

Besluit

Besluit strekkende tot het verlenen van accreditatie aan de opleiding wo-bachelor Econometrie en Operationele Research van de Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Gegevens

datum	Naam instelling	:	Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
31 oktober 2017	Naam opleiding	:	wo-bachelor Econometrie en Operationele Research (180 EC)
onderwerp			
Besluit	Datum aanvraag	:	25 april 2017
accreditatie wo-bachelor	Variante opleiding	:	voltijd
Econometrie en Operationele	Locatie opleiding	:	Amsterdam
Research van de Vrije	Datum goedkeuren		
Universiteit Amsterdam	panel	:	13 september 2016
(005640)	Datum locatiebezoek	:	10, 11 en 18 november 2016
uw kenmerk	Datum visitatierapport	:	6 maart 2017
CVB/JWB/2017/347	Instellingstoets kwaliteitszorg	:	ja, positief besluit van 3 september 2014
ons kenmerk			
NVAO/20172470/LL			

bijlagen

Beoordelingskader

- 2 Beoordelingskader voor de beperkte opleidingsbeoordeling van de NVAO (Stcrt. 2014, nr 36791).

Bevindingen

De NVAO stelt vast dat in het visitatierapport deugdelijk en kenbaar is gemotiveerd op welke gronden het panel de kwaliteit van de opleiding goed heeft bevonden.

Advies van het visitatiepanel

Samenvatting bevindingen en overwegingen van het panel.

In this executive summary, the panel presents the main considerations which have led to the assessment of the quality of the programme Bachelor Econometrics and Operations Research of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, which has been assessed according to the NVAO Assessment Framework.

The panel observes programme management has taken up the recommendations made in the previous assessment in 2009. Programme management has, among others, introduced the binding study advice in the first year, introduced the course Ethics, replaced 3.0 EC

Pagina 2 van 6 courses by 6.0 EC courses to increase study success rates and improved the assessment process of the bachelor thesis.

The panel is positive about the Faculty's objectives to educate students not only in academic and professional knowledge and skills but also to train them to become responsibly thinking and acting professionals or academics. The latter is a distinct and valuable characteristic of the Vrije Universiteit economics programmes. The objectives of the programme include preparing students for quantitative master programmes in the econometrics, business administration or economics domains as well as enabling them to enter the labour market, be it that most students opt for the former career path. The panel is positive about the programme, allowing students to gain extensive knowledge of the econometrics domain, to deepen their understanding of one of the econometrics subdomains and to acquire academic and research skills.

The programme intended learning outcomes reflect these objectives and include disciplinary knowledge, academic skills, research skills and societal awareness. The intended learning outcomes are consistent with the domain-specific reference framework, which has been drafted by this Faculty and the economics programmes of Erasmus University Rotterdam and Wageningen University, and correspond to the requirements of a bachelor level programme.

Programme management conducted a sound comparison to other econometrics bachelor programmes. The profile of this programme as a programme with a strong theoretical and practical informatics component is evident.

The panel advises programme management to continue the efforts to intensify the relations with the professional field, to inform students about career perspectives.

In the panel's opinion, the admission requirements and the admission processes, such as the matching procedures, are adequate, including informing applicants about the challenging nature of the programme.

The curriculum reflects all of the intended learning outcomes adequately and evenly. The panel regards the curriculum to be very well designed, well balanced and effective in teaching students the theoretical and practical dimensions of econometrics. Students are introduced to the specialisations econometrics, operations research and mathematical economics in this discipline and may deepen their knowledge and skills in one of these. Students are also adequately taught academic and research skills. The panel noted corresponding views on the principles governing the curriculum among the Faculty Board, programme management, lecturers and students and regards this to be effective for the quality of the programme.

The educational principles and the study methods of the programme promote the students' active participation in the learning processes. The policies regarding introducing new and innovative study methods are satisfactory. The panel feels programme management has taken important steps to raise the student success rates and encourages programme management to continue along this path.

The lecturers deployment and evaluation procedures ensure qualified lecturers to teach in the programme. The panel regards the lecturers to be eminent researchers and to be very

Pagina 3 van 6 good lecturers. The panel is equally positive about their interaction with students, which may be regarded as intensive and effective, and about the system of study guidance.

The panel approves of the examination and assessment rules and regulations of the programme. They conform to the Vrije Universiteit and Faculty of Economics and Business Administration policy statements and include, among others, measures to assure the examinations' validity, the reliability of assessments and the competencies and expertise of examiners.

