



## Semi-Annual Report 2023-2024

Trust, Togetherness, Tact

## Foreword

Dear reader,

In front of you lies the Semi-Annual Report of the thirty-fifth board of Babylon. This report includes a reflection on the matters concerning Babylon for the first half of the academic year of 2023-2024.

The aim of the past half year was to get a good start and to maintain and improve the image and reputation of Babylon amongst all its stakeholders. While doing this, the long term and short-term goals, which can be found in the Policy Plan of 2023-2024, were kept in mind. This report describes to what extent the set objectives have been met and how the thirty-fifth board further aims to reach them in the future.

Furthermore, this report will give an insight into the way things are or have been organised in the past. Successes and possible improvements will be critically evaluated. The current board is devoted to providing its members with an honest and genuine reflection of their work so far.

Hopefully, this report provides a sufficient overview of Babylon's line of work, but naturally, the board welcomes all questions and remarks.

Zoë Spoorenberg	-	Chair
Tom Hetterscheid	-	Secretary
Pascal Jansen	-	Treasurer
Marit Brummel	-	Commissioner of Internal Affairs
Lize Waeijen	-	Commissioner of External Affairs
Pien van der Heijden	-	Commissioner of Activities

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# 1. Proceedings in long-term goals of Babylon

The thirty-fifth board has written a Policy Plan before the start of the academic year, which was approved during the Continuation of the Change of the Board General Member Meeting of 14 September 2023. In this report, four long-term goals were described and discussed, namely:

- Making Babylon a safer space
- Strengthen the bond between Babylon and its members and attract new members;
- Improve and strengthen the image of Babylon.
- Strengthen the bond between the association and external relations;
- Improve the professionalism of Babylon;

The following paragraphs will briefly reflect on the progress that has been made within these goals. The thirty-fifth board surveyed its members in January 2024 to have a better insight into what needs to be improved in thesecond semester, but also what went well in the first semester. A total number of 27 people completed the survey, there were 34 respondents in total, of whom three were international students. Of the respondents, 45% were first-year students, 30% were second-year students, 12% were third-year students, 3% were fourth-year students, another 6% were fifth-year students, 3% do not do the studies (anymore). 9% of respondents were master students, 91% were bachelor students. A part of the results of the survey can be found in the following paragraphs.

## 1.1 Making Babylon a safe space

### **1.1.1 Protocols**

The thirty-fifth board has been busy the past semester drafting a set of Protocols on social safety, which will be presented alongside the Semi-Annual Report during the Semi-Annual General Member Meeting on 19 February 2024. The Protocols cover ways in which members, board members and Confidential Contact Persons are expected or have been made able to respond to violations of social safety.

### **1.1.2 The Babylon Room**

The Babylon Room is located on the 12th floor, room 9 in the Erasmus building (E12.09). Similar to previous years, the regular opening hours of the Babylon Room are from 10.30 AM until 4.00 PM and on Fridays from 12.00 PM until 2.00. The board will then be present in the room following the schedule they made, and all members are welcome to visit during these open hours.

According to the survey, 100% of participants know where the Babylon Room is located. Out of the 32 members that replied to these questions, three said they think the Babylon Room is not an accessible space, or slightly not an accessible space. 6 people are neutral, and 26 members say it is a very- or slightly accessible space to be.

## **1.2 Strengthen the bond between Babylon and its members and attract new members**

A strong connection between the members of Babylon and the association is essential. Therefore, the thirty-fifth board aimed to make this connection stronger throughout the past half-year.

### **1.2.1 Orientation Week**

Acquiring new members for the association was especially important in the first weeks of the new academic year. For this reason, the board put much effort into the Orientation Week, to gain awareness of the new potential members and recruit new members from the start. The entire board participated in the Orientation Week: two board members participated as committee members and the rest of the board participated as mentor parents. Babylon was well promoted during the Orientation Week. This resulted in a lot of sign-ups during and quickly after the Orientation Week. Besides that, all board members tried to approach as many potential members as possible and kept on promoting Babylon.

#### *- Survey results:*

Sixteen out of the twenty-seven survey participants took part in the Orientation Week. Everyone said that the Orientation Week either aligned completely or slightly with their personal interests, only one person was neutral about this topic. 69 percent of the people that participated said it really helped with their integration into Nijmegen. 31 percent said they were neutral about it. Most people also said the Orientation Week helped to get more insight into the study programme. Three people out of 16 people mentioned that they missed out on something they expected in the Orientation Week. Two of them responded that wanted more contact with other groups and better time management (party until late, meeting early in the morning).

### **1.2.2 International members**

Following the policies of the previous boards, the thirty-fifth board continues to try to

strengthen the bond between the international members and the association. Babylon has a total of eleven international Active Members this academic year, which is five more than in the academic year before. However, it is nine less since the 2021-2022 academic year. The thirty-fifth board thinks there can still be improvements in welcoming the international members within Babylon. Therefore, the thirty-fifth board want to advise the upcoming board to reintroduce the buddy system.

To be able to keep improving the important process of the internationalisation of Babylon, the thirty-fifth board wanted to know the opinion of the international students on certain matters. That is why there were certain questions specifically directed at international students in the semi-annual survey that was distributed. In total, three international members filled in the survey and helped the board gain more insight into their view of Babylon. Only two international members answered the international-targeted questions in the survey. However, both of them said that Babylon provides a safe space for them, and they think the association does enough to promote speaking English. One international member mentioned that they think there can't really be done anything more to promote the use of English. They think if speaking English were to be set as a hard rule, it would divide the Dutch and International members even more. However, they said they do appreciate that the board is advocating for the use of English as much as they do. An activity has been organised during the year and it has been considered a success. A lot of people were there, and they were mostly international members. These members seemed to have had a fun night and connected with each other.

Babylon has strived to find new ways of making the association even more international and has been in contact with several international-minded parties, like ESN, to organise a collaboration. However, this has thus far not led to anything concrete.

### **1.2.3 (Pre-)masters**

For a long time, Babylon has been having difficulties reaching out to and attracting (pre-)master students. The Orientation Week does not include (pre-)master students anymore, which challenged the thirty-fifth board to find other ways to approach these students. The board gave a presentation and organised games during the master welcome day to introduce this year's master students to Babylon. Members of the thirty-fifth board also presented Babylon during a master lecture, and during CIW/IBC lectures where pre-master students were present. Babylon currently has four active (pre-)master members. As mentioned in the Policy Plan of the thirty-fifth board, Babylon tries to connect all of its members and does not organise separate activities for the (pre-)master students, with the exception being the (Pre-)Master Music Bingo at the beginning of the academic year to introduce the (pre-)master students to Babylon. Unfortunately, the turnout of the activity

was rather low and only seven (pre-)master students showed up. However, most of the people who did participate in the activity, are now Active Members within Babylon, which is positive.

