

GENERAL MEETING #2

15/01/2024 - 18:00

NU-5A57

1. Opening
Dylan Ingelse opens the meeting at 18:08.
2. Announcements
Late arrivals:
Jimmy van Laere will arrive at 18:30.
Lucas Ehrlich will arrive at 18:45
Zygimantas Pupelis will arrive at 21:00
Demi Acquoy will arrive at 18:20
Julia Linnanmaki will arrive at 19:00
Miles van Rossum will arrive at 21:00
Anaïs van Schalen will arrive at 18:45
Early leaves:
Melissa Sier has to leave at 21:00
Lucas Ehrlich has to leave at 21:00
Laura Kirin has to leave at 23:30
Rohit Soebdhan has to leave at 23:20
Zosia Lzydorsak has to leave at 19:00
Zygimantas Pupelis has to leave at 18:40
Lieke Wiersma has to leave at 21:00
Sonia Buchacz has to leave at 21:00
Miles van Rossum has to leave at 18:40
Karolina De Savarnin Lohmen has to leave at 20:20
Lisa Dennie has to leave at 22:00
Mary Melkonian has to leave at 22:00
Authorisations:
Tawfik Sulaiman gives his vote to Suraj Harylallsingh
Isa Witteman gives her vote to Esmee Blankers
Mandy Schunselaar gives her vote to Anaïs van Schalen
Kirsten Göbel gives her vote to Esmee Blankers
3. Approval of Transcript
Everyone approves.
4. Approval of Agenda
Everyone approves.
5. Financial statement 77
 - Dylan Ingelse: Robyn Bernhard will now present the final financial statement of the 77th Board:
 - Robyn Bernhard: This is the final financial statement of the 77th board. The financial statement shows the results up until now. The budgeted results are what I expected that would happen at the beginning of the year. The virtual results are what we think would come in at the end of the year. And the current results are the results up until now.
 - INCOME
Vu Bookstore: Still must be received.
Membership, Athena no changes
Bavaria: As they do use calendar years for sponsor money part of it still has to be received.
Sponsorship: The goal was achieved.
Bank account interest: Considering increasing interest we under budgeted this result.

BOARD ACTIVITIES

Active Member Day, Active Member Weekend, Constitution Borrel, Transition Weekend, Board Drinks no changes.

Mini events and emballage the final numbers were calculated and the remaining was passed on to the 78th Board.

- Danique Pater: Shout out to the 77th board, sponsorship was 300/400 euros and it looked like you were not going to hit the target at all, so you deserve a little applause.
- Boaz Emanuels: When do you get the VU bookstore money?
- Robyn Bernhard: It has been confirmed, just has to get in.

COMMITTEES

Chronicles, Lucie, Opcie, Reiscie, Wintersportcie stay the same.

Actie had their last event but did not spend all their money.

Barcie had their last event, a re-evaluation of this committees functioning may be needed.

Congrescie had their event.

Feestcie had their last event, they overspent slightly.

Illusie, the deposit from Illusie Weekend still has to be paid back.

Lex had their last event, and did not finish their budget.

Pedcie did not have their events.

Sportcie had their last event and slightly overspent.

- Boaz Emanuels: Relating to Barcie, how did they make a virtual profit of approximately 800 euros?
- Robyn Bernhard: Around 200 euros every event.
- Boaz Emanuels: Is that foreseen? Throughout the years, what were the ideas for it, how do we spend the money that came in extra? Because this is a profit, and you budgeted for a loss of 100 euros.
- Robyn Bernhard: I cannot say that much, except we might need to reconsider the budget of Barcie since we see a trend.
- Boaz Emanuels: Someone from the 77th Board who can clarify?
- No response.
- Edmond Agabekian: Same thing, do you know where the 800 euros was allocated to?
- Robyn Bernhard: I do not think they could allocate it.
- Edmond Agabekian: I get why they made profit, because of shots and cocktails. You can foresee it now, so you can budget it in and see if you can allocate it.
- Robyn Bernhard: I did not do it for my year, but I see they are making a profit again so I will see if I can change it now, otherwise pass it onto the 79th Board.
- Demi Acquoy: There was a profit known in June and there was going to be a plan for a very big Barcie to spend the profit. You cannot stop with this profit, you have to do something big. Barcie is always a gamble, so the budget used to be 200 euros then it was too much, it was changed to 100 euros. I would advise to keep it at that, because you do not know if it will differ in the coming years. If you have a profit like this, you should have a big event or a specialty beer borrel to make up for it.
- Miles van Rossum: Curious because at the events you tend to sell at cost price?
- Robyn Bernhard: For the beers we do sell at cost price and for the shots we do not.
- Miles van Rossum: Why is that?
- Edmond Agabekian: We started doing shots in my year, we came up with calculating the costs for this and we came to the conclusion it would be too cheap and that would not be responsible because people will get too drunk, that is why it is a bit higher than cost price.
- Miles van Rossum: If there is a trend and you cannot predict, its consistently a lot, you have to reallocate it somewhere.
- Boaz Emanuels: Lucie as well, because it is closed, maybe I misheard, but its 600 euros not spent there.
- Robyn Bernhard: They invested it for coming Lucie.
- Danique Pater: Should the current result not be -600 euros?

- Robyn Bernhard: Yes. We do have a post 'investment', we can put it in there.
- Edmond Agabekian: I get that you want to do the –600 euros, but that is also hard to see, because you see post is closed and you do not see it is there. If you make a post 'Lucie investment' it would be better.
- Robyn Bernhard: I agree.
- Boaz Emanuels: You can pass it on during Transition Weekend, why the post was closed, I would recommend that, but if you want to do a seperate post also fine.
- Demi Acquoy: Edmond Agabekian, would you say one investment post, or underneath committees?
- Edmond Agabekian: I would do it under the post 'investments', you make another post investments. You can make as many as you want, also for the Gala.
- Danique Pater: Also with the bank, you can make different savings accounts, I would also do that for the investments.
- Demi Acquoy: Why did Congressie overspend? Because I have been out for a bit, we invested during the 76th Boardyear for the 77th Boardyear.
- Robyn Bernhard: They forgot about it, so that is added right now.
- Demi Acquoy: So they have like 500 euros...
- Robyn Bernhard: It should have been 1700 euros, they had 1000 euros from the 77th Board and 500 euros from the 76th Board.
- Demi Acquoy: How about Feestcie?
- Robyn Bernhard: No clue.
- Boaz Emanuels: I was in the committee that year. No clue.
- Demi Acquoy: And Sportcie? they only had two events.
- Robyn Bernhard: That was due to miscommunication.
- Danique Pater: Why did the Pedcie only use a third of the budget? And the Reiscie?
- Robyn Bernhard: Pedcie had two events. Reiscie had a cheaper location.
- Danique Pater: Why did they not get free beers?
- Julia Horsmans: During the Reiscie we had a buffer on the ticket price, during the trip itself, we noticed we did not need it, so we had a free cocktailnight and we got gifts for everyone, so we tried to spend as much money as we could, but we had too much.
- Edmond Agabekian: Sometimes committees have money left, but they cannot use it because there is no space in the agenda, so they cannot have an extra event. So maybe it is an event to keep a day or two open for committees that still have money to spend.
- Demi Acquoy: Reiscie budget always has a lot of money leftover, because you do not know how the week goes. Usually you spend it all on the reunion party, we invested it for gifts for the people that came to the reunion, but you need a spot in the agenda for the reunion borrel.
- Robyn Bernhard: BOARD EXPENSES
For General Meeting and General Board Meeting the final expenses were not booked because some final expenses were not reimbursed.
Porto print: a new banner was purchased.
The rest of the posts remain the same .
- INVESTMENTS
No changes
- Demi Acquoy: About General Board Meeting, it is a shame that a lot of money is left. You can invest in the members, so please spend all the money. Internal relations, do something in introduction week. Spend the money. Porto print is 263 euro in the plus. Should it be minus?
- Robyn Bernhard: No, because we got it.
- Demi Acquoy: Oh, so it is leftover? That is a shame.
- Robyn Bernhard: And we already used a bit for our banner.
- Demi Acquoy: Please, if you have leftover money, put it on the next Board so they can use it.
- Robyn Bernhard: Everything is more expensive.

