



# VeSte

For active students



VESTE | STUDENT COUNCIL PARTY | WUR

## VeSte Policy 2022

## Table of Contents

Table of Contents .....	1
Introduction.....	2
Faction 2021 – 2022 .....	3
External Affairs .....	4
Education.....	4
Students at WUR .....	6
Organisation of WUR.....	7
External affairs & pillars .....	9
Internal Affairs.....	10
Internal Functions.....	10
VeSte Association .....	12
Internal committees .....	13
Epilogue .....	15



# Introduction

Dear reader,

VeSte is a party in the Student Council (SC) of Wageningen University & Research (WUR). As a party, we represent and support the active students of WUR in the policy process of WUR. In this policy plan, we elaborate on the vision and goals we have made as a faction for 2022.

The yearly policy plan is based on the Structural Policy of VeSte, which can be found at [www.vestewageningen.nl](http://www.vestewageningen.nl). At all times, VeSte builds on its foundation to ensure the interests of active students within WUR and their student life. At the core of VeSte's identity, the three pillars are *World-Class Education, Broad Academic Development and a Vibrant Student Life*. For a detailed explanation of what these pillars entail, we refer to the Structural Policy.

This academic year, VeSte is challenged to think off the beaten track on several topics. The first being the transition in education due to COVID-19. Education innovations such as hybrid education are set in motion and require proper implementation. Therefore, we focus, among others, on the digitalisation of education while maintaining high quality education. Partly due to COVID-19, student well-being is also a topic which requires more attention. Points to focus on are possibilities for student development and student support. Furthermore, we focus on increasing student engagement with our party via continuing to set up the VeSte Association. Lastly, VeSte will evaluate its three pillars and will adjust the pillars if needed.

This policy plan is divided into the two main sections, *external affairs* and *internal affairs*, in which we will explain the focus points as a party and our party structure, subsequently. The chapter *external affairs* is divided into three chapters: *Education, Students at WUR* and *Organisation of WUR*. Within the different sections of external affairs, you can read a detailed explanation of our focus points.

We are looking forward to the challenges that lie ahead of us. Enjoy reading our policy plan 2022!



## Faction 2021 - 2022

The party function division until September 2022 can be found below. A detailed explanation of what VeSte 21 – 22 strives for regarding functions and internal committees can be found in the chapter of Internal Affairs.



Daphne Louws

*Chair*



Floor Tankink

*Vice-Chair*



Noortje Rutjes

*Secretary & Commissioner  
VeSte Association*



Johan van de Ven

*Treasurer & Second  
Commissioner National  
Affairs*



Anne van de Rijdt

*Commissioner Internal  
Relations*



Sterre Hoek van Dijke

*Commissioner National  
Affairs*



Eefje van Dael

*Commissioner Public  
Relations*

## External Affairs

This year, VeSte will work on several issues to be discussed within the Student Council, WUR Council, with the Executive Board and/or with the municipality. The major themes are *education*, *students at WUR* and *the organisation of WUR* which will be described in the following sections. At the end of the section, a table can be found with an overview of the corresponding VeSte pillars for every chapter.

## Education

### Quality of Education

For the 17<sup>th</sup> time in a row, WUR has been chosen as the best university in the Netherlands according to the Keuzegids<sup>1</sup>. VeSte wants to ensure that the education of WUR is at a top-level at all times. This World-Class Education includes, among others, small-scale education, multidisciplinary education and participative education. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected students' education standards and students' wellbeing. This unforeseen situation has shown the importance of thinking in creative solutions to maintain the quality of education. This year, VeSte will secure a smooth transition of online to on-campus education and the implementation of hybrid education. Furthermore, the possible study delay due to COVID-19 and corresponding problems which might occur is important to monitor. For example, VeSte will investigate if students come to campus with symptoms to follow education, and, if applicable, will think of solutions for this problem.

This year, VeSte will be involved in the discussion of the timing and amount of resits students can take in the academic year via a working group. Currently, two resits periods are in place in the academic year, namely in February and August. Also, students have two re-exam possibilities per course in one academic year. VeSte will strive to have beneficial resit periods during the academic year and will strive to maintain enough resit possibilities for students.

