
MINUTES 2ND GA

6 December 2011

When motions (e.g. 'voting on Motion 1') are mentioned, please refer to the document *111206 – General Assembly Votes*.

Opening

Roelant welcomes the members attending the GA.

Sequential ordering of the agenda

Roelant sets the agenda for today's GA:

- Opening
- Sequential ordering of the agenda
- Presentation of the 2010-2011 AUCSA Annual Report
- Voting on the Letter of the Audit Committee
- Election of the new Secretary
- Presentation of revised AUCSA Policy Manual and voting
- myauc.nl Calendar Explanation
- AOB
- Closing

Presentation of the 2010-2011 AUCSA Year Report

Roelant: I hope all of you have received the Year Report. We gave it to the AUC management and we sent it to all of you via e-mail. Are there any questions?

Q(1): Can you also provide a small summary of the Annual Report next time?

A(1): Roelant: : I can do a short overview now. We did very well. Not all committees spent their complete budget, so we might actually start over-budgeting next year. However, perhaps it's good to decide that only after two years.

Voting on the Letter of the Audit Committee

Reinier (from Audit Committee): This year, Strauss and I were in the Audit Committee. We check the financial records, and we tell you (the members) if the AUCSA Board did a good job of accounting. We checked everything very carefully. Nothing escaped our hawk eyes. In general, everything was well-documented, and well in order. At the start of AUCSA, Solace had some gaps in

accounting, but those problems have been resolved. In fact we have to vote about the financial report. You as a member, have to agree (or not) with the Audit committee.

Voting on Motion 1: Passed

Q(2): What do you check and what suggestions do you have?

A(2): Reinier: Two things. 1. All receipts have to be original, no copies. 2. Income statements, committees should keep track of how much their income is (ticket sales etc.).

Q(3): What are you going to do with the criticism of the Audit committee?

A(3): Roelant: We only budget income for committees if they have shown in the former year(s) that they can generate income indeed. Regarding the receipts, we might start to use a pin machine (the pilot will be during our first book sale in January). And finally, our tracking has become stricter.

Roelant: are there any more questions?

Election of new Secretary

There are two situations for elections, either that the entire Board is replaced (how that is done in the Policy Manual) or a vacancy occurs. This time it was a vacancy because Gijs is leaving to Melbourne. So we are allowed to propose one candidate. We had 5 applicants, we read their CVs and motivations, and we then invited them for interviews. Things we asked: What experience do you have? What is your motivation? How will you fit in with the current AUCSA board?

After careful deliberation, we would like to propose Sarafien Hiel as the new Secretary. Sarafien will now give a short speech to introduce herself.

Sarafien: introduction. I am glad to have this opportunity, even though you still have to vote on this. I am a 3rd year student at AUC. I work hard, I try to do everything to the fullest and I like to complete things. I want to be a part of this organization. I never felt that I would really give it my all in previous GAs, but now I have more time so I am glad to step in.

Q(4): Do you have any history in board positions? Or Secretary positions?

A(4): Sarafien: Not as a secretary, but I was event coordinator of AISA in the first year, and that's why I also think AUCSA is so important (because then it wasn't there).

Q(5): How fast can you type?

A(5): Sarafien: I don't know, that was not part of the interview.

Q(6): Why did you opt for proposing a member of your board, instead of for more 'democratic' elections?

A(6): Roelant: For a vacancy Article 8 of the Policy Manual applies, which says that we can appoint a new member for the position.

Q(7): Members have to be at least a member of AUCSA for one full academic year? How will this go with Sarafien then?

A(7): Roelant: We might change that rule in the next Policy Manual.

Q(8): Who thinks we can vote for an exception to this rule?

A(8): Roelant: If you want that, we can do so. Who votes on this exception?

Q(9) What is the exception?

A(9): Roelant: The exception is that we appoint someone who is only board member for half a year.

Q(10): What happens if Sarafien does not get elected?

