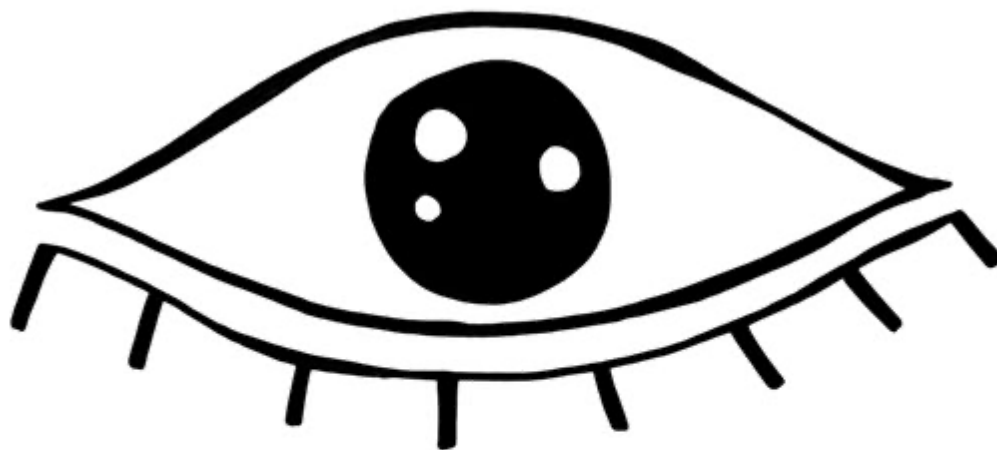


# Half Year Report A.S.V. Kwakiutl

2021-2022



# KWAKJUTL

studievereniging culturele antropologie

35th Board

**Chair – Janna Aspidov**

**Secretary – Lucy Chauche**

**Treasurer – Tindra Sipos**

**Study Coordinator – Derin Erk**

**Social Coordinator – Nhayima Chuula**

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## **1. Introduction**

Dear Members,

We made it, we are halfway through the first semester of 2021-2022! Thank you for joining us on this ride so far. We hope you enjoyed the events, borrels and the time with us as much as we did with you. COVID-19 had less but still a significant impact on all of us and with the new variant we had to take extra precautions. However, we managed to plan amazing events, connect fellow students and pursue our agenda as much as possible. We plan to keep doing our best and hopefully have even more memorable and fun events for our members.

In order to improve the second semester, we will evaluate the first one and see what went well and what could be improved by us. In this report you will be able to read everything we have done this past half year and how it went.

Best wishes,

The board of 2021-2022

## **2. Goals**

### 2.1 Focus point 1: Kwakiutl for our members

#### 2.1.1. Internationalization: Connecting national and international students

The internationalization of the study has been a central concern to us, especially since we are a fully international board. As the university is at first a generally Dutch environment we tried to make everyone feel welcome and include all nationalities as the anthropology study is becoming more and more international. So far, we have encountered all sorts of students which is a good sign to the mixity of the program. The inclusion of all students is also a central ideology to our inclusion and diversity committee and to our stigma free committee. For example, the inclusion and diversity committee created a booklet for international students that could not go home during the holidays so as to feel less lonely during the break when most students go back to see their families. Nevertheless, the division between national and international is still present and difficult to break down. As a study association, we will continue to encourage mixity among our members, in the next half of the year.

#### 2.1.2. Decolonising our study association

One of our focus points has been the decolonization of our study association which is a very important step towards an awareness of subjective history and inclusive future. So far, we have implemented the question of “How can we make this event inclusive and how can we work against colonial implemented structures”. The establishment of critical thinking helped us to pinpoint issues and start discussion with other associations. For example, the association’s annual congress was called Namgis. However, our study coordinator applied critical thinking and advocated for a name change. She changed the name to Nest.

