## **GENERAL ASSEMBLY FALL 2023**

21/09/2023

## **Opening of the GA**

* President, Froukje Gerritsen opens the GA.

## **Rules of the GA, presented by the Independent Body**

* The Independent Body presents and explains the rules of the GA.

## **Approval of the Agenda**

Yes: 49

No: 4

Abstain: 0

The GA approves the Agenda.

## **Minutes from previous GA**

* The GA votes on the previous minutes of the GA.
  + Yes: 40
  + No: 3
  + Abstain: 8
  + The GA approves it.

## **General Announcements**

* Respects and communication towards staff
* President Ask GA if there is a need for a groupchat mixed with treasurer and chairs of all committees , The GA agrees

## **Introducing the new President and Chairs**

* The New President and Chairs present themselves.

## **Advisory Council Election**

* The New Advisory Council members present themselves for being voted in for the new semester :

The GA votes on Patsy Fetzer:

* + Yes:45
  + No:2
  + Abstain: 4
  + The GA approves it.

The GA votes on Lily Pepper :

* + Yes:36
  + No:4
  + Abstain:4
  + The GA approves it.

The GA votes on Gustavo Hürlimann as chair of the advisory council:

* + Yes:41
  + No:5
  + Abstain:3
  + The GA approves it.
* **The GA presents motion to appoint Gustavo Hurlimann as chair of the advisory council for One year and Davy Ntsoumou as a non-UCMSA Member to the Advisory Council for a One-Year Term**
* Manuel Davy Ntsoumou, represented here today by Simon Daems, a member of the University College Maastricht Study Association, hereby propose the following motion to the General Assembly:

1. WHEREAS, the Advisory Council plays a crucial role in providing valuable insights, recommendations, and guidance to the Study Association's activities and initiatives,

2. WHEREAS, Gustavo Hürlimann and Manuel Davy Ntsoumou have demonstrated their dedication, commitment, and passion for the betterment of our association through active participation and contributions,

3. WHEREAS, the diverse perspectives and experiences of Gustavo Hürlimann and Manuel Davy Ntsoumou will enrich the Advisory Council's discussions and enhance its ability to represent the interests of the student body,

4. BE IT RESOLVED that the General Assembly approves the appointment of Gustavo Hürlimann as the Chair of the Advisory Council for a one-year term starting 21.09.2023 and ending at the end of the academic year 2023/2024.

5. FURTHERMORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the General Assembly approves the appointment of Manuel Davy Ntsoumou as member of the University College Maastricht Study Association's Advisory Council for a one-year term starting 21.09.2023 and ending 15.08.2024.

* The GA votes on the Motion
  + Yes: 37
  + No: 8
  + Abstain:9

The motion pass

## **FINANCIAL REPORT SPRING 2023**

* The IB gives an update on the Financial Report of Spring 2023.

## **CONTINGENCY SPRING 2023**

* The Treasurer gives an update on the Contingency of Spring 2023.

## **Proposed Policy Manual Amendments**

* 1.The IB present proposal for the amendment of Policy Manual Title 10/4.3

Change: “Snacks and drinks at a (recurring) meeting/event shall not exceed 10 euros per event”

To: “Snacks and drinks at a meeting/event shall not exceed 10 euros per event/meeting except in the following cases:

a. If the event is centered around Food or Drinks

b. If the event is expected to have more than 30 people”nacks and drinks at a (recurring) meeting/event shall not exceed 10 euros per event”

**GA Question** : Why 30 people ? Is 10 euros enough for 30 people?

Answer : first presented 15 and 30 people made more sense in the last GA discussion, you are also encouraged to bring your own snack go to Aldi rather than COOP

**GA Question:** Are you asking for more money from UCM if you want to increase the 10 euro limit?

Answer : yes we are

* The GA votes on policy manual amendment :
  + Yes:43
  + No:6
  + Abstain: 3
  + The GA approves it.
* 2.The IB present proposal for the amendment of Policy Manual Title 10§13.1.c
* Title 10 §13.1.c is not formulated precise enough, as it stays that a “proof of payment” is necessary for a reimbursement.
* Proposes that: Title 10 §13.1.c is changed to “Include a receipt (showing a payment breakdown) by the member;”