The *Quality Agreements* (QA) are a result of the implementation of the loan system for Dutch students as a replacement of the study grants which were applicable in the past. The QA were implemented to create a large budget for improving educational institutions. At WUR improvements have been made on small-scale education, education differentiation, professionalisation of teaching staff and more and better study guidance. While many improvements have been made over the years at WUR, the discussion of the loan system has arisen again in the Dutch Parliament. VeSte wants to see the reintroduction of the loan system and wants to maintain the improvements in education made by the quality agreements. VeSte will follow this discussion closely to make sure students can preserve their active student life and to ensure the quality of education in the future.

Besides the national discussion of the quality agreements and loan system, the discussion about abolishing the *binding study advice* (BSA) is also active. In parliament, a discussion has been ongoing in which it is proposed to make the BSA only an advice instead of an obligatory advice. VeSte agrees with rearranging the BSA as it is currently, and will follow the discussion on a national level.

*Flexible studying* is another relevant topic for ensuring the three pillars of VeSte. VeSte supports educational innovation and thinking outside the binary of either being a full-time student or no student at all. Regarding flexible studying, two projects can be defined on which VeSte will focus this year; 1) Individual learning paths where possibilities are created to allow students to study time and place independent; 2) A more flexible study programme registration policy at WUR.

Lastly, VeSte believes education should be focused on *career orientation*. Within the Student Council, VeSte works on the improvement of skills implementation and active student participation in study programmes to achieve this goal.

## Digitalisation

The trend towards *digital education* has evolved rapidly due to COVID-19. VeSte wants to ensure the quality of education and availability of digital services for students at WUR for the below-mentioned topics.

From this academic year onwards, the *Bring Your Own Device* (BYOD) policy has been implemented on campus. BYOD means that bringing your own device to campus as a student is the new standard for education and self-study. VeSte sees the potential of BYOD, like the flexibility to study independent of time and place. However, also some concerns can be addressed such as software availability and responsibility of possible associated costs. Moreover, working on an own device may compromise the ergonomic working environment and *complaints of the arms, neck and/ or shoulders* (CANS). Lastly, laptop quality and laptop issues can limit the flexibility and even the possibility of studying.

BYOD has been implemented during the exams on campus in period 1, 2021. This first trial of *digital examination* had some start-up errors which VeSte would like to prevent in the coming year, such as IT-help and CANS prevention equipment. Via the BYOD working group, in which VeSte is involved, the transition is closely monitored. Also, VeSte will be in close contact with students to facilitate the best possible study environment within the BYOD policy.

In 2020 multiple *new software systems* have been introduced on campus. Firstly, WUR changed the Student Information System (SIS) from Student Service Centre (SSC) to *OSIRIS*. Secondly, WUR replaced MyPortal with *TimeEdit*. Lastly, the new software app *MyWURtoday* is running on campus, enabling students to check, for example, course schedules and the latest news of WUR in one place. This transition creates a high workload for employees and is challenging for students. VeSte wants to make sure this transition of different systems will not stand in the way of the quality of education and will therefore actively check if all software systems run smoothly. Also, VeSte will monitor which software systems are appreciated by students and what problems arise.

In general, rapid digitalisation requires enough digital support for students. Therefore, VeSte strives to implement more regulations concerning digital education and examination in the Education and Examination Regulations (EER), a document of the student charters of WUR. For example, rights concerning the VeSte initiative of *digital failures* should be implemented in the EER. Meaning that students are protected if they cannot fulfil



their education duties, due to digital failure. Also, due to COVID-19, rights concerning hybrid education have shown to be important and should, therefore be determined in the EER.

## Students at WUR

Extracurricular activities can be many different kinds of activities focused on personal development, career development, well-being, study skills, communication and cultural activities. As VeSte stands for active students of Wageningen, these extracurricular activities are highly valued by VeSte. This section will elaborate on students at WUR and the focus points of VeSte in the coming year.

