



Student Union

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

By the Student Union Board 2022 I-II



ANNUAL REPORT 2022

PREFACE FROM THE BOARD

Dear reader,

Welcome to the Student Union annual report of 2022, in which we reflect on the past year's progress towards our six ambitions as laid out in the strategic plan 2020-2023 and the aims formulated in the annual plan of 2022. In this report, we highlight our successes and challenges.

After nearly 2 years of the COVID-19 pandemic, at the end of February 2022, the major restrictions were completely lifted. It was great to see our campus come back to life and, more importantly, to see student life restart to its full potential. This made it possible to meet up again, play sports and practise culture together and attend events. As one of these events, we are proud of this edition of the Kick-In which, with the efforts of many active students, was as amazing as we remembered the Kick-In to be before COVID! The organisational structure of the Kick-In has been reviewed, resulting in a recommendation which has been embraced by the UT.

The COVID-19 period also brought a problem to light which seems to have been slumbering. Students have never shown such a well-being status before. This topic was already acknowledged during the pandemic, but has become a continuous point of attention. We will continue to work in close cooperation with the University of Twente (UT) to address student well-being. To engage students more on this and other topics within the organisational part of the UT, a team of Student Involvement Consultants started. Their goal is to be the linking pin between student opinion and projects within UT.

Another highlight is that Create Tomorrow got a new team as well, with five enthusiastic students organising the 2023 edition. Also, a sustainability fund was created to enhance awareness of the topic of sustainability among associations. Of course, there are many more achievements that can be read about in this report. We hope that you will enjoy reading them.

Lastly, we would like to thank everybody who helped us contribute to our mission, namely for students to achieve 'More Than a Degree'!

Best regards,

The board of the Student Union,

2022-I

Koen Hasperhoven	President, Policy & Strategy, Staff & Organisation
Coen van Orlé	Finance, Accommodation & Business Management
Fleur Korving	Sports & Culture
Tom Lamaker	Personal Development & Education
Joris Harbers	External Affairs, Entrepreneurship & Innovation
Godelieve Brasz	Communication, Internationalisation & Well-being

2022-II

Bram van Uden	President, Policy & Strategy, Staff & Organisation
Harro Beens	Finance, Accommodation & Business Management
Alies ter Lingen	Sports & Culture
Tom Lamaker	Personal Development & Education
Joris Harbers	External Affairs, Entrepreneurship & Innovation
Eva Vogelezang	Communication, Internationalisation & Well-being

PREFACE FROM THE SUPERVISORY BOARD

Dear reader,

You are reading the annual report of 2022 of the Student Union, which has been approved by us, the Supervisory Board. As supervisory board, we have the following responsibilities: The appointment and dismissal of Student Union board members; approving or rejecting the annual plan, the budget plan, and (financial) annual report of the Student Union; the approval or rejection of changes to the regulations and articles of the Student Union. Furthermore, we give solicited and unsolicited advice to the board and handle the appeals on decisions by the board of the Student Union. If you ever have any comments or any things we should know, or in case you have a dispute with the Student Union, please feel free to contact us. You can find our contact details on the website of the Student Union.

We want to complement and thank the Student Union board 2022-I and 2022-II for their work in 2022.

On behalf of the Supervisory Board,

Yorick Moleman

Chairman

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INDICATOR OVERVIEW

Outcome	Description	Aim count
SUCCESS	We consider the aim as achieved	19/23
ALTERNATIVE SUCCESS	We consider that an equal or better alternative to the aim is achieved	0/23
PARTIAL SUCCESS	We consider the aim to be partially achieved and that the part that has been achieved can be considered a success. This is usually due to a delay in progress or nearly having met the goals.	4/23
UNSUCCESSFUL	We consider this aim to be insufficiently achieved to call it a (partial) success	0/23

ABBREVIATIONS

SU	Student Union
CBL	Challenge Based Learning
CELT	Centre of Expertise in Learning & Teaching
CFM	Campus Facility Management
DE&I	Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
FOBOS	Financial Support for Students in Special Circumstances GA – General Assembly
ICOS	International Committee Organisation of Study Associations
KIC	Kick-In Committee
LAYF	Look After Your Friend
LTSH	Long Term Housing Strategy
MentOS	Mental health Overleg Studieverenigingen
NPO	Nationaal Programma Onderwijs
OS	Overleg Studieverenigingen, the umbrella organisation for the sector study
SEE	Sustainability, Energy & Environment
SEG	Shaping Expert Group
SFC	Subsidy Fund Culture
SWIP	Student Well-being Implementation Programme
TELT	Technology Enhanced Learning & Teaching
UT	University of Twente
UTLC	University of Twente Language Centre
WSO	World Sector Office
YER	An international employment agency for permanent and temporary positions
BSS	Board Sharing Session

