
MINUTES GENERAL ASSEMBLY

11 October 2011

Opening

Roelant:

We are about to start. There is a book passing around for signatures and names so that we know how many attendees there are.

The AUCSA board is briefly introduced.

Roelant outlines the procedure of the GA:

The GA is open to questions, but everybody is requested to walk up front such that everybody will know and be able to see the person that is speaking. Gijs will write down the names in the minutes.

Regarding voting procedures— the room is divided in the quarters. Everybody is requested to keep their hands held up high during voting to facilitate counting.

R=Roelant

L=Louis

A=Ad-Willem

Sequential ordering of the agenda

Roelant:

There has been a slight change in the agenda. Nothing major, only that some committees are switched around. Please share the agendas lying around.

Proposal honorary member: Martijn Hagoort

Roelant:

A tradition in organizations is to make people honorary members as a result of exceptional contribution to making AUCSA a success. Martijn Hagoort as Chair of the previous board of AUCSA is proposed as Honorary member.

Q (1): Roelant: Does anyone want to vote?

A (1): *No one wants to vote, Martijn has been made an Honorary Member*

Establish new Advisory Council

Roelant:

The Advisory Council helps and advises the AUCSA Board. We propose the following 3 members: 2 of the old AUCSA Board, Martijn Hagoort and Marianna van der Stel, and Tereza Sukopova as a more independent member.

Q (2): How did you come up with 3 members?

A (2): R: The number of members is in the Statutes.

Q (3): For how long will they be in this Advisory Board?

A (3): R: They will be appointed for one year.

Q (4): What is the Advisory Council actually? What do they do?

A (4): R: They can always advise us and they facilitate communication for people who cannot or will not approach the AUCSA Board directly.

Q (5): Where is the Policy Manual?

A (5): R: The policy manual is on your USB, on the website and you can ask us.

Roelant asks if people want to vote—but it is a unanimous decision not to.

R: I would like to establish the proposed members as the new Advisory Council.

Martijn Hagoort, Marianna van der Stel and Tereza Sukopova elected as the new Advisory Council.

Proposal Audit Committee

Roelant:

The Audit committee is a committee that ‘checks our pockets’. Last year, the audit committee did not do their task, so unfortunately we cannot present the budget of last year. At the next GA, we will change this such that the budgets will be presented.

We propose Reinier and Strauss. Belinda Stratton, of the AUC management, will not do the audits, but she has agreed to help the students mentioned.

Q (6): Who are the people?

A (6): *Reinier and Strauss stand up.*

Q (7): How did you come to those names?

A: (7): R: They both have economic experience and were not involved in the AUCSA Board.

Q (8): Is this for half a year only?

A (8): R: Normally they're for a year, but this time it is especially meant for last year's budget.

Q (9): One of the members is an exchange student, how does that work?

A (9): The auditing is done before December.

Q (10): Are the members approached?

A (10): There is no outline for this process yet, but I'm willing to make a procedure. And yes, they were approached for this function.

Q (11): Make this more transparent?

A (11): Again, we are trying to create an outline for this procedure.

Roelant calls for vote—none is needed.

Set the Audit Committee.

Committee Budgets:

Roelant:

We now go to the committees; we have a total of 17. We have puzzled to fit all these committees together in our budget. Separate invoice for AUCSA was discussed, but has not yet implemented. For now we get 25 euros per student, but we are working to change this as requested by the previous GA. Only in the end, with the vote, we can approve/disprove the entire budget, as we will not vote on committee budgets separately.

We will now move on with the first committee.

AIMUN

Roelant:

Last year AIMUN was active in mock sessions and in going to MUN conferences. They went to a number of different places.

Explanation of budget.

No questions

Newspaper

Roelant:

The newspaper posts weekly articles on their website www.myauc.nl.

Explanation of budget.

Q (12): How do you see promotion for the newspaper? Donald

A (12): R: Last year they did a donut day. Mick Ter Reehorst: We are looking into printing the newspaper (monthly/weekly), we want sponsors to cover those costs. This money is just to promote our website, also if we want to write a review about a restaurant, film, something like that.

Q (13): How can we see the budget?

A (13): R: The budget is in your student e-mail, we sent it last week. If not, we will send it to you again.

We should look into providing students with a final version of the budget.