### Personal Development

Skills can be developed both inside and outside the classroom. WUR offers possibilities for personal development such as Student Challenges, language courses and career orientation paths. VeSte is in close contact with the university to make sure these activities are accessible to all students, regardless of COVID-19. Next to activities on-campus, activities at student organisations also contribute to the personal development of students, such as the development of soft skills. By balancing world-class education, broad-academic development and a vibrant student-life within the policy process at WUR, optimal *personal development* is made possible by VeSte.

### Student Wellbeing

During COVID-19, students were obliged to stay at home, whereby *student wellbeing* has become a more important focus point than ever before. Student wellbeing includes mental and physical wellbeing as well as the creation of awareness on this topic among students at WUR.

In November 2021, a report called “Monitor Mentale Gezondheid en Middelengebruik van Studenten” has been published about the *mental wellbeing* among students studying at higher education institutions<sup>2</sup>. The report shows that many students experience mental issues such as loneliness, tiredness and stress. Last year, VeSte initiated the Social Road Map at WUR, a map that shows easily where students can find help within the organisation<sup>3</sup>. Furthermore, the discussion about social safety within the organisation, such as sexual harassment, deserves attention. Improving the accessibility and visibility of student support is one of the focus points of VeSte in the coming year.

Mental wellbeing is intertwined with *physical wellbeing*. As physical exercise is good for students’ health, is stress-reductive and gives the opportunity for social interaction, VeSte is involved in the maintenance of good exercise facilities on campus such as walking paths on campus.

Student wellbeing goes hand in hand with a *balanced development* of students. For VeSte, this means a proper balance between world-class education and a vibrant student life. A student should have sufficient possibilities to obtain enough learning opportunities inside and outside the classroom, and should also have the possibility to relax. VeSte takes this standpoint into mind when talking with the university.

### Integration & Inclusion

VeSte wants to make sure that an *inclusive environment* is created and maintained at WUR. VeSte wants to start the dialogue to see if everyone feels included regarding, among others, gender and sexual orientation as well as the cultural, financial, country of origin and religious background. Moreover, WUR should be accessible to everyone. Creating an inclusive environment includes an improvement in the integration of all students. All in all, VeSte values integration and inclusion at WUR since the organisation should be a place to meet, learn and engage with everyone.

## Organisation of WUR

### WUR & COVID-19

During COVID-19, VeSte has seen the importance of *on-campus education*. On-campus all kinds of learning possibilities can be offered such as practical classes, tutorials and presentations. Thinking along with WUR for practical solutions regarding logistic concerns with COVID-19 at the campus is one of the tasks of VeSte of the coming year. Within this process, VeSte strives to keep most education at campus rather than fully online if COVID-19 regulations will become more strict again. For those who prefer or are obliged to follow online education, VeSte will work on making *hybrid education* accessible and of proper quality, to ensure world-class education. This is done, among other things, by making sufficient budget available for hybrid education.

### Facilities

Facilities are an important and broad subject in the upcoming year. Many topics regarding facilities concern the transition of online to on-campus education. Our focus points regarding facilities will be explained in this section.

The new education building *Aurora* opened at the start of the academic year 2021 - 2022. Aurora was immediately in use by many students. VeSte became aware of several things to improve in the building via close contact with students and a suggestion box of VeSte in Aurora. Examples are insufficient wall sockets or inadequate Wi-Fi. Via the Student Council committee Student Facilities, VeSte will work on these points of attention to create the best working environment for students in Aurora. Besides the points of attention that came to VeSte in the first few weeks of the academic year, VeSte will actively monitor the comments of students about Aurora this year.

With Aurora, more *study places* are created on campus. VeSte wants to make sure sufficient study-, thesis-, and group workplaces are present on campus which are also of good ergonomic quality. Next to that, hybrid education requires new possibilities for on-campus education. For example, the possibility to have work spots for students to work in a hybrid setting on group work. Moreover, VeSte will focus specifically on what possibilities there are to improve thesis workplaces. Also, VeSte will promote the VeSte Thesis Contact Point again to gain data and optimize this part of the study programme.

