Hereby we present the 2017 annual report of the Student Union of the University of Twente. We will reflect on the past year on the basis of the action points (AP’s) that have been drawn up in the annual plan of 2017 for each of the four ambitions of the strategic plan. For each action point the results are described, which gives insight into the issues that have arisen during the past year at the Student Union. The initiatives that have been undertaken that fall outside the scope of these aims are described at the end of this document.

In 2017, many new initiatives were spearheaded. In the past year, the first editions of the UT Challenge and UT Model United Nations took place. The UT Challenge challenges students to bring out the entrepreneur in themselves. Hops & Grains and Aryzon were the winners of the first edition. The UT Model United Nations is an event where students from more than 35 nations come together for a weekend to debate about political issues. Besides this, a new subsidy model for the sports associations was created in 2017. This subsidy model divides the available resources among the sports associations as fairly as possible.

Big steps have been made in order to make the Bastille more appealing. The Atrium underwent a remodel so that it now includes a frequently visited student work cafe. It was also time for renegotiations about the contract with Grolsch. The contract says that the amount Grolsch will deposit into the beer fund is positively correlated to the amount of hectolitres associations consume. All our participants will take advantage of this clause.

By the end of 2017, we have chosen to take into account the input of our associations in an earlier stage when drawing up the annual plan of 2018. Additionally, we have also gotten support from multiple services of the UT to produce a more concrete annual plan.

Luckily, we as the Student Union are not alone. This is why we want to thank all students, associations and umbrellas, for their commitment to for the student community in Twente together with us. Moreover, we are very thankful to the services of the UT, our personnel support, employees, and, of course, to all of our committees. Let’s look forward to more great collaboration with all these parties in 2018.

Kind Regards,
The board of the foundation Student Union University of Twente,

2016-2017
Hans David Wendt          Chairman, Policy & Strategy, Personnel & Organisation
Jasper ten Napel          Communication, Internationalisation
Niek ten Brinke           Finances, Accommodation, Company Management
Nikki Leijnse             Sports & Culture
Tijmen Elfrink            Academic Competencies, Education
Stef Huttinga             External Affairs, Entrepreneurship

2017-2018
Jordi Weggemans           Communication, Internationalisation
Albert-Jan de Croes       Finances, Accommodation, Company Management
Femke de Gooijer          Sports & Culture
Tijmen Elfrink            Academic Competencies, Education
Stef Huttinga             External Affairs, Entrepreneurship
Dear reader,

You are reading the annual report of 2017 of the Student Union. This report has been approved by us, the Supervisory Board. We are the organ that supervises the work the SU does: we approve the budgets, appoint board members, approve annual plans and also this annual report. Furthermore, we handle the appeals on decisions by the board of the Student Union. If you ever have any comments or any things we should know, please feel free to contact us. You can find our contact details on the website of the Student Union.

The Student Union has been busy with many things in 2017, with things that are visible and less visible. For instance, the renewed Atrium of the Bastille with the Subway opened, and the new Student Union Afternoon Session have been organised. Also, a new way of distributing subsidies for sport has been implemented and the FOBOS policy has been updated to support all the new student teams.

2017 has also been the year wherein the Student Union board had to deal with a board of only five people, instead of six, in the last months of the year. We think the board handled this situation well and deserve a complement for this.

Lastly, in 2017 the Student Union welcomed many new participants. We would like to encourage them, and also all other participants, to participate in the participation sessions and interactions with the Student Union board. Together, we can make student life at the University of Twente even better.

The Supervisory Board,

Marijn Horstman
Maarten van Assendorp
Marc Venerius
Jennifer Herek
Tom Loran
Vincent Smit
Adriaan Pleijser
Rik Schrijver
## ABBREVIATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ESN</td>
<td>Erasmus Student Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OS</td>
<td>Consult Study associations: Umbrella of study associations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UniTE</td>
<td>Umbrella of world associations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Career Centre</td>
<td>The central place on the UT for everything concerning career of students, the place for businesses to come into contact with talent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Startup Hub</td>
<td>A physical place where entrepreneurs can meet, help is offered, and where an entrepreneurial vibe prevails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NIKOS</td>
<td>Dutch Institute for Knowledge Innovative Entrepreneurship: academic centre for entrepreneurship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LSVb</td>
<td>National Student Trade Union</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUN</td>
<td>Student Union Network: a platform for everything concerning administration of members for associations, developed by the SU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOBOS</td>
<td>Financial Support for Special Circumstances Students: arrangement regarding compensation for force majeure and scholarships for activism, top sport and top culture</td>
</tr>
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AMBITION 1: STUDENT UNION STIMULATES STUDENTS TO INTEGRATE, PROMOTING A STRONG COMMUNITY FEELING AT THE UT.

