

Quality Agreements

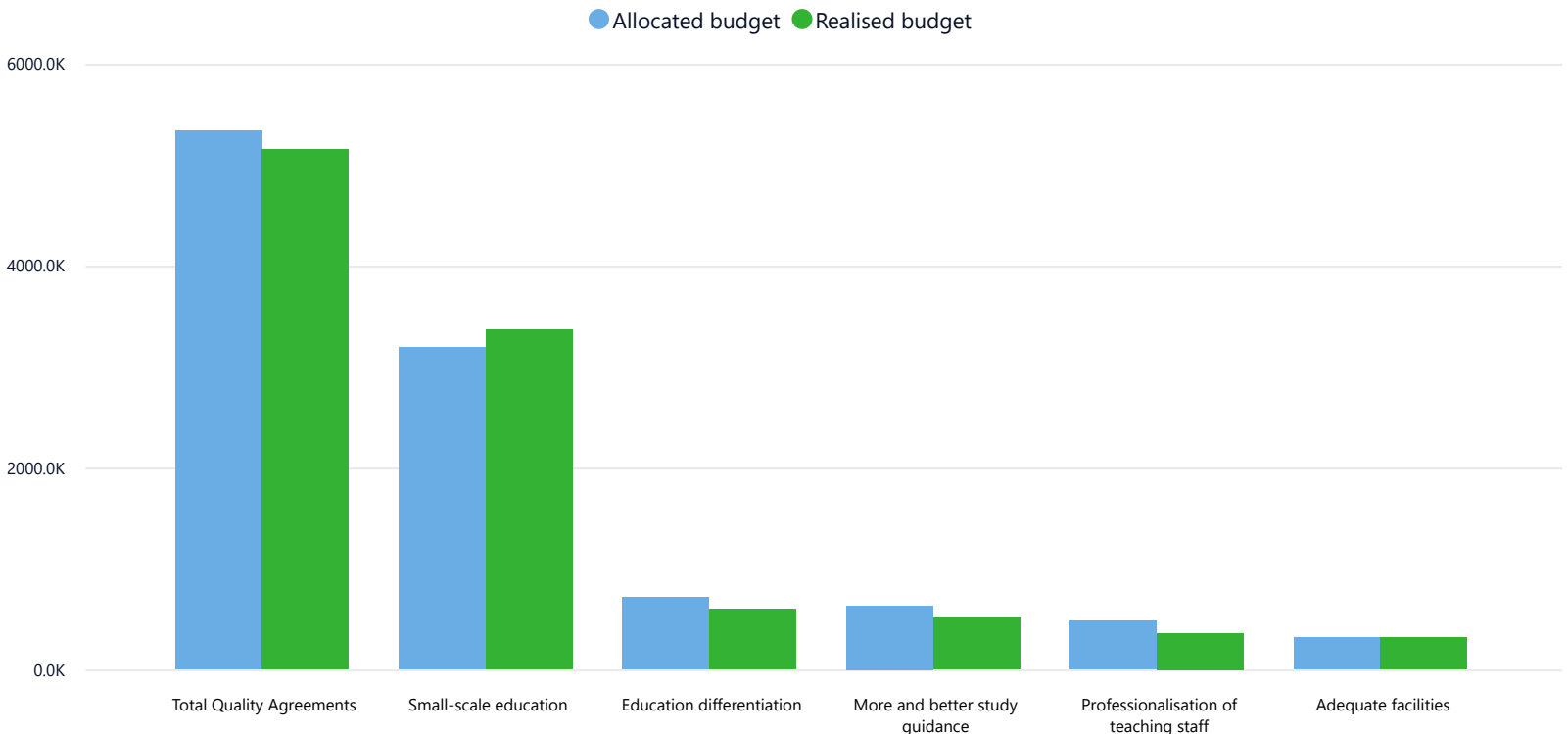
2019-2024

Monitoring the realisation of measures and the expenditure of the budgets

Results report 2020

Overview progress Quality Agreements

Invested Quality Agreements budgets 2020



WU received for the year 2020, including wage compensation, a total of €3,835 mln. from the Ministry of OCW (Education, Culture, and Science) for the Quality Agreements. Wageningen University budgeted also up to €1,502 mln. additional own resources in the quality agreements in 2020. *OCW's financial resources have been spent entirely in 2020.* In doing so, WUR has complied with the financial agreements in the Quality Agreements. WUR's own additional funding is not fully spend.

