

**Studievereniging voor Politicologen In Leiden**  
**Study Association for Political Scientists in Leiden**



**XLth bestuur**  
**SPILuminous**  
**2020-2021**

## **INTERIM GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**February 25 2021, start at 6:00 PM**

**Zoom**

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# Onze nob'le discipline'

Door Max Nederkoorn en Stijn van den Wijngaard op de wijs van de Marseillaise

Onze nob'le discipline,  
De politieke wetenschap!  
Het debat is voor ons routine,  
Trots op 't studieus broederschap,  
Dit Leidsch superieur instituut,  
Eren wij de vereniging,  
Die heerst en regeert deze stad:  
Sedert 't jaar één-en-tachtig  
Is de SPIL oppermachtig!  
Maak plaats, hier is de SPIL!  
De SPIL maakt 't verschil!  
Chapeau, chapeau:  
Wij prijzen hoog  
De glorie van de SPIL  
Rijk'lijk vloeit de alcohol,  
De politieke borrelpraat!  
Drinken hoort bij 't protocol,  
Zoveel dat het nergens meer op slaat.  
Dit Leidsch superieur instituut,  
Eren wij de vereniging,  
Die heerst en regeert deze stad:  
Wie ons ziet heeft direct een  
Minderwaardigheidscomplex!  
Maak plaats, hier is de SPIL!  
De SPIL maakt 't verschil!  
Chapeau, chapeau:  
Wij prijzen hoog  
De glorie van de SPIL

## **AGENDA**

1. Opening
2. Choosing Voting Committee
3. Setting the agenda
4. Announcements
5. Received documents
6. Evaluating minutes of the Policy GA, dated October 29 2021
7. Open discussion: Lustrum week
8. Interim report XLth board of SPIL, 'SPILuminous'
9. Interim report Audit committee
10. Report TWHALV
11. Report Board of Advisors
12. Nominations Board of Advisors
13. Discharges and Installations
14. Any Other Businesses (W.v.t.t.k.)
15. Round of questions
16. Discharge of Voting Committee
17. End of meeting

## **INTERIM REPORT XLth BOARD OF SPIL, ‘SPILUMINOUS**

### **1. LONG TERM GOALS STUDY ASSOCIATION FOR POLITICAL SCIENCE STUDENTS IN LEIDEN**

The main goals of the association have been recorded in the Statutes of the association. These are the following:

The association’s goal is to:

1. a. contribute to a lively exchange of views, regarding subjects of interest to political scientists within the field of Political Science and beyond;
1. b. advance contacts with universities outside of The Netherlands in its broadest sense;
1. c. inform about the possibilities of internships and about the position of political scientists on the job market;
1. d. advance contact between political scientists on an informal level.
2. The association aims to reach this goal by organizing gatherings in the broadest sense, domestic and foreign excursions and publication of a journal.
3. The association is politically neutral.

These are the foundations upon which the policy goals of the XLth board ‘SPILuminous’ are built.

### **2. ASSOCIATION WIDE POLICY GOALS**

*“A lot of different flowers make a bouquet.” - Islamic proverb*

The XLth SPIL board will handle the following association wide policy goals this year.

#### **2.1 Adaptability**

As written in our policy, the XLth board expected that adaptability was going to be very much needed. The XLth board has experienced many situations that required a flexible and efficient approach. Due to the continuous fluctuation in government measures and university policy, the board constantly had to adapt to changing circumstances. At the beginning of the academic year, the university's policy was communicated through the assessor to all the hallway association's presidents at the Verenigingen Overleg (VerO’s). Unfortunately, the contact with the university was not at its best, due to the absence of the assessor . This meant that the hallway associations of FSW missed out on some information that was supposed to be communicated to them. The associations solved this by having different contact persons for different things, which was not ideal but worked on the short term. Being able to adapt to situations means that communication needs to happen fast and smoothly. Eventually, a new assessor was appointed for the FSW associations.

Concerning the activities that the board and committees organize, a lot of last-minute shifts happen within the year plan. This offers the committees the chance to be creative and come up with back-up plans. At the beginning of the academic year, the board’s policy regarding activities was to aim to have it in-person and to have an online version as a back-up plan. With the prospects of the coming months, the board has been advised to focus firstly on online activities and when possible, to have them in-person.

#### **2.2 Diversity and inclusion**

It is always, but most importantly during this pandemic, important that students feel welcome and heard. The board has organized an input session together with study association Itiwana to hear different voices on how online education is going so far and how to make it more inclusive. Unfortunately, this activity was not visited by many SPIL’ers. However, it opened a discussion with the faculty board and POP-corner. At the time of writing, the presidents of the study associations are working together on creating a Student Support environment for students to make education more inclusive, not only during this pandemic but at all times. The main focus right now is to create an environment in which students feel welcome and do not feel as if there is a threshold to participate in activities or contact the university

when they need it. The XLth board has organized bonding activities for committee members, and besides that strive to pay more attention to what committee members want. The main focus right now concerning inclusion is that members feel welcome and that they can participate with no barrier.

The board is still in contact with the Diversity Officer. A concrete step the board has taken regarding diversity is the promotion of more university activity that have to do with these values. The board has planned to follow a diversity training organized by the Diversity Office and would recommend every board that follows to participate in one such training.

Diversity and inclusion are core values that are indispensable within our association. SPIL is a beautiful study association where the aim has always been to let our members feel welcome, seen and heard. It is an honour to be able to learn more in this area, to grow and make way for those that follow.

### **2.3 Unity**

At the beginning of this academic year, the XLth board resolved to pay extra attention to the unity that SPIL-members feel among themselves and the connection they feel to the association. Not entirely surprisingly, this has proven to be quite difficult in these times when members cannot meet in-person. The board has tried to compensate for this by being extra active on social media and to connect with its members through informal activities such as the Instagram game nights. Board members also make sure that they can easily be reached by all members through email and Whatsapp.

Within the committees it can be noticed that some committees are closer to each other than others. This is normal and to be expected. The board members encourage their committee chairs and members to still bond with each other by suggesting online committee outings and by actively encouraging committee members to attend SPIL activities such as borrels. In this regard, the 'Committee bonding day' on November 27 and the 'Welcome back day' on February 2 (open to all members) were a great success and received many enthusiastic responses. The board is looking forward to more of these activities, such as the 'committee thank you day' at the end of the academic year.

In the spirit of unity and accessibility, the chat function on the SPIL website is now available 24/7. The board will also continue with the online common room hours, called 'SPIL the tea', that it has been organizing since January. Although the online common room hour does not generate many visitors, the board feels that the personal communication with a small group of members is worth it to continue with this activity.

The advantage of having online activities is that it does not matter to members whether they study in Leiden or The Hague: all activities are easy to attend for everyone. Should it be possible to have more in-person activities in the future, the board will maintain its intention to organize roughly the same number of activities in both cities. A very important note here is that it can be difficult at present to find a location where an in-person activity can take place. Therefore, the board and its committees cannot be too picky when it comes to the location of an in-person activity. As a result, it is possible that despite this effort, there will be more in-person activities in one city than another.

## **3. PRESIDENT & COMMISSIONER LUSTRUM**

### **3.1 President**

*"Als Bas dit nog leest: draag je vestje, volg je colleges en trek bakken. Dan komt alles goed. En voor jou natuurlijk ook Maryem! Maar dan zonder de bakken!"* - Rex van der Kruit

#### **3.1.1 Internal Affairs**

A board year asks a lot of time and effort from her board members. In a normal year, you get a lot of fulfilment from the activities you organize and the members you connect with. During this pandemic, the president has noticed that this aspect is challenging as you do not get to see people in person. At times it is hard to stay motivated when the end does not seem to come closer. Nevertheless, the president believes the relationship between the board members is going well. There is a different kind of

connection you make during a crisis. The board does not see each other in person on a regular basis, nonetheless effort is made by organising weekly board dinner as long as the measures allowed it. After every block, the president holds individual evaluations with the board members, in which personal goals both SPIL related, and non-SPIL related are discussed to see where support is needed. The board also had a board evaluation in which the board jointly looked back on the first semester and discussed some improvements the board would like to work on during the second semester. The board has also initiated separate brainstorm sessions to encourage new ideas and keep the board meetings concise.

The president has had a chair training with the chairs and an end of the block's evaluation. The common thread here is that the chairs feel most connected to SPIL when they attend a bonding activity. Especially now activities are online, one way to connect in some way are these activities. For this reason, the board would like to organize more of these bonding activities throughout the year.

### **3.1.2 External Representation**

The president participates in the VerO (Verenigingen Overleg) with the hallway associations and the assessor of FSW. The president thinks these are crucial for a president to do their job properly. In October, the assessor fell ill and there was no substitute until the beginning of January. Unfortunately, this has caused some scenarios where there was information missing. The presidents of the hallway associations really found support in each other, but they all had different contact persons at that time which made deciding on some issues very hard. Luckily, there were different people working at FSW lending us their hand. A substitute assessor has finally been appointed, which is the assessor of FGGA. A very positive matter is that the presidents now have meetings with the dean of the Faculty Board every two weeks. This is extremely important as information sometimes gets lost in the way. The dean of the Faculty Board is very open to discuss things with the boards which forecasts better and smoother communication during the second semester on that matter.

The president contacts the Board of Advisors whenever she thinks this is necessary. After the Policy General Assembly in October and advice from the president of the XXXIXth board, the Board of Advisors and the president thought of a new way to contact each other. They had their first online meeting, which the president was very happy about. Instead of just sending all the documents before the General Assembly, you have a substantive meeting with the Board of Advisors about certain issues. The first meeting was after the Policy General Assembly and a few things were discussed. The Board of Advisors is, and especially in this year, a very valuable organ within our association, where old board members with a lot of experience give advice. After this meeting, the president did not feel a threshold to contact the members anymore.

The president is also the point of contact for the Study Association Deliberation Platform (StOP). StOP organizes trainings for boards such as a diversity training, COVID-19 meetings, and promotion meetings. These can be very useful and the board aims to have at least one board member present here. The best thing about these meetings is that you get to meet other presidents – or other positions – within other boards, so not just board members from FSW-associations. StOP has organized some COVID support meetings, and these were very valuable. It shows that, contrary to how it sometimes may feel, you are not alone.

### **3.1.3 Platform for Political Scientists**

The Platform for Political Scientists (PvP) is a platform where SPIL comes together with her sister associations EOS (Vrije Universiteit), Machiavelli (University of Amsterdam) and Ismus (Radboud University). The PvP board oversees the PiP-committee, which will organise the PiP-congress (Political Scientists in Perspective). The PiP-congress is at the time of writing still set for 7th of April in Amsterdam. The committee, together with the PiP-coordinator has decided to go for a hybrid activity if the situation allows it. This means that the speakers of the congress will still be present in the same room, but the people coming to the activity will participate online. Right now, the PvP board is thinking of how to still make it attractive for members from all four associations to come.

