



35TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Amsterdam, November 27, 2019

Present: see book of attendance (request with AUCSA).

Proxies:

Abbreviations:

AOB = Any other business

GA = General Assembly

Q = Question

A = Answer

Agenda of the Afternoon:

I. Opening of the 35th General Assembly

Jet de Vries, President of the AUCSA 2019-2020 Board, opens the 35th General Assembly. She welcomes everyone and thanks everyone for being present.

II. Sequential ordering of the Agenda

Jet presents the sequential ordering of the Agenda, and asks if anyone wants to vote on this. Seeing that no one wants to vote on the agenda, it is unanimously approved.

III. General Information - Conduct and Rules of the GA

Jet explains the conduct and rules of the GA, stating that one should be respectful to each other. Furthermore, she explains the voting procedure of the GA.

IV. Presenting of the Annual Report

Jet invites Marik Westerhof, President of the AUCSA 2018-2019, to the stage.

Marik explains what the Annual Report is and the obligation the AUCSA Board has to present this.



He opens the report with explaining the highlights of the year, with the first point being the improvement in the security of the Association. Next to this, the presence of the AUCSA in the UCSRN has significantly greatened, with the latter being able to flourish with this support. Next, Marik discusses the creation of the AUCSA Press Team and compliments on what this newly established Team has done so far. Furthermore, Marik proudly explains the creation of the AUCSA TomTom Fund, which enables children playing football at Zeeburgia to go on education excursions. Additionally, Marik brings light to the newly placed Poster Board, which has halted the overcramping of posters in the AUC corridors. Lastly, he mentions the success of Happy Boards Day, after a complete reworking of this.

Marik then moves to the finances of the AUCSA 2018-2019. He first applauds the AUCSA Board 2017-2018 for their efforts to steer the financial situation of the Association in a positive direction by reducing the debt. He says that the AUCSA Board 2018-2019 started their Board year with an equity of around -€6.400. Their aim was to reach financial health, which was eventually met by making some changes, such as increasing ticket prices and making investments. In the second half of the year, the AUCSA was underspending as committees were not realising all of their events. Another problem faced was the large unforeseen costs that came in the second semester. After the closing of the financial year, some invoices still had to be paid, which transcended into the budget of the AUCSA Board of 2019-2020. Lastly advice was given to the AUCSA Board of 2019-2020, this being to remain critical but to stand open to improve the quality of the Association and making long term investments.

He closes by thanking a few parties on behalf of the AUCSA Board 2018-2019. He first shows gratitude to the AUCSA Board of 2017-2018, these being Ishvar, Louise, Charlotte, Berend, Gerold and Noa, for the guidance they have given to his Board. He next thanks all of the committees, commissions and teams for all the work they have done for the Association. After this, Marik thanks the Advisory Council of 2018-2019, made up by Berend, Noa, Louise and Tamara, with Berend receiving a special shout-out, for their truthful judgement when this was needed and for their support. He concludes by thanking the AUCSA Board of 2019-2020, constituted by Jet, Maurits, Julien, Alexander, Rosa and Boris, for continuing the AUCSA, and wishes them luck for the remainder of their year.

Jet takes the stage again and asks if there are any questions

Q1: Berend Jansen: Shouldn't the Balance sheet of the AUCSA Budget be symmetrical?

A1: Siem Teusink: This is not an obligation. Each Treasurer can decide how to note the Balance sheet, with one being done by Julien Vandermosten, Treasurer of the AUCSA 2019-2020

Jet asks if anyone want to vote on the Annual report. As no one wants to vote on the Annual Report, it is unanimously approved.

V. Policy Manual

Jet introduces the foundations of the AUCSA, explaining the Statutes and the Policy Manual, and explaining the importance of these two documents for the Association.