#### **1.2.4 Communication tools**

##### *- The website:*

The Secretary focused on maintaining the status quo and ensuring the stability of the website this year. While there were no significant changes or updates, the emphasis was on regular maintenance and optimization to ensure a smooth user experience. In the Semi-Annual Survey, some members reported that there were minor mistakes on the committee webpage. This has now been fixed.

##### *- Social media:*

The WhatsApp groups for Active Members have been made and the old Announcements group chat has been maintained. The frequency of texts in the announcements group has been increased to almost daily. 85% of respondents strongly agreed that Babylon's Announcements page is informative. Additionally, Instagram has been used regularly. The thirty-fifth board has received a lot of positive feedback about the Instagram page of Babylon and the survey shows this: 63% of members strongly agreed the page was informative; with 37% somewhat agreeing. The board has also increased the use of Reels which greatly increases exposure; not just to members, but also to non-members, which has been great for activities that are also open to non-members, like the *Je ne regrette rien* Cantus.

The thirty-fifth board also reports on their formal activities on LinkedIn, as well as posting vacancies there. Only 26% of respondents follow the LinkedIn account of Babylon. Although this was promoted on Instagram by the Secretary, the thirty-fifth board realises more promotion for the LinkedIn page is needed.

Furthermore, each month, the Secretary sends out the Babbel to all members. Only 30% of respondents read the Babbel each month; with another 33% reading it sometimes. However, 81% of respondents felt that the current format of the Babbel keeps them up to date on all things Babylon.

##### *- Babylon Magazine:*

The thirty-fifth board decided to continue publishing the Babylon Magazine in a printed,

paper format and an online format on the website. Additionally, the thirty-fifth board will publish two editions of the BM in the year 2023-2024. The first edition will come out in the first week of March and the last edition of the BM will be in July.

Only 26% of respondents read the Babylon Magazine whenever it comes out, with 37% reading it sometimes. The thirty-fifth board thinks this may be attributable to the fact that 45% of the total respondents were first-year students who have never received a Babylon Magazine yet.

### **1.2.5 Active Member Evening**

For the first Active Member Evening of the year, the night was started at our local pub, Tappers. All Members that signed up got seated at a '*friettafel*', where they received chips and a snack. Afterwards, the board took everyone to Roxy's, a karaoke bar. The thirty-fifth board started with the first song and the Active Members quickly followed. By encouraging Active Members to sing a song with their committee to earn extra points for the Committee Games, the board made sure to have (almost) everyone sing along. After karaoke, everyone went back to Tappers to close off the night. Although the evening itself went well, the thirty-fifth board had some complications while planning the activity. They started planning too late and forgot to include some important details. All in all, the activity was received very well by Babylon's Active Members.

### **1.2.6 Activities organised by the board**

At the beginning of the year, when the committees had not been formed yet, the board was in charge of organising a few activities herself. Firstly, the After Intro Party that took place at Bar RUIG. There were about 35 people who attended the Party, which (unfortunately) was a lot less than last year. Because there were not as many people, Bar RUIG decided to close early, which was a shame. The thirty-fifth board will advise the thirty-sixth board to put the After Intro Party in the Orientation Week Booklet.

Secondly, the board organised the Committee Market. It took place at the EOS building, and there were around 20-25 members looking around at the committee stands. This resulted in 58 sign-ups for committees. The board considered this to be a success, as it has a high number of Active Members compared to last year, which means the Committee Market probably was a success.

Thirdly came the Anything-But-A-Cup Borrel. The current Commissioner of Activities had understood that the old Committee of Informal Activities would organise this Borrel, but the thirty-fifth board ended up organising this Borrel without a committee. The thirty-fifth board will communicate with the Committee of Informal Activities if they will organise the



first Borrel during the next academic year. There were around 45-50 people. The Borrel was received well and made members enthusiastic about Babylon. At this borrel, the Lustrum Theme was revealed, which made members enthusiastic about the upcoming year. The only negative part was that this borrel could not be organised at Tappers, so it was in Bar RUIG again.

Another activity that the thirty-fifth board organised was the very first Babybreak. There were around 20-25 members. Of the members who filled in the survey, 89% said that they liked how casual the Babybreak is. The board also noticed that because of this casual atmosphere the Babybreak brings, more people who normally are not at activities did attend this one. Because of this, the board reflects very positively on this new activity.

Lastly, the board organised the (Pre-)Master Music Bingo. This way, the board wanted to show that they value the (pre-)master students, a demographic the board cannot reach easily. More information about this activity can be found in section 1.2.3.

## **1.3 Strengthen the bond between the association and external relations**

### ***1.3.1 Keeping in touch with sponsors***

Strengthening ties with external relations is of vital importance to the thirty-fifth board of Babylon. Since there was no Commissioner of External Affairs last year, Babylon lost touch with some of her sponsors. In the last six months, the Commissioner of External Affairs has been busy with getting back in contact. Continuing to maintain ties with other external relations has generally been successful. As usual, the Commissioner of Activities handles contact with the local pub. The Commissioner of External Affairs maintains contact with all other external relations. The Commissioner of External Affairs has made a contact file.

### ***1.3.2 Recruiting new sponsors***

The Commissioner of External Affairs has mainly been occupied with getting back in touch with former sponsors. The Commissioner of External Affairs has started contacting a few potential sponsors already but has not made great progress yet. She keeps track of all the contacted businesses in the contact file.

### ***1.3.3 Strengthen the bond with (sister) associations***

There have been a few online meetings with the sister associations. The contact has mainly consisted of getting to know each other and planning both the Sisters Day and the National Day of Communication. The board has travelled to Tilburg to visit Flow, to Wageningen to visit Ipso Facto and to Amsterdam to visit EOS at their Constitution Drinks. They visited the Constitution Drink of Mycelium in Nijmegen as well. It was a goal to visit as many sister associations as possible, but unfortunately, that has not been possible because of other important Constitution Drinks in Nijmegen. Despite this obstacle, the thirty-fifth board is pretty satisfied with the contact with the sister associations. The Sister's Day has not taken place yet, but the thirty-fifth board is eager to get to know everybody better in person.