One big community

AP: Stimulating the organisation of shared activities between sectors
Cooperation between the sector world has increased drastically. The Global Food fair has brought together many parties to organise a real international Food Fair. On top of this, all world associations, with ESN as the leader, have organised a Cultural Day together. A day full of cultural workshops, international food, sports activities and a big party. In 2018, an effort will be made to further develop this concept into a culture festival of two days.

Next to the internal cooperation between the sector world, there has also been a closer cooperation between study- and world sector since 2017. OS and UniTe worked together closely on relevant aspects, especially in the field of study tours and events. For example, UniTe shares an overview of all events of the world associations and there have been events where world associations share information about the destination country of the study tour. Furthermore, the Buddy committee has created a cooperation with study associations in order to expand the program that makes the international students feel more welcome at the associations.

AP: Stimulating hiring students for side jobs at the UT
In the past year, the Student Union has also sparked new life in the BHV group: in this group, students with a BHV diploma are matched to event organisers that have made a request for this. The students are signed up in the UT-flex system by the Student Union and will also get paid through this system, by the association that has hired them. In short, it is a good way for students to make some extra money by being the BHVer.

AP: Supporting of student advisors in faculty boards
We have kept a close eye on the developments concerning the student advisors and we have tried to connect the advisors to the right people in the organisation, for example to the executive board. Together with the advisors, structural meetings between the SU and the advisors have been set up to keep each other up to date on the developments. On request of the advisors, the regular meetings have been substituted by more incidental contact, to guarantee the relevance of the meetings.

Moving forward with internationalisation

AP: Monitoring cultural changes under the influence of internationalisation by executing and analysing survey
In 2017, a survey was done in the sector sports, culture and study. This survey was a baseline measurement for these associations to look at how far they are in the process of internationalisation. This assessment should give insight into how the associations view internationalisation, and how
far they are with the integration of international and Dutch students. In total, 44 associations have participated in the research, of which five, twelve and 27 associations are from the sectors culture, study and sport, respectively. Conclusions have been drawn in different areas: for example, in the areas of language, integration and participation, for each sector and in general. It should be said that these conclusions are relatively unreliable for the sector culture due to a low participation rate. In 2017, the Student Union started shaping the second survey. The goal of this survey is to find out how international students can be included in this process, to eventually help associations and students with this.

**AP: Offering and expanding translating subsidies**

In 2016, the first translating subsidies of the SU were paid out (2016: 5 approved requests, €1600 paid out). In the past year, we have made better use of our communications channels, resulting in us approving 9 requests and paying out €2500 in 2017. It is good to see that not all requests come from one sector, but that they come from multiple sources. The main goal of the requests was a translation of the statutes of the household regulations. Providing this basis in multiple languages will increase the approachability of the associations for international students.

The budgeted amount of €4000 has not been realized in 2017. In 2018, we will therefore investigate whether the growing trend (+56%) will continue or whether the need is not that great, in which case we can spend money differently in 2019.

**AP: Continue building Student Internationalisation Platform**

The Student Internationalisation Platform (SIP) is the youngest platform of the Student Union and has taken up her first project in the past year: the integration of international students within study associations. Next to a number of introductory sessions, the SIP has organised three sessions during which international students had the possibility to bring to light their opportunities and problems and could also think of suitable solutions. These sessions have been summarised in a short report, that has been communicated to all associations by the Umbrellas. The most important points that have been documented in this report are the issues concerning language in communication, the information facilities for international students and that international students are mostly interested in the sectors sports, culture, and study. It also mentioned that the consultation must be continued in order to find a solution for the discussed issues.

