

# Corona news update educational support #7 (Week 20, 2020)

## ONLINE EDUCATION

### Support

- On 19 May, an online workshop on education clips will be organized for teachers: How to make a video with impact? On May 26 there is a workshop on designing online education: Turbocharging your online education in 10 steps. See the [website of VU NT&L](#) for these and other workshops.
- Additional questions about online education have been added to the standard questionnaires. We heard that these questions do not appear in all evaluations. We are figuring out what happened, it is possible that a non-standard questionnaire was used.

## ONLINE EXAMS

### Online proctoring

- On first impression, testing with Proctorio is going well, the vast majority of students seems to be able to finish the exams. There are 1 or 2 reports of technical difficulties per exam. The first prognoses are expected early next week, and thus we can say with more certainty whether things are going well.

### Students on campus

- From May 11, students who are not able to take exams at home can take exams on campus. Registration is necessary and can be done via [aanvr.aagentamenplek.soz@vu.nl](mailto:aanvr.aagentamenplek.soz@vu.nl). The mediation of the study advisor is no longer necessary. This week, 15 students seized this opportunity. It is difficult to say whether this is representative because the exams that were moved mainly concerned one faculty.

### Exams in Zoom

- In recent weeks, it has become apparent that some study programs / lecturers are examining with Zoom as a tool to supervise. From a privacy perspective it has not yet been investigated whether Zoom is suitable for that application. This will be investigated in the near future. It is likely that a set of guidelines can be drawn up for the use of Zoom during exams. Until then, the following advice:
  - When examining small groups Use Skype for Business
  - For oral exams use Skype for Business
  - If examining large groups Keep the intended set-up with Zoom, for large groups there is currently no suitable alternative available.

## CENTRAL SUPPORT ISSUES

### On-Campus Admission and deficiency exams: Pre-master assessment; language tests

The central exams will not take place in 2020 at both secondary schools and state exams. As a result, in secondary schools in 2020 the exam consists exclusively of the school exam and in the state exams only the college exam. The result of the college exam of applicants can therefore be used to eliminate deficiencies. This had already been decided (nationally) but not yet widely shared within the VU.

There is no online alternative for the admission tests of the CCVX initiative and the Boswell-Bèta organization. These assessments can be used by applicants (including VASVU) to resolve deficiencies. Nationally, pressure is being exerted to find a solution.

### International services, including housing

In order to increase our visibility to our prospective international students and to share the positive message We Are Open, we have started a series of interviews on the student blog <https://www.amsterdamstudents.com/> in which each week a student will talk about studying at home alternated with an employee who answers the same questions but concerning working at home. We use the #VUathome. Have a look and if you know anyone who wants to share his story, let us know. Stipo @ [s.jelec@vu.nl](mailto:s.jelec@vu.nl)

### Introduction days

The Executive Board prefers the scenario in which a hybrid interpretation of the VU introduction days is proposed. The basic principle is that the introduction takes place online. In the opinion of the Executive Board, if faculties see an opportunity to organize small-scale activities within the current rules and agreements in the Corona crisis management, so that new students can also become physically acquainted with the university, the faculty, the lecturers and fellow students, it fits in with the principle: On campus if possible, online because it is possible. Previously, only the faculties of FSW and FGW indicated they were interested in this opportunity, the other faculties wanted to offer everything online. We are currently investigating whether this has changed due to the announced (possible) alleviation of government policy. The UvA offers everything online as well, apart from perhaps a treasure hunt through the city in small (mentor) groups. Next week there will be consultations between VU and UvA about the introduction days of both universities. The idea is to shorten the Introduction Days from 5 to 3 days as well, and to have them take place from August 24 to 26 (instead of 19 to 25) - this is still being discussed with the faculties.

## CENTRAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR EDUCATIONAL MATTERS AND STUDY DELAYS

### Emergency act in the making

OCW has drawn up a bill to ensure that higher education institutions can enrol students who do not yet fully meet the admission requirements. This bill has been distributed to the umbrella organizations. The target date for implementation is 1 August 2020, whereby it is recognized that universities have previously acted in the spirit of the bill. The VSNU has forwarded the bill to the universities for input, and the VU has also provided input. In broad terms, the bill is in line with the (intended) decisions at the VU also regarding the process organization. The bill with the commentary of the VU will be included on this confluence page.

### Transmission HBO-P to WO-bachelor

The universities want to prevent that students cannot start their academic higher education in the academic year 2020-2021 because they have not been able to complete their HBO propaedeutic phase before 1 September 2020 due to the corona crisis. That is why we can deviate from the requirement that an HBO-P must be completed. This was already stated in the service document HO of 24 April. An emergency law regulating this space is in being drawn up at the time of writing. There is now also a VU guideline, which was sent to the portfolio holders for education and the directors of education on 12 May. This was established in consultation with the faculties with the most HBO-P intake (RCH, FGB, FSW) and was approved by the OPO on 11 May.