The examination methods in the programme are in line with the course contents to be assessed. The diversity of examination methods in courses and across courses allows for the assessment of knowledge and skills, relevant to the programme. Multiple-choice examinations may be part of examinations of courses, but never are the sole examination method in a course.

The panel observes programme management having drafted a comprehensive thesis manual, in which the timeline of the thesis writing process has been explained clearly. The supervision of the thesis is well organised, including regular meetings of students and supervisors to discuss the intermediate and final products and for students to obtain feedback on their thesis. The thesis assessment process is a reliable process, as at least two examiners are involved and sound assessment forms are used. The panel welcomes the transition process from assessment forms to scoring models or rubrics, as these may raise the quality of the assessments further.

The panel ascertained the Examination Board to have the responsibilities and to work along the lines, as intended by Dutch applicable law. The Board monitors the examination and assessment processes and inspects examinations. The panel recommends to step up these inspections and to include theses in the quality assurance checks, as the Examination Board plans to do.

The examinations of courses in the programme are regarded by the panel to be of adequate quality and an appropriate level, meeting the courses' learning goals and to be of a challenging nature.

All of the theses the panel studied, have been assessed by the panel to be at least satisfactory and some of them very good. The panel regards the grades, given by the examiners to be systematically somewhat too low. The panel would have given somewhat higher grades for the theses. Taking this observation into account, the panel would rate the theses to have an average grade of about 8.0.

The panel assesses the programme Bachelor Econometrics and Operations Research of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam to be good and recommends NVAO to grant re-accreditation to this programme.

Pagina 4 van 6 **Besluit**

Ingevolge het bepaalde in artikel 5a.10, derde lid, van de WHW heeft de NVAO het college van bestuur van de Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam te Amsterdam in de gelegenheid gesteld zijn zienswijze op het voornemen tot besluit van 4 september 2017 naar voren te brengen. Bij e-mail van 19 september 2017 heeft de instelling van deze gelegenheid gebruik gemaakt. Dit heeft geleid tot enkele tekstuele aanpassingen.

De NVAO besluit accreditatie te verlenen aan de wo-bachelor onometrie en Operationele Research (180 EC; variant: voltijd; locatie: Amsterdam) van de Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam te Amsterdam. De opleiding kent geen afstudeerrichtingen. De NVAO beoordeelt de kwaliteit van de opleiding als goed.

Dit besluit treedt in werking op 31 oktober 2017 en is van kracht tot en met 30 oktober 2023.

Den Haag, 31 oktober 2017

Namens het bestuur van de NVAO
Voor deze,

v.a. 

Mr. L.B. Kroes
Directeur Nederland

René Hageman
Afdelingshoofd Nederland

Tegen dit besluit kan op grond van het bepaalde in de Algemene wet bestuursrecht door een belanghebbende bezwaar worden gemaakt bij de NVAO. De termijn voor het indienen van bezwaar bedraagt zes weken.

Onderwerp	Standaard	Beoordeling door het panel
1. Beoogde eindkwalificaties	De beoogde eindkwalificaties van de opleiding zijn wat betreft inhoud, niveau en oriëntatie geconcretiseerd en voldoen aan internationale eisen.	Voldoende
2. Onderwijsleeromgeving	Het programma, het personeel en de opleidingsspecifieke voorzieningen maken het voor de instromende studenten mogelijk de beoogde eindkwalificaties te realiseren.	Goed
3. Toetsing	De opleiding beschikt over een adequaat systeem van toetsing.	Voldoende
4. Gerealiseerde eindkwalificaties	De opleiding toont aan dat de beoogde eindkwalificaties worden gerealiseerd.	Goed
Eindoordeel		Goed

De standaarden krijgen het oordeel onvoldoende, voldoende, goed of excellent. Het eindoordeel over de opleiding als geheel wordt op dezelfde schaal gegeven.

Pagina 6 van 6 **Bijlage 2: panelsamenstelling**

- Prof. dr. T.J. Wansbeek, (voorzitter) Emeritus Professor of Statistics and Econometrics, University of Groningen;
- Prof. dr. J. Hartog, (lid) Emeritus Professor of Microeconomics with visiting scholar position, University of Amsterdam;
- Prof. dr. R. Kabir, (lid) Professor and Chair of Corporate Finance and Risk Management, University of Twente;
- S.M. van den Hoek, (student-lid) student Bachelor programme Tax Economics, University of Amsterdam.

Het panel werd ondersteund door drs. W. Vercouteren RC, secretaris (gecertificeerd).