The president of SPIL is the treasurer of the PvP board. Unfortunately, due to poor communication with the previous treasurer from the PvP board, the president has experienced many issues with the start-up and contact with the bank. The president aims to be in better contact with her successor and write a proper white paper for them.

The contact with the sister associations is going very well and the PvP board speaks to each other on a regular basis about both board and personal issues. The president is very happy with this.

#### **3.1.4 Other activities**

The board members value an active and visible approach highly. Sadly, due to the current situation the board has not yet been able to see many members in-person. However, the board has and still is trying to be as visible as possible, which they try to achieve through a personal approach. This could be in the way of showing more of themselves on Instagram and being in close contact with their committee members.

The board has organised a committee bonding day near the end of the second block. The committee members were invited to ‘solve a murder mystery’. During this activity committee members were put in breakout rooms to meet other committee members and play a Crimibox game. Afterwards, committee members got the option to play other games in breakout rooms. This was experienced very positively by both the board and the committee members. During the chair evaluation, it was discussed that they would like to see more bonding activities.

The board has organised a ‘Welcome back day’ activity in the first week of February. The ‘coming back’ for the second semester after one and a half months can be experienced tough, even more so due to the current situation. During the ‘welcome back day’ activity ‘The Smartest SPIL’er’ was played in teams with some professors.

#### **3.1.5 CIROS**

During the Policy GA in October, it has been brought to the GA’s attention that CIROS has requested a status change from student to study association. Ever since both associations have engaged in an open discussion about possible concerns and the consequences. The decision will be made by the Institute Board, contrary to what was told in the beginning. At the time of writing, no decision has been made yet. Unfortunately, the contact due to the illness of the assessor has not gone very smoothly. The president, together with the vice-president and secretary, is in contact with CIROS, the Board of Advisors and Student member of the Institute Board about this issue and hopes to update the General Assembly about this as soon as possible.

### **3.2 Commissioner Lustrum**

*“Finding something good without looking for it.” - Serendipity*

The Lustrum Committee has organised a Dies Lecture in November. Chief of Defence Rob Bauer was the speaker. This was a successful activity, the committee put a lot of effort into the organisation of this activity. Good communication with the security from FGGA and the assessor of FGGA was crucial to know what the committee was able to do. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, fifty people were allowed to be in the lecture hall. Therefore, the committee decided a live stream would give more members the opportunity to join this activity. During the Dies Lecture the chair of the committee together with her committee announced the theme and date of the Lustrum Week “SERENSPILITY” – Let’s Quarantez-vous!

Initially, the Lustrum Week was planned in the week of 12-16 April. The committee, together with the board has recently decided that they want to postpone the Lustrum Week. The reasons for this is that the prospects concerning the COVID-19 pandemic are not looking good. Especially because there currently is a stricter lockdown than before, with a curfew. Right now the lockdown is prolonged to at least the 2nd of March. Even when the lockdown would then be lifted, the chances are that Leiden University will not allow any activities for at least the three upcoming weeks. There are a couple of options that are

being weighed. The options to postpone it are the first week of September 2021, a later moment in the first semester of the academic year 2021/20220 or the second semester of the academic year 2021/2022.

The president is very proud of this committee. They work really hard to come up with out of the box solutions. They are filled with an enormous amount of enthusiasm and passion for the association and go above and beyond to make the celebration extra special this year. At the moment the committee is working very hard to create a special Lustrum item!

#### **4. SECRETARY & COMMISSIONER INTRODUCTION**

##### **4.1 Secretary**

*“And remember, if you need someone to help you with typing out the minutes of the Policy GA, ask Bas.” - Renée Pietersma*

##### **4.1.1 Members**

Currently, SPIL counts a total of ... members. This number is made up of at least ... Politicologie students, ... Internationale Politiek students, ... IBO students, ... IRO students, and ... master students, of which at least ... members are international students.

This number is lower than what was told during the Policy GA. This is because the secretary discovered in recent weeks that several members were listed multiple times in the membership file. It also became clear that a considerable number of members who deregistered on time last year had not been processed in PC Leden, which meant that these members were wrongly counted at the time of the Policy GA.

##### **4.1.2 Member account**

As promised at the Policy GA, the secretary has been looking for a new member account. She is aware that this is an important task of which many secretaries after her will reap the benefits, so she wants to be extremely careful about this. After looking at various options and talking to many other associations, the secretary has concluded that Conscribo is the best program for SPIL. The most important reason to switch member accounts is that the treasurer and secretary believe that the new member account will lead to a higher income from the collection of the membership fee. Through Conscribo, it is easier to set up a direct debit for foreign payment accounts. Whereas this year just under two hundred members had to be asked to transfer their membership fee manually, in the future some of them will be able to be collected by direct debit, which will lead to a lower percentage of defaulters.

Conscribo is expected to cost the association a little less than €300 per year, meaning it is one of the less expensive modern member accounts. The helpdesk contract of PC Leden cost the association €75,- per year. However, the secretary believes Conscribo is worth this extra cost. Not only is Conscribo more user-friendly than PC Leden, but it is also possible to officially include all alumni and international members in the member account. Overall, Conscribo is more suited to the professional association that SPIL has grown into. Furthermore, SPIL has a larger budget now than it had a decades ago, which means that SPIL is able to spend more money on the member account.

At the time of writing, the transition to Conscribo has not been completed yet. The reason for this is that the secretary would like to create a link between the field of the website in which new members can register and the membership database, so that she can easily add new members. Although website management via Conscribo is also possible, the website of SPIL will remain in its own management via Wordpress since this has been working well so far and because the website received a beautiful makeover last year. The secretary, together with the commissioner of External Relations, is still working on the technical achievement of this. The helpdesk contract with PC Leden has been terminated. Until the transition to Conscribo is completed, the secretary can still use PC Leden for the member administration.

#### **4.1.3 Newsletter**

Initially, the secretary planned to send out the newsletter every first day of the month, even if this is a weekend day. As a result of the feedback she received after the last GA, she decided to send it out on the next Monday if the first day of the month is a weekend day. This has worked out well so far and has generally led to a slightly higher opening ratio compared to last year.

#### **4.1.4 Reunionists**

In January, the secretary sent her first newsletter to the reunionists, to which she received several heart-warming reactions. She is actively trying to get more students to become a reunionist by pointing out this possibility to SPIL-members who want to terminate their membership once they graduate.

At present, SPIL counts a total of ... reunionists.

#### **4.1.5 Alumni**

Together with five motivated alumni members, the secretary forms the Alumni committee for the first time this year. The cooperation has been going well so far and the secretary is excited about the Alumni committee's plans. They have at least two activities planned in the second semester. At the moment however, it is still unclear whether the activities will take place or not. The Alumni committee has expressed that they are only interested in organizing activities if it can take place in-person, since a large part of the older SPIL alumni members attend these activities out of nostalgia for Leiden University and the atmosphere at the faculty. Therefore, they have no need for an online alumni activity. The planned activity has thus been postponed to later in the semester so that it can hopefully take place in-person.

The secretary has also created a SPIL alumni LinkedIn page so that alumni can easily stay in touch with each other. Everyone who signs up as a SPIL alumnus via the website, will also receive a LinkedIn invitation.

At present, SPIL counts a total of ... alumni members.

#### **4.1.6 General Assembly**

An important aim of the XLth board this year is to increase attendance at the GA's. The motion adopted at the Change of Boards-GA concerning the presentation of the policy by the board was not well-liked by everyone, after which a motion was adopted at the Policy-GA calling for the formation of a working group, the Second Working Group on the Reform of the General Assembly (TWHALV). The TWHALV has been working enthusiastically on this in December and January and will present its plans at the end of the Interim-GA. The board obviously intends to follow the advice of the TWHALV and hopes that this will lead to more efficient GA's with a higher turnout and enough room for lively discussions between members.

As in previous years, members can ask their questions to the board in both Dutch and English. The minutes will be written in the language in which the questions at the GA were expressed. Dutch questions and answers are provided with a short translation to maintain transparency towards international members.

Currently, the agendas and documents of the 2020-2021 GA's can be found on the GA page of the website. The HR, Financial Rules and Statutes are also made available.

#### **4.1.7 Statutes**

In this exceptional year in which there are fewer in-person activities than usual, the XLth board has resolved to devote more time to the ins and outs of the association behind the scenes. One part of this is the statutes. These were last amended in 2012 and may need some changes. The board has not yet decided exactly which changes it wants to present to the GA and will possibly come back to this at the Affirmation-GA. To be sure, money has been reserved in the budget for the notary fees.

#### **4.1.8 Former boards borrel**

Under the current circumstances it is not possible to organise a festive former boards borrel. The borrel has therefore been postponed until the end of May, in the hope that it will then be able to take place in-person. The secretary is also open to having the borrel in summer (June/July/August). She would like to hear the GA's opinion on this.

#### **4.2 Commissioner Introduction**

*“As an IR student I would like to comment that Samara and I are superpowers fighting for hegemony and Anna is the international system setting us ridiculous rules”* - Danique de Laat

##### **4.2.1 Activities**

The committee has organised several successful activities so far. In September, before the committee was formed, the commissioner organised a speed dating activity in Leiden. In November, the committee released a video about safe cycling in the Netherlands and the committee organised a scavenger hunt that, despite the bad weather, was well attended. A successful online chess tournament followed in January. In February and March the online 'Friends and Family' days will take place. Later in the second semester and in the first two weeks of September, a few introductory activities will take place, including the 'Freshmen day'.

##### **4.2.2 Freshmen weekend**

The commissioner and her committee remain hopeful that the Freshmen Weekend (EJW) can take place in-person in August and are researching different locations. The committee is incredibly excited about the EJW and already has some activities in mind. If it is not possible to have an EJW with an overnight stay, then EJW days will be held in Leiden and/or The Hague. The last option is to have an online EJW like the one the Introduction committee organized last year.

##### **4.2.3 Committee**

The commissioner is extremely satisfied with her committee and could not have wished for better and more hardworking committee members. Entirely according to the COVID-19 rules, the committee has ventured into a blood-curdling mini-golf competition in the first semester as a committee outing to increase social cohesion. The committee has weekly meetings and is in regular contact with each other. Because of the small size of the committee, the commissioner takes an active role within the committee, something that has worked well for both sides.

The commissioner has incredible faith in the qualities and commitment of the committee chair and the other members. She is therefore looking forward to their cooperation for the rest of the year.

### **5. TREASURER & COMMISSIONER FESTIVITIES**

#### **5.1 Treasurer**

*“I got a very friendly email that someone wanted to give me 35 million!!”* - Commissioner Global Relations

##### **5.1.1 Rebudget**

The income of SPIL turned out lower than expected. This was mainly because the income of the membership fee was very disappointing. The lower income led to many posts being rebudgeted to a lower amount. Because of the restrictions due to the COVID-19 measures, much less was spent than usual. Many committees organize online activities at low cost. The treasurer encouraged his fellow board members to continue to look at ways their committees can spend the budgeted money in the second semester. The XLth board decided to spend the gift of 750 euros by the XXXIXth board on modernising the statues.