- Demi Acquoy: There should be a buffer of about 50 euros.
- Robyn Bernhard: We are looking into it.
- Danique Pater: Why have home and office generals not been used? You could have used it to buy cushions for the couch or something.
- Anne Bruggink: Lucas Ehrlich should be here any second now to reply. ACTIVE MEMBER REWARDS
Route 77: Sportcie went jumping.
Committee 10: The final expenses got booked.
Extra Rewards: Flowers were bought for a fellow member who did some hard work.
Further Changes: No changes.
- Demi Acquoy: Committee 10, was this closed before the last General Meeting?
- Robyn Bernhard: I think there was feedback. Some last Committee 10 things were reimbursed.
- Demi Acquoy: Also, it is sad there is still money left. Also, for you, please spend the money for the members to express gratitude. It is a shame it is not spent on anyone.
- Dylan Ingelse: We now have someone who can answer the questions: Lucas Ehrlich.
- Danique Pater: Why have home and office generals not been used? You could have used it for cushions for the couch.
- Lucas Ehrlich: Did not get around to it. A lot of money that the new Board can spend.
- Boaz Emanuels: Why did you not get around to it?
- Lucas Ehrlich: There were enough other things to do that were more important than looking at cushions.
- Boaz Emanuels: Then why budget for it?
- Lucas Ehrlich: It was a recommendation from the last Board.
- Boaz Emanuels: So, you budgeted money and made it a priority. I get that things can happen, but if you budget money for it, stating you could not get around to it is not a valid excuse in my book.
- Danique Pater: You obviously answered my question, but also regarding Barcie, there is 800 euros left. That is a lot of money that did not get spent. "Did not get around to it" might be too easy of an explanation.
- Lucas Ehrlich: Not much more to say, to be honest.
- Edmond Agabekian: We had a Kasco check last week, and we discussed some things. Some expenses were posted under other categories instead of Home and Office Generals, so we will try to correct that from this year onward. There have been investments for Home and Office Generals, but it is too hard to fix it now.
- Robyn Bernhard: I want to add to what Edmond Agabekian said. If we had made the changes we were going to do on this final statement, then Home and Office Generals would have been used, and fixed costs would have been lower. So, the costs would have been accounted for, but this is just bookkeeping - it is just recorded under a different category.
- Demi Acquoy: We have been saying to spend the money or reallocate it. You have multiple voting rounds, this is not the first time. Every time there is a budget check before the General Meetings or General Board Meetings, there has always been the point to spend the money or change the category. Keep in mind that if you allocate it to another category, you create a loss in that category. Do not make rash decisions, but make sure to reallocate in the end.
- Boaz Emanuels: I think for the next time, make sure the treasurer of the last year is present. Now we had to wait for answers or did not get answers at all. That would be my recommendation for next time.
- Demi Acquoy: It is not mainly about the treasurer's role being over. The treasurer of the new Board should present it. It depends on the remarks that the presenting treasurer gets from their successor. If the previous treasurer says beforehand that they will be late, that is fine. But if they decide not to attend at all, it should not matter.
- Boaz Emanuels: The vote still has to be made regarding the 77th Board and also the financial statement. So maybe it would be in everybody's best interest, especially if we know someone would be present later.
- Lucas Ehrlich: I did send an email.
- Boaz Emanuels: That is fine, but maybe we should postpone it then. Of course, you can be late but then postpone the financial statement discussion.

- Lucas Ehrlich: I am curious why, six months later, I am being criticized for 70 euros under Home and Office Generals. Why not focus on the new members or the decisions from the last General Meetings, like the Burger Bash? Why is there no appreciation for that, but instead focus on 70 euros for cushions?
 - Danique Pater: I started by asking for a round of applause because you did really well on the sponsorship money, and we all applauded. No one is attacking you. We are asking questions, that is the purpose of the General Meeting. If money is not spent, we need to justify the decisions. Sorry if it feels like an attack on you. We just want to know what happened.
 - Boaz Emanuels: I am sorry you feel attacked because it was not an attack. I was just asking questions, and we do recognize the work you and your Board have done. But we do have to ask questions, and I think that is fair. It is not meant to take away from any of the work you have done, but just to clarify the last gaps. It is not an attack.
 - KASCO ADVICE
 - Demi Acquoy: We were Kasco from the 77th Board, and if you do not know yet, we check the bookkeeping and administration. Not everything was fixed in September, that was postponed to today. We will give advice on whether we are in favour of or against the discharge of the 77th Board for all financial responsibilities. We had a check in November, which has been rechecked by the new Kasco, and we are voting in favour of discharge. This is advice, and it is highly recommended to follow Kasco's recommendation, but it is ultimately your own choice, of course.
 - Voting results:
34 in favour
4 neutral
2 against
 - Mabel van Gent: This means the 77th Board is officially voted out!
6. Update on Policy Plan
- Dylan Ingelse: I will now present the updates on the policy plan.
Committees:
Actie has had one event, namely yoga, and is busy planning its second event.
Barcie has also had one event, Barcie #1: Animal Kingdom, and is very enthusiastic about its second event.
Chronicles is busy designing the book.
Feestcie has had one event, Feestcie #1: Timeless Tunes, and is very busy planning the Gala.
Illusie is busy planning the mentor events.
Lex had their first event, Lex #1: Conspiracy Theories, and is also working on its second event.
 - Anaïs van Schalen: When are the mentor selections?
 - Anne Bruggink: February 10–11.
 - Anaïs van Schalen: Promotion too?
 - Isabel Bartelds: This week the promotion will go out.
 - Edmond Agabekian: Are all these committees doing a good job? Are there any problems?
 - Dylan Ingelse: They are doing well. No unsuccessful events for these committees yet. Chronicles has not had an event yet.
Opcie is busy organizing the Career Days and is very enthusiastic.
Ouderdagcie is well on its way with preparations, even though they are not a complete committee.
Pedcie sadly had to cancel their first event. This was due to a combination of factors. The location they had contacted was not able to host them, and the backup did not respond in time. The committee was also formed quite late, only gaining members around Active Member Day besides the chair. Because of this, oversight was lost. However, Pedcie is now back on track and well on its way to their “first” event.
Piccie has been attending events and taking pictures. At the start of the year, it was still a bit chaotic due to unforeseen circumstances when forming Piccie. However, we believe it has improved significantly, and we now have better guidelines in place.

- Julia Horsmans: Do you plan on ensuring that there will be at least three events if there is space in the yearly schedule?
- Dylan Ingelse: Yes, we had four scheduled.
- Andrew de Ruiter: Does the Ouderdagcie organize Parents' Day this October or next?
- Dylan Ingelse: In April.
Reiscie has already booked the accommodation and transport for their trip and is looking into activities at the location.
Wintersportcie has had their first event, Wintersportcie Pre-Union: Back to the Slopes. The Wintersportcie has lowered their available beds this year from 40 to 30.
- Edmond Agabekian: I want to go back to Piccie. It is a pilot committee now, and we have been running it for half a year. Have you re-evaluated or changed anything—things that have gone well or could have been improved?
- Isabel Bartelds: We have not fully evaluated everything yet, but we have seen that Mabel van Gent has set all the event dates for the semester. We would recommend this for next year because then they could put it in their calendars instead of just referring to week numbers.
- Edmond Agabekian: It is a pilot. I hope things are going well, but keep in mind that it is a pilot, be creative, try things, and if they do not work, change them. Experiment with it.
- Anaïs van Schalen: As of now, would you recommend continuing Piccie for the 79th Board?
- Isabel Bartelds: We have not fully evaluated everything yet, so I cannot speak on that.
- Andrew de Ruiter: What does the Piccie group look like?
- Dylan Ingelse: It is a mixed group, some master's students, one first-year, but mostly older members. We wanted to ensure that the emphasis was not solely on first-years.
- Andrew de Ruiter: Do you think future Boards should work on balancing that out?
- Dylan Ingelse: We have not evaluated that yet.
- Boaz Emanuels: Do you have plans to evaluate before the next General Meeting, or how will you approach that?
- Dylan Ingelse: Since it started at the beginning of the year, we have made a lot of changes, but we have not had time to evaluate yet. However, we do want to conduct an evaluation before the next General Meeting.
- Edmond Agabekian: When you re-evaluate, make sure to go into detail, not just a general update.

Membership

- Dylan Ingelse: We currently have 196 new bachelor members and 20 new master members.
- Boaz Emanuels: Do you still think you will reach the membership target you set? If not, why?
- Dylan Ingelse: We do not think we will reach it. It is more than 40 bachelor and 10 master members, and 20 master members over the entire year is quite a lot. At the start of the year, we were advised to set a higher target. We agreed because we were very enthusiastic. This strategy did help, as we saw a bigger membership boost than in previous years, but we overestimated the final numbers a bit.
- Edmond Agabekian: Do you have data on how many people signed up through the discount? Can you present it at the next General Meeting?
- Dylan Ingelse: We do not have those numbers right now, but we will check and present them at the next General Meeting.

DISCOUNTS

- Andrew de Ruiter: Is it not worth taking a shot at asking how many times the codes have been used? It gives a good indication of whether you need more or if you can focus on other kinds of sponsorships.
- Edmond Agabekian: Are there people who have used the discounts?
- Julia Horsmans: I have not seen them.
- Dylan Ingelse: We will promote it more. It was promoted on Instagram at the start of the year, but we can do it more to highlight this aspect because it is something the members can benefit from.
- Edmond Agabekian: Maybe first- and second-year students can give their preferences on where they would like to find it.