Jet then continues to explain the procedure of how the Policy Manual was updated. First, the AUCSA Board of 2018-2019 advised the Board of 2019-2020 to consider updating the Policy Manual. Then, the AUCSA Board 2019-2020 started to revise the document making changes they deemed appropriate. This was further discussed with the Advisory Council and the Audit Commission. Next, the AUCSA Board presented this draft at the Policy Manual Forum, where all attending members had the chance to discuss the changes of the Policy Manual and suggest any other changes. These were all incorporated to make a finalised version of the proposed Seventh Draft of the AUCSA Policy Manual, which will be voted on at this GA.

Jet then suggests by pausing the GA for 5 minutes for everyone to have a chance to read the proposed Policy Manual.

VI. Open Floor

Jet opens the open floor and asks if there are any questions about the Policy Manual.

Q2: Bart Knibbe: What does the Board think the most controversial change to the Policy Manual is?

A2: Boris Koehoorn: Article 2.7 has been added, which gives the AUCSA Board the power to make small amendments to the Policy Manual without having to consult a GA for approval. However, this is done with the intention to only correct spelling errors as well as formatting errors.

Q3: Bart Knibbe: So what you are proposing is that the AUCSA Board can change the Policy Manual without consulting the GA?

A3: Boris Koehoorn: Yes.

Q4: Berend Jansen: I have been informed that a small amount of people showed up to the Policy Manual Forum and looking around me I believe I can say the same for the GA. Since it is your goal to be as inclusive as possible, wouldn't you agree that this might not be the best setting to propose a complete new Policy Manual, and not at another GA?

A4: Jet de Vries: The people here are the most critical, and most of the content of the Policy Manual only applies to the people present.

Q5: Berend Jansen: But wouldn't you say that this is not the most diverse representation of the Association. Might it not be best to postpone the voting of the Policy Manual.

A5: Grace John: This is the second time that people had the chance to be involved with the revision of the Policy Manual. I think that moving the Policy Manual GA to another time would not change this.

Q6: Bart Knibbe: I think the question of Berend is valid. But then again, if the members of the AUCSA were truly hindered by the timing of this GA, they could always request for the GA to be moved. Has this happened?

A6: Maurits Jurgens: No, we had no such request.

Q7: Berend Jansen: I agree with this, but I think it is important to have this been discussed and recorded in the minutes.

Q8: Grace John: Could you tell us what happened at the Forum?

A8: Jet de Vries: The forum lasted 3-4 hours. All of the proposed changes were discussed and the Policy Manual was analysed closely. The attending people had a lot of knowledge on the Policy Manual and their input was very beneficial. Article 25 was added, which contains complaints procedure. Next to this, the changes were mainly about punctuation and spelling.

Q9: Jasmijn Doorgeest: With regards to Article 2.7 to make minor changes of the PM, I was wondering what you would see as the benefit of this? It can be quite hard to judge when and when not it would be appropriate for the AUCSA Board to amend the Policy Manual without consulting a GA.

A9: Boris Koehoorn: The main goal for this was to prevent unreadable or inaccessible documents from existing. Now in future cases, it is in the power of the Board to make minor changes without hosting a GA.

Q10: Marik Westerhof: While I like the idea of this, I think changing spelling or punctuation is a dangerous thing to do as it will give people to call you out for no good reason. I would be in favour for the Policy Manual to only be amended by a GA.

A10: Grace John: Looking at most of the proposed changes made to this GA, most of these are changing phrasing from "he/she" to "they". Keeping this in mind, I think it is reasonable for them to AUCSA Board to hold the responsibility to make changes like these, just like how we trust them to manage a budget of €200,000.

Q11: Jeroen Smeulders: I understand where Marik is coming from, as this would grant additional power to the Board, with the burden of accusation. But these changes in my opinion do not need consultation of a GA.

Q11: Jasmijn Doorgeest: While I agree with the idea that it is necessary for the account of mistakes to be made, I don't think that taking away the agency of the members for this is a good response. In the end, there will be at least 3 GAs in a year, where at each moment, a change can be made. A couple of months is not extremely long to wait for a change to be made.



