Transcript of GM #4

14/06/2023 - 18:00 - MF-A415

1. **Opening**

Žygimantas Pupelis opens the meeting at 18:08.

1. **Announcements**

* Ramona Plato is late, leaves at 23:00 and authorizes Quinten MacDonald to vote.
* Zselyke Németh can’t be here and authorizes Quinten MacDonald to vote.
* Dylan Ingelse can’t be here and authorizes Mandy Schunselaar to vote.
* Iris van Rooij can’t be here.
* Annika Simonsz can’t be here.
* Isaure Kamuena leaves at 21:00.
* Kirsten Göbel authorizes Mandy Schunselaar to vote.
* Isabelle de Jong authorizes Sonia Erbé Gómez to vote.
* Edmond Agabekian authorizes Žygimantas Pupelis to vote.
* Isabel Bartelds authorizes Sarah de Rosa-Hansen to vote.

1. **Approval of Transcript**
2. **Approval of Agenda**
3. **Introducing the Candidate Board**

* Simon Westhoff: I am Simon and I will be applying for the 77th Candidate Board.
* Julia Horsmans: I am Julia, a first-year student and I am also applying for the Candidate. Board.
* Isa Witteman: I am Isa, a 3rd year and I am almost graduating. I am applying for the Candidate Board.
* Lucas Ehrlich: I am Lucas and I am a first-year Chronicles. I am applying for the Candidate Board.
* Simon Westhoff: I was in the Feestcie with Julia as the External contact.
* Julia Horsmans: Yes, I was also in the Feestcie.
* Isa Witteman: I was in the Barcie.