- Julia Horsmans: Make a highlight on Instagram.
- Isabel Bartelds: The issue with what you are saying is that we are doing this for the benefits of becoming a member, so it has to be behind a barrier that only members can access. That is why we decided on the website because you have to log in. If you have any other suggestions, like where we could use passcodes or something, we would like to hear them. Otherwise, we have to do it this way.
- Maeve Hermers: How about a highlight linking to the website?
- Isabel Bartelds: We have that.
- Maeve Hermers: And in the newsletter?
- Isabel Bartelds: Good recommendation.
- Seliina Grath: You cannot make a highlight with the discount, but maybe have a reminder that we have these companies, like having them log in to see them.
- Anne Bruggink: Regarding getting in contact, I have it planned for the middle of the year. Setting up the discounts takes some work, so we wanted to see if it was worth it because we can also get sponsors and money. That is why we are evaluating later.
- Andrew de Ruiter: Do you think you will be able to evaluate before the final General Meeting?
- Anne Bruggink: Yes we think so.

ROOM & BINGO

- Andrew de Ruiter: Not per se on room and bingo, more on what you said with WhatsApp groups, compliments to promotion, I am not even an active member this or last year and I still get the texts.
- Dylan Ingelse:

Involvements and events

Speelkwartier (Recess)

We have tried the recess in extension to the 77th Board's idea. However, we have decided to discontinue this concept for the rest of our year. Attendance was not high enough. Attendance only rose when we made it a Dominate 78 challenge. We also heard it was just too much for people to attend. It is also very inconvenient to attach a keg to the bar for this because it results in a lot of waste.

- Anaïs van Schalen: This may be an annoying comment, but not for my own fun. Everyone is laughing when only a few people showed up for Dominate 78. Sure, it is funny, but it is also kind of a problem because engagement is very low in comparison to previous years. Laugh, but also keep in mind that the members are the association, and the members are you. So, if you do not engage in the activities the Board organizes, there will be no activities anymore, and then the association will not survive.
- Esmee Blankers: I understand the decision, but the decision was made after recess, where there were quite a few people, but then you decided not to do the game anyway. For me, this decision came at a weird time. If people do show up and it is a Dominate 78, they could get points every week. This could be a recommendation as well. Maybe some more evaluation.
- Dylan Ingelse: I know the recess you were talking about. This was a coincidence, and people were not going to participate. There were not enough people to play Werewolves.
- Esmee Blankers: I do not agree with that, but that is fine.
- Boaz Emanuels: Likewise, in the final statement, I would like to back that up. There were enough people interested, and a little bit more effort could have been made. Why did not enough people show up? Was it a general lack of interest in VSPVU events or things that are low effort? Did you guys ask around and check why attendance was so low?
- Dylan Ingelse: Because recess was every Wednesday when there was no conflicting event. That meant every Wednesday there was an event, and we heard that it was too much to attend weekly.
- Boaz Emanuels: Besides scratching the idea, because I do think you have fun ideas, did you look into other ways, like not having it every Wednesday or having it less frequently?
- Dylan Ingelse: Since we also have mini-events, and we had a lot in the beginning of the year, that is why we scrapped it. For example, Sip and Paint and Ornament Making.

- Boaz Emanuels: Which were very fun events.
- Edmond Agabekian: Not for myself, but to encourage people to speak up, it is mostly the same people that speak right now. If you have something to add or do not understand, it is also okay to say.
- Andrew de Ruiter: Regarding the wording, I understood there have been three recesses? Because the policy plan said that two months afterward the Board will evaluate. Were they within the two months, or did you stop earlier on?
- Dylan Ingelse: Even later around four months after, we evaluated.
- Andrew de Ruiter: So you had a period of four months. There were at least four other events which ensured the recess could not happen. So, if the next Board wants to continue, maybe they have to wait longer than two months. How do you evaluate processes like this? Because this subject is attendance-specific, how do you do it?
- Dylan Ingelse: For this, it was mostly based on attendance because we thought it would be nice to have more low-key, frequent events rather than more significant events. Mini-events are bigger, so we wanted to try to make a lower threshold to attend. For this, we based our decision on attendance. That it only rose with Dominate 78 meant a lot for us. It showed that it is not worth the effort to do it every week, and we could focus on other aspects of the association. We also asked members about their opinions and did not see enough interest.
- Andrew de Ruiter: Do you think this method is sufficient?
- Dylan Ingelse: Yes, we do, especially since this was our goal for this concept. In this matter, we think it is enough. With other things, we based it on other reasons.
- Andrew de Ruiter: Because then, I would suggest for you or the next Board, since Dominate 78, maybe if they do it when it is an activity for that, it may be interesting to send out surveys so they can give their feedback, so you know what to improve about the concept.
- Dylan Ingelse: We can take this into consideration.
- India Bartelings: About how it was decided that these times were going to be the recess. Because in my studies (pedagogical sciences), I had tutorials or lectures at this specific time, for the next semester as well. So, why were these times chosen? People from my studies could never attend.
- Maeve Hermers: Same with first-year psychology Dutch track. We had a lecture during the time of recess.
- Dylan Ingelse: We based it on attendance from last year. They also tried this on Fridays to finish the week and have fun, but they noticed it was low. We know attendance on Fridays is low. We know Wednesdays and Thursdays are best, so that is why we wanted to do it on Wednesdays.
- India Bartelings: I get the date, but I mean the time. Why was 15:00 to 16:00 chosen?
- Dylan Ingelse: We wanted to do it in the opening hours of the room because we wanted to make it easier for people to come into the room, so 16:00 to 17:00 was not good. Now we also had the option to extend the time.
- Boaz Emanuels: Recess during the VU lunchbreak? 12:45 to 13:30? Not doable?
- Dylan Ingelse: No, not allowed.
- Anais van Schalen: No, the Board room has to be open between 13:00 and 14:00.
- Dylan Ingelse: Since it was also promoted as having a drink and playing games, it was better to do it later. The event was not meant to be about drinking or having a borrel, but we kept it in mind.
- Julia Horsmans: Clarification on behalf of the 77th Board: We had a recess from 16:00 to 17:00, and if there were people there, and there were people there, if you had a room shift, you had to stay after the opening hours. You do not want to kick people out if they are having fun, and that is also why we recommended this. But it was very inconvenient for people who had lectures at this time.
- Sietse Zanen: How many people should be there to be considered successful?
- Dylan Ingelse: We did not have a set number of people, but we wanted enough people for the activity, like Twister for the Dominate 78. But if two or three people show up, you can play some of the games but not as exciting as with more people. We also based it on that because we had mini themes during the recess. For now, attendance was just very low.

- Edmond Agabekian: I like the question. During the evaluation, you cannot have that number then. You should have set the number; otherwise, it is subjective.
- Boaz Emanuels: After this, I would like to ask, do you still feel like you have a proper method to evaluate? Yes or no?
- Dylan Ingelse: Since we do not have time to discuss, we cannot answer now. We will do it after the break.
- Boaz Emanuels: I will postpone the question then.
- Seliina Grath: Since a lot of people, including you, have said attendance in general has been low, despite Dominate 78, what do you think can be done? Do you have anything in mind, or does it need to happen spontaneously?
- Dylan Ingelse: We have spoken about this and we have noticed there is a trend of higher-year students disengaging, and our bigger base is now more first or second years, which is creating a vicious cycle. Because first-year students attend a badly visited event and then do not come back, so the events lose their potential. We have been trying to fix this by going to lecture talks, and we also did the discounts, went to lectures afterward, and promoted it more. But it is still very hard to pinpoint how to exactly fix this.
- Anaïs van Schalen: So, if you guys have any ideas why this is happening, because we do not understand. Maybe this is unnecessary, because you are asking the Board, like, what have you tried, but they did and it does not work. Old Boards have been involved, long-term plans have been talked about, and nobody knows. So, that is my previous comment. You, as members, are the association because it is not the Board's fault. They are not lacking or doing something wrong as to why this is happening. So again, we need you.
- Maeve Hermers: No one is saying the Board is wrong. We are very proud. In addition to your question, I think because the events in our first month were not well attended, my friends are like, the events are boring, no one is there, and then they do not come anymore.
- Anaïs van Schalen: I understand, but that is what I am trying to say. It is up to everyone here to make the association fun. The Board cannot do that with just the five of them. Once the circle has begun, it is going to keep going, but it is you that has to break that circle. In other years, it used to be that first-years showed up in small numbers, but there was more engagement from the start.
- Isabel Bartelds: In reply to this, we are trying to improve the image of the VSPVU events by creating more live stories where we show it is fun or creating videos to put online to improve the image and break the circle.
- Seliina Grath: I think, attendance-wise, for the international track, we have a late event and early morning or a lot of time between the schedule and the event. You have to match their calendars because it clashes with the usual schedule.
- Dylan Ingelse: We have noticed one type of event that got a lot of engagement, mostly the ones with food, like Tosti Tuesday. Then we bought more during Pick Me Up Poffertjes, sold out, waffles as well, and we have pancakes next week. But that is one event where engagement was up, and people walked by and came in. But it is hard to plan bigger events during these times with the lectures.
- Anne Bruggink: To elaborate. Also, with getting the food, they stay in the room, play games, and chat, so that is very positive.
- Stephanie Hennekens: Maybe it could be to focus on mentors for the next introduction week to go with their mentees to events. Then you have high attendance, and people want to come.
- Karolien de Savornin Lohman: I do not know how to do it, but with the lecture talks, I do not know if you have guidelines, but I feel like you are explaining the committees. I do not know if people care for that in the breaks of lectures. I think the events would be better because if you have been in a lecture for forty minutes, it might not interest you, but events could catch your eyes.
- Edmond Agabekian: You have found the secret formula, it is food. The chitchatting is fun, but they do not engage with the association.
- Dylan Ingelse: We have the TV in the room that has our schedule and the events, and we spoke about the events.
- Rohit Soebdhan: People like food. Why not turn recess into snacking hour? Get some snacks. I know you cannot serve beer at 13:00, but you can have snacks.