Overall, the realisation of the Quality Agreements is well on track. Some projects are delayed due to the consequence of the corona measures for higher education. The corona measures limit the possibilities for meetings in real-life and affect the priorities in education. All programmes and all lecturers focus first and foremost on offering high quality education. Projects that aim at changes in programmes, like the skills project, are therefore delayed causing underspending. In other projects adjustments of the measures were necessary to fit online or blended education, which took time and caused some delay in the realisation. The projects remain to be very relevant, also in the changed situation due to the corona pandemic.

Figure legend

An example



- 1 Target value at this moment
- 2 Realised measures so far
- 3 Goal for this year
- 4 Realised budget so far
- 5 Allocated budget this year

- Realised measures
- Spent budget
- Yet to be realised / yet to be spent

Red letters: underspending
Aqua letters: overspending
Black letters: total funding spent

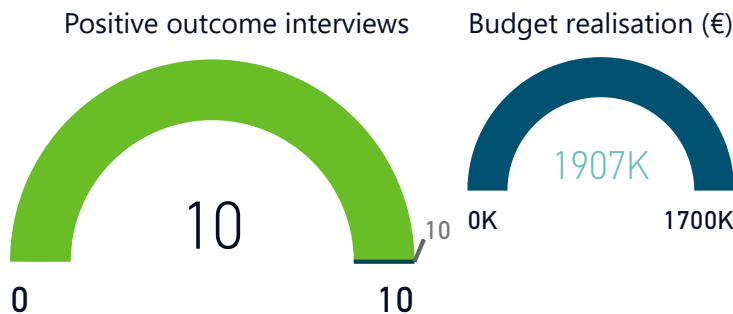
Small-scale education

Total budget Small-scale education (€)

Maintaining and further developing small-scale education



Intensive thesis supervision



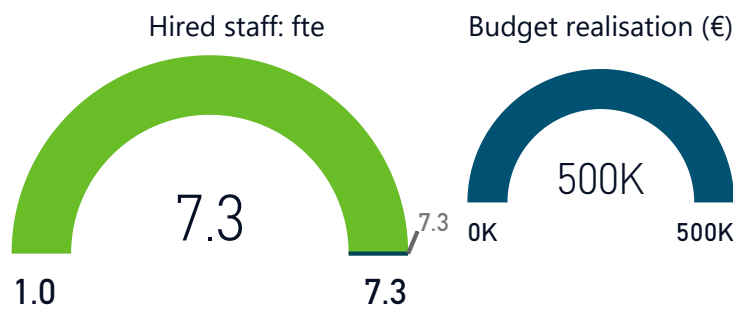
Goal: Maintain the desired level of intensive thesis supervision.

Approach: More staff or other measures taken by chair groups to intensify supervision to maintain the desired level.

Aimed result: All chair groups maintain intensive thesis supervision despite the growth.

Realised result: The 10 interviews executed showed positive outcomes. Based on the interviews we can conclude that the majority of the chair groups maintained and intensified the supervision with the extra budget. More budget was needed due to the increased number of master students.

Extra staff for Science Groups



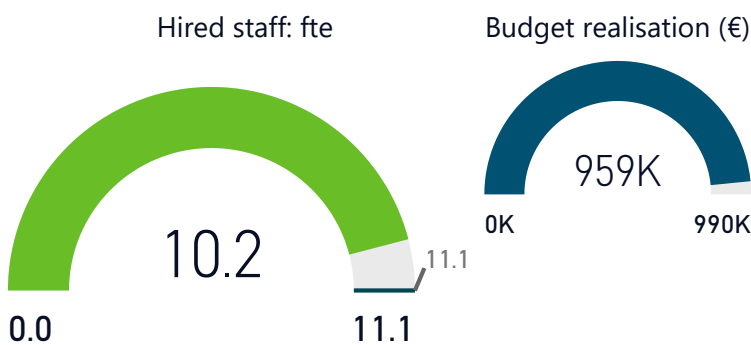
Goal: Maintaining or further developing small-scale education.

Approach: More staff to maintain small-scale education.

Aimed result: A total of 7.6 fte is hired by Science Groups.