1. STUDENTS CAN DEVELOP THEIR PERSONAL COMPETENCIES NEXT TO THEIR STUDIES

The focus on ways to achieve More Than A Degree is broadened

Aim: *We stimulate students more to become active individually, by informing students about the (added value of) challenge-based learning and an entrepreneurial mindset within activism.*

PARTIAL SUCCESS

There are countless possibilities for students to become active at UT. So much so, that it can be hard to determine what you want to do. Therefore, we wanted to create an overview of everything happening at our university, related to personal development. All the different courses and workshops that are being offered at UT, e.g. by SU, Career Services or UTLC.

At the beginning of 2022, this overview was being created in collaboration with UTalent. The employee in charge of UTalent left UT in May, causing the project to be put on hold. With the project, this overview was also put on hold.

At the end of 2022, a new working group started working on an overview to combine different UT projects and entities into one. This includes SWIP, NPO, DE&I, and everything related to student personal development, such as courses offered by Career Services, UTLC, and the SU. Currently, this information is scattered around the websites of UT and SU, making it hard for students to find since the website is structured like an organogram of the university and its services.

The idea of this general hub is that students aren't necessarily aware that the support they receive, is dedicated to a certain project: they simply want help. The original overview that was in mind when this annual plan was created was not successful, but the UT-wide overview currently being created will be a far greater contribution to student life in Enschede.

Next to the overview that was being created regarding personal development, we also wanted to get students in touch with Challenge Based Learning and an entrepreneurial mindset.

Challenge Based Learning (CBL) is an educational framework that focuses on student-driven learning. We noticed that many students were unfamiliar with CBL, so we wanted to explain it in a way that was more familiar to them. Since we were unfamiliar with CBL ourselves, we contacted Koen de Pryck, the head of CELT, to determine how to bring CBL to the student's attention. As we learned more about CBL, we noticed similarities with activism. We decided to create an infographic comparing CBL to activism. Unfortunately, contact with Koen ended when he left the university, making it harder to finish the infographic. We ultimately missed the end-of-year deadline, but the infographic is now online.

We launched several initiatives this year to inform students about an entrepreneurial mindset, such as 'Why Start?' and the 'Personal Development Mini Courses'. 'Why Start?' was a joint event with Novel-T, where students gained insights into the careers of successful entrepreneurs from the UT. These initiatives contributed to our goal.

Increase the focus on soft skill development

Aim: *Increase the focus on soft skill development for students, by increasing awareness of existing facilities for developing soft skills.*

PARTIAL SUCCESS

The awareness of the existing facilities SU and UT have to offer regarding soft skill development was increased by focusing on the promotion of these facilities to boards and students alike. This was done e.g. by mentioning our offer at the sector meetings, promoting the workshops on our Instagram, flyering during the Opening Fair of the Kick-In and through word of mouth.

Some of the facilities for developing soft skills are the Personal Development Mini Courses, the Kroegcollege and the YER Development Track.

The Kroegcollege did not have the start it anticipated this year. At the beginning of the year, it was still impossible to host a Kroegcollege due to the closure of all pubs because of the COVID-19 pandemic. When everything re-opened, associations mentioned that they were very busy catching up on events that were cancelled during the pandemic and therefore did not have any room left in their agenda for a Kroegcollege. After the summer break, the situation seemed to have calmed down, but there was still not much interest in the Kroegcollege.

To improve our offer, we sat down with Joe Laufer, the head of the Alumni Office, to come up with some themes that would make the Kroegcollege more interesting. We eventually settled on 'Female Leadership' as the theme. After announcing this to the associations, we noticed more enthusiasm, but in the end only one Kroegcollege was hosted in 2022, with 3 associations scheduling a Kroegcollege for the beginning of 2023. Since only one Kroegcollege was held, it is impossible to conduct a proper evaluation, but the response so far has been very positive.

As a result of the evaluation of the YER Development Track, it was determined that the collaboration was unsuccessful and should be cancelled. There was too little interest from students into this course.

