General Assembly 24

Amsterdam, May 19th, 2016

**Present:** see GA book.

**1. Opening of the 24th General Assembly**

Floris opens the GA. He thanks everybody for coming, he thanks the candidates for running, and explains the voting procedure.

**2. Sequential ordering of the agenda**

Floris asks if there is anybody that would like to vote on the agenda. Vincent Nooteboom would like to vote on the agenda, and he proposes to have the recommendations of the next board be told before the personal statements.

Q3: Tim Alpherts asks why Vincent would like to do this?

A3: Vincent says that it would be less about the proposed board and more about the individual candidates this way.

We proceed to voting on the motion: ten people vote in favour of this motion. Seeing as this is a clear minority, the motion is not passed by the GA.

Q4: Bram Jaarsma asks why we are not discussing the UCSRN Policy Manual during the break, since it does not take that long.

A4: Stefanie says it’s a small bit on the policy manual so it won’t take long, therefore we might as well do it beforehand.

**3. Advisory council**

Floris thanks the Advisory Council for all their work this past year. He proposes the next Advisory Council consists of Maarten Alberts, Sezgi Iyibilir, Steffan Oberman, and Stefanie Berendsen; Maarten because he shown commitment and interest in both AUCafé and the AUCSA, and would provide a useful and fresh perspective. The GA approves this board.

 **4. Honorary Members**

The Board would like to propose two Honorary Members for their outstanding service and contribution to the AUCSA over the past three years. Job Zegers for his dedication to the AUCSA as a whole, and his role in setting up and maintaining the PlayUC Committee. Furthermore, the Board proposes Jan Willem Bruggeman as Honorary Member for his work regarding the financial administration of the AUCSA, both as a former treasurer, and as Audit Commission. Finally, Floris gives the floor to Jan Willem because he has a proposal for two additional honorary members: Stefanie Berendsen and Esther Baar. He proceeds to hand in a proposal to the Secretary (Tim) with 89 signatures, more than 10 percent of the members. Tim verifies the signatures and therefore this proposal has been accepted. All Honorary Members are approved by the GA

**5. The Audit Commission**

Floris thanks the Audit Commission for their hard work and help this year, and gives the floor to Jan Willem, Anouk, and Andy.

**6. Advice from the Audit Commission**

The Audit Committee takes the floor and Jan Willem proceeds to explain the role of the Audit Commission. After this he gives several advices regarding the AUCSA Finances. The commission advises to:

* Install a financial working group. Regarding the controversy around Lustrum, this working group would strive to improve the transparency of the association.
* Increase the association’s savings. Due to extra income from the increased membership fee, the Audit Commission recommends the AUCSA to increase their annual savings.
* Increase the role and involvement of the Audit Commission. Anouk explains that the Audit Commission could be more involved in AUCSA Finances, which would relieve some stress from the treasurer.
* Uphold a quarterly audit.
* Extend the office of treasurer. The Audit Commission would like to see an extension of the office of treasurer, through a Vice-Treasurer.
* Pay tax. The Audit would like to stress again that the AUCSA is subject to taxes. The Audit is very happy that the current Board has already taken this into account, but would like to stress it again.

Q5: Sofija asks who appoints the Audit Commission?

A5: Floris answers and says they are appointed by the AUCSA Board.

Q6: Sofija asks if the AUCSA can save, since she thought that all the money needs to be spend on the members?

A6: Jan-Willem answers and says that the 55 euros per person per year should be spent. But as an organization it is important to allocate some of the money to savings because it’s a growing association, they need to have money saved for in case something happens. 5 percent of the membership fee should go into the savings account each year, which will allow the savings to accumulate over time. This allows for bigger events to happen in the future.

Q7: Vincent asks what the new percentage of savings will be?

A7: Jan-Willem says that right now it is 5% and it is not cumulative but he wants it to be cumulative soon.

Q8: Tanushree asks if the savings would serve the same way as unforeseen costs?

A8: Jan-Willem says the unforeseen costs are budgeted for at the beginning of the year. But if something big would happen, such as broken windows, then that would have to come from the savings. The savings should be a buffer, also for bigger events.