#### 2.1.3. Corona: Safety and measurements for our members

Starting our board year we had promising feelings about the corona situation. Of course, in some aspects we were still not completely back to “normal” but being able to have the borrels in person and events such as film screenings, pub quizzes, and clothing swaps was very exciting and a great chance to bond with our association members. However, we did end up having another lockdown

right before the winter break which was not ideal because we had some fun winter activities planned but we made the best out of it. In all cases we respected the governmental rules and max amount of people that were allowed any certain point.

#### 2.1.4. Trust Person: Creating a safe and comfortable environment

In the first year report, I stated that integration and comfort of international students into a new environment was a key focus for me. I, as the trust person, also felt the responsibility to make sure the students have someone to go to. This year, I am very satisfied with the amount of help I have given students, from emergency situations to simply having a chat with them about how they are. In terms of giving the students a fun year, it was a success in the beginning of the year, there was a lot of enthusiasm and excitement, however as the year went on, the COVID-19 measurements started to tighten. This was very worrying for me and decreased the motivation of the students immensely.

#### 2.1.5. Mental Health: Implementing prevention of mental health concerns

As will be mentioned later on, the Stigma Free Zone (SFZ) is trying their best to reach out to students to make sure they are doing okay. We also implemented a half year feedback survey for the board where members could let us know how they are doing in general as well as in relation to the university. The questions in the survey will be evaluated when we have enough responses from which we will take necessary action. The SFZ Committee organized a week of online events, however, this was in the times when the restrictions were very uncertain. The events that would have taken place; yoga, workouts, baking lives etc... will now be postponed so that the students can attend these in person. We are also organizing a mental health awareness TED Talk event as well as a Mental Health workshop for our members. As always, we will continue to keep positive and try to be there for the students as openly as possible.

### 2.2 Focus point 2: Collaboration

#### 2.2.1 Collaboration between Kwakiutl and other institutions

Connection to other institutions was presented as an important point in the beginning of the year and remains it.

As planned, our secretary Lucy has been collaborating with the other anthropology associations in the Netherlands, through the LaSSA (National collaboration of anthropology students). These associations come from the University of Utrecht, Leiden University, the University in Nijmegen, and the VU in Amsterdam. Lucy has organized a Congress with the LaSSA which will take place on the 15th of February.

In addition, the association has been connecting with the other associations of the Fv-FMG at the University of Amsterdam. We have done two events with SEC the Sociology association: a borrel and a T.O.P. (the other perspective). In addition, we have also connected with the other associations by attending their Cobos, which are events hosted by each association to celebrate the new boards. We are also almost all part of committees of the Fv-FMG. Janna is in the book sale committee, in which she organized the book sales for all associations. Lucy is in the activity committee, which has been organizing the annual interdisciplinary congress of the Fv-FMG which will take place in March. Tindra and Nhayima are in the party committee, which is organizing the annual Fv-FMG party which will take place in April.

Finally, we have also been in frequent contact with the study advisors, junior lecturers and lecturers of the anthropology department. We organized in the beginning of the year a welcome lunch with the study advisors of the bachelor, and we are now also participating in the welcome event for the pre-master students who arrive in February.

These connections were very fruitful, but in retrospect we would like to make our professional and social circle bigger. It was not as easy as we thought in the beginning to create links with others, but we are now more comfortable and believe we are doing better in reaching out to others. For the next half of the year we keep these prospects and hope our connections grow.

### 2.2.2 Collaboration between students and lecturers

Increasing interaction among bachelor and master's students was one of our main goals for this year. We are happy to announce that we have managed to engage more with the master's students, having quite a few master's students in some of our committees. We hope that the master's students' involvement continues.

We had real-life events in the first half of the year, which encouraged engagement among students from all years. Although this is an ongoing effort, we are proud of the achievement we have made so far and will continue working on improving the contact between the years.

We also opened the boardroom to all of our members as a place to relax, chat and get coffee or tea from. We are happy that students often visit our boardroom and chat with us and get free coffee with our cards. This has been an important part of interacting with our members, hearing their feedback on our events, and asking their opinions about the projects we are working on.