These guidelines include:

- HBO propaedeutic students who want to start a VU bachelor's program in 2020-2021 are admitted under the following conditions:
  - A positive concluding advice from their HBO institution, to be submitted to the VU no later than 1 August.
  - The student still misses a maximum of one course or if more courses a maximum of 6 ECs.
  - The student will obtain the HBO propaedeutic certificate before 1 January 2021. If this fails, the bachelor's enrolment at the VU will be terminated.
- This guideline applies to all bachelor's programs that currently allow HBO-P intake.
- The regulation only concerns the basic admission requirement of the HBO-P. Any additional requirements / deficiency tests remain effective. If it turns out to be impossible for students to meet the additional requirements due to the corona crisis, a solution will be sought in consultation with SOZ

The request has been made to the Faculty Boards to take a decision in accordance with the VU guideline (the power of decision lies there). Decisions about HBO-P admission are subject to the representative advisory board. The OLC has advisory rights, the FGV has the right of approval.

With SOZ / SSA and process management, a solution is sought for the impact of this regulation on processes and how the conditions are assessed. The heads of education agencies of RCH and BETA are also involved.

Communication to students is further adjusted and coordinated by C&M in collaboration with the education offices. Esther Wijnen (C&M at FSW) sits in the working group 'HBO-P transfer' on behalf of C&M.

## STUDENT WELLBEING

On the same day that the previous version of this newsletter was sent, the information about 'taking exams on campus' was posted under 'studying at home'. This describes the conditions under which students can now apply for an examination place on campus without the intervention of a study advisor. Furthermore, behind the scenes and in consultation with IT and C&M, we are working to further dress up the community part of the platform 'studying and corona'. A student from the Gyrius study association and a member of the FSR of FGW contribute ideas.

The study places were taken into use by the first students last week. Spread over BelleVue and the Medical Faculty, approximately 60 students use it every day.

## FUTURE

### Scenarios 2019-2020

Last week, the Executive Board decided on the classification of the summer period. Extensive internal communication will take place about this next week. In short: the first three weeks of July and the last two weeks of August are reserved for exams and resits. We try to limit the study delay for students as much as possible by means of this. We keep the period from July 19 to August 16 education free, so that there is some peace for teachers, students and involved employees after a busy and stressful period. In the coming week, the Board will decide on the way in which the educational activities take place in the months of July to October: on campus or online. It was previously indicated that this would be announced on 15 May, but this has been delayed a bit. Again, this will be extensively communicated internally next week before the Ascension weekend.

### Incoming students, progress, outgoing students

In the past week of 11 May, we supplemented the inflow forecast with new possibilities and insights. We have made it possible to consider changes in VWO intake, HBO-P intake and international students who postpone their studies with a year.

- In 2020 we expect that a larger number of students will enrol or continue their studies as a result of the corona crisis; the outflow will be limited.
- The main reason for the higher numbers is that a large part of the students with a Negative BSA will re-enrol; this group is proportionally larger than the number of students that would have enrolled as an external switcher elsewhere after a Negative BSA.
- In the representation, this does lead to a lower number of first-year students and more second-year students.
- Another factor is that we expect a slightly higher pass rate from VWO students (from about 90% to 95%).
- The international student makes a lot of difference, however: with a neutral scenario or a worst-case scenario for international new inflow, this effect is mitigated (-20% or -30% new inflow EEA, -50% or -80% new inflow Non-EEA).
- Since the VU will decide about online education in the week of 18 May 2020 and this could be a major factor for international students, we expect to be able to make better assumptions from 25 May 2020.
- If in the second semester of 2019 the number of EC of Cohort 2019 decreases on average 6 EC compared to the first semester, the number of long-term students will increase sharply in 2022. An initial calculation has been made on this: we see an increase in average figures, but a decrease in the number of EC because many exams could not be taken. It is still premature to draw conclusions from this.

For further explanation and graphs, see the new memorandum VU Inflow Forecast - version 14 May 2020. The corresponding dashboard has now been published on the Tableau Server, which also allows the forecasts to be broken down at faculty level. The various scenarios were discussed with the cluster heads of communication and marketing and the Transition Team Recruitment and Inflow.

*Other scenarios*

We are also working on the possible effects on VWO intake. The VWO pass rates and percentages of gap years of VWO students have now been calculated and will be incorporated into the model. We hope to deliver this next week, the week of May 11. An initial analysis has been performed on the study results of Period 4. This is expected to be finished in the week of May 11, after which we will include this in the forecast for next week.

*Sent to OPO, HO, DB University Student Council, VB members, Directors of Education, Christa Boer, Lilian van Güllick, Work Package coordinators, Niels Stet, deans, Code Red team, Marcel and Mirjam, Yoni Shem Tov.*