Working flexibly as a student also includes working on several locations at home and on-campus. To prevent *CANS*, students need information and a good workplace. Therefore, VeSte wants to create more awareness of *CANS* among students by continuing working on this topic in the Student Council committee Student Facilities and via the organisation of events.

Moreover, VeSte wants to monitor and promote *sufficient facilities for the wellbeing and development* of students, especially during the challenging time for students due to COVID-19. This includes options for students to relax, such as a good quality of sports facilities or walking routes on campus. Moreover, cultural facilities should also receive enough attention on-campus.

Another project regarding facilities, is *menstrual poverty*, a project ensuring that females have access to menstrual products, regardless of their financial status.

### Sustainability

Sustainability is one of the core focus points of WUR, and thereby important to VeSte. An example of a project VeSte initiated is the *Sustainability Fund*, which got accepted the previous academic year. This fund makes it easier and more accessible for student organisations related to WUR to invest in sustainability within their organisation. A three-year pilot will start in 2022 in which study associations



can apply to receive financial support for investing in more sustainable options. If the pilot is successful, more student organisations can apply for the fund in the future. Next to the benefits for student organisations, VeSte also strives to create more awareness for sustainability at WUR via the Sustainability Fund. VeSte will actively monitor the pilot of the Sustainability Fund this academic year. Another VeSte initiative related to sustainability is the *Travel Fund*. VeSte will focus on the continuation of this initiative in this academic year. In general, VeSte will focus on thinking about sustainable solutions within WUR. An example is a collaboration with Green Office on the incorporation of the *Billy Cup* at the campus.

### City and WUR

VeSte wants to emphasize the *connection of WUR with the municipality* coming year as advocated in WUR's strategic plan of 2019 – 2022<sup>4</sup>. This strong connection is vital to ensure a vibrant student life, not only on campus but in the whole city. VeSte works on the interaction between students and other inhabitants of Wageningen to be focused on positive connections such as the organization of a thesis gallery or scientific lectures in the city centre.

To put action in the connection of WUR and the municipality, VeSte initiated the position of *Liaison Community Relations* person last year, a position for an employee within WUR which has shown to work well in other university cities, such as Delft. This position is focused on the connection between students, the city and the university. In practice, this will result in more trust and clear communication between different groups. VeSte will continue this project to realise the position at WUR.

Another relatively new organisation within the municipality is the founding of the “*Wageningse Kamer van Verenigingen (WKvV)*”. The WKvV specifically focuses on the connection between student associations, the municipality and WUR. Due to this specific focus on our constituency, VeSte will stay in close contact with the WKvV to cooperate in Wageningen with, for example, the housing issues of students.

World-class education, broad-academic development and a vibrant student life are all intertwined with proper *housing* of students in the municipality. Namely, students can join student organisations and other extracurricular activities more easily and can also study more effectively when living close to the university. VeSte is aware of the housing issues which some students currently face. The Student Council has no formal rights regarding housing but will keep in close contact with the municipality and student housing accommodators, to have as much influence as possible regarding the housing issue.



## External affairs & pillars

At the core of VeSte, the organisation strives to uphold its pillars. These pillars serve as a thread through the topics VeSte works on. The pillars are elaborated in the Structural Policy. In the table, an overview of the corresponding VeSte pillars for every chapter can be found.

	World-Class Education	Broad Academic Development	Vibrant Student Life
<b>Education</b>			
Quality of Education			
Digitalisation			
<b>Students at WUR</b>			
Personal Development			
Student Wellbeing			
Integration & inclusion			
<b>Organisation of WUR</b>			
WUR & COVID-19			
Facilities			
Sustainability			
City and WUR			

<sup>1</sup> Keuzegids. (z.d.). Keuzegids. Geraadpleegd op 20 februari 2022, van <https://keuzegids.nl/>

