

Considering the fact that there is a non-Dutch speaking member in the audience, the leading language of this GMA will be English.

1. Opening

Kim: With the next hammerstrike I open the GMA of SIB-Utrecht on Wednesday the 25th of May, 2022, at 18:35.

HAMMERSTRIKE

Kim: for the benefit of processing our minutes, we kindly ask if we can record this GMA. The recording will solely be used to finish the Minutes, and will be deleted after that. If anyone objects, please let us know now.

Moving on to the next agenda item: setting the agenda

HAMMERSTRIKE

2. Setting the agenda

Kim: The agenda you see before you is slightly different than the one sent with the convocation. Because of the importance of the topic of succession, we have moved it upward in the agenda and allotted more time for it. In addition, we have moved the topic of statutes and the Rules of Procedure to the announcements.

Are there any requests for additions to the agenda?

-

Kim: Then the agenda is hereby set and we move on to the next item: the Minutes of the previous GMA

HAMMERSTRIKE

3. Minutes previous GMA

Kim: We now discuss the minutes of the Half-Year GMA on the 16th of February 2022. This concerns only their content. Textual or stylistic remarks can be sent to Dana via email. Are there questions about the minutes from the Policy GMA?

-

Kim: Then the minutes of the Half-Year GMA of February 16th, 2022, are accepted and we move on to the next agenda item: Mail

HAMMERSTRIKE

4. Mail

Kim: For this I want to give the floor to Dana

Dana: We have received 7 authorizations:

- Li-An Mulder authorizes Annika Boekenstijn.
- Jaleesa de Regt authorizes Eefje Corbeek.
- Fayrouz Gomaa authorizes Valentine Mostermans.
- Demian van Gurp authorizes Mijke Dhondt.
- Sanne de Wit authorizes David van Thiel.
- Sander Brouwers authorizes Iris Veldhuis.
- Marisol Verrips authorizes Britte Brontsema.

Kim: We have also received two motions from Sander, one of which is cosigned by Iris Veldhuis, which will be discussed later in this meeting.

Kim: Then moving on to the next agenda item: notifications!

HAMMERSTRIKE

5. Notifications

Kim: Welcome to the GMA, it is wonderful to see you here again, after the last online GMA. I will first address some logistical notifications.

- **language.** the language used during this GMA is English. If, however, you do not feel comfortable enough to pose your question in English, you may do so in Dutch. A Board member will then translate your question. Do note that we will answer in English, unless you specifically request a Dutch answer for your own comprehension. In that case a short summary will be given in English afterwards. We understand you may have some trouble finding your words, as we feel the same way, so really don't be afraid to make an error, I'm sure we'll get there together.
- Please speak only when you are given the floor, this way we can ensure that Dana can take the best minutes possible
- We have to leave the room at 22.00, meaning we are on a tight schedule. Please keep this in mind.
- During this GMA you will be asked to vote. Due to the nature of the topics on which will be voted, as well as to ensure that everyone feels free to vote, these will happen anonymously. A QR code will be passed around the room when it is time to vote. Please note that in the case of anonymous voting, some people of the Board of Advisors will vote against.

Kim: Those are all the logistical notifications, are there any questions about these?

-

Kim: If there are no other questions, there are a couple more notifications which need to be made.

- The first is that due to miscommunication during the transfer of boards, it was unclear to us that Gemeente Utrecht had never agreed to our application to their fund, meaning that we are currently missing 2000 euros from the budget of our program of talks. We have decided to take the missing money from the reserves, and all parties concerned have been updated. We are currently working hard to avoid this problem in the coming year.
- The second notification is that at the last GMA, a promise was made to discuss the motion regarding a sustainability taskforce as submitted by Fayrouz and Valentine. However, due to lack of time from the submitters in the coming year, and the lack of enthusiasm regarding the application for this taskforce, it has been decided, together with the submitters, to not discuss this motion.
- The third notification deals with the Statutes as well as the Rules of Procedure. It was decided that this GMA an update would be given about the state of our Statutes as well as a proposed modification to the Rules of Procedure. Firstly our statutes, as suspected, are slightly outdated and require some adaptations here and there. We suggest setting up a taskforce to deal with this in the coming years. The way our Rules of Procedure are set up, is that they are based on our Statutes. It would thus not make sense for us to change our Rules of Procedure, without updating our Statutes first. We hereby move this to oncoming boards, but from here on out offer our help with this.

Kim: any questions about these notifications?

-

Kim: If there are no further questions I would like to move on to agenda item 6; the installation and discharge of committees!

HAMMERSTRIKE

6. Installation and discharge of committees

Kim: I will start with the discharge in committees

- As a member of the External Affairs Committee Maya Keur

HAMMERSTRIKE

Els: Dear Maya, thank you so much for your time in the External Affairs Committee. Of course you were not only active as a member within the committee, but also as head of the committee during your Board Year. I'm very thankful for everything that you've taught me and all the wonderful work you did for the committee! The EAC will miss you, but as you know 'uit het oog, maar niet uit het hart'.

- As a member of the Promotion Committee Cristel Brandt

HAMMERSTRIKE

Dana: Cristel, you were not with us for long but in that short time you made valuable contributions. Good luck with the rest of the UIT committee where you also use your promotional talents wisely.