The blog ToCommunicate which was released during Covid-19 is no longer in use. All of the sister associations agreed that the blog is not useful to the associations anymore, so it has been discontinued. As for the contact with other associations in Nijmegen, the board has gotten to know a lot of boards at the Constitution Drinks during the first half of the academic year. The board has already met up with multiple boards in informal settings to get to know them even better. The board feels that they are now a familiar face for most boards in Nijmegen.

#### **1.3.4 Business Gift**

There have been a few activities where Babylon has given the business gift to external parties. A few of these activities have been, for example, CIS in the Field. The gift itself consists of a piece of growpaper and a notebook. The external parties responded well to the gift. Therefore, the thirty-fifth board is positive that in the second half of the year, the gifts will be presentable as well. The board expects to give out more gifts in the second half of the year with all the formal activities planned.

#### **1.3.5 Local Pub**

This year, the thirty-fifth board decided they wanted to switch local pubs, as was voted for during the Switch General Member Meeting on 7 July. The thirty-fifth board overall is happy with the decision to switch to Tappers, as they feel like the atmosphere at Borrels has improved and more members are attending. However, the thirty-fifth board did have some communicative issues with Tappers, for example, the Borrels being exclusively Babylon and the drink deals not being clear. The board is communicating with Tappers about how these problems will be prevented in the future.

## **1.4 Improve the professionalism of Babylon**

The professionalism of Babylon is shown through the association's communication and behaviour. It is important to come across as professional as possible since this will make the association more appealing to both internal and external (potential) partners.

#### **1.4.1 Professional communication**

The Secretary has, in the secretary trainings, made sure that the house style of Babylon has been communicated to the secretary of each committee to ensure the corporate identity of Babylon.

#### **1.4.2 Privacy**

The thirty-fifth board places a lot of value on the topic of privacy. The sponsor members of all committees know how to reach them with questions regarding privacy issues. The Secretary also makes sure that the board takes the privacy rules into account.

#### **1.4.3 Clothing**

The board has purchased suits, blouses, t-shirts and sweaters. This year, because of the Lustrum, the t-shirts and sweaters contain the Lustrum colour and the Lustrum logo on the back, instead of the regular orange and moon logo. To warrant the professional image as well as the accessibility of the board, the board will continue to adapt their clothing to suit the activity attended.

### **1.5 Improve and strengthen the image of Babylon**

Over the last few years, a lot of effort has been put into reinforcing the positive image that external parties and members of Babylon have of the association. The thirty-fifth board is continuing to do so.

#### **1.5.1 Companies and organisations**

Babylon is committed to receiving and welcoming speakers in a neat, friendly and professional way during formal events. This will improve the bonds with the companies and improve the image of Babylon. So far, this has been done successfully. Speakers at CIS in the Field have had a pleasant experience, as well as the speakers of the Company Visit to STER Reclame and all the Alumni that have participated in the Alumni Dinner.

### ***1.5.2 Study and student associations***

The thirty-fifth board believes that regular contact with other associations can be of great value for Babylon. Therefore, proactive behaviour is encouraged. In previous years, Babylon cooperated with other associations in Nijmegen to organise Inglorious, BaMyPo and the annual Prom. This year's first BaMyPo and Inglorious parties took place in the Molenstraat in November and December respectively. Additionally, there are other Inglorious and BaMyPo parties scheduled for the second half of the year. The Prom, which is normally organised in collaboration with other associations, will now be organised alone, because of this year's Lustrum.

Babylon has been present and has actively participated in other events organised to get to know other associations, such as several activities organised by SOFv and LETO. Previous boards also made initial contact with RUIS (HAN Communication) to make way for possible future collaborations. They had not been able to contact RUIS and after multiple attempts, the topic was left behind. However, the thirty-fifth board has been able to plan a Borrel together with RUIS.

### ***1.5.3 Members and other students***

Most members of Babylon perceive the association to be professional, accessible, active, useful, supportive, open and pleasant, according to the survey. The overall perceived opinion about Babylon appears to be good. The Semi-Annual Survey showed that Babylon has got a positive image among members and other students. The biggest part of the recipients are well well-aware of Babylon's practices and think being a member of Babylon is essential as a CIS student. Some people even explicitly mentioned how much Babylon has done for their social lives. All in all, the image of Babylon among members and other students is what the thirty-fifth board aimed for.

### ***1.5.4 Sustainability***

The thirty-fifth board maintains Babylon's focus on sustainability. Firstly, all of the monthly Babylon Lunches have been vegetarian (and one even gluten-free) and were offered on reusable plates from the kitchen on the 12<sup>th</sup> floor. Furthermore, to be even more sustainable, the thirty-fifth board decided to buy reusable decorations for the Borrels, that are stored at Tappers.

## 2. General Affairs

### 2.1 SOFv & LETO

Babylon is a member of SOFv (Samenwerkingsoverleg Faculteitsverenigingen, English: Cooperation of Faculty Associations), an organisation that stimulates collaboration and transfer of information between study associations at Radboud University. The SOFv General Member Meetings are held every two months. During these meetings, relevant topics for study associations are discussed.

Babylon is also a member of LETO, an association that stimulates collaboration and transfer of information between study associations of the Faculty of Arts at Radboud University. Furthermore, LETO keeps Babylon up to date about faculty-related affairs. Moreover, LETO organises several activities for all the associations of the Faculty of Arts throughout the academic year.

The Chair and the Commissioner of Internal Affairs have the responsibility of attending these meetings and have attended every SOFv and LETO meeting this academic year. In some cases, the meetings collide with Babylon activities, which has resulted in one or two board members arriving late for the activities.

Moreover, the board has been very pleased with the connections provided through both SOFv and LETO. Besides the actual help from both of the parties, Babylon has created very good and friendly connections with both of them.

### 2.2 Advisory Board

The Advisory Board consists of two members of the thirty-third board, Job Coehorst and Rianne Zwarts, and two members of the thirty-fourth board, Sven Drosten and Coen Esselink

At this moment, the thirty-fifth board has had two group meetings and one personal, individual meeting with the Advisory Board. Another formal meeting has been planned, and by the time of the Semi-Annual General Member Meeting will have taken place. During the meetings, the thirty-fifth board and the Advisory Board discussed topics such as managing each other's expectations and tips to help the current board. Besides the dialogue between the board and the Advisory Board, the Advisory Board provides feedback

through the weekly minutes of the current board's meetings. The thirty-fifth board considers the relationship it currently has with the Advisory Board to be beneficial and aims to continue it as such during the rest of the year.

