

Minutes MSc PC – 20 February 2020

Mandeville, T3-42, 12:00 – 14:00 hours

Present	Absent
MS: Maciej Szymanowski (Chair, MM)	AS: Ad Scheepers (PM)
AL: Annelie van der Leelie (Minutes)	NG: Niccolò Ghiggia (HRM)
AST: Adam Stożek (AFM) arrived 12.37	BK: Bas Koene (OCC)
JM: Juan Madiedo (MI)	WH: Wim Hulsink (SE)
MA: Munther Alahmad (SCM)	SZ: Solomon Zori (AFM)
GH: Gabi Helfert (PM)	EC: Elena Corsiglia (MM)
CK: Cynthia Kong (SCM)	AD: Annelore Doeze (SE)
AG: André van Gorp (MI)	HF: Heleen Francoys (SM)
DT: Dimitrios Tsekouras (BIM)	FW: Frank Wijen (SM)
JF: Jan-Filipp Fuhrmann (FI) arrived 12.37	JME: Julija Mell (HRM)
MC: Marcell Csomor (OCC)	
FM: Florian Madertoner (FI)	Guests
GB: Guido Berens (GBS)	NA: Niels Agatz (Academic Director MSc SCM)
TM: Tom van Mierlo (GBS)	WM: Wilfred Mijnhardt (Policy Director of RSM)

1. Opening and announcements

The chair welcomes everybody present.

2. Approval of minutes from MSc PC meeting 23 January 2020 – see attachment

The minutes were approved.

3. Curriculum change SCM – Niels Agatz

NA explains the changes in the MSc SCM programme.

- 1) Two core courses (Global Logistics & IT and Purchasing & Supply Management) will swap blocks. The EC and content of the courses will not change.
- 2) Distribution Networks will move to block 2 and Research Methodology and Design will move to block 3. The essence of the course will not change. However, the structure, the EC's and the workload of both courses will change.

The main goals of the changes are:

- 1) Better prepare students for the thesis by tailoring the content of the research methods to the content/ topic of the student thesis.
- 2) Introduce more practical masterclasses for conducting research and writing a thesis.
- 3) Improved sequencing / interdependence of courses over the blocks which simplifies coordination.
- 4) Improved balance of perceived workload between the blocks.

Suggestions of the committee:

- 1) DT: Research skills course should have compulsory attendance, either with pass/fail or graded. Otherwise there is a chance that fewer students will attend the class.
- 2) MS: Recommendation to organise information sessions to students about thesis topics and methods at the beginning of the academic year, thus students can choose a track in advance.
- 3) MS: Organise an online module in combination with in-class sessions for choosing topics. TM adds that the in-class sessions are important for inspiration, exchanging ideas and attention. FM remarks that they are also important for the interaction between the teacher and students.

The proposed curriculum change in the MSc SCM programme was unanimously accepted by the committee. MS will write a letter of consent.

4. Proposal for the configuration of the MSc PC – Gabi Helfert

GH explains the proposal for the configuration of the MSc PC.

- 1) A new specialisation (Business Analytics and Management) will be launched within the MScBA programme.
- 2) Academic Affairs recommends that all specialisations of MScBA should be represented in the same PC. That also includes PT MIM. The MScBA is strictly speaking one programme, so only has one vote.
- 3) Currently MIM has its own PC but the same TER as the other 1-year MSc programmes, which is problematic in case of disagreements.
- 4) The size of the MSc PC still needs to remain manageable; adding 6 more members to the existing 22 would be critical.

Consequences of the proposed changes

- 1) There will be no confusions because there is one PC per TER.
- 2) The number of MSc PC members stays manageable. However, in order to represent the four programmes in the MSc PC, they should form an MScBA advisory committee where they discuss MScBA topics and determine one student and one teacher to represent these programmes in the MSc PC.
- 3) The PAC model should be rolled out to the MScBA as well.

Suggestions of the committee

MS: The MSc PC has the possibility to invite the other members of the MScBA advisory committee to the meeting so that they can still participate in discussions. Especially if the specific topic belongs to a particular MScBA specialisation.

Even though the committee doesn't have the right of consent or recommendation on this topic, they unanimously support the proposal. MS will write a letter of advice.

5. Updates on the subcommittees

Not discussed

6. Student input on RSM strategic plan – Wilfred Mijnhardt

WM explains the new Strategic Plan 2019-2024 to the student members of the MSc PC.

There is a draft version of the new Strategic Plan 2019-2024 of RSM, based on RSM's mission; *to be a force for positive change in the world*. The following 6 strategic priorities have been identified:

- a) advance positive change impact,
- b) strengthen RSMs education portfolio for mission driven relevance and impact,
- c) create a responsible intellectual hub for research, d) build a diverse and respectful faculty ecosystem,
- e) leverage professional services and facilities for business partnerships and diversification of RSMs funding base.

The MSc PC students were requested to provide input about the implementation of the mission based on questions.

1) How do you see the link between the mission and the way we implement this in the strategic plan (with focus on MSc programmes)? JF indicates that the mission is sufficiently represented in the MSc FI with e.g. ethic and economic aspects of Finance. According to AST, AFM students are sufficiently instructed about ethical behaviour in the accounting field. AG and MC would like RSM to provide organisational support for the well-being of students. MA sees the optimisation and efficiency as main goals of SCM, but states that the mission is also represented in the programme. TM indicates that business sustainability should be seen in a bigger picture. Business is embedded in an ecological and social system, which requires the integration of sustainability.

2) What defines quality of the MSc study experience from your perspective? AST would like to see more selective admission criteria to enhance the programme quality. JF adds that instructors rarely have industry experience, and that there should be a balance between academic content and practical insight.

3) Which skills do you believe are most likely to be relevant for your future careers, and how are these represented in the MSc curriculum or extra-curricular activities at RSM? MC mentions that for OOC it is more important to focus on the method orientation than the content, because people learn the content of the job in practice through different projects.

7. Closing Remarks

8. Action points

What	When	Who
MS will write a letter of consent about the curriculum change in SCM	Before 24 March	Maciej Szymanowski
MS will write a recommendation letter about the proposal for the configuration of the MSc PC	Before 24 March	Maciej Szymanowski

Next Meetings:

24-Mar-20, 12.00h

23-Apr-20, 12.00h

26-May-20, 12:00h

25-Jun-20, 13:00h