Realised result: A total of 7.3 fte is hired by Science Groups. More senior staff is hired and therefore less fte could be funded with the same budget. Established as a legitimate alteration.

Extra staff for Chair Groups



Goal: Bottlenecks are solved or improvements realised in small-scale education.

Approach: Staff is hired by chair groups.

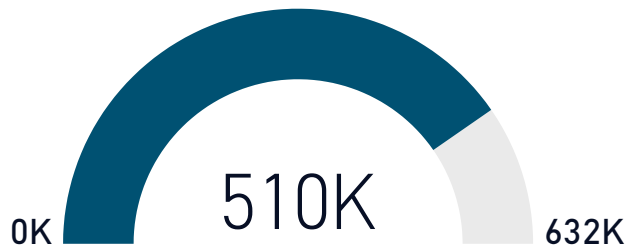
Aimed result: 28 chair groups hire 8.4 fte teaching staff in total. In addition the free space budget was added (180k) to this project, resulting in another 2.7fte. A total of 11.1 fte extra staff is hired.

Realised result: 28 chair groups of the first call hired 8.4 fte teaching staff. In 2020 more budget will be spent; compensating for the underspending of 2019. The additional free space budget was allocated in June 2020 to 9 extra chair groups, of which 6 chair groups hired extra staff and 3 are still recruiting. In conclusion: 34 chair groups hired 0.3fte extra staff => 10.2 fte.

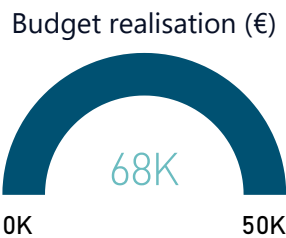
More and better study guidance

Total budget More and better study guidance (€)

More and better study guidance by strengthening and filling the gaps in the existing support infrastructure for students.



Coping with stress campaign



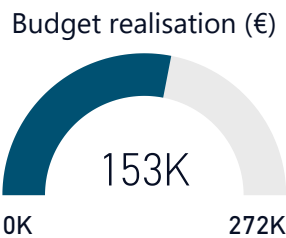
Goal: Students learn to cope with stress better.

Approach: Students participate in the events to learn to cope with stress better.

Planned result: Hire an extra student psychologist (0.4fte) to organise the coping with stress campaign (1) and at least 4 extra activities (4). The campaign and extra activities result in a total of 5 activities executed by the psychologist.

Realised result: Coordinator is hired instead of student psychologist to coordinate the Surf your Stress week and other activities. The 4 extra activities were organised and the Surf Your Stress week was organised in November.

More study advisors



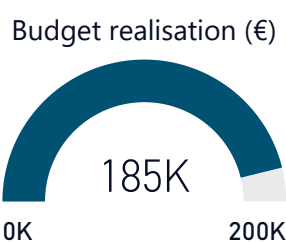
Goal: Students receive more and better support from study advisors.

Approach: More capacity (fte) study advisors, to decrease the number of students consulting each study advisor.

Planned result: Hire 1.5 fte extra study advisors. This result is changed to 3.0 fte and also the budget increased to 272k (leveling the number of study advisors until 2024)

Realised result: 1.8 fte extra study advisors are hired. Some study programmes are still in the process of hiring extra study advisors. This has resulted in an underspending. In 2021 the full 3.0 fte will be hired.

More mental support for students



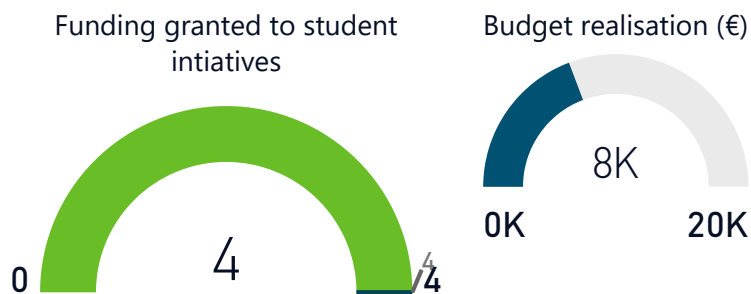
Goal: Reduce the waiting times for students.

Approach: Expanding the capacity of student psychologists.

Planned result: Hire 2.4 fte extra student psychologists.

