



CENTRAL STUDENT COUNCIL REGULATIONS

As referred to in Articles 11, 18, 19, 20 and 25 of the Regulations for Student Participation in Decision-making dated 1997.

These provisions were adopted by the Executive Board on 21 April 1998.
Amended on 25 May 2000, 14 March 2005, 14 July 2006 and 30 May 2011.

Disclaimer: Every effort has been made to provide an accurate translation. However, the official text is in Dutch; any differences arising from the translation are not binding and have no legal effect.

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General

Article 1.

The following definitions are used in these Regulations:

Management and Administration Regulations:

the University of Amsterdam's Management and Administration Regulations;

Central Student Council:

the Central Student Council as referred to in Article 3;

Arbitration Committee:

the Participation Arbitration Committee for higher education as referred to in Article 9.39 of Higher Education and Research Act (WHW);

Dean:

the individual who heads a faculty or, if the Student Council is appointed to cover more than one faculty, the individual who consults with the Student Council or the dean of one of the faculties involved;

Faculty:

a faculty of the University of Amsterdam for which a Student Council is appointed or the Academic Centre for Dentistry in Amsterdam;

Faculty Regulations:

the Faculty Regulations as referred to in Article 9.14.3 of the WHW;

Model for Elections Regulations:

the Model for Elections Regulations for the University of Amsterdam, adopted by the Executive Board;

The Council:

the Central Student Council;

Student Council Regulations:

the regulations governing the Student Council which has been appointed for more than one faculty;

Student Council:

the Student Council which has been appointed for a faculty or more than one faculty;

WHW:

the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act (Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek);

Policy and Management Covenant:

a long-term agreement between the Executive Board and a faculty or, if applicable, an interfaculty or university institute, governing the duties of the faculty or institute in question, the objectives of those duties and the resources which are made available by the Executive Board for performing those duties;

Regulations for Student Participation in Decision-making 1997:

the regulations governing participation in decision-making as referred to in Article 9.30.3, second sentence of the WHW.

Article 2.

1. Student participation in decision-making at the University of Amsterdam takes place through the Central Student Council. The Central Student Council deals with the topics stated in Articles 11 and 12 as well as issues that affect the university as a whole.
2. Student participation in decision-making regarding other issues takes place through the Student Councils. This includes the following topics:
 - a. the right of approval concerning the Students' Charter, to the extent that this relates to the students' rights and obligations, based on the exercise of an authority by the dean granted to him/her by the WHW or the Management and Administration Regulations, or based on the exercise of an authority of the Executive Board by the dean if he/she has been entrusted by the Executive Board to exercise that authority.
 - b. the right of approval for decisions to adopt and amend:
 - the Faculty Regulations;
 - if applicable, the Student Council Regulations;
 - the Teaching and Examination Regulations, to which Article 9.38 of the WHW applies mutatis mutandis.
 - c. the right to be consulted regarding:
 - a proposed decision for the adoption of a Policy and Management Covenant;
 - the financial Annual Report, if and insofar as this has been adopted for the faculty by the dean.
3. Contrary to the provisions of the first paragraph, the Student Council has the right to be consulted, as stipulated in Article 12a, if it concerns issues which are only relevant to the faculty or faculties respectively for which the Student Council has been appointed, and not the university as a whole.
4. The Executive Board shall consult the Student Council confidentially before appointing or dismissing a dean. This consultation takes place at such a time that it can have a substantial impact on the decision-making process.
5. The dean shall consult the Student Council confidentially before appointing or dismissing a director of a faculty College or Graduate School. This consultation takes place at such a time that it can have a substantial impact on the decision-making process.
6. The Student Council's other powers of consent and advisory authorities are stipulated in the Faculty Regulations or, if applicable, the Student Council Regulations.
7. The provisions of Articles 9, 10, 13 and 14 apply mutatis mutandis to the Student Council, on the understanding that, where applicable, Executive Board is read as 'dean'.

Composition and election of the Central Student Council and Student Councils

Article 3.

1. There are fourteen seats on the Central Student Council.
2.
 - a. Seven members are directly elected to the Student Council by and from among all the eligible voters.
 - b. Seven members are elected by and from among the members of a Student Council, on the understanding that a member is elected from among each of the Student Councils. All elected members of the CSR remain members of the Student Council.

