

KallioPPE GA Minutes 16-05-2017

Attendees:

Nicolai Fassler, Tim Goudswaard, Maja Metzger, Karol Burniak, Yuanqing Wu, Alissa Valent, Abe Bosma, Dorian Gruijter, Katie Eitler, Luca Elsbernd, Simba Martens, Max Landheer, Eleni Toelle, Sinje Siegfriedsen.

1. Opening 19.00

2. Introduction of a General Assembly

a. Explanation of the GA

Suleyman: Going through all the Bylaws of Order. It is important to know the general rules for this GA, in order to make everything clear let's go through most of it.

Abe: is there gonna be another GA this year?

Suleyman: no, we do not have time for this. We will present what we've done so far in this General Assembly. Next year there will be another GA.

Yuan: what are minutes?

Eleni: voting by hand or vote anonymously?

Suley: there are some open votings and closed ones. When we vote for treasury, advisory or constitution goes by hand. Executive board will be closed voting by notes. You write yes or no. We will count and majority wins.

Karol: in article 16, how do you plan to deviate from the rules?

Suley: there are three parts of regulations. We have rules and regulations, bylaws and bylaws of order. So if we want to deviate from the bylaws of order, they have to be in line with the statutes and bylaws.

Yuan: what are bylaws?

Suley: statutes are official you don't want to include all laws, if you want to change them you need to go through a legal process. Bylaws can be used more effectively because they don't have to go through such change.

3. Motions, amendments and other documents which have been submitted to and accepted onto the agenda by the Presidium

Tim: a **motion**: I don't think it's completely fair that there are two new positions in the board and the rest of the board stays without any new procedures.

In favour of adding this to the agenda: 5 people.

Yuan: can we buy a first aid kit for the study area?

Suley: that is not a point on the agenda so it cannot be accepted as a motion.

Sam: this is not regarding the study association but something for the JSM college.

Katie: when we have the closed voting, are votes going to be counted by you or us?

Suley: closed voting, Sam opens each letter and shows you the answers before putting it on the table.

Abe: open voting, how do you vote for your proxy?

Suley: we will do two rounds.

Maja: with fingers.

Suley: no we'll do it with two rounds, is more clear.

4. Establishing the agenda

We will discuss Tim's motion: whether or not it is fair that there are only two new board positions.

Agenda is established.

5. Announcements;

Suley: we have found a location where we can hold the freshman weekend. We do not have to pay anything in advance, the 500 euros that was held for unforeseen costs in the budget is used to pay the deposit. We do not have further announcements.

Questions?

Katie: the money from the freshmen weekend where is it coming from?

Suley: total is more than 3000. 500euros we pay upfront that was already in our budget. For some reasons we always want to have some money left in our budget so we can buy unexpected stuff.

Otherwise we need to loan. Our budget will be discussed later. Then you can see precisely where the money comes from.

Simba: the external and internal officer are they also going to be elected by the board?

Suley: the president, secretary, treasurer, internal and external officer will always be voted on.

Nonetheless, the executive board has interviews with all positions. The executive board chooses and appoints, during the assembly everyone can vote in favour or against the board. Every position will be voted on, as a board in total. Everyone can say why they think this board is not fit to serve.

6. Rules and Regulations voting

Alissa: a blank vote is kind of like a not vote. They are not counted.

Suley: yes they are not counted as a vote. In a group of 20 where 5 people vote a blank vote, only 15 votes are counted.

Alissa: but what if 18 people vote blank?

Abe: then the quorum is not reached.

Suley: if you vote blank because you don't know enough about it, then the vote should not be counted as a vote. Otherwise someone can vote 'abstain.'

Simba: what happens if there is a tie?

Suley: tie means no decision, new round of discussion. If still no conclusion, next GA should be discussed again.

7. Contribution Fee

a. Membership contribution

30 euros in the first year, second and third year 10 euros.

In the year of 16/17 every student only pays 20 euros since we are only official since march.

