

Minutes Semi-Annual Meeting Monday 19 February 2018

Chairman: Mats van den Nouwland

Secretary: Amber van Gorkom

Present: Janne Rutten, Gina Advena, Alara Er, Chanel Otterloo, Maartje Slot, Vincent van Stiphout, Dominique Paulissen, Suzanne Klein Wolterink, Lotte Bikker, Hanneke Groen, Maud Holzmann, Sabine van Westerveld, Eline Giesbers, Patrick van Aken, Femke Brüll, Marieke van Wel, Lucas Hendriks, Jimi Lee Chan, Paula Hartmann, Thijs Buisman, Diana Lopez

Agenda:

1. Opening
2. Agenda
3. Notifications
4. Approval Minutes 18/9/2017
5. Presentation Semi-Annual Report '17-'18
6. Vote Semi-Annual Report '17-'18
7. Financial status
8. Theme Discussion: Internationalisation
9. W.C.T.M.
10. Closing

1. Opening

Mats opens the meeting at 19.18 p.m.

2. Determination agenda

Mats discusses the agenda items briefly.

3. Notifications

Sanne has authorized Chanel, Hanneke will authorize Lotte if she leaves earlier.

4. Approval Minutes 18/9/2017

Eline: I couldn't find all my answers in the Minutes of 18/9/2017.

Mats: We're sorry about that, we hope to avoid this in the future.

The Minutes of the General Member Meeting on 18/9/2017 are approved:

Against: 0

Blank: 16

In favour: 5

5. Presentation Semi-Annual Report '17-'18

Long-term goals of the twenty-ninth board of SV Babylon:

1.1 Strengthen the bond between the association and its members and attract new members

Attracting new members: Orientation Week

The Orientation Week was the first moment of the academic year in which we were able to get in touch with new members and attract them to become a member of our association. During this week, Ivo, Mats, Marco and Kai were mentor parents, Anne was the coordinator because of her position as Commissioner of Activities, and Amber helped the committee when needed. The six of us played a big role in the Orientation Week and we think we made a lot of students aware of SV Babylon and its benefits.

Attracting new members: Language Week

After the Orientation Week, we decided to participate in the Language Week with five board members. We helped the teachers of CIS studies with their programme and could tell the students something about SV Babylon.

Bonding (new) members

Like every year, we organised a Committee Market on which Babylonians could get informed about the different committees. While dividing the Babylonians over committees, Anne kept in mind that, as far as possible, each committee consisted of a mix of international students and Dutch students and students of different academic years. In this way, people from different academic years and nationalities could bond and help each other.

International members

We tried to continue and improve the internationalization of our association by:

- Making more committees accessible for international students. Last year, 4 committees consisted of international students, this year this number was 10.
- Adding English articles in the Babylon Magazine.
- Removing the 'Dutch Only activities' from our agenda.
- Making surveys for international members, to get to know what they like and what they don't like about SV Babylon.

Active Member Activities

We tried to make active members more involved by and enthusiastic about our association by organising two Active Member Evenings (AME's). The first AME was a Pubquiz and the second a Fox and Sticker Hunt. We will organise an Active Member Activity (AMA) as well at the end of the academic year.

(Pre-)master students

We are organising activities focused on (pre-)master students as well, like the Career Event and the Congress.

Maud: How did you reach out to premasters?

Marco: We did lecture talks and approached some of them personally.

Maartje: Maybe you can send an email to (pre-)master students to inform them about your formal activities, because a lot of pre-masters are not a member of the Facebook group, but still want to keep informed about formal activities.

Eline: We sent an email to pre-master students last year, but some of them became really angry about it, because they didn't want to get an email because they weren't a member.

Maud: I would advise you to send an email with information about the Congress to the pre-master students.

Lotte: You can also hand out folders after the lecture talk, so you keep this students reminded about the event.

Third-year students

We celebrated the comeback of our third-year students with a Babylon Borrel, dedicated to them.

1.3 Improve the professionalism of SV Babylon

Corporate Identity

In our opinion corporate identity is of high importance, that's why we wear or board suits at formal events and our board shirts and vests at informal events.

We developed our own, new merchandise, which we are very happy about.

Eline: why are your board shirts in Dutch?