We will continue to be accessible and open to our members as much as we can and hopefully achieve our goal of building a bridge among the years.

### **3. Goals-per function**

#### **3.1. Chair: Janna Aspidov**

My main goal as the chair of the association was to create a communicative, trusting and safe place for the board members and association members. Together with the board we created a functioning communication structure by having a shared calendar, designated whatsapp chats and structured meetings. Having most meetings in person was a huge benefit for board bonding and our productivity. We also had multiple events outside of the board setting in order to strengthen those relationships even more. I organized a winter holiday activity before everyone was flying home. At the beginning I had weekly check ups which turned in bi weekly ones and eventually into occasional ones in order to check in with my board members and how they are doing. For my own check-ups I had occasional meetings with the former chair Veronique Bon, who helped me with certain questions, issues and ideas. Having her as my advisory and close contact person was efficacious for my role as a chair.

#### **Travel Committee**

Since we did not start out with a travel coordinator in itself, Lucy, our secretary, was assigned the role of the travel coordinator for the city trip and has done a great job with the committee so far. Stefan Johnson, who is an active Kwakiutl member, took on the big travel trip with his committee. I joined Lucy for the city trip and we had some productive meetings so far. Due to the last lockdown from mid december to end of january we postponed the city trip by one month to give us a better chance to travel freely and safely. I look forward to keep organizing this trip.

#### **FvFMG**

Next to being the chair I am also part of the faculty of social and behavioral science, the Fv-FMG. We have biweekly meetings with all the other chairs of the department to discuss important topics regarding the faculty, events and our students. Within this board I hold the position of the book sale coordinator (BVC) and study active certificate (SAC).

#### *Book Sale*



The book sale presented a great challenge for me since I had never organized such a big sale. However, with the help of the treasure from Machiavelli and Comenius we were able to make it work and have two successful book sales with our new book sale partner Smartbooks. Having worked with them for the first time presented some challenges at the very beginning but were quickly resolved through communication, active reflection and teamwork. In order to make the team work even more exceptional, the BVC divided up the communication channels. I was responsible for communicating with the other associations about the book sale while Willemijn from Machiavelli was in contact with Smartbooks and Lotte in contact with the university faculty. This divide helped us especially in the second book sale. My personal highlight of the book sale has been the opportunity to hand in second hand books in order to allow students to buy their books cheaper and more sustainable.

*SAC*

The SAC has had less of a success since the transition to me has happened on paper but there have been many details that were not finalized by the former BVC. The former once is still working on finalizing and approving the whole process, however, starting in the second semester they are planning to hand out SACs from last year and I will start working on the SACs for this year. This has been an ongoing process.

### **Inclusivity and Diversity**

My committee this year has been the first inclusivity and diversity committee Kwakiutl had so far. The main goal has been the name change of the association which is a huge process which needs to consider many small details. The name change was something the whole board felt the need to make happen because of the colonial history and cultural appropriation of the name. However, with my amazing committee we were able to secure funding from the department which is around five hundred euros. The next steps include assessing what is the bureaucratic extent of this name change, estimating all costs and finally registering the new name.

Besides the name change the committee worked together with donation nation and stigma free zone on a holiday booklet for students who were not able to spend the holidays in their home country or with their families due to COVID-19 or other reasons. The booklet got a lot of great

feedback and I hope it is something that can be improved over the years and something we can share every year with all students.