**AP: Active commitment to improving housing for international students**

To improve the situation concerning housing for international students, the SU has actively participated in and co-written the new policy note of the UT. In this, the SU has taken to heart the interests of both international students and Dutch students. The focus was especially on the non-EU students, without this compromising the interests of the EU and Dutch students.

Besides this, the SU has actively improved the information provision for international students. The International Student Handbook, that all international students receive when they start studying here, has been updated with input from the SU. Furthermore, more information has been posted on the SU’s student-housing website, the Veste website and the UT website. Besides this, the first steps have been made to start a campaign from the Veste to make international students feel more welcome on the campus.

**AP: Contribute to the integral housing portal Enschede**

Roomspot, the integral housing portal of Enschede, as an initiative of the municipality of Enschede, University of Twente, Saxion, De Veste and SIHT, was planned to be launched at the end of 2017. This goal has not been achieved; the intended launching date is now on February 2018. The SU has
its own housing portal and is therefore not a founder of this initiative. Despite this, we emphasise the added value of an integral portal, where all the offers of Enschede are placed, to make it easier for national and international students to find housing. This is why we want to stay connected to this development process, so that we can see whether our housing portal can be integrated into Roomspot. The prerequisite that we have is that students do not lose any functionalities that they have in our portal, by using Roomspot.
AMBITION 2: THE STUDENT UNION OFFERS EVERY STUDENT THE OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP THEMSELVES

Pertaining to business cooperation

**AP: Realising mutual cooperation Plato and Career Services**
**AP: Realising consultation between Business Umbrella and department of Economic Affairs of the Municipality**

In the past year, the SU started a Business Umbrella, Plato, to protect the interests of the business associations. Much time was spent on the creation and formalization of the legal form. Partly because of this, Plato has not been able to fully focus on the interests of the business associations. A short survey has shown that both Plato and the underlying business associations are convinced that the Umbrella has potential and can be of added value. The SU believes that the business associations should form an Umbrella, due to this motivation.

The SU facilitates and brainstorms with the Umbrella in order to achieve their interests. In the past year, the Career Centre of the UT made significant steps concerning the launching of an integral career platform. One aspect of this platform is a cooperation with an external partner, Jobteaser. The SU has ensured that the (study)associations are involved with the shaping of this part of the Career Centre, by establishing a workgroup. The interests of associations are thus guaranteed.

Approximately halfway through the year, after the contracts with the Career Service were laid, the board of Plato separated from Career Service. Because of this, they have not consulted with the Economic Affairs of the Municipality. Despite the fact that the concept of Plato has proven to be useful, the Umbrella is now inactive. In the coming year, we will see whether business associations want to take on this initiative. The SU will facilitate this and use her network to help the Umbrella out.

Student and entrepreneur in one

**AP: Prepare for StartupHub in the Bastille**
**AP: Create entrepreneurial community around StartupHub**

In the Long Term Strategic Housing Plan (LTSH) a number of student facilities were prioritised, including a Startup Hub on the second floor of the Bastille. This project was originally planned to be realised before 2018, which means that the preparations should have been largely finished in 2017. However, due to an unexpected urgency, an unsafe hockey field, a shift in priorities occurred. Because of this, the renovation of the hockey field has been shifted to 2018 and the Startup Hub has been postponed to 2019. This is why the preliminary development plans for this entrepreneurial breeding ground have been postponed to 2018.

The StartupHub will be governed by the entrepreneurial association, Hardstart. In the past year, the SU has focussed on the professionalization and the structuring of this association. Considerable steps have been made in this process. In the internal structure of Hardstart, for example, there is a
clear organogram in which the various tasks and responsibilities are indicated. In addition, targets are formulated periodically for the progress and growth of Hardstart. The association is operating increasingly independently.

**AP : Execution of a first academic research concerning student entrepreneurship**

This concerns an academic research concerning student entrepreneurship at Saxion and the University of Twente, executed by NIKOS. It is a research that we have little influence on. The decision has been made by the SU, to list this AP under Novel-T, given the expertise and influence that they can exercise on this subject.