A(10): Roelant: If Sarafien does not get elected, we will organize a new GA to propose a new Secretary.

Vote for an exception to the rule that an AUCSA Board member has to still be a member of AUCSA for a full year.

Voting on Motion 2: Passed

BREAK AND VOTING BY BALLOT FOR SECRETARY

Presentation of Revised Policy Manual

Roelant: Now I would like to give you the background to the changes to the Policy Manual. It was a direct rip from UCSA, and a lot of things that were in there did not carry over well for adoption by AUCSA. In a lot of cases, we explained things better and added things that we thought were unclear. We also changed the order of articles so that the progression makes more sense. In general, we hope that the Policy Manual is more structured.

Q(11): Were there any changes since the last e-mail?

A(11): Roelant: Since last e-mail we have been receiving e-mails quite continuously. Most were details (“hey, you need to put an ‘s’ here” etc.), and those were changed.

Roelant: What we will now do, is we will go through the Articles and vote on them one by one.

Q(12): Could you perhaps clarify more what changes are important?

A(12): Roelant: We just used the ‘Compare’ function of Word. But indeed, we can highlight the most important changes next time, and I will highlight them as we go through them.

Q(13): How many votes will occur during the Policy Manual revision?

A(13): Roelant: We’ll first walk through the articles, and then we’ll have 23 votes.

Marianna (from Advisory Council): we just counted the votes for Sarafien. Sarafien has been elected as the new Secretary of AUCSA.

Roelant: Congratulations!

Q(14): Who is the independent member of the Election Committee?

A(14): Roelant: This is the Advisory Council, not the Election committee. It works this way because it was a vacancy, not a new board.

Q(15): When is the official transition of Sarafien?

A(15): Roelant: From February 1st on.

Roelant: Then let's start with voting on the Policy Manual! First of all, we changed the spelling to be consistent with UK spelling.

Voting on Motion 3: Passed

Article 0

Roelant: We wanted to add an article on definitions. *Roelant explains changes.*

Voting on Motion 4: Passed

Article 1

Roelant explains changes.

Q(16): What is subsection 5?

A(16): *Roelant reads article 1.5 out loud.*

Q(17): Could you indicate when something is changed with regard to the rest of the Policy Manual?

A(17): Roelant: We'll try to do that.

Q(18): Do we vote for a whole set of the Policy Manual?

A(18): Roelant: No, we just only voted for Article 0 only.

Q(19): How specific can we vote?

A(19): Roelant: Yes, we can vote how specific as we want.

Voting on Motion 5: Passed

Article 2

Roelant explains changes.

Q(20): With regard to the Advisory Council, is it stated somewhere in the Policy Manual about how to contact them?

A(20): Roelant : I suggest we put that as an amendment to the Advisory Council's article.

Q(21): About Article 2.4. Should every committee have a spot on the website?

A(21): Roelant: Yes, the AUCSA board should always provide any committee with a spot on the website.

Q(22): What is the distinction between a committee and a team?

A(22): Roelant: In this Policy Manual with 'committees' we also mean 'teams', except for in the article of 'teams'.

Q(23): I want to have an amendment that states a team is not guaranteed a spot on the website.

A(23): Roelant: I think we can offer them the spot at least, then they can decide for themselves whether they need it.

Donald wanted to vote, but withdrew his appeal: Motion 6 rejected

Q(24): Why is this important to have these kinds of clauses?

A(24): Roelant: We want to have clear rules that everyone can read in one document.

Q(25): Are there teams that are not part of committees?

A(25): Roelant: There is an introweek team, which is independent of any committee. For every individual large event a team will be created, which is ended afterwards.

Q(26): I would like to propose to add "if requested" in the middle of Article 2.4, immediately following "on the AUCSA website".

A(26): Roelant: As a board we will always provide you with an e-mail address if you ask us, but sure we can vote on this change.