Janna Aspidov

Chair 2021-2022

35th Board of Kwakiutl

### 3.2. Secretary: Lucy Chauche

For the last 6 months I have been the secretary of the study association A.S.V. Kwakiutl. So far, I think I have been fulfilling my role quite well by keeping up with emails, updating social media and the website, creating and sending out monthly newsletters. I also have been regularly collecting physical mail we have received at the university. Most of the first half of the year has been spent at the university in person, and we have in these first months managed to create close contacts with other associations, and our members. With the COVID-19 measures increasing in November, the opportunities for networking and making connections have decreased. Since, we have nevertheless tried to be as engaged with our members through our social media, by creating recommendations and other online events. In addition, as mentioned in the beginning of the year I have been trying to promote the international aspect of our board, and creating an inclusive environment where everyone feels welcome. I think this is going well, even though being an international student and board member in a Dutch university and environment comes with it's daily struggles. Nevertheless, my board members and I have been speaking up so our voice is heard as well in the university and with other external parties.

### **Social Media**

As a board, we decided in the beginning of the year to all have access to the Instagram which is our main social media platform. We thought it easier for those creating an event to post the promotion themselves. For this reason, Instagram has become a collaboration between myself and my board members (especially the coordinators as they host and create the most events). Nevertheless, as I stated in the policy plan at the beginning of the year I always have an overview

of what is posted on Instagram, and I create all posts unrelated to specific events that I am not organizing. We do not have a specific association color, but our posts are usually in bright colors to catch our subscriber's attention. Everything posted on Instagram is also automatically posted on Facebook. In addition, I have decided to use our LinkedIn more, as it was not very active previously. This is very recent, but so far it has been a nice way to enlarge our network as an association. I use LinkedIn to post any job offers or university courses that can be useful for the students. We regularly receive in our email box offers like these, so LinkedIn is very useful to share them as they are unrelated to our study but can still be useful for students.

In general, I try to keep social media as active as possible but this is not always easy. It has been a primordial tool, especially when in person events were not possible.

### **Newsletter**

Every month, I have been continuing the traditional newsletter on which I update our members about the coming events that month. I have been using the same template as my predecessor Iris van Dockum. I try to include different things in the newsletter to keep our members as interested as possible. I have received many compliments about the newsletters so far.

### **Website**

Although I mainly concentrate on social media for promotion, I have also been trying to update the website with our activities, and association changes. The website is therefore up to date, but not as active of a tool as the other social media.

### **Travel Committee**

In addition, as there were last minute issues with our travel coordinator at the beginning of the year, we as a board had to find a solution to organize the travels. Since I did not have committees of my own, I decided to step in and manage the travels with help from Janna Aspidov our chair and Stefan Johnson, an active member of Kwakiutl who is now the chair of the big trip committee. He has been a great help for the organization of travels. This has been a rocky road considering the COVID-19 situation getting more serious again in November. Even though we had to change and postpone plans many times, we are hopeful that the city trip and big trip will happen, in March

and in May. We plan to go to Brussels for a weekend in March, and to go to Paris and Barcelona in May for 10 days.

### **External Committees**

In addition, to the board I am part of two committees external to the association.

First, I have been a board member of the LaSSA (National collaboration of Anthropology Students) since August. I am the communications officer of the LaSSA, meaning I take care of the social media which mainly consists of Instagram. In the first half of the year I have been organizing a Congress with the treasurer of the LaSSA. We have struggled quite a bit with this because of the sudden change in COVID-19 measurements, and problems of time management. Nevertheless, despite the postponing of the event, the Congress will happen in a hybrid form on the 15th of February.

Second, I am part of the activity committee of the Fv-FMG. With the other committee members we have been organizing the annual Fv-FMG congress since September. This congress is expected to happen on the 1st of March 2022.

### **Application Committee**

With Janna and Tindra, I will be part of the application committee this year. Together we will work to find a new qualified board. We will also have help from an external person, general member, and old board member.

Lucy Chauche,

Secretary 2021-2022

35th Board of Kwakiutl

### **3.3. Treasurer: Tindra Sipos**

As I start off this report, I would like to acknowledge the amount of lessons I have learned through this first semester of being the treasurer for Kwakiutl. I have not only learned more about

accounting and budgeting, but also how to socialize and the importance of being there for students that might be feeling a bit confused or out of it because of the current COVID-19 situation for example. When I reflect back to the policy plan that was written in the beginning of the Board Year, I also acknowledge points to improve and highlight for the board that will be selected for the coming year!