<sup>2</sup> RIVM, Trimbos-instituut, GGD GHOR Nederland 2021. (2021). *Monitor Mentale Gezondheid en Middelengebruik Studenten Hoger Onderwijs* (Deelrapport 1). <https://doi.org/10.21945/RIVM-2021-0194>

<sup>3</sup> Student Training and Support. (2021). *Student Guidance: Find your way*. Wageningen University & Research. Geraadpleegd op 3 december 2021, van <https://www.wur.nl/en/Education-Programmes/Current-Students/Student-Guidance.htm>

<sup>4</sup> Wageningen University and Research. (2019). *Strategic plan 2019 | 2022*. [https://issuu.com/wageningenur/docs/cc\\_strategicplan\\_uk\\_lr?e=5950684/66812952](https://issuu.com/wageningenur/docs/cc_strategicplan_uk_lr?e=5950684/66812952)

## Internal Affairs

Internal affairs refer to the functioning of VeSte as a faction. The elements of the internal affairs are the internal functions, the VeSte Association and the internal committees that ensure the continuity and prosperity of VeSte as a party.

### Internal Functions

The faction members which fulfil the responsible functions from September 2021 until September 2022 can be found on page 3, *faction 2021-2022*. Besides the VeSte functions, some faction members also fulfil a specific function within the Student Council (SC); the Chair, Secretary and Treasurer of VeSte fulfil the same role within the SC and the Vice-Chair of VeSte fulfils the role of Public Relations within the SC. A general explanation of all individual functions is mentioned in the Structural Policy. The current faction has some specific focus points per function which are addressed below.

#### Chair

The Chair is in close contact with central councils and universities throughout The Netherlands. This is done by attending meetings from LOVUM and 4TU. Moreover, the Chair is the first point of contact for the press. During meetings such as LOVUM and 4TU, but also public speaking events, the Chair makes sure to share the voice of active students. Close contact with the Commissioner Public Relations is essential in the preparation of public speaking events. After the elections, candidates will be trained by their predecessor extensively to ensure a good transition in the new academic year. Lastly, the Chair is responsible for a smooth takeover of all functions.

#### Vice-Chair

The Vice-Chair and Chair will focus on a close collaboration to ensure organisational and content-wise consistency. Another point of focus of the Vice-Chair will be the re-evaluation of the three VeSte pillars. Although the pillars might change, the Vice-Chair will focus on stability in the identity of VeSte. During the elections, the Vice-Chair will focus on a smooth process and active involvement of the candidates.

#### Secretary + Commissioner VeSte Association

This year, the Secretary will re-organize the archive of VeSte to shorten the search time for certain files. Next to that, the contact list will be updated and sorted. Also, the newsletter will be switched to another platform to make sure WUR students do not receive the newsletter in their spam inbox. Lastly, the Secretary of this year will join the VeSte Association in their board as a supporting function. The Secretary will be the connection between the faction and the VeSte Association (VA) board.

This year, the new function of Commissioner VA is set in motion within the VeSte faction. This function will focus on keeping contact between the board of the VeSte Association and the faction. The Commissioner VA will support the board where needed, as a general board member. Within the faction, the Commissioner VA updates the faction about important topics within the VA.

#### Treasurer + Second Commissioner National Affairs

The Treasurer is responsible for the financial housekeeping of the VeSte faction. To professionalize the yearly financial report, the Treasurer wants to strengthen the financial transparency towards the current faction members, predecessors and successors in the future. For successors, it can help to see how financial choices were made in the past to make it easier for them to come to decisions. Furthermore, the Treasurer wants to restart the work actions again, which have been stopped due to COVID-19 measurements. However, COVID-19 regulations are still in place so the Treasurer has to think of creative alternatives to provide the party more certainty regarding financial housekeeping. One of those alternatives can be to get more out of the potential of the acquisition committee, of

which the Treasurer is a member. Furthermore, the Treasurer will keep the financial control committee involved and strengthen its position to guide future treasurers and to guard the financial continuity of the party. Also, as the new VeSte Association has its own Treasurer, this year and in upcoming years it is important to keep close contact with the Association Treasurer and to collaborate. Finally, the Treasurer also fulfils the role of the second Commissioner of National Affairs and helps the Commissioner of National Affairs regarding Dutch students and higher education topics.