Installation

- As a member of the External Affairs Committee, Jasper Buren
- As a member of the Party Committee, Elly Thomas

HAMMERSTRIKE

Kim: then we move on to agenda item 7: the GMA committees

HAMMERSTRIKE

7. GMA committees

Kim: It is now time for an update from our each of our GMA committees. I would first like to give the floor to someone from the BoA..

Eefje: As you know, I'm not the chair, that is Jaleesa, but she is in England, so I will read out her words.

Hi guys! A quick update on what the BOA has been doing these past months. There are two main things that we've been doing that will also be discussed during this GMA. We've been busy with succession, on which more later. Additionally, we worked on the confidant election, on which more at a later stage this GMA as well. Finally, we also have a quick announcement: after this GMA we will open our own succession procedure, which means that you'll all be able to send in your motivation letter and CV. We'll make sure to announce it via all the proper channels, but just so you're all aware! Last but not least: you will notice that I am the only one present from the Board of Advisors. That is because Jaleesa is in England, Martijn had some last-minute work issues and Demian also had some personal matters, but Martijn will hopefully join us later this evening.

Any questions?

Kim: If there are no further questions, I would like to move on to Nina from the SIB-Link.

Nina: Dear GMA,

We are working very hard on the next edition of the SIB-Link, which will be the last one of the year. You should have received the last one by now, and we hope you enjoyed it, best believe we did!

Asides from that, there are some positions available. We are looking for a new designer, for which you need no experience with InDesign, you will get a training. And if you want to join as a writer, feel free to do so! Send an e-mail to the Link committee, link@sib-utrecht.nl if you want to know more, app Nina, or come talk to us at drinks!

Kim: If there are no further questions I would like to give the floor to Valentine from the Audit committee.

Valentine: Dear GMA,

For those who do not know us, we, the audit committee, check the bookkeeping a few times a year and provide the treasurer with further help where needed.

The last audit took place on May 11th. During this check we observed that the bookkeeping looked nice, but fully up to date as some posts had not been handled yet.

Aside from that, we have offered our help to Marjolijn where deemed necessary. The communication between the treasurer and the audit committee has improved, because we now receive an update about the finances every two weeks. This structure is appreciated by both sides, and will be continued in the future.

As a closing note the announcement that it is now possible to apply for the audit committee of the coming year. Soon the vacancy will be posted in the SIB-Link and all official channels.

Greetings,

The audit committee

Maya: At the beginning of the GMA, we heard that 2000 euros were missing. Does the audit committee know something about this?

Valentine: Yeah we don't know what happened in between this year and last year because the previous treasurer thought that it was replaced by another fund but this wasn't the case. Together with Marjolijn, we are looking for a plan.

Kim: Any questions? If there are no further questions I would like to move on to the next agenda item, the deadlines for the multi-annual plans

HAMMERSTRIKE

8. Deadlines multiannual plans

Els: Following the strategic plan that was voted in during the Half Year GMA, it was decided that there should be a deadline document about when the multi-annual plans need to be written. These deadlines are presented right here. They are in the order of importance as decided in the strategic plan.

Deadline multi annual plan regarding member recruitment - Half year GMA 2023

Deadline multi annual plan regarding the program of Talks - Year GMA 2023

Deadline multi annual plan regarding our finances - Half Year GMA 2024

Deadline multi annual plan regarding member bonding - Year GMA 2024

Deadline multi annual plan regarding program II - Half Year GMA 2025

Kim: If there are no more questions about this, I would like to move on to the voting about this document. A QR code will now be passed around the room, please scan it and vote. Do not forget to vote twice if you were authorized to do so.

Anouk: What does it mean? There's not really any body behind what the plans are about. Do you have any suggestions for future boards or is it totally up to them or to discuss with the GMA, how does it work?

Els: The strategic plan offers our vision about what the problem and solutions could be and that serves as advice for future boards as to what should be written in these plans. But furthermore, it is up to them to decide what it should exactly contain, which was the purpose of the plans. We don't want to decide for future boards exactly what they should do.

Valentine: Why is the plan for the finances in the middle?

Els: This is the order we decided on during the previous GMA where we voted in the strategic plan. This is the order we saw as most important, since the requirment would solve a lot of problems.

Anouk: Maybe a quick reminder what programme II was?

Els: That is about the Thursday evenings.

Kim: And the trips also fall under this.

Eefje: Can I propose something: maybe this is a topic not so controversial, we could do this voting non-anonymous?

Marjolijn: No since we received some feedback about non-anonymous voting the last time we did that, we will do it anonymously now.

The cast votes are as follows:

- pro: 26
- against: 0
- abstain: 5

Kim: Then with the next hammerstrike the deadlines regarding the multi-annual plans are accepted.

HAMMERSTRIKE

Kim: Originally, it was now time for a break, do people want a break now or should we move to succession? Okay then we move on.

HAMMERSTRIKE

9. Succession

Kim: As most of you probably would have seen in the convocation, there was no preliminary presentation of our new candidate board. This has but one simple reason, for that we do not have a full candidate board to present to you today. We have tried very hard and have worked extensively to find a new board.

This discussionpoint on the GMA will first dive into what we as a board, with the help of the Board of Advisors, have done to look for successors, in order to have a productive discussion afterwards about how we move on from here.