Meditation

Roelant:

This is a new committee set up this year.

Explanation of budget.

Q (14): Are they hiring people to give workshops?

A (14): R: Yes, they ask people for the workshop, they will be paid because they are experts.

Q (15): What exactly will be decorated?

A (15): R: The decoration materials need to be replaceable and moveable, so you can meditate everywhere (not bound to a common room).

Q (16): Who initiated this?

A (16): John Steinmark initiated the committee (together with Daniel Molloy, who isn't present).

OnStage

Roelant:

Summary of previous activities and current projects: dance group, theatre etc. Explanation of budget.

Q (17): I think this is an association that would be able to raise income themselves, by selling tickets?

A (17): R: We don't expect the income, because it's not a guarantee. Last year it wasn't very popular, so we keep it for free.

Q (18): You would not give money for committees to provide food and drinks, but OnStage does get funds for this?

A (18): R: Normally we don't sponsor drinks, but as this is not often and drinks will indeed bring more people there, we decided to make an exception. Barbara and Kyra: We have the dance and theatre group paying a part for themselves. And we try to get as many people there as possible.

Q (19): New committees get less? Were there any events last year for AUC Onstage?

A (19): R: Last year there were workshops (pole dancing) and an Open Stage Night. We can base the budget on previous success and as such established committees tend to get more.

AISA

Roelant:

AISA has regular teams, football and hockey and basketball is being set up.

Explanation of budget, most notably Universum costs, introduction of the Inter-AUC tournament and the printing of more shirts.

Q (20): Why is there such a big difference between indoor and outdoor?

A (20): L: The outdoor field is meant for twice a week (Mondays and Wednesdays). Everyone who plays also pays, because AUCSA only pays half of the rent.

Q (21): What is the assumption of 100 T-shirts based on?

A (21): R: It would be great for UC-tournaments if everyone could play in the same shirt.

Q (22): Is the 200 euros for hockey purely for the space? How about projected income?

A (22): R: No, also for entry in the competitions. The projected income is the money the soccer players will pay themselves.

Environmental

Roelant:

This committee was started last year. Explanation of budget.

Q (23): Wouldn't it be nicer to have the lines indoors, since it will rain?

A (23): R: During the summer it will be dry. If you have any suggestions where to put the lines, contact Merel.

Q (24): How is the 4 times Down to Earth Dinner calculated?

A (24): R: We did not grant them money for the Down to Earth dinners, they raise the money themselves, from which they can pay everything.

Excursions

Roelant:

This committee wants to start organizing trips to museums and parks. We will help them with raising money.

Q (25): Are there any plans for excursions so far?

A (25): R: There are no plans for excursions yet. Felix: Night time observations with an astrophysicist in the Flevopark. We also want to go to National Parks, but we cannot get any money for transportation costs, so we're trying to find a solution for that. R: Their excursions will be planned on the website.

Every committee will soon get a spot on the website; contact information will also be available there soon.

AUCDS

Roelant:

Explanation of budget and previous events organized.

Q (26): What's their total net profit?

A (26): Net profit is €2185,47.

Q (27): How many people will go to the Belgrade tournament?

A (27): Donald: Maximum of three teams (6 people) and 2 judges (2 people), or perhaps two teams (4 people) and one judge (1 person).

Q (28) Why is there no income?

A (28): Donald: Fundraising is done by participation fees of for instance the Buddy Tournaments, the tournaments we host. Louis: We always encourage fundraising in all committees. Roelant: It's proven to be quite hard.

Q (29): It seems a bit weird that an excursions committee cannot go to a park, but that debating can go to Belgrade?

A (29): R: We never sponsor transport in general, because it's hard to define and to balance it. We only pay the participation fees, and we think it is different from excursions. Debating is regular and also competitive. AUC can prove itself there.

Q (30): You are not paying for traveling expenses?

A (30): R: Indeed, we never pay transport costs. That's why we recommend entering competitions in the Netherlands, so the barrier for the participants is smaller.

Garden

Roelant:

Location of garden and explanation of budget.

Q (31): Off-topic, about the chickens and rats? There are rats in the chicken coop?

A (31): Not answered, not related to topic.

Q (32): Are the chicken coops being improved?

A (32): The chickens are separate from the Garden committee. It's a private chicken fund; it doesn't have anything to do with the committee.

