

Factsheet cuts/changes FGw (humanities faculty) 2015

There is a reduction of about 5% in the research/teaching task division that studies have to realize themselves.

- This 5% is the result of reducing student numbers within the entire faculty as a whole.
 - o Not all studies have reducing student numbers, certain studies even have a raise in the number of students.
 - o The 5% is a mean for the whole faculty, some studies have a larger reduction. The reduction is dependent on the amount of electives a study facilitates: the more electives, the larger the reduction. Smaller studies, like the language studies, with less electives are facing less budget cuts than studies with more electives, like history.
- The 'urennormering' for teachers has changed a lot: Less and less hours are reserved for the same tasks.

Promises CvB (Executive Board)

From 'Productie 23': Substantial investment budget for FGw for the benefit of:

- Restructuring processes at FGw are postponed until 2018.
- Implementation and execution of plans for new studies as they stand in Profile 2016
- Additional financing in order to enable student admissions for small language studies to continue for another two years, until September 2018.

In reality this means:

- Profile 2016 has not been discontinued, but is lying in a drawer somewhere and can be pulled out again in 2018.
- There is only extra money for the FGw if an integral reform plan is created with prospects in the economical sense of the word.
- There is only extra money for language studies if these disappear as independent education programs. As this is not the case at the moment, no extra money will go to the language studies and these too will have to make budget cuts.

Loan system

Money that will become available due to the implementation of the loan system, will only become available in 2019. Universities affiliated with the VSNU (Association of universities in the Netherlands) have decided that until then they will make pre-investments. These pre-investments contain the continuation of the current quality of education until money from the government becomes available. These pre-investments do not mean that the UvA will receive additional money, but that she has to warrant the quality of education from her own reserves.

Problem: The UvA does not have these reserves and is unable to warrant the quality of education.

According to the CvB, the current cuts in the Humanities Faculty do not damage the quality of education, because at the Faculty of humanities about 50% of available courses are not 'core-business'. With this, the discontinuation of programs as a result of budget cuts does not damage the quality of education.

Changes in program

It is impossible to compare the offered courses of the academic year 2014-2015 to those of 2014-2013 because the new management model has only been implemented in 2014-2015 (College of Humanities and Graduate School of Humanities). Courses are specified in a different way, which makes the amount of ECs that come with a course unclear. Because of this, it is unclear to what extent the offered education of the academic year 2015-2016 has been reduced in comparison to that of the academic year 2014-2015

What we do know:

- In History, a large amount of the independent electives disappear.
- In Slavic languages three language-specific literature modules disappear.
- In Slavic languages four language-specific seminars are combined into one module.

- In Modern Foreign Languages the program is a lot smaller than it was in previous years.
- In Dutch language two tracks appear to be either reduced (Middle-Dutch and Early Modern Literature).

Masters education

Especially in the Masters education there appears to be a lot of budget cuts. However, it is not known how high these cuts are and what the implications of these cuts are for the courses and studies.

- In 2015, several electives have disappeared.
- For the years to come there have to be structural budget cuts, because the Master programs currently take away money from the bachelors. Because of this the workload for staff within the bachelors becomes higher.
 - o This goes mainly for the larger programs, because they are the money jar of the faculty.
 - o The 'kaasschaafmethode' (gradual cuts) will not be used and the demand of 20 students per program will not be implemented. The shaping of this is now in the hands of the programs themselves.
- Master programs are more vulnerable than bachelors, because right now about 30% of the programs has 5 or less students.