Q12: Bart Knibbe: I think being pragmatic about this is very beneficial, as it will help us in the long run. Secondly, I sadly have to leave now, but want to show my support to the changes made to the Policy Manual. I would also like to thank the AUCSA Board for changing the Policy Manual, it must have taken a lot of effort.

Q13: Jeroen Smeulders: To still be transparent about the changes that are made, would it be possible to notify all members about the proposed changes prior to a GA, like through Facebook. In this way people can prepare for the GA and then a smooth and efficient GA could take place.

Q14: Berend Jansen: Is it not maybe better to propose the Seventh Draft of the Policy Manual at the upcoming February Budget GA?

A14: Siem Teusink: To respond to Jeroen first, Facebook is not an adequate platform to propose these changes. I think the suggestion made by Berend seems like a reasonable course of action.

Q15: Berend Jansen: Raises Motion 1

Motion 1: Remove Article 2.7 from the proposed Seventh Draft of the Policy Manual

Q16: Jeroen Smeulders: Raises Motion 2

Motion 2: Add a clause to make it mandatory for a change-log to be made prior to a Policy Manual GA.

Q17: Siem Teusink: I think by adding this in the Policy Manual, it will create an additional burden on the AUCSA Board.

Q18: Marik Westerhof: There are not many people here to vote for the Policy Manual, it might be better to postpone the voting of this to the next GA.

Q19: Berend Jansen: You could also put all these changes in the next Budget General Assembly and then just quickly cover this first, before discussing the budgets of committees.

Q20: Rosa Wijnen: How is it better to move the voting of the Policy Manual to another GA, only for it to be quickly covered and not discussed. This would nullify the validity of the discussion.

A20: Berend Jansen: But then members have the chance to discuss it if they wish to do so.

Q21: Marik Westerhof: Looking at the amendments document, this is a very long document. What can be done is voting on the minor changes, while leaving the larger ones for the next GA?

A21: Berend Jansen: But if the minor changes won't spark debate anyway, why not have the whole Policy Manual moved to the next GA.

Q22: Berend Jansen: Retracts Motion 1

Q23: Jeroen Smeulders: Retracts Motion 2

Q24: Berend raises Motion 3

Motion 3: Postponing the voting of the PM to the february GA

Motion 3 will be voted on.

Motion 3 fails.

Q25: Grace John: Why is “*AUCSA members*” changed to “*Ordinary Members*”?

A25: Boris Koehoorn: This is because the Statutes define AUCSA members in three categories, these being Ordinary members, Honorary members and Donors. In the proposed Seventh Draft, it is specified which member is of question, which was not always clear in the Sixth Draft of the PM.

Q26: Berend Jansen: Is there a minimum amount of eligible voters needed for a GA to be valid? And will the AUCSA Board vote?

A26: Jet de Vries: The Board will only vote on the Policy Manual as a whole, and not on the motions.

Q27: Juliette Meijer: If the AUCSA Board will be abstaining for motions, can the 4 eligible voters beat the 5 abstaining votes of the AUCSA Board?

A27: Boris Koehoorn: Yes, as abstentions are not counted towards the simple majority that you need in order to pass a motion.

Q28: Grace John: If there were more people against this article, would you advise to postpone the voting on the Policy Manual to another GA, as not everyone is here?

A28: Jet de Vries: In our opinion, if the members present do not take the decision lightly, then the vote is legitimate.

Q29: Berend Jansen: Is the Board sure that this should not be moved?

A29: Jet de Vries: This was discussed at Motion 3, which was voted on and failed, hence the GA must continue.

Q30: Grace John: Should members still have the opportunity to discuss the Policy Manual in the future?



A30: If there is a worry for the legitimacy of this GA, then please raise a motion to postpone the voting on the Policy Manual.

Q31: Jeroen Smeulders: But are there still topics that need to be discussed?

A31: Berend Jansen: That is not the main concern. It is that more members have an influence on the Policy Manual.