Mats: That was a mistake, we are going to advise the next board to make sure the imprint is in English.

Babylon Room (E12.09)

We had to get rid of two Babylon lockers on the twelfth floor of the Erasmus Building, because two new associations got an association room on our floor. This meant we had to go through all our stuff and throw away a lot. We think the Babylon Room and the lockers are way more structured right now.

1.4 Improve and strengthen the image of SV Babylon

Companies and organisations

We approached companies and organisations as professionally as possible. We gave business gifts to all companies and organisations who spoke for us or helped us in some way.

Cooperation of Faculty Associations (SOFv)

The cooperation between the different study associations was helpful to see how other associations dealt with problems, activities, etcetera.

The SOFv helps us and other study associations to work on their privacy statements by starting a group of board members who are going to set up a document with all measures that have to be taken to comply with the new privacy law.

Advisory Board

The communication between us and the Advisory Board has been good. They provided us with feedback, that was of great help most of the times.

Maud: In your Semi-Annual Report, you write that Lotte was studying abroad in Canada. Right now it seems like she didn't give any feedback to you while she was abroad. That's not true.

Mats: You are right. We will rewrite this part.

Change of the board: Internationals

We organised a Board Interest Lunch for students who were interested in doing a board year at SV Babylon.

Some international students told us that they were interested in doing a board year at SV Babylon. We decided that we require a minimum level of Dutch (B2), because in our opinion, the Radboud University and SV Babylon are not ready yet for an international student in the board, who can't speak Dutch at all. We discussed this subject with other study associations and all of them didn't have positive experiences with international students in their board. We really hope that in one or two years it will be possible for internationals to become a board member of SV Babylon.

Sabine: Do you require a B1 or a B2 level of Dutch for the next board members?

Mats: The B2 level of Dutch is set.

Vincent: Are the positions of Secretary and Commissioner of External Affairs also available for internationals?

Mats: No, for this positions we think your level of Dutch should really be advanced, that's why we require a C1 level of Dutch.

Chair

Role within the board

Mats admits that he wasn't always totally involved in what was going on in the committees of other board members. Of course, a reason for this is the fact that Mats is now in charge of two additional committees, due to personal circumstances of a board member.

Board meetings and Board evaluations

In board meetings it is the job of the Chair to evaluate and reflect on everything that is going on in the association.

Mats organised individual meetings with all board members to reflect on the board year on as well personal as professional level.

Lustrum Committee

The Lustrum Committee has decided on a theme for the upcoming Lustrum. Now that three out of six committee members have returned from their stay abroad, the committee is complete and is at this moment planning and organising the opening party

for the Lustrum year. The rest of the Lustrum activities will be organised by the next Lustrum Committee. Most of the current members of the Lustrum Committee would like to continue their work in the committee in the upcoming year.

Almanac Committee

This committee now consists of six members, of which three were staying abroad in the first semester and have now returned to Nijmegen.

They soon will go to a publisher to see what the possibilities are for Almanac.

Committee of Formal Activities

This committee organised a company visit to the NOS in the beginning of the academic year. Because NOS couldn't host too many people at the same time, this activity took place in two groups on two different dates.

The CFA organised a Pub lecture in which lectures did an interactive presentation about a current topic. This night was really fun and members were enthusiastic about it.

It has been difficult to provide good summaries for all courses of our studies, because most courses have changed a lot during the years. Since two years, all courses are in English, but also the content of some courses totally changed. Because of this, the committee wasn't able to provide summaries for all courses.

Right now, the committee is busy planning a second company visit.

Career Committee

This committee organised a LinkedIn workshop, presented by Cécile of the Career Service Department. During this workshop, there was also the possibility of making a professional picture for your LinkedIn page.

Another workshop organised by this committee, the Presentation Skills workshop, was not well visited due to unfortunate planning. This has been reflected by the committee and in the future the committee will try to plan the workshop on a date on which more Babylonians will be available.

Eline: What happened to FutureM?

Mats: Due to the transition of this committee from Amber to Mats there have been some troubles with the Career Committee. It was difficult to make them enthusiastic for organising activities and we didn't come around to promoting FutureM.