Voting of the membership contribution:

In favour: 22

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Blank: 0

Contribution fee is accepted.

b. Minimum sponsor/donorship contribution

Suley: Maybe a bit too early to discuss this. Is a point all of us could contribute to. We don't feel like we can acquire sponsors already. But we can make a plan to do so later. We hope to work with this in the future. The profileringsfonds is set up by the VU to help Study Associations flourish, to be accepted by this fund you need to exist for at least one year. Need to show everything you've done and need at least 80 members. We don't know how many people will join next year. 94 people have been accepted but they won't all come to PPE. So we don't know. We do our very best to attract everyone and make sure everyone will become a member. The profileringsfonds will contribute to the study association.

Maja: KallioPPE is only open to PPE students?

Suleyman: yes you can find this in the statutes as well.

For a small association it is not really attractive to sponsor an activity but we also need time and companies to attract.

Simba: what kind of companies?

Suley: we don't know at this point. We don't know who would sponsor an association of 36 members. Other associations attract sponsors because they have for example career events with companies that scout people etc. When we organize events with a low budget it is hard to attract sponsors. One of our main objectives is ofcourse to have JSM staff to be sponsors. We also want to get acknowledgement from the profileringsfonds.

Proposed minimum: 1 euro is seen as a sponsor.

Alissa: are there any advantages for being a sponsor? Are they special member?

Sam: sponsors have the right to attend general meetings and have the right to join discussions but they can't vote or join other events we organize although we can invite them.

Suley: what do we offer a sponsor, our main concern is what can we offer with 36 students. There is a very good group of students who are interesting and have a lot to offer. But what they get out of it..

When we have bigger activities it might be more attractive, also to advertise.

Katie: so I assume you don't make a distinction between sponsors and private donations. Even a private donation can be a sponsor.

Maja: can only contribute or donate money, not material stuff?

Suley: that does not include sponsorship, that is a fee in terms of money. Helping, material things is just a volunteer but does not necessarily mean being a sponsor.

Karol: now you aren't making a distinction between a donation and a sponsor. Maybe there should be a distinction because a big company would ask for a contract whereas a donor who gives one euro is different.

Suley: if you want to attract big companies then you have to know what you can offer them. It is mostly a two way street. It should not necessarily be a distinction. If we make it hard to become a sponsor...

Karol: it does not have to be a lot of money. Someone who comes to us and sponsors us would be equal, legally, to a big company. That could scare a company.

Suley: someone who comes to sponsor us with 1 euro does not have a contract, our rules and regulations will stay the same. When a big company comes, they will come with a contract from their side. In ways of money, it is nice to have an extra. With a big company we'd need a contract. When we are looking at small sponsors, I don't see why we need a limit.

Karol: why not make the distinction between sponsor and donors. Then you can have a big company as a sponsor and a private person can be seen as a donor. It is not a question of money, it is only who gives

it. They are called the same way, can be bad for us.

Sam: in the statutes, it is called a donator. In the statutes there is no distinction. A donor also needs a minimum amount of money.

The distinction needs to be set as an amendment.

Katie: for the distinction, have you got any plan as to what you want with the amount of money and what companies get from us. Have you got any contract?

Suley: no we do not have have this at this point. However we have talked about it with other associations (ASVA), it is really hard to get sponsors as a small association. So it is better to gain sponsors per event, see what is interesting for who. Per event, we can see what we can give back. Will all be decided upon per event. Depends on what event and how many sponsors. Making a contract for a sponsorship right now is not necessary and ambiguous, since when it happens you will discuss it with the sponsor and see at that point what is important. We don't have the resources nor the capacities. We will always make sure the contracts are seen by the Advisory Board.

Maja: do you distinguish between sponsors per event and for ever?

Suley: definitely, there will be a distinction. It really depends on the sponsor and the contract you will sign. But now and in this term, it won't happen. But we do want to think about it because it is something the association relies on.

Abe: what are we voting on now? Where was the 1 euro stated, I didn't read it anywhere.

Suley: it is nowhere written down. It is decided by the GA. It will be written down in the Bylaws. We make a distinction now between donors and sponsors. So we have to vote twice for both amounts.

Voting of the donator minimum

The proposal of the minimum stands at 1 euro.

In favour: 19

Against: 0

Abstain: 3

Blank: 0

1 euro is accepted as the minimum for donatorship.

c. Minimum sponsorship contribution

Suley: I don't feel comfortable making a rule because it will probably not happen this year. I feel like next year we will have more options.

Alissa: we set it as 1 euro as well. Everything is an option and for single events.

Karol: I agree.. Anything can be decided later. We don't' make it hard for ourselves.