- c. If a seat for a member, as referred to under h, remains unoccupied for 20 days after the vacancy concerned arose, the seat is allotted to the constituency, as referred to under a, and to the list which, after allocation of the seat, has the highest average number of votes per seat. The candidate on this list, who is the next eligible for appointment in accordance with the provisions of the Elections Regulations for the Central Student Council and the Faculty Student Councils 2006, is appointed. The allocation of a seat applies to the remainder of the term. A maximum of two seats can be allocated.
3. a. All eligible voters for a Student Council represent a constituency for the election of the relevant members of the Central Student Council. Individuals may be nominated for a seat on the Central Student Council as well as a seat on the Faculty Student Council. Individuals who are eligible for a seat in both Councils must choose on which Council he/she would prefer to serve. If he/she chooses to take up a seat in one Council, he/she automatically resigns his/her seat in the other Council. The individual concerned must indicate their preferred Council when submitting their nomination. This choice is irrevocable during a period of 20 days after the determination of the result. If the individual concerned is required to make a choice during the term, he/she must, at the request of the Central Voting Office, as referred to in the Elections Regulations for the Central Student Council and the Faculty Student Councils 2006, inform the Central Voting Office within five days.
 4. b. In the absence of choice, the individual concerned resigns his/her seat in both Councils by operation of law.
 5. Elections for members chosen by and from among all eligible voters take place by secret ballot and according to the list system, on the understanding that combined lists are not permitted.
 6. The elections take place according to the Elections Regulations of the Central Student Council and the Faculty Student Councils 2006.
 7. The members of the Central Student Council may not be replaced on a temporary basis.

Article 3A.

1. For the election of Student Council members, unless stipulated otherwise in the Faculty Regulations, a constituency is established. The constituency includes all individuals who are eligible to vote for members of the Student Council. A person can stand as a candidate on one list only.
2. Articles 3.4 and 3.5 apply *mutatis mutandis* to these elections.

Article 4.

The term and election date for the Central Student Council is determined by the Executive Board, on the understanding that the term of the new Council must be announced at the same time as the call for elections. The term is at least 10 and at most 24 months. If and insofar as the election process is delayed, the Executive Board can extend the term of the current Council or of a current member by a maximum of three months.

Article 5.

The Executive Board decides whether to hold an election.

Article 6.

Outgoing members may stand for re-election immediately.

Article 7.

Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 3.3, membership of the Central Student Council is terminated by operation of law with immediate effect:

- a. at the end of the term;
- b. upon the death of the member;
- c. by notice in writing to the Chair of the Council;
- d. by terminating their Student Council membership as referred to in Article 3.3.

Article 8.

1. The Central Student Council elects a Chair and a Deputy Chair either from its members or externally. The Chair – or in the event of his/her absence, the Deputy Chair – represents the Council in legal proceedings. At the Council's request, the Executive Board provides a Secretariat.
2. To regulate its activities, the Council may adopt standing regulations.
3. In the event that the expressly personal interest of a Council member is at issue during a meeting or part of a meeting, the Council may decide that this member may not participate in the meeting or part thereof. The Council then also decides that the discussion of the matter in question will take place behind closed doors.
4. The Council sets out the arrangements for dividing resources and facilities provided by the Executive Board for the Central Student Council and the faculties' Student Councils. The provisions of the previous sentence do not apply to resources and facilities provided by the dean.
5. The Council ensures that the agendas and minutes of its meetings are sent to the Executive Board and are available for inspection by interested parties in a publicly accessible place at the faculty.
6. Each year, no later than one month after the end of a term, the Council draws up a written report of its activities and ensures that it is available to all relevant persons at the university.

Information**Article 9.**

1. At the beginning of the academic year and, if different, at the beginning of the term, the Executive Board provides the Central Student Council with basic written information regarding:
 - a. the composition of the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board.
 - b. the organisation of the university.
 - c. the main points of policy that have been adopted, including in any case:
 - the Management and Administration Regulations;
 - policy and management covenants that have already been concluded and for which the period of operation has not yet expired;
 - the budget;
 - the Strategic Plan;
 - the Students' Charter;
 - the quality assurance system and its latest results;
 - the latest Annual Statement of Accounts and the latest Annual Report.
2. The Executive Board informs the Council in writing at least once a year of the policy followed in the previous year and the policy plans for the coming year with regard to the university's financial, organisational and teaching-related matters.
3. The Executive Board immediately notifies the Central Student Council of any intentions it may have regarding the matters described in the Strategic Plan.
4. The Executive Board provides the Central Student Council, upon request or otherwise, with all the information it could reasonably require in order to perform its duties.

Powers

Article 10.

