

BYE 31

END OF THE YEAR REPORT 31ST BOARD

2018-2019





Exactly one year ago we wrote our mission statements, which we already evaluated in our half year reports. Now we look back at the entire year to evaluate our goals and achievements. The GMM where we will present this annual report will be our last act as board members. Before the holidays I already realized that I would have to pass on the baton, but now while writing this report, the reality that our board year is over really sinks in. The past year wasn't an easy year. To be really honest it was actually tougher than I thought it would be. SEC completely dominates your life for exactly one year. Despite this, it was all worth it. Having back to back meetings, late nights in the association room and feeling the pressure of organizing events that the members will enjoy; these are all examples of things I won't miss, but already feel kind of nostalgic about. Because all of this made the board year a year in which, how cliché it may sound, you learn so much you wouldn't have learned otherwise. Also, in the end, the work behind organizing the activities and keeping SEC running results in what defines an association, the activities. The movie nights, trips, lectures, social activities, (theme) borrels and many other activities, these are events that brought color to the past year and the ones I still look back with great joy.

In the report below all of us will discuss the past year individually. As the chair, I will kick off and take you through my mission statements step by step. If there remain any questions after reading the report, feel free to step by at the GMM to ask these questions.

Nordine Bendriss – Chair

Internationalization

In general I'm really happy about the part of SEC in the internationalization policy of the department of sociology. They hoped that we could help the internationals to make them feel home and even got complimented by Gerben Moerman for doing so. I think that the activities and borrels of SEC helped the internationals in finding their place in Amsterdam and studying at the UvA. On the other hand I still hear too often that they think that the Dutch students exclude them too much. It's an opinion I can relate to. Despite trying to include everyone, the language barrier can be too big at times. Too often students start speaking in Dutch again. It's a problem that is hard to tackle, but something that the next board should look into. With an international board the first step has been made.

For the next board I hope that they will be accompanied by way more students at the borrel than the past year. We had our share of busy borrels, but we had hoped that we have had more well attended borrels. Because of this we advised the next board to decrease the amount of borrels when the rate of visiting students drops. I don't think we can complain about the attendance at other events. During the meetings we made an estimation of the amount of students. Except for one event, we were always close to this estimation. This event we unfortunately had to cancel due to a lack of interest.

Communication

The communication inside the board went well during the year. I noticed that it went better throughout the year, but I think that it speaks for itself that practice makes perfect. Communication is the key for smooth meetings and organizing activities while you are apart. Without really focusing on this specifically there were less and less flaws as the academic year progressed.

In the communication between associations we made a step forward. In this faculty there are a lot of opportunities to cooperate with our fellow associations. This results in a better possibility for good and large events. Besides the traditional cooperation with Kwakiutl and the Fv-FMG, we organized a lot of other activities with other associations. The prom, 'de andere blik' and the parties were organized in cooperation with Machiavelli, Pegasus, Mercurius and MasCot.

I enjoyed representing SEC in the meetings with the Fv-FMG and the department of sociology. It was interesting to find out what is happening behind the scenes of the UvA. In the departmental I was primarily a listener and found out how decisions about our study are made. In the Fv-FMG we not only cooperated with each other, but we also formed a front against the policy makers of the faculty. Here I noticed how bureaucratic the faculty works and how difficult

it is to get something done at this level. Together with the other associations we did a good job in our meetings with, amongst others, the dean.

Other tasks worth mentioning

In the Fv-FMG I helped organizing the faculty party and event. In both events we endured some big financial struggles. There were mistakes in both budgets due to a miscommunication between the committees and the treasurer. Because of this we had to make a budget cut worth of thousands of euros. This was hard to manage, but in the end we still have organized successful activities. The study trip, of which I was the chair, also was a big success. We booked the tickets too late and there were less people interested than expected, but we the committee organized an interesting, educating and , above all, memorable trip. With my social activities committee we unfortunately had to cancel our last event. Because of the success of Ajax in the champions league we had to move the event. As a result of this we couldn't manage to find enough people to be interested. On the other hand, the other activity and the trip to Berlin were a great success in my opinion.

With a lot of joy I have fulfilled my tasks at SEC for the past year and I hope Dewi will experience it the same as I did.

Nina Hooijer – Secretary

This year I have fulfilled the function of secretary with great joy. My main tasks were taking care of the mail, website and social media of SEC. I also took notes during meetings and kept track of the annual calendar. In addition, I participated in Landelijk Overleg Sociologie (LOS) together with Birgit. I managed the website for LOS, I made sure the whole website is now also visible in English. I also supervised the Promotion Committee and attended meetings of the Kring Amsterdamse Sociologen (KAS). For KAS we organized lectures and a sociological walking tour. And lastly I got a course on how to provide first aid to people (BHV).