Aim: *Increase the focus on soft skill development for students by extending the offer of workshops from student trainers for part-time boards and committees.*

SUCCESS

Only one type of workshop was offered to part-time boards and committees since its inception in 2019. It was time to increase this offer, allowing boards and committees to choose something to their liking. Throughout the year, the offer increased from one to six workshops, covering a variety of topics tailored to part-time boards and committees, such as time management and efficiency and effectiveness of meetings.

Students receive recognition and appreciation for extracurricular activities

Aim: *Students receive recognition and appreciation for extracurricular activities, by expanding the use of edubadges.*

SUCCESS

At the start of 2022, edubadges were only awarded to full-time and part-time board members. To expand the use of edubadges, we first needed to know what the guidelines for awarding edubadges were. The rules for awarding edubadges are determined by the institute itself. To understand UT's vision for edubadges, we contacted TELT. Once we had a clear understanding of the vision, we wrote the policy to determine when and how edubadges should be awarded. Currently, students can receive edubadges for activities such as being a full-time or part-time board member, being part of a committee, being a peer listener and being a student trainer, with more edubadges to come.

Aim: *Students receive recognition and appreciation for extracurricular activities, by making precise what the requirements are for receiving recognition.*

SUCCESS

As already explained in the previous aim, the guidelines for edubadges are entirely up to the institute. Eventually, the requirements that a student should meet before receiving an edubadge were specified. The requirements became clear with help of TELT. These requirements relate to the learning process of the student during their work, the testing of the learned competencies, time invested into the activity and whether the activity was a paid position.

Aim: *Students receive recognition and appreciation for extracurricular activities, by increasing appreciation for active students.*

SUCCESS

The SU is always focused on recognising and appreciating extracurricular activities. Before this year, this was already done through the likes of edubadges, activism recognitions and FOBOS. To further recognise active students, the More Than A Degree Awards concept was changed this year. Instead of a single award show, the focus was placed on active students coming together to celebrate activism. The interactive nature of the award show made it more interesting to be present and could be expanded in the future.

Improve and upgrade the Union locations

Aim: *Improve and upgrade the Union Locations.*

SUCCESS

At the start of 2022, many Union locations reopened following the pandemic lockdown. This was also the case for Atrium, and during these initial months, protocols for renting out Atrium to third parties and making reservations were evaluated and rewritten. Throughout 2022, Atrium proved to be very useful, hosting a wide range of large events. It was also equipped with a high-end beamer installation, allowing hundreds of people to watch a sports event on the big screen. An example of such an event was Holland House, where all students could come together again to watch sports. A document was written at the end of 2022, summarising the use of Atrium and setting out guidelines for future use.

In the first months of 2022, the renovation and transformation of the old pub 'Stek' into the new and unique Esports Lounge Twente began. The full make-over was completed by the summer, and the contract with the two Esports associations, Blueshell and Esports Team Twente, was signed. In autumn, the Esports Lounge was officially opened. By the end of 2022, it was already becoming increasingly popular, hosting several Esports events and gaining recognition among students both inside and outside Enschede.

In the summer of 2022, Draaijer & Partners, which specialises in managing and creating sports and culture facilities, delivered plans for the renovation of the WaterSportsComplex to the Executive Board as part of the Long-Term Housing Strategy (LTSH). These plans were approved in autumn, paving the way for the transformation of the WaterSportsComplex for the decades to come. Details are being worked out in 2023, and the renovation activities are expected to start in the autumn.

In addition to the above, the following steps have been taken to improve and upgrade Union Locations:

- The fourth floor of the Bastille was renovated to make better use of the space and create additional meeting spaces.
- The doors on the third floor of the Bastille were painted to give the offices a more professional look.
- With the owner of the Subway (located in the Atrium), Carlos Leeflang, an additional store was opened in the Bastille. In the summer, students can enjoy high-quality (vegan) ice cream, and in the colder months, the store is a poké bowl bar.
- The contract with NX Filtration was signed, allowing the company to set up an installation at the WaterSportsComplex. This installation filters water from the canal to make it drinkable.

- The Wallstreet was equipped with a beamer installation, expanding its capacity and allowing for Looking-After-Your-Friend Trainings to be given in the city as well.

