

Besluit

Besluit strekkende tot het verlenen van accreditatie aan de opleiding wo-bachelor Economie en Bedrijfseconomie van de Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Gegevens

datum	Naam instelling	: Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
31 oktober 2017	Naam opleiding	: wo-bachelor Economie en Bedrijfseconomie (180 EC)
onderwerp	Datum aanvraag	: 25 april 2017
Besluit	Variant opleiding	: voltijd
accreditatie wo-bachelor	Locatie opleiding	: Amsterdam
Economie en Bedrijfseconomie	Datum goedkeuren	
van de Vrije Universiteit	panel	: 13 september 2016
Amsterdam	Datum locatiebezoek	: 10, 11 en 18 november 2016
(005641)	Datum visitatierapport	: 6 maart 2017
uw kenmerk	Instellingstoets kwaliteitszorg	: ja, positief besluit van 3 september 2014
CVB/JWB/2017/347		
ons kenmerk		
NVAO/20172470/LL	Beoordelingskader	
bijlagen	Beoordelingskader voor de beperkte opleidingsbeoordeling van de NVAO (Stcrt. 2014, nr 36791).	
2		

Bevindingen

De NVAO stelt vast dat in het visitatierapport deugdelijk en kenbaar is gemotiveerd op welke gronden het panel de kwaliteit van de opleiding voldoende 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 Economics and Business Economics 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, countered free-riding in group assignments, recruited more experienced lecturers and scrutinized the theses' grades.

Pagina 2 van 6 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 programme objectives include preparing students for master programmes in the economics or business economics domain and enabling them to enter the labour market, be it that most students opt for the former career path. The panel welcomes the broadness of the programme, allowing students to gain knowledge and understanding of the economics discipline, to acquire academic and professional skills and, at the same time, enabling them to gain more in-depth understanding of one of the subdomains of the economics discipline.

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 economics and business economics bachelor programmes in the Netherlands and abroad. The profile of this programme as a programme, especially pronounced in teaching academic and research skills, is evident.

In the panel's view, the admission requirements and processes, such as the matching procedures, are adequate for this programme. The mathematics knowledge of applicants is rightly emphasised.

The panel observed the curriculum to reflect all of the intended learning outcomes adequately and evenly and regards the curriculum to be very well designed, well balanced and effective in teaching students the principles of the discipline and academic, professional and research skills. The panel noted corresponding views on the principles governing the curriculum among the Faculty Board, programme management, lecturers and students and considers 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 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.

Pagina 3 van 6 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 both 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 panel studied examinations of a number of courses. The panel establishes these examinations to be of adequate quality and of an appropriate level, meeting the courses' learning goals. The examinations were considered by the panel to be challenging and to address up-to-date subjects.

The panel studied eight theses of students in the programme. One of the theses was assessed by the panel not definitely unsatisfactory but a case of doubt, mainly because the thesis looked somewhat unfinished. More intensive supervision could have prevented this problem. The panel regards the grades of the theses, as given by the examiners to be in some cases slightly too low and in one or two cases somewhat too high. The panel suggests programme management to encourage students to include empirical research in their theses.

The panel assesses the programme Bachelor Economics and Business Economics of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam to be satisfactory and recommends NVAO to grant re-accreditation to this programme.

Aanbevelingen

De NVAO onderschrijft de aanbevelingen van het panel.

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 Economie en Bedrijfseconomie (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 voldoende.

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,



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.	Voldoende
Eindoordeel		Voldoende

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).