Maja: is it not good to set it really low. Maybe bad image for companies.

Suley: agree, but if we set a border now while not having a sponsor is also strange. I get your point that it might seem odd that you can be sponsor for 1 euro. But as a company sponsoring an event it is weird to give 1 or 2 euros. It is weird to give such a small fee because everything else will be discussed in the meeting.

Maja: should be something low, but not too low. Maybe 50 or 100 euros is better.

Suley: if we get a discount it would still be a sponsor.

Karol: do not set a minimum. Because we can always say no, because we want a certain thing back from

a company. Companies would have to pay a fee. To get free of this, we can say that there is a certain agreement with the companies. But we don't need a specific minimum.

Suley: it has to be done according to the statutes.

Sam: decide it at 0 euros?

Karol: it does not matter anymore, you can leave it out. For convenience, we leave it at 1 euros. It does not matter anymore. People can transfer 1 euro for the legal convenience. Zero can be even worse, what is the point then. The best would be to leave the point out.

Luca: I don't think it matters. They don't look into your books. If you want to be a sponsor, it does not matter.

Karol: just have to be an agreement.

Simba: one euro is fine.

Voting of the sponsor minimum

The proposal of the minimum stands at 1 euro.

In favour: 18

Against: 1

Abstain: 2

Blank: 0

1 euro is accepted as the minimum for sponsorship.

8. Assessment of the current State of Affairs

Suley: It all began with establishing all the legal documents that was submitted by the organization committee. Statutes had to be finalised. We thought were already accepted by the VU legal department. We needed new adjustments. We resolved the general board as a leading function on advice of the VU legal department. Growing as an association makes it really hard to have general board functioning. We had to choose between a general board and an executive board. Decision making would be too hectic, because so many people would be in the board. This was a reason to resolve the general board. Major decision in changing the statutes.

Statutes were accepted by the legal department of the VU.

We had to go to the notary, paid by a sponsor since we did not have our own bank account yet. This process took a long time, statutes were done in the beginning of february. We found a notary within a month, we were legal since the 1st of march 2017. Afterwards the process of getting all other legal stuff done started. Getting contracts with the VU, getting a bank account, trying to get the profileringsfonds. Moneywise we did not have budget or an estimate of the budget. Since people are dropping out and members can leave. We could not spend money we did not have. We organized some events and have budgets to show you.

Three events we have spend money on: Dutch Election night, Karaoke event, Pubquiz.

Tim: what about the three euros?

Sam: it is simply missing.

Simba: corruption.

Suley: setting up some background with other study associations, like PPLE and AUC. We are quite a small group and we don't have an incentive to organize big things because not a lot of people show up. Also since we did not have a bank account for a long time, we could not get a lot of money.

Additionally, we want to get our own space for KallioPPE. We want to get marketing up and running and get the committees running smoothly as well.

Current committees are not very efficient. Social runs the way we want to. Other committees we don't know what to do with, mostly study. For conference, there is a lack of guidance and knowing what is possible.

How are we going to make the association running for next year? It is not that we did not want to do a lot this year. We just did not have the money or bank account. When we finally had the money, it was such a hectic period, which gives little room for big events this year.

We also still want to organize a big thing this year, nonetheless i think what we have organized and managed this year can not be dismissed because what we've done took quite some time and effort we have been through. Also setting up the General Assembly at this point, concerns we have heard from within the group, we have heard that we should include you more in the association. We never had the idea that we run the show. We want to include you more.

Simba: what kind of events were you thinking of organizing with PPLE and AUC?

Suley: this year Keri and I are going to meet with a guy from PPLE. An activity in which you skip the small talk and directly go to the Big talk so everyone can meet with the people from PPLE. Next year we hope to organize a gala with AUC and PPLE. Point is that in order for us to get into it, is to see how active our members are. In order to do a collaboration, we need more active people. The Board of AUC and PPLE and us have talked about conferences we can set up together. It has to come out of you and KallioPPE.

9. Yearplan for the remaining 2016/2017

This year, the planning was to do an excursion. However we are going to India. Original idea was to organize a JSM Day in May, however this period of time was not enough to organize something. We want to organize something in June. The idea is for the social excursion to work on. Main event for this year. If anyone wants to be included and help with this day, you can join the committee. We hope to organize an end of year BBQ. Will be sponsored with a certain fee. Will be including staff and all PPE students.