When it comes to taking notes during meetings I used the template from Sophie, the secretary before me. I noted down what was said during our meetings with the action points below. The meeting after that I crossed out the finished action points. I also always added a 'hidden word' somewhere in the minutes. Every board member had to let me know what the word was so I could check if they had actually read the minutes. As said I also took track of the annual calendar on Google Drive. I added the promotion scheme to it to keep an overview of everything that needed to be promoted and when. I this also prevented promotions to overleap and this made sure I would for example order posters on time. Which still did not always succeed unfortunately.

I didn't change the website so much, I mainly posted pictures on it and I changed the homepage. I had a lot of trouble of the website builder, he hardly ever responds through email so I had to call him often when something needed to be changed. Everything took really long, so I don't recommend their company.. I wanted members to be able to register for activities through the website, but the website builder still didn't change this although we paid him in June. I also tried to connect Conscribo to the website so the treasurer in the future doesn't have to manually enter the new members to Conscribo. I tried to fix this with the previous chair of Mercurius cause he knows a lot about building websites, but we unfortunately didn't succeed. Therefore I had to ask the website builder to do this, but since he is still working on his other task I didn't get the chance to do so.

When it comes to the newsletter, I initially didn't want to drastically change it, but in the end I did really change it. I added more color and pictures to it and made sure the upcoming events were more highlighted. I added information about each coming event with a link to that event on Facebook. Items which were always included were the agenda of that month, the promotion of Athenaeum Boekhandel, a baby picture of a member and, more towards the end of the year, a small poll. Every month we received different promotion material from Athenaeum Boekhandel in which one or two books for sociologists were highlighted. As I said it also included a baby picture of a member, the end of the mail would reveal who the baby is

to make sure people were maybe more eager to read until the end of the newsletter. Then the poll, we added a poll in which members could vote on our board. Questions would for example be 'Who would be the first board member to get famous and for what reason?'. The upcoming newsletter then contained the outcoming of the previous poll and a new poll.

Social media is another great tool for SEC to promote events and such. I made sure to post things on the social media accounts regularly. I posted a lot of varied things, but I mainly focused about the events. I especially promoted the booksales, the introduction weekend and the trips to Berlin and Athens a lot. On Facebook I posted updates about events on the page of the event, on Instagram and Snapchat I usually did that in the story. I didn't post a lot of pictures, cause I was afraid I would violate the privacy statement. I created a lot of nice posts and posters with the promotion committee in Canva, they were very helpful. I think I could have let them make more posts, but due to the planning that wasn't always possible. This year the promotion committee could do more and meet more regularly if the planning is more on point. I also created the board sweaters and the members sweaters in Illustrator. I first drew the design and then drew over it with Illustrator. The promotion committee couldn't help me with this cause they didn't have Illustrator. In addition, throughout the academic year SEC received 10% discount instead of 5% discount due to ordering more. Hopefully this percentage will keep on increasing as SEC grows bigger.

I enjoyed each 'borrel' (even if there were not that many members), each party, each lecture and basically each event we organized. I enjoyed promoting the events and talking to the members on the events. I also really liked it when we went to Berlin and Athens. I learned a lot from my board year and am really happy I did it together with my amazing fellow board members Nordine, Birgit and Michael. I will miss our days in the board room but we will from now on meet more outside of the board room hopefully.

Good luck Dewi, Ilaria, Ilse and Charlotte! I'm sure you will create a wonderful new SEC year! I hope each of you will have as fun of a year as I did, you can always ask for help (big or small) if needed. And Ilaria, I'm sure you will rock as my successor 😊

Birgit Peters – Treasurer

With great pleasure I have fulfilled the position of treasurer. I have tried to improve SEC's financial policy on a few points. In my mission statements I mentioned my goals for the past year. Some I have fulfilled, some not. I will go along them in this report as well as explain my end result.

One of my goals was to digitalize the process of declarations. I have explored the options of ING Zakelijk and Conscribo, but came to the conclusion that this wouldn't make things easier. Furthermore I came to the conclusion that there were more urgent matters, concerning for instance the way members have to pay for events. Members used to sign up for an event via a google forum. They would check the last box which stated that they declared to pay by transferring the money to the bank account of SEC. I noticed that people would check the box, but didn't pay afterwards. This had multiple reasons: some expected a conformation email with a paying link. Others simply forgot, because it required people's own initiative to transfer the money. I have inventoried how other associations handled this issue. Most of them worked with the webshop Mollie. But since that costs approximately 30 cents per transaction this isn't achievable yet for SEC. So I introduced the payment requests. After people have signed up via a google forum, this payment link would appear. The result is that members pay a lot faster and on their own initiative. We have tried to implement a sign up tool at our own website instead of the google forum. But the website builders were really difficult to contact. They told us to work on it this summer, but I'm not sure if they have done it yet. With registrations forms on our website we hope to make our website more visible in order to make it more attractive for acquisition.