I will in this half year report, go through all points made in the policy plan, additionally point out external tasks that I have been given, together with a realization made of the budget and the money that has been spent this far.

### **Accounting**

In the beginning of the year, I got acquainted with the accounting program *Conscribo*. This is a Dutch accounting program, which required me to add a translational plug-in to understand the website. It did not take me too long to understand the basics and I believe that the accounting and work has been going quite smoothly this far.

Together with my KasCo Committee, we did manage to reach a pretty serious speed bump regarding the debit-collections for the Member Contribution. While figuring out that the problem was a relatively basic one, it will be a time-consuming one so I will try to have solved this within the coming month and finally withdraw the member contributions that we failed to do back in November.

### **KasCo/Audit**

The Kasco Committee has been very helpful, when help has been needed. As mentioned earlier, we did reach a speed bump, which we figured out the solution on, which I have to solve myself before trying to process the debit collections. Other than that, together with my Kasco, we have met a few times only, as there has not been too many transactions to process and book because of stricter COVID-19 restrictions. Throughout this year, I have found that receipts declarations have been the easiest way of handling the economy of Kwakiutl, mainly because I have yet to have full access to our bank card, and I am still relying on my predecessor with this. My goal is to have this changed within the coming month!

Together with my Kasco, we have planned a meeting before our GMM, to look through the latest declarations and transactions made for the association.

## **Budget**

The conceptual budget that I created in the beginning of the year was approved by CSS, which concluded in us receiving 70% of the subsidies that we applied for. Throughout the year, I have been in continuous contact with the Social, and Study Coordinator about the budget for coming events and activities and how the money is to be spent. Towards an event that requires money, I have requested the board member in charge to present an Event Budget through Excel. This has been helpful for both me and the board member in charge to get a better sense of the money and what it will be spent on.

We have looked into additional funding and grants, mainly through AUF (Amsterdam UniversiteitsFonds) for our international trips and we are currently viewing a possibility of applying for Stitching Toekenningen as well.

## **Realization**

As I created the half-year realization of the budget, we figured out that there is still a lot of money to be used for the coming semester! With the hopes of less COVID-19 restrictions, I and my board members are excited to host even more and bigger activities for the coming semester! We have been very careful with using money this far, could be because of this being a new territory for us as the board.

We hosted a big Halloween Party that was a success. Budget-wise it ended up costing less, but with a small loss of money as the party budget was relying on the ticket sale for the party, I together with the Social Coordinator decided to supply this money from the Themed Borrels.

Study Activities wise, we have only hosted pre-exam activities and a T.O.P event in collaboration with Sociology Study Association, SEC. We have a lot bigger events in store for the coming semester, where the subsidies we got granted are going to be of great use!

## **Acquisition Committee**

Being the treasurer, I am in charge of the acquisition committee, which is focusing on finding external sponsors for the association. This far, we have unfortunately not gotten far in the process. I, together with my committee, wanted to start by looking through previous year's documents and

looking for improvements and build our journey from there. To gain access to these documents took a bit longer than expected, and with additional sickness periods and meetings that were canceled, we are determined to make great progress in the coming semester. We have started looking through companies and NGOs that were contacted last year, and what additional companies we could contact for the coming year. Our goal is to achieve at least 100€ for this Board Year, but we are very excited to strive for more!

### **Film Committee and Ethnographic Screenings**

I was given the responsibility of the Film Committee this year. I do believe that the only movie screening we have done this far was a great success. We watched a movie that we let the members decide on, where we also provided some drinks and snacks with an additional discussion session about the movie afterwards. We have three more movie screenings planned for the coming semester, which I am very excited about and hopefully we can end the year with a Movie Festival!