1. If the Central Student Council so requests, at least one member of the Executive Board participates in the meeting.
2. The Executive Board provides the Council with the opportunity to discuss the general affairs of the university at least twice a year.
3. The Executive Board and the Council meet within three weeks if the Executive Board or the Council submits a reasoned request to this end.
4. The Council has the authority to make suggestions to the Executive Board and to voice its opinions on all university-related matters. The Executive Board must provide the Student Council with a written, substantiated response to any such suggestions referred to in the first sentence in the form of a proposal within six weeks. Before issuing a response referred to in the previous sentence, however, the Executive Board must give the Council at least one opportunity to discuss its proposal.

Article 11.

The Executive Board requests the Central Student Council's prior approval for decisions regarding:

- a. the Students' Charter, insofar as this does not relate to the rights and obligations as referred to in Article 2.2a;
- b. regulations concerning the safety, health and well-being of students;
- c. the choice of participation scheme as referred to in Article 9.30.1 of the WHW as well as the Regulations for Student Participation in Decision-making 1997;
- d. regulations concerning the financial support of students (Profiling Fund);
- e. Executive Board guidelines for deans as referred to in Article 9.5 of the WHW, taking into account Article 9.38 of the WHW. In other words, insofar as for that topic, according to the WHW, the faculties' participation bodies would have had the right of approval in faculty-level decisions.

Article 12.

1. The Executive Board requests advice from the Central Student Council prior to making decisions regarding:
 - a. matters concerning the continued existence of and smooth running of affairs within the university. Article 2.3 is applicable;
 - b. the approval of or changes to the budget;
 - c. matters of general interest concerning the specific legal status of university staff, unless and insofar as the matter in question has already been substantively regulated for the university by or pursuant to statutory provisions or a collective labour agreement;
 - d. the Regulations governing the Examination Appeals Board;
 - e. the approval of the number of students as referred to in Article 7.53.1 of the WHW;
 - f. the detailed rules regarding the rejection of advice as referred to in Article 7.9 of the WHW;
 - g. accommodation plans;
 - h. the policy concerning institutional tuition fees;
 - i. the regulations regarding the repayment of the statutory tuition fees for the months of July and August;
 - j. the Model Teaching and Examination Regulations.

The Executive Board shall also consult the Council in advance regarding a proposed decision for the adoption of a Policy and Management Covenant.

2. The Executive Board or, if applicable, the dean, will consult the Central Student Council confidentially before appointing or dismissing a director of an interfaculty or university College or Graduate School. This consultation takes place at such a time that it can have a substantial impact on the decision-making process.
3. The Central Student Council is given the opportunity to be heard before a decision to appoint or dismiss a member of the Executive Board is taken by the Supervisory Board.
4. The Central Student Council is given the opportunity to issue advice to the Supervisory Board regarding the profiles of members of the Supervisory Board.

Article 13.

1. The proposed decision as referred to in Articles 11 and 12 is submitted to the Central Student Council in writing.
2. Except in urgent cases, the Council decides to approve or withhold consent or adopt the advice within 30 working days after the proposed decision, as referred to in the first paragraph, has been presented.
3. If this concerns a decision as referred to in Article 12, the Executive Board ensures that:
 - a. advice is sought at such a time that the advice can have a substantial impact on the decision-making process;
 - b. the Council is given the opportunity to consult with them before advice is issued;
 - c. the Council is informed in writing as soon as possible of the way in which the advice issued will be followed;
 - d. the Council, if the Executive Board does not want to follow the advice, either in whole or in part, is given the opportunity to consult with them before a final decision is taken.

Article 14.

1. The Central Student Council aims to promote openness, transparency and mutual discussion within the university.
2. The Council is responsible for generally guarding against any form of discrimination and, in particular, promoting the equal treatment of men and women and the inclusion of people of a non-Dutch background and those with a disability.
3. The Council exercises the powers as laid down in these Regulations in accordance with the Equal Treatment Act and the Equal Treatment (Men and Women) Act.

Article 15.

The Central Student Council may take legal action, if that action seeks to compel the Executive Board to meet its obligations to the Council arising from these Regulations. The Executive Board bears the cost of the legal proceedings which the Council is ordered to pay. The Executive Board may decide to bear the cost of legal assistance for the Council.

Disputes

Article 16.

The Participation Arbitration Committee for higher education takes note of disputes between the Central Student Council and the Executive Board regarding a decision to be taken that, in accordance with these Regulations or the Regulations for Student Participation in Decision-making 1997, requires the Council's consent or advice, of disputes regarding the provisions of these Regulations, and disputes regarding the interpretation of the provisions laid down in or pursuant to the Regulations for participation in decision-making 1997. Articles 9.40 and 9.46 of the WHW apply *mutatis mutandis*.



Final provisions

Article 17.

These regulations may be cited as the Central Student Council Regulations. These regulations will come into force on the day they are approved by the Executive Board.