1. **Questions**

* Mandy Schunselaar: How are you feeling right now about standing here?
* Simon Westhoff: I thought about applying for Chair for a while now. Since then, I have gotten to know these people better with makes it really fun. I am excited to get to know them and the association more and bring some positive energy to the association.
* Julia Horsmans: I am excited to become Board. I was doubting about becoming Chair of a committee first and then the year after becoming Board. I joined the Board later because these people were the last push, I needed to do it now. I am curious about what I can contribute to the Board this year. I was in the Feestcie, I was naturally organised and I wanted to do more than that, so I applied for the Board.
* Isa Witteman: I have been thinking about it for a long time. I wanted some rest after being the Chair of the Lucie because it was intense. I got a talk about it and I thought, let’s go.
* Lucas Ehrlich: For me, it started in October when I decided that I wanted to do it. I had some doubts about it being my second year. I wanted to maybe do it later, but why not, so I am confident about what it will bring.
* Selin Elcheik: What is something you want to work on this year? Something you struggle with?
* Julia Horsmans: I would like to learn to run the association and work in a team. I have a managing position at work so there I also have a team next to me and want to work together with the rest.
* Simon Westhoff: I think that the Board will give me organisation skills because it is a full-time job. I want to learn to work in a team towards something. It is something that is not really finished ever. I want to treat it as a baby and make sure to raise it well and give it well to the next Board. It is a good test for me.
* Isa Witteman: I want to learn organisation skills for planning events and structure. I can be chaotic. I want to create a structure for everyone.
* Lucas Ehrlich: I agree with them. About the organisation, leadership and social skills. It will come as the year goes on.
* Simon Westhoff: Also, outside of the association. I was at the LEX event yesterday and it was a long time ago that I went to a lecture on a psychology subject. I was surprised by the people there, at the educational activity. There were not the same people there as at other activities. I want to expand that, so I expect to meet different people.
* Shannon Fredison: You are all in different years of your studies. What will next year look like?
* Isa Witteman: I have applied for a master’s and got in. I am thinking about trying to do the courses this year and moving the internship to the second year. The courses are one day a week, so it should be doable.
* Demi Acquoy: It is Friday and Tuesday or Wednesday. The whole Friday you have one workgroup and one seminar.
* Isa Witteman: Okay, it is still not a lot in the week so I will manage it. Otherwise, I will do the courses next year.
* Julia Horsmans: I did not pass everything this year so I will follow those courses next year. I will follow some other courses if I can manage, but Board is the priority. I don’t mind a delay in studying.
* Lucas Ehrlich: I will be able to do half of the courses. The Board will bit be the priority.
* Simon Westhoff: I have some first-year courses that I need to do so I will combine Board with those courses and some second-year courses too. I will do one course per period and I work on the side as well. I expect that to be compatible with Board. Also, for anyone wanting to apply for Board but the study load is their biggest concern, I think to have the perspective that you can learn a lot from Board that you can’t learn from an academic career is then good. I would take another year of studying to learn all this in Board.
* Isa Witteman: What reassured me is that Anais studied 2 studies right now so then I can do it too.
* Anaïs van Schalen: Yes, it is possible.
* Mandy Schunselaar: Do you have some ideas of things you want to do next year? Or change?
* Isa Witteman: I don’t know if it is possible, but I want lemonade in the room.
* Lucas Ehrlich: We covered quite some things together already. A general thing that we want to change is the general outgroup image the VSPVU has and how we want to change that. We want to make the VSPVU more inviting and welcoming for new students.
* Simon Westhoff: I would like to make the room more inclusive and a safe space. A concrete thing is something like a confidential advisor where you can go with bullying or harassment complaints. We should have an outline for that so that everyone feels welcome. I want to have an independent person or desk where you can go.
* Julia Horsmans: We would like to bring back the Reiscie. A lot of people said that they could not go on the ski trip because it was too expensive. A more affordable trip would be better then.
* Simon Westhoff: More transparency in the VSPVU. Decrease the distance between Board or senior members and new members. We want to create an image where you can talk to us a lot. Even if you just have an idea. Now we have an idea box but it might not be necessary if you can just come up to a Board member with ideas. A more inviting and vibrant vibe. And I want to hang a pride flag.
* Anaïs van Schalen: We can’t do that; we can’t have any politically related things. It is a matter of policy.
* Simon Westhoff: It is not.
* Demi Acquoy: It is in the statutes.
* Shannon Fredison: I like the idea of a counsellor. Would you like to have someone responsible for that or are all the Board members approachable for it?
* Simon Westhoff: It is not a Board member; it would be someone impartial. So that it is confidential. That person can report to the board then. It is to have a safe space. In accordance with that, we will have a code of conduct similar to the calamity plan so there is organisation to this.
* Selin Elcheik: Are you working with 76 on this because they started on the social safety document?
* Simon Westhoff: Yes, but they wanted to have a Board member responsible for it.
* Selin Elcheik: Yes, maybe work with them on that but it is good.
* Shannon Fredison: Think about how to promote it, will they be on the website? Will they be in the room during a specific time?
* Simon Westhoff: Maybe have it known during the introduction week already. There is a lot to do during the intro week. Members don’t know about the options.
* Isa Witteman: We can do it on Instagram or with a QR code but we have to think about it more.
* Demi Acquoy: The point you mentioned about the policy plan, about transparency and image outward. It is really hard to change that but look into old policy plans and what it says about it. It has been in the policy for a long time. Look at that and look at the feedback at the end of the year.
* Selin Elcheik: I am wondering if there was a specific moment where you thought you wanted to be Board? An event or something?
* Isa Witteman: It was being in the room with the Board. You socialize more because you are there the whole time. Good to connect with aloof of people in one day so i like that. And that you have a say in a lot of things.
* Julia Horsmans: Sonia and Anais where my intro-mamma’s and I was close to them the whole year, so could talk to them about anything, also about Board things so they inspired me a lot. They showed me what you can do as Board and the freedom you have to change things with the team.
* Lucas Ehrlich: For me it was Active Member Day. It was the first VSPVU event I attended and it was a great success.
* Simon Westhoff: AMD was a great event to see the VSPVU at its biggest. The final party as well. I was fun and interactive. I stared getting active this year again. I did Congrescie 3 years ago and was not active in between. Being a mentor and going to events and getting to know a lot of people of different ages. This activated me and made me think I could have a contribution.
* Anaïs van Schalen: I have a question about the transparency. You want that more and you want to decrease the distance between Board and members and members and old members.