10. Financial Yearplan 2016-2017

Budget, annual contribution from the JSM college of 500 euros for this year. That is more than fair, we can be happy with this amount. For next year we might count on 1000euros per year. Maybe if the association grows, we can get more. Also depends on how active KallioPPE becomes and how relevant it is for JSM.

Occasional costs are covered by Martin van Hees. For example, the notary costs, costs to make a website. Are seen as start up costs. This is out of the budget we can spend.

Discussing all costs on the budget.

Alissa: where are all the activities we already had in the budget?

Suley: we will include all of these, will be presented in the year assembly.

11. Constitution KallioPPE

Suley: this is a really long constitution I'm not gonna go in. Everyone could've read it before coming to the GA. I propose amendments and motions can all be given to Sam now and then we can vote. The presidium can then give a reason why motions are rejected or accepted.

Alissa: when will the committees form and the structure within the committees?

Suley: during the year assembly, committees themselves can choose the positions. If not the board can

decide, this is clear in the constitution.

Simba: some committees will be abolished but can be started again. Is there a special process for starting a committee?

Suley: no, you should come up with an idea and bring it to the board. We say you can start but for example you need more people to join you. Committees can always be created, throughout the year, as long as you have the possibility to keep it running.

Maja: are we voting on committees?

Suley: committees need a budget and that should be voted on by the GA. A committee can be started without the GA deciding. We dissolve committees because they are not functioning properly.

Committees should be more specific so people know what to do. The three committees which we have as a basis have a specific function. Every other event should be organized by a special committee.

Motions:

1. Abe: change the quorum to 20%, instead of 10%.

Yuan: can you make it 10% or a number above a certain number?

Suley: there is a short amount of time in which we have to operate. For us it was necessary to make everything happen shortly which is why we chose for the 10%.

Dorian: for all GA's next year, if they are announced sooner and if people get sooner to the GAs, I think it is possible for a lot more people to join and then 20% is very doable.

Alissa: if you are an active member you have to come to the GA.

Voting of changing quorum to 20%

In favour: 19

Against: 0

Abstain: 2

Blank: 0

Motion is accepted, the quorum will be set at 20% in the Bylaws.

2. Alissa: article 14.1 does not correspond to point 3.2: I saw that it was different when I read it. One time the book year was the academic year and the other time it was the normal year.

Suley: It is in the statutes so we can choose either between those two. We will keep it at the book year.

This motion does not need voting.

3. Alissa: change name of president to chair of board. President gives the wrong impression. Makes more sense to name it like this. President is kind of like a hierarchical name.

Suley: we as the board discussed this as well, we also thought chair would be more applicable. In the statutes it says 'voorzitter' which can be translated in different things. We can move this up as a motion and change it in the bylaws.

Yuan: try supreme leader, if we can pass it, it would be pretty impressive.

Suley: I would be in favour but for now let's keep it at chair.

Voting of changing President to Chair

In favour: 8

Against: 12
Abstain: 1
Blank: 0

This motion is rejected. The official name will remain President.

4. Alissa: Board members maximum of 2 year instead of 3 years (article 8.5). It is three years in the statutes, someone could remain in the board during their whole studies. It is a normal thing to have a different board every year.

Suley: is hard to change because it is in the statutes. This is not decided by us, the idea is that if only one person wants to fulfill this person we can maintain this. The people in the GA have every year a possibility to vote against this.

Alissa: maybe in the bylaws you can write that it should be normal just one year.

Suley: every rule in the bylaws should be matching the statutes.

Alissa: it can still be matching, but three years is only in extraordinary moments.

Dorian: it might be weird to be reinterviewed, maybe is not completely fair.

Alissa: if there is another candidate, then that one should have an advantage. It is not that they have to go through the same procedure but there should be a back up. There should be a motion in the bylaws. Not in the statutes.

Motion: new board members should have advantage over old boards members to be re-elected. If there are new people who want to be the new president and the old president also wants to stay. The new one should have an advantage. Members can vote against in the GA if they disagree with the new president and can state this in the GA.

Simba: I think I object to this motion. We should judge individuals, not on that they've done the same thing before.