**7. The new Audit Commission**

Floris proposes that the new Audit Commission will consist of Anouk Ide, Jasper Meijer, and Tim Moolhuijsen and mentions that there still remains a vacancy for the Audit Commission.

Q9: Ivan asks how intensive this position is, since Tim is going abroad.

A9: Floris says it’s a bi-annual review of the financials and there will be a transition of the non-tax organization we have now to a tax-system. So the bulk will be in October and February.

The GA approves of this Board.

**8. UCSRN Policy Manual**

Stefanie introduces the UCSRN Policy Manual and explains what the UCSRN is. She briefly outlines what the Policy Manual entails. She mentions that she included a part of the AUCSA Policy Manual in the UCSRN Policy Manual. Stefanie adds that we technically do not have to vote on this policy manual, however, the Board thought that it would be correct to present it.

Q10: Sofija asks where she could have seen this policy manual?

A10: Stefanie answers that it has been sent twice.

Q11: Sofija asks if this could be posted to the myauc website?

A11: Stefanie says that we could put the criteria on the myauc website.

**9. Personal Statements**

All the candidates give their personal statements.

Q12: Tara asks what Josh would like to achieve by selling more tickets?

A12: Josh says that if we sell tickets online it is more accessible, also more visibility for the events.

Q13: Ivan asks what Josh’s vision for AUCSA is?

A13: Josh says he’d like to promote working groups and anonymous fora for people to be able to have a voice and feel they are being taken seriously. He says there is not a single vision for aucsa, it needs to get this diverse community together and people need to speak to each other and build on each other’s ideas.

Q14: Tim asks how Lance wants to centralize all the promotion.

A14: Lance says there is a place on the myauc website for opportunities. He wants to put everything on the site.

Q15: Job asks whether Lance plans to continue his involvement with committees?

A15: Lance answers that before he ran for chair of aucsa he asked other committee chairs what their experiences were. Lance want to have working groups and listening to feedback, so yes he will continue his involvement.

Q16: Amelie asks how Lance plans to make GA’s more democratic?

A16: Lance answers that the point is that people feel they are connected to the aucsa boar, that is what he wants to increase. He references Jesus washing people’s feet.

Q17: Lance asks how Rens tackled the problems with the last Dormsessions event?

A17: Rens says that what he did immediately was contact AUCSA and his team to find a date when to discuss the issues at hand. He then met with Dormsessions to ensure their event could still go on.

Q18: Vincent asks what actual tangible solutions to the efficiency of the Board Rens has?

A18: Rens says that he wants more CAO involvement in the committees and more first year involvement with the committees.

Bram motions to prohibit candidates that are running for the same position to ask each other questions. Debate ensues, and Daria asks if this is even allowed according to the statutes. Stefanie suggests that we reject this motion and stresses that we try and keep it as nice and professional as possible. The GA agrees with this.

Q19: Aram asks if it would not be wise to remain committed to AUCafé, since Rens has only been part of it three months.

A19: Rens says that he feels he has learnt from Maarten Albers and that he could provide sustainability for the committee but that he could also be the chair of AUCSA and have someone else be chair of AUCafé.

Q20: Tanushree asks more elaboration regarding Ankie’s statement.

A20: Ankie stresses that fighting for your own opinion within the AUCSA board is not always the smartest thing as you should listen to others.

Q21: Luuk asks how Ankie wants to combine both getting a cooperating team together and at the same time represent all students?

A21: Ankie says she was trying to stress that you have to have the same working vision in the board, not per se the same idea’s about everything.

Q22: Jerome asks what it is, that sets Lasse apart as secretary?

A22: Lasse says aside from his previous experience he wants to integrate more into Amsterdam and show the schools talents to the city and collaborate more with student organizations.

Q23: Storm asks that there have been incidents with people trying to trick others into switching positions, and if Lasse has anything to comment about this?

A23: Maria says that the elections committee recommends a position for someone. That’s not always what you want but it is what the committee thinks is best. She mentions that this is probably what Storm is referring to, but that there has been no incident where people have been trying to trick others in to switching positions.

Q24: Yaron asks what the difference is between Liselotte’s planned app and the weekly?

