

23.0479/Io  
 April 11th 2023  
Approved version

**Report public part of the 180<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Faculty Council FHML  
 On Tuesday March 14<sup>th</sup> 2023**

**Present:** see attendance list

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**1 Opening, announcements and setting of the agenda**

The chair opens the public meeting.

**2a Adoption of the text of the public part of the report of the 179<sup>th</sup> meeting dated February 14<sup>th</sup> 2022.**

-23.0294o – dated 06-03-23 – report

The vice-dean notes that on page 1 under agenda item 3 'announcements vice-dean' there was incorrect wording in the announcement about the Starter Scholarships. The text will be amended as follows: 'When asked, the vice-dean indicates that the solidarity plans, in order to be able to honour more applications, have been rejected by the Ministry of OCW.'

See the approved version of the report with reference 22.2266/Io.

**2b Comments on the public part of the report**

In response to the question stated in 'any other business' on the state of affairs regarding the OBP with regard to the theme 'Recognition and Appreciation', the director of FHML indicates, when asked, that HR has written a proposal for the OBP that was recently discussed with the directors of all management units. An invitation will soon follow for a number of OBPs per management unit to participate in a World Café meeting.

Following the roundtable question on ChatGPT at the FSE faculty, the chair informs the council about ChatGPT at the FHML. Teachers were recently informed about the guidelines. Soon, students will be further informed as well.

**3 Announcements Dean**

Following the recent decision to suspend Health University ('Gezondheidsuniversiteit') activities for a year due to insufficient volunteers, attention is again drawn to the limited interest among students and staff to participate in this type of activity. In general, there seems to be a broad lack of interest among students and staff. The Dean therefore has asked the Marketing & Communications department what could be done proactively about this, also in the context of the upcoming elections. Marketing & Communication advises staff and students to check Umployee and Instagram weekly as both platforms contain the latest news items. In the Umployee's 'nice to meet you' section, an interview with the president of the Council, B. Houben, will be published, on 22 March next. The Dean makes an appeal to the student section to give the floor to a student as well. The cause of the lack of interest is probably related to several factors, including working from home, which reduces bonding and engagement, but also could have to do with the way time is allocated and spent.

The Council believes that visibility is a major problem. Instagram alone is not enough, especially for students. The Council suggests approaching tutors to briefly inform students about certain issues verbally prior to a lecture, or asking students to do so. Furthermore, information on digital screens in the buildings could increase visibility.

It could be an idea to look into what information channels are currently available to students and what steps should be taken to make things more efficient and clear.

**4 Housing/area development and new construction Randwyck**

The Dean informs the Council about an article on UM's laboratory animal facility (the CPV) in the Limburger, following coverage in the Observant.

Furthermore, the Dean informs the Council about questions regarding the renovation of the new laboratory animal facility that the FHML Board had received from a number of political groups in the Maastricht City Council.

When asked, the FHML director indicates that the Preliminary Design of the new animal facility is almost completed, after which a cost calculation can be made and then the Final Design. This will be ready by the end of 2023 after which preparations for the new building can start.

The Director of the FHML informs the Council of developments around the Uns50 renovation. The renovation of South 0, which houses the Biochemistry department, has been completed. However, some remaining issues still need to be addressed and this is proceeding somewhat slowly. South 1, which houses the Departments of Human Biology and Nutrition and Movement Sciences and where the office spaces are being renovated, will be ready early May 2023, and the furniture will be replaced immediately after that. There has been a delay in South 4, due to discussions over the contractor's bid.

In July 2023, the roof of the UB will be replaced and an upgrade/refurbishment of the UB will take place subsequently. At the time of the roof replacement, the space underneath will have to be emptied, which means that the study places will be temporarily set up elsewhere. It is possible that 200 study places do remain in the UB. And the remaining 500 study places will be temporarily set up in the building of the former Maastricht School of Management (MSM), of which 150 study places will be permanent. It is currently expected that the roof replacement and the refurbishment of the UB will be completed by the end of 2023.

Upon request, the Director of FHML will inquire about the opening hours of the MSN building and which students are currently involved in the refurbishment of the UB. The Director proposes to make a presentation on the various developments regarding housing in a forthcoming meeting of the Faculty Council.