Another important change I made this year was to start over with our online accounting program. In collaboration with the cash audit committee we decided that there were so many mistakes in our administration, made over the last few years, that it was no longer possible to have a clear overview of how much money we actually have for instance. Since there are so many errors I can only show you our result, but not the balance retrieved from Conscribo. I will however try to calculate it myself. Since we will start over, next year the financial overview will be a lot clearer. This will also make it easier for the cash audit committee to check the treasurer. Furthermore I followed their advice to change our policy regarding buffers. From now on we won't spend them completely at the end of the year, but we will put the remaining money in reservations. So buffers will only be used when that's really necessary. The idea behind is, is that SEC doesn't have enough money to act when there is an emergency. For instance on a study trip, we can't evacuate our students. This isn't a healthy financial situation, therefore we decided to force the spending of the buffers but to save the remaining money in reservations.

UvA has told us for years that this was not allowed, but since Machiavelli also makes reservations, we will argue with them that we really have to make this change of policy.

Those were the practical changes I have made. Besides those we, as the board, tried to implement the internationalization of Sociology as smooth as possible into our association. We tried to be open and to bound the first years to us. Especially in the first half year, this worked really good. But in the second half year we found it difficult to keep attracting members to SEC. The attendance at our borrel shrank and we didn't attract a diverse group of people. I think the following board will succeed better in attracting international students, since there is one on the board. Moreover we tried to have more people visit our association room. Our visibility decreased a lot when the UvA put up the window sticker. But we still have a small group of members, who visits the room quite often.

I will now elaborate my end of the year result. Regarding the income we have made a lot more profit at the book sales. We hadn't foreseen this, because it was at the beforehand difficult to estimate to what expense the internationalization would influence our book sales. I used the profit of the book sales to organize a spontaneous prom together with Machiavelli and Pegasus. We also decided to put extra money in the board transfer, since with the internationalization of the board itself we wanted to have a whole weekend of transferring the knowledge. I think this really paid off as the new board seems better organized than we were. The rest of the profit I used to facilitate little events in our own association room in order to improve the visibility of it and I divided the money along our events, such as the end of the year festival. So that is why the expenses are higher at certain events.

For the academic activities we have spend more on certain events, but also had some money left on others. We had planned a workshop after the master market (career activity), but the organization had to cancel last minute. So we had to reschedule that one. We decided on doing the workshop and career lecture together. But since the workshop turned out to be free, we have some money left over there. We moved the remaining money to the bachelor lecture and tried to attract people with offering free dinner. But we still had some money left. There is also money left from the National Sociological Congress (LOS). We used to pay per master for the master market, but they changed it to one fixed amount. So there is some money left as well. I relocated the subsidy to pay for changes on our website, so members could sign up over there. In the end we almost spend all the subsidy we got.

As I mentioned earlier on I spent the profit on the end of the year festival, theme borrels and the prom. As you can see there is some money left at the introduction weekend topic. However this is extra rent we had told me to pay, but they never invoiced it. So I decided to not spend that money in case they would ask for the money later. This hasn't happened yet. As you can see we have made profit on the first party, the slumber party. This money is used together with the book sales one. This was the first year the external events committee had a

budget and I'm really happy with the outcome of it. However there is money left, because they were planning on doing two events, but they only hosted one. The second one had to be cancelled, because there was no zest for it.

By explaining the redistribution of the profit and remaining subsidy I have already covered the association costs section. However I can add that we have some money left on the association room decoration. I have asked multiple regular visitors of our room if they missed something, but they didn't. So I decided to not spend the money because I wanted to spend it useful. There is also a lot of subsidy left on the transaction costs. In the beginning of our year we didn't have a SumUp so that is why it turned out a lot lower.

In the end we have made less loss than expected and spent almost all subsidy. Moreover I have had an amazing year. So with great satisfaction I hand over this position of treasurer to Ilse and I am sure she will be a fantastic treasurer.

Michael Takyi – Coordinator Committees

This past academic year I was the Coordinator Committees of SEC. As the Coordinator Committees I was responsible for the social and academic activities of SEC. In this report, I will tell you all about the events I organized with the committees I coordinated.