Improve the profitability and functionality of the UnionShop

Aim: *Improve profitability and functionality of the UnionShop.*

SUCCESS

The profitability and functionality of the UnionShop have improved significantly in 2022, as monitored by UnionShop employees and the Business Intelligence System developed by Pieter Voogt. Its results were and still are implemented. Sales and purchases were higher than budgeted and twice as high as the previous year, as expected after the lockdown. This is evidenced by the gross revenue increasing by more than 10%. Additionally, the UnionShop collaborated with the Marketing & Communication service to expand their offer with sustainable clothing.

Increase the visibility of (Performing) Arts

Aim: *The (performing) arts offer at the UT and its facilities are known to students.*

PARTIAL SUCCESS

During this year, different parties within sector Culture were consulted to highlight the promotion of sector Culture and its visibility. In these meetings ideas for the future were gathered and past promotional activities were evaluated. For example, two participation sessions were held with the boards of cultural associations. During the first session, the associations shared their views on the current promotion of the cultural sector and their ideas for future promotion in general. Their input was documented and a task list was created for Apollo, Vrijhof Culture and SU. Meetings were planned to update each other on progress to ensure the ideas are realised. The second session focused on the Kick-In. Cultural boards were asked to come up with ideas to increase visibility during the Kick-In. The document that includes their ideas will be discussed in a meeting with the KIC, Apollo and SU, with the aim of realising many of the ideas for the upcoming Kick-In.

For extra publicity of the sector Culture two cultural items were posted on the Student Union Instagram. Unfortunately, the goal of having four cultural posts was not reached, as it was difficult to find cultural items that were broad enough to be suitable for the SU Instagram. Nevertheless, the Culture sector put in a lot of effort to create an attractive and organised Instagram feed for the Vrijhof Culture and Apollo accounts. Hopefully, this will result in more students noticing the posts and taking an interest in the cultural activities.

Moreover, during the last Kick-In, a new cultural activity, the Apollo Theatre, was introduced. This allowed cultural associations to showcase themselves to prospective students, increasing the visibility of the Culture sector during the Kick-In. SU also reached out to the cultural association boards to organise a cultural activity during the Well-being Weeks. Unfortunately, the response rate was low, so the cultural sector could not promote itself during these weeks. Finally, many

ideas for initiatives to promote culture are included in the 'Promotion Participation Session Document and Task List' mentioned before.

Next to the indicators stated in the Annual plan regarding the visibility of Culture, some other projects contributed to this Annual Plan point, namely:

In 2022, the Masterplan Sports and Culture was established to assess the quality and capacity of the sports and cultural facilities on campus, including Vrijhof Culture. SU participated in working groups and the steering group LTSH to emphasise the importance of this project. The 'Upgrade of the Vrijhof' project was approved by the Executive Board and a temporary dance hall will be built. An input session was held with the boards of the dance associations to discuss their specific requirements and wishes for this dance hall. The dance hall will significantly contribute to the visibility of the dance associations, as they will finally have a hall specifically designed for dance.

Sector Culture and the Student Union strive to distribute a cultural questionnaire among students around every five years. In 2022, it was time to consider distributing one again. Vrijhof Culture, Apollo, and the SU have collaborated to create the question list which will be distributed among UT students in 2023. Not only will the distribution of the questionnaire create more visibility of UT's cultural offer, but the information gathered can also be used to improve the programming of the upcoming cultural season, making it a better fit for students.

Some cultural organisations cannot be recognised by SU, due to the requirements stated in the Student Union Recognition Regulations. These organisations find it difficult to promote themselves within the Culture sector. To address this, a new concept called "Friends of Apollo" has been developed in collaboration with Apollo. A cultural organisation can be a Friend of Apollo when they are not recognised by the SU, but do organise cultural activities for students and therefore they will be able to promote themselves through Apollo. Hopefully, this way students get in contact with more cultural organisations.

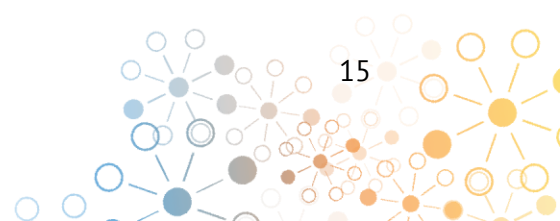
The Drakenkelder was not widely known by students. The Drakenkelder is a campus library and games spot located in the Bastille and run by the cultural student library association Belletrie and the cultural student games association Fanaat. To increase its visibility, the letters "BOOKS & GAMES" were put up above the Drakenkelder in the Atrium.