Realised result: Extra 1.6 fte student psychologist hired. A total average of 0.4 fte psychologists per year is hired for peak periods. 0.4 fte support staff for psychologists to unburden them from administrative tasks so they have more time for students. The total personnel costs were lower than expected. Funding will be added to budget next year.

Fund to subsidize student initiatives



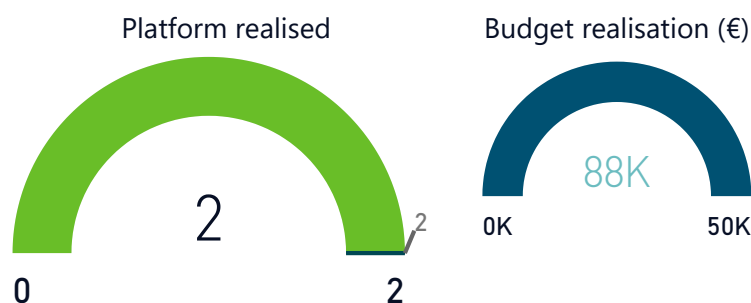
Goal: Students build a stronger support network among students.

Approach: Increasing bottom-up student guidance initiatives open for all students.

Planned result: Fund 4 student initiatives.

Realised result: In total funding has been granted to 7 initiatives instead of 4. Of these 7 student initiatives 2 could not be executed in 2020 due to delay caused by corona. 4 projects are delayed but are still executed. 1 is executed without delay. Underspending will be used to fund more projects in 2021.

Launch of Virtual training centre



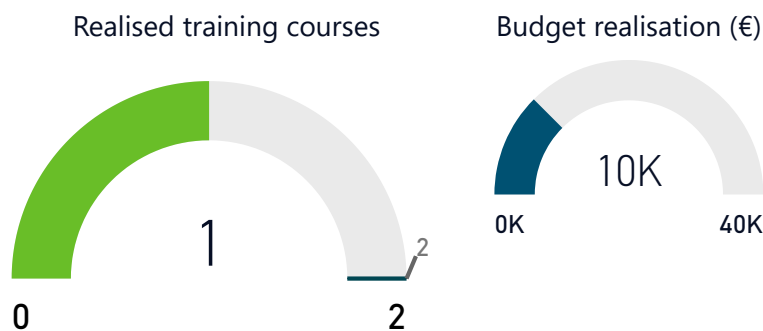
Goal: Better informed students about guidance and opportunities offered.

Approach: A training centre with a virtual portal will be realised and managed by a coordinator.

Planned result: Hire a coordinator (1). Website launched and promoted (2). We monitor the execution of these two plans.

Realised result: Coordinator is hired and inventory executed. Website is launched. More personnel was needed to realise the website and to organise extra trainings.

Training of staff to recognize and deal with student issues



Goal: Lecturers feel better equipped to recognise and deal with student issues.

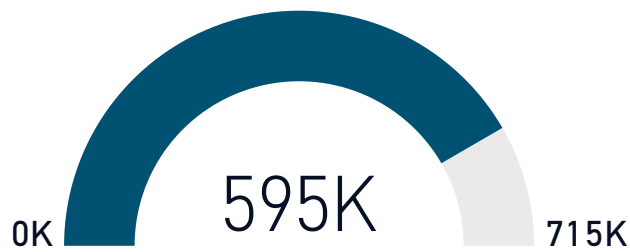
Approach: Develop and offer additional training for teaching staff and study advisors.

Planned result: Offer at least 2 training sessions to staff.

Realised result: Due to corona, the training courses were cancelled. A new plan is made for training courses on how lecturers can keep students on board in online education and in coronatimes. Some budget was spent on psychologists that were available for lecturers to talk about student issues and they offered some ad hoc training for lecturers on student issues. Also an inventory was done on what lecturers need in terms of support. This way in 2021 the target will be realised.

Education differentiation

Total budget Education differentiation (€)



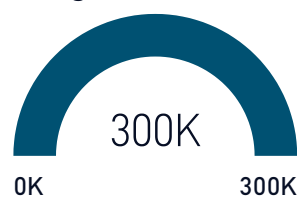
Education differentiation by strengthening talent development and career preparation in the curriculum and extracurricular.

Student Challenges

Realised Student Challenges



Budget realisation (€)



Goal: More opportunities for students to develop their talents.