**AP: Together with the parties involved, look at which initiatives related to entrepreneurship should be continued and which should not**

In the past year, the SU has noticed that many students are sent from pillar to post when they have questions related to entrepreneurship. This is because many organisations within the entrepreneurial world do not know exactly where they should send the students. The SU has therefore created a Mindmap, to give these organisations more clarity and to better serve the entrepreneurial student.

Next to this, much has changed in the field of entrepreneurship. Kennispark has become Novel-T, with Jaap Beernink at the steering wheel. This has brought about many changes in terms of the cooperation that the SU has with Novel-T. The SU is working on a plan that clearly describes which institutions are responsible for what tasks, together with Novel-T.

Concrete initiatives that have or have not been implemented in a different way are also present. Initially, different entrepreneurial parties, like Hardstart, Nesst and Novel-T, have been brought together to avoid overlapping activities. Within Novel-T, the choice has been made to classify Powered by Twente, which organises many entrepreneurial events, under Novel-T, to further avoid overlap.

**Combining activism and education**

**AP: Finishing and implementing vision Education and Academic Competencies**

The vision Academic Competencies in Education has been completed and was initially used as a conversation opener with the UT about the academic competencies of students. A link between education and activism has been discussed with a number of program directors, but no concrete follow-up steps have emerged from this, which means that the vision cannot be implemented. From the established vision, the skills line has been reformed to the Student Union Afternoon Sessions to match the demand of students. In this, the complementarity with education was, and still is taken into account.

**AP: Evaluating effects of TOM and national developments on student culture Twente**

The activism monitor has been redesigned to provide more insights at a sector level. However, after the redesign, it turned out that it did not provide reliable information, contrary to our expectations. Therefore, the activism monitor is not an appropriate tool for the evaluation of the effect of TOM on the activism. The concrete effects of TOM are difficult to trace, due to the many variables and external factors, which means that such an evaluation is not feasible. However, due to recent developments concerning the divisibility of module grades, more space has already been created in the TOM for student activism.
AP: Set up platform for student trainers that give training to fellow students

A cooperation has started with new board trainers. In these meetings, motivation and reasons for training were examined. After this initiative has grown sufficiently, our new initiative, the Student Union Afternoon Sessions, will also offer room for students who give training to fellow students. The platform itself has not been created yet, but the knowledge to train students is now certainly available.

AP: Stay informed on national developments and possibly implement them in Twente

To be well-informed of national developments in the field of student affairs, we thought it would be a good idea to maintain regular contact with the LSVb. This has resulted in a monthly calling appointment between the SU and the LSVb to update each other on relevant matters. During the second half year, these monthly callings have not taken place due to internal circumstances. We intend to resume this contact in the coming year to stay updated on the national developments.

The Bastille, the place to develop yourself

AP: Remodel Atrium to an informal workplace without losing its current function completely
AP: Get new initiatives to the Bastille
AP: Increase visibility of the SU in the Bastille by presenting plans briefly and concisely
AP: Give the Bastille more colour and a fresh look
AP: Better profile the Unionshop

The Bastille has improved in several areas compared to last year. First of all, a new interior has been created with the renovation of the Atrium. The new look of this work café offers students more space to study in an informal manner. As the SU, we have drawn the building closer to us, which is also reflected in the renewed service desk and the SU branding on both entrances of the building.

Next to the Atrium, the Unionshop has also got a make-over. By removing several walls, the shop is now better incorporated with the rest of the Atrium. This, and the renewed furniture, ensures that the extensive collection of products is more clearly displayed and reaches students more easily. By dividing the product range into products and services, it will be clearer to students what the Unionshop offers in the coming years.

The renovation of the Atrium was successfully completed in August. Since then, the Atrium has been transformed from an empty hall, to a vibrant and colourful heart of the Bastille. These renovations and the arrival of Subway have increased the attractiveness of the Bastille. This can also be seen in the use of other Bastille facilities, like other workstations, and the free pool area for Unioncard-holders.