**GA Question**: Does it have to be a physical paper receipt?

Answer : it’s not necessarily a paper receipt it can also be a picture

* The GA votes on policy manual amendment :
  + Yes:40
  + No:6
  + Abstain: 1
  + The GA approves it.
* 3.The IB present proposal for the amendment of Policy Manual Title 10§13.1.f
* Noticing that: It is currently common practice not to reimburse statiegeld expense (as members can return the bottles/cans and receive their money back), but this is not yet reflected in the policy manual
* Proposes that: Add a point f to §13.1, which currently reads: “If a member incurs a budgeted expense for the Association, they may file a reimbursement with the treasurer.” Add point f “Any statiegeld expenses are to be deducted from the requested reimbursement.”

**GA Question :** Does the committee have to deduct the expense?

Answer: Yes , in the reimbursement form .

* The GA votes on policy manual amendment :
  + Yes:45
  + No:2
  + Abstain: 3
  + The GA approves it.

**BUDGET PLAN FALL 2023**

## **Academic Board Budget :**

**Total**: 1295 euros

**Question:** What does board bonding refer to?

* + Answer: It is mentioned in the policy manual that each universalis member get 50 euros

**Question:** What is the UCM think tank?

Answer : it is a one day event in collaboration with tutors and we brainstorm as a group problems

* **The GA presents an AdHoc motion to 10 euros snack increase to sociological movie screening . The motion is seconded.**
* GA votes on it.
  + Yes: 44
  + No : 0
  + Abstain : 0
  + The motion passes

**Final budget:** 1295 euros

## **Executive Board Budget :**

**Total**: 5208 euros

## **Social Board Budget :**

Question: Why are we budgeting for beer and wine when it’s a break even?

Answer:50 cts beer for social events for the whole semester , better than going into contingency

GA POINTS :If it is budgeted as a buffer it is still contingency .

**Question:** what is the fruit bowl ?

**Answer :** Started by Matthieu, fruit bowl in the common room for 50c per fruit, profit goes to charity

Q :Are we part of UCSRN ?

A:Yes

**Total**: 4275 euros

## **Party Committee Budget :**

**Question:** Which venue are you thinking for the winter Gala that cost 5000 euros?

* + Answer: Undecided, basing it off last years venue

**Question:** why are we selling external tickets?

Answer: To afford a better venue,

Q: how do we check ticket only for UCM student ?

Answer: Encouraging people to go to the event, there will be different tickets for UCM students vs external

Q:Only 450 UCM tickets ?

A: Summer Gala sold 400 tickets, without going over, all UCM people can buy an external ticket as well if they sell out

Q: Why is the venue only 2.5k and you are budgeting 5k for it?

A: Been difficult to find venues, just a precaution

Q: Do you not have previous decorations we can use?

A: The last ones got trashed, we want some more budget for a photo booth

**Total**: 2370 euros

**Sports Committee Budget :**

**Question:** is it just Football kits or also Sport kits?

* + Answer: Had to buy our own jerseys, we wanted to change that this year so we took kits for all sports

Q: Are you doing other events that are not football ?

A: Lasertag! and bowling. But no other sports really right now

Q: Are the sport informal ?

A : Informal, not competitive

Q: is the transport fee gonna disappear ?

A:it’s just in case for now but normally we should not need it

**Total**:1846 euros

**Graduation Committee:**

**Total**: 1030 euros

**Question:** Would think 1000 is enough for a venue?

* + Answer: LBB is the venue, they are a donation based venue so we are going to ask students to pay 2 euros for a reserved spot

**Q:** is it also gonna be open to people outside UCM since it’s at LBB?

**A:** Depends on the location and the issues with people outside UCM, reserve 200 tickets for UCM and 150 tickets sold at the door for donations (capacity is 350)

**Q** : Graduates don’t have to pay for their own ticket ?

**A:** Just 2 euros

GA points out In the past Graduates paid for their tickets

GA points out UCM is already gonna organize something on that day with food and people eat with their families

**Q:**Are you including Champagne in the free drinks ?

**A;** It is a different thing

**Q:**What is the stance of the treasurer on this motion regarding over spending and what about increasing the ticket price instead of the snack budget??