### Commissioner Internal Relations

The Commissioner of Internal Relations will focus on maintaining fruitful relations between VeSte and its constituents and should be ideally one of mutual benefit. As this relationship is one VeSte wants to maintain, the Commissioner of Internal Relations will focus on showcasing utility towards (potential) constituents and aligned organizations. As a contact person, the Commissioner of Internal Relations will consciously adapt, fitting to the relationship with various organizations, to maintain the best possible relations with the most possible output. However, VeSte believes accessibility is most beneficial for the image of the organization and the relationship with its constituents and aligned organizations in most cases. The Commissioner of Internal Relations will carry an according to attitude. The approach is also applicable to additional relations fitting for the Commissioner of Internal Relations to maintain. Additionally, the Commissioner of Internal Relations will be responsible for taking into account the input of former-VeSte as an asset.

### Commissioner National Affairs

The Commissioner of National Affairs will upkeep and improve the close relations with other factions and councils in The Netherlands. By actively engaging in meetings and accepting useful invitations the Commissioner National Affairs will gather useful information and exchange ideas with other students nationally, for example, concerning COVID-19 regulations. There will be a proactive attitude towards Interstedelijk Studentenoverleg (ISO) from which we can receive support and express the opinion of the students from Wageningen nationally.

### Commissioner Public Relations

Nowadays, social media is the main platform to reach students. Therefore, the Commissioner of Public Relations will keep focussing on online promotion through Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn, and the website. However, transitioning back to campus will take place this year. This means that offline promotion is possible again. Consequently, the Commissioner of Public Relations will try to find original ways for offline promotion. In light of this, the core task of the Commissioner of Public Relations will be to aim for the balance between visibility to all students, and directly interacting with our support group. This will be done by keeping in mind what kind of promotion will reach which target group.

## VeSte Association

This year the VeSte Association will be set up. The goal of the VeSte Association is to bring (active) students, the VeSte Faction, and the participatory bodies at WUR closer together, so students are facilitated in bringing WUR forward. Members can get more insight into WUR decision-making and education affairs in general, as well as develop soft skills such as networking and interdisciplinary collaboration. VeSte strives to have approximately 30 active members as of September 2022. Members can become as active as they want themselves; they can take part at certain events, join general member meetings and/ or take part in committees and working groups.

The Board of the VeSte Association consists of a Chair, a Secretary, a Treasurer and a Faction member, and is responsible for the daily business of the VeSte Association. The Board members are also in close contact with the VeSte Faction to make sure the relevant information is transferred bottom-up as well as top-down. This is the main responsibility of the Faction member that also is part of the Board, together with the execution of unforeseen tasks the Board is faced with. Through the Association the Faction also has more possibilities to receive input from those who they represent so they can do their work more efficiently and representatively. The Association will consist of several committees including the education committee, events committee, promotion committee and elections committee. The committees will consist of VA members and, if applicable, VeSte faction members. As part of the set-up of the association, several documents will be made as to the foundations of the association including the house rules, multiple-year plan and association rules.

## Internal committees

The Veste faction works via several committees; acquisition, events, promotion & design, training, elections, lustrum and ad-hoc pillars committee. Each faction member is part of several of these committees. A general explanation of most committees is mentioned in the Structural Policy. The current faction has some specific focus points per committee which are addressed below.

### Acquisition committee

This year the Acquisition committee supports all the VeSte committees where needed, to contact companies and to provide the other committees with their needs. Due to uncertainties in work actions regarding COVID-19 and also through the new VeSte Association, more action in this committee may be required. Companies which are considered for cooperation should be unrelated to WUR and politically neutral. Also, companies should not influence the policy of VeSte. Lastly, contracts will be for one year with opportunities for prolongation. The Acquisition committee can work together with the association, which can take the responsibility for the acquisition of monetary and tangible assets.