Internally, we have contacted all members who have not done a board year, or are not working a fulltime job. Even those who have been absent from the association for quite some time. We called them, and if they did not pick up we either left a voicemail, or contacted them through whatsapp. We hosted two board information sessions for members, as well as promoted the possibility of a board year on social media and among our friends. We also started offering the option of a parttime board year, partly because we as a board feel that a downscaling of the association would fit our current capacity better -which is a discussion for a later time, as well as up to the next board -, and partly to make a board year more attractive, considering that people could continue their studies and/or other things during a board year.

Social media also brings us towards how we promoted it externally. We tried on multiple occasions to financially boost social media posts, but our posts were somehow flagged as

containing discriminatory language. In addition to this, we put posters on prominent student spots at the Uithof, as well as put flyers through a lot of mailboxes in studenthouses at the Uithof. We have hosted 3 board information nights for external recruitment, of which only one was fruitful, in the sense that somebody showed up.

We have been supported by the Board of Advisors in this matter, as well as multiple board committees.

So that is what we have done so far, yet we still do not have a full candidate board to present to you. As of right now, we have 3 serious parttime candidates.

I think now is the time to start an open discussion about how we move on from here. Is there someone who would like to go first?

Maya: I am wondering why we are discussing this now because I think there are a lot of ways members could have helped. The second question is what you think is the best way to go from here because it's almost June and we don't have a candidate board?

Kim: Why we are discussing this now instead of earlier: the main reason is that we are still trying to find board members, we are still talking with some people who are interested. We did not feel that it was necessary to host an emergency GMA to discuss this matter. But as I said earlier, we have used all our board committees to promote the idea of a parttime board.

Second question: We are still very optimistic. We think we will find a board and have an association today, in what form or shape that would take place. So we view this GMA as a call to action for all of you. If you are still doubting or you know someone who is interested in doing a board year, that you convince them. This is our call to action.

Maya: The call to action feels a bit vague to me. Maybe we can discuss what the GMA could do to help to make sure we have a board next year.

Kim: This is the time for an open discussion because we tried everything. This is the time to think about it with us all. This is not necessarily the time to answer your questions, just any ideas about how to gain new board members are welcome.

Natalie: Do you know reasons why people don't do a board year?

Kim: I think it's a more general problem, we are not the only association that is struggling. So I think that because of Covid, people have delayed their studies already and are not looking to delay it any further.

Els: This is also why parttime is now an option because it's more attractive.

Benjamin: Parttime would be three days a week if I'm correct?

Kim: Yes.

Benjamin: Would it be possible to do it one day a week?

Kim: I think that is difficult because you do not feel the same responsibility as the other members, as well as when you have a board some people parttime and some people for only one day, if someone might be interested in that, it might be better to join a board committee to support the board in that way.

Léon: Are the three candidates for the obligated three positions?

Kim: I cannot say that. It is true that with three members, you can be a board according to statutes, but it is not viable. We would like at least 2 more people.

Natalie: In the parttime option, do you envision an additional board member or the same amount of people and less hours?

Kim: Less hours. As we said before, we talked about downscaling of the association, which would be necessary if you are doing a parttime board to reduce those hours.

Jeljer: What does downscaling of the association mean?

Kim: We talked about this in the strategic plan as well, that we have real difficulty with the number of people that show up for activities as well as for our program of talks. Attendance is reducing and we have suggested before that experimenting with the amount of activities in one week would be a good way to see if attendance would rise again. If there is a parttime board, we think this would be a necessary experiment.

Maya: How do you envision to next board to fill in their functions? Would that mean that we have an activity every other week?

Kim: We would see it as there would be an activity every week. One week would be an intellectual evening, the other week we would have a fun Thursday. That is of course not for us to decide, this is an advice that would help the next board but is fully up to the next board.

Nina: Have you considered letting the candidates know who their fellow board members might be?

Kim: Yes we have did this, which helped. As this point, we want to be as transparant as possible to the candidates.

Anouk: Have you emailed study associations to put an ad in their newsletter?

Kim: No we didn't do that, it is a good suggestion.

Iris Veldhuis: I do think that all study associations are also struggling but you can try.

Martin: You said only one person showed up during the information nights. Does that mean only one external was interested in joining the board?

Kim: Yes.

Martin: May I ask how that person found us?

Kim: Through a member, so mouth to mouth does work.

Maya: Have you tried contacting persons via LinkedIn? It really works with AIESEC.

Kim: We promoted it on LinkedIn but not messaged individual persons. Do you mean people within SIB or people who are studying history etc.?

Maya: You can contact people who did a lot of committees and are interested in things like this.

Kim: That is a good idea but I would also like to say that it's just the five of us and it is not very fruitful.

Maya: Maybe the promotion committee can help.

Jeljer: You said that the last years, the number of attendees has decreased. At activities, at talks but now also with finding a board. I see a pattern here, why is that? I can't figure out why it is the case but I do see a pattern. We need to find out how to make this association sexy again.

Kim: Absolutely, we might present it lightly, but the fact is that if we do not find a board, SIB won't exist next year as we know it. The board will then be an interim-board and if they also not find anyone, SIB will stop. And that is not a treat, but more an invitation. If you are doubting, if you have a heart for SIB, this is your time to step up.