* Simon Westhoff: Also, people that are not members yet.
* Anaïs van Schalen: How?   
  Lucas Ehrlich: Outgroup image. There has been something at play that I have noticed and that has been members. They say that being friends with the Board will help you.
* Anaïs van Schalen: How do you want to change that?
* Simon Westhoff: By taking an active role in the introduction week. Being really open to receive anyone. I thought it was not done to sit in the Board part of the room because that was for Board members. If you are studying and know a Board member you can too but did not think about it myself. Event that you have the small couches where the rest sits already has an impact on hierarchy in the room.
* Lucas Ehrlich: Intro week is important because you can decrease the distance in the association between the Board and other members.
* Simon Westhoff: It is also important for master students. They also want to know about the association. Maybe a master borrel would be a great start. Also, internationals will pass the association because they do not know it was so international.
* Demi Acquoy: What used to work was the arrival days. It is mainly on the Monday and Tuesday of the intro week. All the internationals are welcome then. It was a welcoming at the VU and all the associations are there. They give you the information you need and they tell you about the study associations there. Two delegates form the Board welcome the people and tell them about the association and about the events. They can also apply as a member. It is not here anymore because 76 did not hear anything from it. Maybe you can organise it yourself as well and invite them with an email, to welcome them to the association.
* Simon Westhoff: It would be a great way to start there.
* Selin Elcheik: Since you are all studying, look into your schedules from the start so it won’t be chaotic at the start. Try to keep that in mind. It is nice that you want to focus on getting more people involved and making them feel more welcome. A big part of that is presence in the room. It is important that when you are on room shift, your main job is being present and talking to new people. Try to motivate each other to talk to new people. It will help with the outgroup image and making people think it was not scary. Especially for first years this is important.
* Anaïs van Schalen: Why are you fit for Board? What can you bring to the Board and the association?
* Julia Horsmans: I think that i can speak on behalf of everyone that we are creative and have ideas of what to improve. I can work really well behind the scenes and make sure everyone gets their tasks done so everything can keep on going. If everything goes on well behind the scenes then the outward image is better too. We should start within the Board and then more outwards.
* Simon Westhoff: I have gotten to know these people better during the year. Lucas for example, I have gotten to know him as kind, spirited, principled and with good ideas. Isa, I have known here because of many things and she is very bubbly, brings positivity and is very creative. When we are working on something we all contribute a lot and try to not run over each other. We match like that. Julia is the best committee member I have ever been in a committee with. She is a great leader and manager and I am happy to be on the Board with her. I told her that during the year as well. Myself I know a lot of people in the association, I am good friends with first years and older people in the association, Dutch and internationals. I applied to be Board of another association and did not get in and I am glad of that now because i would have missed this year.
* Lucas Ehrlich: Simon sold us very well. We are very motivated to do good this year for the growth of the association.
* Isa Witteman: I hope I will bring positive vibes to this association and make others feel comfortable. I don’t think I am intimidating so I hope a lot of people will come to talk to me. I love lists so can plan well and organise well. I also was a Chair for 2 years, organising the lustrum week. I have experience there and have learned from that a lot.
* Anaïs van Schalen: Lucas and Simon, what would you bring to the team?
* Simon Westhoff: Our personalities match really well and I think that I am good at being the face of the association and talking to people. I think I can just get a lot done next year because of my experience and free time as well.
* Lucas Ehrlich: I am critical with the development I want to see, what I want to change and how it should happen.
* Simon Westhoff: That goes for all of us. We are not afraid to look at things and why we don’t do them differently.
* Julia Horsmans: We are all very different people as well. Simon is very social and not afraid to talk to new people. Isa is creative. Lucas knows how to get things done and is structured. All that is needed in the Board to improve and learn a lot from each other.
* Shannon Fredison: Simon, you mentioned you applied for the history Board. How will you mange being here and also feeling part of the group of history?
* Simon Westhoff: I applied for that last year. That was when I started doing history and I wanted to see if the association was as fun as the VSPVU. I was more active there last year, so was not really active here. I realised that I like the VSPVU better so I am not there anymore.
* Shannon Fredison: You want to change some things. We are having a General Meeting. I have not been to a lot, but there is not a lot of motivation to be here for a lot of people. How can you change that and make GMs more attractive?
* Simon Westhoff: I think that goes back to the first GM I attended. I went there for the first time and it was very long so it was a whole night. A lot of people there were old Board members. I am glad it is not just former Board members now. I asked a lot of questions then and I got the feedback that it was very good that I asked all the questions. Coming back to the question, coming to a GM can be a hurdle to overcome because people are intimidated. Maybe advertising is as that people’s voices are heard and that there are no stupid questions and that is a good way to contribute as well.
* Julia Horsmans: Maybe something like the idea box and having to come to the Board members. Maybe tell people to come to the GM to tell the rest about the idea.
* Isa Witteman: Maybe having snacks, and motivating them to come for that.
* Shannon Fredison: Maybe you can also have an ending time for the GM. Sometimes we talk about something for a long time so maybe say that it will be till 22:00 max and also then getting a drink or something as a reward.
* Demi Acquoy: You want to get rid of the idea box and I get it but it is a way for someone to put in an idea anonymously so it won’t be made fun of. There are maybe stupid ideas and people might be afraid that it will be denied. I would be able to go to you because I feel comfortable doing that now but when I started, I did not want to do that. I would not feel comfortable. You feel approachable but for other people the image you have can be different.
* Simon Westhoff: The idea box is an example but we dd not really think about it more.
* Demi Acquoy: How would you make it approachable?
* Simon Westhoff: Maybe social media can be for that as well.
* Lucas Ehrlich: The same person that we have for the idea box can be the one to bring the ideas to the Board anonymously.
* Isa Witteman: There is still the option to have it online. Keep it anonymous. This way if you have an idea late at night you can send it in. If it is only the physical idea box it makes it less approachable.
* Selin Elcheik: About the GM thing, maybe something could be also that when Simon was there and it was nice. It was what needed to happen. In promotion you can focus on that as well. It is easy to say that and it is easy promotion to make. I don’t know what else to do.