The boardroom of Apollo has moved from the Bastille back to the Vrijhof. Apollo states that the threshold for cultural association members to enter their boardroom is much lower now. This resulted in more visibility for Apollo and in more members visiting the Apollo room which promotes cohesion within the Culture sector, especially within its associations.

The Student Union provides the budget for a fund managed by Apollo, namely the Subsidy Fund Culture (SFC). In the past years, a large portion of this budget was left unused due to a lack of requests. However, in 2022, the leftover SFC budget is significantly smaller than in previous years



probably because of the better promotion of this fund. This means that Apollo and SU have been able to provide financial support to a greater number of successful cultural events, and thereby increased the visibility of Culture at UT.



2. WELLBEING

Transfer knowledge about well-being among associations, entities and students

Aim: *Improving the knowledge about well-being and offered help among students by creating a platform for discussion (e.g. a gathering) for wellbeing initiatives for associations and entities.*

SUCCESS

In 2022, the MentOS (mental health overleg studieverenigingen) were organised every six weeks. These meetings were designed to gain input from the study associations regarding well-being initiatives, to help other associations with well-being issues and to promote existing well-being initiatives. This helped to create more awareness about well-being and to improve services that are available and created by the university.

In addition, Amnesty organised "Let's Talk About Yes", an initiative where every association at the university could discuss social safety. It was constructed as a workshop where many associations shared their challenges, current solutions, and actions they hoped to take, as well as actions they wanted the university to take.

Another platform of discussion that has been established this year are the Confidential Contact persons (CCP). In 2021, we discussed that it is difficult to guarantee confidential advisors in student organisations (see Annual Report 2021). Therefore, umbrella peer listeners are established, who are accessible for all UT-students. Peer listeners are the first contact point for students and can refer them to the right professional help if needed. The peer listeners have, compared to confidential advisors, less a counselling role.

Aim: *Improving the knowledge about well-being and offered help among students by increasing awareness about wellbeing information among students.*

SUCCESS

In 2022, fifteen Look After Your Friend (LAYF) trainings took place, eight of which were organised in collaboration with a student association. This is a small increase compared to 2021.

During the well-being weeks of May and November, the LAYF trainings were promoted with flyers and the 'Elephant in the Room' campaign. This campaign was about creating awareness regarding well-being and mental health, since these topics are still often overlooked.

An extension of the well-being weeks was the first well-being Wednesday in December. This will be a biweekly post on the UT Instagram that focuses on awareness about well-being, creating a more consistent flow of information throughout the year instead of twice a year.

In addition, the SU collaborated with the UReka student fraction, the EQUITY Group of PhD Network of the UT, Campus & Facility Management, and Diversity Equity & Inclusion Team to realise a free period products pilot. This pilot tackles the problem of period poverty by providing free period products at several buildings at the UT. The use of this pilot will be evaluated in the upcoming year.

“Diversity is the mix, and inclusion is making the mix work.”

Aim: *Promote the integration of UT students with a diverse background, by stimulating international associations and other associations to organise events together.*

SUCCESS

There were several events this year that brought different associations together;

In May 2022, the SU supported CalZquad with the organisation of the Ulympics event. The Ulympics was an international sports day accessible to all UT students.

In September 2022, the Buddy program began for incoming international students. The SU organised different activities for the buddies and students in collaboration with different associations such as Fanaat, the board game association.

Finally, on November 16th, the Faculty of Science and Technology organised a "Bring Your Culture" event at the Technohal. The SU helped to promote it among the world associations and it was a great success. A lot of different associations brought their culture in the form of food, music, and even a stand-up comedian.

Aim: *Promote the integration of UT students with a diverse background, by extending and improving the introduction period for particular groups to make sure these groups are welcomed and included well (e.g. pre Kick-In activity for international students so they can come along with the Dutch students during the Kick-In).*

SUCCESS

Several actions have been undertaken to make the introduction period more inclusive:

- An additional presentation about expectations was organised for students with autism prior to the Kick-In.
- A meeting point was arranged on the first day of the Kick-In for students who came alone to Enschede.
- Students with disabilities were encouraged to contact the organisation if they need help, and the Kick-In application was adjusted to be accessible to those with visual impairments.
- The do-group parent-trainings were revised and updated with information about sexual violence.
- Crew members attended a Bystander Intervention Training hosted by Fairspace, which aims to create a safe environment for all people.
- The DE&I officer discussed social safety during the opening show of the Kick-In.
- A BSS about inclusion was organised in collaboration with Fairspace. During this session, board members had the opportunity to share their experiences and thoughts about inclusion and how different cohorts can be more included in associations.

