

# Quality before Quantity

*Summary Manifesto UUinActie 2019-2020*



# In Actie

### **The birth of UUinActie**

- UUinActie puts quality before quantity, because focussing on on quantitative output leads to increased competition and bigger workloads.
- UUinActie believes that problems within the university can best be solved by unifying the interests of staff and students.
- UUinActie tasks itself with checking the executive and aims to carry this out by assuming a critical perspective vis-a-vis the Executive Board.

### **The university as a responsible organisation**

- UUinActie believes that the interests of students and staff are better served by an executive that is transparent and values its integrity. This leads to better decisions in all aspects of university life.
- UUinActie demands a democratically elected Executive Board to better represent student and staff.
- UUinActie is convinced that participatory organs play are incredibly valuable. This value needs to be acknowledged. For example, educational committees should be taken more seriously.

### **Working at the University**

- UUinActie sees a steady increase of workload for staff. More appointments can help ease the burden.
- UUinActie demands a fixed share in the finance of every faculty and department. This way we can combat precarity and offer more permanent appointments, as opposed to temporary contracts.
- UUinActie values the intertwinement of research and education that is unique to the university. This connection has to be preserved in the future. At the same time, we need to find guarantees on the quality of our education.
- UUinActie proposes to develop a new evaluation system which considers both the need for evaluation of education and the professional skill of the university staff.
- UUinActie argues for a better job description for student-assistants, which both student and staff must adhere to, conforming the responsibilities which the assistant can realistically be burdened with.
- UUinActie considers to be essential a proactive attitude towards a climate neutral university by 2030.

### **Studying at the university**

- UUinActie recognizes the issues of students and wants to a resit policy that is both in the interest of staff and students.
- UUinActie considers the compulsory attention and other such policies symptoms of distrust. The university should treat students as adults and place confidence in the students' decision making abilities.
- UUinActie considers feedback to students work to be essential and should get more priority in the classroom.

- UUinActie believes that appropriate numbers of students should be fitted separately to each department and the active recruitment of new students adjusted appropriately.
- UUinActie demands a redistribution of grants based on qualitative organised events.
- UUinActie is worried about the excesses of student association culture. Such a culture should not be accepted and the university should penalise its proponents.

### **Student wellbeing**

- UUinActie wants the focus of education to return to the individual development of students.
- UUinActie demands faster help for students showing burnout symptoms or other mental issues. In addition, more measures should be taken to prevent mental issues, such as student psychologists.
- UUinActie takes very seriously all excessive behaviour. The university should also take all such reports very seriously. More public attention should be given to the contact point for excessive behaviour.

### **Diversity and inclusivity**

- UUinActie wants the university to have a rate of 35% female professors by 2030.
- UUinActie wants to explore the creation of a Utrecht University 'diversity report' that recommends appropriate measures to make the university more diverse and inclusive.
- UUinActie believes the university is responsible for providing accessible education. Accessibility in facilities and measures, for all students who are restricted in studying at the university.

### **Regional and national politics**

- UUinActie does not stop at the constrictions of university participatory organs and will stay involved with the struggle for investment in scientific education.
- UUinActie struggles as a section of the larger WOinActie against all austerity measures against higher education and absurd workload for staff.
- UUinActie wants to use its lobbying power together with the university to further the interests of students and staff in all aspects of university life. We want to move the municipality and national government to offer solutions to problems that are not solely within the power of the university executive such as combating the housing crisis.