* Lucas Ehrlich: The only way I came to know about the GM was my Chair this year. More experienced members can push the ideas more onto other members.
* Simon Westhoff: I did not know about the difference between GBM and the GM until 2 months ago
* Isa Witteman: Maybe also promotion on WhatsApp, except for only on Instagram. Maybe you can throw it into the study group chats.
* Esmee Blankers: Also, a question for the current Board. Are their functions known?
* Simon Westhoff: We have an outline of the functions we want to do and have an agreement on that. We are aiming to have a 6-member Board, so we hope for more people to join us.
* Isa Witteman: It still needs to be discussed.
* Simon Westhoff: It will be known in the near future.
* Esmee Blankers: We normally vote you in with functions.
* Anaïs van Schalen: In normal situations you do that but they are aiming for more people so we vote on them without functions. If people join it will be less of a hassle to change the functions in September.
* Demi Acquoy: 75 had some great ideas, those can be for the long-term plan instead of being said here.
* Lotta Heijnen: What are you looking for in an RVA and KasCo?
* Simon Westhoff: 3 people at least.
* Isa Witteman: Maybe bringing a new vibe, so newer members instead of older members only. I want someone new to have new ideas that we have not seen. I want to combine them in a way that the older members are not intimidating.
* Lucas Ehrlich: Both old members and old Board members.
* Isa Witteman: And also, non-Board members.
* Simon Westhoff: Most important is that we want someone to be critical and with knowledge and limitations to the plans. Non biased. And also, someone impartial. So we heard it is not usual to have Board members who have just been Board. We are looking for Board member experience and people who can take a step back. Not 76 unless they really want to. Impartiality, experience, creative, responsibility. Good communication.
* Quinten MacDonald: What is your favourite food dish?
* Isa Witteman: Beef chimichurri from Argentina.
* Lucas Ehrlich: Paella from Valencia.
* Julia Horsmans: It would be butter chicken.
* Simon Westhoff: Gnocchi fresh by old Italian guy
* Shannon Fredison: Do you have questions for us? Something you would like to know?
* Isa Witteman: What do you expect from us?
* Julia Horsmans: Any concerns about something we give not a good answer to?
* Shannon Fredison: I understand that this is the beginning phase. I am excited to the ideas, and you pointing things out and not being afraid to stand outside the line.
* Isa Witteman: Do we come off as approachable already?
* Shannon Fredison: You do.
* Simon Westhoff: I thought about the interior of the room but am a bit lost. If you can change anything in the room, what would you change? What would the ideal room look like?
* Demi Acquoy: Martijn and I have been fantasizing about our own bar like MFVU has it, but we don’t know where to put it.
* Julia Horsmans: There is one corner next to the fridge. That can be cleaned up and used as space.
* Demi Acquoy: We tried to rearrange the room before Christmas once and everything was everywhere. We tried and we failed.
* Lotta Heijnen: A ballenbak in the room. As an event, you can rent it for then not put it in the Board part. And take the couch out.
* Simon Westhoff: The storage.
* Sonia Erbé Gómez: The small table in the member part of the room is shit, it is too big and really instable, I think. The wall can also change to a different colour if it is allowed. It needs a paint because there are a lot of broken parts in the wall.
* Simon Westhoff: Maybe we can change the bar or the couches so we can use the tv more.
* Mandy Schunselaar: A different question, if you were to be a pirate what would your function on the ship be?
* Simon Westhoff: I would be the guy in the mast hanging around and not having to do something except if there is an island, then I would tell everyone that and then everyone celebrates me. You are shielded from battle then as well.
* Isa Witteman: I don’t have a lot of pirate knowledge. I would be the one to see everything or the one to command. Not the captain but the other things are fun.
* Lucas Ehrlich: I would be the captain and sacrifice myself.
* Isa Witteman: The mermaid.
* Julia Horsmans: There is one series on Netflix with a crazy woman that is the ‘boegbeeld’ and that screams at people. That would be me.
* Demi Acquoy: To relay on Shannon’s question, about if we have concerns. I am worried that you don’t live in Amsterdam. You are dedicated to coming here every day, or are trying to move here. Do you think it is doable to have meetings and borrels and everything? Can you manage that for a whole year?
* Lucas Ehrlich: It is possible. Public transport to Amsterdam is 20-30 min.
* Isa Witteman: For me it is 40 min and there are also night busses. My boyfriend can also pick me up.
* Julia Horsmans: I am looking for housing in Amsterdam. If I can’t find something my parents will help me so it should not be a problem. Otherwise, I can also sleep at other people’s house.
* Lucas Ehrlich: About what Shannon asked. What struggles were you not expecting before your Board year?
* Shannon Fredison: I was ambitious at the start and I realised it was a lot of work. You are with more people. I tried to do work in the room but that clashed with the vibe in the room. It was frustrating to be there and have to work without getting things done. I learned to express my boundaries and say if I was not okay anymore or it became too much. Tell people what is on your mind. So, people understand, and it helps with not being grumpy all the time. Those were the biggest points. Also, it is a lot of social interaction.
* Selin Elcheik: We had the similar problem with functions. You keep going until you have a breakdown. Communication with the Board is the most important thing.
* Simon Westhoff: Other old Board members, what did you do when you felt demotivated? What are remedies for that? You all start ambitious but there is demotivation at some point.
* Demi Acquoy: Also Lucas’s question; I don’t stand behind 70% of the Board work I did. Advice for you is to let it go and don’t be strict on the members. You oversee everything but let the ideas go sometimes. Be lenient to yourselves. Try to have a life outside of the association. For the motivation question, I was motivated towards the end as well. I loved hanging out in the room and doing work there. We were always in the room together and had a lot of fun. If you struggle with promotion and think that it is always the same, you can also ask the rest of the Board to help you with promotion and ask for input from others there. Make it fun for yourself.
* Sonia Erbé Gómez: I lost motivation at one point in the year and I was not excited to do Board work anymore. I think what really helped me then is what Stefan told me. He said that maybe it could work to look back at the things you wanted to learn as Board in the beginning of the year, like skills you wanted to have or other, and spend the first 30 minutes of every day you do Board work on those skills. That way you are motivated to do something for yourself and not only for the Board.
* Selin Elcheik: What helped for me is that I felt lucky with the committees I had and I would hang out with them and that energy would help me a lot, the members would help a lot. It does keep you going to be in the room and talk to people. Take breaks and don’t work too much. What I saw this year is that they did that a lot better already.
* Anaïs van Schalen: I can relate to what Selin said. I am not motivated right now in general. It is pushing through but what helps is finding things outside of the VSPVU to take my mind of all those things I had to do. And also seeing things in perspective, the VSPVU can feel as your life but it is not. There are other things that you want to do, that works very well.
* Žygimantas Pupelis: Have fun. You are here to have fun and that is what is most important. You have lows and highs and with that the rest will come.