Lotte: I would advise you to stop with FutureM. Babylonians are not really enthusiastic about it and for companies it can be annoying. Sometimes they don't know what we want from them. We approach them every year to make sure they still want to take part in FutureM, but afterwards it appears that many members have no interest in doing an internship for one day. Maybe the committee can think of something else next year.

Chanel: The Career Committee is not really busy during the year. You could make them think about ways to make FutureM more popular amongst Babylonians.

Sabine: We suggested last year that you could work together with the Career Service Arts.

As an association, we organised the RAGweek lunch together with our umbrella association of all Arts associations.

Secretary

Social Media

Every board member contacts Amber if they want to put a post or an event online. Sometimes she didn't manage to post events online in time, but other board members helped her with this.

Private Facebook group

Because some members did not get a notification of all our activities or forgot about them, we decided in making a private Facebook group, in which we added a lot of Babylonians. We asked members of this group to add their befriended Babylonians as well. One week after posting an event online, we shared it in the Facebook group as a reminder. This is working really well and we think Babylonians are more aware of our events in this way.

Instagram business page

We changed our Instagram page to a business page, which means that we now have access to statistics.

We used our Instagram page to raise awareness for the Board Interest Lunch. We did an update every week about our experiences as a board member in constitutional order. Hopefully, we gave Babylonians a good insight in the life of a board member.

Collaboration with Commissioner of External Affairs

This year, the social media platforms have been divided among the Commissioner of External Affairs and the Secretary. LinkedIn and Twitter are more for external stakeholders, while the other platforms are meant for members. That's why we decided, with the advice of the twenty-eighth board, to make the Commissioner of External Affairs responsible for Twitter and LinkedIn and the Secretary for Instagram and Facebook.

Website

We revised and improved the English website. Marco also solved the Robot.txt problem, so people can find our description when they search for us on Google.

It is also possible to order merchandise on the website.

Lotte: What about the pictures on the website? We advised to put them on Google Photos for instance.

Marco: We have unlimited space on our website. We don't think that it will become a problem. Pictures from long ago will be deleted, after we informed our members about this.

Treasurer

Finances

Ivo did the direct debit of member contribution. Some people booked the contribution fee back on their own account. Ivo and Amber sent an email to them with the question if they wanted to sign out as a member of SV Babylon.

Sabine: Why did you wait so long with the email to people who booked their money back?

Ivo: I should have done that earlier.

The problem with the Babylon Magazine has been solved. The shipment of the magazines has always been for free, but this year we had to pay 900 euros for it. Of course, as SV Babylon, we can't pay such a huge amount of money every three months. It turned out that the Department of CIS had been paying for the Babylon Magazine for years. We contacted them about this issue and luckily they still want to pay for it in future.

The Constitution Borrel has been more expensive than we thought. We are going to advise the thirtieth board in making a better deal with Van Buren about the costs of the drinks during this borrel or in bringing bottles of strong alcohol their selves so they don't have to buy expensive shots.

Department of CIS Contribution

The contribution of the Department of CIS has always been 1000 euros for the Congress and 500 euros for the Career Event. Every year the board concludes that the Career Event Committee needs more money and the Congress Committee doesn't need that much money. We asked the Department of CIS if it would be possible to divide the money better and give 750 euros to as well the Congress as the Career Event. The Department agreed and we are happy about this new division of money.

Administration and Payment Methods

Ivo is doing his administration on the programme Conscribo and his administration has been approved.

SV Babylon's current payment methods are:

- Cash
- iZettle
- Direct debit

The Christmas Dinner was a disaster administration wise because there were so many payment methods members could use. We advise the next board to only allow one or two payment methods per activity.

Study Trip Committee

The Study Trip will take place from 28 April until 6 May and we will go to Berlin and Prague. 31 people will join. Babylonians who are joining the Study Trip for the first time get an extra grand.

So far, the confirmed activities are a visit to Charles University and a company visit to JetBrains.

Merchandise

This year, we launched nice new merchandise items, which we are very happy about. Members are able to order the items on our website.

We would like to advise the thirtieth board to expand our collection with special Lustrum items.

Commissioner of Internal Affairs

Contact with CIS

We organised a Pub Lecture with some professors of our study programme. We also went to all graduations where Mats did a speech and we handed out flowers to all graduated Babylonians.

Furthermore, Mats and Kai had a Christmas lunch with the lecturers of the study programme.