- Dylan Ingelse: We will look into it.
- Jimmy van Laere: Add on to Stephanie Hennekens. Mentors can promote the VSPVU as well. I was also thinking about the introduction week and their first impression of the VSPVU. If the first impression is a bit bad or the events are not that interesting, a lot of students will think, "Okay, for this week", and then they will not be interested again. Catching up takes a lot more effort than just a head start. Two years ago, people were very excited, and then last year they were a bit less excited. Nothing against last year, but it does make it harder afterward.
- Seliina Grath: Add to Karolien de Savornin Lohman. I know it will take more effort, but if it is possible to create different ones, because I have seen them before. Now it is fun because I know you, but if I did not, I would not look at it because it is in the break. Also, unfortunate timing, but you cannot take time from the professors, so it is a bit messy. But maybe create different ones, or have new ones, or other focuses that could work.
- India Bartelings: Elaborate on the mentor thing. I know that in other associations it is not just a mentor during introduction week, but also during the entire first year. But our mentors had a half-year later reunion kind of thing, and they also wanted to answer questions. We also had a mentor programme so people could guide first years, and if they are excited, they could also promote the events, and not just in the big group chats.
- Isabel Bartelds: In my year, which was two years ago, we also had mentors who were older students from the faculty. Do you still have that?
- In the room: No.
- Karolien de Savornin Lohman: I also wanted to follow up on mentors. I can speak from my own experience, but mentioning the burger bash was from VSPVU, I did not know that. The only impression from introduction week is walking past the room, it is too crowded, so let's carry on. I still ended up here, but you know.
- Seliina Grath: I do not know much about how this works, but also in relation to mentors, my roommate is from Artificial Intelligence, where their mentor programme uses STORM, but every month there is an evening event with like pizza and painting or something. People do have to work outside of working hours. She also never says STORM but says mentor programme. I do not know if they use that more than the actual committee. I know Karolien de Savornin Lohman's mentors were a bit weird, and they were like, "Go to that group the entire time."
- Maeve Hermers: My mentors were fun, but that is also because they were deep into the association, and we adopted like seven people. A lot of mentors just dipped and dropped on their kids and said, "Maybe if you want to, you can go there, but we will not."
- Anne Bruggink: In reply to the mentor things, as the contact person of Illusie, we will also take this into consideration when getting mentors.
- Boaz Emanuels: I am going to recommend looking into more prolonged ways to keep the mentors. There are a lot of people that want to mentor. If you say people have to be engaged for some months or have to be engaged, I think they will be. So please talk about this.
- Stephanie Hennekens: In response to Maeve Hermers, maybe have a group chat for all the introduction students. If they do not feel good in their own group, they can connect with all the other kids as well.
- Andrew de Ruiter: Response to the WhatsApp groupchats, privacy. I am not sure if you are allowed to do this. Even if it is allowed, I would do it voluntarily. I would not like my number shared, but the idea is good.
- Seliina Grath: All the mentors I talked to were active members and recommended it. They were not bad, and all recognized the VSPVU.
- Hadassa Klapwijk: I am the only one who does the University PABO, and the only reason I am here is because of the introduction week. Also, Bas Paeper and Melissa Kusters all had a fun time, and we all got paired up, and we got in the same group. The people with mixed groups did not like it. Maybe make more groups of the same people instead of mixed.
- Anne Bruggink: Good point, I agree one hundred percent. The only thing is, the groups are made by the VU, but I can try to look into it.
- Rohit Soebdhan: Build upon Stephanie Hennekens. I do not know how it works to make a new committee, like doing promotion for the first years and guiding them.

- Dylan Ingelse: We had a question about recess. For this event, we do not think we are changing our evaluation. However, we are taking into consideration having an amount of people we want to attend beforehand, but we are still not continuing recess.
- Boaz Emanuels: To add to Seliina Grath, are you going to fill the gap with something else?
- Dylan Ingelse: Since this was brought up 30 minutes ago, we did not have time for this, but we will think about this, maybe with other concepts to get more engagement in the room. But we are definitely thinking about this.
- Boaz Emanuels: Briefly, thanks for the explanation, and I hope you take the feedback into account.
- Stephanie Hennekens: Is it definitive that recess is not going to continue?
- Dylan Ingelse: Yes.
- Boaz Emanuels: I do have to say that I do find it a pity that it will be the case. I get where you are coming from, but we have also discussed this a bit over the year, and I strongly suggest reconsidering or re-evaluating.
- Dylan Ingelse: We can discuss it once more. We cannot give an answer now, but we will discuss it more.
- Boaz Emanuels: Would you be open to re-evaluating, or is it definitely closed? Adding to Stephanie's question.
- Dylan Ingelse: We can re-evaluate. As it is now, we are still of the opinion to put it off. If there are better ideas, we will re-evaluate. We will talk about it again.
- Boaz Emanuels: Very abstract. Will it be reconsidered? On what terms will it happen?
- Dylan Ingelse: We will re-evaluate and will have an answer at the next General Meeting, which is quite soon. So, if we decide otherwise, we have a lot of time left in the year.
- Stephanie Hennekens: If you were to reconsider, will there be the possibility of continuing recess this year or just re-evaluating?
- Dylan Ingelse: If we do decide recess was not evaluated properly or is not applicable, then there is the possibility we start it up. But we will be looking into other options that have been brought up earlier in the General Meeting that might be the replacement.
- Edmond Agabekian: Nice that you are open to re-evaluating. The thing is, you already evaluated it, and it is not good to go through with it and re-evaluate without other information. It is a bit weird. Recess is really a nice thing, so email ideas so the Board can talk about it.
- Jimmy van Laere: This talk about recess was also about implementing a first-year committee. I have sort of a committee plan in that regard, like a year now that I have just sent in, just so you know.
- Julia Horsmans: With the current evaluation, did you take into account the lecture times of the first years? Otherwise, do so.
- Dylan Ingelse: We have not, but we will.
- Boaz Emanuels: In regard to Edmond Agabekian, if you came to this conclusion, then why reconsider? Otherwise, first send in ideas. But the feedback from today was very clear, also about hours and food and stuff like that. That should have given enough food for thought. I hope you take that into consideration, not diminishing Edmond Agabekian's point. Do send in your points.
- India Bartelings: Of course, it is not always possible because of classes, but maybe look into it. If you know there is a certain group that cannot come, that is fine, but then target the group that is free and put extra effort into them use you know they are able to attend.
- DOMIANTE 78
- Dylan Ingelse: A lot of committees are engaged and creating nice content and having nice stories to come with it.
- Andrew de Ruiter: How are you handling the semi live point counter?
- Dylan Ingelse: It was a little bit harder to do it than we thought, but we made a schedule to who will update it weekly, and it has been a struggle to put it on the tv, but we figured out a solution for it. But we had some trial and errors but we have some solutions now.

