

Development Dialogue Report

University College Fryslân

BSc Global Responsibility and Leadership

This development dialogue is related to the re-accreditation site-visit of the above mentioned programme dd. 18 and 19 May 2022.

Participating on behalf of UCF: dr. Indira van der Zande (Programme Director), prof. dr. Anne Beaulieu (College Board member/Responsible Planet Major coordinator), dr. Élise Rouméas (College Board member/Responsible Governance Major coordinator), dr. Berfu Ünal (College Board member/Responsible Humanity Major coordinator), Lily Krugier (secretarial support)

Participating on behalf of the visiting panel (including panel support): prof. dr. B. Oomen (chair), prof dr. H. Romijn, prof. S. Abraham, Ms. J. Nabbe (student member), Mr. M. Delmartino (panel secretary)

During the development dialogue, the panel reflected upon a number of issues put forward by the programme management:

1. Future development of the GRL programme
 - a. Position of Data Science courses and SDGs
 - b. Fostering pluralism in the curriculum and community
2. Student numbers and student population (including scholarships)
3. Strengthening the position of UCF within the Faculty and the wide UC Network

With regard to **future development of the GRL programme** in relation to the position of Data Science, the panel agrees with the programme management that the topic of Data Science seems to ask for a specific approach. The panel suggests to connect (skills related to) data science to the core topics of the programme (climate, governance, health, etc.) and to have specific attention for data literacy. Also, the data science skills could be integrated into assessment during the last year of the programme to make students experience it more from a practical perspective. The panel encourages the board to not shy away from making decisions in favor of a broad and varied curriculum even if some courses are less popular. With regard to the position of the SDGs, the panel emphasizes that sustainability issues are enduring and there is more attention for SDGs now than several years ago, which makes them very recognizable and creates a certain branding for the programme.

To **foster pluralism in the curriculum and community**, the panel advises the programme to teach students to broaden their view to different perspectives as a core skill of the programme and to make sure to let them mingle with other students in the city (NHL Stenden, mbo students) to get a different perspective from outside of their own bubble. This could also be connected to leadership development, as it is important to be open to a plurality of perspectives and diverse voices as a leader.

The panel indicates that we need very good marketing to increase student numbers, and that students are the best ambassadors for the programme. It is strongly encouraged to send out student ambassadors to (their former) high schools to make others enthusiastic for the

programme. Also the parents of students (or alumni) are important because they usually have a broader network that could help spread the programme's name. Parents should be invited for key (online) events to give them a clear picture of what the programme is about. The panel indicates that personal contact with high school students and high school counselors is very important (make sure recruitment events don't interfere with exam periods), as is the presence of the programme during international fairs. Also, the panel suggests that it might be especially worthwhile to look at Belgium for a possible target group of students, since there are no University Colleges there.

With regard to increasing the **funding for scholarships**, the panel suggests investing in the local and regional connection by making this one of the focus points of a senior and well-known academia. In other University Colleges, Deans are looking for funding opportunities for 80% of their time. It is important that the region recognizes itself in the programme. The connection by Dutch or especially Frisian speaking staff members might help to increase the connection of the regional partners to the programme.

In order to **strengthen the position of UCF within the wider CF faculty**, the panel strongly suggests to safeguard its own identity with all of the rituals and involvement of the community. Having a dedicated UCF representative on the Faculty Board will help strengthen the position further. In addition, this would increase the sense of belonging for the whole community, which is so important at University Colleges.