The XLth board decided to spend the XXXIXth board's "corona reservation" on expenses for the trips. Normally, the Brussels excursion is paid for entirely from the participant registration fee. The SPIL contribution for the Short and Long Trip is in a set proportion to the participant registration fee. For at

least the Brussels Excursion and the Short Trip, an online program will be organised where there are no participant fees. To compensate for possible costs of these trips without participants paying for them, the corona reservation will be used. Further information on the trips and the program is further explained in the policy of the Commissioner Global Relations.

### **5.1.2 Membership fee**

The collection of the membership fee this year was scheduled for November. Unfortunately, due to problems with PC Leden, this could not take place. The secretary contacted the customer service of PC Leden, after which the problems were solved and a new collection moment was scheduled for the end of December. This one did not take place either, due to the collection limit reached at ABN-AMRO. The current collection contract allows us to submit four collection files per year. Since a collection file may contain a maximum of one thousand collections and SPIL has at least more than one thousand members, two collection files must be submitted for the collection of dues. Due to the problems that the XXXIXth board has encountered in collecting dues, all the collection files that we are allowed to submit in a year had already been used. As a result, the collection of dues was rescheduled to the end of January, because SPIL had four fresh collection files again in 2021. Consequently, the contribution was successfully collected at the end of January.

The collection of the membership fee was not successful with all SPIL-members. The reasons for this are very diverse: for example, a member may have switched account numbers without informing the secretary or the transaction may have been refused because the member did not have enough money on their account. There are also many members who, with or without a valid reason, have had their membership fee reversed. All defaulters received an email with the friendly but urgent request to transfer the membership fee as soon as possible. These members have been given the choice to transfer the amount manually, or by using the enclosed Mollie payment link. The members were informed that using the Mollie payment link entailed additional transaction costs of €0.28. This gave defaulting members a choice between transferring manually at no additional cost, or transferring via the convenience of the Mollie link at an additional cost. The treasurer has chosen to charge the transaction costs to the SPIL-member, because the treasurer thinks it is unfair to the SPIL-members who do pay their membership fee correctly that SPIL should have to pay for the extra costs of the non-paying members.

### **5.1.3. Audit Committee**

The first check of the Audit Committee took place on December 11, 2020. A report of this check will be attached to the GA booklet. The treasurer has agreed with the Audit Committee to have two more checks in the second semester. The treasurer is very pleased with the Audit Committee. Especially in a year in which the expenses are very different from previous years and a special situation has arisen for a number of activities, the treasurer is very happy with the knowledgeable advice of the Audit Committee.

## **5.2. Commissioner Festivities**

*“Wait English!!!! For Petra: zuipe = drinkin.”* - Commissioner Internal Relations

### **5.2.1 Committee**

The Commissioner is very pleased with the Festive Committee. Normally, this committee organizes the most activities in the year, which brings an extra challenge in the current times where everything takes place online. The commissioner therefore praises the enormous creativity and adaptability of the committee members. Due to ever-changing measures and an unclear future outlook, the beginning of the year was somewhat difficult, but the committee demonstrated its flexibility and managed to organise several activities with clear regularity.

### **5.2.2. Borrels**

It was with great pride that the Commissioner Festivities was able to announce in October that the new location for the monthly SPIL borrel in Leiden had become 'Café De Vergulde Kruik'. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 measures, no physical borrel could take place here yet to inaugurate the new location. The COVID-19 measures have also put on hold the search for a new location for the monthly

SPIL borrel in The Hague. Because of the unclear future prospects for bars and pubs, the commissioner does not see any point in contacting them about a possible SPIL borrel. The commissioner is keeping a close eye on the measures concerning the COVID-19 virus and cherishes the positive expectation that by the end of the second semester one or more physical borrel will be possible. Should the measures allow it, the commissioner assumes that this will take place in Leiden at 'De Vergulde Kruik'. For the possible SPIL borrel in The Hague, a location will be found on short notice. Until then, of course, all borrels will take place online.

The commissioner has noticed that it is difficult to keep people motivated to attend online borrels. To increase the attendance at the online borrels instead of spreading it out, the commissioner has chosen to scale back the number of monthly online borrels from two to one per month. During the borrels, a variety of activities are organized to ensure that attending members remain engaged and active. For example, the game 'Werewolves' was played, a 'New-Year's resolutions' game was played at the New Year's borrel and two themed borrels took place with the Halloween borrel and the Mexican borrel. During the latter, it was possible for members present to buy refreshments within the theme, which were reimbursed by SPIL up to a certain amount. The commissioner is very pleased with this concept and will use it more often in the future to attract more members to the borrels and make use of the committee's budget. Although the attendance at the activities was not as high as hoped, the activities itself were a great success.

### **5.2.3. Parties**

In October, the commissioner had a positive expectation that the second semester would provide more opportunities for organizing parties. However, the current COVID-19 measures make this expectation unrealistic, so the commissioner had to decide with the board not to schedule any parties for the second semester either. Should the current situation improve significantly, then the commissioner will remain open to look at alternatives that can be organized. One of the parties for which an alternative can be organized is the FSW party. The first meetings with the hallway-associations (Labyrint, Itiwana, Emile) about an alternative took place at the end of 2020, but these are currently on hold due to the unclear future perspective. In addition, regular meetings have already taken place with the organizing associations of the Interfaculty Party, in order to draw up a worthy alternative for this as well. Multiple plans and options have been drawn up that will be explored further when more light can be seen at the end of the COVID-19 tunnel.

### **5.2.4. Social Activities**

In October, the commissioner set the goal of organizing at least one social activity per month in addition to the monthly borrels. This has been successful except for one month. Two movie nights have been organized, the board and committee members have gone door-to-door with the 'Tour du Waffle' and 'SPIL to your door' and at the time of writing preparations are taking place for online 'Cards Against Humanity'. The commissioner praises the creativity of the committee members, but also notes that with all the restrictions it is difficult to remain original. Because of the online activities, he also sees that the difference between borrels and social activities is now very small. The commissioner therefore hopes that the COVID-19 measures will allow the organization of physical activities again as soon as possible. With this, the commissioner cherishes the positive expectation that the difference between borrels and social activities will become clearer. One of the activities that is being explored to take place is the traditional 'Rellen met de ME' (Riot with the Police Force). Despite the challenges that the ME has faced recently, the commissioner hopes that they will organize another training activity in the second semester where SPIL-members can show their riot skills.

## **6. COMMISSIONER EDUCATION & POLITICS**

### **6.1. Commissioner Education**

“It doesn't hurt to get more education.” - Donald Trump

### **6.1.1 Education Committee**

The Education committee has not been able to organise several activities they were planning to. Reasons for these cancellations are, for example, time-management issues, not getting approval to organise a planned activity in-person and struggles to come up with a back-up plan. This year the committee has slightly struggled with coming up with ideas for activities and contacting guest speakers for activities. Additionally, practicalities such as meetings and communication amongst committee members have not always been as smooth as the commissioner would like it to be. To avoid this in the future, the commissioner has taken a bigger role in the committee.

Last year the committee started writing brief weekly news updates. These updates are written by the committee members and published by the commissioner of External Relations. In October, the committee organised an online studying workshop in cooperation with the Popcorner. The turnout in the activity was relatively low with only ten members participating. After the U.S. elections in November, the committee hosted their second activity, a panel discussion on the results of the election. The committee got a lot of good feedback and nearly forty members were present at the activity. In November, the committee also organised a Public Speaking workshop together with Leiden MUN. The workshop took place at Pieter de la Court in Leiden. Due to COVID-19 measurements, twenty members were allowed to participate. Likewise to the panel discussion, the workshop got a lot of positive feedback. Hence, the committee is planning on organising another activity with Leiden MUN for those members who were not able to participate in the first one. At the moment, the committee is working on a Dutch election panel discussion which will take place in March and the Career Night which is planned to take place in April. The commissioner also aims to organise more online lectures in the second semester.

The course evaluations are now done on the SPIL website. The commissioner hoped that this would increase the turnout. That, however, did not happen. The turnout is still relatively low like it has been in the previous years. The commissioner nevertheless aims to continue the course evaluations and believes that with greater promotion, the turnout can increase. Even when it did not impact the turnout, the commissioner believes that the evaluations are better at the SPIL website and considers the evaluation forms to look more professional now.

### **6.1.2 Master Activities committee**

This year is the second year SPIL is having a committee for masters students. So far, the committee has organised four activities. Two of these have been social activities and two have been in cooperation with PhD students. The turnout has been lower than in other SPIL activities. The commissioner is not surprised or worried about this since she acknowledges masters students to be a minority in SPIL.

The first activity the committee organised took place in November. The activity was an online borrel and during it, the students were playing different games and chatting with each other. The turnout was good with more than twenty people present. The committee received positive feedback and people participating wished to have more similar activities. One month later, in December, the committee organised a similar activity, however, this time only a couple of students joined. In February the committee hosted their second activity together with PhD students. During this activity, the students were able to ask questions and tips regarding their master thesis.

The PhD students have been glad to join the masters' activities and work together with SPIL which the commissioner is very delighted about. The commissioner aims to continue cooperation with the PhD students and encourages her successor to do the same. In the second semester, the commissioner aims to organise more career-related activities. Regarding this, she has had meetings with the FSW Career Service and is currently planning on having at least one activity with them this spring.

### **6.1.3 Book sale**

The commissioner has run into some difficulties when working with Studystore. She has, for example, received inaccurate information about the payments. At the time of writing, SPIL has not received any money from the book sale from this academic year. However, according to Studystore, the money has

been transferred. At the time of writing the commissioner also has not received the number of books sold so far. At the beginning of the year, the commissioner followed the given deadlines for the book lists to be online. Nevertheless, the lists for block 2 were still slightly late. The commissioner learned from that and now she has made sure that the lists are ready at least one week before the given deadline. That has worked and the lists were published on time for block 3.

The current contract SPIL has with Studystore will stand until the end of the next academic year. The commissioner plans to schedule a meeting with Education commissioners from other study associations to discuss their book sales and companies other associations are using. By doing this, she wishes to get a clear overview of alternative options. She also believes this will be helpful for her successor who will need to either renew the contract with Studystore or find a new company to work with.

At the beginning of the year, the commissioner intended to have a pick-up point for students to collect their book orders from. Due to the current COVID-19 situation, this is no longer reasonable. She, however, still sees that this could be helpful to increase the book sale orders, overcome delivery issues, but also to promote the book sale at the university campuses. The commissioner will recommend her successor to consider this option.

#### **6.1.4 Programme Committee**

The Commissioner did apply for a position in the Programme Committee. With this position, she is staying up-to-date with the needs and wishes of the students. She finds it important to know what education-related issues students are facing. This year, the main focus in the committee meetings have been on COVID-19 and issues regarding online teaching and studying.

