Dear students,

This is the very first edition of the WC newspaper. Once or twice a month, you will be able to notice the latest facts, activities and notices about the faculty during an otherwise not particularly useful moment of the day.

We (FSR FNWI) will start right away with an announcement from the Student Council. The Faculty of Science is looking for students to participate in the exploratory committees. These committees will be examining the possible collaboration between the UvA and VU. If you are interested, please send an email to fnwi@studentenraad.nl or visit room A1.26.

Kind regards,
on behalf of the entire FNWI Student Council,
Jonas Lodewegen,
Chairman FSR FNWI ’14-’15

Alcohol at the Student Colloquium

The first Student Colloquium of the new academic year led to a heated discussion. After the first part of the presentation, which covered admission, facilities and other education-related information, the directors of education at the Faculty of Science (UvA) and the Faculty of Earth and Social Sciences (VU) have drawn up their long-term vision on teaching and research. In this document they describe clear advantages to the collaboration between the two universities in the area of Physics & Astronomy.

The core team Physics & Astronomy recently launched its own newsletter, to inform its own discipline a core team got down to work. They set up exploratory committees on education and research, in which students, lecturers and researchers examine the short and long-term visions for their own disciplines.

The core team Physics & Astronomy will report back at a later date on how the arguments have been incorporated into the policy.

Would you like to join in the discussions about faculty policy? The vision on teaching and learning is on the agenda for next time.

Vision on teaching and learning in the area of science education

The directors of education at the Faculty of Science (UvA), the Faculty of Sciences (VU) and the Faculty of Earth and Life Sciences (VU) have drawn up their vision of science education in Amsterdam. In three sessions, including a student pitch, this vision was presented to people from the teaching organisation.

’We studied the vision through the eyes of a student,’ says Emma Boumans, student pitch participant and Natural and Social Sciences student. ’We noticed that it looked at how education should be in the ideal world, with a great deal of focus on things like academic skills. However, it did not look at what is already offered at the Science Park and the VU.’

This made the vision rather abstract, according to Boumans. ’But actually that’s OK. It’s a good idea to first look at where you want to go and agree on that.’

The vision, incorporating all the comments, will be presented to the students during the Student Colloquium of Tuesday 28 October (at 17:00 in the Brainwave).

Staff and students explore UvA-VU collaboration

’Explore intensive collaboration in the areas of education and research’ was the assignment given by dean Prof. Karen Maex to all nine disciplines of the Amsterdam science faculties. For each discipline a core team got down to work. They set up exploratory committees on education and research, in which students, lecturers and researchers examine the short and long-term visions for their own disciplines.

The core team Physics & Astronomy recently launched its own newsletter, to inform all Physics & Astronomy students and staff of the VU and the UvA about the latest developments in the exploration of their collaboration. Everyone in this domain is given the opportunity to respond to the working document drawn up by the core team, which outlines the long-term vision on teaching and research. In this document, they describe clear advantages to the collaboration between the two universities in the area of Physics & Astronomy.

The core teams can choose their own working methods and not everyone has already got as far as Physics & Astronomy. The exploratory committees are not yet up to strength in every respect. More and more information will be made available in the period ahead. Keep an eye on student.uva.nl, the Student Colloquia and the screens in the hall.

More information about the core teams and the scope of the collaboration can be found in the A-Z list on student.uva.nl under Collaboration UvA-VU.