First years

- Dylan Ingelse: The 78th Board has organised the first years event in which we had a few speakers from the student wellbeing point, student psychologist and SRVU. We also had information available from the study advisors. However the event did not go well. Leading up to the event there were little sign ups and on the day itself there were no people. We think this is due to the fact that this event should have been organised earlier in the year in period 1 and not in period 2. We have a good setup now and contacts within the VU, if the 79th Board decides to try it they have a concept plan which we had to form ourselves.
- Boaz Emanuels: Of course I think I am going to state the obvious, it is a pity it was that late. Besides that, how do you feel about what you had planned for the event?
- Dylan Ingelse: For the first part, we had a concept but we did not know how to make it reality and it is very busy at the beginning of the year, so we could not make it. But we have a plan for the next Board. about the event itself, we think it would be very nice because we had a lot of speakers, for example the study advisor could not come but we did get their information. It would have been nice and informational so it is a shame people did not show up.
- Isabel Bartelds: In addition, the speakers we had were very excited that we did an event like this and voiced it was a good idea. So now we have positive relations.
- Boaz Emanuels: Sounds really nice and at the start of the year could be very valuable. Good job for setting it up for next years as well.
- Seliina Grath: This could be a very nice idea and the 79th Board should not refrain to do this again.
- Hadassa Klapwijk: I saw there was an event but did not know what it was about, I live in Amsterdam so I do not really need it for the housing, but it could be helpful for people that do not live here. Maybe it was my fault, but I did not know.
- Isabel Bartelds: Via where did you find out?
- Hadassa Klapwijk: Instagram.
- Julia Horsmans: About the master's event, you already know it is going to happen, when and if yes have you reached out to all the masters yet because they have jobs and this was the problem the 77th Board had. Please reach out to them in time.
- Dylan Ingelse: We know when, it is also on the website and in the year schedule. We have not reached out yet. but we will keep this reminder.
- Seliina Grath: What is the master's event?
- Dylan Ingelse: It is an event for master students.
- Laura Kirin: Please do not forget about the research master students.
- Dylan Ingelse: No we will not forget them.
- PROMOTION
- Dylan Ingelse: No update about this, except second part:
Lecture talks
- Dylan Ingelse: We have done seven lecture talks until now spreading over bachelor and master studies. We plan to do more lecture talks before big events like Ouderdagcie or Career Days also as a promotional boost.
- Julia Horsmans: Is there a poster of the VSPVU merchandise on the slideshow?
- Dylan Ingelse: No not yet.
- Žygimantas Pupelis: Tackling the master students but you have had seven lecture talks, but most of the people you should have gotten them now. Also with Ouderdagcie committee members, you should have gotten them there.
- Dylan Ingelse: It was less then we hoped it also fell through a bit, but we did go to master lectures, first and second years, Mabel van Gent even went outside of lectures to lure people. It did not catch as much attention as we hoped, but we do think it would be very good to have the lecture talks for big events, like Reiscie, Career Days, Masters Event. so we do not think this is a bad thing.
- Žygimantas Pupelis: So you went to master students, how many or what did you visit? Seven is a very small amount at this time of the year.

- Dylan Ingelse: From the top of my head, clinical one, which was weird because I had multiple planned but there were none to be found, I also asked the professor and it was not there. We did two, but I do not remember which other one from the top of my head.
- Žygimantas Pupelis: Are you planning to go back to them?
- Dylan Ingelse: Yes.
- Žygimantas Pupelis: I think you should do it a little bit more because I think they are beneficial
- Dylan Ingelse: We are definitely planning to go back, also to promote Masters Event for example.
- Stephanie Hennekens: Isabel Bartelds, you have a lot of stuff to do, but maybe in line with the attendance, maybe post an aftermovie or collage?
- Dylan Ingelse: Thanks for the suggestion.
- Anaïs van Schalen: Unrelated, but the idea box, did you promote that?
- Dylan Ingelse: Not on instagram but I think we did it with committees and promoted member initiative more this year but it is going to be on Instagram too.
- Anaïs van Schalen: Is there a link on Instagram? I do not care but just to make sure you do not fail your policy plan on this
- Dylan Ingelse: Thank you.
- Andrew de Ruiter: I notice in the budget that the post promotion is gone, I was not there in September, so can you quickly summarize?
- Robyn Bernhard: The post promotion is gone because it was used to print posters and since were showing posters on the tv and promoting more on Instagram we did not see it necessary to still use the money to print posters.
- Andrew de Ruiter: So not something like flyers, handouts, banners, introduction day handouts, where does that come from now?
- Robyn Bernhard: If committees want to flyer, they can use their own budget and for us we focused on sustainability and do not print out that much, therefore I do not see any problem with having no money on promotion and committees are free to do it with their own money.
- Mat Goris: Question about promoting: main mean is Instagram, we also have posters on tv and chats and whatnot, however also from personal experience, for people that do not have social media, how do we do it then?
- Isabel Bartelds: So, good point, we also have canvas page, mostly people that do not have Instagram kind of go more towards educational events and we use canvas to promote big or educational events and we also use LinkedIn to also promote these.
- Mat Goris: Do we have another idea for example on a chalkboard or something? A little bit more in your face, for example tomorrows New Year's Borrel, I heard about it today and happy that I did and happy that I am active, but for people that do not follow us, they might miss events like that.
- Dylan Ingelse: Good suggestion, we will look into it. It is very hard to contact people that do not follow you on social media but we will look into it.
- Esmee Blankers: About the lecture talks, also repeating Žygimantas Pupelis, seven is what you should have done in the first week, also people not having Instagram, First Year Event, Ski Trip signups, you can do a lecture talk for everything, also doing it for everything. 40 more bachelor and 10 more master members should be doable. I think you can win a lot, do it for any event, most lectures are open to do it. I would put emphasis on it for now on.
- Seliina Grath: That is also in relation to lecture talks, the members in the committee they would have to be up for it, but in the week of Barcie/Feestcie just have a quick reminder that its happening, so people will hear about it. But maybe also up for the committee if they would be up for it.
- Anaïs van Schalen: Do you still have physical calendar?
- Dylan Ingelse: Not hung up on the room, but on the tv.
- Anaïs van Schalen: Can I make it?
- Dylan Ingelse: Why not.

- Stephanie Hennekens: Personally, I do not know if people are with me, but I have never heard about there being a canvas page, how are people made aware of it?
- Isabel Bartelds: To be fair, I also did not know there was one until I became Board, so I get where you are coming from, there is some way to sign up to it through canvas, because I know Dylan Ingelse is subscribed to it, but I have to figure it out. Maybe I will have to talk to Anaïs van Schalen and then I can send out a link so people can subscribe via groupchats or something, but I get where you're coming from.
- Melissa Sier: Ask the faculty to post it on canvas.
- Sietse Zanen: I do not know if it is possible, but maybe present linktree via a QR-code in the lecture talks?
- Dylan Ingelse: Good idea.
- Edmond Agabekian: Have you considered investing money on Instagram advertisements to gain members that do not follow us yet, because now you are only reaching people in the VSPVU?
- Julia Horsmans: I have done this and it is shit working with Meta advertisements, because it is a lot of money and you do not gain much, I think there are better ways, if you are willing to pay that much money on advertisements, do it another way.
- Isabel Bartelds: We have been talking during our Boardmeetings about how we can increase visibility outside of our followers, but I do want to emphasise, videos do a lot better and get a lot higher percentage of non-followers, so that is one way we are trying to get non-followers, but we are talking about this.
- Miles van Rossum: I do not have a solution, SVU is structurally different, but we have WhatsApp chats with everyone in it and we think it's the easiest way to reach our members, and I get one chat with all the members is not possible, we have an Instagram as well, people might miss a post, but WhatsApp gets spammed and people have to like ignore to miss it. I think you need to use the active member groupchat more.
- Lisa Dennie: I am wondering, is there a first year groupchat that is made by the VSPVU? If not, why not?
- Dylan Ingelse: It is not possible privacy wise, because we get the numbers through VU, if we would make one, we could do a link where people can enter the group chat if they want to. VU is watching more since Athena used to do this and they have been blacklisted by VU.
- Lisa Dennie: Because when I was in introduction week I was looking to a groupchat and with the MFVU email they send a link to the groupchat and instantly in the introduction week it was filled with first years and these group chats were used to promote by both MFVU and students and it worked very well. Also when you are in the groupchat you know it exists and you will go there more often and you can put links into the biography and stuff.
- Julia Horsmans: Either WhatsApp business account or more for master students, telegram because if you come in the group later, you can see what has happened before that. But maybe look into it even though since it is a long shot.
- Andrew de Ruiter: I was also going to say WhatsApp business, you can also have a digital checkmark where they say they want to join the first year groupchat when applying to become a member. When they see in the email it might be a too high threshold.
- Dylan Ingelse: Do know that a lot of people have that if you do not have their contacts you cannot add them in the groupchat.
- Andrew de Ruiter: It is a good idea, but you still get the message if you would like to be added, and people will rather read their WhatsApp and not email.
- Esmee Blankers: Mention that FSR also have groupchat and they also let you text events and sponsorships there, so use those as well.
- Edmond Agabekian: Discussion about this as well, you could also ask faculty or ask engagement is lowering every year and if it would be okay if the mentors give the mentees a opportunity to engage more via the groupchat.
- Žygimantas Pupelis: I agree with Edmond Agabekian, the faculty I think back in the day used to have a first year group chat and then Athena did it, if you want to do it, do it now and do it fast, because it would then be send out and you need to get a move on otherwise they will cancel it out. Because they already said no, I think they will give you a lot of dicssuccion.