Q (33): Will they be selling vegetables for income?

A (33): They will not be selling the vegetables for income, but the garden committee members can use the vegetables.

Break – 10 minutes

Once again, please sign in the book as we now start with the second half of the budget presentations; it helps us to keep track of how many people there are in the room.

MAPS

Roelant:

This is a committee that exists exactly one year, organized some guest lectures last year.

Explanation of budget.

Q (34): What kind of people have been doing the guest lectures so far?

A (34): John: We didn't have any guest lectures yet. We will have scholars, people from the music industry. If you have any nice ideas, contact us? Roelant: There are also students who are interested in lecturing.

Q (35): What is the point of a guest lecture in music?

A (35): R: We're open for more music committees, if you want to perform on stage.

Q (36): Could you reserve money for instruments?

A (36): R: It's hard because it is very expensive, but we will consider proposals.

Q (37): Is the guest lecturer an external guest?

A (37): Roelant and John: For students, but also for external people if you like.

Comment about potential AUC onstage cooperation with MAPS from Kyra.

Yearbook

Roelant:

They want to make a yearbook that is focused on the 3rd years, but everyone is more than welcome to buy the books. Explanation of budget.

Q (38): This is a third-year yearbook and second-years are organizing it?

A (38): R: None of the third-years approached us yet, but we are still searching for third-years.

Solace

Roelant:

Solace Party and Excursion Committee has been renamed to just Solace. Explanation of Solace budget and previous and planned parties for this year.

Q (39): As a sign of goodwill for Solace, maybe they should get some more contribution?

A (39): R: They received extra money for the introduction party and for the final party they have a larger budget. I see your gesture, but it's hard to execute it.

Q (40): They have no security (financially)?

A (40): Quico: We don't win money but we don't lose money either. AUCSA always covers unexpected expenses. Roelant: Individual people are never held responsible, that's in the committee contract.

Q (41): Do you have a buffer amount?

A (41): Yes, reserved funds.

Donald: I think we should have good deals with Solace such that the income from this committee can be used for AUCSA.

Q (42): Please clarify location costs?

A (42): R: Locations are hard to find, especially because we have so many students now. Quico: Even for Halloween we're already going to be above the 1200 Euros, because it's really hard to find something for so many people. We need a club then, and they charge a lot. Because we grew, we need more money for parties.

Website

Roelant:

Website is an important source of information for Student Council and committees. Calendar is on there, as well as updates from committees.

Q (43): Could they put advertising on the website?

A (43): R: If we find a sponsor that wants to put a banner on the website, we'll definitely do that. The website is www.myauc.nl or www.aucsa.nl.

Introweek

Roelant:

Explanation of budget.

Q (44): Why do they buy pepper?

A (44): R: It's nice to have salt and pepper in your dinner and it's too much to provide for yourself.

Q (45): Since AUC is part of the UvA and the VU, isn't the VU or the UvA willing to put money in it?

A (45): R: We're looking into whether the UvA or VU will sponsor the introduction week. Quico: AUC has paid a lot as well, but that is not on the AUCSA budget. R: Searching for extra funding is always good however.

World Activists Programme (WAP)

Roelant:

This program is actually 2 proposals joined up in one. It contains committees that promote well-being and good causes, NGOs, etc. Projects now running are the Kalahari and Ghana initiatives. WAP would coordinate the actions of these service-oriented committees. They are an umbrella organization and as such we have granted them more promotion costs.

Q (46): How does that work if you don't work for the events themselves, but facilitate them?

A (46): Arja: We're going to have to find sponsors from outside, AUCSA only facilitates the events and promotion. It's start-up money for bigger events.

Q (47): So it's a start-up cost?

A (47): R: Yes, it's start-up money.

Q (48): The Kalahari Experience used all their budget last year? It was meant to be a start-up cost.

A (48): R: They only spent around 70 euros, but indeed we realised that it might not be viable to win everything back, that's why we now give the money as start-up facilitation.

Career Event

Roelant:

This is an event that will be hosted in Amsterdam, especially useful for 3rd year students. They hope to break-even, hence only the costs of 700 euros on the budget. Of course, it costs more, but the companies' contribution will pay all the organization costs back—to AUCSA.

Q (49): Is it true that this is organized with other UCs?