1. **Voting**

Isa Witteman as member of the 77th Candidate Board:

* In favour:
* Neutral:
* Against:

Julia Horsmans as member of the 77th Candidate Board:

* In favour:
* Neutral:
* Against:

Simon Westhoff as member of the 77th Candidate Board:

* In favour:
* Neutral:
* Against:

Lucas Ehrlich as member of the 77th Candidate Board:

* In favour:
* Neutral:
* Against:

1. **Update on the Policy Plan**

**Committee development**

1. **Committees**

* Žygimantas Pupelis: Regarding the Barcie and their extra event; we think it's a nice addition for the Barcie to have an extra event to create more variety in the events they organize. The extra-events shouldn’t overshadow the original committee's idea - creating events in the VSPVU room.

1. **Optimizing committees**

* Žygimantas Pupelis: This year the Wintersportcie opted out for a picnic day for their last borrel, the change of scenery and having something outside was nice and gave more variability to the events, we would recommend the option for them to do this for future years as well.

1. **Streamlining committees**

* Žygimantas Pupelis: Making the convention bi-annual and replacing it in the years that it is not happening with a symposium is a good idea and we would recommend it for future years. This allows VSPVU to still have a quite big educational event.

**Communication**

1. **Internal**

* Currently there are 4 blog posts written. We think they are useful but this year we didn't promote it. With additional promotion we think they would get more attention. Looking at the statistics only 0,3% interacted with the newest blog post.
* Danique Pater: Why did you not promote it?
* Žygimantas Pupelis: We did not think about it. But if you do, it would get more attention so we would recommend it.

1. **External**

* Žygimantas Pupelis: This year we organized the event with FSR and VIB, which was a little bit disappointing. Due to the amazing weather outside and some personal issues of the members, the attendance rate was quite low. With better organization from the beginning of the year, we think it would be a great success and there are advantages to doing it. Regarding the battle of MF, we would recommend the new Board to sit down with the VIB Candidate Board, and start deciding on the date, which can be presented in December to the MFVU Candidate Board. VIB and MFVU did not have a lot of time in their calendars now when we started planning it.
* Sonia Erbé Gómez: For 77, are you making notes of what we are saying? I know there is a transcript to read back, but for me and Anais it really helped us to make notes during the GM when we noticed things we wanted to change or do the next year. So would recommend that.
* Selin Elcheik: With SSPN, how did you find it?
* Žygimantas Pupelis: Regarding SSPN, the event was okay. We had cancellations and promo and budget was late but for next year, we are planning to choose a date now to be able to choose the professors sooner. Overall, the event was okay. With contact with associations, always the same associations participate and some associations dropped out this year because of low attendance from their university.

**Members**

* Žygimantas Pupelis: Currently we have 190 new Bachelor members, 24 (pre-)master students, and 1 other student. As you can see, we have not reached our goal and we won't anymore. Currently we have 57 active member participation pictures, it was a nice switch, but unfortunately, we couldn't get a hold of all the members.
* Selin Elcheik: Even though you did not get everyone it was still cute and a nice addition to the room.
* Anaïs van Schalen: I have an update on that. I made a list of all the people that are not on there yet and am planning to take their pictures still if they come by the room or at events.
* Simon Westhoff: Do you think the chronicles reveal will be a good time for that?
* Anais van Schalen: Yes.
* Simon Westhoff: The Chronicles event and the Déja-VU festival are on the same day. A lot of people want to go to both. How are you going to do that?
* Žygimantas Pupelis: During the planning of the event, the festival was not taken into consideration.
* Isa Witteman: Are you going to individually message the people that need their picture taken still?
* Anaïs van Schalen: I thought about messaging them but I don’t think it’s useful for a lot of people and don't want to ask that of people. Policy states that it is not necessary if someone is not available.
* Simon Westhoff: I think it is mostly about people not knowing that they can have their picture taken. Maybe you can still reach out to everyone. Maybe you can reach out to people in their friend group so people can tell them as well. If some people still need to get it taken in might be because they don’t know that. Even if you don’t see them.
* Žygimantas Pupelis: Why would you reach out to a different person for it? Why not a direct message?
* Simon Westhoff: Yes, but then maybe it is a very official thing.
* Anaïs van Schalen: We will figure it out.
* Demi Acquoy: This point has been mentioned already, but you changed it in the policy plan already. So, this is the wrong policy that you are showing?
* Sonia Erbé Gómez: It says it correctly here. It does not say that we need to have everyone’s picture to not fail the point. If people are not available or if they don’t want their picture taken it is okay. This was mentioned during the last GM as well.
* Danique Pater: You can also send a message in the active member group chat. Then it is less time and you have still tried.
* Anaïs van Schalen: Thank you.

**Involvement and events**

1. **FAQ**

* Žygimantas Pupelis: We created this section for upcoming members to have an easier time looking for information regarding the association. We hope this will help other years to increase their member count. We hope that this section will be expanded by future Board members to provide as much information as possible.

1. **Physical calendar**

* Žygimantas Pupelis: We think the physical calendar is a nice addition to the room, it clearly provides the information of upcoming events. If you miss something you can take a look there.
* Anaïs van Schalen: For the next Board it is nice to craft and draw in it.