- Andrew de Ruiter: Topic of promotion, specifically calendars, I appreciate having the activity page having updated on the website. Is it possible to add a picture?
- Isabel Bartelds: I tried to do this as much as possible but it is the lowest priority.
- Dylan Ingelse: Otherwise ask Genkgo to turn it off.
- Stephanie Hennekens: Would it be an idea to use tv for bigger events like Congrescie or Feestcie, maybe it could help with attendance, like the tv's in Main Building, the screens.
- Dylan Ingelse: We can try.
- Esmee Blankers: There is a lot of rules and regulations, it is very difficult to get something through.
- Lisa Dennie: About the faculty groupchat, of course you can also use that groupchat but for my year there is hardly anyone in it, then you would have to promote that more as well. I think they want to be in the groupchat but they do not know it is their. I wish a groupchat separate from like Athena or SlimAcademy would have been used more.
- Miles van Rossum: About WhatsApp, also different study and our study association work really closely and it is very different but we have fewer people. We use WhatsApp communities, we have first year, second and third years and events and people can join these groups. It is not used that much, but everyone can use it. Having the group study wise and socially is very nice. They promote it during introduction week and it sounds really nice and worked very nice for us.
- Žygimantas Pupelis: As well, go to faculty, I think FSR is creating the groupchat, which I think is stupid and unfair, because I think FSR is only creating psychology chats. Try to take over.
- Seliina Grath: In regards to WhatsApp, make use of what is already there. Everyone attends introduction week, send it in the mentorchat if they want to forward it.
- Edmond Agabekian: I like the idea of the WhatsApp community because you will be able to post all the events, people will be more open to ask questions, you know people are interested when they join the chat. So look into it.
- Dylan Ingelse:
HEALTH AND SAFETY
SUSTAINIBILITY
- Boaz Emanuels: Do you already have a concrete idea, are you working on it?
- Dylan Ingelse: Not yet.
- Stephanie Hennekens: I once heard about doing the birthday cards via email.
- Dylan Ingelse: We decided not to do it because it is not personal and we do want to show appreciation, we do not send them over post so we give them in person which is better for the environment.
- Julia Horsmans: How is it going with statiegeldbin? And what is the purpose of the money?
- Robyn Bernhard: Statiegeld is kind of shitty, it is nice that it is there, but it stinks, is disgusting to clean and the worst, we have to figure something else out. Statiegeld money is going to mini-events.
- Miles van Rossum: I want to get a clear idea of the Board, because of the Feestcie. We print copies here and we send out cards, but we cannot use a party popper.
- Dylan Ingelse: As much as possible but we do think there is a line we have to draw, especially pertaining to certain things. for example we have someone from Kasco here and they want to make notes instead of having it digitally, so to have a few physical copies available is nice so that we do not miss anything. Pertaining the cards, it was a discussion but we think it is better than cards because as we just said, people do not read emails.
- Anaïs van Schalen: I understand the comment, I think it is important to see where we come from, the 77th Board started being sustainable and we used to send the cards via post and paper plates and that is all out the window now, so I think that is important. I get that if you are in a committee you sometimes do not understand that it is a bit more complex.
- Boaz Emanuels: With the cards and the copies is nice, but the thing is I feel like Miles van Rossum is touching a point that is broader, is the sustainability policy absolutely clear, is everything entailed? I brought it up during General Board Meetings, if we would fly by plane for example, so okay we can fly but we cannot send post anymore. Is it fair in all regards, do you catch my trip?

- Dylan Ingelse: We get where you are coming from, but I do not think we have time to get into detail at this moment, we can look into this and also the 79th Board to make it more specific, however I do not think this should be discussed now so in detail.
- Boaz Emanuels: Can we expect more clarity on this before the next General Meeting?
- Edmond Agabekian: I think we rushed over the cards, I think a personal card is better, but it happens to be today that only active members are in this room and you are forgetting about them. And you could send the non active members a card as well via email.
- Stephanie Hennekens: Talking about addressing all members, so sending them all a birthday card and not just active members.
- Dylan Ingelse: We can look into it, but we do have to look into all kinds of things first, so no definitive answer on that.
- Žygimantas Pupelis: Answer to Boaz Emanuels, there is two previous Board members, so ask them the questions and the sustainability plan if I am correct we will look into the options, for example taking a plane but you will look into booking a bus, if plane is cheaper we will choose this because we are broke students. I think the Board should decide for themselves to do it digital or handed out in person, there is limited and these are not stated, so I think it is nice for coming Boards or coming General Meeting how is your sustainability plan.
- Boaz Emanuels: Brief response, I could ask them but you adopted the whole statement, so I feel like I should be addressing you. Second, the thing is still very subjective, if you want to decorate, now it says look into the options, if you cannot do it for a fair price, you can do it for a different thing. For example we could not do balloons but there is no good replacement, but then we still could not use balloons. It might be time to reassess.
- Dylan Ingelse: Most important things have been said, we are going in circles now.
- Julia Horsmans: Just to be clear, policy plan that the 77th Board had, is different than what is stated here, so makes it clear that the Feestcies are different, we did not allow single use plastic, so 100% cutoff at balloons.
- POLICY CONTINUATION
- Andrew de Ruiter: Tip for the next newsletter, now it was a mail with issue one and pdf, maybe more useful to put it in the mail itself, otherwise I do not think people will read it.
- Boaz Emanuels: The budget for the committee 10 is March first.
- Žygimantas Pupelis: Why is the promotion with committee 10 so late? The deadline is in two months, or will you have committees doing it in the last few days? Why did not you promote earlier.
- Dylan Ingelse: We did it mouth to mouth, we made it a point during the first meetings that they could and should use it.
- Žygimantas Pupelis: Do you see a problem with telling them so soon, so they forget about it? Now use it for the chairs and do not do it in the last week.
- Edmond Agabekian: Nice to tell the committees at the start and I do get Žygimantas Pupelis's point, maybe put it in the agenda for the General Board Meeting. Nice thing to talk about it.
- Anais van Schalen: I do not think it is bad committees do it at the last minute, a lot of committees do it anyways, you can also send an extra chat in the groupchat but this is chairs responsibility.
- Julia Horsmans: Maybe very simple, one time solution, send a chat in the groupchat, snooze or lose or whatever.
- MEMBER OPINION
- STUDY SESSIONS
- Dylan Ingelse: We got suggestions for example QR-code so we can bring snacks and drinks.
- Andrew de Ruiter: Do a collaboration with university about this, so you can join with them.
- Stephanie Hennekens: If you do decide to continue recess. Member opinion could be a good idea.
- Rohit Soebdhan: Will you start the QR-codes during these study sessions?
- Dylan Ingelse: We will try to do this as soon as possible.
- Rohit Soebdhan: At the last ones there were no snacks.
- Dylan Ingelse: Snacks were being stolen, so we did not leave them unattended anymore.

- FAQ & MEMBER INITIATIVE
- Anaïs van Schalen: there is seven questions in the F.A.Q., you cannot come up with more than seven questions to go in there? You mean it was not a priority.
- Andrew de Ruiter: I wanted to suggest if you do not have the inspiration, host an Instagram thing and then add the answers the best questions.

7. Update on Financial statement

- Dylan Ingelse: Robyn Bernhard will now present the 78th Boards financial statement.
- Robyn Bernhard: This is the financial statement of January. The financial statement shows the results up until now. The budgeted results are what I expected that would happen at the beginning of the year. The virtual results are what we think would come in at the end of the year. And the current results are the results up until now.

Income

In income vu bookstore will come in at the end of the year. Membership still needs to have the yearly contribution added at the end of January so I will expect that we will get to our target. Faculty we are working on. Bavaria will come in later. Sponsorship we got 45€ so far. And bank account interest got in for the first 5 months and the rest will come in at the end of the year. So we will hit the target.

Board activities

Active Member Day is closed and we used less than expected. Active Member Weekend nothing happened yet. Constitution drink is closed since we had the event in September. Transaction weekend no update. Mini-event we got the rest from the 77th Board and a lot of kegs are still in storage. Board drinks we had one borrel and we provided a welcome shot.

- Miles van Rossum: From membership, you have not done the contribution yet, you know which members have not paid right?
- Robyn Bernhard: I can make a rough calculation with which I think we will make the 8000 euros and there are always people who are not going to pay.
- Miles van Rossum: About sponsorship, is there a plan or anything?
- Anne Bruggink: Of course I expected this question. I can give a very detailed explanation, but short one first. There are a lot of collaborations that work with commission and the thing is that you will be paid at the end of the year. Taking over from last year, they lost their external. They did great with their sponsorships. Taking over was rough, there is one contract that continued, other companies contact or relation got last or did not get transferred, so the past couple months I have been working on rebuilding old and new connections, so last couple months I have been setting out lines and know it feels like I am getting there. It is low now, I am also not sure we will not make it, my biggest problem is with the partnerships, they are bigger collaborations and give more money. These companies are mostly educational and the VU has forbidden, we can only do vacancies, but tutoring, guidance, summaries in academic form is forbidden, so this has been a big struggle company wise. If you need more details, just ask.
- Miles van Rossum: Do you have an idea you have in commission so much, or do you find out at the end of the year?
- Anne Bruggink: The one we got from last year, is commission based, we have not send out their promotion yet, so I do not know yet, because they have not gotten anything yet. They will update me. This also happens with other companies. Promotion has not happened yet, so for now it is at 0, but I know it will get higher, but no estimate yet.
- Edmond Agabekian: I think this can be very long discussion and I want to ask you, you prepared something for questions. Would you rather think about it before or do you want to get a lot of questions. You should be open about it.
- Anne Bruggink: What I just said is the broader details. I cannot get you all the information because it is confidential.

