Besluit

Besluit strekkende tot het verlenen van accreditatie aan de opleiding wo-master Information Studies van de Universiteit van Amsterdam

Gegevens

Naam instelling	:	Universiteit van Amsterdam
Naam opleiding	:	wo-master Information Studies (60 ECTS)
Datum aanvraag	:	13 december 2013
Varianten opleiding	:	voltijd, deeltijd
Afstudeerrichtingen	:	Business Information Systems
		Human Centered Multimedia
Locatie opleiding	:	Amsterdam
Datum goedkeuren panel	:	7 juni 2013
Datum locatiebezoek	:	25 juni 2013
Datum visitatierapport	:	oktober 2013
Instellingstoets kwaliteitszorg	:	ja, positief besluit van 26 juni 2013

Beoordelingskader

Beoordelingskader voor de beperkte opleidingsbeoordeling van de NVAO (Stcrt. 2010, nr 21523).

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.

The panel has observed that the programme management has taken up the suggestions for improvement, made in the course of the previous accreditation procedure in 2007. The programme management has strengthened the programme's position within the Graduate School of the Faculty of Science and updated their control mechanisms. Apart from these recommendations, the programme management has implemented a number of improvements in the curriculum.

The programme is a joint-venture of University of Amsterdam and VU University Amsterdam, preceding the integration of the Faculties of Science of both institutions.

The panel considers the programme's objectives to be relevant for a master's programme in the field of information studies, both academically and from a domain-specific perspective. As these objectives meet the requirements of the international ACM-AIS model curriculum, the objectives reflect the international domain-specific requirements of the information studies field. In following the ACM-AIS model curriculum, the programme management ensures the objectives to be up-to-date. The objectives, also, incorporate components of the Web-Science curriculum. As this curriculum has not yet acquired the status of an internationally renowned and solidly structured framework, the panel advises the programme management to be cautious about implementing this curriculum and to avoid contradicting the ACM-AIS model curriculum, in particular not to exclude courses of the ACM-AIS model curriculum.

The intended learning outcomes specify the required domain-specific knowledge and skills of the graduates and ensure the graduates to be able to do academic research in this field. The learning outcomes, also, meet the requirements for the graduates' communications skills and their abilities to make judgements. The specific learning outcomes for the two specializations of the programme, Business Information Systems and Human Centered Multimedia, cover these specializations appropriately. The panel considers the learning outcomes to comply with the requirements of a master's level programme. The panel is positive about the profile of the programme, addressing all three information studies areas, technology, human factors and organizational aspects, and focusing on managing and accessing large data collections.

The panel considers the entry requirements for the programme to be relevant and the admission process to be well-organized, admitting students who have a fair chance of completing the programme. The pre- master programme is appropriate, being tailored to the academic or specialization-specific deficiencies the students may have. All the intended learning outcomes are covered in the programme and the contents of the courses and the literature prescribed are at an academic master's level, the full-time and part-time curricula being the same and only differing in scheduling and duration. The students are appropriately acquainted with the academic research in the field, although the research component in the Business Information Systems specialization could be strengthened. The students achieve the integration of the three main disciplines of the information studies field, technology, human factors and the organizational aspects and are offered a multidisciplinary perspective on information field problems.

Although the economic and business administration disciplines are adequately covered in the curriculum, the panel recommends the programme management to remain vigilant in this respect. Also, the panel advises to place more emphasis on project management skills and consultancy skills. Although the structure of the curriculum is satisfactory, the coherence of the curriculum could be strengthened. The panel regards the professional practice to be satisfactorily represented in the curriculum but advises to install an advisory board of representatives of the professional field. The programme management is adequately improving the curriculum and keeping the course contents up-to-date.

The lecturers in the programme are well positioned to convey relevant and in-depth knowledge and skills to the students, drawing upon their strong research background. The educational skills of the lecturers are up-to-standard, as may be deducted from the number of lecturers having a BKO-certificate. Guest lecturers enrich the courses, as they may cover specific topics in-depth and from a business perspective.

The educational model of the programme and the study methods derived from this model are appropriate, whereas the number of contact hours, information provision and study guidance are adequate as well. The students have expressed their contentment regarding these aspects. The panel regards the housing and the material facilities to be appropriate for the programme. Also, the panel is positive about the formal and informal evaluation mechanisms the programme management has put in place.

The panel regards the assessment policy of the programme to be appropriate, the regulations being in line with the University's and Faculty's policy. The board of examiners monitors the examinations and theses adequately, randomly studying these and attending master thesis defenses. The panel has assessed the examinations and finds the quality appropriate. The examination forms (written and oral examinations, assignments and written reports) in the programme are also of adequate quality. Adequate measures have been taken to assess the individual results of the students, if group work is a substantial part of the assessment. The peer-reviewed assessment schemata for the examinations ensure reliable assessments and the feedback on the examinations is adequate. Some of the assessment results, however, were not made available within the required 15 working days after the examination. The master thesis process is satisfactorily organized but could be organized even more strictly, limiting the project duration. The assessment process of the theses is appropriate, including relevant assessment criteria and two qualified examiners for the final assessment. The theses that have been assessed by the panel , range from satisfactory to good or very good. No thesis was identified to be unsatisfactory. Although the contents of the theses are relevant for the information studies field, the panel supports the policy of the programme management to select a number of research themes as subjects for the theses. The scientific structure and quality are up to standard and the level of complexity of the theses meets the requirements of a master's thesis. The professional positions of the graduates are in line with the programme's objectives and intentions.

Aanbevelingen
De NVAO onderschrijft de aanbevelingen van het panel.

Besluit
Ingevolge het bepaalde in artikel 5a.10, derde lid, van de WHW heeft de NVAO het college van bestuur van de Universiteit van Amsterdam te Amsterdam in de gelegenheid gesteld zijn zienswijze op het voornemen tot besluit van 26 mei 2014 naar voren te brengen. Bij e-mail van 1 juli 2014 heeft de instelling ingestemd met het voornemen tot besluit

De NVAO besluitaccreditatie te verlenen aan de wo-master Information Studies (60 ECTS; variant: voltijd, deeltijd; locatie: Amsterdam) van de Universiteit van Amsterdam te Amsterdam. De opleiding kent de volgende afstudeerrichtingen: Business Information Systems, Human Centered Multimedia. De NVAO beoordeelt de kwaliteit van de opleiding als voldoende.

Dit besluit treedt in werking op 31 juli 2014 en is van kracht tot en met 30 juli 2020.

Den Haag, 31 juli 2014

De NVAO
Voor deze:

Dr. A.H. Flierman
(voorzitter)

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.

Bijlage 1: Schematisch overzicht oordelen panel

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

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

Bijlage 2: Feitelijke gegevens

Tabel 1: *Rendement voltijd*

Cohort	2009	2010	2012
Rendement	80%	77%	...%

Tabel 2: *Docentkwaliteit.*

Graad	Ma	PhD	BKO
Percentage	100%	79%	82%

Tabel 3: *Student-docentratio.*

Ratio	25:1

Tabel 4: *Contacturen.*

Studiejaar	1	2
Contacturen	7.7	nvt

Bijlage 3: panelsamenstelling

- prof. E.W. Berghout Ph.D., panel chair, professor of Information Systems at University of Groningen;
- prof. W. Van Grembergen Ph.D., panel member, professor of Information Systems at University of Antwerp and executive professor at Antwerp Management School;
- prof. A. Nijholt Ph.D., panel member, professor of Human-Computer Interaction at University of Twente;
- Y. Oualhadj, student member, studying the master programme Dutch Language and Culture atLeiden University.

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