### **6.2 Commissioner Politics**

*“Can we have a Leids half uurtje?”* - Bas van der Tas

#### **6.2.1 Excursions Committee**

The Excursions committee has organised several online excursions and Q&A sessions. In October, the committee had an online interview with ambassador Pete Hoekstra regarding the U.S. elections. This interview was recorded and uploaded online. In November, the committee hosted an activity with the OPCW. This activity took place online and nearly twenty members participated. In December, the committee organised a lecture about the Rule of Law together with Amnesty International. The lecture did not gather many participants and less than ten members were present at it. In February, the committee had an online excursion to Europol. For the Dutch election, the committee has been working on a podcast series where they interview multiple running candidates. These podcast episodes will be published at the beginning of March.

In the second semester, the commissioner aims to organise the Embassy Hop and a virtual International Criminal Court and International Court of Justice visit. All these activities are very likely to take place online. Since the excursions are taking place online, some may see them slightly overlapping with the Education committee's activities. The commissioner, however, does not see this as a problem when taking into account the exceptional circumstances of the moment.

#### **6.2.2 Stairs Affairs**

Stairs Affairs is meant to be an activity open to all students of Wijnhaven. Stairs Affairs is a joint effort between the Faculty of Governance and Global Affairs, SPIL and B.I.L. The concept is inspired by 'Room for Discussion' which is a series of lectures taking place at the University of Amsterdam. The idea of the committee is to welcome speakers from the professional world for an interview. Two student interviewers ask the guest about four different topics. Between the topics, there is time for the audience to ask questions.

The commissioner is at the moment working on the committee together with the president of SPIL and two board members from B.I.L. Cooperation with B.I.L. has been fruitful and the associations agree on what the committee should look like. Likewise, both of the associations agree that before the committee

applications will open, the concept of Stairs Affairs will have to be promoted widely in order to increase students' awareness of the committee and its aim.

According to the current plan, the committee will be formed this spring even if the university would not allow larger activities to take place in-person. This is to have the committee formed and ready to work once these activities will be permitted to take place. The commissioner has faced challenges when trying to reach out to the contact persons within the university. Emailing has not been successful and communication has been slow. The commissioner hopes this will change once the new semester has properly started.

## **7. COMMISSIONER GLOBAL RELATIONS**

*"You can't just give up! Is that what a dinosaur would do?" - Joey Tribbiani*

Like everyone else, it is a special year for the commissioner. Normally, the commissioner Global Relations writes their interim policy about the fantastic trips that the Brussels and Short Trip committees have already organised. Unfortunately, this is not the case this year and both committees are still working hard to make it a wonderful online 'trip' after all. The Congress committee is also working hard to organise a wonderful congress, and at the end of January the commissioner formed the Long Trip committee. Of course, the committee members are working in an unprecedented situation. The commissioner is therefore deeply impressed by all his committees and their enthusiasm and perseverance despite the special circumstances in which they have to work.

The new committee structure, in which the former Foreign Affairs committee is divided into the Brussels, Short and Long Trip committees, is also viewed as very positive by the commissioner. Instead of one committee taking care of all the trips, there are now three committees that organise their own trips. The focus of the committees is only on their own destination, which means that the trip can be worked out in detail. Although the commissioner oversees more committees than two years ago, this is not seen as a problem.

### **7.1 Brussels Excursion**

As in previous years, the Brussels committee was already formed before the holiday. However, soon into the new academic year, it was decided not to have the Brussels excursion in November but to postpone it to the second semester, hoping that the situation around COVID-19 would normalise and that the committee would be able to organise a physical excursion in the second semester. However, the pandemic is more persistent than we had hoped and an in-person excursion turned out to be impossible. Therefore, the committee is working hard to make the online activity a wonderful Brussels experience. The online activity will take place between March 29th and April 1st. Registration opens mid-March and interested students can register per activity. For the Brussels excursion there will be no participation fee and no maximum number of participants this year.

Participants will receive a goodie bag with various Brussels refreshments when they register for at least three activities. The costs the committee makes will be paid for by SPIL, with a maximum amount of 600 euro's that can be spend. The board will use the reserved 'corona-money' which was reserved by the XXXIXth board. This money was budgeted in case of exceptional circumstances. The board sees this as an exceptional situation in which no participation fee will be asked because of the online format the activity has. Furthermore, non-members can also sign up for the activities that did not cost money to organise. This way, more participants are able to join and gives non-members an idea of what SPIL organises. Activities that do cost money will only be accessible for SPIL-members. The commissioner is very pleased with how the committee is functioning under the difficult circumstances and is looking forward to the Brussels excursion.

### **7.2 Short Trip**

Like any other committee, the Short Trip committee is strongly influenced by COVID-19 and it was soon made clear that a trip abroad would not be possible. Because Leiden University had not yet given a clear message regarding physical activities for the second semester, the committee started working

after the formation to organise a trip within the Netherlands in the second semester. Repeatedly, the president of the board asked about developments in the policy of the university concerning COVID-19, but unfortunately the communication was not sufficient. As a result, the trip was promoted on social media, but the president was soon called by the assessor that this could not take place.

Despite this huge disappointment, the committee worked very hard to come up with an online alternative within a limited time. This activity will take place between the 5th and 10th of March in which a visit will be made to a different European country every day. The committee has decided that interested members can register per day and registration will open in week 8. The commissioner is very impressed with the perseverance of the committee and is confident that it will be an unforgettable 'trip'.

This year there will be no participation fee and no maximum number of participants. The commissioner and the committee have decided this because of the online format that the 'trip' will have this year. However, there will be a maximum of 600 euros available for the committee to organise activities that might cost money. This money will also be taken from the corona post in the budget, because the board sees this as an exceptional case as well. Furthermore, the Short Trip too will be accessible for non-members as long as no money was spent on the activities.

### **7.3 Long Trip**

This year's Long Trip committee consists of six enthusiastic members, including a chairman, secretary, treasurer and three regular members. The Long Trip is planned between the 21st June and the 11th July 2021. The exact dates depend on financial benefits and will be announced later. Of course, COVID-19 also has a lot of influence on the organisation of this committee. The aim will be to have an in-person trip in the summer. The commissioner will keep in touch with the president about the policy of Leiden University concerning travel. If it turns out that it will not be possible to travel outside Europe, a trip within Europe, a trip within the Netherlands, or an online alternative are among the possibilities. The commissioner will make clear to the committee that no costs may be incurred until there is more certainty about the policy of the university regarding COVID-19.

Of course, the Long Trip will also take into account the criteria that a SPIL trip must meet:

- Political relevance;
- Scientific relevance;
- Cultural relevance;
- Financial feasibility;
- Safety assurance.

The commissioner will oversee that the committee chooses a destination that meets these criteria. If there is a physical journey, registration will be as in previous years, where interested members can send in a motivation letter. Also, in case of an in-person trip, there will be room for 35 members. However, registration and the number of participants may be subject to change due to university policies. The date of registration will be announced later.

### **7.4 Congress**

Also for the Congress committee, it soon became clear that a foreign congress would be very difficult. Therefore, the commissioner and committee decided to have the congress in the Netherlands. The Congress committee has taken the initiative to approach several associations in the Netherlands to start a collaboration. The Congress Committee received an email back from the study association Urios of Utrecht University. This study association for International and European Law was very interested in a cooperation to organise a congress, and since then the Congress committee has been working hard together with Urios.

The congress will take place on the 9th June. In addition, the committee and Urios will set up workshops for congress participants one day before or one day after the congress. When it turns out physical activities are possible again, the workshops would add an interactive part to the congress. The theme of the congress will be announced later in the year. Likewise, the congress will also not have a participation

fee and any interested member is free to register. The commissioner is very impressed with the work done so far and is looking forward to the further work of the committee.

## **7.5 COVID-19**

Unfortunately, COVID-19 is proving to be very persistent and little has changed in terms of perspective compared to the first General Assembly of this year. Communication with Leiden University was difficult at times, which made it hard to provide clarity to the committees. The commissioner hopes that this will improve in the second semester. However, the uncertainty that was there at the beginning of this year is still there, which makes planning ahead very difficult. The commissioner is therefore very happy and impressed with how his committees have worked so far. There have been many setbacks and yet the committees have worked enthusiastically and diligently to come up with alternatives. The commissioner therefore looks forward to the activities that will be organised by his committees despite COVID-19.

## **8. COMMISSIONER INTERNAL RELATIONS**

### **8.1 Commissioner DEBAT**

*“Things that are infinite: One, the universe. Two, your commitment to DEBAT.”* - Commissioner Internal Relations to the secretary

In December, the DEBAT committee published its first edition. Even though it was planned in November, it became a December edition. At first, the delay was on purpose so that the committee could add an article about the US elections, but later problems with Adobe, graphic design and the stricter lockdown caused the magazine to be delayed for a month. Despite these setbacks, the commissioner is happy and very proud of the work her committee has done. She is very happy with the first DEBAT magazine and expects the publication of the next editions will go according to the planning of February, April and June.

#### **8.1.1 Committee**

The commissioner believes the committee structure works very well and is very happy and grateful for the members, motivation and skills of the DEBAT committee. Thanks to the talented chair, the meetings run smoothly with very high attendance and deadlines are met. When a magazine is full and a member is not able to write for that current edition, the chair makes sure to reserve a spot for the next edition. This way, all members can write for the magazine and the pages are distributed fairly. The theme of every DEBAT magazine is decided upon by the entire committee through online polls, which seems to be working well. The editorial board is functioning well, all editors have successfully provided feedback to their writers in time and no articles get published on the website without a peer review.

Although initially not planned, the design of DEBAT magazine ended up changing considerably. The commissioner and design team decided to change the layout and graphic design of the magazine to try to give it a more sleek look. At the same time, they maintained the use of vectors and kept the original DEBAT logo font to honour DEBAT's past. The committee intends to keep the design style this way for the rest of the year. Furthermore, the commissioner is very delighted with the design team and the beautiful vectors they created. The team consists of executive board members, the chair and commissioner of DEBAT, and regular DEBAT members, most of whom did not have experience with Adobe at all.

The DEBAT committee is traditionally not the most social committee due to its size, and because of COVID-19 the committee has not been able to meet in person. Yet, some committee members have indicated that they felt social cohesion within the committee, especially during the US Liveblog. Committee members are also encouraged to jointly write articles, which benefits the social cohesion. A poll from the commissioner has shown that some committee members would like committee activities such as an online game night or writer workshop, so the commissioner and chair will work on this in the second semester.

### **8.1.2 DEBAT online**

The commissioner believes that the policy goals set for DEBAT Online are going very well. The exposure of DEBAT Online has increased significantly, for which special credit has to go to the outstanding work of the secretary and DEBAT Online subcommittee. DEBAT Online now has a LinkedIn page and a new Instagram layout to promote every single web-only article. The Instagram engagement and followers have increased a lot this year, partly thanks to the US Elections Liveblog, which has been received positively.