Eefje: Just to continue on where Jeljer left, throughout covid, you can notice that students do not have a connection, but indeed this is quite an emergency. It is almost June, we don't have much time left. Even with a parttime board, SIB will not be the same as previous years, so if you know anyone, if you are doubting yourself, this is your call to action. Please reconsider or ask someone you trust, someone that has done a board year already, that can help you further.

Benjamin: I also think that the problem will get exponentially worse. With less board members, they have less time for SIB, which makes the problem even worse. Just a really dark negative thought, I'm sorry XD.

Martin: Did you talk to other associations that are used to external boards?

Kim: Yes, SIB Amsterdam usually puts a lot of money into paid promotion. ESN, Aegee, and BuddyGoDutch are also struggling, and downsizing.

Léon: Have you directly contacted people that are active in student representation etc and it might be good to contact DUB to advertise?

Kim: That is a good suggestion.

Maya: What can we do to reach the people that are not here today? Most people here already did a board year.

Els: Do you mean members?

Maya: Yes.

Kim: Talk to them. You probably have a closer connection to them than we do. We see them a lot of course but are not necessarily people they trust.

Els: That is why we also recruited the IC to help us and otherwise is here the call to talk to them.

Natalie: Have you tried promotion via the University to share the vacancy? Especially for first- and second-years, they don't have study delay so can still afford it.

Kim: Good suggestion, I didn't know it was an option.

Natalie: You can ask it, maybe they post it, maybe they don't. But like Maya said, instead of looking for people on LinkedIn, ask the coordinators of a study to spread it.

Iris: I am wondering how realistic it is to find two or more people, looking at what you have already done, so would it not be more fruitful to look at how you will do it with three people?

Nina: I agree.

Kim: We are grateful with every single board member we have in but it is true. I don't have numbers on how realistic it is, but we will surely look into how we can keep the association alive with three board members.

Els: We are looking for a way to organize ways to organize activities next year for example for when there is no CI. This plan is an advice for the next year.

Iris Veldhuis: I just don't want you to waste your energy on frustrating things.

Eefje: What do you see as the bare minimum? When would a parttime board be viable? Is that already with 4 or will you just see when it is July?

Kim: Depends on the next board, they have to guard their own boundaries. If they see it happening with 3, that's fine, but if not, then we have to actively search for a fourth person or look for other possibilities.

Aiso: Do you know if they would still do it with three? Did you discuss the option with them?

Kim: Yes, it is different than what they expected of course, but as of now, they are all very excited to do a board year. They are all in but are hoping for other board members. From five fulltimers to three parttimers would be a massive downscaling.

Benjamin: Suggesting for the committees would be self-staring teams. That's how it works with start-ups. Might be interested to look into.

Jeljer: Did you already think about what is going to happen after this year? It can go quite well but also exponentially worse, as Benjamin said. What do you say to the next board, do they have to look for 6 members and get SIB back to the way it was?

Anouk: Can I ask the GMA to stay as optimistic as Kim proposed and do this at the next policy-GMA of the next board for example. I do understand your concern, but this is just not the time.

Els: I also don't think we have the answer.

Annika: Did you also discuss it with the other board committees?

Kim: Yes quite a lot. The IAC has a more extensive plan, but the other committees has been informed as well.

Eefje: What if we find two more candidates in the next weeks, will there be an extra GMA to vote them in or do we do that at the year-GMA?

Kim: I want to give the next board the experience we had so if it is possible, I want to schedule an extra GMA, specifically for voting and otherwise at the year-GMA. But it also depends on when we find the additional board members.

Natalie: About that, do you have deadlines?

Kim: We go on a break at the beginning of July and also for the well-being of the next board, I would like to make a decision then.

Els: And it also depends on their decision.

Natalie: Another thought, drastic, but did you think about promoting it as a half-year vacancy? And then, the next semester, another would take over.

Kim: Good suggestion but I think it is not viable. It would not be as strong, and the person that would come in later would have a lot less knowledge.

Anouk: Last year, we also were looking for a sixth person and specifically looked for an external treasurer. So if you already have a treasurer, that's good, but otherwise, you might look for an external treasurer.

Kim: Good thing to take into account

Kim: If there is nothing further to discuss, I would like to move on, please reconsider and talk to your friends, and then we are hopefully back to you soon with a full board. Now it is time for a break, it is currently 19:30 and we will start again at 19:40.

HAMMERSTRIKE

10. Break

Kim: Alright, welcome back. With the next hammerstrike I reopen the GMA at 19:42.

HAMMERSTRIKE

11. Motion internationalization

Kim: A motion was submitted regarding the topic of internationalization. It calls for two votes, so I suggest we handle the first motion, and then vote, and then do the second part of the motion.

I would originally give the floor to Sander but unfortunately, he couldn't be here. So I will give the floor to the second submitter of the motion, Iris.