A24: Liselotte says that the weekly is good, however, one doesn’t really look at that. An app would really encourage people to actually look at it.

Q25: Sezgi asks Liselotte why she only focuses on the chair’s vision in her statement, and not on the vision of the rest of the Board?

A25: Liselotte says it’s not just the vision of the chair but she wants to challenge the chair’s vision and see what’s possible.

Q26: Maxime asks how Andy would increase interest for finances rather than transparency?

A26: Andy answers that transparency is not only that it’s out there but it has to be easily accessible with short videos to explain everything. This way he wants to make it interesting.

Q27: Job asks how Andy would solve problems like the lustrum

A27: Andy says that he wants to introduce a proposed platform to discuss things like the Lustrum. With the platform there will be a better place for everyone to voice their opinion.

Q28: Tanushree asks if the logo’s that were on Beau’s shirt were logo’s from big companies, and if those are the same kind of companies as he is planning to approach regarding acquisitions?

A28: Beau says that the sponsors were big companies but that we are being sponsored by big companies at the moment and that it would be worth the money.

Q29: Job asks if Gordon has any plans or ideas regarding overlapping committee events?

A29: Gordon answers that he wants to increase the cooperation between the committees to increase interests with them. The calendar will help keeping events from overlapping.

Q30: Tom asks why half of Ilen’s speech was Katy Perry lyrics, and if he has anything else to add?

A30: Ilen answers by saying that for those who attended the debate, it was there where he already explained his vision, but he wants to especially focus on communication between the committees and the board.

Q31: Andy asks why Muzi used Donald Trump has an attention grabber, since he is such a controversial person?

A31: Muzi says he used the controversial leader to catch your attention, but he does not agree with him.

Q32: Job asks if Thomas has learned anything from his somewhat controversial experience in the UCSRN Tournament last year?

A33: Thomas answers that he has experience and that he has had lots of feedback. What they did is condense the committees to make sure the event would be a success.

Q33: Tanushree asks what kind of activities would be put in the second newsletter, and how Joris would manage the amount of information from activities available from outside of Amsterdam.

A33: Joris answers it would be a lot of work to do everything by himself. Which is why he wants to have platform where people can upload things themselves so that there are things all people find interesting.

**10. Election Committee**

The EC presents what they have worked on throughout the elections period. The EC exists because it installs a low threshold for applicants, thus forcing them to carefully consider their application; for AUCSA members it exists because it provides a useful inside perspective into the candidates; and for the candidates again because they receive advise about their position. They looked at general board member as well as position specific characteristics and based their proposed board on this, as well as on a letter of motivation, an extensive interview, and several other characteristics. They propose Lance Bosch, Liselotte van Balen, André Daab, Petra Stangvik, Ilen Madhavji, and Gordon Lucas as the new AUCSA Board.

The EC proceeds to list why they have chosen for these specific individual Board members, however they are interrupted by a motion. Daria motions to not mention the specific positive characteristics of the proposed board members, because that gives an unfair advantage to the proposed Board.

We proceed to vote on this motion:

45 people in favour, 73 against, 20 abstain.

9 proxies in favour, 26 against, 14 abstain.

The EC finishes explaining why they have chosen the different members of the proposed board, and we proceed to voting.

**11. Voting**

| **Chair** | **Number of votes** |
| --- | --- |
| Josh van der Kroft | 47 |
| Lance Bosch | 134 |
| Rens Visser | 60 |
| **Secretary** |  |
| Ankie van Dijk | 16 |
| Lasse Rogie | 124 |
| Liselotte van Balen | 97 |
| **Treasurer** |  |
| André Daab | 205 |
| Beau Furnée | 31 |
| **CAO** |  |
| Gordon Lucas | 117 |
| Heleen Vos | 87 |
| Ilen Madhavji | 134 |
| Joris van Schie | 43 |
| Muzi Ndweni | 100 |
| Petra Stangvik | 155 |
| Tara Elsen | 16 |
| Thomas Litan | **55** |

**12. AOB**

**13. Closing**

Floris thanks everyone for attending and for his or her input, and congratulates the new members of the AUCSA Board of ’16-’17. Floris closes the GA.