes, 1 no, 2 abstentions)
* Stopgap Budget:
  + Available budget E5027,95
  + Requested: E3485,-
  + New president gives overview of requested stopgap budget.
  + Motion to discuss the entire stopgap budget:
    - Motion passes (22 yes, 6 no, 9 abstentions)
    - Floor opens for discussion
  + Social Board: motion to stopgap budget: E2275
    - SB treasurer presents the budget
    - Motion moves to a vote
      * Motion passes (34 yes, 1 no, 3 abstentions)
  + Party Committee: Stopgap budget request of E 100
    - Party committee wishes to organise a picnic to start of the year with a festive bang!
    - No counter
    - Procedural motion to open the floor for discussion
      * Motion does not pass (17 yes, 13 no, 8 abstentions)
      * Floor does not open for discussion
  + Procedural motion to vote on the entire stopgap budget without discussions.
    - Motion is defended.
    - Procedural motion moves to a vote
      * Motion passes (35 yes, 1 no, 1 abstention)
  + Motion to accept the whole stopgap budget as a whole
    - Motion moves to a vote.
    - Motion passes (35 yes, 3 no, 0 abstentions)
    - Stopgap as a whole is passed.
* Are there any other ad hoc motions? Not possible.
* Open floor for discussions
  + Old president congratulates new president.
  + We all sing for two members of the GA.
  + A few questions are asked to New President.
  + IB makes another call for policy team members.
  + Musical Theatre thanks GA for approving stopgap and plugs their online musical performance.
* The GA is closed. Ending timeL 22:10 (only lasted 3.5 hours!)

Ludwig Schulte