Motion 1: Motion on the working language at SIB-Utrecht

Proposed 10 may 2022

Valued members,

Coming back on the decisions made by the Mid-Year GMA;

Considerations

- *Considering the decisions made regarding the use of language within SIB during the Mid-Year GMA on february 16th 2022.*
- *Considering the unclarities that might rest regarding language after the Mid-Year GMA on February 16th 2022.*

- *Considering the impracticalities of doing the internal promotion in both English and Dutch. For example, but not exclusively, too long promotional messages in the Promotion Whatsapp Group.*
- *Noting the fact that the SIB-Link's editorial board does not want to create two separate sib-links in different languages*
- *Noting that most members do not have any problems with having English as the working language, as long as they are allowed to speak Dutch when they want to/it seems fit.*
- *Noting that most important documents are already translated and are available in both Dutch and English*

Request

Requests the General Member Assembly to vote on the working language of SIB:

A. Dutch (without exceptions)

B. Dutch (with exceptions, such as: the website, for (strategic) external promotion, Talks & Twists, SIB activities, trips, and events where there are no international students, and communication between de Board and the Members (as they see fit))

C. English (without exceptions)

D. English (with exceptions, such as: the website, for (strategic) external promotion, Talks & Twists, SIB activities, trips, and events where there are no international students, and communication between de Board and the Members (as they see fit))

E. Abstain

Submitters

Sander Brouwers

Iris Veldhuis

Kim: Before I would like to open the floor to discussion, I would like to mention that we have received news from VIDUIS that it is no longer possible for gezelligheids associations to apply for funds. This means that if we were to revert back to Dutch, we would lose our international character and thus the possibility to apply for a fund for the symposium.

Are there any people who would like to comment on this motion before we move on to the vote?

Valentine: Why are we doing this whole thing again? I thought the votes were very clear the last time. And what does working language exactly mean?

Iris Veldhuis: That would mean, the language we speak right now, we do the promotion in, the language we use at activities, etc.

Valentine: Okay, and why are we discussing it again?

Kim: It's a motion so we need to discuss it.

Iris: Sander and I personally thought that after the GMA, we still heard a lot of noises from people that they were kind of against it. We feel really strongly that the decisions that were made were based on arguments of people that are not much "involved". For example the

promotion thing, that is only work for Dana and people who voted in favor, they don't have to write promotion.

Valentine: I get it, but being a board also means that you have to do what your members want and everyone had the chance to vote the last time and now it will be the same. Like, will we have another motion the next GMA then?

Iris: If it would still be the same now, we would accept it.

Jeljer: Can I make a distinction between the internal promo? My suggestion is to do that in English and the external in both languages. For the GMA: if there is a non-Dutch speaker present, do it in English of course. But I can imagine that it is weird to do a GMA in English if there are only Dutch-speaking persons in the room.

Iris: If this is your opinion you should vote D. The exceptions are the website, external promotion, talks and twists, SIB activities, and trips.

Marjolijn: It is currently already so that if there are no non-Dutch speaking people at the GMA, it will be in Dutch.

Nina: I would like some clarifications about the exceptions. Because it says 'such as', the board can technically still choose what exceptions they think would fit. Should B or D voted in, are those exceptions given? Will there be an exception for the website, external promotion, and everything that is listed, or is that something the board could decide on?

Iris: I think this is the part where it would be nice if Sander would be here. The way I see it, if you vote D, you would prepare your thing in English except for when you know there won't be an international student. But I don't really know.

Maud: Maybe the board can decide if they have the time to do it or not.

Annika: What about the SIB-Link?

Nina: Last time we agreed that the Link would decide for themselves. The answer of the committee was that they don't care and either Dutch or English is fine.

Annika: Why is it in the considerations then?

Nina: I think Sander didn't know it.

Iris: It is about two separate Links in different languages so they just don't want to have to make two.

Els: I think they would decide for themselves.

Benjamin: Is that the same for the talks?

Els: Yes, the EAC could decide for themselves.

Benjamin: So this motion doesn't change anything for the talks?

Anouk: It changes mostly the workload of our Secretary. What was voted in last time was partly unnecessary restrictions for the board to put everything in two languages while sometimes it's just more convenient to do it all in English and sometimes in Dutch. But being forced by vote to do it in both languages, that's where there is a problem and we should give them an opportunity to choose what is fitting for the moment.

Eefje: If you want to keep it as it is now, should you abstain?

Iris: Yes.

Valentine: What is exactly the problem, because now the promotion is bilingual but are there other things that became more work since the last GMA?

Dana: E-SIB's, other mails, internal and external promotion, just all communication.

Valentine: [sorry really can't hear this in the recording]

Kim: Yes but for instance the policy-GMA was fully in English even though there were no internationals.

Valentine: But that is not what is the case now right? So when we are talking about workload, it is actually less right?

Els: No because you still have to prepare it in two languages.

Jeljer: Dana do you prefer doing it in one language or two?

Dana: I don't think my personal opinion is that necessary here because I'm only here for two months more. Every Secretary and CP is different so I think you should vote what is best for the association.

Jeljer: If you say that it is a lot of extra work for you, maybe other people that think that it isn't a lot of extra work, think that it is because you say so.

Dana: Well, it is a fact that two languages are more than one so I don't think that that is debatable, but I don't think it is up to me.

Benjamin: Let's remember that we may not have a full board next year so extra work for the board is not a good idea for a parttime board.

Charlotte: Would option B be a problem for Vidius?

Kim: I think that if we choose option B, we would still be accessible for internationals.

