

# Annual report ESE School Council 2015-2016

As chair of the School Council, it is my pleasure to present to you the annual report of the School Council of the Erasmus School of Economics (hereafter: ESE) for the academic year 2015-2016. In the School Council meetings, the management team (hereafter: MT) discusses policy issues with representatives of students and staff. Furthermore, the student and staff members bring up problems that their supporters encounter and come up with new ideas to improve the ESE. The primary duty of the management team is to continuously keep the School Council informed about material topics in the Erasmus School of Economics.

The Council consists of a student fraction (hereafter: SF) and a personnel fraction (PF), who both have different rights and duties. The personnel fraction holds more rights compared to the student fraction when it comes to organisational matters. However, the student fraction does attend discussions concerning organisational matters as well in order to stay informed and bring up ideas.

In the past year, seven meetings were scheduled, of which one was cancelled due to absence of the dean and lack of urgent agenda items. In this report, a summary of these meetings will be given. Next to the summary of the meetings, one event that the School council organized will be discussed shortly. An extensive overview of the meetings can be found on the website of the ESE.

I would like to thank everyone for their contribution to the Council. Not only where the meetings very productive and was it a delight to chair the meetings, but we also managed to increase the visibility of the School council. I hope that the next Council will continue with this task. I would also like to thank the MT for keeping the School Council updated about all important issues and for being open to new ideas from the representatives.

Yrla van de Ven

*Chair School Council 2015-2016*

### ***128th ESE School Council (1th of October 2015)***

- The School Council is opened by Mr. Harry Trienekens as temporary Chair. Ms. Yrla van de Ven is nominated by the SF to act as Chair. As there are no objections, Ms. Yrla van de Ven is appointed as Chair of the ESE School Council 2015/16.
- The SF has elected Ms. Manté Abaraviciuté as their Chair. Mr. Harry Trienekens will continue to perform the duties of Chair of the PF.
- The MT announced the binding study advice results (BSA). In the past academic year, 67% of students across all study programs obtained a positive advice. This is the best result since the introduction of the BSA, possible due to better quality of intake. For Econometrics (Dutch program), the results are still low, with a passing rate of 54%.
- The MT announced that the MOOC for Econometrics will start on 2 November 2015.
- The SF presented an evaluation of the new Master Introduction, that was discussed.
- The Programme of Usage of the Tinbergen building is discussed. This report is set up by a special committee that discusses the renovation of the building.
- The SF pitched a few ideas to the MT. First of all, an issue tree about the marketing and communication strategy of the ESE was presented. The second idea is increasing the transparency of recruitment of student assistants. Thirdly, rescheduling the master open day (from weekday to weekend) so people from abroad can visit more easily.

### ***129th ESE School Council (10th of December 2015)***

- The plan for spending the stimulation funds (hereafter: Quality Impetus) is discussed and approved. This plan was formulated in close collaboration with the education committees. The plan of the ESE consists of 5 parts: Tutor academy, teaching innovation hub, intensifying education in master programs, umbrella project and improving our skills education.
- The SF raised three ideas. Firstly, an information lecture at the start of bachelor 2. This is to improve the communication about procedures to apply for an exchange, minor and major. Secondly, better communication about the Graduation process. Thirdly, making the ESE more visible within partner universities by giving ESE hoodies to students going on an exchange. This will all be realised in the coming academic year. Finally, the student section wants to organise an event for the bonding of ESE students and teachers.
- The CBBA criteria for Accounting were discussed. The PF has approval rights regarding these criteria. The new CBBA criteria should make it easier to recruit good candidates. The PF approved the new criteria.

### ***130th ESE School Council (4th of February 2015)***

- On request of the SF, the MT gives an update about the current status of webcasts and possibilities for extension
- The SF pitches an idea for Student Representatives. The idea is that per study-year there will be two student representatives for each study who collect feedback from other students and communicate this to the professors teaching the course. They will also collect feedback about tutorials. The goal is to increase the students' satisfaction and to increase the number of students giving feedback (now about 20%). The proposal will be further discussed in the education committees.

- The School Council decides that there will be a pre-meeting about the budget in July.
- The IPRC (International Peer Review Committee) report regarding the Research Review Economics & Business, is discussed. In this report, the quality, viability and societal relevance of ESE as well as other universities is reviewed. The ESE scored 'very good' on quality as well as viability and 'good' on relevance to society.
- Adaptations of the CBBA criteria related to labour agreement are discussed. The underrepresentation of women in the faculty is discussed and some ideas for improvement are given.
- The SF raises two issues: communication to bachelor students about the rules that apply to the B3 seminar and opening hours of buildings for studying.