Although it is not completely lost, the function of the Atrium has changed because of this. Where the room was previously used for lectures, temporary storage and parties, it is now a work café. Some activities can still be organized in the Atrium, but experience shows that moving the furniture causes damage, which means that in the long-term, provisions will have to be made for this. In order to facilitate the remaining activities, we have reopened De Stek. Not all facilities are available yet, but we expect De Stek to be fully operational in early 2018.
AP: Drafting and implementing clear policy for rent subsidies for Unionparticipants in Bastille

For years, the SU has paid out renting subsidies to associations that wish to settle in the Bastille, to make the tariffs of the UT affordable. The problem with this was that the subsidy fund was limited, which means that not all requests could be fulfilled. As of January 1st, 2017, the entire rent of the Bastille has been transferred to the Student Union, resulting in more flexibility in these rent subsidies. This means that we can temporarily spend more on these subsidies, to for example let an entrepreneur start his business. The rent will eventually return to a normal level. To make the exploitation of the Bastille feasible, a new policy has been created, which has enabled the renewing of the lease contracts. With the exception of a few leases, this has been fully completed.
AMBITION 3: ALL STUDENTS LOOK BACK ON A GREAT STUDENT TIME AND BECAUSE OF THIS THEY ARE PROUD OF THE STUDENT LIFE IN TWENTE

Student today, alumni tomorrow

AP: In collaboration with the alumni office, facilitate activities that bring UT-students and UT-alumni together

In October, a committee was recruited that would realise the event Homerun. The aim of this event was to organise one big alumni return weekend. The project would make use of the current connection that many alumni have with Enschede, associations, boards and social fellowships. Due to limited time of board members and personal circumstances, the choice was made not to realise this project this year. The preliminary work has been documented, so that it can be used in the future.

AP: Form a connection between crowdfund-platform of alumni and big projects of students

The SU has not actively participated in the forming of a connection. Despite this, several student organisations have made use of the crowdfunding platform. \(^1\)

Campus

AP: Make it easier to organise events on the campus in collaboration with the UT

In collaborating with the former Eenheid Campus, there was discussion about how to make the organisation of events on the campus easier. From these discussions, it turned out that the municipality does not need to be involved in many events. It has been agreed that the municipality and the UT will keep in contact, so that they remain well informed and can therefore collaborate better.

AP: Create Event Manuals to support the realisation of initiatives

In collaboration with Culture & Events the first steps have been made in the development of an Event Manual, with the aim of facilitating the organisation of events on the campus. After the inventory of where information can be found, this project has been put on hold temporarily to make room for the restructuring of processes within the organisation Culture & Events. This restructuring is also aimed at the facilitation of the organisation of events. The intention is that one contact person from Culture & Events is assigned to a student or student organisation to make the communication easier. The final steps are currently being made to this restructuring.

AP: Represent students concerning the organisation of campus and housing at the UT

In the past year, it has been investigated how the organisation around campus and housing can be organised best. As SU, we participated in the steering group and we took part in approximately

\(^1\) see https://www.steunutwente.nl/
twenty workshops to ensure that the organisation is organised as well as possible for students and associations. We have emphasised that innovation and management must be separated, sports & culture must keep their strong position within the organisation and must not be allowed to deteriorate in the big organisation, and that the financial position of sports & culture must not deteriorate, as has happened in the past.

**AP: Offer a complete overview of events of students on the SU-website and possibly in app**

The SU offers an overview of events on its website, and associations can provide content via the website. The start of a collaboration with M&C has also been started, to see how this overview can be integrated in existing UT systems, like the campus app and the event databases of the UT. This will be elaborated further in 2018.

Furthermore, an extra LED-screen is placed on the Vrijhof. This is only intended for information that is interesting for students, like sport- and culture offers, news of UToday, information of the Studium Generale and Student Union, but also student parties and symposiums. All students can use this to promote their events and to spread information.

**Enschede as student city**

**AP: Inform and involve residents of Enschede in research and activities of the UT**

**AP: Connect students to events that are organised by residents of Enschede**

To involve residents of Enschede in activities of the UT and vice versa, the SU has started setting up the event platform ‘de Oude Markt Op Z’n Kop’. The aim of this project is to bring students and the local population into contact with each other by letting students organise events on the Oude Markt. A requirement of this is that the events must be interesting for the whole local population. In addition, residents of Enschede are closely involved in the organisation and assessment of the events. Meetings took place between many different parties, including the municipality, the province, the neighbourhood council, Enschede Promotion, AKI, the Conservatory, and the VHSE. Despite the enthusiasm amongst these parties, there were insufficient concrete commitments, which meant that the SU had to put in too much effort. The SU still sees the project as an asset to student life within the city centre and has therefore documented the project plan and plans to offer it to the municipality.