**Policy continuation**

1. **Candidate Board**

* Simon Westhoff: It was good that you did the Board information evening. A lot of people that were there are the 77th Board now, and that shows that it worked. It helped me so thank you for that.
* Demi Acquoy: I was wondering, how was the BIB? Was that something you could have done earlier? And I also wanted to know from the Candidate Board what they liked from the information evening and what did you miss?
* Žygimantas Pupelis: The BIB was a failure. The attendance was close to non-existent but this could have been done earlier in the year. We had a lot of fun ourselves.
* Sonia Erbé Gómez: We did it because we did a lot of things already and we still did not really have people that applied. But I think if it would have been earlier in the year or maybe in combination with another event to take off the pressure a bit, it would have been a good addition.
* Lotta Heijnen: I would recommend it because it is fun and not only for information. It is having a beer and fun so it is nice.
* Žygimantas Pupelis: We had an idea for 77 for this event. We will tell 77.
* Shannon Fredison: It was also on an unusual day like a Monday or a Friday. Maybe that can also have an influence. Maybe keep that in mind.
* Demi Acquoy: And how was the information evening?
* Lucas Ehrlich: Simon and me were there. It was nice to have old and current Board members there to see different perspectives. It was very early in the year so it was very in depth, I think. Maybe it could have been less information.
* Simon Westhoff: It felt like a mini-GM and it was nice but would make it more low key because it is a first introduction to being Board. It did activate me to become Board so it helped. Attendance was quite okay. I would advise to do more of this. It was well advertised as well.
* Demi Acquoy: That is great feedback. As Board you want to give a lot of information to make sure people know what they get themselves into, so it is good to hear that it was too much in this case.
* Lucas Ehrlich: It was a lot but was really helpful.
* Simon Westhoff: What really helped that you invited old Board members that had a different perspective than current Board. Related to tasks and how the year looks like, you are still in the middle of it so I valued the perspective of people removed from Board already. That is what you need, some affirmation. It is nice to have that perspective that says that it will be fun and it will be alright.

1. **Committees**

* Žygimantas Pupelis: Crazy 76; we did not get as much participation as we expected.
* Selin Elcheik: Also, about that. The idea was nice but when there is a deadline every other month there is more motivation to do it. When it is one big deadline it did not work as much. Maybe you can mix BOTC and this idea together. Maybe this is why there was not enough participation.
* Demi Acquoy: It would have been great if you made some time during AMD and AMW to make some assignments. I missed that a little. 71 had this idea as well and a huge part of AMD was doing the Crazy 71. We had to do assignments of AMD and besides that you did the challenges which was really fun. If the Board creates opportunities to do it, it is better. But still it was a really nice idea.
* Shannon Fredison: I was wondering if all the committees used there committee 10 budgets?
* Lotta Heijnen: I will tell you.
* Simon Westhoff: About what Demi said, that would have been nice. We had a lot of activities. If you incorporate those into Crazy 76. It would be nice to have an incentive. I feel like if I do it or not it does not really matter. It would create more urgency and make it also clearer what the reward is. It could be having your names on the trophy.

1. **Promotion**

* Žygimantas Pupelis: Currently We are promoting our events through various social medias: Instagram, LinkedIn and Facebook. The latter is being discussed and our recommendation for the future Boards to remove Facebook and to look into new ways of promoting and creating committee promotion. For example, using TikTok and focusing on Canva instead of InDesign. This would create more motivation for committees as well as Board members to create short reels to promote events. Monthly Calendars are a great addition, this allows VSPVU members to be notified early about upcoming events that way they can put them in their calendars earlier, thus increasing the attendance rates to the events.

1. **Meetings**

* Žygimantas Pupelis: As you may know this is our fourth General Meeting, last week we had our seventh General Board meeting.

1. **Members**

* Žygimantas Pupelis: This year one member initiative event happened, which was rum tasting. We will reallocate the money left on the post.
* Simon Westhoff: Is it still possible to organize it? And otherwise, what will happen to the money?
* Žygimantas Pupelis: No, it won't happen anymore. The money will be reallocated to another member activity. There is 75 euros left. We deem study sessions to be of a great value to VSPVU members, during the exam period university does get very crowded. These rooms provide a guaranteed space during the study sessions. We think it was a nice addition overall.
* Selin Elcheik: It was really nice that you had this. We struggled with it last year so good job on that.
* Žygimantas Pupelis: Thank you. We took a look at our merchandise stock count, and we decided not to release an additional item. There are still quite a few items, and our goal will be to sell these off until we finish the year. Not fully but to sell a little bit more.

1. **Update on Financial Statement**

* Lotta Heijnen: This is our financial statement. Current result is what we spent. Virtual result is what is expected to be spent. Budgeted result is how much VSPVU money was put aside. An asterisk means the post is closed so no more expenses on that post. I will read out every column and after that will explain it. Then you can ask me any questions you have.

Lotta Heijnen presents Income.

* Lotta Heijnen: Vu bookstore: Nothing changed. Membership: We now have 22% (190) new bachelor members and 3% (24) master members. That means we have 64% (553) yearly contributing students. Bavaria: We got our set sponsor money which is 605 euros. (500 + VAT). We are expecting more in September. Sponsorship: We made a sponsor deal with the little gym, Studytree, Stichting Cross your Borders, Ochtendmensen, Emile Thuiszorg, Aethon, Mind to Move, Y Camps and a homework assistance company called DEES.
* Demi Acquoy: Did you make the membership goal?
* Lotta Heijnen: Yes, that is great. We just did.
* Danique Pater: Athena summery has to be on 3500.
* Lotta Heijnen: We have a contract with them and we get the money in September.
* Danique Pater: Then there is a mistake in virtual result.
* Lotta Heijnen: Yes, true.