### **2.3 General Member Meetings**

The first General Member Meeting of this academic year was the Continuation of the Switch General Member Meeting on 14 September 2023 and was held at the university. Here, the Policy Plan of the thirty-fifth board was approved. The Financial General Member Meeting was held at De Waagh on 29 September 2023. During this meeting, the Treasurer of the thirty-fourth board presented his Financial Annual Report, and the Treasurer of the thirty-fifth board presented his budget for the academic year of 2023-2024, which was subsequently approved.

### **2.4 Change of the board**

In previous years, an Application Committee has been created to make sure that the whole application procedure is carried out without any bias. The thirty-fifth board is doing so as well. The committee will consist of the Chair and Vice-Chair of the thirty-fifth board, two members of previous boards and one member of the board of another association. The thirty-fifth board has promoted the possibility of joining the Application Committee on Instagram. The process of selecting the right people for the committee is currently in progress.

In the past couple of years, the Application Committee was formed by approaching former board members personally. Because of some advice the thirty-fifth board got during the Switch General Member Meeting, they decided to publicise the application process. Potential candidates are not approached personally this time, because everyone should get the chance to apply.

The thirty-fifth board recognises that the process of finding members for the Application Committee has been set in motion too late. From now on, the Chair and Vice-Chair will make sure to put a rush on the process. The thirty-fifth board ensures to make it clear to their successors that they should start on time.

On 21 February, the Board Interest Lunch will take place. The thirty-fifth board will make sure to approach as many possibly interested members as possible to try and interest them to join this Lunch. The thirty-fifth board also made individual Day-in-the-Life videos

to post on the Babylon Instagram account, to show members a bit of what a day in the board life entails. The deadline for sending your application for the thirty-sixth board to the Chair is currently set at 18 March 2024.

## 3. Policies per functionary

### 3.1 Chair

#### **3.1.1 General tasks and responsibilities**

The main task of the Chair is to make sure everything is handled accordingly as the Chair is ultimately responsible for everything that is organised and published under the name of Babylon. Besides that, she leads and coordinates the board and Babylon in general. One of the main tasks of the Chair is to lead the weekly board meetings. The board meetings mostly took place on a set day at the beginning of the week, with a few occurrences of having to reschedule a meeting due to the personal circumstances of a board member, or an occasional Babylon activity that was planned for the same time as the board meeting. Reschedules were done as carefully as possible, meaning that the rescheduled meetings often took place close to the original meeting day. Most board meetings have taken place in the Babylon Room, but sometimes (mostly during the holidays) they were done by video call. Since the announcement of the thirty-fifth board in April, the thirty-fifth board has made sure to meet up every week. As for participation in the meeting, there have been a few instances when somebody ran late to a board meeting because their alarms did not wake them. Board members to which this happened made sure to wake up in time for the meetings ever since.

As for the meetings themselves, they run smoothly. At the beginning of the year, the Chair had to learn how to lead the meetings efficiently. Since then, the meetings run better but take a very long time. The Chair really had to grow into her role, as she did not get a lot of guidance at the beginning of the year. Everybody is included and represented in the meetings, some board members were shyer at the beginning of the board year, but they have come out of their shells. The Chair strives to send the agenda one to two days before the meeting so that everybody gets to see what will be handled during the meeting. The agendas have mostly been sent on time. Before every meeting, the board has a confidential round. Every board member has to tell something during this time, so everyone is up to date on the other's personal circumstances. This helps to avoid a lot of tension between the board members.

Furthermore, the Chair has provided the chairs of all committees with chair training at the beginning of the year. Exceptions were the committees where the role of chair is fulfilled by a former board member or an active member who has fulfilled the role of chair of a committee before. Every chair got a personal training, partly because this way there



was more room for questions and a personal approach to the training, but also because the thirty-fifth Chair had a better chance to personally connect with the chairs. After the training, the Chair distributed an example of an agenda, which the chairs could use for making agendas for their committee's meetings.

Another task of the Chair is to monitor all the activities organised by Babylon's committees. She is doing this by reading all the minutes of the committees. On some occasions, the Chair has to ask for the minutes herself, but most minutes are sent by the secretary of the committee. This has been working fine for the time being.

The Chair has also attended the General Member Meetings of SOFv and LETO. There has been one instance where the Chair was not able to join, because of Lustrum Committee activity.

To make sure the General Member Meeting was still attended by two board members, the Treasurer went together with the Commissioner of Internal Affairs. The Chair and Commissioner of Internal Affairs have been invited to a handful of graduation ceremonies for both the bachelor and master programs. The Chair has spoken at all of them, except for one time, because of personal circumstances.

## **3.2 Secretary**

### **3.2.1 General tasks and responsibilities**

The general tasks of the Secretary are, among other things, managing the member administration, the (e)mail, Babylon's website and the social media channels of the association. Another important task of the Secretary is to write the minutes of the board meetings as well as the General Member Meetings and to distribute them. The distribution of the minutes has (almost) always been completed within the time set for it (48 hours). The strict media planning works well for the Secretary and almost all promotional material is finished in time.

### **3.2.2 The member file**

Due to the automatic member file, The Secretary only had to check all data and approve a membership. Sometimes the data was not complete, for example, it missed a bank account. The Secretary did not approve those memberships yet and emailed the person first to make sure no members were added with missing data.

### **3.2.3 Minutes**

As mentioned, it is the responsibility of the Secretary to write the minutes and this has been going well. The other board members write their own updates before every board meeting for more efficiency during the meetings. The board always checks the minutes before sending them to the Advisory Board

### **3.2.4 (E)mail**

The Secretary has been checking the email almost every weekday. The Secretary has recently started making concept birthday emails for the whole week. Emails that regard a date that the rest of the board should know about are sent in the planner WhatsApp group chat or discussed during the board meetings.

### 3.3. Treasurer

#### **3.3.1 General tasks and responsibilities**

The general tasks of the Treasurer mostly consist of keeping track of the cash flow and the budget of the study association. The bookkeeping is done through Conscribo, by keeping track of declaration forms, incoming and outgoing invoices and making sure outgoing invoices are paid on time. The Treasurer must make sure that the study association stays financially healthy.

#### **3.3.2 Budget**

As of February 2024, despite the lack of a main sponsor, the budget is in a controlled positive result. All committees are financially healthy. Of the unforeseen costs (700,- euros total), 75.20 euros are used and another 488.96 euros are reserved to cover the loss of last year's sponsor money from StudyStore and Sjors&Sjimmie.