**Sports and culture**

**AP: Adjust the subsidy model for sports and culture with a pilot version for sports in 2017**

The new subsidy model for sports has been presented in March 2017. The model must serve the aim of dividing the available resources to the sports associations as equally as possible. Season 2017-2018 was a pilot run in which the subsidy funds were divided in accordance with the new model. In collaboration with the Sports Umbrella, the first enhancements of the model have been documented. In consultation with Culture Umbrella Apollo and Culture & Events it was decided that there is no need for a similar subsidy model for this Umbrella.
AMBITION 4: EVERY STUDENT IS FAMILIAR WITH THE STUDENT UNION

Close to the student

AP: Set up long-term campaigns for SU-initiatives
In 2017, a number of new campaigns have been set up within the SU for various purposes. *Did You Know* brings students into contact with different aspects of the SU, the UnionDeals campaign brought students into contact with the UnionDeals platform, by letting them come up with ideas. There was also a central community recruitment campaign that showed what it is like to be active within the Student Union community. The formats of these campaigns can be used long-term.

AP: Carry out committees and events of the SU as SU and vice versa
The aim of the corporate identity is that all committees of the SU are recognisable as an SU committee. With an ‘identity corner’ that all our committees use on their communications, we ensure that the SU becomes well known through our committees and events. On top of this, the committees and events receive a ‘quality mark’ so that students and staff know that it is well and professionally organised.

AP: Give students the opportunity to think along with the SU policy through public participation moments
These points are, together with the open-door policy and the fast feedback to students, combined in a bigger project to look at the SU as an organisation. On the basis of several signals, like the ivory tower image and the fact that students do not always feel heard by the SU, we came to the conclusion that we as an organisation want to be more transparent, without losing our decisiveness. For this purpose, several ideas have been put on paper, of which we will explain the preparation of the 2018-year plan with student participation.

We have restructured the drafting of the annual plan for 2018. There have been two participation sessions for our Union participants, during which we asked them to discuss the content of the annual plan. We had a list with possible focus points for the annual plan for 2018 where the Umbrellas could indicate their prioritisation. This prioritisation gave us a concrete picture of what associations would like to see reflected in our annual plan. They also had the possibility to add more points. We have decided that the top 5, according to the prioritisation of all the Umbrellas together, will be given a place in the annual plan. The Umbrellas have received feedback after the sessions with an explanation about why we have or have not incorporated all the points in our annual plan. As SU, we have experienced this process as very useful and intend to involve the Umbrellas in the drafting of the annual plan of 2019.

Another idea was to create an online platform where students can contribute ideas, but this was not executed in 2017. Eventually the points above must lead to the familiarity with the open-door policy and good feedback to students about why we will or will not do something with their input.

AP: Serve first association with SUN for membership administration
AP: Establish a sounding board group for SUN
A first version of SUN has been presented this year, however the link with UT-systems has been significantly delayed due to new stronger European privacy legislation. The cooperation with LISA has been intensified and due to this the new deadline for the launching of the system has been set mid 2018. Because of the delayed launching of SUN, the creation of a sounding board group for SUN is not yet relevant. As soon as SUN launches, intensive feedback will be requested from the first associations that will work with SUN.

AP: Increase visibility SU in Bastille by presenting plans briefly and concisely
See: ‘The Bastille, the place to develop yourself’

AP: Give Bastille a more colourful and fresh look
See: ‘The Bastille, the place to develop yourself’

AP: Profile Unionshop better
See: ‘The Bastille, the place to develop yourself’

Students know the SU

AP: Getting new initiatives to the Bastille
See: ‘The Bastille, the place to develop yourself’

AP: Familiarise every board member and many students with the open-door policy
See: ‘Give students the opportunity to think along the SU policy through public participation moments’

AP: Fast feedback to students on whether or not we handle cases
See: ‘Give students the opportunity to think along the SU policy through public participation moments’

AP: Promote successes SU through relevant media
The Student Union has professionalized its Facebook page. A content calendar has ensured that content is posted more frequently and that the content is of better quality. This allows us to show who we are and what we do. Of course, our successes are also placed on this page. However, there is still room for improvement, since not all our milestones are shared through social media. In addition to Facebook, we also use our newsletter StudentNews, and our website to spread important news. In the past year, the newsletter has been clarified to highlight more relevant news.