Lotta Heijnen presents Board Activities.

* Lotta Heijnen: Active member day: Closed post. Active member weekend: We paid the full amount for the location. At the moment we don’t have our discount on the beer yet, so now it looks like we overspend. They will deposit the money so then I will put it on there. Constitution drink: This is a closed post because all the payments have been done. We had our constitution borrel at Il caffè in October. We have 3,06 left, so I reallocated that money. Transition weekend: Nothing changed, because it didn’t happen yet. We are planning it. Mini-events: It looks like we overspent, but we are getting a lot of money from emballage back from Bavaria. I am busy calling and emailing them. Board drinks: We will use the rest of the money for BBQ borrel and borrel zero.
* Demi Acquoy: For 77, it is better to mini events and emballage separate. It is not clear at all now and it is hard to see what is spent on the events. I recall emballage a post in conscribo, so it would be best to have it that post or separating it in the budget. It is confusing like this.
* Lotta Heijnen: I agree with that.
* Danique Pater: Not reading out the numbers is good but if nothing changed maybe you also font have to mention it.

Lotta Heijnen presents Committees.

* Lotta Heijnen: Actie: They had their event, which was laser gaming. They have one more event in September. Balie: Nothing changed. Barcie: They had a beerlympics and a third Barcie. The third Barcie was really quiet, so they had a lot of leftover beer, wine and liquor but they can use that for their last event. Chronicles: They got their book printed. The invoice isn’t in there yet, so that is why they are in the plus. With the leftover money, they got nice things for the release party. Congrescie: Nothing changed and they’re not active this year. Feestcie: They had a gala. They spend their money on the location, decoration, and open bar. The invoice hasn’t been sent yet, that’s why it's in the plus. Illusie: They had mentor selections and mentor day. The location for mentor weekend has also been paid. Lex: They had their second event and made a profit. I am hoping they spend the money on the symposium. Ouderdagcie: They spend their money on gifts for lectures, gift bags, catering and a borrel. They didn’t spend all their money, because they had zero unforeseen costs and no travel costs in the end. Pedcie: They had their third event where they spent their money on gifts and donated the ticket price to a charity. Wintersportcie: They had their last reunion event, a picnic and spent their last money on that.
* Demi Acquoy: Did you look into the possibility that the left-over faculty money from committees can go to the Illusie?
* Lotta Heijnen: I will go to Esther this week for that.

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Lotta Heijnen presents Board Expenses.

* Lotta Heijnen: General Board meeting: Last GBM we got pizza for everyone to spend all our money and we got a round of drinks. General meeting: We got dinner for our last GM and of course also dinner for tonight. We also got a round of drinks after. We have one GM to go, so that should be fine. External relations: There was a SSPN event, so money will be spent then, but there is no invoice yet. Gift for other Boards: We went to the constitution borrels of other Boards at the beginning of the year. We got them a bottle of alcohol or a little gift. We will get cobo gifts and things for broertjesdag with the leftover money. Board reimbursement: We all used our Board reimbursements. Porto/print/Board costs: We got constitution borrel cards and happy holiday cards. We also printed out booklets for the beercantus and flyers for the intro week. And we got part of our Board clothing reimbursed. We also got new beer and tosti cards. I will still spend it on things for the intro week for example. Home and office general: We got cookies, tea and coffee beans for the room. We also got tape and new markers. I will still spend it to get things for the new Treasurer. Fixed costs: From this, we got our monthly ING subscription, our Genkgo subscription, Canva subscription, and pin machine subscription. Our insurance. And we used it to clean the tap, which was very necessary.
* Danique Pater: You have spent 86 now on GMs and there is just one left. You have 170 euros for that
* Lotta Heijnen: The expenses from tonight are not in yet.
* Danique Pater: It is still a lot of money. Maybe you can get something to motivate extra people to come.
* Demi Acquoy: GBM should be closed. Besides that due to the budget cuts from the VU itself, really keep in touch with the faculty if they will close down the buildings down earlier. It can really be expensive if you have to pay security costs for meetings. For the next Treasurer, stay in touch about that.
* Lucas Ehrlich: What is Board reimbursement?
* Lotta Heijnen: Every Board member gets a 100 euros back for all the events you attend.

Lotta Heijnen presents Investments.

* Lotta Heijnen: Transaction cost: We used this for the Zettle, Mollie, Pin machine and PayPal transaction costs. Promotion: We got a poster for every mini-event we did. We got stickers. We want to get our own personalized VSPVU game for the room. VSPVU room: We got 2 little tubs for the room to eat out. We got a JBL party box for the room, so that is very nice. With the leftover money, we will get new coffee cups and plants. Website: We used part of the money for FAQ. The rest is reallocated Merchandise: We sold some merch, for the rest nothing changed. We are now planning to release a small merch item for intro week. Misc. investments: Nothing changed. We are buying a new Board camera with this money. Member initiative budget: Part of this budget was used for the rum tasting. There is leftover money, which will be reallocated to transition weekend if it isn’t used before the BBQ borrel.
* Demi Acquoy: You were giving advice on PayPal?
* Lotta Heijnen: After the financial statement.
* Demi Acquoy: Make sure you finish all the money and discuss with 77 because they have ideas on what to spend it on.
* Lotta Heijnen: Yes.
* Danique Pater: If you need to spend the money. Should member initiative not be a closed post?
* Lotta Heijnen: The deadline is today.