Q32: Grace John: But this would only be an act of goodwill. If Ordinary members don't take it seriously now by not showing up, then they would not take it seriously at a later stage.

Q33: Jeroen Smeulders: Adding to this, by moving the voting on the Policy Manual to a later GA, you take away the power of this GA and the power of the people who have come to this GA.

A33: Berend Jansen: Regardless of the type of GA. If the AUCSA Board constitutes as the majority of voters, then it is sketchy in my opinion.

Q34: Grace John: Would it be possible to have the AUCSA Board sign out and then we vote on removing Article 2.7?

Q35: Grace John: Raises Motion 4

Motions 4: Remove Article 2.7 of the proposed Seventh Draft of the Policy Manual

Motion 4 will be voted on

Motion 4 passes

Q36: Jeroen Smeulders: The reasoning of the removal of this clause is to propose this clause at a GA that will have a higher attendance. I am confident about voting on all other proposed changes to the Policy Manual at this GA.

Q37: Berend Jansen: In Dutch Law, it is mandatory to have one person of the Association to lead the GA, and a second to document this GA. In other words, it is mandatory for the President and the Secretary of the AUCSA to be registered at this GA.

Q38: Jeroen: Is it possible to sign in for a GA without having the voting rights?

A38: Boris Koehoorn: No, as the AUCSA Board members are also Ordinary members, hereby automatically getting the voting rights.

Q39: Grace John: Is it possible to vote on something concerning the Policy Manual at a Budget GA?



A39: Jet de Vries: Yes, this would be possible.

Q40: Grace John: So that would mean that the decisions here are reversible?

A40: Jet de Vries: Yes, this can be reversed at another GA.

Q41: Berend Jansen: Raises Motion 5

Motion 5: Add a clause where it states that the AUCSA Board can not be the majority present at a GA.

Q42: Juliette Meijer: Would this mean that this GA is not valid anymore?

A43: Jet de Vries: No, as currently only Maurits, the Secretary of the AUCSA 2019-2020, and I are signed in to vote.

Q44: Berend Jansen: In my opinion, I then think that the other AUCSA Board members, these being Alexander, Rosa and Boris need to leave as they are not signed in. The registration book is here only for the minutes.

A44: Boris Koehoorn: The other AUCSA Board members need to be present to help run the GA. Furthermore, the sign in book keeps track of who has voting rights.

Q45: Berend Jansen: But there aren't any criteria in the Policy Manual that say this.

A45: Jeroen Smeulders: What if we add a clause that states that someone who is present needs to be signed in?

Q46: Berend Jansen: I was raising this point, so that it has been discussed and noted. Maybe anyone here wants to raise this point as a motion.

Q47: Bob van der Voort: Can Honorary members raise motions?

A47: Jet de Vries: Yes, they can

Jet de Vries repeats Motion 5

Q48: Grace John: I don't feel I have sufficient knowledge to vote on adding a clause that has a large consequence on the running of a GA with this little time

Q49: Jeroen Smeulders: The issue I have with the motion, is how many people should be here. I don't think I have the time or knowledge to set a quorum for voting.

A49: Berend Jansen: So you believe that you do not have enough power or knowledge to vote on this clause, but you do think you can vote on this Policy Manual as a whole?



Q50: Jeroen Smeulders: I can't come up with a sufficient quorum now, and would rather discuss that with more preparation.

A50: Berend Jansen: If you believe so, I think it is ironic. I stand my case here and retract Motion 5.

VII. Voting on the Policy Manual

Jet asks if anyone wants to vote on the Seventh Draft of the Policy Manual.

Q51: Jeroen Smeulders: Can the AUCSA Board still propose changes at a future GA?

Jet asks if anyone wants to vote on the Seventh Draft of the Policy Manual.

The Seventh Draft of the Policy Manual will be voted on.

The Seventh Draft of the Policy Manual is unanimously approved, hereby immediately being enforced.

VIII. Closing

Jet thanks everyone for coming, and hereby closes the GA.