

## Fourteenth VeSte Party 2010-2011

The fourteenth VeSte fraction was lucky enough to start the year with a record high of nine members. This did not only mean we could take more initiative but it was also a strong signal that we had great support from the Wageningen University students. With this support also came responsibility to represent them to the best of our capabilities. Thanks for all the voters.

### Top priorities

In our year we addressed a lot of issues. Where a VeSte year normally is focused around University policy, we had to deal with urgent matters which were not directly coming from within the University, namely the governmental plan to cut budgets and the housing issue. In both cases we managed to achieve a lot of results. In case of the governmental plans we managed, next to smaller projects to create awareness amongst students, to organize a demonstration on the market square with 500 students attending. Also we managed to arrange busses to the national demonstration in The Hague and coordinated the attendance by introducing a website ([www.metdebusnaardenhaag.nl](http://www.metdebusnaardenhaag.nl)). In the end 13 busses set out from Wageningen.

In the case of Housing we succeeded in amongst others:

- A lobby to convince the municipality council to give their approval to start building (student housing) on the campus
- Make an elaborate policy plan for the housing committee
- Made the municipality take a serious look at possibilities for a mortgage arrangement for students
- Offered help to international students with very poor living conditions at the beginning of the year and made sure there would not happen again in the future
- Made contacts with the Stichting Tijdelijk Wonen (STW) and started the process to introduce the system in Wageningen
- Made the student council into a serious partner between all parties involved in housing in Wageningen
- Put pressure on all parties to force solutions to the urgent problems

### Elections

We had a very successful election campaign. With many creative ways to create exposure we succeeded in having more students voting (33%) while still remaining our nine seats in the council. A great victory, with many thanks to our voters. The new fraction was very enthusiastic and showed great eagerness to start, we have all the faith in their success as the fifteenth fraction.

### Other Topics

Other important topics we worked on were, amongst others:

- Organized a great debate on internationalization in Wageningen student life
- Active involvement in improving the Student Healthcare Plan
- We secured a student friendly arrangement for getting vaccinations
- Created conditions on the implementation of the BSc before MSc (Harde Knip) to ensure opportunities to do extra-curricular activities
- Worked on providing a future for Movie W (the student cinema)
- Secured a good and fair FOS agreement for all types of student associations and organizations
- Organized a great Board Congress for all student board members to attend interesting workshops
- Organized an open party in cooperation with Ceres for all Wageningen students
- Developed plans to implement an Electronic Book Ordering system to limit the waiting lines at the WUR-Shop
- Our involvement in creating a new and improved vision on catering at the WUR

### Internal development

Next to this we spend a lot of time upgrading our internal development as an organization. This resulted in great new improvements in our internal processes. Most of all we are proud to be the first year in which there is a VeSte Party, an association of which every student can become a member. This way our supporters can truly have their say by attending our general assembly meetings. We became a true democratic party.

Yours truly,

Rob, Yi Li, Lise, Martijn, Luuk, Airen, Sofie, Frederieke and Erwin