Aim: *Promote the integration of UT students with a diverse background, by promoting the benefits of becoming active, specifically for international students.*

PARTIAL SUCCESS

Together with the World Sector Officer (WSO) and involved international students, a brainstorm was conducted to generate ideas on how to promote the benefits of becoming active. A small plan was written down and implemented for communicating it through social media and the minor Going Dutch.

This plan is still in its draft version and should be more comprehensive. Due to the world sector's instability, achieving this was challenging. The instability was caused by lack of an umbrella for the world sector. This meant the SU was forced to take over this role.

In addition to the SU plan, an internationalisation document was created with the International Committee Organisation of Study Associations (ICOS). This was to attract more international

students to their committees and activities. It is a step-by-step plan that every study association can use, regardless of their progress in internationalisation.

Expanding the implementation of this internationalisation plan to all the associations at the UT is still a goal for the future.

3. SUSTAINABILITY

Facilitate, stimulate and advise students and organisations on sustainability-related student initiatives and making associations more sustainable.

Aim: *Being reachable for students and associations to ask questions/issues on how to work/live more sustainably and lowering the threshold for students and associations to become more sustainable by providing information and a possibility to ask questions/issues.*

SUCCESS

On the SU website, a webpage has been created with information and links about sustainability at UT for students and associations. This webpage creates an overview of all organisations that work on sustainability. Next to that, the webpage tells what to do if someone has questions regarding sustainability.

In collaboration with Green Hub the Student Union managed to post a social media post about sustainability every month since summer. The plan is to proceed with this in the coming years. These posts give information about actualities regarding sustainability and events or other businesses around this topic.

Aim: *Being reachable for students and associations to ask questions/issues on how to work/live more sustainably and lowering the threshold for students and associations to become more sustainable by work together with parties who are involved in sustainability, like Green Hub.*

SUCCESS

At the beginning of the year, Green Hub and SU signed a covenant in which they agreed on working together and helping each other where possible. This covenant was the start of a great collaboration in which both parties helped each other with the expertise they have. A great example of this collaboration is the Eco Challenge, in which both parties invested to make it a great event. Over the year, there has been at least biweekly contact between both parties. The portfolio holder External Affairs, Entrepreneurship & Innovation has been a member of both the SEE steering group and the SEG Sustainability. In both of these groups, the Student Union brought the student perspective into the discussions and helped with developing the plans. In the future, the SU will continue to be active in the SEE sounding board group.

In the spring of 2022, the SU, together with Birgit Dragstra from CFM, organised a periodic consultation about sustainability at events. Next to Green Hub and Sustain, all event-organising student organisations (e.g. Kick-In, Batavierenrace, Business Days and Create Tomorrow) join this consultation. Making student events more sustainable is the main goal of this consultation. The plan is to keep organising this consultation in the coming years.

Lastly, the Student Union promoted the lecture from Nando Tolboom about the Student Energy Crisis.

Aim: *Being reachable for students and associations to ask questions/issues on how to work/live more sustainably and lowering the threshold for students and associations to become more sustainable by creating an overview of all organisations that deal with sustainability and what you can contact them for*

SUCCESS

On the webpage an overview of all organisations that deal with sustainability has been created. This webpage can be found on the Student Union website.

Aim: *Being reachable for students and associations to ask questions/issues on how to work/live more sustainably and lowering the threshold for students and associations to become more sustainable by support associations financially in making their activities and way of working more sustainable.*

SUCCESS

To make this goal a success, the Student Union worked on creating a sustainability fund for associations. The idea for this fund is to lower the barrier for associations to make more sustainable choices. This aim is a partial success, because the fund has gone live in January 2023.

At first the fund is created with three categories in which you can ask for a subsidy. These categories are 'Clothing', 'Promotional Materials' and 'Catering Alternatives'. To stimulate associations to make more sustainable choices, the fund creates the situation in which sustainable items are less expensive than non-sustainable items. For example, when buying sweaters for a group of 25 people for an association, the sustainable version of the sweater will be cheaper when requesting the fund as the non-sustainable sweater. The criteria for this fund can be found on the website of the Student Union. The plan is to evaluate this fund in the coming year.