Kai liked to get a better overview in what is happening in our faculty. For this reason he decided in taking part in the OLC.

Book Sales

The contact with StudyStore has been pretty smoothly. However, one error appeared during the year: we didn't receive confirmation emails when a member signed up for SV Babylon via StudyStore. Kai had to call StudyStore every now and then asking them if there had been more members signing up for SV Babylon.

Gina: Internationals did get a Dutch confirmation email when they ordered at StudyStore.

Kai: We are aware of that. We already asked StudyStore if they could work with an English follows Dutch email so internationals can understand the email as well.

Information Committee

This committee organised CIS in the Field. This was a successful event with fifty members taking part. This evening, ten CIS alumni talked about their experiences after their studies.

Sabine: Why do you need another committee to organise the CIS in the Field next year?

Kai: All of the members of the current committee will go abroad next year, they won't be in the Netherlands when this event will take place.

Sabine: I think it's better for the quality of this event to look for a new committee for organising it.

Kai: We are thinking about making a combination of the Career Committee and the Career Event Committee to organise this event.

Chanel: You can also approach Babylonians who just came back from their semester abroad. Maybe they would like to be part of a committee to become more involved in SV Babylon.

Publication Committee

- Babylon Magazine

This is a committee with English Babylonians taking part. This year, we decided in making a half English half Dutch Babylon Magazine. Next year we hope to have a full English magazine. When making a magazine containing only English articles it will become more difficult to maintain the quality of the articles.

Chanel: Do Dutch students like it this way with only English articles?

Kai: We don't want to exclude international students, so I think we have to make the step to a magazine in English.

Maud: The half Dutch half English BM is a good compromise for this year, because third and fourth year students chose the Dutch version of our studies when they started. A year in between is good, next year they will be prepared for a full English magazine.

- Blogs

Sabine: You wrote that the Publication Committee would write a blog every month. I have only seen three blogs so far. What happened?

Kai: I don't really have an explanation for it. The blogs just weren't a priority for me and in the beginning of the year I forgot about them. For now, we intend to make the blogs more interesting to read, we want to make them more career related.

Chanel: maybe you can promote the blogs on Instagram. A lot of people don't even know that the blogs do exist.

Kai: we are monitoring the numbers of people who read the blogs. At the end of the year we will check how many people are actually reading the blogs. If this number is very low, we can think about stopping with writing them.

Graphic Desing Committee

This committee is a combination of people with experience and people without any experience. Everybody is helping each other. Justin (the former chair of this committee) gave a workshop in InDesign for the current committee members and Bas (current chair of this committee) gave a workshop in Photoshop for all members.

Commissioner of External Affairs

Training sponsor members

Marco organised trainings for sponsor members of different committees. Sponsor members of the Orientation Committee still have to get this training, because some members were abroad in the first semester of the academic year. For us, training the sponsor members is important because these people keep up the contact with companies in the name of SV Babylon.

Contact with companies

- Sticker deals
Marco added some sticker deals this year. We do now have a Tosti Babylon at Tosti Club with a discount and we have a deal with Bascafé (free bitterballen when ordering 10 beers or 5 craft beers). Furthermore, the Project Escape Battle took place this year. Right now, the competition is over, but the deal will still go on. Babylonians can escape the Duivelskamer for 60 euros per game at Project Escape. The deals with Malle babbe and DressMe are still continuing this year.
- European leisure jobs
In the beginning of the year it has been difficult to keep in touch with them, because they didn't answer to emails very often. Now the contact is better.
- Coop deal Ski Trip
The Sports Committee tried to make a sponsor deal with the Coop but it didn't work out. The Coop decided not to continue this deal. Marco contacted the sponsor member of the Sports Committee about this. The Coop still gave us a discount and we found other sponsors to pay for the food packages for the Ski Trip. There was no problem in the end.
- Updates/downgrades contracts
The Rabobank is sponsoring a bit less this year. There is a compensation because of a few updates as well.

Maud: How do you promote the discount deal with the sticker?

Marco: We are promoting it on our website and on the blackboard in the Babylon Room.

Career Event Committee

This is a small committee with only four members. They have been implementing a new way of promoting the event: using screensavers at the library. We are thinking about using this for more upcoming events as well.

