

**Report on the public part of the 208th meeting of the FHML Council
 on Tuesday, 9 December 2025
 Present: see attendance list**

1. Opening, announcements and adoption of the agenda

The chair opens the meeting.

2. a Adoption of the text of the public part of the minutes of the^{207th} meeting of 4 November 2025

-25.2030o – dated 21-11-25 – report

See the approved version with reference number 25.2030/lo.

2.b Comments on the public part of the report

In response to the comment about the darkness surrounding the Uns50 location in the evening and night hours, a councillor indicated that additional lighting has now been installed.

3. Announcements by the Dean

The dean indicated that the Health visitation took place today and went well. The visitation for the Master's programme in Health Food and Innovation Management will take place tomorrow, 10 December.

4. Climate HEALTH

The dean gives a presentation on the 'Climate HEALTH' initiative. The slides have been added to the report with reference number 25.2354.

In the context of Maastricht University's upcoming 50th anniversary, the 'Climate HEALTH' initiative was developed during brainstorming sessions with the institute directors and the Education Institute (OI).

Climate change is seen as an unavoidable issue and an important health concern, both for healthcare and for society as a whole. The initiative was therefore immediately embraced by the FHML Board and the Maastricht UMC+ Executive Board. It also ties in with the joint signature of the faculty and hospital.

An initial financial tranche of approximately €5 million has been made available for the initiative. Climate HEALTH has been set up as an overarching initiative within the three pillars of the sector plan. In addition to sector plan funds, financing from the hospital will also be used.

The approach includes so-called 'pressure cooker sessions', establishing an overarching strategic framework, developing research themes and appointing theme leaders. Education and training are also an explicit part of the initiative. In addition,

We are exploring how other faculties can join in and how the initiative can be followed and reinforced across the University of Maastricht. A website is being developed for this purpose. In addition, a programme coordinator will be recruited to further shape the Climate HEALTH Institute. The research institutes and the OI will remain involved in the further development and integration into the programmes, and students will also be involved. programmes, and students will also be involved.

Finally, the dean indicates that the Health Council and the Lung Fund have already shown interest.

5. Update ARBO FHML

In the presence of D. Vertommen, S. Lumeij and A. Newen.

D. Vertommen gives a presentation on health and safety matters within the FHML. The slides are attached to the report with reference number 25.2300/l.

D. Vertommen explains the organisational chart of the occupational health and safety structure. He emphasises that occupational health and safety and well-being are, in principle, the responsibility of managers. The HSB can support them in this.

With regard to the final responsibility of the department chair, including in relation to central laboratories, D. Vertommen explains, when asked, that each department is responsible.

is responsible for its own research and therefore also has its own armico. There are currently around 45 armicos; any blind spots will be examined in more detail in the future. Compliance with procedures remains the responsibility of the department chair.

D. Vertommen also provided an update on the risk inventory and evaluation (RI&E). A new development is that RI&Es within UM are now assessed not only by the Health and Safety Committee, but also by ARBO@UM. This additional assessment step contributes to quality assurance.

With regard to work equipment, D. Vertommen indicates that a new system applies within the RI&E. It is emphasised that employees must adhere to the established procedures.

S. Lumeij explains the current situation regarding the periodic occupational health examination (PAGO) for laboratory animals. Attendance is good and the response has been positive. A total of 113 employees are eligible, namely all 9 and 13 officials who have active access to laboratory animals. The FHML Council will be informed in more detail about this in the course of 2026.

The topic of psychosocial workload (PSA) will be discussed. The new prevention officer, A. Newen, will introduce herself and explain her role, which focuses primarily on the 'soft side' of occupational health and safety. She will explain that she wants to actively work with the results in this area. A UM-wide questionnaire will be distributed to the institutes. Broad participation is essential here; communication plays an important role in this, with an emphasis on the fact that the questionnaire is intended for everyone and not exclusively for employees with problems. The roll-out will take place in phases, with the first groups expected to be surveyed in the autumn. A response rate of at least 50% is being targeted to enable proper follow-up.

Finally, other health and safety issues are briefly touched upon, including a smoke-free campus and outdoor lighting. Extra attention will be paid to these topics in the context of safety.

6. Name change for Neuromodulation specialisation (Master's in BioMedical Sciences)
-25.2288 – dated 28-11-25 – letter from the dean with appendix

Due to the absence of a crucial supporting document, this agenda item will be postponed to the next meeting.

7. Additional agenda items

There are no late agenda items.

8. Any other business

No use is made of the public questions and answers.

K. Luijten