Kim: If there are no further comments, I would like to move on to the vote. A QR code will be passed around the room. Please do not forget to vote twice if you are authorized to do so. Please also note that in the scenario of anonymous voting, the Board of Advisors will vote against or will abstain.

The cast votes are as follows

- Dutch: 1
- Dutch with a few exceptions: 4
- Strictly English: 2
- English with a few exceptions: 25
- Abstain: 4

With the next hammerstrike it is decided that the practicing language of SIB-Utrecht will be English with exceptions.

HAMMERSTRIKE

Kim: So, moving on to the next motion, I will read out the motion.

Motion 2: Motion on establishing a taskforce on internationalisation

Proposed 10 may 2022

Valued members,

Coming back on the decisions made by the Mid-Year GMA, the "Tweejarenplan Internationalisering" (2018-2019); Core Research (2020-2021), Internationalisation: Follow-up Plan (May 12 2021), Internationalisation plan (2021-2022), Strategic plan SIB-Utrecht (2021-2022),

Considerations

- *Considering the above-mentioned documents and the process it shows on internationalisation.*
- *Considering the outcome of the first voting round, and following rounds, during the Mid-Year GMA on internationalisation, showing a larger discussion on how internationalisation; 1. Fits within the association, 2. Should look like.*
- *Considering that the majority of SIB beliefs internationalisation is a goal to strive for.*
- *Considering that internationalisation is a process that needs reflection and evaluation.*

- *Considering that the amount of international students in Utrecht (little over 10%) is significantly lower than in other cities with 'international' SIB-associations (Groningen 25%, Amsterdam Uva 27% and VU 15%)*
- *Considering the nationwide debate on whether further internationalisation of Dutch universities is something to strive for.*
- *Noting the difficulties in recruiting new members in general and international members specifically in the last years.*
- *Noting the importance for internationalisation for the association's budget.*
- *Noting that the "Internationalisation: Follow-up Plan" (12 May 2021) has not been voted in, yet many of its components are (partially) completed over the last year.*
- *Noting that over half (59%) of Utrecht's international student population is master student.*
- *Noting that the majority of our internationalisation process is focused on creating an association that is 'open to internationals', but does not have a concrete (effective) strategy on recruiting international members.*
- *Noting that the following board might not be partially or completely part-time, meaning it will not be able to spend a lot of time on the topic.*

Request

Requests the General Member Assembly to vote on a task force on an internationalisation strategy. This task force will consist of at least three members and will assist the contemporary and following board on strategizing and evaluating internationalisation.

Submitter

Sander Brouwers

Eefje: Seeing as we cannot find a board, I think it is not that helpful to ask the board to set up a new taskforce. I would suggest, even if we want a taskforce, that members that are passionate would apply themselves and not that the board should actively seek.

Maya: I think it is a good idea.

Nina: It is a good idea but maybe for a different time since also with the sustainability taskforce, we couldn't find people.

Jeljer: I do think that there are already so many plans and we've talked about it so much. I don't know what a taskforce would add.

Natalie: I agree with the point that Eefje made at the end about people coming to the board. Then there's nothing to lose.

Anouk: Would it be an idea that you can see vacancies like this, or for committees for example, on the website when you log in? I am not saying that I would expect a lot from it but perhaps it would work.

Benjamin: We can definitely program something. It is a lot of work to set up a taskforce but it can also gain benefits. Especially if the taskforce works as a taskforce and not set the board up with extra work.

Aiso: I am not exactly sure what the tasks of the taskforce would be because we have a promotion committee for promotion. We also have a lot of committees already that support the board.

Iris: I think Sander's idea was to evaluate internationalization. It is not necessarily a new promotion taskforce but more a brainstorm team.

Anouk: But we already have guidelines and plans.

Jeljer: We evaluated this thing in the last 5 or 6 GMA's so what would a taskforce do more than just read the minutes of previous GMA's?

Benjamin: Can Sander not just set up a society?

Kim: I hear a lot of the same comments so I would like to move on to the vote. A QR code will be passed around the room. Please do not forget to vote twice if you are authorized to do so. Please also note that in the scenario of anonymous voting, the Board of Advisors will vote against or will abstain.

Eefje: Does everyone agree that if we vote pro, it would mean that people would come to you instead of otherwise.

The GMA agrees.

The cast votes are as follows

- Pro: 14
- Against: 18
- Abstain: 4

With the next hammerstrike the motion for a internationalization taskforce is denied.

HAMMERSTRIKE

Kim: If there is nothing further about this topic, I would like to move on to the election of our confidants

HAMMERSTRIKE

12. Election confidants

Kim: As decided at the last GMA, SIB would open the process of searching for two independent confidants. That process is now complete and two enthusiastic candidates were found to fill the positions. The GMA will be voting on them this evening.

The first candidate will now introduce themselves, after which the board of advisors will give advice on each candidate.

Valentine:

Dear members, dear Board,

With this letter I would like to apply for the function as confidant of SIB-Utrecht. This function sounds appealing and also suitable to me because I am always concerned with other people's wellbeing and eager to help them.