Alissa: you can vote against that in the nomination assembly, if you have it the same way... the old board will be elected by the old board.

Suley: the executive board holds interviews and they know more about the old candidate because they already know he has the knowledge. A new candidate should have an advantage.

Simba: would there be a logical reason to vote against someone?

Suley: I believe that everyone in PPE can do a board position. But if no one gets the opportunity how are you gonna do it. Alissa says that in the statutes there is a rule you can be in the board for three years. In order to counter this you need to do something, to ensure that other people can be included in the board as well.

Voting of the amendment

The maximum amount of years someone can hold a board position is 2 years.

In favour: 14
Against: 4
Abstain: 3
Blank: 0

Motion is accepted. A new amendment will be added to the Bylaws.

5. Alissa: GA only announced 7 days in advance, not enough time to read documents. Should be one

month. we can discuss the one month but seven days is too little time. People can already have plans so they need more time. It was 72 hours to make amendments in advance. I don't think that is enough time for people.

Suley: we totally agree. It is not enough time. We had to write everything in a shorter amount of time. We can make a bylaw in which we mention it. We can change it but it is in the statutes so we need a different procedure.

Alissa: you can make it in the yearplan, stating when the GAs will be held.

Suley: how much time do you give the board to make a yearplan, if there is too much pressure there can be mistakes. A week is not long enough for the amount of documents. However, I think making a bylaw is not binding. We could make it at least 7 days but you could encourage a board to make it 14 days in advance and then 1 week to make amendments.

Simba: make it an encouragement.

Motion: Encouragement to announce GA 14 days in advance with 7 days at least for members to read documents and make amendments.

Alissa: more time to make sure you can be present and read all the documents and make amendments if you like to.

Voting of the encouragement

In favour: 16

Against: 2

Abstain: 3

Blank: 0

Motion is accepted. An encouragement will be added to the Bylaws.

12. Advisory Board 2017-2018

Sam: the Advisory Board consists of three people of the staff Martin van Hees, Judith van Ooijen and Brian Colgan.

Dorian: good to mention that it is not only common to have staff in the advisory board but also old board members.

Suley: have a meeting with them once a year. It is indeed also able to be a part of the advisory board as a member. We want to add Brian as well because we think he has some expertise.

Karol: motion to not add Akshath.

Alissa: is the advisory board for one year?

Suley: for one year or we say they continue but they have to be voted upon again.

Voting of the Advisory Board

In favour: 20

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Blank: 0

Advisory Board is accepted and will be installed.

Voting of the constitution

In favour: 20

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Blank: 0

The Constitution is accepted.

13. The Treasury Verification Board 2017-2018

Same task as the verification committee introduced by the organization committee. Need to check if all things paid have been done accordingly.

Katie, Max and Abel all approved to be part of this.

Max: not necessary to say something.

Katie: I own a luxembourg passport, I think I have enough money.

Voting of the Treasury Verification Board:

In favour: 21

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Blank: 0

Treasury Advisory Board is accepted and will be installed.

14. Executive Board 2017-2018

Point raised by Tim, regarding the concern that Sam, Keri and Suleyman did not go through the same procedure to stay in the board. We did plan to give an explanation for this. Anyone can now ask questions or raise concerns.

Tim: the thing is, well there are two new board positions. I could not really identify with them, I did not want to take up these positions. However I do want to be in the board. That's why I would like to apply for the board and maybe more specifically for the position of treasurer and that was not possible.

Suley: we will vote for everyone in the board, you will vote for five whole positions. You have the absolute right the reason why you are going to vote against or in favour. We can also say that the three of us will walk out and you can discuss it together. We are not definitely staying next year.

Maja: do you want to do it here with not everyone present?

Luca: they should have been here then.

Suley: I get your point but I don't think it is in order for this moment.

Abe: I want to say that I partly agree with Tim. I do think in principle that a board stays on as I said before in the general board meeting. I get that it is better for the continuity of KallioPPE. In the third year you can not be in the board, a lot of people can't be in the board. In principle I am against you staying.

Suley: I will explain the reasons why we decided to stay. I will do this to make some arguments in favour on which you can respond. After that I will tell you why we choose for the two other positions. Then I'd like to get over the voting procedure.

This is what Keri, Sam and I wrote down. We knew this was gonna be a point and it should be something we have to discuss really in the GA to make sure no one feels left out.