Alara: How excited are you for the Career Event? ☺

Marco: I'm really excited!

Congress Committee

For the Congress we have a collaboration with study association Mycelium. We have experienced that there is a cultural difference between our two associations about internationalization, for example. Marco had a lot of meetings with the coordinator of Mycelium to overcome this problems.

Gina: Why is Mycelium hesitating so much about English speakers and workshops during the Congress?

Marco: They only have Dutch members, not all of them are not really willing to listen to English speakers.

Maud: You didn't mention that you have a collaboration with Mycelium in the Semi-Annual Report.

Marco: I will add it.

First, there was a problem with the location for the Congress, because the buildings of TvA will soon be demolished. This year, the Congress will take place in the Erasmus Building and the Elinor Ostrom Building. We were lucky that the new theatre hall 'C' is opened at the university to give our plenary session.

The theme of the Congress will be 'Data: From Zero to Hero'. It is about privacy, customer preferences and the role of data in this.

Maud: Are the Congress and Career Event both completely in English? Because last year internationals didn't have a choice in workshops, because there was only one workshop in English per round.

Marco: We are trying to make sure that in every round there is a division of 50/50 of Dutch and English workshops. In this way, internationals also have a choice between different options.

Chanel: Maybe you should talk with Mycelium about the collaboration for the Congress for the next years, about what they want in the future.

Marco: Mycelium is making progress in internationalization, but we are still way further in this process than they are.

Commissioner of Activities

General affairs

We did quite well with planning the activities during the academic year. In November we overdid it a bit with activities, which resulted in less people being present on our activities. We tried to avoid an overload of activities in one month in the future.

Our contact person of Van Buren changed and Anne did not know about this. That's why it was difficult to keep in touch with Van Buren at one point. Right now, the contact is better.

Committee of Informal Activities

- Borrels, BaMyPo and Inglorious

We have had five borrels this year already, of which four were organised by the CIA. There has been a high attendance rate on every borrel, except for the borrel in November.

Two members of the CIA are in the BaMyPo Committee and two of them in the Inglorious Committee.

Hanneke: How did you manage to change the day of the BaMyPo into Thursday?

Anne: It was the idea of our contact person of the Molenstraat actually. We are very happy about it because it is more likely to have a high attendance rate of the BaMyPo's on Thursdays.

Lotte: It could be useful to hand out Babylon stickers at the door of van Buren or El Sombrero at BaMyPo or Inglorious parties. A lot of Babylonians don't have a sticker yet and in this way you can easily give them one.

Sabine: Why was the BaMyPokémon less popular?

Anne: Because this BaMyPo took place in November probably.

- Other activities

This year, it was the first time the Beer Rouler took place, organised by the CIA. Participants did a tour along rooms of committee members and paid 7,50 euros for five craft beers, five snacks and games.

The Waagh changed their menu for the Christmas Dinner, so we could no longer offer it to our members for 15 euros.

- Dies Week

Right now, the committee is working hard on working out all activities for the upcoming Dies Week. We will organise a Beer Olympics like last year, but instead of a Pub Crawl, the committee wanted to organise Bouncylon (also to have a non-alcoholic activity during this week). Furthermore, there will be organised a Cantus and Dinner with Games during this week. We already have a lot of applications for the Dies Week

Sports Committee

This committee organised a Beach Volleyball Tournament. The people who where there really enjoyed it.

- Ski Trip

The annual Ski Trip took place from 27 January until 3 February. The organisation of this week went well, except for the sponsor deal with the Coop, but we solved it.

The theme party and the English version of 'Ganzenborden' on the first evening were really fun.

Anne would like to give the advice for next year that it is really necessary for the Sports Committee that everything is clear and fixed before leaving the Netherlands. Sometimes the organisation and communication to participants could have been better. Also, the Sports Committee didn't meet every day during the trip. This could be better next year.

We made a survey for all participants of the Ski Trip to make this event better next year.

Anne would advise not to go back to Valfréjus with SV Babylon. The apartments were really small and the ski area was not that big. Anne would advise to go back to one of the three ski areas we went to the last 6 years (Flaine, Valloire and Avoriaz).

