

24.0507/Io
21 May 2024
Approved version

**Public Report of the 190th Meeting of the Faculty Council FHML
On Tuesday, April 9, 2024**

Present: see attendance list

1. Opening, announcements and setting of the agenda

The Chair opens the meeting.

2a. Adoption of the Text of the Public Part of the Report of the 189th Meeting dated March 12, 2024.

- 24.0361o - dated 03-22-24 – report

See the approved version of the report with reference 24.0361/Io.

2b. Comments on the Public Part of the Report

In agenda item 5, the sentence: "There is consideration of continuing the increased deployment of student advisors partly and including it in the integrated budget", the words "increased" and "partly" are added.

In agenda item 6, the number of members is corrected in the sentence: "...that there is also a student assessor and 3 student members participating in the Directorate Meeting of the Institute of Education FHML".

3. Announcements by the Dean

The Dean informs the Council about the status of optimising research support on the side of the faculty FHML and the hospital.

A situation analysis was conducted at all involved units by P. Ringens and A. Gilsing and has now been completed. The advisory report has been discussed in the Board of Maastricht UMC⁺. Recently, a feedback session was held with all involved parties, during which an action plan was presented as well. The advice indicates a need for a one-stop-shop, which will be developed gradually. The action plan initially focuses on three priorities:

1. Organising non-WMO research, coordinated by S. Kremers;
2. Optimisation of research data management, coordinated by M. Joore;
3. Management of research projects, whose management/process needs to be updated, coordinated by J. de Gooijer.

These developments will be broadly communicated in due course.

Upon request, the Dean indicates that thesis research is also being addressed and is currently brought under the responsibility of FHML-REC.

4. Housing/area development and new construction Randwyck

There are no announcements.

5. Revised Faculty Regulations FHML

- 24.0458 - dated 04-02-24 - letter from the Dean with attachment
- 24.0423 - dated 03-22-24 - letter from the chair of the Faculty Council FHML

The Chair indicates that the previous comments of the Faculty Council FHML have largely been incorporated into the proposed Faculty Regulations. In addition, the department of legal affairs has also critically reviewed it.

The Dean indicates that the proposal by the Council to have the Vice-Dean of Education participate as an independent advisor in the Directorate Meeting (*'Directie-Overleg'*) has not been implemented. The Board does not find this suitable due to the important interaction between the Board and the Institute of Education (IE).

The role of the Vice-Dean of Education is important for aligning the strategic vision and policy of the Faculty with the implementation of education. Positioning the Vice-Dean of Education as chair of the Directorate Meeting can foster optimal connection and dialogue.

The Chair indicates that potential conflicts of interest may arise due to this dual role and asks about the role of the Chair of the Directorate Meeting. The Dean explains that the Chair of the Directorate Meeting is the connecting factor between the Board and the IE. The Dean further explains that the IE is not comparable to a Research Institute due to different organizational structures. At the IE, responsibilities for the educational programme lie with the programme directors, and the director of the IE has overarching responsibility, including management tasks. The strategy of education and the connection with the hospital fall under the Vice-Dean of Education.

The Council asks why the director of the IE cannot be the Chair of the Directorate Meeting with the Vice-Dean as an observer. The Dean indicates that this does not promote continuity and explains that the director of the IE is not a role, but a position as described in the Faculty Regulations. The secretary to the Board clarifies that the Directorate Meeting is a coordination meeting in which various people with their own mandates participate.

Furthermore, the Council has a few additional comments:

Article 2.1.8, paragraph 2. 'The Board Maastricht UMC+', should be: 'Board Academic Hospital Maastricht'.

Article 2.1.8, paragraph 4. 'The establishment, tasks, and working method of the Board Maastricht UMC+ are laid down in a separate decision'. The Council requests to receive the relevant document for information.

Article 2.3.2, paragraph 3. Composition and Appointment. The sentence: 'In exceptional cases, this can be deviated from with justification' should be removed at the request of the Council. This also applies to the same sentence in other articles in the proposed regulations.

In paragraph 2.6: 'The Examination Committees'. An article on incompatible roles and functions should be added here.

6. Selection Criteria Bachelor of Medicine Academic Year 2025-2026

- 24.0792 - dated 04-09-24 – memo Selection Committee Medicine (SCM) with attachment
- 24.0793 - dated 04-02-24 - letter from the chair of the Programme Committee Medicine

In the presence of E. Girolodi and T. Compeer.

E. Girolodi provides an explanation. The selection day recently took place at UMsport. There were fewer applications than in previous years, which is a national trend. Specifically, about 830 portfolios were submitted, 150 fewer than last year. The exact cause is not yet clear. The selection procedure and criteria for the academic year 2025-2026 are largely identical to last year. Upon request, E. Girolodi indicates that adjustments have been made to the homework assignment in the context of the new Bachelor of Medicine. E. Girolodi also confirms that the grades of VWO-5 are included because research has shown that these have a better predictive value for academic success than final exam grades. Moreover, the final exam grades are often not yet available at the time of selection. Regarding AI, E. Girolodi indicates that efforts are being made to make certain parts 'chatgpt-proof', and there is consideration of embracing this tool.

Furthermore, E. Girolodi indicates that research has shown that selection as such offers more benefits than lottery, including less academic dropout. To promote diversity, there is a conscious effort to look broadly at the various personal skills of the candidates.

Based on the presented documents and the discussion held in the Council, the Council agrees with the selection criteria and procedure for the Bachelor of Medicine programme for the academic year 2025-2026.

7. Selection Criteria Bachelor of Biomedical Sciences academic year 2025-2026

- 24.0460 - dated 04-02-24 - letter from the Dean with attachment

In the presence of S. Schreurs.

S. Schreurs provides an explanation. The selection procedure and criteria are presented for advice while it is actually still uncertain if they will apply in the academic year 2025-2026. It is currently uncertain whether a Numerus Fixus will be in place for the Bachelor of Biomedical Sciences in the academic year 2025-2026. Given the low intake numbers for 2023/2024 and the preliminary

applications for 2024/2025, it is possible that the Numerus Fixus will not be continued for the academic year 2025-2026. The Board FHML expects a decision on this within a few weeks. Given that the decision-making process for the procedure and criteria needs to be completed before the summer recess in the University Council, this cannot be waited upon.

After April 15, more clarity will be obtained about the final applications. Although in principle there were sufficient applications, a decrease was seen in the number of students who also applied for Medicine, followed by a decrease in applications from students with deficiencies. The first selection round was attempted to be made accessible, but it proved difficult to adequately test the qualifications of the students, as no reliable instrument was available. S. Schreurs explains upon request that initially matching was applied, but this raised concerns about a possible increase of more than 400 applications, which would compromise the quality of education. Finally, S. Schreurs clarifies that (international) students are not required to resolve their deficiencies before the application deadline; this must be done by August of the same year.

Based on the presented documents and the discussion held in the Council, the Council agrees with the selection criteria and procedure for the Bachelor of Biomedical Sciences programme for the academic year 2025-2026, provided they are indeed applicable.

8. Additional Agenda Items

There are no additional agenda items.

9. Any Other Business

No use is made of the public query round.

Kim Luijten