The committee has published at least one, but usually multiple, article(s) per week on the DEBAT website, but usually multiple articles per week. They have also published multiple articles by guest writers this year. However, a clear point for improvement is the translating of the articles of English to Dutch. It has appeared difficult to find enough translators who are willing to help, especially because of the many articles that are published each week and the time it takes to translate an article. Fortunately, the articles written by Dutch writers are translated into English, which ensures that all students have access to read the articles in a language that they can understand.

The podcast has not been set up yet, as the committee is working on an alternative: a talk show format! At the time of writing, the commissioner cannot disclose too much information about this yet, as the committee is still busy with the beginning phase of the preparations. The committee plans to use this year as a test-year for the format but only wants to publish the first episode once it is very well made.

### **8.1.3 Archive**

Due to the COVID-19 measures, the board is only allowed to be in the common room when it is absolutely necessary. Consequently, the commissioner has not been able to start with the online archive. Unfortunately, this means that setting up the online DEBAT magazine archive will have to be done later in the second semester, or in another year.

## **8.2 Commissioner Yearbook**

*"Who reads the yearbook anyway."* - Anna Easton, chair of the 2019-2020 Yearbook committee

Despite the obvious COVID-19 setbacks, the Yearbook committee is working hard to get their masterpiece finished in time. The commissioner thinks that the committee has thought of an excellent theme, and is very excited to see the end result. In order to fill the pages now that there are fewer activities and no in-person trips, the committee has approached many interesting people and organisations for an interview. The commissioner is excited to announce that at the time of writing, multiple interesting people have already agreed to conduct an interview. The committee is also writing editorial articles, to not only fill the pages of the yearbook but to give SPIL'ers interesting reading material.

Due to the lockdown, the committee has not been able to visit PerfectBook. However, the commissioner and committee have already contacted PerfectBook and the committee is allowed to visit them as soon as the government measures allow it. The commissioner and Yearbook chair are in the process of arranging an Adobe Creative Cloud account for the committee to ensure that they can continue to work on the yearbook during the lockdown. There is still room for improvement in the committee when it comes to the schedule, but the commissioner understands that unfortunately, COVID-19 plays a large role in this.

The committee has not had a committee activity with the whole committee yet, but the commissioner and chair plan to organise more online game nights to increase the social cohesion within the committee. The distribution of the previous yearbook has proven difficult, as there are no in-person activities and no accessibility to the common room. Because of this, the commissioner plans to distribute more yearbooks once SPIL is allowed to organise physical activities again. To increase the exposure of the yearbook this year, the committee has posted and will continue to post announcements on the SPIL Instagram page to ask for the input of SPIL-members.

## **9. COMMISSIONER EXTERNAL RELATIONS**

### **9.1 Commissioner Acquisitions**

*“Unlike Anna, I have trustworthy blue eyes.” - Jette Boonstra*

#### **9.1.1 Finance and partnership**

The commissioner has been working on establishing new partnerships. However, as a lot of businesses and companies are hurting financially due to COVID-19, the responses have been negative so far. The commissioner is now focussing on the existing partnerships and ensuring that these are well maintained.

Even though finding new sponsors and partners is hard, the commissioner is still optimistic about achieving the acquisitions target that was set on €2080,-. Many of the current contracts need to be renewed. Therefore, SPIL will receive payments from current partners. As can be seen in the budget, the current achieved acquisition funds stands on €1020,-.

#### **9.1.2 Merchandise**

The SPIL mug was launched in January! The committee designed two options on which SPIL-members could vote via Instagram Story. The design with the most votes has been used to print the mugs. The committee as well as the commissioner are very enthusiastic about the end result. Due to COVID-19 the distribution of the orders was a challenge. However, the committee decided on delivering the orders to SPIL-members within Leiden and The Hague. SPIL-members living outside of Leiden and The Hague can also already order the mug, but are asked to pick it up themselves once the common room is open again. The decision of not shipping the mugs was based on the fact that the costs, e.g. packing material and shipping costs, would be higher than the price of the mug itself.

The committee is looking forward to think about a new merchandise item that will be related to the lustrum. This second item will be launched in April.

#### **9.1.4 Committee**

The committee is working together very well. They enjoyed making the first merchandise item and are looking forward to making two more items. Besides brainstorming about merchandise they are also contacting many companies about possible sponsoring or partnerships. As much as the committee and the commissioner would like to go to the companies and businesses physically to hand out flyers, this is not possible due to COVID-19. Therefore, the committee is only contacting possible partners via email.

### **9.2 Commissioner Promotion**

*“Als Jette de weerwolf is ga ik gewoon de eerste drie posters te laat inleveren. Of helemaal niet maken.”*  
- Iris Oerlemans, member Promotion committee

#### **9.2.1 Social media**

The main focus of the commissioner lays on Instagram and Facebook. All the posters for activities will be posted on both of these social media platforms. The commissioner also uses Instagram stories to give reminders about upcoming activities, as well as giving weekly overviews of what SPIL is organizing that particular week. Just like last year, the commissioner posts political updates on Instagram stories that are made by the Education Committee. The commissioner also makes Facebook activities for many activities, as it gives the board an indication of how many people will attend. Next to that it is easy to share the link for the online activity in this Facebook activities and SPIL'ers who clicked on the 'attending' or 'interested' button will get a notification when the activity starts.

The commissioner also checks the LinkedIn profile regularly, but does not post all activities on this platform. She rather uses LinkedIn as a more professional platform. Snapchat has been used as an informal “behind the scenes” platform on which the whole board can show their activities. The commissioner would like to use this form of social media more regularly to give SPIL-members a better idea of what the board does and what being a board member entails.

### **9.2.2 Posters and photos**

The committee makes posters for every activity. Usually these would be printed and hung up around the university buildings, however due to COVID-19 and not many students being able to go to university physically the commissioner has not printed any posters yet. The commissioner is planning on printing some posters of fun activities to showcase during among other things the EL CID and HOP-week.

As most activities have been online this far, not a lot of pictures have been taken. Even though the commissioner would love to take pictures of activities, she also thinks that making screenshots of a Kaltura live room will not be representative of the activity itself.

### **9.2.3 Committee**

The committee is working together very well. During the first semester they have shown great flexibility for instance when due to COVID-19 promotion had to be changed at the very last minute. They are very creative and enthusiastic about making more posters.

## **9.3 Commissioner ICT**

*"I do a lot, it says in my quote as well."* - Commissioner External Relations

### **9.3.1 Main goal**

The main goal of the commissioner was to keep the website up to date and user-friendly. Over the past semester, no big adjustments have been made to the website and was regularly updated by the commissioner.

### **9.3.2 Online Common Room**

The online common room was introduced in the form of a chat function on the website. Most students that did use the chat function, did so mostly to ask questions about how to sign up for certain activities, membership fee, etc. Even though this chat function hasn't been used as a common room replacement that often, the commissioner still finds the ability of chatting to a board member directly through the website a good addition.

## **9.4 Commissioner SPIL-weekend**

*"Laten we SPIL vaccinparty houden. Iedereen krijgt een spuit in zijn arm, en dan barst het los."* - Secretary of the XLth board

The SPIL-weekend committee will consist out of four members, including a chair, secretary and treasurer. At the time of writing, the commissioner discussed working out multiple scenario's for the SPIL-Weekend with the committee. The aim is to work out three scenario's. The first of these will be the regular SPIL-weekend as most of us know it. The second scenario will take into consideration the possibility that we cannot travel with the usual amount of SPIL'ers to a certain location, but we can have in-person activities. The final scenario will be focussed on being completely online if, due to COVID-19, there is no possibility of coming together in-person. The definite decision on how SPIL-weekend will take its form will be made approximately one month before SPIL-weekend. This will coincide with the time at which the commissioner is planning to start promoting this fun trip.

## REVISED YEAR PLANNER XLth BOARD OF SPIL, 'SPILUMINOUS'

Year planner SPIL 2020-2021

| Week                  | Date  | Activity   |
|-----------------------|---|--|
| <u>September 2020</u> |   |  |
| Week 36               | <del>September 2</del><br>September 4-5                             | Q&A with XLth board<br>Freshmen weekend  |
| Week 37               | September 10<br>September 13  | Change of Boards GA<br>Freshmen weekend  |
| Week 38               | September 15<br>September 16<br>September 18                        | Meet the PHD's<br>Tour du waffle<br>Deadline committee applications                                |
| Week 39               | September 23<br><del>September 24</del>                             | Speed dating Leiden<br><del>Introduction to Student Life</del>                                     |
| <u>October 2020</u>   |   |  |
| Week 40               | September 30<br><del>October 1</del>                                | Education workshop<br><del>Borrel Leiden</del>   |
| Week 41               | October 6<br>October 8  | Study group<br>Instagram game night  |
| Week 42               | October 13  | Study group  |
| Week 43               | <del>October 23</del><br>October 23                                 | <del>Madurodam</del><br>Borrel   |
| Week 44               | October 29<br>October 30<br>October 30                              | Policy GA<br>Pre-US election interview<br>Instagram game night                                     |
| <u>November 2020</u>  |   |  |
| Week 45               | November 3<br>November 3-4<br>November 5<br>November 6              | US election pre-talk<br>US election livestream<br>Halloween borrel<br>US election panel discussion |
| Week 46               | November 9<br>November 12<br>November 13                            | Q&A OPCW<br>Dies lecture<br>Biking video   |
| Week 47               | November 16<br>November 16  | Leiden MUN workshop<br>Opening committee applications  |
| Week 48               | <del>November 20</del><br>November 24<br>November 27<br>November 28 | <del>Lustrum pub crawl</del><br>Scavenger Hunt<br>Committee bonding day<br>SPIL to your door       |
| <u>December 2020</u>  |   |  |
| Week 49               | December 1<br>December 1<br>December 3                              | DEBAT I<br>SPIL x Iti around the table<br>Rule of law rendez-vous<br>Werewolves borrel             |
| Week 50               | December 9<br>December 10<br>December 11                            | Study group<br>Instagram game night<br>Master's activity: let's socialize!                         |