During my board year, in which I fulfilled the role of Commissioner of Internal Affairs, being in touch with our members was one of my favorite aspects of this function. It also taught me a lot about how to treat confidential information. I think that creating a safe space is crucial if you want people to feel comfortable with sharing their personal problems. Therefore, one of my main targets as a Commissioner of Internal Affairs was to improve the confidential character of the Committee of Internal Affairs. People must have the feeling that their secrets are being treated in a confidential manner when they share them, which is why I always treat personal matters that people share with me with utmost seriousness and discretion.

My friends often tell me that they are happy that they can share their worries with me when they are not doing well, which also strengthens my idea of being suitable for the function of confidant. And last but not least, I would enjoy it to in this way still be able to contribute something to our association as an old SIB-grandma.

In short, I would really like it to become a confidant of SIB, let me know if you have any questions!

With kind regards,

Valentine

Kim: Now the advice from the Board of Advisors

Eefje: We give Valentine a positive advice. She knows SIB and its members well because of her close involvement with the association as Commissioner of Internal Affairs and because

of her presence at many activities. This makes her approachable and therefore suitable as a confidant.

She's a very easygoing person and is always ready to listen to people. At the same time, she's able to think along and give feedback when necessary. Valentine said she'll possibly be abroad for some time next year, and it's important for her to still be visible as a confidant during this time for people that need it. After all, the barrier to contacting a confidant should be as low as possible.

Kim: Are there any questions for Valentine?

Anouk: Are you going abroad for the entire year?

Valentine: No for October until December possibly.

Nina: Where are you going?

Valentine: Well I was going to Portugal but that isn't happening anymore.

Benjamin: You said something about giving feedback, sometimes that's not what a person needs, so I was just wondering about your listening with empathy skills.

Valentine: I think it is really important that you listen and ask what they expect from you because I can imagine that you come with a solution or feedback right away, that can make the matter even worse.

Kim: If there are no further comments, I would like to move on to the vote. A QR code will be passed around the room. Please do not forget to vote twice if you are authorized to do so. Please also note that in the scenario of anonymous voting, the Board of Advisors will vote against or will abstain.

The cast votes are as follows

- Pro: 33
- Against: 0
- Abstain: 2

Kim: Then with the next hammerstrike, Valentine is accepted as our first confidant!
HAMMERSTRIKE

Kim: Then moving on to the next candidate

Mijke: Dear Board of Advisors, dear GMA,
From the moment that I heard about the new position of confidant for SIB-Utrecht, I immediately saw myself doing this. In this letter I would like to let you know about my enthusiasm, but also my experiences that make me a suitable pick for this position.

Since I can remember, mental health is something that has interested me. Because of the profession of my parents, the importance of mental health was something I learned from a young age. For me, the choice of studying psychology was very logical. My ambition is to become a healthcare psychologist and help people to learn the right tools to work on becoming the best functioning version of themselves.

At the AllesOké? Supportlijn I learned a lot of conversational skills. At this support line I talk to young adults between 18 and 25 years of age, via chat or a phone call. This volunteer work made me realise how everyone deserves to have someone that listens to them, regardless of how you feel or what your situation is. The skill of listening is something that is very useful and important as a confidant of SIB-Utrecht. Besides listening and conversational skills, I also learned how to deal with confidential information, which is also very important as a confidant. In my opinion, a confidant is someone who is attentive, a good listener and who can help the other to look for the right steps to take. In this process, the confidant is responsible for creating a comfortable atmosphere and confidentiality. This is a way of having conversations that I am experienced in and that I would love to keep doing in the position of confidant of SIB.

When it comes to SIB-Utrecht, I have been active since I became a member of the association. I have always been in committees and you can see me at drinks and activities quite regularly. Because of that, I know the association and the members and they mostly know who I am. I hope this makes me approachable for people that need someone that listens to them. Furthermore, I am someone that is empathetic by nature. It makes me glad when I see people feeling well and I like to make an effort to make others feel comfortable.

Experiences with conversational skills give me the ability to actually do that. With this letter, I hope to have given an impression of my enthusiasm for the position of confidant of SIB-Utrecht. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask them!

Kind regards,
Mijke Dhondt

Kim: Now the advice from the Board of Advisors

Eefje: We give Mijke a positive advice. She's been an active member of SIB for years and therefore knows the ins and outs of the association. She's always ready for a chat and we believe this makes her approachable for members.

Her experience in comparable functions ensure that Mijke knows what the function of confidant entails. We think she would be a great listener. A point of attention is combining her function as confidant with her membership of the Internal Affairs Committee. As a confidant it's very important not to lose sight of neutrality and confidentiality.

Kim: Are there any questions for Mijke?

Maya: Are you going to stay in the IAC if you become a confidant?

Mijke: My plan is to stay, I don't think it is a problem because I take the position very seriously. If someone tells me something that is confidential, I would not share that, even if it is useful for the IAC.

Maya: I still think it's don't necessarily desirable because even the most thoughtful people can slip up. Someone might say something to you thinking it is as a confidant and if that's not mentioned, it could still come to the IAC.

Mijke: If you want to speak to me as a confidant, it is nice to hear that before the conversation, I think that's also Valentines opinion. Because we are also friends with you guys, you can tell me something as a friend or as a confidant or as an IAC member so if you'll be honest about it, it will not be a problem.

Maya: Yes, I still think it is not a great idea.