Marieke: In Valfréjus, we had the possibility to go to a different ski area by bus, but this bus was already booked and in the end there was no possibility for us to go to a different area.

Diana: Maybe you can check if there's a doctor available in the ski area where you want to go. I needed one, but the doctor wasn't really accessible in Valfréjus.

Vincent: What are you going to do with the teachers of the ski classes? It is really important that they are there for people who are skiing for the first time and that they don't leave them alone. People who can't ski can't be left alone on the slopes on their first day.

Anne: I talked to the ski teachers and I will make sure this won't happen again.

Vincent: What happened with the bottles of alcohol that were left after the game on the first evening?

Lotte: You can't ask members to bring their own drinks for group activities.

Anne: I get it, we didn't mean it that way. Next time we will make sure that people bring drinks per room.

Vincent: Why did you say we had to hand in the keys of our rooms at 9 a.m. in the morning, when we had to hand them in at 10 a.m.?

Anne: This was a miscommunication with SkiStuds, we heard about the change of the time too late.

Vincent: Why was the room of the committee too late with handing in their keys?

Anne: I'm sorry about that. I'm not proud of it. I know this was not professional.

Vincent: Why didn't you punish the Babylonians who brought weed to France?

Anne: I admit that it was our mistake not to punish them immediately, but we spoke to them later and told them they could not do that.

Vincent: Why were you so late with telling them that it was prohibited to bring weed to France?

Chanel: Sanne told me to tell you that you should make sure that this kinds of incidents never happen again. If professors hear about this, there is a chance they will lose their trust in the association and won't give you any financial support any more.

Marco: We discussed this in the meeting. In the future, we will add to the packing list of the Ski Trip that weed is prohibited in France.

Anne: It was our mistake not to stress it more, it was also because we didn't see the seriousness of the problem at that time.

Gina: I know it sounds a bit harsh, but are you allowed to kick people from the bus who take weed with them?

- Other activities

We will organise the Batavierenrace in collaboration with study association Mycelium. There are two members of the Sports Committee of SV Babylon in the Batavierenrace Committee. We divided the spots for the Batavierenrace between Mycelium and SV Babylon.

In May, we will organise a sailing activity with the Loefbijter. There will be a picknick and a barbecue included. We are really looking forward to it.

Prom Committee

The annual Prom is in two days and will take place in the Waagh. We sold 100 tickets, which is a lot. The theme will be 'Snow Ball' and the Prom will be organised together with study associations BOW, Mundus and Postelein.

Orientation Committee

Eline: Why didn't you mention anything about the Orientation Week of 2017 in the Semi-Annual Report?

Sabine: I agree, you have to add a part about the Orientation Week.

Hanneke: I don't think that's necessary because you already mentioned the Orientation Week in the Financial Meeting.

Lotte: It is important to stress that committee members won't be late or drunk during the Orientation Week.

Anne: I will discuss it with the new Orientation Committee.

The Orientation Week is going to be different in 2018. The Orientation Weekends will be replaced by one big festival weekend. Every Orientation Committee has to hand in proposals for activities or events they can organise during this festival. Our Orientation Committee has handed in three proposals already. The Cantus will be replaced to the Orientation Weekend as well.

Gina: When does the Orientation Week start?

Anne: On 19 August.

Maud: In the Semi-Annual Report you say that the Policy of the twenty-ninth board was approved during the General Member Meeting with the change of the board. That's not true. Your Policy has not been approved during the General Member Meeting but during the Financial Report Meeting. You should change that.

6. Vote Semi-Annual Report '17-'18

The Semi-Annual Report '17-'18 has been approved:

Against: 0

Blank: 4

In favour: 17

7. Financial status

The most important thing to note is that the amount of money for 'contribution' is not yet final. We still have to receive an amount of 1000 euros, so don't be shocked that there is a number of -1100 right now.

Eline: Why is board clothing on the list?

Ivo: Just to give a clear overview of what goes through the Babylon account.

Chanel: Why is the amount of money from the Prom Committee 200 euros?

Ivo: This number is not yet finalized.

Hanneke: Why are the costs of the Babylon magazine not in the report?

Ivo: This money doesn't really go through the Babylon account. That's why I decided to leave it out of the report.

