



Memo - EER MSc Data Science & Entrepreneurship

TiSEM Faculty Council, Term 2020-2021, Cycle 4

Memo from: Student Party ECCO

Memo to: Faculty Council of Tilburg School of Economics and Management

Status: For information

Date: April 5, 2021

Problem statement

During the past examination period of December and January, it has come to our attention that students of the Master Data Science and Entrepreneurship (hereafter abbreviated as MDSE) experienced problems with the grading and planning of their resits. After looking into this, we found that the Education and Examination Regulations (hereafter abbreviated as EER) of the MDSE are different from the EER of other TiSEM Master programs. Specifically, two paragraphs are included in the TiSEM EER, which are not included in the MDSE EER. These two paragraphs can be found in the appendix at the end of this memo.

As a result of these absent regulations, MDSE students experience problems during the resit period. Not knowing whether they have to take a resit only when the resit itself is 5 days (not working days, article 3.12, paragraph 3 in MDSE EER) away, is very stressful. Taking into account the fact that students are taking multiple courses, even increases the impact of this uncertainty.

Student Party ECCO proposes to **add the in the appendix mentioned regulations to the MSDE EER**. We strongly believe that this would better safeguard the students' wellbeing and time- and study management. The combination of these added regulations will ensure that a student knows whether they have to take this resit, 10 working days in advance.

MDSE Education Committee

Before discussing this in the Faculty Council, we decided to contact the study program's Education Coordinator and Education Committee. We were able to send a memo to the MDSE Education Committee. The memo included the above problem statement and we asked them for their written opinion on the questions below:

- Where does the EC MDSE stand on these proposed changes? Are there any differences between the students' and the professors' perspective?
- Does the EC MDSE feel that incorporating these regulations will be feasible with regards to the planning of the education and examination period of the master program?
- Are there any other concerns or comments we should know about, before proceeding taking this to the TiSEM Faculty Council?

Current status and next steps

Our memo was discussed in the Education Committee's meeting on Friday March 5. During this meeting, the Education Committee members, the Education Coordinator (Nigel Claus, also secretary of the Education Committee) and the Academic Director (dr. Ksenia Podoynit-syna) were present. On March 17, we received the following update from Nigel Claus:

"It has been concluded that article 3.12 regarding the determination of the result will be adjusted in line with the EER of TiSEM. Furthermore, the program management has checked if the academic calendar (i.e. the written examination planning and its resits) is aligned with paragraph 3, which fortunately was already the case."

Due to the Education Committee's clear and positive response, we do not feel the necessity to further discuss this in the Faculty Council. Next, Student Party ECCO hopes to improve the students' welfare by formally adding these regulations when the Faculty Council is consenting TiSEM's EER's in Cycle 6.

Appendix: TiSEM Education and Examination Regulations 2020/2021:

Article 3.12: determination of the result

paragraph 3: The resit of an exam takes place at least twenty (20) working days after the first final component of that course (test/assignment/examination) has been completed.

paragraph 4: Notwithstanding the provision of paragraph 2, the determination of results of examinations that are scheduled in December and January of the current academic year must take place within ten (10) working days after the final component of that course (test/assignment/examination) has been completed. The examiner informs the student about the result.