Social events committee

The first party we organized was the American Slumber Party on the 14th of November at Club Up. We collaborated with four other associations: Kwakiutl, Comenius, Pegasus and Mercurius. The cooperation went well, we communicated a lot and tasks were fairly distributed. We should have started organizing a bit earlier, but fortunately everything went well anyway. The party was sold out very quick. And because of the low threshold of the theme, everyone took the effort to dress up. In addition, the party has also worked out financially very well, every association made a profit. The involvement of the Social events committee went great, mainly because we did the decoration of the party.

The December dinner on 7th of December was very successful this year. The theme of the dinner was inspired by the Great Gatsby movie. All members were dressed up in the roaring twenties theme of the movie. The dinner was held at Bar restaurant Nessst. The location was very nice and well decorated. We also invited teachers and other staff member from the Sociology department. Even though only one teacher was present, we were happy he came and we enjoyed his company. We played games, ate some burgers with fries and people got to know each other.

On the 17th of January SEC hosted a prom together with Machiavelli and Pegasus. We did not plan this at the beginning of the year. They approached us about this idea and we decided to join. The prom was very nice and well organized. Marit and Donya, the chairs of the committee, were in charge of the organization. They did a great job. The prom consisted of a dinner at restaurant Happyhappyjoyjoy, where we had a three-course dinner with Asian streetfood. Afterwards, the prom continued with a party at Club Panama.

The committee also organized the Performance night where sociologists and anthropologist had the opportunity to showcase their talents. The event was held at Sociëteit SEXYLAND. The collaboration with Kwakiutl was not easy. But in the end, it worked out fine and it really was a fun night with great acts. The last event organized by the committee was the end-of-the-year festival called SEC Summer Festival. The festival was held at Rolling Rock Kitchen. Against all odds, the weather was actually great. We had a lot fun making T-shirts and playing games. Afterwards Rolling Rock Kitchen prepared a delicious BBQ for us. The night ended with a performance from Nina & Darren and a fun party with music provided from

DJ Sico Vox. All in all, it was a good ending to the academic year and an even better start to the summer.

Borrel committee

The borrels were generally well attended, especially the themed borrels. The first themed borrel was 'SEC and Kwak in the jungle' in collaboration with Kwakiutl. It was very nice and a lot of people were dressed up. The turnout was very good, both from SEC and from Kwakiutl. The cooperation and communication with Kwakiutl was not always smooth. In addition, we organized the Christmas and New Year's borrel. This year we held the Christmas borrel on Friday afternoon at Café Verhoeff. The Christmas borrel was very fun, especially the pub quiz. The New Year's borrel was also nice and went well. The whole borrel was about reliving New Year's Eve. The last two themed borrels of the year were the Valentines borrel and the Piñata borrel. Both were really fun and succesful. Especially the Piñata borrel which was inspired by two of our members.

Academic activities committee

The first DAB took place on the 21st of November in collaboration with Kwakiutl and was based on the theme 'Mental Health'. Our plan was to invite a sociologist/anthropologist and a psychologist to discuss the theme from their own field. Unfortunately, this did not succeed because we could not find a psychologist. Luckily, Patrick Brown and Christian Bröer from the Sociology department were willing to speak at this event. The lectures were very interesting, the discussion got off to a good start and we got many positive reactions afterwards. So, it was ultimately a successful DAB. The second DAB was about 'Diversity in politics'. Liza Mügge and Floris Vermeulen were invited to share their view on this topic. Although the topic and speakers were interesting, the turnout was not that great due to the weather. But the people that were present enjoyed and learned a lot from the DAB.

Our first film event called 'SECinema' took place in November. We watched the movie 'Her' in CREA Muziekzaal. The movie was about artificial intelligence and love. We invited seminar teacher Yoren Lausberg who gave a great presentation about the sociological aspects of artificial intelligence and provided some more in-depth information about the movie. Afterwards we had a borrel at Cafe de Roeter.

On the 16th of January we held our annual Master market. This event gave bachelor students an opportunity to learn more about and get acquainted with all the different tracks that the Sociology master has to offer. We tried to get students from all tracks who could tell something about their track. Unfortunately, we did not succeed in arranging this. In addition to the Master market, we also invited students who did an internship during their studies to tell all about the experiences they gained there.

In April we organized our career event called SECareer. We wanted to give students a chance to think about their career as sociologists. We first had a workshop about how to apply for a job, and afterwards we invited two sociologists who told us about what could expect of life after studying Sociology. The last event the Academic activities committee organized was the Bachelor lecture which was about 'Dance music'. The speaker of the event was Alex van Venrooij who told us about his research on the evolution of dance music.

Committee external activities

The Committee external activities was taken over by Nordine. It turned out to be too much work to take charge of this committee in addition to the Social events committee, the Academic activities committee and the Borrel committee.