Amendment: Article 2.4 is amended to:

4. The committee should be allocated a spot on the AUCSA website **if requested** to which at least one member of the committee board should have access in order to update the members on their activities.

Voting on Motion 7: Accepted

Article 3

Roelant explains changes.

Q(27): What are the Statutes?

A(27): Roelant : That's a legal thing we have agreed with the CoC. Statutes are more fundamental than the Policy Manual.

Q(28) At point 3.7, shouldn't there also be 'student body'?

A(28): Roelant: Yes, but every AUC student is a member of AUCSA. And it's external parties rather than internal parties.

Q(29): Why do you think it is necessary to include "student associations"?

A(29): Roelant: It was included in the last policy manual, but it's good to have a connection to other student association (especially when we're at Science Park next year).

A proposal for an amendment to include members was put forth by the GA.

Amendment: Article 3.6 is added (shifting other numbers accordingly)

6. The AUCSA Board should communicate its practices clearly towards the members of AUCSA.

Voting on Motion 8: Accepted

Article 4

We added the Vice-Chair. *Roelant explains changes.*

Q(30): About Article 4.1, why does the Board have to have an odd amount of members?

A(30): Roelant: Legally, we should have a board consisting of 3, 5 or 7 members, because of voting.

Q(31): How about the vacancy issues?

A(31): Roelant: Yes, but we put in the new Policy Manual that a vacancy has to be filled within two months (for the time we will then have to do with an even board).

Q(32): The word 'should' in 3 and 4, what does it mean?

A(32):Roelant: It's kind of 'do it' in a nice way. It's just 'try as hard as you can'.

Q(33): One small remark about Article 2.7. Are alumni and graduates not the same? What is the difference?

A(33): Roelant: There is no difference, but the article is different. If you graduate you will get a certificate of how active you have been as a student. Graduates and alumni are the same people, but it's at a different moment in time (graduate—the moment you graduate; alumni— when you have already graduated).

Q(34): Can we add to the task list of Secretary, 'making abstracts of minutes'?

A(34): Roelant: It could be added, but it is not necessary, because it's already in another article. Gijs: The policy manual is also just guidelines, not an exhaustive list of what a person should do. Otherwise the office would never be cleaned.

Q(35): Are there any other changes that we should know about?

A(35):Roelant: No specific things, only that the tasks are guidelines. They won't change the world. We changed some phrasing and moved some stuff around to make it more structured.

Q(36): How is the Vice-Chair appointed?

A(36): Roelant: The appointment is decided internally, by the Board.

Voting on Motion 9: Accepted

Article 5

Roelant explains changes.

An amendment was proposed, adding mainly that the Advisory Council gets their own spot on the website, with names.

Amendment: Article 5.2 is added (shifting other numbers accordingly):

2. The AUCSA Board must make sure that the names of the Advisory Council are visible on the website.

Voting on Motion 10: Accepted

Q(37): What about the P.O. Box to contact the AUCSA Board?

A(37): Roelant: Our postal address is also on the website.

Q(38): So how will we get to contact the Advisory Council?

A(38): Roelant: We agreed that we would only put their names on the website, no e-mails, also not something else than @aucsa.nl address.

Q(39): About the Advisory Council and members in the Election committee both comprising of AUCSA Board members. I am afraid of dominance from AUCSA Board members.

A(39): Roelant: I think it is good to have ex-AUCSA board members in the Advisory Council, because they have experience in that field.

Q(39): I want to specify “other member” in Article 5.1.

A(41): Roelant: You mean adding ‘and one member of AUCSA that has not been in the AUCSA board’?

Q(42): I have a question about 5.1. Can it be the case that the Advisory Council consists of members of the Board that is to be replaced?

A(42): Roelant: No. Because since the Advisory Council advises the AUCSA Board, and then we would Advise ourselves. Only former board members can be part.

Q(43): What happens if 4 members of the current AUCSA Board will graduate already?