- Esmee Blankers: For Aethon, I think that is the company you were talking about, usually it is not just commission based but also a set amount of money, and why has not it been posted yet, otherwise you also cannot make your commission either?
- Anne Bruggink: This is detailed about Aethon, their contact person switched and they have not delivered yet, so that is why it is not posted yet. It will come soon. We do not get set amount of money from them, not in the contract. I contacted them and now we have set up a meeting.
- Esmee Blankers: I was wondering what sponsorships you are focussing on, partnerships is also very difficult, I think we also had a lot of small deals, because the opportunities for partnerships are slim, what are you focussing on?
- Anne Bruggink: The last couple months I was creating an overview for myself and new Boards, I collected all of the past relations we had especially if they were good ones. I was looking into other associations and what they promoted. I have got an overview and started to contact them, vacancies and mall companies. I have contacted like twenty companies, not everyone replies so I send out a follow up. Sometimes it helps, sometimes it does not, but setting out the connections is what I did and the overview is what I did, so now I am keeping up the overview and making sure I emailed all of them and I am looking for more. Also that all the contacts from this year will be transferred and the format for the companies is also for the next year. I do not know how to explain the overview. I also have in their the amounts we expect and get. Easier to find the contact information, so I was in doubt if I could just send out emails, I can respond and write something down, but I decided to invest a lot of time into creating an overview that I can keep up, so the next years have it easier. Maybe this is a reason for it being lower at the moment.
- Esmee Blankers: I think it is great to work on an overview, but make sure you need to make the money as well. For now it does not sound like you have not been doing so much contacting, we have also made an overview with at least 50 sponsors in there. I hope now you have the overview, you can start actually contacting them.
- Anne Bruggink: Yes and no, a lot of them I already contacted, I am in contact with some companies that want to work with us, but I have to work around the VU rules, I have to fix the contract, then holidays and all of that. People are very slow with responding, but yes thank you. I am in contact with a lot of them, but I will do so the next few weeks.
- Esmee Blankers: Maybe try to focus on vacancies, from our experience it is allowed and the easiest and most beneficial for companies.
- Anne Bruggink: Also what I meant with working around.
- Stephanie Hennekens: Curious, do you get commission on the discount codes?
- Anne Bruggink: One yes, the others no. It would be my advice for the next Board, to have commission for the discount codes.
- Julia Horsmans: Have you used the sponsorsheet that the 77th Board made? Otherwise you would be reinventing the wheel.
- Anne Bruggink: Yes but it is very different.
- Andrew de Ruiter: Regarding sponsorship, is partners website on VSPVU website updated? There are no logo's whatsoever.
- Anne Bruggink: It is not updated, some of them are on commission or some are related to VU, so we will look at it. I cannot give you an answer right now.
- Andrew de Ruiter: Will you put the companies you get discount from there as well?
- Anne Bruggink: We could, but it takes away the paying for it, we only get a discount and we do not get money, other companies pay money to be there. So that is why I would do what I just said to Stephanie Hennekens because it cost me a lot of time, if i would do it again, I would try to get money and get a discount code.
- Andrew de Ruiter: What are the Boards plan for friends of the VSPVU, the only example thats their is the Ski trip, the other things are from five or six years ago.
- Anne Bruggink: We need to update it, so we will take a look at it.
- Anaïs van Schalen: Do you have any idea what to do with the bank account interest?

- Robyn Bernhard: I might use it to better the events, like do another mini-event or put it in the Active Member Weekend.
- Anaïs van Schalen: Why is the Active Member Day closed, you have 315 euros that you still have to move to Active Member Weekend right?
- Robyn Bernhard: It is closed because everything is paid and it is reimbursed.
- Anaïs van Schalen: Do we not need to vote it in?
- Robyn Bernhard: No underneath 500 euros I can move it.
- Žygimantas Pupelis: The sponsorship money is very low, Simon Westhoff got a lot of shit, but he is very different, I think he got 70 euros at this point. I know you have been busy with a lot of things, it is impossible to meet the goal without the help of other Board members. it looks unreachable, usually before the end of the year companies are throwing out money to close the financial year, now you have to focus on this because it looks a bit sad.
- Anne Bruggink: I do not need to reply to it, agreed, it does look a bit sad and yes I am and will start contacting more companies.
- Julia Horsmans: Did you change anything about the sponsorpackages?
- Anne Bruggink: Some prices are more expensive, we do not use FaceBook anymore, we added TikTok. I made a new package and when I send the email I always say the prices can be changed and the package can be changed per company which I have also been doing already.
- Julia Horsmans: 1-10 how sure are you to reach the goal?
- Anne Bruggink: Hard question, to be honest I do not know if I can answer it, because the last couple months have not been representative, since it was setting out lines. I would say I do not know if a number is the best way to go about it and like to say if I can get it, to be honest I do not feel like I will not make it at all, but I am concerned to the point where I am prioritizing this, I do not know if this answers your question good enough. but it is too unsure.
- Edmond Agabekian: Before I go on, I see about the Active Member Day, Active Member Weekend and Constitutional Borrel is closed and money went to the total, so lateron there is a list and the total is 360 euros, so the money is not reallocated yet, if you do not it will end up their at the end of the year. It is closed, now we are in the plus but the money should go somewhere else. Another thing, I asked what the numbers were about the member investment, now we see the numbers, youre spening 3000 euros now and we have to see how much you got back from membership with discount, it will be much lower, we have to see how many every member invests during the year to make up for the 3000 euros. But we will talk about this later.
- Miles van Rossum: I see mini events is down 1500 euros and not budgeted.
- Robyn Bernhard: It is this big because we got a lot of kegs because of the 77th Board and we have a lot ourselves, so storage is full of kegs and drinks.
- Žygimantas Pupelis: Coming back to sponsorship, I think if Anne is not sure, should not we vote in a new budget?
- Robyn Bernhard: I want to do it next General Meeting, since there are also other posts I want to change,
- Miles van Rossum: What is emballage?
- Robyn Bernhard: Deposit, empty kegs etc.

Committee

Actie had their first event and spend 19,65€ of their budget. Barcie had their first event and made a profit of almost 200€ but some things have to be reimbursed still so the profit will probably be around 150€. Chronicles no update. Feestcie will have their event on Thursday so nothing is reimbursed yet and tickets have been sold therefore they have a profit for now. Illusie got their faculty money, just like opcie and ouderdagcie. Lex had their first event and spend 12,47€ of their budget. Pedcie, Reiscie and wintersportcie no updates yet. Flexible committee budget no one has asked for it yet.

- Edmond Agabekian: We discussed it earlier about Barcie making profit and this amount will rise and will be 500/600 euros. Towards other committees I do not think it would be fair to put it back in Barcie, i think it should be spread over all the committees.