Half-way through the semester last year, I was contacted by Visual Anthropology masters students, teachers from the Anthropology department and the anthropological magazine CUL, in collaborating for monthly ethnographic screenings. This has turned out really well, with two screenings so far and the future ones are being planned. In the first meeting that was conducted, we decided upon doing monthly screenings the first Wednesday every month. The theme of each screening will be related to the current theme of the CUL Magazine (which is released every three months) and I, together with my Film Committee decided on joining in on the theme and our Movie Screenings are also related to the current theme of the magazine!

Unfortunately because of stricter COVID-19 restrictions, the screening in January had to be canceled, but we are looking forward to having the screenings back very soon as they have turned out to be of great success, attracting a lot of students!

### **Lustrum Committee**

At the end of January, I joined the Lustrum Committee for Kwakiutl's 35th Birthday. Between April 4th and April 10th, we are going to plan multiple events for our members, alumni and the Anthropology department to celebrate Kwakiutl getting through another year. Together with 6

other committee members, we will make sure that everything for the birthday celebrations is a success and a fun time for everyone.

### **Kwakiutl/SEC Application Committee**

I, together with Janna Aspidov (chair) and Lucy Chauche (secretary), with addition of an external person, general member, and old board member, will be in charge of the application of the new board for Kwakiutl Board Year 22/23.

Together we will make sure that the most suitable students will take on the responsibility of being the Board of Kwakiutl next year! We are currently slowly building up our schedule for the Applications, which will start in March and continue throughout the Spring of 2022.

I have also been given the task of being the external person for the Sociology Study Association, SEC, in doing the same task of assigning the next Board of SEC. I am very excited to begin the process of these applications as well!

### **Fv-FMG Party Committee**

Fv-FMG is the Faculty Association of Social and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Amsterdam. We, Kwakiutl, are part of the faculty, together with 7 other Study Associations. I, together with our Social Coordinator Nhayima, and with members from all the other associations are part of the Party Committee of the Fv-FMG. Together we are planning to host a big, joint party in April. We are still in the process of planning everything, but the plans are going forward well and we are looking forward to hosting a party where all associations are joined together for more socializing chances and fun vibes!

Tindra Sipos,

Treasurer 2021-2022

35th Board of Kwakiutl



### 3.4. Coordinator of study: Derin Erk

The first half of my year as a Study Coordinator was a learning process of my role. I was mostly busy with settling into my role and starting up the planning for the upcoming events. Coronavirus so far has been a challenge to some planning, but we were still able to do real-life events. Even though there is confusion and uncertainty about whether we can hold in-person events and to what extent, I hope that we will have more clarity soon and that we will be able to continue in-person. Luckily, my committees have shown enthusiasm and interest in the events and have been very helpful in the organisation and execution processes.

#### **Committees**

##### *Study Committee:*

With the Study Committee we have done three pre-exam events. The first one did not go as well as we hoped, mainly due to my physical health during that month. After this event, we talked about the issues that arose and how we could improve. As a result, we improved the quality of the event for the second pre-exam event, which were the study sessions. Although the attendance was lower than ideal, the organisation, promotion and involvement of the committee were great. We did these sessions as a collaboration with the Social Coordinator, Nhayima, who helped us with the bookings and arrange the snacks. The third activity was an online Kahoot event on Zoom.

For the second semester, the Study Committee is planning more pre-exam activities and Career Events for the second semester. We are excited for the new semester, and have already made progress with the planning of both projects.

##### *TOP & TED Committee*

The T.O.P. & TED Committee organised one T.O.P. event in December, in collaboration with SEC (Sociologisch EpiCentrum). The committee was present in the majority of the meetings with SEC during the organisation process, and were crucial during the event. It was helpful that we had an event reflection afterwards, so that we can keep the feedback in mind for upcoming events.. We

are in contact with two other associations for the T.O.P.s and are working on holding two TEDs in the second semester.