|                      |                       |  |
|----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Week 51              | December 18           | Movie night                              |
| Week 52              |                       |  |
| Week 53              |                       |  |
| <u>January 2021</u>  |                       |  |
| Week 1               | January 4             | Deadline committee applications          |
|                      | January 5             | SPIL the tea                             |
|                      | January 6             | Chess tournament                         |
|                      | January 7             | 2020 wrapped borrel                      |
| Week 2               | January 11            | Reveal merchandise                       |
|                      | January 12            | SPIL the tea                             |
|                      | January 14            | Instagram game night                     |
| Week 3               | January 19            | SPIL the tea                             |
| Week 4               | January 26            | SPIL the tea                             |
|                      | January 27            | Reunionist newsletter                    |
|                      | January 29            | Movie night: boar's edition              |
| <u>February 2021</u> |                       |  |
| Week 5               | February 2            | DEBAT II                                 |
|                      | February 3            | Welcome back activity                    |
|                      | <del>February 3</del> | <del>Lecture Amnesty International</del> |
|                      | February 4            | Mexican borrel                           |
| Week 6               | February 8            | Instagram game night                     |
|                      | February 9            | SPIL the tea                             |
|                      | February 10           | Brainstorm session                       |
|                      | February 13           | Friends & family day Leiden              |
| Week 7               | February 17           | Leidsch debat                            |
|                      | February 18           | Cards Against Humanity game night        |
|                      | February 19           | Brainstorm thesis writing                |
| Week 8               | February 22           | Lecture Europol                          |
|                      | February 23           | SPIL the tea                             |
|                      | February 25           | Interim GA                               |
| <u>March 2021</u>    |                       |  |
| Week 9               | March 2               | SPIL x B.I.L. Dutch election activity    |
|                      | March 4               | Lecture democratic backsliding           |
|                      | March 4               | Festive activity                         |
|                      | March 5-10            | Short Trip                               |
| Week 10              | March 5-10            | Short Trip                               |
|                      | March 13              | Friends & family day The Hague           |
|                      | March 15              | Lecture Pro Demos                        |
| Week 11              | Maart 18              | Panel discussion Dutch election          |
|                      | Maart 19              | Instagram game night                     |
| Week 12              |                       | Festive activity                         |
|                      |                       | Board activity                           |
| <u>April 2021</u>    |                       |  |
| Week 13              | March 29-April 1      | DEBAT III                                |
|                      |                       | Brussels Excursion                       |
|                      |                       | Reveal Lustrum merchandise               |
| Week 14              | April 6               | PiP-congress Amsterdam                   |
|                      | April 8               | Career Night                             |
|                      |                       | Education activity                       |

|                    |                |                                 |
|--------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|
| Week 15            | April 12-16    | Introduction activity           |
| Week 16            | April 22       | Embassy hop                     |
|                    | April 23       | Festive activity                |
|                    |                | Interfaculty congress           |
|                    |                | Boat lecture                    |
| Week 17            | April 30-May 2 | Board activity                  |
|                    |                | SPI-weekend                     |
|                    |                | Education activity              |
|                    |                | Board interest borrel           |
|                    |                | Pre-activity Long Trip          |
| <u>May 2021</u>    |                |                                 |
| Week 18            | May 3          | Opening committee applications  |
|                    | May 6          | Festive activity                |
|                    |                | Study group                     |
|                    |                | Excursions activity             |
|                    |                | Master activity                 |
|                    |                | Yearbook theme reveal           |
| Week 19            | May 10         | Interfaculty party              |
|                    | May 14         | Deadline board application      |
|                    |                | Study group                     |
|                    |                | Introduction activity           |
|                    |                | Education activity              |
|                    |                | Reunionist newsletter           |
| Week 20            | May 17         | Deadline committee applications |
|                    | May 20         | Festive activity                |
|                    | May 21         | 'Schoolreisje'                  |
|                    |                | Reveal merchandise              |
| Week 21            | May 24         | Committee thank you day         |
|                    | May 28         | Former boards borrel            |
| <u>June 2021</u>   |                |                                 |
| Week 22            | June 3         | DEBAT IV                        |
|                    |                | Festive activity                |
|                    |                | Pre-activity Long Trip          |
| Week 23            | June 9         | Congress                        |
|                    | June 10        | Candidate board announcement    |
| Week 24            |                | Pre-activity Long Trip          |
| Week 25            |                | Affirmation GA                  |
|                    |                | Long Trip                       |
| <u>July 2021</u>   |                |                                 |
| Week 26            |                | Long Trip                       |
| Week 27            |                | Long Trip                       |
| Week 28            |                |                                 |
| Week 29            |                |                                 |
| Week 30            |                |                                 |
| <u>August 2021</u> |                |                                 |
| Week 31            |                | Freshmen weekend                |
| Week 32            |                | Reunionist newsletter           |
| Week 33            |                |                                 |
| Week 34            |                |                                 |

September 2021

Week 35

September 2

Lustrum week?

Festive activity

Freshmen day

Education activity

Change of Boards GA

Presentation Yearbook

Introduction activity

Week 36

INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT XLth BOARD OF SPIL, 'SPILUMINOUS'

| <b>Income</b>   |                     |                          |                        |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
|   | <b>Budget 20/21</b> | <b>Realisation 20/21</b> | <b>Re-budget 20/21</b> |
| <b>Membership fee<sup>1</sup></b>                                 | € 22.320,00         | € 18.326,71              | € 18.326,71            |
| <b>Interest</b>   | € -                 | € -                      | € -                    |
| <b>General Contribution Department</b>                            | € 1.600,00          | € 0,00                   | € 1.600,00             |
| <b>StudyStore<sup>2</sup></b>                                     | € 7.000,00          | € 3.264,77               | € 7.000,000            |
| <b>Acquisitions committee</b>                                     | € 2.080,00          | € 1.020,00               | € 2.080,00             |
| <b>Withdrawal Lustrumreservation</b>                              | € 7.000,00          | € 0,00                   | € 7.000,00             |
| <b>Withdrawal coronareservation<sup>3</sup></b>                   | € -                 | € -                      | € 2.000,00             |
| <b>Withdrawal reservation SPIL-common room Leiden<sup>4</sup></b> | € -                 | € -                      | € 400,00               |
| <b>'Vrienden van de SPIL'</b>                                     | € 130,00            | € 50,73                  | € 90,00                |
| <b>Other income</b>   | € 50,00             | € 0,00                   | € 50,00                |
| <b>Gift previous board<sup>5</sup></b>                            | € 750,00            | € 750,00                 | € 750,00               |
| <b>LAP</b>  | € 820,79            | € 320,79                 | € 820,79               |
| <b>Withdrawal travel allowance int. board member</b>              | € 250,00            | € € 0,00                 | € 250,00               |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>€ 42.000,79</b>  | <b>€ 23.733,00</b>       | <b>€ 40.367,50</b>     |

**Explanation:**

1. The membership file was not up to date, which led to a lower income from membership fee than expected.
2. The revenues of Studystore are based on the revenues after block 1. At the time of writing, more recent figures are not yet known. Also, no money has been received from Studystore yet, but the treasurer and commissioner of Education & Politics are monitoring this.
3. The coronareservation will be used to cover the expenses of the trips and the modernisation of the statutes.
4. The reservation for the SPIL-common room in Leiden will be used to buy, among other things, a new refrigerator and storage boxes.
5. The XXXIXth board made a donation of 750 euros to the XLth board. The XLth board wants to use this money for modernising the statutes.

| <b>Expenses</b>     |                     |                          |                        |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
|                     | <b>Budget 20/21</b> | <b>Realisation 20/21</b> | <b>Re-budget 20/21</b> |
| Board               | € 3.958,00          | € 866,69                 | € 3.833,00             |
| Secretary           | € 1.850,00          | € 62,83                  | € 1.835,79             |
| <i>Introduction</i> | <i>€ 800,00</i>     | <i>€ 62,83</i>           | <i>€ 450,00</i>        |

|                                    |                    |                   |                    |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Internal Relations                 | € 9.750,00         | € 1.160,01        | € 9.615,58         |
| <i>DEBAT</i>                       | € 5.600,00         | € 1.160,01        | € 5.500,00         |
| <i>Yearbook</i>                    | € 4.000,00         | € 0,00            | € 3.800,00         |
| 8th Lustrum of SPIL                | € 8.500,00         | € 914,24          | € 8.500,00         |
| Global Relations                   | € 9.346,80         | € 0,00            | € 7.880,00         |
| <i>Long Trip</i>                   | € 4.900,00         | € 0,00            | € 4.900,00         |
| <i>Short Trip</i>                  | € 2.666,80         | € 0,00            | € -                |
| <i>Congress</i>                    | € 1.530,00         | € 0,00            | € 780,00           |
| Investments                        | € 100,00           | € 221,50          | € 2.088,00         |
| External Relations                 | € 2.085,94         | € 217,80          | € 2.029,10         |
| <i>SPIL-weekend</i>                | € 700,00           | € 0,00            | € 650,00           |
| <i>ICT</i>                         | € 705,94           | € 217,80          | € 739,10           |
| <i>Promotion</i>                   | € 600,00           | € 0,00            | € 600,00           |
| <i>Acquisitions</i>                | € 80,00            | € 0,00            | € 40,00            |
| Reserves                           | € 1.800,00         | € 0,00            | € 1.800,00         |
| Festive                            | € 1.850,00         | € 236,52          | € 1.150,00         |
| Depreciations                      | € 350,00           | € 0,00            | € 450,00           |
| Education & Politics               | € 750,00           | € 0,00            | € 375,00           |
| <i>Education</i>                   | € 500,00           | € 0,00            | € 225,00           |
| <i>Excursions</i>                  | € 150,00           | € 0,00            | € 100,00           |
| <i>Master activities</i>           | € 100,00           | € 0,00            | € 50,00            |
| Travel allowance Int. board member | € 250,00           | € 0,00            | € 250,00           |
| PvP                                | € 150,00           | € 0,00            | € 100,00           |
| Contingencies                      | € 1.260,02         | € 28,50           | € 1.211,03         |
| <b>Total</b>                       | <b>€ 42.000,76</b> | <b>€ 3.708,09</b> | <b>€ 40.367,50</b> |

#### Expenses per post

| <b>Board</b>                                    | <b>Budget</b> | <b>Realisation</b> | <b>Re-budget</b> |
|---|---------------|--------------------|------------------|
|   | <b>20/21</b>  | <b>19/20</b>       | <b>20/21</b>     |
| Committee-thank you day                         | € 900,00      | € 0,00             | € 500,00         |
| ABN-Amro Expenses Business Account <sup>1</sup> | € 500,00      | € 389,62           | € 700,00         |
| Expenses General Assembly                       | € 500,00      | € 0,00             | € 500,00         |
| Van den Berg-Bachelor thesis award <sup>2</sup> | € 100,00      | € 0,00             | € 0,00           |

|  |                   |                 |                   |
|--|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 'Constitutieborrel' presents                   | € 60,00           | € 0,00          | € 60,00           |
| 'Constitutieborrel' SPIL                       | € 1.350,00        | € 0,00          | € 1.350,00        |
| Office supplies                                | € 150,00          | € 191,34        | € 250,00          |
| StOP-Contribution                              | € 10,00           | € 10,00         | € 10,00           |
| Expenses SPIL-common room                      | € 75,00           | € 14,25         | € 50,00           |
| Free round of drinks after Change of Boards-GA | € 93,00           | € 93,00         | € 93,00           |
| Staff-lunch with Institute                     | € 0,00            | € 0,00          | € 0,00            |
| General Board Expenses <sup>3</sup>            | € 150,00          | € 168,48        | € 250,00          |
| Applications board 2020-2021                   | € 70,00           | € 0,00          | € 70,00           |
| <b>Total</b>                                   | <b>€ 3.958,00</b> | <b>€ 866,69</b> | <b>€ 3.833,00</b> |

