

University Council: What exactly were we up to in 2024-25?

The University Council works closely with the Executive Board on all university affairs. Consisting of students, academic staff, and support staff, we regularly discuss new policies and current developments relating to strategy, research & education, and operations. We have briefly summarised last year's main efforts for you.

Social safety

- Established the **Social Safety Dialogue Group** to enter into a dialogue with members of the community and policy makers
- Unlocked **additional funding** to improve social safety for students within study, sport, and student associations
- Provided advice on the **allocation of these funds** to ensure students benefit as much as possible



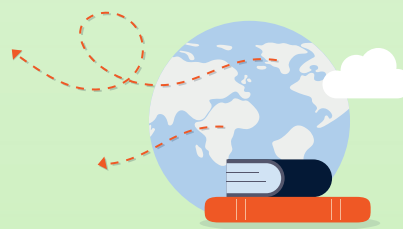
Research and Education

- Provided input on the **Policy Framework Generative AI**
- Asked critical questions about the **wellbeing of PhD students** at UM
- Monitored the implementation of **Quality Agreements** and discussed how these initiatives could be continued in the future



Diversity & Inclusivity

- Endorsed the importance of the university acting in accordance with the **values of diversity, equity, and inclusion**, and promoting these throughout all its policies and initiatives



UM and the world

- Exchanged thoughts with **Municipal Council** members to discuss improvements for citizens and students in Maastricht
- Discussed the Framework **Transition to a Fossil Free society** with the Executive Board
- Provided input on the realisation of the **Human Rights Due Diligence tool**

Student affairs

- Prevented the discontinuation of the **refunding of the handling fee** for prospective students
- Ensured that all student members of Faculty Councils are **equally compensated** for their efforts
- Spearheaded a revision of the **Student Support Fund regulations**, extending the eligibility period to broaden student access to administrative months
- Frequently asked for updates on the status of **student housing**
- Asked critical questions about the **use of student logging data** on platforms like Canvas



Future of UM

- Advised on the **integration between UM and azM/MUMC+** and indicated points of attention going forward
- Closely followed developments in **internationalisation** and discussed the consequences for UM with the Executive Board



In 2025-26, the University Council will

- Keep an eye out for the interests of the university regarding the **integration between UM and azM/MUMC+**
- Keep an eye on the **internationalisation** debate and the implementation of the Internationalisation in Balance bill
- Continue to monitor the implementation of the **Human Rights Due Diligence Framework** and the Framework **Transition to a Fossil Free society**



Staff

- Affirmed the significance of **supporting staff with disabilities** by endorsing the policy 'Working with a Disability at UM' and the creation of the Disability Inclusion Group
- Maintained a strong focus on the importance of **Recognition & Rewards for all employees** - support staff as well as academic staff

Want to know more? Visit:

www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/over-de-um/organisatie/medezeggenschap/welcome-university-council



Do you want to give input to the University Council? Come to our Speakers' Quarter:

www.maastrichtuniversity.nl/over-de-um/organisatie/medezeggenschap/welcome-university-council/get-involved