

Faculty Council Report

February 2021

This report will provide an overview of what has been discussed in the TiSEM Faculty Council, which takes place 6 times in an academic year. Below, you find some information on the topics that are most relevant for students.

Update on "Changes and Additions to Canvas"

Last cycle, our colleagues from Student Party Active TiSEM handed in an initiative regarding the use of Canvas and possible improvements that can be made in this regard. The Innovation Manager of the Faculty discussed it in the Innovation workgroup: everyone appreciated the idea, so the idea will now be further picked up by them and developed in the coming period.

Update on "Uniformization of Course Syllabi"

In the last Faculty Council meeting, Student Party ECCO handed in a proposal that was aimed at improving and uniforming the course syllabi of different programs. Since the proposal was received positively by the different parties in the Council, the Education Support Team of the faculty has been assigned to further work out the idea. At this moment, the EST is collecting examples of different syllabi currently used within TiSEM, after which a template will be designed. In upcoming meetings, the to-be-developed template and further implementation will be discussed. We will keep you updated!

Corona Update

The Management Team again provided us with an elaborate update regarding the Covid-19 situation and what it implies for the university and our faculty. Two points are particularly important for the students:

Online Proctoring/Flagged Examinations

Last exam period, many students have been 'flagged' by Proctorio, after which they had to wait long periods of time for news about what this report meant for their course grade. Especially the latter caused a lot of anxiety, stress, and frustration amongst students. In the end, the Examination Committee stepped in and resolved the uncertainty by remitting all flags for this exam period. All in all, the situation was unacceptable and needs to be solved for the next examination period. The Management Team announced two specific measures that will be undertaken in order to prepare ourselves better:

1. The Examination Committee is looking into opportunities to either make the specifications in Proctorio less strict (so people get flagged less easily) or look for ways to categorize the different types of flags into severe and less severe faults. We will be updated about this process and inform you as soon as we know more.
2. The capacity of the responsible department will be significantly enlarged (from 12 FTE to >50 FTE for the upcoming exam period).

Besides those measures, TiSEM will look for alternative types of examinations that can be done without proctoring (e.g. take-home examinations, essays, etc.).



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Third Chance regulation for pre-master students

The Management Team decided to apply the Third Chance regulation that was introduced upon a proposal of the Student Party ECCO last year, to the pre-master students as well this year. In this way, quite some students that would otherwise fail the program, receive a third chance to pass their last exam; good luck to all of them!

Learning Analytics & Quality Agreements Plan - Revised

After some last minor changes to the plans regarding Learning Analytics and spending of the Quality Agreement funding, the Council gave consent for both documents. Interested to read more on what this is about? Then check our Faculty Council Report of cycle 2!

Curriculum changes 2020-2021

The different curriculum changes for programs of the faculty were discussed. The biggest changes will be made to the bachelor in Entrepreneurship & Business Innovation, which makes sense since this new program still needs to be further developed to optimize it. After the Education Committees already gave their consent for the curriculum changes, the Faculty Council now also gave their positive advice, which means the changes can be implemented.

Premaster Reform Process proposal

The Management Team presented a timeline for the reformation process of the current pre-master's program of the faculty. The first steps on the roll are a formal evaluation of the program and the formation of a multidisciplinary sounding board that will further discuss the current and to-be-developed pre-master program. Student Party ECCO will take place on the sounding board, so more updates will definitely follow in the coming cycles!

Lowering of BSA / TiU Covid-19 service document Good news for all first-year students! Upon a proposal that was collectively written and handed in by different Student Parties across the country, Tilburg University decided to lower the Binding Study Advice for first-year students with 6 ECTS, from 42 to 36, for the academic year 2020-2021. This, in order to compensate for the extra challenges that beginning to study in Covid-filled times, brought to them.



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PASS

ECCO asked questions about the current status of the PASS program for first-year students: in our opinion, significant improvements to the program need to be made before the start of the next academic year. The point will be added to the agenda for the next meeting, which means we will receive an elaborate update from the Management Team by then.

Do you want more information?

Of course, the summary above is very brief and only covers the points that are directly relevant to students. Do you want to know more? Don't hesitate to reach out to us via social media or email: info@studentpartyecco.nl!

If you want more information on the Faculty Council meetings, you can take a look at [Sharepoint](#). Here, all documents (e.g. the agendas, minutes, budget sheets, and other supporting documents) are uploaded. Every student has the right to view these documents.