**Explanation:**

1. Due to the failed membership fee collection batches, the expenses of the Business Account will be higher than budgeted.
2. The costs for the 'Van den Berg-Bachelor thesis award' are covered by the institute.
3. Because of COVID-19, the Board decided to send more Christmas cards, including to all committee members. As a result, General Board expenses are higher than budgeted.

| <b>Secretary</b>               | <b>Budget 20/21</b> | <b>Realisation 20/21</b> | <b>Re-budget 20/21</b> |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Former board drinks            | € 550,00            | € 0,00                   | € 515,00               |
| Alumni activities <sup>1</sup> | € 450,00            | € 0,00                   | € 820,79               |
| Introduction                   | € 800,00            | € 62,83                  | € 450,00               |
| <i>General expenses</i>        | <i>€ 200,00</i>     | <i>€ 62,83</i>           | <i>€ 150,00</i>        |
| <i>Freshmenday</i>             | <i>€ 100,00</i>     | <i>€ 0,00</i>            | <i>€ 100,00</i>        |
| <i>Parentsday<sup>2</sup></i>  | <i>€ 500,00</i>     | <i>€ 0,00</i>            | <i>€ 200,00</i>        |
| <i>Parentsday Leiden</i>       | <i>€ 350,00</i>     | <i>€ 0,00</i>            | <i>€ 100,00</i>        |
| <i>Parentsday The Hague</i>    | <i>€ 150,00</i>     | <i>€ 0,00</i>            | <i>€ 100,00</i>        |
| <i>First years brunch</i>      | <i>€ 0,00</i>       | <i>€ 0,00</i>            | <i>€ 0,00</i>          |
| Interfaculty Congress          | € 50,00             | € -                      | € 50,00                |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>€ 1.850,00</b>   | <b>€ 62,83</b>           | <b>€ 1.835,79</b>      |

**Explanation:**

1. Due to an error in the budget, too little money was budgeted for Alumni activities. This has been adjusted in the re-budget, resulting in a higher cost.
2. The parent days will take place online. As a result, there are no costs associated with keeping the faculties open, which reduces the re-budget.

| <b>Internal Relations</b>    | <b>Budget 20/21</b> | <b>Realisation 20/21</b> | <b>Re-budget 20/21</b> |
|------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| DEBAT                        | € 5.600,00          | € 1.160,01               | € 5.565,58             |
| <i>4x DEBAT</i>              | € 5.500,00          | € 1.119,43               | € 5.500,00             |
| <i>Workshops</i>             | € 50,00             | € 0,00                   | € 25,00                |
| <i>Digital DEBAT</i>         | € 50,00             | € 40,58                  | € 40,58                |
| Yearbook                     | € 4.000,00          | € 0,00                   | € 3.800,00             |
| 'Leidsch Debat' <sup>1</sup> | € 150,00            | € 0,00                   | € 250,00               |
| <b>Total</b>                 | <b>€ 9.750,00</b>   | <b>€ 1.160,01</b>        | <b>€ 9.615,58</b>      |

**Explanation:**

1. Because 'Leidsch Debat' takes place online via a livestream, there are more costs involved. All organizing associations contribute an additional 100 euros.

| <b>Lustrum</b>          | <b>Budget 20/21</b> | <b>Realisation 20/21</b> | <b>Re-budget 20/21</b> |
|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Lustrum activities      | € 8.500,00          | € 914,24                 | € 8.500,00             |
| <i>Dieslecture</i>      | € 1.600,00          | € 914,24                 | € 914,24               |
| <i>Other activities</i> | € 6.900,00          | € 0,00                   | € 7.585,76             |
| <b>Totaal</b>           | <b>€ 8.500,00</b>   | <b>€ 914,24</b>          | <b>€ 8.500,00</b>      |

| <b>Global Relations</b>              | <b>Budget 20/21</b> | <b>Realisation 20/21</b> | <b>Re-budget 20/21</b> |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Coronareservation trips <sup>1</sup> | € -                 | € -                      | € 2.000,00             |
| Short Trip                           | € 2.666,80          | € 0,00                   | € 0,00                 |
| Long Trip                            | € 4.900,00          | € 0,00                   | € 4.900,00             |
| Pre- and post-activities             | € 250,00            | € 0,00                   | € 200,00               |
| Congress                             | € 1.530,00          | € 0,00                   | € 780,00               |
| <i>Pre-congress activity</i>         | € 30,00             | € 0,00                   | € 30,00                |
| <i>SPIL-contribution</i>             | € 1.500,00          | € 0,00                   | € 750,00               |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>€ 9.346,80</b>   | <b>€ 0,00</b>            | <b>€ 7.880,00</b>      |

**Explanation:**

1. The coronareservation of the XXXIXth board will be spent to reimburse the costs of the Brussels excursion, the Short Trip and possibly the Long Trip.

| <b>Investments</b>                                    | <b>Budget 20/21</b> | <b>Realisation 20/21</b> | <b>Re-budget 20/21</b> |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Investments for promotional purposes <sup>1</sup>     | € 100,00            | € 0,00                   | € 100,00               |
| Microphone <sup>2</sup>                               | € -                 | € 119,00                 | € 119,00               |
| Camera <sup>3</sup>                                   | € -                 | € -                      | € 719,00               |
| New refrigerator SPIL-common room Leiden <sup>4</sup> | € -                 | € -                      | € 200,00               |
| Christmas decorations SPIL-common rooms               | € -                 | € 102,50                 | € 102,50               |
| Other purchases <sup>5</sup>                          | € -                 | € -                      | € 97,50                |
| Modernising statutes <sup>6</sup>                     | € -                 | € -                      | € 750,00               |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>€ 100,00</b>     | <b>€ 221,50</b>          | <b>€ 2.038,00</b>      |

**Explanation:**

1. This will be used for, among other things, resupplying the stock of SPIL-stickers.
2. A new microphone has been bought for the recording of podcasts and interviews
3. The quality of the current camera does not meet the wishes and requirements of the Commissioner External Relations. Her predecessors have also indicated that the quality is not good. Because of this, it was decided to purchase a new camera.
4. The XXXVIIth board had given a refrigerator as a gift to the XXXVIIIth board. This unfortunately broke down last year. A new refrigerator is being purchased and the photos on the old refrigerator will be pasted over to the new refrigerator so that the photographic memories of the XXXVIIth Board will not be lost.
5. Other purchases are, among other things, storage boxes.
6. For the modernisation of the statutes, money from the 'coronareservation' will be used.

| <b>External Relations</b>   | <b>Budget 20/21</b> | <b>Realisation 20/21</b> | <b>Re-budget 20/21</b> |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Acquisitions <sup>1</sup>   | € 80,00             | € 0,00                   | € 40,00                |
| ICT   | € 705,94            | € 217,80                 | € 705,94               |
| <i>License Snelstart</i>  | <i>€ 180,00</i>     | <i>€ 0,00</i>            | <i>€ 180,00</i>        |
| <i>Subscription PC Leden<sup>2</sup></i>  | <i>€ 75,00</i>      | <i>€ 0,00</i>            | <i>€ 0,00</i>          |
| <i>New membership file</i>  | <i>€ -</i>          | <i>€ -</i>               | <i>€ 300,00</i>        |
| <i>Hosting <a href="http://www.spilplaats.nl">www.spilplaats.nl</a><sup>3</sup></i> | <i>€ 325,54</i>     | <i>€ 217,80</i>          | <i>€ 217,80</i>        |
| <i>Domain registration Argeweb</i>  | <i>€ 20,00</i>      | <i>€ 0,00</i>            | <i>€ 0,00</i>          |
| <i>Website reparations</i>  | <i>€ 105,40</i>     | <i>€ 0,00</i>            | <i>€ 40,00</i>         |
| Promotion   | € 600,00            | € 0,00                   | € 600,00               |
| <i>General expenses</i>   | <i>€ 300,00</i>     | <i>€ 0,00</i>            | <i>€ 300,00</i>        |
| <i>ELCID and HOP stand</i>  | <i>€ 300,00</i>     | <i>€ 0,00</i>            | <i>€ 300,00</i>        |

|              |                   |                 |                   |
|--------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| SPIL-weekend | € 700,00          | € 0,00          | € 650,00          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>€ 2.085,94</b> | <b>€ 217,80</b> | <b>€ 2.027,80</b> |

**Explanation:**

1. The Commissioner of External Relations has expressed the wish to follow an Acquisitions training with the committee. This has not taken place yet. The committee will earn the costs of this training back itself, as the committee is meant to provide money, not cost money.
2. The subscription with PC Leden has been cancelled, so there is no cost for that. More money has been re-budgeted for a new membership file.
3. Because the XXXIXth board renewed the website and moved to a new server, the cost of hosting the website is lower.

| <b>Reserves</b>                      | <b>Budget 20/21</b> | <b>Realisation 20/21</b> | <b>Re-budget 20/21</b> |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 8- Lustrum of SPIL                   | € 1.500,00          | € 0,00                   | € 1.500,00             |
| SPIL-common room Leiden <sup>1</sup> | € 150,00            | € 0,00                   | € 150,00               |
| Lustrum DEBAT                        | € 150,00            | € 0,00                   | € 150,00               |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>€ 1.800,00</b>   | <b>€ 0,00</b>            | <b>€ 1.800,00</b>      |

**Explanation:**

1. For the SPIL common room in Leiden there will be no depreciations. To cover future expenses money will be 'saved'. This is the reason why the SPIL common room in Leiden is put under reserves.

| <b>Festive</b>       | <b>Budget 20/21</b> | <b>Realisation 20/21</b> | <b>Re-budget 20/21</b> |
|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 'Borrels'            | € 600,00            | € 87,65                  | € 400,00               |
| Parties <sup>1</sup> | € 400,00            | € 0,00                   | € 150,00               |
| Social activities    | € 850,00            | € 148,87                 | € 600,00               |
| <b>Total</b>         | <b>€ 1.850,00</b>   | <b>€ 236,52</b>          | <b>€ 1.150,00</b>      |

**Explanation:**

1. Due to COVID-19 measures, there will be no parties in the second semester either. However, money has been budgeted for the alternatives of the FSW Party and Interfaculty Party.

| <b>Depreciations</b>                    | <b>Budget 20/21</b> | <b>Realisation 20/21</b> | <b>Re-budget 20/21</b> |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| SPIL-common room The Hague <sup>1</sup> | € 250,00            | € 0,00                   | € 250,00               |
| Depreciation old camera                 | € 100,00            | € 0,00                   | € 100,00               |
| Depreciation new camera                 | € -                 | € -                      | € 100,00               |
| <b>Total</b>                            | <b>€ 350,00</b>     | <b>€ 350,00</b>          | <b>€ 450,00</b>        |

