

MARAP

On the 15th of May, Committee van Rijn gave the advice that government funding should focus more on Bèta universities than Alpha universities. This could be of great impact on the funding that TiSEM receives from the government. During the faculty council, some questions were asked about how this advice will affect our faculty. The Dean of TiSEM stated that, at the moment, there is too much uncertainty to actually conclude what the consequences of this advice are, but it may cost the faculty millions of euros in the worst case scenario.

The MARAP also showed that TiSEM has been able to expand on its scientific staff by 15%. We were very happy to see this result as it has proven to be difficult to attract new, quality staff members. Finally the MT stated the following on the financial health of our school: "The MT is convinced, based on this marap and considering all risks (positive and negative), that TiSEM is, and will continue to be, financially healthy and wants the HoD's to continue to invest in and retain scientific personnel in order to realize the budget, and above all, reduce the workload."

Business case EBI

From september 2020, TiSEM will offer a new bachelor program, namely Entrepreneurship and Business Innovation. On open days and other events, students showed much interest in this program, and therefore much inflow is expected in the years to come.

While it is great to see so much enthusiasm, some concerns were raised about possible capacity problems. Although it always remains difficult to estimate inflow, the Management Team was able to assure us that they were equipped to deal with almost any number of students.

We also had some questions about the cannibalization of other studies (e.g. IBA or Business Economics) because we believed that the cannibalization rate of 15% mentioned in the business case was rather low. However, this rate was based on earlier research and in the end did not have a huge impact on the case overall.

Public transport strike

We asked the Management Team about the decision of not rescheduling the exams during the public transport strike of that day (28th of May). The following answer was given:

"Planning is a very complicated process and some students would run into problems if we moved their exams to different days (i.e., booked vacations etc.). We also felt that students had enough time to make arrangements to for example stay overnight in Tilburg, rent a car, etc."

"It is up to the exam committee to decide whether those who did not manage to make should be 'pardoned' (get coulance). We do agree that some students might have had very good reasons for not making it to an exam today."

We understand the decision of the Management Team, but we also think that more could have been done to inform students and address their needs. To better cope with these kinds of issues in the future, the importance of flexible planning was touched upon by the Independents (staff party). We agreed with them and stated that we hope that this will be better in the future.