**A:** We didn’t have the chance to discuss all this during board weekend , we already cut down the food, we are more comfortable having low price ticket since LBB is donation based

* **The GA presents an AdHoc motion to increase the budget from 50 euros to 250 euros and change the budget point to snack/food /free drink . The motion is seconded.**
* GA votes on it.
  + Yes: 36
  + No: 7
  + Abstain : 10
  + The motion passes
* **New Budget : 1230 euros**

**EXCO Committee Budget :**

**Total**: 825 euros

**Question:** Car cleaning?

* + Answer: Its streamlines to just go through a car cleaning rather than get the hose and do it ourselves

**Q :** how necesseryy to clean a car after only a day and can you ask people to take off their shoes?

A: We mainly do excursions during the fall where things can get nasty easily , it is an incentive for people to join while knowing their car won’t be damaged .

**Q:** Where do you go apple picking where you have to buy the apple ?

**A:** 1 euro per kilo and then you pay for the apples you pick

**Q:** Do you have professional personnel for

A : will see what the building manager says

* **The GA presents an AdHoc motion to remove car cleaning from the budget of 50 x2 euros . The motion is seconded.**
* GA points out that having a car is expensive
* GA points out that We still provided the gas money but you have to take some responsibility and we can only give money to events that benefits the all community
* GA points out if it’s voluntary basis it’s nice to have an incentive
* GA points out that we don’t pay volunteers
* EXCO Speaks we spend money wanting the car to look the same before and after the event
* GA points out why are we whining about 100 euros
* GA votes on it.
  + Yes: 16
  + No: 40
  + Abstain : 0
  + The motion does not pass
* **The GA presents an AdHoc motion to increase the budget of 20 euros for two tents . The motion is seconded.**
* GA Points out about getting the tents back to Universalis because the sleeping mats were not returned?

A: the sleeping mat were emergency measure , crisis management , it was not budgeted so EXCO argues that it shouldn’t be returned

* EXCO confirms that the tents will be returned to the community and Universalis
* GA asks if 2 tents is enough?
  + Starter kit for events, if it works we will ask for more
* GA votes on it.
  + Yes: 31
  + No: 15
  + Abstain : 6
  + The motion passes

**Final Budget** : 845 euros

**IRDC Committee Budget :**

**Question:** For whom is the gift ?

* + Answer: The speaker

Q: isn’t policy that we can only budget 15 euros for travel ?

A: no

**Total**: 720 euros

**The Bell Committee Budget :**

**Total**: 650 euros

**Question:** Do you not want two times snack ?

* + Answer: No

Q: do you think there might be more than 30 people ?

A; I’m only treasurer since today I do not know

**The GA presents an AdHoc motion to increase the budget of snack by 20 euros making the total 30 euros for one event . The motion is seconded.**

* 1 launch party 30 or 2 launch parties 15 each?
  + Left up to committees
* GA votes on it.
  + Yes: 33
  + No: 8
  + Abstain : 7
  + The motion passes

**New Budget** : 670 euros

**Poetry Committee Budget :**

**Total**: 480 euros

**The GA presents an AdHoc motion 80 euros extra for magazine printing. Motion seconded.**

Originally it was 200 to 280 euros

GA ask why not online ?

Committee answer we are working on it.

Treasurer points out why not keep it at a 100 euros and see if the demand exceed availability for next time increasing the budget.

GA votes on it.

* + Yes:48
  + No: 12
  + Abstain : 1
  + The motion passes

**New Budget** : 560 euros

**Spiritual Enlightenment Committee Budget :**

**Total**: 470 euros

**Question:** What is the greek event ?

* + Answer: I am a fan of wine , I met someone who likes philosophy and wine

Q: Why are ticket prices so low, why not increased to ask less universalis contribution ?

A : the committee is being generous considering the number of events but we can vote on that

**The GA presents an AdHoc motion to increase ticket prices from 2 to 3 euros to decrease UNIVERSALIS contribution. Motion seconded**

GA votes on it.

* + Yes:44
  + No: 15
  + Abstain : 2
  + The motion passes

Q: Where is the oktoberfest going to be held because it could be assumed to promote drinking ?