#### **3.3.3 Income**

- Member contribution

The annual contribution was executed successfully. However, the money could not be collected from all members due to missing bank information and members reversing the direct debit. In total, 45 membership fees are missing. These members have been sent an email, but very few responded. After several attempts to reach out to said members, those who did not respond were signed out from Babylon. Because of the number of missing membership fees, the amount of annual contribution in the budget has been corrected.

- Contribution of the Department board of Language and Communication

The Department of Language and Communication has increased the yearly contribution to Babylon, from 1500 to 1575 euros. The first part of this money has successfully been used for the Career Event; the second part will be used for the Congress.

- Merchandise stock

The thirty-third board has a combined amount of 451.80 euros as leftover merchandise stock. Since this merchandise does not sell quickly, this has not been implemented in the budget. Any sold merchandise will be an unforeseen income and will be used for a, at that time, adequate location.

### **3.3.4 Expenditure**

- Sustainability

The thirty-fifth board has used the sustainability budget to buy sustainable decorations, which will be used for the Borrels. The Treasurer is ready to use the unforeseen costs might a new opportunity to increase sustainability arise

- Additional expenditure

The initially budgeted amounts turned out to be a little over- or underestimated in some cases, leading to the budget slightly changing in some areas. The thirty-third Board has decided to use most of the available extra funds to increase the budget for the Lustrum Committee.

### **3.3.5 Till Committee**

The Till Committee is in close contact with the Treasurer. The monthly update from the Treasurer informs the Till Committee about the current status and that month's developments. Two of the four Till Committee checks have been done, which resulted in no major hiccups.

### **3.3.6 Contact with committee treasurers**

At the start of the academic year, the treasurer trainings took place. The Treasurer met with almost all committee treasurers to make a budget and talk about the expectations throughout the year. The Treasurer maintains contact with the committee treasurers about any changes in the budget. The Treasurer is currently planning a second round of meetings with all the committee treasurers to ensure a financially healthy second part of the academic year.

### **3.3.7 Payment methods**

At the beginning of the year, it was decided that the thirty-third board would work with four payment methods this year. First of all, cheap activities can be paid for in cash. Secondly, payments by debit card/iZettle are possible for activities. Direct debits are used for the contribution, the Study Trip, and activities with online registration that require a larger fee. When members order the merchandise on the website, they can pay with iDeal. The most used payment method is the Rabobank payment requests. The payment method Ticketkantoor can be used for activities that require people to have a ticket (such as the Congress).

### **3.3.8 Merchandise**

The Treasurer is responsible for the Babylon merchandise. Members can order the merchandise online. As per the thirty-fifth policy plan, only Lustrum merchandise will be brought out this year. The corresponding budget is part of the Lustrum budget.

The merchandise consists of the following items: Babylon hoodie, 22.50 euros; Babylon sweater, 15 euros; Babylon socks, 7 euros; Babylon cap, 7 euros; Babylon T-shirt, 12 euros; Babylon mug, 7.50 euros; Babylon blanket 17.50 euros; Take Me Shirt, 24.95 euros.

### **3.3.9 FC Balbylon**

FC Balbylon is going smoothly this year. The team does not have enough available players every match, meaning the Treasurer has had to reschedule some matches. The Treasurer has noticed that prioritising managing the team is difficult during a board year. He is therefore considering advising the thirty-sixth board not to manage the team.

## **3.4 Commissioner of Internal Affairs**

### **3.4.1 General tasks and responsibilities**

The Commissioner of Internal Affairs is responsible for maintaining a good relationship between Babylon and the study programme, together with all the lecturers and staff members. Additionally, she is in charge of book sales and alumni connections.

### **3.4.2 Consolidate the link between Babylon, the study programme and lecturers**

The Commissioner of Internal Affairs has done her best to improve the contact with the study programme and the lecturers. Since the beginning of the year, she has had regular meetings with the study advisor, Julia Pick, to discuss ongoing activities within Babylon and the well-being of the members of Babylon, as well as the board members.

To personalise the relationship between the lecturers and Babylon, the Commissioner of Internal Affairs and the Chair went by all the teachers during the Day of the Teacher (5 October) and gave them small chocolates for all their hard work. This was liked by the lecturers and many of them seemed touched by the gesture. The Commissioner of Internal Affairs will recommend this to her successor as it was a great success and she received multiple grateful emails from the professors.

Moreover, the Chair and Commissioner of Internal Affairs represented Babylon during the graduation ceremonies. The association holds an important role by giving a speech and handing out flowers to the graduates. The graduation ceremonies are a great way to close a chapter between the students/members and Babylon itself. Additionally, by being present, Babylon creates closer connections with the attending professors too. The professors always show their appreciation when Babylon is present. The Commissioner of Internal Affairs still has great connections with the flower store from last year and is still obtaining all their flowers there.

### **3.4.3 The Study Programme Committee**

This year, the Commissioner of Internal Affairs also applied to the Study Programme Committee as the former Commissioner of Internal Affairs advised to do so. By being a member of the Study Programme Committee, the Commissioner of Internal Affairs gets a clearer image of how everything is going within the study programme and helps her in her tasks. However, it must be noted that the Commissioner of Internal Affairs is a 'regular' member of this committee and is a member to stay up to date about everything that is going on within the study programme and does not take place in it specifically as a Babylon (board) member. This way, she avoids any conflict of interest. This year, the committee consists of five lecturers and five Communication and Information students. Currently, the Study Programme Committee is striving to make a change in the Bachelor Programme division. After this year, the Commissioner of Internal Affairs will again advise her successor to join the Study Programme Committee to stay up to date about the study programme, but not to specifically support Babylon's interests.

### **3.4.4 Book sales**

This year the book sales went through a different book supplier than last years. There has been a semi-annual evaluation meeting with Smartbooks. In this, it was discussed that very few members ordered books. Therefore, in the year evaluation meeting it will be discussed how this can be improved. The book order page is still on the website, behind the user sign-up. This means that all students will have to create an account on Babylon's website, which the board can either verify or deny after checking their membership status. This way, it is certain that all current Babylon members are paying their membership fee, which was the problem in the past years as it was not behind a login, hence students were able to buy their books with a discount without paying the membership fee.

### **3.4.5 Alumni**

So far, there has been contact with alumni multiple times. The Commissioner of Internal Affairs has access to the Alumni LinkedIn group. The alumni are being contacted for CIS in the Field. It is very useful to have access to this group since most alumni are happy to help Babylon at events. The Commissioner of Internal Affairs and the Education Committee will soon start sending invitations to alumni to give them the opportunity to speak during the CIS in the Field event. Additionally, the alumni have been approached by the Career Committee to participate in the Alumni Dinner.

