

# Corona news update educational support #15 (week 28, 2020)

## ONLINE EDUCATION

### FeedbackFruits

On 8 July, five new online tools for FeedbackFruits became available within Canvas: Assignment review, Peer review, Group member evaluation, Interactive documents, and Comprehension of document. Teachers can use these tools to design interactive teaching, with rich forms of feedback and peer feedback. In August there are workshops in which teachers learn how to use these tools to better involve students in online education. See the VU NT&L website.

### Online consultation hours

During the summer holidays there will still be online consultation hours about online education for all VU teachers every working day from 12:30 to 13:00.

### Transition online education

VU NT&L is busy making an innovation for the Canvas pages Online Education. It is expected to be completed on Friday 10 July. Monday, July 13, all teaching staff will be sent an e-mail and card from the Executive Board / VU NT&L to indicate the completion of this website.

### Online workshops and gatherings

VU NT&L continues to organize online meetings to help lecturers with the transition to education for the 1st semester of the academic year 2020-2021. The program also includes, for example: [Kickstart your knowledge clip – Erik Boon, Audiovisual Centre \(AVC\)](#), [FeedbackFruits Peer Review possibilities – Danny Scholten, BETA faculteit](#), [Online college: hoe houd je jouw studenten erbij? Marijke Leijdekkers en Chiel van der Veen](#), [FeedbackFruits Interactive Documents and Perusall – Danny Scholten, BETA faculteit](#), [Online leiderschap: wat werkt? – Karen van Oyen en Marieke Parijs; LEARN! Academy](#), [Mixed Classroom in an online setting – Siema Ramdas; LEARN! Academy](#), [Online leiderschap: hoe creëer ik meerwaarde voor het team? Karen van Oyen en Marieke Parijs, LEARN! Academy](#), [The power of gamification in education; Mirella Kleijnen, SBE](#), [Hoe ontwerp ik een online les met impact? Barbara Allart en Luuk Terbeek; LEARN! Academy](#), [Is your copyright? – Cees van Gent, UB](#), [Monitoren van het leerproces & het geven van feedback – Barbara Allart en Marijke Leijdekkers; LEARN! Academy](#).

## ONLINE EXAMINATION

### Online Proctoring

The decision-making regarding the continuation of Online Proctoring for the coming academic year by the Executive Board is almost complete. The USR's response to the proposed decision is awaited. The USR has formulated questions that were discussed by employees of SOZ and BJZ last Wednesday. The discussion focuses mainly on (1) the conditions under which tests can again be conducted on campus as soon as this is possible from both a legal and a safety perspective and (2) ensuring that the

privacy impact for students remains as low as possible and (3) that students experience as few technical and environmental obstacles as possible from online testing. The USR considers it desirable to have a broad admission policy for students who indicate that they do not have the right equipment or a suitable home situation.

Together with BJZ and the Examination Committees, a Decision Tree Online Proctoring has been made in order to indicate more clearly for faculties and towards students when Online Proctoring can be used.

## CENTRAL SUPPORT ISSUES

### Reduction Institutional fee for other students or multiple studies

As announced in previous news updates, the Executive Board has decided that, in certain cases, non-EEA students can continue their studies at the VU for an institutional rate that is the same as the statutory rate. At the same time, this means that other students (EER or NL) who must pay the institutional rate cannot claim the tuition fee reduction. No exception has been made for the soft-cut students who must pay the institutional rate 2x (1x for bachelor + 1x for master).

### Number of applicants corona procedure on 9 July

Application	Number in TOPdesk
Soft-cut	236
Corona HBO-P intake	<i>2 (these applicants are probably still waiting for the final advice from their HBO institution)</i>
Reduction of institutional fee of non-EER	28

### Update on the file 5 VWO grades and decentralized selection

#### New proposal grade list

In the past period, an alternative has been sought for the regular 5 VWO final report grade lists for selection procedures for selective bachelor's programs in 2021. Last Monday, 6 July, the VvSL announced that the VO Council did not involve and / or inform them during the exploration of alternatives and that generating a final report is an unworkable situation. There is now a new proposal grade list: instead of a (replacement) final grade list report 5 VWO secondary schools generate a certified grade list with average SE grades up to and including 15-1-2021, per subject to 1 decimal (condition reference date: uniform and equivalent weighting of grades for students, delivery of list by secondary schools as soon as after 15-1, at the latest before 1-2-2021). The VvSL assures the VSNU that secondary schools can deliver the requested list in time so that no problems arise in the registration procedures for the programs. Studielink and DUO do not foresee any other objections. The date of 15 January has been chosen because by then it can be ensured that students finished their SE examinations "equally".

### Unambiguous and uniform grades, for international students as well

With this solution, grades for students can be weighted uniformly and evenly (and there is still an opportunity to catch up and improve). An additional advantage would be that the solution is also workable for international students. Due to differences in educational systems, an equivalent of final report 5 VWO grades is not always possible. Therefore, this group of prospective students is asked to provide “the most recent grades” (grades at the end of the year) during the regular years as well.