A(43): Roelant: We cannot add any exception that might ever occur. We can vote on specific exceptions in General Assemblies.

Q(44): The vote of no confidence, should it not be moved to another section maybe? Like Article 21?

A(44): Roelant: We tried to have not too many articles. And the article you propose is about expulsion from AUCSA. The ‘vote of confidence’ was not in the last Policy Manual, and now we tried to have some guidelines for problem cases.

Amendment: Article 5.1, following “...the former AUCSA Board and...” changes to “one member of AUCSA who has not been in the AUCSA Board.”

Voting on Motion 11: Accepted

Article 6

This proposal was also accepted at the first AUCSA GA, but it needs another vote. *Roelant explains changes.*

Q(45): Who chooses the 3rd member of the Election Committee who was not part of the Advisory Council?

A(45): Roelant: The idea is that when we have a conflict we would both propose someone, and then together choose the third person. The Advisory Council chooses this third person. You force them into choosing a person that is not yet in ‘power’ to make sure that there will be another voice in the process.

Q(46): The Advisory Council chooses that person, is that not a problem?

A(46): Roelant: We can change it. For instance: The Advisory Council exists of three persons and can only be approved as a whole in the GA.

Q(47): What about giving the committees some say in this?

A(47): Roelant: Then we would have to set up a framework for the committees for the voting, that would be possible.

Q(48): I have a proposal: the AUCSA Board gives a recommendation when elections are due. Everyone can then still vote on every person running.

A(48): Roelant: Let's first go onto Quico's suggestion regarding the formation of the Election Committee. You would need an Independent Council.

How the election committee is formed is discussed, and it turns out that the GA wants to create a different system for this.

Q(49): Should we just have another GA for elections?

A(49): Roelant: That's only twice a year and not all members are then present.

Q(50): Can we make a clause that at least 2 or 3 of the members of the Election Committee are not former AUCSA members?

A(50): Roelant: Everyone is a member of AUCSA, but we could indeed state that there should be only one AUCSA Board member in it, instead of two. We chose for two, because we think AUCSA board members know what is needed for their position. The people that proposed us last time were Bas, Sander and Emma. I think the problem is slightly overvalued, but we can vote.

Q(51): Wouldn't it be easier to have direct elections?

A(51): Roelant: First of all, we would have to change the Statutes. Also, AUCSA is different than Student Council. It is not about social status (popularity) and a particular viewpoint you represent, but about skills (and how someone fits into his/her position). It's also about creating good cooperation between the board members.

Q(52): Wouldn't it then be a good idea just to talk with the potential candidates and inform them of what positions they could function well in?

A(52): Roelant: That is kind of what we're doing now already. We recommend someone and people can vote on that. We can change the phrase 'opposition' indeed, if that is the problem. There is a fair share of democracy in AUCSA though, the GAs even offer direct democracy.

Q(53): Maybe it is a good idea, that at the GA at the beginning of the year, the third member of the Election Committee can propose himself at the GA, and is voted on? We could do this to have some more power for AUCSA members.

A(53): Roelant: At any moment that you have the feeling that we are doing something that is not advantageous to AUCSA members you can say so and propose a GA on the subject. You can create a motion if you don't agree halfway through the year.

Some discussion followed this, but most of it was in the audience and not directed at the Chair.

Q(54): Most of the time, the AUCSA Board proposes something, and then the AUCSA members usually agree. Isn't this bad?

A(54): Roelant: I don't think it is a bad thing if we approve of things in the way we're doing now.

Q(55): Amendment on Advisory council:

Suggested Amendment (but later retracted):

The Election committee consists of one member of the Advisory Council as chosen by the Advisory Council themselves, and consists of one member who is elected by all committee chairs and one person who is chosen by the other two.

Q(56): The Election committee has so much power, and this can only be reduced by making the Election Committee open. People do not feel like they can change much. This is about something that goes beyond the election.