- Robyn Bernhard: Good point
- Andrew de Ruiter: Feestcie: how many tickets did you sell and what did you expect?
- Robyn Bernhard: This was processed before the event, so the amount would be higher.
- Anne Bruggink: we sold 67 tickets and we budgeted for 40 tickets.
- Robyn Bernhard: Member tickets were 2,50 euros and non-member tickets (28) 4.00 euros.
- Andrew de Ruiter: Now for Mat Goris then, why was it determined to have to ticket price so low?
- Mat Goris: The party was not exclusive the whole night, just from 21:00 to 23:00, that is why we wanted a lower price, if you only have 2 hours exclusive.
- Miles van Rossum: I do think we could have done a little bit more, we did have discounted drinks from 21:00 to 04:00. We could have gone higher. Because we did not have to pay anything for the venue, it is easier to get everyone in.
- Anne Bruggink: Our costs were not that high, so we did not need to ask a lot, we did ask more then needed because of the gala. Which is where everything is going to go to. It is the first party during the 78th Board, attendance is not always amazing at events and the lower tickets prices are, the more chances people are buying, this is also something we kept in mind.
- Andrew de Ruiter: I do think as Feestcie you need to put a statement like this is the price and this is what we give you, because I think for 2,50 euros you gain nothing if I can also go the next day when it is free.
- Anne Bruggink: We did make very clear that you get discounts, 50% off on beer and stels and a free shot, that is what you get for your ticket. I do not know what you mean, I think you think making it higher would be better.
- Andrew de Ruiter: Now the venue does not have a renting price, if you have a party for 7,50 euros, it would feel more exclusive to go there, especially when it is exclusive.
- Mat Goris: We did not make prices higher because of exclusivity, we did look into other locations, but we do have to evaluate within the committee. All the places were to expensive for Feestcie #1 but would be nice for gala. That is why 't Lammetje was the best place right now.
- Edmond Agabekian: I think we discussed during the General Board Meeting as well, I think it was nice to have it low cost and not having it exclusive, the attendance has declined over the years so I think it was a safe and nice option. You can evaluate. would it still be a succes if the party was exclusive or not.
- Anne Bruggink: Add to Edmond Agabekian, in theory it was until 23:00, that was when we opened the doors. People do not go out at 23:00 or 00:00, and some people showed up at 01:00, so it was basically exclusive. In practice it was exclusive but not in theory.
- Andrew de Ruiter: How did you handle the discount on the drinks?
- Mat Goris: Stamps.
- Žygimantas Pupelis: Regarding Opcie, why is it 1500 euros?
- Robyn Bernhard: The money will be used for catering and gifts for the speakers and goodies for the people that come.
- Žygimantas Pupelis: I do not know the plan of the Opcie, but usually it is a bunch of career people in the rooms tell students what they do and what they did. I do not know what kind of goodiebags they are gifting the people that come but that is going to be nice.
- Robyn Bernhard: What do you want to suggest? We get it from faculty, so we cannot reallocate it, its for a specific post. They value the Career Days highly.
- Žygimantas Pupelis: If you do not know how to spend the money, go to them and ask what they want us to spend it on. If the money is not spend, where does it go?
- Edmond Agabekian: Find a way to spend it, if you do not, they will give you less money next year.
- Dylan Ingelse: We will talk about this with faculty.
- Anaïs van Schalen: Did you budget less for Barcie then the 77th Board did? Since last year you also made a profit?
- Robyn Bernhard: I just thought about it, sorry. Maybe next year I think they do not need any budget.
- Anaïs van Schalen: What is the Reiscie using their money for?
- Robyn Bernhard: For the accommodation, bus, activities and food.

- Anais van Schalen: You said nothing happened there yet?
- Robyn Bernhard: They did, but only today.
- Rohit Soebdhan: Talking about LEX, that minus 12,47 means we made a loss, we made a profit of 12,53 cents.
- Robyn Bernhard: You budgeted for 25 euros to be spend, but you only spend 12,47 euros.
- Edmond Agabekian: About the flex committee budget, is there shown any interest from committees?
- Robyn Bernhard: Yes, but no real plan yet.
- Edmond Agabekian: Maybe check with the committees, if it is less than 500 euros, maybe you can reallocate.
- Žygimantas Pupelis: Last year, towards the end of the year, why is Reiscie getting more money than Wintersportcie and for Reiscie we are reimbursing a lot and Wintersportcie does not get that.
- Robyn Bernhard: Because Reiscie is planning everything themselves. The only cost Wintersportcie has is the hoodies and the parties so they have less costs then Reiscie because everything goes through Totally.
- Žygimantas Pupelis: If Reiscie books the company through a travelling agency, this would be the same?
- Robyn Bernhard: Yes because then the members would pay the travelling agency and the Reiscie will only pay the activities and parties.

Board expenses

General Meeting no costs yet since the dinner of this General Meeting is not reimbursed yet. General Board Meeting we had three General Board Meetings yet and provided snacks and a drink every time. External relations we went to a couple of constitution borrels from other associations and gave them a gift. External gifts and Board reimbursement nothing happened yet. Porto/print/board we reimbursed our Board suits, and printed cards and stickers. Home & office we spend 21,23 euros so far. Fixed costs we spend 1045,50 euros already.

Investments

Investments no updates other than that we spend 45,52 euros on transaction costs.

- Žygimantas Pupelis: The 77th Board had the buying for the room thing, do you have plans?
- Robyn Bernhard: We have some, but have not done anything yet.
- Žygimantas Pupelis: Do it now to invest for yourself instead of doing it for another year.
- Andrew de Ruiter: Still get reimbursed for Board outfits, what post is that?
- Robyn Bernhard: Portoprint, and we all did it.
- Boaz Emanuels: External gifts is often for other Boards or?
- Robyn Bernhard: External relations is for constitution borrels, external gifts is companies or other people we want to express gratitude.
- Boaz Emanuels: A lot of constitution borrels already took place right?
- Robyn Bernhard: There will be more constitution borrels and if we have a lot left we will reallocate it.
- Anais van Schalen: Why is it that your budgeted result for porto is 0 euros?
- Robyn Bernhard: Because we expect to spend it all, because we get it from faculty.
- Miles van Rossum: Transaction costs, they come throughout the year right? Why did you budget so high when it is so low?
- Robyn Bernhard: We expected people came to more events.

Active Member Rewards

No updates other than that active member hoodies have been distributed and paid. The incasso has gone out but has not been processed yet.

- Andrew de Ruiter: What do you expect to close with for active member clothing?
- Robyn Bernhard: We spend less than 1000 euros.
- Andrew de Ruiter: Like what range?
- Robyn Bernhard: Probably 800 euros.

8. Idea box

- Dylan Ingelse: We will now present the idea box.

- Mabel: We have three ideas: a Barcie where people can bring their parents, Movienight: the human centipede, Different type of coffee beans for the cool new coffee machine please.
- Stephanie Hennekens: Is barcie allowed to do this considering Parent's Day?
- Dylan Ingelse: We will discuss.
- Andrew de Ruiter: Quickly since Barcies make a profit and people want different kind of coffee, can you not make a coffeobarcie?
- Miles van Rossum: For the Barcie, we charge a bit extra for shots and everything, can we make like beers cheaper so we can make other drinks cheaper.
- Robyn Bernhard: We cannot do that because you have to do it for every event and not every event gets so well attended as a Barcie.
- Žygimantas Pupelis: What if you at the end of the year take all of the money Barcie stands for excessive drinking, so you reduce the next years beer prices. Currently VSPVU has the most expensive beer from the entire assoiactions.
- Robyn Bernhard: I can think about it. But VIB for example makes a loss on their beers.
- Žygimantas Pupelis: Check into moving kegs into cans.
- Dylan Ingelse: We will consider.

9. Important dates

1. January 20 - 24	Study sessions
2. January 22th	Mini event: pre exam pancakes
3. February 6th	Information Candidate Board
4. February 20th	Board event
5. March 5th	GM #3

- Žygimantas Pupelis: what is the Board event?
- Dylan Ingelse: Still has to be determined.
- Edmond Agabekian: I heard rumours about Board bar that something might change, do you want to give some information?
- Robyn Bernhard: I have some info, we do not drink enough, so no new bar.
- Žygimantas Pupelis: Has the Board looked into portable mini bar? So we can have it in storage. There is no point having the bar there.
- Robyn Bernhard: Selling the bar makes it shitty because we do not get money from cans.
- Žygimantas Pupelis: It looks like you are not drinking it anyway, why do not we get a small one, get a larger couch so we can get a larger space. For the last three months I do not think people got served from the keg during a not Barcie event.
- Robyn Bernhard: So you suggest a portable bar then?
- Žygimantas Pupelis: Yes, you also do not have the mess from the bar and the leakage.
- Boaz Emanuels: Regarding members, in the financial statement said it would be 8000 euros, so no issues in that regard, are there any consequences to not reaching the membercount or are we going to be fine?
- Žygimantas Pupelis: It is from the 77th Board, no repercussions for the association now, the 77th Board came in with additional money, does not work, we went from 300 members a year to nearly 200 members a year, with the reducing cost it does not work.
- Dylan Ingelse: That is an opinion. As to member count, we have seen a decrease, especially from when the study went numerous fixus, so we have a smaller pool for members. For this year we did see an increase in membership during introduction week, a lot more people signed up, burger bash discount and Barcie, but it was hard to keep up. We do have more members than average right now, and we did not know what to expect from the 77th Boards investment, it is still not below average in comparison to last years, it is not bad if we do not reach our goal.
- Žygimantas Pupelis: So bottom plan you will evaluate. Is the trial membership time ended?
- Dylan Ingelse: A long time ago.
- Žygimantas Pupelis: How could you say it worked, because it did not exceed the member count?

- Esmee Blankers: I think saying it did not work is not fine, because last year at this point we had 160 bachelor members and now they have nearly 200 bachelor members, so I think it did work.
10. A.O.B.
11. Questions or Comments
- Edmond Agabekian: Some people are gone already, but it is nice so many people attended and participated in discussions, and really prioritize the WhatsApp community.
 - Miles van Rossum: Same about the WhatsApp community, for the member count especially, it is really good.
 - Žygimantas Pupelis: Good job guys.
 - Anaïs van Schalen: When I gave the speech about you are the association, this is what I meant so good job, this is what the association needs.
 - Andrew de Ruiter: Good job Board.
 - Anne Bruggink: Thank you for coming!
12. Closing
- Dylan Ingelse closes the meeting at 23:42.