A (49): R: Yes, it is organised together with all the other UCs, but we are hosting it, so we will be the main payers, that's the tradition. We like the initiative and want to support it. We just had a UC-summit and it will be discussed more within the UCSRN framework.

Q (50): I don't understand why AUCSA has to pay for the career event since AUC has sponsors?

A (50): R: We tried the AUC sponsors, but we're not sure that they will indeed come.

Q (51): Usually students first do their Masters and then look for career? So why this event?

A (51): R: You don't always have to do your master before you start looking for a career, because you might want to have a look at what's possible already.

Q (52): When will it be?

A (52): R: The 8th of February.

Q (53): Is this the same as the Beta Career event?

A (53): R: No, it's the AUC Career Event

Q (54) Can you explain telephone costs?

A (54): R: Committees always make more costs than personal people. There is a list of 600 companies, so calling all of them might cost a lot.

PIC

Roelant:

Pictures in College=PIC. Explanation of budget. Uncertainty of revenue since it's new.

No questions, so we move on.

AUCSA Budget:

Roelant:

First we examine our own things, the stuff we need to run as an organization. Explanation of budget.

Q (55): Why is there so much money reserved for office supplies?

A (55): R: Office supplies is a general term for also cupboards and hard disks, which cost a lot. Also, as we're just a starting association, we don't have all the general stuff yet.

Q (56): What is the 'public holidays' entry?

A (56): R: We want to organize small events on public holidays, such as Sinterklaas, or to hide some Easter Eggs in the academic building.

Q (57): Can you clarify why the GAs budget 250 euros?

A (57): R: The drinks around you cost around 50 Euros, and we don't know how many GAs there will be— we expect at least three.

Q (58): What is the CoC contribution?

A (58): R: CoC means Chamber of Commerce.

Q (59): Why is the end-of-year BBQ only 100 euros?

A (59): R: Last year AUC paid the main part of that and we hope they'll do that again.

Q (60): What is the UC tournament budget if we don't organize it?

A (60): R: The UC-tournament will take place again, probably in Utrecht and it will take place every year. Last year we paid for busses and some dinner costs, so this amount covers that.

Merchandise

Roelant:

We already pre-sold quite a bit. T-shirts were bought last year.

Q (61): Regarding the T-shirts that AISA wants to buy, might it not be a good idea to put that in the merchandise?

A (61): R: T-shirts are important to keep track of, so for AISA they have more overview that we do.

Q (62): Why are the projected costs of the ties higher than the projected costs?

A (62): R: We don't expect to sell all of the ties this year. We didn't think it was a viable option.

Total budget:

Roelant:

P&L sheets and discussion of the meaning of the total income and costs (basically just the sum of all committees).

We have 'reserved funds' as a buffer and for new committees.

Long-term reserved funds are primarily kept back for big events in the future, such as the UC tournament, for example.

Q (63): Last year a skiing trip took place, is it possible that AUCSA will contribute this year?

A (63): R: That is what the reserved funds are for, if people come up with new ideas we consider them.

Q (64): Why are travel expenses budgeted?

A (64): R: We reserved some overall transport costs, for complete boards if they have to go somewhere; the international students don't have an OV card. It will probably not be used much, but we need to have it in the budget.

Q (65): *Question to Ad-Willem regarding the format of the budget:* Why the phrasing of positive net profit if most of it is actually loss? In favour of more transparency, could you include a more detailed version with income of the specific committees?

A (65): A: The 'net profit' is just a common accountant's expression, but you can always e-mail us with suggestions. And the money that students paid themselves is already in the budget.

Q (66): I can't see where the income is regarding the students' own payments. Do we get to see a more detailed version?

A (66): We agree, we should be more consistent with showing what the students pay for themselves. It doesn't matter for the actual budget, but it increases transparency indeed. You should be able to find all information on the website.

No further questions.

Let's then go to voting!

Voting:

No motions were introduced so we went straight to voting on the total budget.

Total budget vote:

Favour: 72

Against: 2

Abstain: 2

The budget passes with 95% of the vote!

Q (67): How can we see on which days the committees plan their activities?

A (67): The Google-Calendar on the Website should provide for that.

AOB

Roelant:

Are there any further questions? None? Then this General Assembly is closed!

Closing

AND THE FIRST GA OF THIS YEAR IS OVER AND SUCCESSFUL!