### Events committee

VeSte will organize a variety of events this year to promote the values of VeSte, to create opportunities for co-operative collaboration and to exchange information, skills and knowledge. Events that will be organized this academic year are the CANS-event, the Board Market, the Crash Course in Public Administration, the Municipality Elections Debate, the Think Tank evenings, the Grand Meeting and the Board Congress. Besides these events, VeSte will organize more activities in cooperation with other student organisations. In preparation for the election period, VeSte will host several related activities for candidates, list pushers and/ or other students to create awareness and visibility of VeSte and the upcoming elections. Additionally, several events will be hosted for the 5<sup>th</sup> lustrum of VeSte (*see Lustrum committee*).

### Promotion & Design committee

This year, the committee Promotion & Design will focus on online, as well as on offline promotion. For online promotion, the committee will build on the steps that were taken in previous years. Among others, the committee will continue with paid promotion and the use of personal photos. In addition, the committee will create consistency in the theme of the posts and will search for an optimal Instagram layout. For offline promotion, the committee will find novel ways to not only be visible to students but also to interact with our support group. For example, the VeSte suggestion box will be placed in all education buildings once per period, and twice per period a poll will be held at the escalators in Forum. Furthermore, ideas such as a brainstorm board will be thought out further.

### Training committee

VeSte offers several trainings to student boards, in order to share our experience and the knowledge we gained in the trainings we have followed with the Student Council. Three different trainings are offered: Effective Meetings, Effective Teams and Time Management. We will promote the trainings via emails to all student boards, and by mentioning it in meetings and drinks with the constituency. The boards will be asked to fill out an evaluation after following a training. This year, we also want to try out a new training, which will be open for all first-year students and will be promoted via First Years Committees. The training will introduce the students to group work, committee work and studying in general. We think this is a nice way to enhance our visibility, strengthen our constituency and gain more knowledge on the experience of first-year students in the university.

### Elections committee

This year, VeSte Elections is made up of the Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Commissioner of Internal Relations and Commissioner Public Relations, and believes this is an ideal scenario to ensure good

communication, promotion and connection to finances. Additionally, there is representation from the Committees of Promotion, Acquisition, Lustrum and Events committee. These assets, with a growing influence of promotion for the elections, are used to ensure maximum utilization of resources to work towards reaching a majority in the Student Council with highly qualified candidates.

### Lustrum committee

This year, the Lustrum committee wants to organize the lustrum with a variety of events to make sure everyone can enjoy the celebration of the 5<sup>th</sup> lustrum of VeSte. The committee strives to divide the Lustrum into two weeks to ensure everyone who is interested has the opportunity to join one or more events. The Lustrum will be organized in spring and will contribute to increased visibility.

### Ad hoc Pillars committee

For a long time, VeSte is characterized by the three pillars *World Class Education*, *Broad Academic Development* and *Vibrant Student Life*. All VeSte's efforts are made with the pillars in mind, as they define the voice of the students VeSte represent. In 2022, VeSte celebrates its 5<sup>th</sup> lustrum. This is a good moment to evaluate the pillars, as the interests of the students may have changed over time. Therefore, an Ad Hoc committee will be set up this year. The goal of the committee is to redefine the interests of the students and adjust the pillars of VeSte accordingly if needed. This way, VeSte stays closely connected to the students, so we can keep accurately representing them.

# Epilogue

Dear reader,

Thank you for reading the VeSte policy 2022. We hope to have provided an insight into our goals and ambitions for the coming year. As the 25<sup>th</sup> faction of VeSte, we are looking forward to representing all students of WUR.

Furthermore, VeSte would like to thank, the previous factions, students and our constituency for giving input, opinions and support. Lastly, we would like to thank everyone involved in the evaluation of the policy 2022.

If you have any questions or comments after reading the policy 2022, please contact us and let's talk!

Kind regards,

The 25<sup>th</sup> faction of VeSte

Daphne Louws  
Floor Tankink  
Noortje Rutjes  
Johan van de Ven  
Anne van de Rijdt  
Sterre Hoek van Dijke  
Eefje van Dael