#### **3.4.6 No Taboo Lunch**

This year the Commissioner of Internal Affairs came up with a new activity, the No Taboo Lunch. The No Taboo Lunch was supposed to take place every period. Unfortunately, the first period the board had to cancel the No Taboo Lunch. Due to the difficulty of finding a speaker that was available and the high costs of speakers. The first No Taboo Lunch, in the second period, was organised very well. A speaker from the DEI opened the conversation about masculinity and this was received well by the members. However, only two members were there so it is hard to state that it was received well overall.

### **3.5 Commissioner of External Affairs**

#### **3.5.1 General tasks and responsibilities**

The Commissioner of External Affairs communicates with all external parties in a suitable manner. Babylon aims to communicate in a professional yet personal way. It is the task of the Commissioner of External Affairs to guarantee the corporate identity of Babylon.

#### **3.5.2 Contact with external affairs**

The Commissioner of External Affairs tries to keep an active state of contact with all external parties. She updates them regularly and with the most important parties she plans meetings in person or via the telephone. In the mailings, she encourages the external parties to contact her via phone if they have any questions. In addition, the Commissioner of External Affairs aims to respond within 24 hours to make sure external parties will not have to wait too long for an answer. In the past half-year, she has always succeeded in doing so. The Commissioner of External Affairs will continue to put in efforts to meet or check in regularly with the external parties that Babylon is involved with.

#### **3.5.3 Sponsor Members and Contact File**

The Commissioner of External Affairs has given sponsor training to all sponsor members

of the committees of Babylon. During this training, she explained the importance of the corporate identity of Babylon, and she explained the Contact File. The Commissioner of External Affairs is positive that all sponsor members know how to reach her and how to get in contact with external parties in the correct manner. She also actively reminds them of how to reach her and to share their external parties with her for the Contact File.

#### **3.5.4 Recruiting new sponsors**

As expected, finding a new main sponsor is challenging. She is currently looking for a new main sponsor to add to the list of sponsors of Babylon. She has done so by mailing and calling companies. Unfortunately, she has been doing this without success.

Hopefully, she will find a main sponsor soon. In order to inform potential new sponsors adequately about the benefits that Babylon has to offer for them, she has crafted a brochure, which she has sent to many companies.

She did however find two new financial sponsors this year. First, the communications company Loo van Eck Communications. They are sponsoring this college year 500 euros. In return, they have the opportunity to post four vacancies a year. Furthermore, they will be invited to most of our formal events, and there will be a company visit. The other new financial sponsor is Domino's. In the previous years, Babylon already had a Sticker Deal with them.

This year, Commissioner of External Affairs did her best to expand the cooperation between Domino's and Babylon. This has been successful, with Domino's sponsoring 240 euros for the Skitrip jerseys this year. Other than that, the sticker deal has not changed, except that from now on we will work with an online discount pass.

#### **3.5.5 Vacancy policy**

The Vacancy Policy is working well. Currently, the Commissioner of External Affairs has sold Package B two times. She has the idea that when she will contact more companies for being a main sponsor, there will be more vacancies.

#### **Vacancy Policy Babylon 2021-2022**

*If you would like Babylon to post a vacancy or advertisement for your company, this Vacancy Policy will be used. The amounts below will be asked from you once per vacancy/advertisement. This also means that your company can post one or more times a vacancy/advertisement within one year. This Vacancy Policy is entirely without obligations.*

**Package A.** €30,-: Babylon will post the vacancy/advertisement on our website (600 visitors) and LinkedIn (400 connections). Your company is allowed to post a



*second vacancy/advertisement on our website or LinkedIn at a later moment in time.*

**Package B.** €45,-: *Babylon will post the vacancy/advertisement on our website (600 visitors) and LinkedIn (400 connections), Facebook (925 likes) and our Instagram Story (920 followers). Next to that, the vacancy will be kept in our story highlights on the Instagram page of Babylon (@babylonnijmegen). Your company is allowed to post a second vacancy/advertisement on our website or our socials at a later moment in time.*

### **3.5.6 Vice-Chair**

The Commissioner of External Affairs is also the Vice-Chair. She is being kept up to date about the tasks of the Chair and whenever the Chair cannot attend or the board has to be divided to attend two activities at the same time, she can take up her task as Vice-Chair.

## **3.6 Commissioner of Activities**

### **3.6.1 General tasks and responsibilities**

The main task of the Commissioner of Activities is to be in charge of the year planning, the Committee Market and contact with Bar RUIG / Tappers and the Molenstraat.

### **3.6.2 Year planning**

The Commissioner of Activities was responsible for making the year planning for all activities of Babylon. She strived to find the right balance between informal and formal activities and tried to plan the right number of activities. Besides that, the aim was to make an even distribution of activities throughout the year, so that all months offer roughly the same number of activities (except for the months with exam weeks or holidays). Most activities had an attendance on which the board cannot complain. However, there were also activities that were less well-visited. For example, the No Taboo lunch and CIS in the field.

Until now there has not been a lot of shifting of activities. One example is an International Activity. The board wanted to go to a Christmas market, but this was no longer an option because the two dates for the International Activities were too close to each other. Another example was a No Taboo lunch because the board was not able to find someone to speak during the Lunch. Some activities were not planned ideally (a BaMyPo and Inglorious in one week), which resulted in a low turnout.

### ***3.6.3 Organising the Committee Market and composing all committees***

The Commissioner of Activities has been responsible for organising the Committee Market at the beginning of the academic year. The Committee Market was set up with all the committees having their own stand in the Elinor Ostrom (EOS) building. Every committee had at least one, sometimes two, people telling the members about the committees and that was received well. The Committee market was visited very well, especially with a lot of first-year students. In total, the thirty-fifth board received 58 applications to committees, of which 58 people were assigned to at least one (and in some cases even two or three) committee(s). This was not enough to fill up every committee with a sufficient amount of people. Therefore, the board decided to merge some committees in order to get more people to organise certain activities for that committee.

An example of this would be the Committee of Formal Activities together with the Education Committee. Those two committees now form one committee in order to organise the activities of both committees. This committee then had 4 people in total (including the Commissioner of Internal Affairs). In total, the board received 11 applications from international students, 24 first-year students and the rest were either second-year students or above. One member quit the Committee of Informal Activities. Babylon now has 57 Active Members.