### ***131th ESE School Council (31th of March 2016)***

- The MT gives an update about the student representatives and the implementation of the stimulation funds. The Executive Board has approved the plan for the incidental funds and will likely support the structural funds as soon as more project details are filled in.
- The Report Educational Renewal by the project group Educational Renewal is discussed. The project group, consisting of students and staff, investigated how ESE can improve its education, with a special focus on the tutorials. .
- The SF raises several issues and ideas. Firstly, the promotion of ESE Masters should be improved. Secondly, there are no BS<sup>2</sup> students represented in the Education committees, even though they are free to apply.
- The SF gives an update about organising a social event. The plan is that the School Council will organise a gathering (ESE Drinks) for all students and staff, so that they can meet in an informal setting. Study Associations are contacted to help with organising the drink.
- The report 'Participation in decision-making' from the University Council is discussed. The SF decided to waive the right of an attendance fee (on top of the grant that they already receive), because they find that intrinsic motivation should be more important than financial incentives. The PF would like to have budget available for independent legal advice. The Educational committee wishes that their opinion gets more substantial weight. The report is approved with these changes.

### ***132nd ESE School Council (19th of May 2016)***

- The MT gives an update about the Quality Impetus project (former: Educational Renewal Project). The hiring process for the Tutor Academy is in full motion.
- The pilot Secretariats is discussed. In restructuring the secretariats, the focus is on developing skills and reducing the number of tasks of the office managers and attention for the management. Part of the project is to change the management of the secretariats. The PF will give their written consent after a meeting with those involved.
- The Annual report ESE 2015/progress Covenant is discussed. The document is merely a midterm discussion paper for the half yearly meeting with the Executive Board of EUR and is therefore still confidential.

- The Career and Mobility plan is discussed. The plan consists of a website and a budget of €500 per employee that employees can spend on personal development.
- The SF asks for a certificate of merit to recognize the Student representatives (starting next year). Next to that, the council agreed that a 'thank you' event will be organized at the end of each year for all student representatives, the School Council and the education committees. Furthermore, the SF asks for permission to skip seminars/tutorials in case they conflict with the School Council meetings and an update about the Social event is given.

### ***133th ESE School Council (30th of June 2016)***

- The MT gives an update about the Quality Impetus project.
- The Education committees were invited to discuss the visibility of the Participatory bodies. All parties agreed that more effort is needed to increase the visibility and some ideas were exchanged.
- The Programme Assessment is discussed. Every six years, the ESE requests the Accreditation Organization of the Netherlands and Flanders (NVAO) to give a (re-)accreditation for its programmes. This is necessary to be able to award recognized degrees to the students. The programmes passed the assessment.
- The MT gives an update about the Pilot Secretariats
- The Teaching and exam regulations (TER) were discussed and some textual changes were proposed. In the TER, students can find all rules and procedures regarding their education and exams, for example procedures to subscribe for exams.
- The SF approves the TER of the Master programs 2016-2017 and the TER of the Tinbergen institute. The SF approves the TER of the Bachelor programs with the exception of article 29 part 4 about the Mr.Drs.-program. This article will be discussed again during the meeting in august.
- The PF approves the TER of the Bachelor and Master programs and the TER of the Tinbergen institute.
- The SF presents an evaluation of the first ESE Social event
- The SF asks for better guidance and information provision for the bachelor thesis process. The MT gives, on request of the SF, an update about the opening hours of study spaces in the weekends. Some security problems seem to play a role.

### ***Budget pre-meeting (18th of July 2016)***

- For the first time, a budget pre-meeting took place to discuss the Budget for the upcoming year in an early stage and to ask detailed questions about the different figures that form the basis for the Budget 16/17. Two members of the SF and two of the PF attended the meeting.

### ***134th School Council (25th of August 2016)***

- Thanks to the budget pre-meeting, where plenty of questions were already asked and answered, the official budget meeting went very smoothly.
- The SF gave the board a positive advice for the budget 16/17 and approved the headlines of the budget.

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***ESE Social Event (7th of June 2016)***

- On the 7th of June, the first ESE Social event organized by the School Council took place. More than 100 students and staff attended the event, where they could socialize and give ideas to improve the ESE. There was a Wall of Ideas where students and staff could leave their ideas, and many useful suggestions were given. The best ideas were briefly discussed during the meeting in July and more ideas will be brought up next year. The students and staff members that attended were very positive about the event.