

22.0266/Io  
8 februari 2022  
Approved version

**Report public part of the 169<sup>e</sup> meeting of the Faculty Council FHML  
On Tuesday February 8<sup>th</sup> 2022**

**Present:** see attendance list

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**1 Opening, announcements and setting of the agenda**

The Chair opens the meeting and welcomes J. Whittingham. She is interested in replacing S. Schut as an academic staff member ('WP') of the Faculty Council, and will attend this meeting as a listener.

**2a Adoption of the text of the public part of the report of the 168<sup>th</sup> meeting dated January 18<sup>th</sup> 2022**

-22.0092o – dated 24-01-22 – report

See the approved version of the report with reference 22.0092/Io.

**2b Comments on the public part of the report**

There are no comments.

**3 Announcements of the Dean**

The Dean announces that L. Moroni has been appointed as interim Scientific Director of MERLN for a period of 6 months, as from February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

**COVID-19**

The Dean indicates that there is currently no new information.

In response to a question from the Dean about the experiences of students from the Faculty Council with the UM approach/measures, the following comments were made and questions were asked:

Unfortunately, the module Statistics in the 3rd year of the Health Sciences programme is still taught completely online. Students are allowed to come to campus, while teachers are online. M. oude Egbrink confirms that hybrid education is not always possible because lecture and computer rooms are not always equipped adequately.

Since not all lecturers observe the policy regarding goodwill for students who opt for hybrid education, because they do not feel comfortable with education on campus, the Faculty Council proposes to explain this policy one more time for the entire FHML. M. oude Egbrink indicates that all coordinators, tutors and students have been informed about this, with the request to report it if goodwill is not shown. She herself has the impression that things are going reasonably well, given the few complaints.

When asked, M. oude Egbrink indicates that the number of cancellations of registrations for assessments due to Corona-related complaints is not too bad. Looking at the assessments of period 3 and last week's VGT (formative assessment), the number of cancellations remains below 5%, and there are usually only 2-3% cancellations.

When asked whether there are currently any restrictions or delays for (patient-related) research, the chairman states that he can confirm from the department of Internal Medicine that this is no longer the case. The Dean adds that, at the time, procedures were set up for projects, and that new projects must be submitted to a committee. The FHML director confirms this, but indicates that this is no longer an issue since campus-bound research is now allowed again by the government.

One of the members of the Faculty Council refers to the NPO document, which indicates that there are currently limitations for research. The Director of FHML explains that the delays mentioned in the

NPO document mainly occurred in the past, which is the reason why the NPO regulation for research was introduced. It often concerns the impact of delays occurring at a later stage in the project. The total expected extent of delays is therefore still unknown and the NPO scheme will run up to and including 2024. The UM has received a considerable amount from the government. This is based on statements from the universities and UMCs.

One of the members of the Faculty Council indicates that experience shows that people are ready to come back to work. Many people lose some job satisfaction due to working from home. When you are ready, you can come back to work occasionally, but this must be communicated to the manager and this is often felt as a barrier.

### **5 Housing/area development and new construction Randwyck**

The Director of the FHML indicates that the renovation of the first floor, Uns50 South has in fact started. When asked, he indicates that a number of bicycle sheds at Uns50 will not be accessible for several months due to work being carried out on the first floor, Uns50 South and in the basement. The FHML Director will inquire how long this will take.

### **6 Accountability NPO resources Education & Research 2021**

For advice

- 22.0245 - dated 01-02-22- Note Accountability NPO resources Education & Research 2021

On the basis of the discussion, the explanation provided by the Director of FHML and M. oude Egbrink and the documents under consideration, the Council advises positively on the note on Accountability for NPO resources Education & Research 2021.

When asked, M. oude Egbrink indicates that we have received money for the appointment of a student advisor for student wellbeing. Students who really experienced delays last year are being monitored. There are currently no waiting lists any more. This commitment will therefore be continued.

When asked, M. oude Egbrink states that she is not yet able to indicate whether the percentage of mentors who have followed the courses on the mental well-being of students is significant. These courses have recently been offered from Career Services and the offer has been communicated to mentors and coordinators. This can be monitored this year.

The note states that lunches for 1st and 2nd year tutorial groups have been handed out, but this appears not to be the case and something may have gone wrong. M. oude Egbrink will inquire about this.

### **7 Setting a numerus fixus bachelor BioMedical Sciences**

For advice

- 22.0195 - dated 02-02-22- Letter Dean with annexes

M. oude Egbrink indicates that we have had around 400 registrations per year for several years now. This number is quite high, but we can handle this number in terms of facilities and lab rooms. Since the VU is now going to introduce a numerus fixus of 300, the concern is that the number of enrollments here will now increase substantially, at the expense of the quality of education.

The advantages and disadvantages have been listed and the final conclusion and recommendation is to introduce a numerus fixus of 400 students for the intake in 2023/2024.

In case the setting of the numerus fixus would lead to a decrease in the number of registrations, this will not lead to overcapacity. Furthermore, it can always be decided in due course to reduce or abolish the numerus fixus. But for now, we want an upper limit.

When asked, M. oude Egbrink indicates that the lab capacity currently is still sufficient. We do have to expand lab facilities for new study programmes. M. oude Egbrink also indicates that there may be an overflow to Health Sciences and that this needs to be monitored closely, but that the growth capacity here is greater than in the case of BioMedical Sciences.

M. oude Egbrink indicates that the 3% growth ambition is mainly pursued through new study programmes.

Based on the discussion, the explanation provided by M. oude Egbrink and the documents at hand, the Council advises positively on the introduction of a numerus fixus for the Bachelor's degree in BioMedical Sciences of 400 students from the academic year 2023-2024 onwards.

### **8 Extra items for the agenda**

There are no added items for the agenda.

### **9 Any other business**

One of the council members inquires about the vision of the Board concerning sexual harassment in relation to a safe working and learning environment.

The Dean informs the meeting of the current state of affairs. The hospital and UM are currently working on the subject of sexual harassment. Within the hospital, the chairman of the Executive Board has already drawn the attention of the staff to this subject by e-mail. Furthermore, at the request of (the Journal) 'Medisch Contact', an overview of existing procedures within UM and Maastricht UMC+ has been made and submitted with the view to prevent this from taking place within our institution, ensuring that we are constantly aware of this and that we have a responsibility towards each other. Whether or not something needs to be done in addition to this, specifically geared towards certain target groups is an important question. This will be decided and done in close consultation with UM Central.

The Chair adds that to a large extent it is also a matter of awareness and perhaps this should be part of Recognition & Rewards. The Dean agrees and indicates that she does not know in how far this has already been included in Recognition & Rewards. It is also important that victims do not hesitate to come forward and report it and that people are well informed about where to report it and whom to talk to. We must all facilitate and encourage this together.

The Dean asks the students in the Faculty Council whether they think the university has anticipated this problem properly and is paying enough attention to it, or whether they think it would be a good idea to give more information. One of the students indicates that students generally will know where to report it, but that there is still work to do, which has to do with the existing culture. Everybody has a duty of care. It certainly helps to repeatedly show which ways and routes there are to report sexual harassment.

M. oude Egbrink indicates that students at the end of their internship, in their evaluation, can report an incident. Any report of an incident will always be followed up. There are currently also discussions with affiliated hospitals where internships are being conducted, possible reports of incidents are recorded and discussed with the Executive Board and the chair of the hospital's teaching centre, and they are asked how they deal with them. This is always taken seriously.

When asked by the Dean how the student associations view it, one of the Council members indicates that this subject is certainly discussed within the study associations and that flowcharts are available.