A(56): Roelant: I see, but the reason why we do this is that we want to prevent a popular vote. This is different than the Student Council, because here you don't vote for a standpoint, but for someone's capabilities.

Q(57): The capabilities can also be judged by the students themselves.

A(57): Roelant: Then you would have to vote per position.

Q(58): It cannot be that functions are the reason why people have to be recommended?

A(58): Roelant: Whatever we decide, we would always vote per position. Also, voting on an AUCSA board is not voting on standpoints.

Q(59): We want to propose a change. Article 6.7: Applicants that are not proposed, should be notified of the decision and are still in the run for the elections as explained in Article 7 of this Policy Manual.

A(59): Roelant: The new phrasing of article 6.7:

Amendment: The new phrasing of Article 6.7:

7. Applicants who are not proposed as a member of the AUCSA board, should be notified of the decision and are then still in the running for the elections as explained in Article 7 of this Policy Manual, except if they withdraw. The proposed candidate is then only the Election Committee's recommendation. The Election Committee will recommend them during the GA.

Voting on Motion 12: Accepted

Q(60): Does every candidate then get the opportunity to campaign?

A(60): Roelant: Yes, all candidates have the right to campaign.

Q(61): They can only campaign during the GA?

A(61): Roelant: That will be decided on in Article 7, the procedure for board elections.

We move to voting on the entire Article.

Voting on Motion 13: Accepted

Article 7

Roelant: Article 7.4 is no longer relevant. We should vote to delete it.

Voting on Motion 14: Accepted

Amendment: Addition of Article 7.8 with subclause, which reads as follows:

9. Candidates can only campaign via their election statement.

a. The election statement will only be distributed by the AUCSA Board.

Voting on Motion 15: Accepted

Q(62): Is it possible to make the campaign text in written form?

A(62): Roelant: Then it would already be a campaign.

Q(63): How can campaigning be reined in?

A(63): No clear answer.

Q(64): We should change the thing about requiring candidates to be members of AUCSA for a full academic year.

A(64): Roelant: Let's change that into 'candidates must be members for as long as they are elected to be in office'.

Amendment: change to Article 7.2. The last sentence is changed and now reads:

Candidates must be members for as long as they are elected to be in office.

Voting on Motion 16: Accepted

Q(65): Can someone apply for one or more functions?

A(65): Roelant: Yes, but you'll only be recommended once by the Advisory Council.

Voting on Motion 17: Accepted

Article 8

AUCSA Board elections. *Roelant explains changes.*

Voting on Motion 18: Accepted

Article 9

Q(66): Should 9.b be a subclause to point a.?

A(66): Roelant: We can have subclause b joining subclause a.

Q(67): Sarafien: was she chosen because she was the best suited or because she was the most liked?

A(67): Roelant: I could live with all candidates, they could all have been suitable. Gijs: And of course we chose her because of her capabilities first.

Suggested amendment (but later retracted): The AUCSA Board proposes a new member for the AUCSA Board to the GA, but the other candidates are still in the run for an election which will be had at the GA.

There are calls for a system in which that the Election Committee proposes a candidate to the Board of AUCSA, instead of the Board proposing its own candidate. However, no amendment is submitted yet, as discussion was drawn out. Instead, we opted to return to this issue after voting on Article 23, so that Frederique may have time to write down an amendment.

Therefore, we now proceed to voting on the entire Article as it stands (it can still be altered by an amendment later in the GA, when Frederique submits it).

Voting on Motion 19: Rejected

Amendment: Article 9.b to become a subclause of Article 9.a

Voting on Motion 20: Accepted

Now we proceed to voting on the entire Article, since the vote was initially rejected.

Voting on Motion 21: Accepted

Article 10

Roelant explains changes.

Regarding the transition period. *Roelant explains changes.*

Voting on Motion 22: Accepted

Article 11

Roelant explains changes.

Q(68): Could you explain why minutes are confidential?

A(68): Roelant: AUCSA minutes are confidential, because we talk about committees and persons specifically.