8. Theme Discussion: Internationalisation

We discussed about whether to accept international Babylonians in the thirtieth Board of SV Babylon

Eline: I would advise you to make a Dutch person the Secretary. An international can't fulfill this position, you have to be able to do a lot of writing in Dutch.

Lotte: The Radboud University is positive about the internationalization of the university and study associations. I'm sure they would like to help you with the internationalization of SV Babylon.

Kai: We talked about this with Lucie and with other study associations and especially other study associations were very negative about having international board members. There are a lot of things we run into that aren't internationalised enough yet for international board members to deal with. It is really difficult to become international as a study association when your university is a step behind. We would be one of the first study associations with international board members and collaborations with the university and other study associations would be more difficult.

Marco: We went to a conference of internationalisation and noticed that the Radboud University is one of the last universities in the Netherlands becoming international. The RU is in the middle of a big change right now, but we're not there yet.

Kai: Right now, the university is asking study associations for advice about internationalization. They are not really far in the process themselves.

Gina: If the university doesn't see the need to change they won't.

Kai: Ofcourse we can show the university how far we are in the process of internationalization to make them aware of the fact that they really need to change as well.

Lotte: What do you think about the Treasurer? Can this position be fulfilled by an international student?

Mats: I think it's possible, but it will be hard because almost all files and documents are in Dutch. An international board member will need a lot of help from the Dutch board members when doing their task.

Kai: At first I thought the positions of Commissioner of Internal Affairs and Treasurer would be the easiest to do in English. But contacting other faculties and other study associations can be more difficult in English than you might think.

Chanel: Even as a Treasurer you should have a certain level of Dutch. Maybe it will be possible to have international board members in a couple of years, but right now it will be difficult. I think you are really doing a great job with the internationalization, for example with translating documents and with giving this meeting in English. For this year there is a limit, but next year SV Babylon can make other steps in internationalization.

Hanneke: In one or two years, students of CIS will all be following a total English programme, people will be more used to English people and English texts, etc.

Sabine: In a few years the university will also be further in their process of internationalization.

Anne: For now you shouldn't underestimate the extra pressure led on the shoulders of the Dutch board members, because they have to translate a lot of things for the international board members and we would give them a lot of extra tasks.

Gina: Everybody is able to use a dictionary. I think international students can get used to the Dutch language really easily when they see it a lot and really want to learn it. They won't need that much help.

Chanel: You can't run a study association while learning Dutch at the same time. It's just too hard to combine.

Marco: The university offers Dutch courses for international students, but these courses start in February. This is too late for international students to learn Dutch before applying for a board year at SV Babylon.

Lotte: Maybe it's a good idea to make a script of internationalisation, so the next board can use it. You came up with some really good ideas, so write it down and help the next

board with continuing the internationalization.

Chanel: You're doing a really good job with the internationalisation.

Maud: Indeed, it's a good thing that we are discussing this already after 1,5 year after the implementation of the English track in our studies.

Chanel: SV Babylon is going to be an example for the internationalization of a study association.

Kai: It would really have been revolutionary to have the first international board member, but right now it would be too early for us.

Gina: How much Dutch do you have to speak during a board year?

Marco: A lot of moments you need to be able to have a conversation in Dutch. Also for yourself it's a lot easier to speak or at least understand Dutch.

9. W.C.T.M.

Maartje: For pre-masters it may be interesting to focus more on study related activities. To reach them, you can for example do a lecture talk and make interested pre-master students write down their emails on a list. In this case you only send an email to the students who are really interested in the activity.

Marco: Thank you so much for your input. It's really helpful for us.

Sabine: I would advise you to join the umbrella association of the Faculty of Arts. Maybe you won't need it that much, but it's always good to keep in touch with other associations.

Marco: GSV and GAG probably won't join the umbrella association either. In this case, SV Babylon would be the biggest association by far. I think that we will lose our voice.

Ivo: We would also have to pay more contribution, because of our bigger amount of members.

Marco: We will discuss it if we will participate in this association.

Gina: A lot of my friends don't have Facebook, they don't get invitations for some activities, but some of them still want to join.

Marco: It's good that you make us aware about this. We do have posters and lecture talks as well to reach students without Facebook. But it's still good point to think about, we will keep it in mind.

10. Closing

Mats closes the meeting at 22.22 p.m.