I will read the letter we wrote now.

The last year have been very stressful for the three of us. There have been moments during the last year that we would like to stop being in the board. We know others also want to fill a board position. Maybe feel like we grabbed the power or something. I think that is an unfair position because we've done everything in our ability to make KallioPPE. All we want is to get the support to continue what we've been doing before. I think it is important, for us, to continue our work as the board we need to know the association approves of us. We discussed this with Martin, Judith and the legal department, the continuation of the structural things it is better if we stay. However, I understand the fair point to be made of a board that stays on, while others can't be in the board. If you want to be in the board, you should look outside of KallioPPE because there are many great opportunities. We just hope we can continue to make KallioPPE function best.

Simba: to clarify, when would be the election for the new board?

Suley: today you will vote for the board for next year. And then next year in may you will vote for 18/19.

Tim: I want to apply for the board. I lost the first election to you Suleyman, I went on and became head officer of the excursion committee which was fun but due to mainly budget things we weren't able to do anything at all. I feel like this is my last opportunity to become a board member.

Suley: others should take into consideration how you feel about it. You have made a clear point.

Abe: Can I say that no one is implying you are grabbing the power. You said that in the speech but I don't think anyone ever said that.

Suley: after a general board meeting we sat down together and said to each other this is not how we should continue. In order to get members active, you need a board that is the ultimate will of the association. We need an atmosphere in which everyone feels they can join. We understand your principle. We have given the reason why we'd stay on. That is for us the bigger concern.

Karol: we can agree that it was once this. We can't do anything about this what has happened.

Alissa: there were a lot of people who wanted to become a board member and now they can't. I think it is an important thing to discuss. People could also apply for the advisory board and be included like that.

Yuan: can you reduce your position to 3 months or so?

Suley: no.

Dorian: make it clear that if there is a decision against this board, if we need three new people. We really need to think about what we are gonna do. I don't know there are three people who want to be in the board and can do what you're doing now. I think you did very well now if we need three other people to replace that, it will be quite hard. People need to take that into account.

Maja: you could reapply, some people will vote for you again.

Suley: the five positions will sit together and decide who is gonna change position.

Simba: are there any other candidates?

Suley: three other people applied.

Alissa: If i had the opportunity I would also have applied for the president or treasurer position.

Introduction of our choice for the internal and external officer.

Internal officer: Niklas Fassler

Suley: we looked for someone who can maintain contacts within the institution and make sure committees can run smoothly. In the interview we saw the commitment and he understood the position. His qualification in the army, where he did a similar task. He is very organized and since Nicolai is not a Western European but has a different background and thus contributes to our diverse community and thus to the board of kallioPPE.

External officer: Dorian de Gruijter

We had a very good interview with Dorian, we saw the passion and she exactly touched the base of what we were looking for. She has a lot of experience in the previous study association and she presented herself very well.

Nicolai: I'll keep it brief because it's been a while. I'm looking forward to it. I did have a similar job in the army and kept contact within different units in my camp. The goal is to try to get everyone as engaged as possible in the next year.

Dorian: first of all I'm very excited to be external officer next year. I planned to say something about sponsorship but we've said enough about it. About the contact with other external parties, I would like to say that I think we have a nice opportunity to keep good relationships with other study associations. I thought of other things we can organize together. I think it would be very nice to do so. Yesterday we heard we have a location for the freshman weekend and we can start working on that. I think our freshman weekend might be more fun than the one I organized last year. I think it is important to organize this as it is the first thing people see from KallioPPE. For excursion I hope we can really organize things people want to do.

Voting of the Board 17/18

In favour: 13

Against: 5

Abstain: 1

Blank: 0

The Board is accepted and will be installed.

15. Any other business that has not been brought up

Suley: one question we might have skipped?

Yuan: make a kallioPPE anthem?

Good idea!

16. Questions by members

17. Closing ceremony 22.30

Action points:

- Change the quorum to 20%, instead of 10% in the Bylaws
- Change the maximum amount of years someone can hold a board position to 2 years in the Bylaws
- article 14.1 and point 3.2 need to be clarified (bookyear)
- Encouragement to announce GA 14 days in advance with 7 days at least for members to read documents and make amendments, needs to be added to the Bylaws.