### *Conference Committee*

The Conference Committee has made a lot of progress in the first half of the year! We have chosen a topic, booked a venue and three speakers (so far), as well as changing the name of the Conference. We are currently working on structuring the conference, sorting out the details to complete the booking of the venue, finding more speakers and sponsors.

The conference was previously known as ‘Namgis’, however we have decided to change it since it was culturally appropriated. The committee thus picked a new name, ‘Nest’. I think this was an important step to eliminate cultural appropriation inherent in Kwakiutl.

### **Buddy System**

The Buddy System has been my biggest challenge so far. Unfortunately, I was informed about it too late, which also meant we could not recruit enough Buddies to restart it this year. But, I really like the idea and have decided to restructure the existing system in order to make it more sustainable and helpful for the upcoming years. I have written and submitted a proposal explaining the system and what it needs, and have made requests from the Anthropology Department. I am waiting to hear back. If all goes well, I am hopeful that there will be a working Buddy System for the next first-years.

### *Buddy System Committee of Fv-FMG*

I am also a member of the Buddy System, as an external task and participation in the FMG. It has been very useful in thinking about our department’s Buddy System and how to restructure it. The committee is working on making the Buddy Systems more efficient and useful, by rethinking training and incentives, as well as the common problems other departments also have with their Buddy Systems.

### **Application Guidance Committee for Kwakiutl**

Nhayima Chuula (Social Coordinator) and I have been chosen for the Application Guidance Committee. We are responsible for reaching out to members and students to apply as the 36th board. We will work to connect with as many people as possible by reaching out to them through social media, texting possible applicants and approaching others at our events.

### **Policy Evaluation**

In Study's policy plan presented in September, I wrote that I wanted to make studying anthropology as fun and enjoyable as possible. This is a work in progress. The effort my committees and I have put in thus far, I hope, has kick-started the realisation of this plan, but the continuation and the full satisfaction of it will be completed in the second semester.

Derin Erk,  
Study Coordinator 2021-2022  
35th Board of Kwakiutl

### 3.5. Coordinator of Social Activities: Nhayima Chuula

Time is going by so quickly, maybe even a little bit *too* quickly. Reflecting on my policy plan which I created in the beginning of this journey, I am writing this half year realization.

I am very happy with the decisions I made for the committees, they are all thriving and they are connecting and making friends through them. Because of the pandemic, it was not possible to organize the Introduction Weekend and this really put us at a disadvantage for choosing the committees and getting to know our members. I truly hope we can continue with the trips this year so our bonds can tighten. My main goals as we continue on with the year are to increase the number of events we have per month. We missed out on a lot due to the restrictions and I want to make up for it.

I also wanted to bridge the gap between the program committee (PC) and Kwakiutl. Again, at the beginning of the year it was much simpler to do so and I intend to continue if the restrictions allow it. To do this, we have tightened the relationship between the board and the study advisors, we have had meetings with student representatives of the PC and have even organized a student/ teacher lunch/ borrel. We also organized trips to museums for free for the students which was also very successful. We are intending to organize some more events with the student assistants as well. On top of this, we are hoping to organize a collaboration 'Time to Talk' event on diversity and inclusion.

A point of critique for myself is to try to reach out more to the third year students. I have been in contact with Masters students and most Bachelor students which I am very proud of but it has been an ongoing challenge to reach and include the third year students. For this reason, I will try to organize a few third year exclusive events so that I can get in contact and further convince them to join our other events. I also wanted to decrease the gap between Dutch and International students. This was quite easy with the first year students, they all seem to integrate well and it makes me very happy to see. Once again, I am out of touch with the third year students so it makes it a lot more difficult. I also want to integrate the second year students more, I see a lot of first year students at the events and it would be nice to see more of a variety.