**Explanation:**

1. The treasurer has a list of all assets. Depreciation includes: furniture, the sofa, and all appliance: refrigerator, coffee maker, kettle, toast iron, music boxes, and other products.

| <b>Education &amp; Politics</b>   | <b>Budget 20/21</b> | <b>Realisation 20/21</b> | <b>Re-budget 20/21</b> |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Excursions                        | € 150,00            | € 0,00                   | € 100,00               |
| Education                         | € 500,00            | € 0,00                   | € 225,00               |
| <i>Education evaluations</i>      | <i>€ 0,00</i>       | <i>€ 0,00</i>            | <i>€ 0,00</i>          |
| <i>Activities &amp; workshops</i> | <i>€ 350,00</i>     | <i>€ 0,00</i>            | <i>€ 150,00</i>        |
| <i>Career</i>                     | <i>€ 150,00</i>     | <i>€ 0,00</i>            | <i>€ 75,00</i>         |
| Master activities                 | € 100,00            | € 0,00                   | € 50,00                |
| <i>Workshops</i>                  | <i>€ 50,00</i>      | <i>€ 0,00</i>            | <i>€ 25,00</i>         |
| <i>Career</i>                     | <i>€ 50,00</i>      | <i>€ 0,00</i>            | <i>€ 25,00</i>         |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>€ 750,00</b>     | <b>€ 0,00</b>            | <b>€ 375,00</b>        |

| <b>Travel allowance Int. board member</b> | <b>Budget 20/21</b> | <b>Realisation 20/21</b> | <b>Re-budget 20/21</b> |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Travel allowance (1)                      | € 250,00            | € 0,00                   | € 250,00               |
| <b>Total</b>                              | <b>€ 250,00</b>     | <b>€ 0,00</b>            | <b>€ 250,00</b>        |

| <b>'Platform voor Politicologen'</b> | <b>Budget 20/21</b> | <b>Realisation 20/21</b> | <b>Re-budget 20/21</b> |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Membership fee <sup>1</sup>          | € 150,00            | € 0,00                   | € 100,00               |
| <b>Total</b>                         | <b>€ 150,00</b>     | <b>€ 150,00</b>          | <b>€ 100,00</b>        |

**Explanation:**

1. The membership fee for 'Platform voor Politicologen' has reduced.

| <b>Contingencies</b>           | <b>Budget 20/21</b> | <b>Realisation 20/21</b> | <b>Re-budget 20/21</b> |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Algemene uitgaven <sup>1</sup> | € 1.260,02          | € 0,00                   | € 1.227,53             |
| <b>Total</b>                   | <b>€ 1.260,02</b>   | <b>€ 0,00</b>            | <b>€ 1.227,53</b>      |

**Explanation:**

1. The calculation of contingencies is based on 3% of the total income.

## Balance

| <b>Balance</b>               |                      |   |                |
|------------------------------|----------------------|---|----------------|
| <b>Debit</b>                 |                      | <b>Credit</b>                                   |                |
| <b>ABN business account</b>  | € ...                | <i>Equity</i>                                   | € ...          |
| <b>ABN savings account</b>   | € ...                | DEBAT reservations                              | € 1.005,49     |
| <b>Ties (162)</b>            | <b>€ 972,00</b>      | SPIL-common room Leiden reservations            | € 1.200,00     |
| <b>Bows (60)</b>             | <b>€ 360,00</b>      | Afschrijvingen                                  | € 2.246,00     |
| <b>Pair of braces (94)</b>   | €<br><b>2.068,00</b> | SPIL items                                      | € 2.840,04     |
| <b>Bowties (91)</b>          | <b>€ 910,20</b>      | Buffer contribution                             | €<br>12.080,00 |
| <b>Doppers (40)</b>          | <b>€ 388,55</b>      | Extra buffer                                    | €<br>14.570,55 |
| <b>Former-board pin (54)</b> | <b>€ 110,70</b>      | Reservation travel allowance int. board members | € 1.500,00     |
| <b>Umbrella's (9)</b>        | <b>€ 50,15</b>       |   |                |
| <b>Bike packages (31)</b>    | <b>€ 300,36</b>      |   |                |
| <b>Card holders (4)</b>      | <b>€ 14,34</b>       |   |                |
| <b>Scarfs (18)</b>           | <b>€ 96,84</b>       |   |                |
| <b>Mugs (27)</b>             | <b>€ 162,00</b>      |   |                |
| <b>Kas bestuur</b>           | <b>€ 0,00</b>        |   |                |
|                              |                      |   |                |
| <b>Total</b>                 | <b>€ ...</b>         | <b>Total</b>                                    | <b>€ ...</b>   |

## **INTERIM REPORT AUDIT COMMITTEE**

On the 11th of December, the first audit check of treasurer Van der Zwet took place. As a result of the corona pandemic, it is not permitted to receive members in the SPIL common room for, for example, an audit check. Therefore, the undersigned were received in the treasurer's house with great enthusiasm. The Audit committee was pleased that it was allowed to travel to the neat 'Burgemeesters- and Professorenwijk' in Leiden. That the treasurer has taste, could soon be concluded.

Since the members of the audit committee, due to their age, now belong to the risk group, the audit check took place neatly at a distance of 1.5 meters. After a delicious piece of cake and a sandwich, the audit check could start. Well begun is half done, as the Audit committee once said. What was immediately noticeable was that, unfortunately, the number of mutations was a lot lower than is usually the case with the first audit check. Of course, the treasurer could not do much about that. The books of this treasurer will go down in SPIL history where the corona pandemic also left its traces.

Apart from a single mutation that was recorded in the wrong ledger, there was little to criticise in the treasurer's neat work. A small mistake, which was beyond the treasurer's control, led to a single ledger account continuing in the treasurer's financial year after the close of the previous financial year. In the meantime, this administrative job has been done and this too has been resolved. In addition to checking the books, the merchandise is also counted by the Audit committee. Due to the highly exceptional period in which we are all currently involved, this counting has not yet taken place. The SPIL common room is not accessible so far. The audit committee prefers to count the merchandise at a later time in the year, as the treasurer otherwise had to move all merchandise from the two SPIL common rooms to the, again, neat 'Burgemeesters- and Professorenwijk' in Leiden. The members of the Audit committee nevertheless have confidence in the treasurer's muscles, but are of the opinion that the treasury already weighs heavily enough in this period. The audit committee can promise the GA that, in any case, the merchandise will be counted at least once more this financial year. The conclusion can be drawn that treasurer Van der Zwet has so far performed admirably. The books were in order, the accounts are correct and the relationship between the treasurer and the audit committee is good.

Because of the aforementioned risk assessment of the members of the Audit committee, it was decided to clear their throats with a golden beer after the audit check. The Audit committee would like to suggest that this be done more often at the end of an audit check, just to be on the safe side.

With 38 SPIL-yellow greetings,

The Audit committee 2020-2021  
"Van maatje 38 naar XL"

Roos Neven & Rex van der Kruit

## **REPORT OF THE SECOND WORKING GROUP ON THE REFORM OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY (TWHALV)**

### Concrete recommendations

#### **Policy**

The working group thinks that there is profit to be gained if the board draws up clearer policies, so that less time is spent on obscurity and forgotten or underexposed passages. A more active role of the Advisory Board (RvA) is required for this. Specifically:

- The Advisory Council is proactively involved in the policy. Well before the policy is sent to the members, the RvA can have a look at it and a meeting is planned with the board. In this meeting, the RvA discusses the principles, but also looks closely at the policy and points out to the board any missing parts or sloppiness. The board can still adjust this before the policy is sent to the members.
- The board makes concrete policies with clear intentions. They avoid vague texts and copies of previous years.

#### **Promotion**

First-year students do not feel the importance of a GA. Moreover, the experience is that IRO students have little commitment to holding an evening meeting, because it is mainly a Dutch tradition. We propose the following promotional actions:

- Have commissioners explain to their committees why the GA is important and what influence they have.
- Have committee members actively state that they are coming to GAs. Make that commitment at the beginning of a committee year.
- If the obligation to have all committee members attend a GA is not feasible, make sure there is a minimum representation per committee.
- Make sure there are fun things to do at GAs. This could be a meal, but also snacks or snack boxes sent to your home address at online GAs.
- Promote the concrete substantive issues that are on the agenda at a GA (see also: heading 'Procedural').
- Make it clear that there will be a borrel after the GA.

#### **Procedural**

In terms of procedure, we make a few proposals to make the content of the GAs more relevant:

- We stop having Information Meetings for IRO students. This way, we do not offer an alternative to a GA, which is now largely held in English anyway.
- The aim is to remove the statutory obligation for a GA to be held in Leiden. This way, GAs can alternate between Leiden and The Hague.
- The dates of the GAs can be included in the annual planning. That way everyone can anticipate.
- In addition to the policy, the board presents its most important substantive questions as separate agenda items. These agenda items offer room for an extensive substantive (political) discussion. An example of this is a discussion on increasing the contribution for trips or changing the committee structure. The points discussed can be included in the policy at a subsequent GA.
- The board takes a cautious approach to opinion forming at the GA. They are there to answer questions, but leave substantive positions to the GA, so that it is encouraged to discuss them with each other.
- The attention of members is drawn to the fact that amendments may be written to policy documents if these are crucial to the discussion or approval of the policy.
- Before voting, the chair of the GA makes a summary of the most important considerations.

- The board shall keep a day free in the year planning for every GA for a possible continuation of the GA. This day shall not be publicly communicated.
- An end time for a GA session is determined, also for online GAs.
- Former board members will be specifically invited in addition to their regular invitation.

Signed by,

Catrin Böcher  
Jan Willem Wesselink  
Kiara Wetsteen  
Noor Saris  
Roos Neven

## **REPORT BOARD OF ADVISORS**

Dear General Assembly,

You have before you a scoop, namely the very first report written by the Advisory Board. The Advisory Board is one of the many bodies of the most beautiful association of Leiden, which functions mainly in the background and on which the attendees can vote again soon. When we were told that a motion had been submitted stating that we had to produce a report, it was a bit of a shock for some, the question that was quickly asked was: 'What should we write down?' Well, we tried to make the best of it.

This year, there is very good contact between the XLth board SPILuminous and the Advisory Board. After the last General Assembly, we had a discussion with the president about how we could be more involved. This was a very constructive discussion, the outcome of which was that we will be taking a more focused look at certain policy points. In February, the Advisory Board, on the advice of the TWHALV, held an online meeting with the entire XLth board where every board member could ask questions about the written policy and where we could give advice. We look back on this with a positive feeling.

The contact between the president and the Advisory Board is very good and the president knows she can always contact us. In addition, we are certainly prepared to give both solicited and unsolicited advice if necessary.

The Advisory Board would like to emphasize that we are very proud of the way the XLth board is managing this year and we wish the board and all the committees a lot of success this year.

With a SPIL-yellow greeting,

The Advisory Board