AP: Display Twents student life in the media by using big events
Tubantia has been invited for a number of events such as Create Tomorrow and UT-MUN, however this has not been taken into account last year. However, the debates with all political party representatives in February and March were well represented in the media.
FURTHER IN 2017

International Office
In the past year, the SU has participated in the process of the redesigning of the international office: a clustering of the various internationalisation goals that the UT is working on. Together with UniTe, the SU has worked hard to get central support for international students. The focus here, should mainly be on the ‘soft’ human part i.e. personal support, and not on the ‘hard’ tasks, i.e. administrative tasks. In 2018, the redesigning shall be monitored further.

Twente mobility fund
The UT has the ambition to give 75% of its students an international experience (minimal of 15EC obtained outside the Netherlands, as a minor, internship or a graduation assignment). Together with Strategy and Policy (S&B) the SU has set up a plan to realise this ambition. The responsibility of the execution of this is dependent on the reorganisation of the Twente Mobility Fund (TMF).

MtaD Awards
The More than a Degree Awards have been expanded in 2017 and have also been professionalised. A number of categories were added, such as culture, entrepreneurship and internationalisation. This made it a more diverse show with a greater diversity in visitors. In total, there were 180 visitors and seven awards were presented.

UT Challenge
The UT challenge challenges all students of the UT to spark the entrepreneur in themselves. Through a series of workshops, students in 2017 have learned valuable skills to help out their starting company. Eventually, Hops & Grains and Aryzon were the proud winners of the first edition.

After the success of the UT Challenge in June, we immediately started with the organisation of the edition 2018. To make the event more fitting to the wishes of the students, we managed to form a committee of four students, that now helps with the promotion and the organising of the event. Together with them, we will look forward to an even better UT Challenge in 2018.

Grolsch Contract
During the drafting of the new contract with Grolsch, there was a focus on mutual interests and a way to make optimal use of the collaboration from both sides. More funds have become available for students to organise events that can be sponsored through the initiative fund. The hectolitre scale for associations is an important part of this. The more hectolitres the associations purchase, the more Grolsch invests in the beer fund.

Number of new recognitions
In 2017, we have had the pleasure of adding 7 great associations to the list with Union participants, among which Blueshell, Fact, RoboTeam, SUUT, Onwijs, Dutch Student Investment Fund and Komma. With this Union recognition, we hope to give them a jumpstart in making their association successful, by for example helping them with drawing up their statutes and to make them accessible to international students.
UT Model United Nations

Last year, a number of students approached the Student Union with an idea to stimulate the United Nations conference. This has resulted in a committee under the Student Union that has organised the first version of UT MUN, where students from 35+ nationalities have participated. The first edition has been followed up: a new committee has been formed that will organise a second edition of UT MUN in 2018.

FOBOS policy

The FOBOS policy has been closely reviewed this year. It was under pressure due to the increased number of student teams. An extra category has emerged for student teams to provide them with FOBOS. In addition, the FOBOS amount will be determined on the basis of the tuition fees in the new policy, which also makes it easier for international students to participate in extracurricular activities.

Culture needs research

To increase the activism within the culture sector and to promote the interests of students in the cultural field, the cultural offer must adhere to the wishes of the student. To map out where the SU and Culture & Events must focus in order to match the cultural offer to the needs of the student, a survey was carried out by the consultancy PIP Advice. The survey has led to three clear focus points: increasing the awareness of the offer, tailoring the offer, and using English as the main language. These focus points will be taken into account in the policy of 2018.

Handbook Sports associations

Sector sports had a turbulent year with not only a new subsidy model, but also a new purpose for the Sports Umbrella. To give the associations a clear overview of all these changes and to offer the sports associations a central information point, a handbook for Sports associations has been created. This handbook describes how the organisation of sport is organised and where the sports associations can ask their questions.