### **Social Committee**

The social committee has organized very successful events such as the clothing swap, trivia night and multiple themed borrels. Even when the measurements tightened, we changed our borrels to tea/ study afternoons. We also tried a different location and that gave us a better understanding of the feeling we were looking to create at these borrels. The numbers at the borrels unfortunately decreased and the decision was made to change the borrels to every other week instead. This year I am hoping that the measurements are released so we can go back to weekly/ trimonthly borrels at regular times. We will be collaborating with SEC for an open mic in the middle of February and a talent show with a few of the FMG associations. On top of this, we want to organize more themed borrels and a couple of activities for our members. I am now organizing a two week calendar with online events until we are more certain about the measurements, which includes Zoom(ba), teaching my fellow board member to ride a bike, a stress relief workout, a bake off and jeopardy which I hope will make the time go by faster and we can get back to having normal committee meetings to organize more fun in person events.

### **Party Committee**

Because of the restrictions, the party committee has only been able to throw a Halloween Party. However, this party was very successful and we even managed to stay within the budget! The most difficult task in the planning of the party was finding a date which worked with the location, it ended up being the week after Halloween but we still had a very good turnout! I am hoping this year we are able to throw at least one more party.

### **Stigma Free Zone**

Unfortunately, it has been quite difficult to reach out to people such as yoga instructors etc... to organize events with the stigma free committee. On the bright side, we collaborated with the Inclusion & Diversity committee to create the Away from Home booklet with many help resources and activities. We also organized the Sinterklaas gift exchange and are hoping to be able to implement something exciting for Valentine's Day. We will be organizing a TED Talk type of event in relation to Mental Health which will be in collaboration with the Study Committee, we will also organize a mental health workshop within the same weeks to raise awareness.

### **Donation Nation**

The donation committee has also done a lot in a short period of time, including raising over 200 euros to buy presents for Sinterklaas donations to refugee children. This is a big project and we hope to have a few more of these throughout the year. We also collaborated with the 'Home Alone' project, providing links and resources for volunteering and donating. In February, we want to organize a Valentines Day project in which we deliver roses and goodie bags to students, giving the profits to our savings from which we will donate at the end of the year to the organization chosen by our members.

### **Lustrum Committee**

The Lustrum Committee has worked extremely hard in order to plan Kwakiutl's birthday. We have decided on organizing a week filled with lots of fun events for all the students. The events have not been shared yet as we are giving sneak peeks of them throughout the year. I am very happy with this work.

### **FMG Party Committee**

Together with Tindra, I am part of the Fv-FMG Party Committee. We are planning on organizing a big party for all the associations within the faculty. We have worked very hard to find locations, themes and figure out all the logistics. We can't wait to share what we have organized and what is coming up but this is still confidential for now!

### **VSPA Application Committee/ Kwakiutl Application Guidance Committee**

I, together with Derin Erk (Study Coordinator) will be in charge of the application guidance committee of the new board for Kwakiutl Board Year 22/23. This committee will also include an external person for most effective recruitment and guidance. We will aim to get as many applicants as possible since it was very hard for previous boards to do so. We have already written a list of our potential candidates but will not be limited to this. We have also already started speaking to mostly first year students to get them enthusiastic and motivated to join the board next year. I am very excited to continue this journey and see the next board.

I have also been appointed the chair of the VSPA Application Committee. I am very excited to take on this role and learn both about VSPA and their study, as well as interview skills and

methods. We have already worked very hard to make the process as smooth as possible and edited the documents in order to be updated and ensure the information is correct. This took a lot of time but was very necessary. We are happy this part is over and can't wait to start interviewing! This has also created a bond between associations.

It has been a crazy year!!! There have been a lot of misunderstandings and uncertainty in terms of the corona situation and how the UvA was asked to handle it. I am nonetheless very proud of my teams and the motivation and enthusiasm which has made this year one of the best in my life. This year, I am hoping there are more opportunities and we are definitely going to take more advantage of it. I have created bonds and networked with people I never thought would be possible and have been given opportunities which have changed me. I can't wait to continue this year with my board and the rest of my teams.

Nhayima Chuula,

Coordinator of Social Activities 2021-2022

35th Board of Kwakiutl