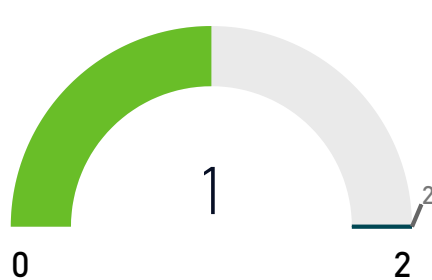
Approach: Continuation of the Student Challenges.

Planned result: Realise one Student Challenge.

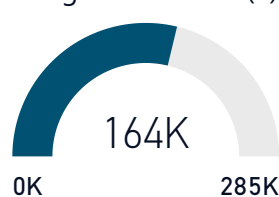
Realised result: In total, two student challenges were realised in 2020 instead of only one.

Skills development

Realised measures



Budget realisation (€)



Goal: Students get more skill training.

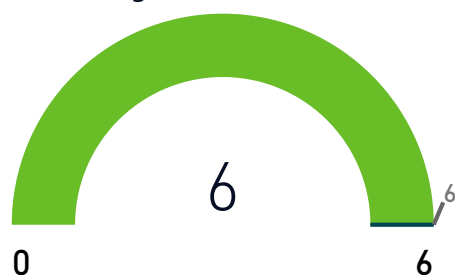
Approach: More skills education in our study programmes.

Student assistants are offered educational skills training to support their tasks in education.

Planned result: New skills implemented in study programmes, supported by instructional designers. Offer 6 training sessions for student assistants. Expanding digital learning environment on skills.

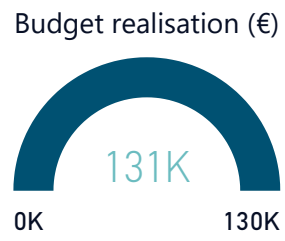
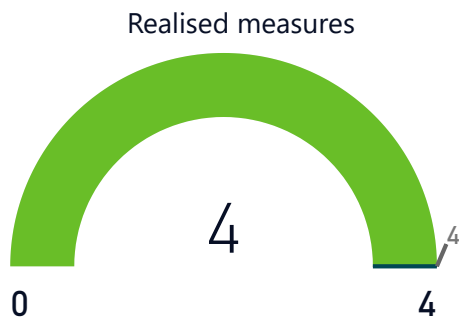
Realised result: Implementation of the skills programme is delayed due to the coronacrisis. Some programmes have started implementation. A coordinator is hired to realise this project. In 2021 all programmes start with the implementation. Also the digital tools for skills education are ready, accompanied with educational support. The digital tools are already used by lecturers.

Trainings for student assistants



Training courses for student assistants on supervision were canceled, because practicals and excursions could not take place. Instead student assistants were hired and trained for onboarding new students and for supporting lecturers with IT/digital education.

Expand extracurricular activities



Goal: More students invest more intentional and focused in personal development and career preparation.

Approach: Expand our menu of extracurricular activities.

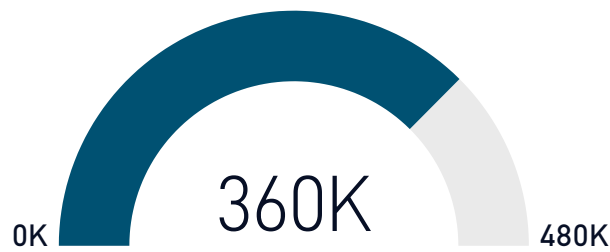
Result: Increase activities of the Career Service Centre (1). Hire coach for students (2), implement Bildung programme in multiple study programmes (3), organise at least 2 extra-curriculair activities (4).

Realised results: Career Service Centre organises more activities online. Coach is hired and is coaching students online. The Bildung programme is organised for four study programmes. More than 10 new extracurriculair activities are available via the new virtual Student Training & Support centre.

Professionalisation of teaching staff

Total budget Professionalisation of teaching staff (€)

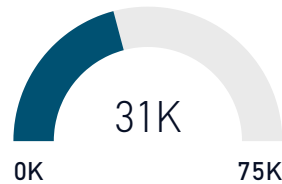
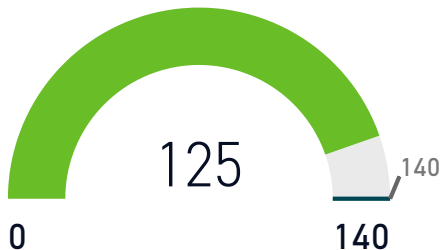
Professionalisation of staff by unburdening teaching staff in order to have more time for professionalisation and by stimulating chair groups to facilitate professionalisation of teaching staff.