Aim: *Being reachable for students and associations to ask questions/issues on how to work/live more sustainably and lowering the threshold for students and associations to become more sustainable by offer easy and straightforward solutions to live more sustainably.*

SUCCESS

As mentioned before, on the created webpage a lot of information can be found for individuals as well as for associations to become more sustainable. This webpage has also been promoted; that way the Student Union offers easy and straightforward solutions to live more sustainable.

Next to the webpage the social media posts, the sustainability fund and the promotion of the lecture of Nando Tolboom also contributed to this aim.

Aim: *Being reachable for students and associations to ask questions/issues on how to work/live more sustainably and lowering the threshold for students and associations to become more sustainable by make students and associations aware of sustainability.*

SUCCESS

In 2022 the Eco Challenge was again organised, this time for the first time in a physical way. This event was promoted widely and therefore contributed to the aim to make all students more aware of sustainability. The Eco Challenge is a challenge in which the student house or association with the best sustainable idea wins a prize. Not all students were reached with the Eco Challenge 2022, so in the future, the Student Union should focus on making the event even bigger and better, to have a greater impact on the students at UT.

Next to the Eco Challenge, the social media posts, the promotion for the webpage and the sustainability fund contributed to this aim.

Aim: *Being reachable for students and associations to ask questions/issues on how to work/live more sustainably and lowering the threshold for students and associations to become more sustainable by the Student Union is involved in challenges/events regarding sustainability*

SUCCESS

The Student Union collaborated with Green Hub in several challenges/events in 2022. One of the collaborations was the sustainability week. The sustainability week was officially organised by the Green Hub, but the Student Union helped where possible. Also, the grand finals of the Eco Challenge were planned during the sustainability week. Due to planning issues, this event unfortunately couldn't take place in the sustainability week at the end.

Next to the collaboration with the Green Hub, the Student Union created the consultation about sustainability at events, organised the Eco Challenge and supported the lecture of Nando Tolboom.

4. DEALING WITH THE PANDEMIC

Support in maintaining the continuity of the student organisations

Aim: *No decrease in union-recognised organisations due to pandemic influences on financial or membership-level stability.*

SUCCESS

The pandemic had a massive influence on student life and many aspects of typical activities became impossible when students couldn't come together. Thankfully, in 2022 student life was able to continue like before the pandemic. The Activism Monitor showed that active students in 2022 increased compared to 2021, but at the same time, a lot of associations struggled to find new board members.

Because student life could start again, committees could get started organising events again, which increased the number of active students. Students interested in doing a board year are often second- and third-year students. These students had only studied during the pandemic, which made it harder for them to become connected and enthusiastic enough to become interested in doing a board year. In the end, all associations managed to find a board, but not always with full composition.

Whilst associations struggled to find board members, there seemed to be no problems in finding members for associations, and there has not been any decrease in Union-Recognised organisations as a direct result of lack of members.

With the MTAD fund, the SU is financially supporting recognised student organisations. If an association has problems with liquidity, the SU can step in to provide an interest-free loan. In 2021 the SU stepped in to assist in financial aid once, whilst also helping another association without actually providing a loan.

Stimulate social cohesion between students and with the university

Aim: *Stimulate social cohesion between students – especially first and second-year students – and with the UT by encouraging student organisations to organise activities for social cohesion between all students.*

SUCCESS

The Student Union was responsible for handling the NPO-budget, available for all study associations. To apply for the budget, the organised activity had to contribute to more social cohesion between students. Next to that, the activity had to be open for all students of the study,

so not only for members of the study association. In 2022 a considerable sum of the NPO-budget was used to organise activities and stimulate social cohesion.

Aim: *Stimulate social cohesion between students – especially first and second-year students – and with the UT by communicating on possibilities and regulations to organise activities for social gatherings.*

SUCCESS

Communicating possibilities and regulations has been done through the Reconnect workgroup which decided the COVID-19 policy on the University of Twente. A SU board member is part of the working group and communicates the process with the umbrellas, which are involved in the process and are writing up activities that are typical for their sector and possible preventions. This way, the student perspective was taken into account when determining the COVID-19 policy. The Activism Monitor also monitored the impact of COVID-19 on student activism. Because COVID-19 was not as impactful on 2022 as anticipated during the writing of the annual plan, the monitoring did not need to be as frequent as originally projected.