### ***3.6.4 Contact with Tappers***

The Commissioner of Activities has also been, and still is, responsible for all the contact with Tappers. The Commissioner of Activities went to the meetings regarding any contract together with the current Commissioner of External Affairs. The contract has been signed and has not been violated. There have been some difficulties, but now the contact seems like these have been going better. The contract stated that Babylon's new local pub would become Tappers. All Borrels would take place at Tappers. At the beginning of the academic year, one Borrel had to take place in Bar RUIG. This itself is not a big problem, but it is not what was promised to us.

The contract also stated that the Borrels start at 9.30 om now, this would improve the attendance, and we have noticed this. Tappers offered us beer/wine/soda from 9.30 pm until 10.30 pm for only one euro to get more people to join the party in the first hour, and this made a big difference. The Borrel is exclusive until 11.00 pm, and after which other groups or associations are allowed to join. This has not always been the case, so this is something that needs to be looked at.

So far, the communication has been all right. Now, with a new contact person, the contact is promised to be better than it was before. In the beginning, this resulted in the new contact person not knowing all the information because it was not transferred well. But eventually, the Commissioner of Activities is happy about the communication, it can never be perfect.

### **3.6.5 Contact with the Molenstraat**

The Commissioner of Activities has been responsible for all the contact with the managers of the bars at the Molenstraat and other cafés. Together with the Commissioner of External Affairs, the Commissioner of Activities went to all contract evaluations and negotiations, formed the new contracts, and arranged deals and locations for activities that would usually take place in the Molenstraat, such as the *BaMyPo* and *Inglorious*. The contract with the Molenstraat was signed in the presence of the Commissioner of Activities and the Commissioner of External Affairs.

One thing previous boards have mentioned was that communication with the Molenstraat was lacking. They did not respond accordingly from time to time, and they did not always hold up their end of the contract. When signing the new contract, the thirty-fifth board was clear that they wanted to see an improvement in communication with the Molenstraat. The Commissioner of Activities sees a significant difference in terms of communication. Besides the fact that there is always room for improvement, in general, the Commissioner of Activities is satisfied.

## 4. Committees

### 4.1 Lustrum Committee

The Chair and Commissioner of Activities co-ordinate the Lustrum Committee. During the Switch General Member Meeting on 7 Juli 2023, it was advised to not co-ordinate, because of confusion about communication. Therefore, the decision was made for the Chair to handle the communication between the committee and the board, and for the Commissioner of Activities to handle committee-specific tasks.

The Lustrum Committee has thus far come up with a Lustrum theme and colour and has already organised one Lustrum theme specific activity. On 13 November 2023, the High Wine took place. There were 29 sign-ups for this activity, which is considered to be a success. The committee is also responsible for the Lustrum merchandise. All of the merchandise has already been ordered and will be promoted soon.

The Lustrum Week will be from 4 March to 7 March 2024. This is the same week as the DIES-week would normally be in. The Lustrum Committee is fully responsible for the organisation of the entire Lustrum Week. Every activity location has been set and most things are already taken care of.

### 4.2 Application Committee

The Chair and Vice-Chair (in this case the Commissioner of External Affairs) co-ordinate the Application Committee. This committee was formed in February and besides the coordinators consists of two members of the thirty-fourth board, one member of the thirty-second board, and one member of the current board of another association. Every board position is represented by these members. This division was made to ensure diversity of boards and knowledge to be able to construct the best advice possible about who the members of the thirty-sixth board are going to be. The committee was formed too late, but the board trusts that the committee will perform its job adequately, as progress has already been made.

### 4.3 Almanac Committee

The Secretary is responsible for the Almanac Committee. The committee thus far has come up with a theme and lay-out, as well as the content. The committee has started writing articles and interviews for the Almanac and has been reaching out to old boards, sister associations, and committees to write texts for the book. The committee plans to release the Almanac in June, so that the Lustrum Prom, Lustrum Week, and Lustrum Study Trip can be included in the Almanac.

### 4.4 Publication Committee

The Secretary is responsible for the Publication Committee. The committee consists of five

members, excluding the Secretary. The committee is working hard on the first edition of the magazine, which will be delivered to the members in April. Initially, the committee had planned to release the magazine in February. However, due to some editorial delays, this deadline was sadly not met. The Secretary takes full responsibility for this. Work for the second edition will start as soon as the first edition has been published. The committee plans to publish the second edition in July.

#### **4.5 Graphic Design Committee**

The Secretary is responsible for the Graphic Design Committee. The main focus of the committee during the first semester was creating content for Babylon's social media channels. The Graphic Design Committee will keep doing so in the second semester, but will also shift its focus towards the design of the BM.

#### **4.6 Study Trip Committee**

The Treasurer is responsible for the Study Trip Committee. The committee now consists of eight Dutch members, excluding the Treasurer and the Secretary. The committee started with nine, but two members dropped out of the committee. The thirty-fifth board has managed to recruit a new member for the Lustrum Trip Committee to fill that gap. 38 of the 40 spots on the Lustrum Trip have been filled.

The committee took some time to find the best location with a reasonable price for the flight tickets. The committee has now found an accommodation for the whole week and is planning the activities. The Treasurer recognises that the committee would ideally be further along with the planning. The thirty-fifth board therefore wants to advise the thirty-ninth board to start organising the Lustrum Trip before the start of the Lustrum Year.

The Department board of Language and Communication has changed the conditions for giving out subsidies, and they do not grant subsidies for Study Trips anymore. This means that the only subsidy possible is through SOFv, for which a recognition of the academic character by the Department board is still needed. The Treasurer had, together with the Chair, a meeting with the Department board in October. The Department board expressed their concerns about the spectacular and far-away destinations which the committee had in mind. The Department Board posed that the high price would influence the inclusivity. They also pose that similar destinations would make it difficult the ability to obtain the requested academic character, especially since there has been trouble getting the academic character approved in the last years.

Keeping in mind the negative advice of the previous Treasurer, the low amount of the

subsidy (less than 50 euros per person) and the concerns from the Department Board making it very difficult to obtain the subsidy, the thirty-fifth board has decided not to try and obtain the subsidy.

The thirty-fifth board was, together with the Study Trip Committee, still excited about organising a special Lustrum Trip and have therefore booked plane tickets to Montréal, Canada. The Department board communicated with the Treasurer saying that they would have appreciated more communication. The Treasurer realised that this should have been a higher priority and made sure of this in the second part of the year, he will also communicate the high level of priority to his successor.