Q(69): What about abstracts of minutes?

A(69): Roelant: You should not be able to subscribe to the abstracts of our minutes, but you can request information on specific cases. This means no mailing lists will be kept.

Voting on Motion 23: Accepted

Article 12

Regarding fraternities etc. *Roelant explains changes.*

Voting on Motion 24: Accepted

Article 13

Contact information added. *Roelant explains changes.*

Voting on Motion 25: Accepted

Article 14

Added all vacancies should be open. *Roelant explains changes.*

Voting on Motion 26: Accepted

Article 15

We added: committee boards should abide by the committee contract. *Roelant explains changes.*

Voting on Motion 27: Accepted

Article 16

Roelant explains changes.

Q(70): Why the list?

A(70): Roelant: Yes, the General Assembly might request an impression of who attends certain events in order to better judge budget proposals.

Voting on Motion 28: Accepted

Article 17

Roelant explains changes.

Voting on Motion 29: Accepted

Article 18

Roelant explains changes.

Voting on Motion 30: Accepted

Article 19

Regarding the financial reimbursement for the AUCSA Board, we felt that the members should be aware of any compensation we receive.

Q(71): Koen: does AUCSA not get the membership fee directly, or from AUC?

A(71): Roelant : A separate membership fee for AUCSA could not be included in the tuition fee, because the UvA does not give us that option. However, AUC grants us 9000 euros extra instead.

Q(72): I have heard that SC that members can take less courses? How about AUCSA Board?

A(72): Louis: AUC does not allow course reduction, because they want us to finish AUC within three years. However, being a board member of AUCSA or Student Council could possibly count as an internship or community project. We are still looking into that.

Voting on Motion 31: Accepted

Article 20

Regarding the Audit Committee. *Roelant explains changes.*

Q(73): How can both association year and club year be used?

A(73): Roelant: 'Club year' will everywhere be changed into 'association year'.

Amendment: throughout the Policy Manual, 'club year' will be changed to 'association year'

Voting on Motion 32: Accepted

Now we go on to vote on the entire Article.

Voting on Motion 33: Accepted

Article 21

Sanctions. *Roelant explains changes.*

Q(74): 21.2 change 'Following expulsion' to 'Following a sanction from the AUCSA'

A(74): Roelant: We replace 'expulsion' with 'a sanction' by the AUCSA.

Amendment: Under Article 21.2, 'Following expulsion from the AUCSA' is changed to 'Following a sanction from the AUCSA'.

Voting on Motion 34: Accepted

Article 22

Appeals. *Roelant explains changes.*

Voting on Motion 35: Accepted

Article 23

Committee contracts added. Articles by the UCSRN added. *Roelant explains changes.*

Q(75): What are the UCSRN articles?

A(75): Roelant: It is the guidelines of how the Dutch UCs should work together. (You can find them at www.ucsrn.nl).

Q(76): What does it mean 'by the AUCSA Board'?

A(76): Roelant: The committee contract can be changed by the AUCSA board.

Voting on Motion 36: Accepted

Amendment to Article 9

Amendment: following the sentence, "Article 6 and 7 of this Policy Manual", of Article 9.2 the amendment reads:

the Election Committee may propose a new member to the AUCSA Board,
who will propose this member to the GA

- a) The AUCSA Board may veto this proposal, should it have strong reasons to do so. These reasons need to be shared with the Election Committee in written form. Then the Election Committee proposes a new member to the AUCSA Board.

Voting on Motion 37: Accepted

Last vote

Vote about the renumbering and the table of contents. This is the final vote on the Policy Manual, and will mean that we will adopt the Policy Manual as amended through the motions above.

Voting on Motion 38: Accepted

The Policy Manual, with its amendments, has been accepted by the GA!

MyAUC.nl Calendar Explanation

Done by Gijs. Both Solace and OnStage asked to be added to the calendar.

AOB

None

Closing