Lotta Heijnen presents Active Member Rewards.

* Lotta Heijnen: GBM outing: Nothing changed. We are going to play pool from this. Battle of the committees: We got a little in-between gift tomorrow for the committee who is on top of the Crazy 76 and we will get a gift for the committee that wins. Committee ten: Almost all committees spend it except Lex and Opcie. Active member clothing: Closed post. Extra rewards: We got polaroid pictures for every active member to hang in the room. We also got small gifts for member wellbeing and we got active member certificates.

Lotta Heijnen presents Unforeseen.

* Lotta Heijnen: After our constitution borrel we got a bill for some broken glasses. We also lost 2 active member sweaters, so we had to order new ones. And there was no mop at AMW, so we had to buy one to clean. It is 100,07 in total.
* Demi Acquoy: The totals are incorrect and I can’t see why? Ouderdagcie is -5000 and should be 0.
* Lotta Heijnen: All the results or the virtual?
* Demi Acquoy: Everything paid by the faculty is 0.
* Lotta Heijnen: Makes sense.

PayPal recommendation.

* Lotta Heijnen: I have looked at PayPal this year, so I could give a proper recommendation for the next Treasurer. The transaction costs of PayPal are quite high: 3,4% + 0,35 fixed costs. This year PayPal was mainly used at the beginning of the year for people to get a membership. In the months of January and March PayPal wasn’t used at all. PayPal was used by very few people for the rest of the year. I think PayPal is mainly beneficial for internationals, but now we also have SEPA for that. I would advise quitting PayPal for next year because the transaction costs are higher than the benefits. The other recommendation is to keep PayPal and only use it on request, so turn it on at the site if people ask to pay through PayPal. It could be beneficial for the memberships. My advice is to stop with it or to only use it on request of members. The benefits are not weighing it out.
* Simon Westhoff: I know a lot of internationals use Revolut. Maybe that can be looked into.
* Stefan Canic: SEPA is the bank transfer thing, right?
* Lotta Heijnen: Yes.
* Selin Elcheik: You can also use credit cards for that right? The problem is that internationals have a credit card and no debit card. If there is an option for internationals it is fine.
* Demi Acquoy: Do you know if mollie supports the system?
* Simon Westhoff: I don’t know.
* Lucas Ehrlich: Mollie should work with it.
* Demi Acquoy: Check the transaction costs for it. With credit card you can easily take out the money as well. But a good idea.
* Stefan Canic: It is a bank transfer thing. We should keep PayPal because it is easy and bank transfer is harder. PayPal is easier for internationals. Keep it or try to find another solution that is easy.
* Lucas Ehrlich: I don’t agree. Revolut is mostly used and it works with Mollie. It is a system to look into.
* Stefan Canic: All good.
* Danique Pater: For internationals, can you pay a Tikkie?
* Stefan Canic: No.
* Žygimantas Pupelis: Question for Lucas. You have to pay with a Maestro card for Revolut. Not all machines accept it. The main payment method is Ideal and with Revolut there is only a bank transfer possible. Do you know what it provides as a payment card?
* Lucas Ehrlich: It is a virtual card so you have to pay for the physical card on top of that.
* Žygimantas Pupelis: There are limitations because it is a free card.
* Lucas Ehrlich: We will look into it. It is an option.

Budget changes

* Lotta Heijnen: First I’ll explain the three columns. The budgeted result is the money that we invest from the VSPVU. Estimated income is the money we will get from faculty and the money we will get with ticket sales for events. Estimated expenses are what we expect to spend. Bank account interest: I just figured out that we got bank account interest in January. I had no idea it was back. I moved that money to transition weekend because everything is more expensive with inflation. Committee ten: The leftover money will also go to transition weekend. Extra rewards: The leftover money will go to the BBQ borrel.
* Demi Acquoy: I disagree with the member initiative budget. Committee 10 that you want to move it. It is not in your own favour. You can think about extra reward of GBM people or the outing so it stays within the active members.
* Lotta Heijnen: Yes, I get it. It is money from the committees.
* Lotta Heijnen: The committee 10 leftover money goes to the GBM outing.
* Quinten McDonald: What time is the outing again?
* Žygimantas Pupelis: 18:30.

1. **Idea box**
2. **Important Dates**
3. **June 30 Barbeque Borrel**
4. **September 6th General Meeting #1**
5. **September 13th General Board Meeting #1**

* Shannon Fredison: Will you have food and drinks
* Žygimantas Pupelis: We have some food but bring your own as well.
* Simon Westhoff: When throughout the day does it take place?
* Žygimantas Pupelis: 17:00 - 20:00. You have to be there, there are some traditions.

1. **Active member certificates**

* Žygimantas Pupelis: We really appreciated you this year and want to thank you for it. So, we have something small for you; an Active Member certificate. The people that are not here right now can come to the room to pick it up.

1. **A.O.B.**
2. **Questions or comments**
3. **Closing**

Žygimantas Pupelis closes the meeting at 21:53.