#### **4.7 Prom Committee**

The Treasurer is responsible for the Prom Committee. As per the policy plan, the thirty-fifth board will organise the Prom this year without another association.

At the start of the year, the committee put all their efforts into finding a suitable location and managed to sign one. This was difficult because when the committee was formed, the date of the Prom was only 4 months away. The thirty-fifth board will therefore advise the thirty-ninth board to start planning the Lustrum Prom before the Lustrum. The Prom has 94 sign-ins, all the preparations have been finished accordingly and the thirty-fifth board is very excited for the Lustrum Prom.

#### **4.8 Education Committee**

The Commissioner of Internal Affairs is in charge of this committee. The committee consist of three members, one Dutch member and two international members. They all are doing the IBC track of our studies. The committee has not organised an activity yet but is preparing for its activities in the spring. At the moment of writing, the Education Committee is working on their next event: The Family Day in April. They will also soon start preparing for CIS in the Field, which will be organised in September 2022. The Education Committee is also responsible for the Open Days and the Study Choice Check. The committee will help with the Open Days in March.

#### **4.9 Committee of Formal Activities**

The Commissioner of Internal Affairs is responsible for this committee. The committee consist of three members, one Dutch member and two international members. They all are doing the IBC track of our studies. The committee is preparing for their Company Visit in April. Furthermore, the committee is busy with e-mailing other companies to organise another Company Visit.

#### 4.10 International Committee

The Commissioner of Internal Affairs is responsible for this committee. The committee itself consists of four members. The four members are all internationals and thus all IBC students. Two members are first years, and two members are second years. The committee has so far organised one activity; the Get Together meeting with typical Dutch birthday snacks and games. The event had a surprisingly high turnout, and the committee was pleased with the event itself. A new activity by the committee is planned for February. The committee is still thinking of an activity for the spring.

#### 4.11 Congress Committee

The Commissioner of External Affairs is the coordinator of the Congress Committee. This is a joint committee with Mycelium. In total, the committee consists of seven people: three from Babylon and four from Mycelium. The Congress will take place on 16. The Committee is currently looking for speakers for the event. Two speakers have already been confirmed.

#### 4.12 Career Committee

The Commissioner of External Affairs is in charge of the Career Committee. The Career Committee consists of four people in total. The Committee managed to organize the first edition of the Alumni Dinner. This was a formal event where members got the chance to learn more about their potential future careers from alumni in a casual way. The board thinks that this event has a lot of potential to grow in the upcoming years. Additionally, the alumni who participated liked the event and found it nice to connect with Babylon again.

#### 4.13 Committee of Informal Activities

The Commissioner of Activities is responsible for the Committee of Informal Affairs. The committee consisted of ten people in total (including the Commissioner of Activities). However, there have been two members who quit, but also two new members filled their positions. The committee organised the *Borrel* in November and December, the BaMyPo, Inglorious and the Je Ne Regrette Rien cantus. The Commissioner hopes that in the second semester, the committee will be more fortunate. They are busy working on the new *Borrel*. Hopefully, the rest of the *Borrels* can be organised accordingly.

#### 4.14 Sports Committee

The Commissioner of Activities is responsible for the Sports Committee. The Sports Committee consisted of five people in total (including the Commissioner of Activities). The committee has already organised the Pre-Ski Trip Borrel, which was not a big success. There were, apart from the board and the committee herself, only three members present

(out of the total of 22 people joining). There were a lot of last minute cancellations of members who were not able to join the Pre-Ski Trip Borrel.

A lot had to be arranged for the Ski Trip. Totally Snow gave us a few options for dates and locations, from which the former Commissioner of Activities chose the date (27 January-3 February) and the location (Avoriaz).

The contact with Totally Snow has been good. The Commissioner of Activities has been emailing the contact person of Totally Snow and has received quick responses. A week before the Ski Trip, the Commissioner of Activities also received contact information from the travel guide who will await Babylon in Avoriaz. The contact with him has been very quick and easy as well. They both seem eager to work with Babylon.

At the moment of writing, the committee is working hard to make the Ski Trip a great success. The members of the committee are very eager to organise the Ski Trip and to be an Active Member, and it showed. The Commissioner of Activities has faith in the group she now has in front of her.

#### **4.15 Orientation Week Committee**

The Commissioner of Activities is responsible for the Orientation Week Committee. The committee consists of twelve people in total (including the Commissioner of Activities). There were over 20 sign-ups for this committee. From December, the committee has started to meet regularly and organise the Orientation Week. The Commissioner of Activities is already in contact with the Molenstraat and Tappers to see what is possible and what is not. The Orientation Week of the Radboud University and the HAN will be separate this year.

#### **4.16 Weekend Committee**

The Commissioner of External Affairs is also responsible for the Weekend Committee. The committee consists of ten people in total. The committee has found and confirmed the location for the Weekend. In the upcoming months, the committee will be busy arranging everything for the Weekend.



## 5. Future

The board has given a lot of thought on how to make the second half of the year even better than the first one and on how to improve in different areas. In this chapter, those ideas are discussed.

Moreover, the board is busy looking for a new head sponsor for Babylon. This is done by all the board members and it is a discussion point for the upcoming months to find new possible sponsors. A separate group chat has been made to discuss solely matters regarding the head sponsorship. It is of great importance for the board to receive results regarding this matter as it affects Babylon's financial status in the future.

Furthermore, the second half of the year contains a number of Lustrum events, namely the Prom, Lustrum Week and more. The board hopes that such special Lustrum events will be a proper celebration of Babylon's history, bringing younger and older members together.

## 6. Conclusion

In general, the thirty-fifth board is content with Babylon's progression in reaching its long-term goals. The board feels like they have done a good job on connecting with members and making sure they feel safe and have fun within our community. In the past half-year, the board has been working hard to improve the professionalism of Babylon by carefully managing and improving the social media platforms. Especially with Instagram (i.e. design, engagement and the use of Instagram reels). The board members have also noticed that the professional image of Babylon was maintained towards lecturers and companies.

To further improve the reputation of Babylon among its members, the board will work hard to continue to offer a varied range of activities in the future. The bond between Babylon and external relations has been mostly restored and the board will continue the recruitment of sponsors, and especially the search for the head sponsor, in the coming half-year. All the board members look back at the past half-year with gratitude and content. The board has had some hiccups along the way, but they have stayed motivated and made the most of it. Not everything went perfectly or totally according to plan, but the board aims to take in all feedback, positive and negative, to make sure that the second semester will go even better than the first one.