Iris Veldhuis: In an ideal world I would agree but we are living in a world of scarcity so I think we should take that into account as well.

Nina: I agree with Mijke. I can come to her as a friend and she can share it with friends. Regardless of her position, you should tell someone when something is confidential.

Kim: It is also important to know that both confidants must sign a confidentiality agreement. Besides, to talk with the confidant, you have to set up a meeting. Approaching the confidant on a causal basis is very confusing for the confidant as well.

Natalie: I disagree that it is problematic because a confidant can slip in any setting and not just in a committee.

Maya: Of course a confidant can slip up in any situation but the IAC is a committee that talks about members so it would be easier to slip here.

Iris: I think regardless of everything Mijke would be a very good confidant.

Kim: If there are no further comments, I would like to move on to the vote. A QR code will be passed around the room. Please do not forget to vote twice if you are authorized to do so.

Please also note that in the scenario of anonymous voting, the Board of Advisors will vote against or will abstain.

The cast votes are as follows

- Pro: 32
- Against: 1
- Abstain: 2

Kim: Then with the next hammerstrike, Mijke is accepted as our second confidant!
HAMMERSTRIKE

Iris: If you want to set up a meeting, do you just whatsapp them?

Kim: There will be an email address on the website along with a picture of their faces.

Kim: Then moving on to the next agenda item; the board round

HAMMERSTRIKE

13. Board Round

Kim: All of the board members will now shortly tell you about their activities in the past few months, and I will kick this off!

Kim: In the past few months, I have been focussing on succession, and preparing for this GMA. I have also been in close contact with both NVVN and Uglobe about the organization of events (keep an eye out for that). Aside from the day-to-day board things I have been deciding on what to do with my future, and am excited to start my master of choice in september. In addition to that I was busy with the elections for the faculty council. I have recently acquired a museum jaarkaart so I am trying to immerse myself in culture! Any questions?

Benjamin: What master?

Kim: Conflict studies and human rights.

Dana: In the last three months, I have been busy with the promotion of events such as the lustrum, the LIT, the simulation and the symposium. I hung a lot of posters, worked on websites, and started sorting out documents to leave everything neatly behind for the next board. I have also very much enjoyed joining the MEME.

David: Woeh!

Eefje: I saw that for the promotion of the symposium, once again there were stickers used. I believed that last year we said that it wasn't sustainable so I was wondering what your consideration was.

Dana: It was definitely in collaboration with the committee of course but we do see that it works. It is a big part of our external promotion. We did use sustainable stickers so that helps.

Annika: I noticed that the important documents on the website are organized a bit random so i want to propose to create maps or something.

Dana: I don't know if you can create maps there but yes I can imagine that.

Benjamin: Yes that's possible!

Mayo: The past few months I have been busy doing my regular treasurer tasks, as well as trying to get some money back from debtors, in which I have been quite successful thus far. Together with the Audit committee we have discussed how we can contact each other and work together in a better way, which has really improved our communication. The Acquisition Committee has been busy with writing the application for the funds for next year's program of talks, love those guys :). My personal life hasn't been too riveting, I have been working a lot at the museum and I've been taking care of my pets.

Eefje: At the previous audit check, some posts were behind in the bookkeeping.

Marjolijn: Yes that is because of an error in Conscribo which I could not fixed before that audit. For some posts I didn't do that because I had some trouble with transferring money from bank account to bank account.

Eefje: So it's all fixed now?

Marjolijn: No but we will be fine.

Els: In the past three months I have kept myself busy with a couple bigger projects, such as the LIT, the Simulation which will be this weekend, signup!, and the Lustrumweekend in June. With the Internal Affairs Committee we have worked on our regular tasks, and paid some extra attention to confidentiality. We are also looking for new people to join, so if you are interested or would like to know more, let me know!

No questions

Els in the name of Iris: During the last three months I have been trying to support the Symposium Committee as much as I can. It's going to be a very interesting day, so buy a ticket on the website and be there on the 11th of June! Of course I also tried to schedule all the talks and TT's for this year and I've been setting up a new series of talks for next year together with Studium Generale. Besides I've tried to convince as many people as possible to do a board year.

No questions

Kim: Then I would like to start heading towards the end of the evening, starting with Any Other Business

HAMMERSTRIKE

14. Any Other Business

Kim: Has any other business come up?

Kim: Then moving on to the Question Round

HAMMERSTRIKE

15. Question Round

Kim: this is your time for questions that have yet been left unanswered. Are there any questions?

Nina: Congratulations, this probably wasn't an easy GMA to hold and I just wanted to you did great.

Martin: Thank you for carrying this association at this very important point for our future. Things look more positive than I imagined.

Eefje: I agree with Nina and Martin and I also wanted to congratulate Mijke and Valentine on their new positions and also don't forget the beginning of this GMA. If you know someone board, step up!

Kim: Then moving on to the final point of the evening, closing.

HAMMERSTRIKE

16. Closing

Kim: Thank you all so much for being here today and for thinking along with us. It has been a long night, and we appreciate you still being here. Without further ado, I hereby close the General Members Assembly of May 25th at 20:45.

HAMMERSTRIKE

Kim: Once again thank you for being here, we hope to see your faces during the simulation, and if not; until later!