PhD skills

Number of PhD candidates trained

Budget realisation (€)



Goal: Improve the quality of education provided by PhD candidates who have educational tasks.

Approach: Education training developed and offered to PhD candidates who are assigned teaching tasks in courses.

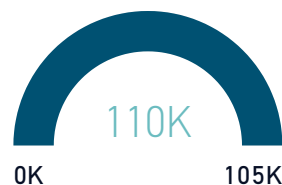
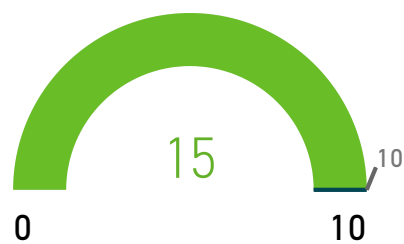
Planned result: At least 140 PhD candidates will be trained on education skills per year.

Realised result: 125 PhD candidates completed a didactical training course. This is lower compared to the goal presumably as a result of the higher workload for blended education this year. In 2021 the goal should be achieved again.

Fund for peer review and professionalisation expenses

Requests funded

Budget realisation (€)



Goal: Lecturers spend more time on professionalisation via training and peer review.

Approach: We will create a fund to offer financial compensation for professionalisation of staff.

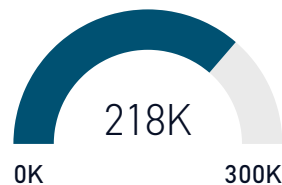
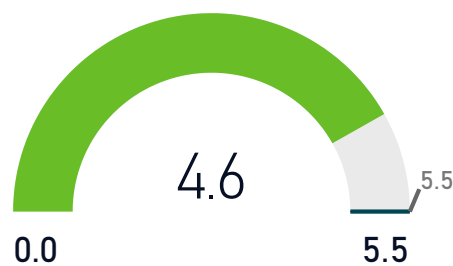
Planned results: At least 6 request for compensation funded. At least 4 peer reviews (of a cluster) compensated. 25k extra budget which was not spent in 2019. Therefore the realisation is higher than the target.

Realised results: 15 requests for compensation are funded. At least 4 (clusters of) courses are peer reviewed. Also extra training for online examination (ANS) were offered.

Unburden and support lecturers

Hired staff: fte

Budget realisation (€)



Goal: Lecturers have more time for professionalisation or innovation as they are unburdened by supporting staff.

Approach: Budget will be spend on extra staff to take over tasks of lecturers to unburden them to have more time for professionalisation.

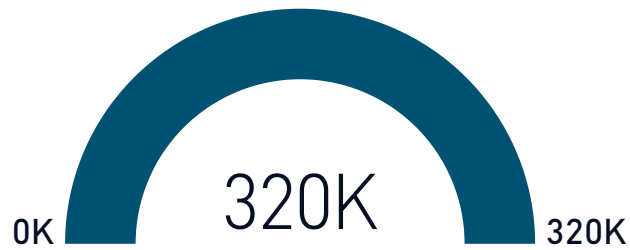
Planned result: Science groups hire 5.5 fte in total.

Realised result: Science groups have hired 4.6 fte in total. Some plans needed to be changed due to corona and therefore hiring staff is delayed. Underspensing in 2020 will be additionally invested in this project in 2021.

Adequate educational facilities

Total budget Adequate facilities (€)

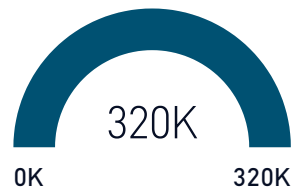
Adequate facilities by 'Study Anyplace Anytime'.



Study Anyplace Anytime

Contribution realisation SAA

Budget realisation (€)



Goal: More digital facilities easily available for all students by using their own device.

Approach: Implementation of Study Anyplace Anytime.

Planned result: Launch the WUR app store.

Students will be able to use WUR apps from the virtual app store at any time and any place. 120k extra funding from relocating free space budget, for additional services agreed upon with the Student Staff Council.

Realised result: WUR app store available. The additional budget was invested in an emergency laptop swap service and discounts on CANS sets.