## **5 Implementation Coalition Agreement**

A. Gilsing makes a presentation on the implementation of the Sector Plan and the Starter and Incentive Grants following the Coalition Agreement, which invests in Higher Education and Science and focuses on strengthening the foundation. The slides of the presentation will be added to the public part of the report with reference 23.0528.

When asked, A. Gilsing explains that the Sector Plan provides for structural funds for the deployment of staff in a division of 70% research and 30% education. In April 2023, the final Sector Plan will be decided upon by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science.

The filling of the available WP formation regarding theme 1, prevention, will initially be allocated top-down (to internal candidates and/or external talents). Subsequently, any remaining formation will be filled through an application procedure that has yet to be worked out.

It is important that educational tasks within the departments are safeguarded, and this is therefore explicitly brought to the attention of the heads of departments. The filling of the formation in theme 2, data-driven innovation, and theme 3, from fundamental research to clinic and practice, will be done differently, but always in consultation with the departments and the FHML Institute for Education.

Regarding the Starter Grants, A. Gilsing indicates that in the beginning the framework was not outlined clearly by the ministry of OCW so there was a lot of uncertainty.

Meanwhile, the procedure has started.

For the year 2022, there are only 7 Starter Scholarships to be awarded while 24 applications have been submitted. For the year 2023, there are 22 Starter Scholarships to be awarded and about 25 UD appointments are expected. Allocating the scholarships will be done on the basis of drawing lots and the Dean considers the Faculty Council an appropriate body for drawing the lots.

A. Gilsing indicates, when asked, that the criteria for the Incentive Scholarships are still under development. She further agrees that there will be an evaluation of the implementation of the use of the structural funds in due course.

Finally, A. Gilsing clarifies that medical specialists can also qualify for Starter Grants. However, one of the eligibility criteria for this Scholarship is that the medical specialist should have a permanent employment (as a UD) of no more than 4 years, because a Starter Scholarship is particularly intended for young, starting researchers.

## **6 Work pressure and job satisfaction**

The Dean indicates that M. oude Egbrink had prepared this item on the agenda. However, she is absent due to illness. It is agreed that this agenda item will be put on the agenda again for the next meeting of the FHML council.

The Dean gives a brief explanation.

The programme coordinators of the FHML Institute for Education are working on an advisory report for workload reduction. This report will be ready soon. One of the options for workload reduction is

to shorten the academic year. A pilot for this is taking place at the faculties FASOS and FSE and at the FHML Bachelor European Public Health. Furthermore, the initiative is taken to allocate hours to the role of Education Coordinator at the departments.

The chairman inquires about the state of affairs regarding the reassessment of the standard compensation in education. Indeed, the Sustainable Employability Monitor action plan (Duurzame Inzetbaarheidsmonitor) describes that the UM-wide committee has indicated that it would first like to introduce Recognition & Rewards and the shortened academic year. Earlier, the FHML Board had indicated that they wanted to wait for the results of the relevant committee on norm hours. The Dean explains that this point has not yet been discussed in the FHML Board and is awaiting the advisory report.

In the context of job satisfaction, the Vice-Dean informs the Council about two wishes that, as a result of the 'Christmas wishes action', will be honoured and implemented. For instance, the stairs from the ground floor to the 1st floor of all UM buildings will be painted in rainbow colours to embrace the ideas of the LGBT community. Another wish that will be honoured is to draw attention to the walking routes, which were previously mapped out in response to the famous Mosaic bench at the Uns50. The Marketing & Communications department is elaborating on this. The Vice-Dean advises staff to keep an eye on Umployee. Furthermore, there will also be more information via Umployee about the Maastricht UMC+ staff party in the MECC dated 30 June 2023.

### **7 Extra items for the agenda**

There are no extra items for the agenda.

### **8 Any other business**

In the context of the issue with Epass, a member informs the Council about her positive experiences with 'PebblePad', a learning platform used at the University of York, among others.

The Chair of the Council, who also participates in a working group for the Maastricht UMC+ staff party, says that the working group would like to receive a list of FHML employees who cannot attend the party due to on-call duties. The FHML director will inquire about this.

Kim Luijten