### Follow-up and communication

The formal decision by the VSNU still has to be coordinated with the VO council. From 1 October, the selection criteria must be known via the website and other channels. Training courses need time to make the necessary adjustments and to coordinate the process internally. The VSNU aims to have the final decision known to the institutions before 1 August.

## **FUTURE**

### **Scenarios 2019-2020**

The layout of the plan for the clusters of teaching rooms for period 2 was sent to all faculties on Friday 6 July. This plan includes the rooms that can be used by the faculties for (educational) activities on campus during the months of November and December. To make optimum use of the capacity and to guarantee safety, agreements have also been made about the duration of the blocks and the different starting and finishing times. For example, half-days are used instead of the current block times. And two shifts will be arranged, with an hour time difference. These agreements are motivated by the possibilities and limitations of our own campus as well as 1.5m university. But also because of the agreements with the transport companies in the region, together with the fellow institutions in Amsterdam. Within these agreements we try to make the best use of capacity. "Because you study together" is now a common saying, especially because teachers and students attach great value to this. For the (educational) activities on campus, this requires a different approach than we are used to. This will have an impact on the lecturers and the educational organization. Additional communication on the how and why of these agreements will follow shortly, so that it becomes clear exactly what the measures will mean for the VU.

### **Incoming, progressing, and outgoing students - 2020**

Monday July 13th a memo will be sent out with an updated expectation about the incoming students per September 2020 and the total amount of students at the VU. A draft version of the memo has been sent out to the faculties and working group members. As a preview you can find a summary of this DRAFT memo below.

### **Bachelor: less incoming students expected, but expectations are more positive than reported in June**

- On July 5th, there are 5% less applications than on the same date last year. The development of applications over time cannot be compared with earlier years because of other deadlines and the numerous fixus of Psychology.
- Without the Corona related effects (in particular the postponing of ‘BSA’ and the lower conversion of international applications) and without the numerous fixus of Psychology, there would be more applications than last year and the inflow would probably be higher.
- There are still more international applications than last year, but conversion is still uncertain. International Office expects 10% to 30% less inflow than last year.

- The nationwide average: 7% more weighted applications (bachelor + premaster). The VU (-0,6%) and RU (-0,9%) are the only 'broad universities' with less weighted applications. Universities that show most growth in applications are UM (+23%) and UU (+18%).
- Best guess bachelor incoming: 5.150 – 5.750, that's 7% to 17% less than last year.
- This expectation is somewhat more positive than reported in June. The number of applications has increased and seems to be increasing. Mainly due to higher VWO pass rates and a more positive expectation about inflow of the International Office.

**Premaster: 15-25% more inflow expected:**

- +35% more applications than same date last year. That is considerably more than reported in June (then + 17%). Many late registrations and some programmes have postponed deadlines.
- Best guess +15% - +25% premaster inflow.

**Master: considerable more applications , inflow expectations: -2% to +17%**

- In June, the national increase in weighted master's registrations (+ 26%) was much larger than at the VU (+ 13%). This has been significantly changed, now we see an increase of 21% nationally versus an increase of 19% at the VU.
- Nationally, master registrations dropped after week 23 (due to rejection / withdrawal), while they continued to grow strongly at the VU. This effect is partly caused by late deadlines at the VU (more study programs opted for a late deadline this year) and perhaps also with the late choice of students to continue their study (directly) in a master due to more uncertainty.
- VU (+ 19%) and UvA (+ 18%) still have the smallest increase together with RU (+ 14%), but the difference from the largest growers UM (+ 33%), EUR, Tilburg University, UU (+ 24% each) ) has decreased compared to June.
- There is no unambiguous explanation for the higher national number of master applications. Relationship with Corona seems unlikely, as this trend had already started before the corona crisis (March 1st).
- Best guess master inflow: 5,100 - 6,100, = 2% less - 17% more EOI inflow than last year.
- This expectation is more positive than reported in June. The number of applications has grown considerably and international inflow expectations have improved somewhat.

**Total amount of students at the VU grow to ~ 30-31K, mainly due to more re-enrollments**

More re-enrollments in 2020 because students do not receive a negative BSA. This growth is in addition to the higher number of re-registrations due to the growing inflow of previous years.

Fewer re-enrollments for international students (International Office now expects -10%)

In addition, the expected growth in master's inflow and pre-master's inflow will lead to more enrolled students

- Best guess number of registered students at the VU: 30K - 31K students in 2020-2021.

## **STUDENT WELL BEING**

The working group has cleaned up all information on studying and corona, which applies to both the Dutch and English versions. Karin Bijker has handed over the chairmanship of the work package to Yvonne Berkhoff, project manager Student Welfare. 'Studying and Corona' will gradually become part of the Student Welfare project. In an adapted form, 'Studying and Corona' will also be included in the migration to the new VU web as part of the TOLL project. The working group contacts those who are working on the introduction for Dutch and international students to bring 'Studying and Corona' to the attention of the new students. For anyone who wants to take a look (again), see:

<https://vunet.login.vu.nl/services/pages/category.aspx?category=tcm:164-938774-1024>