A: Good point. Cannot be held at UCM, need to talk to the building manager about problems, SE needs to do some work

The GA points out that to find budget for a venue for oktoberfest , they can increase ticket price to reduce universalis contribution. And talk to treasurer if needed

**NEW Total**: 445 euros

**Hypatia Committee Budget :**

**Total**:455 euros

**Music Committee Budget :**

**Total**: 455 euros

**Question:** Do you we not already have an amplifier ?

* + Answer: We have 1 semi-working one, the other one has 1 specific cable. We struggle for current open mics

**Q:** Why mic stands, could we combine them?

**A**:One of them is broken, not sure if its mic or amp, currently budgeted for amp

**Q:** The common room has speaker, can the jam session should not be in the common room

**A:** Speaker and amp are different, we need separate systems for it

**Q:** Whats the carpet for?

**A:** We have a carpet we don’t like it it’s ugly

**The GA presents an AdHoc motion to give the Universalis carpet to Music committee so carpet item taken out of Budget (removing 35 euros) .Motion seconded**

GA votes on it.

* + Yes:40
  + No: 13
  + Abstain : 1
  + The motion passes

**New Total**:410 euros

**Charity Committee Budget :**

**Total**:387 euros

**The GA presents an AdHoc motion to reduce the Budget to 180 instead of 300 euros for all the Waffle Wednesday event .Motion seconded**

GA votes on it.

* + Yes:44
  + No: 7
  + Abstain : 2
  + The motion passes

**New Total**: 267 euros

**Film Committee Budget :**

**Total**: 382,50 euros

**Well -Being Committee Budget :**

**Total**: 321,25 euros

**Art Committee Budget :**

**Total**: 300 euros

**Question:** Do people have to pay for the Museum in Aachen ?

* + Answer: Yes

**Swing Committee Budget :**

**Total**: 270 euros

**The GA presents an AdHoc motion to increase snack budget from 10 to 15 euros .Motion seconded**

GA votes on it.

* + Yes:46
  + No: 2
  + Abstain: 1
  + The motion passes

**The GA presents an AdHoc motion to have gift for participating in competitions 1 prize for the last gala .Motion seconded**

GA votes on it.

* + Yes:47
  + No: 2
  + Abstain: 1
  + The motion passes

NEW BUDGET : 295 euros

**Stem Committee Budget :**

**Total**: 221 euros

**Question:** 2 committees budgeted for snacks, so where is the money coming from?

* + Answer: From the gardening committee

**The GA presents an AdHoc motion to remove 10 euros from snack because gardening already budgeted for it. Motion seconded**

GA votes on it.

* + Yes:45
  + No: 2
  + Abstain: 1
  + The motion passes

By policy snack budget is reduced to 10 euros

**Total**: 191 euros

**Gay Agenda Committee Budget :**

**Total**: 185 euros

**Gardening Committee Budget:**

**Total**: 170 euros

**Book Committee Budget:**

**Total**: 155 euros

**Question:** Why 50 euros for cooking ingredients?

* + Answer: Idea is everyone bring something , money is here in case of it not being enough

**Chess Committee Budget:**

**Total**: 120 euros

**Theater Committee Budget :**

**Total**: 110 euros

**The GA presents an AdHoc motion to increase the budget from 50 for winter play to 50 for license, 30 for costumes/props. Motion seconded**

GA votes on it.

* + Yes:39
  + No: 3
  + Abstain: 9
  + The motion passes

**The GA presents an AdHoc motion to add money for licence for a movie screening add 5 euros. Motion seconded**

GA votes on it.

* + Yes:44
  + No: 1
  + Abstain: 0
  + The motion passes

**New Total**:145 euros

**SOFUS Committee Budget :**

**Total**: 80 euros

**Question:** How is this committee different from STEM?

* + Answer: STEM is focused on practical aspects, SOFUS is more on how science integrates into society (a reflection rather than an application)

**Creative Writing Committee Budget:**

**Total**: 80 euros

**Budget FALL 2023:** 22,995 euros

**Remaining budget available:** 7,857 euros

**Voting on the FALL 2023 budget:**

* Yes: 46
* No:3
* Abstain: 1
* The FALL 2023 budget passes.

## **Open Floor Questions**

* Create a groupchat open to all years and Universalis board would have control of it.
  + How do we improve communication? website could be a way , facebook as well
* Printing?

## **Closing the GA**

* The President Froukje Gerritsen closes the GA