Following the conclusion of the Democratisation & Decentralisation committee, the UvA recently published a report on strengthening of the representative bodies at the university, amongst which are the Faculty Student Councils. It was presented last month after the academic community had the chance to comment on the draft report. It is important that the UvA pays attention to the empowerment of representative councils, because that would help these bodies to protect the interests of students and employees in an even better way.

For instance, when study financing was replaced by a loan system in 2015, it was agreed that the resulting funds would be spent directly on measures to improve teaching quality. These funds are essentially coming out of students’ pockets, and strengthening student involvement on topics like these will improve the university’s governance. So if you have ideas on how to spend these funds, we would like to hear from you!

Or would you like an even more active role in improving facilities and teaching for students at our Faculty? Then right now is the time to look around for existing parties or start your own, and to sign up for the student council elections. You can do so from 3 to 10 April. Want to know more? Feel free to send us an email or to drop by our office next to the stairs in the central hall.

Finally, we are currently processing the New Year’s Survey responses and we will present the results very soon. Stay tuned!

Yours sincerely,
The Faculty Student Council

More information? Visit us in room B0.112, send an email to fnwi@studentenraad.nl or go to studentenraad.nl/fnwi

On 21 March a referendum will be held about the controversial Intelligence and security services act (Wiv). Students of our very own Faculty of Science initiated this referendum on the law which they renamed ‘Sleepwet’. The BetaBreak will organise a debate between the initiators of the referendum and experts on this new law. Is this law really necessary? How exactly will it work and how much control will the government have? This and more will be discussed during this edition of the BetaBreak.

The national intelligence and security agencies say that in order to do their job effectively, they need to ‘be where the information is’ and be able to intercept data ‘on the cable’. Opponents are concerned about the government accessing and processing large amounts of personal data on TV’s, computers and phones, and even personal medical information.

Come and make up your own mind about the Intelligence and security services act! After the debate, you can immediately cast your well-informed vote at one of the polling stations at Science Park (Polder and Oerknal).

BetaBreak, Wed 21 March, 12:00-13:00, Central Hall, Science Park 904

PUBLISHED BY THE FACULTY OF SCIENCE IN COOPERATION WITH THE STUDENT COUNCIL

Especially made for UvA science students

To Dah Loo

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