

Report: Quad 2

Academic Year 2023-2024 The 11th EUCSA Board

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Introduction

Dear lovely members,

This is the official report of Quad 2, in which we reflect on our first quad as the 11th board of EUCSA. Similar to the previous Quad's report, this one will include an evaluation of the performance of the board and the committees, as well as the events that were held in this quad. This report is a way for us to be completely transparent with our members, and also includes how we aim to improve throughout the year. We always appreciate feedback, and your suggestions and comments are always welcome. You can reach out to us either via email (board@eucsa.nl), or in the anonymous feedback form on our website: https://www.eucsa.nl/feedback-forms-1.

The EUCSA Board of the academic year 2023/2024 consists of the following members:

- Chair: Ole Kruse
- Secretary Vice-Chair: Zara Havik
- Treasurer: Iris Guyader
- Committee Affairs Officer: Joana de Sousa
- Committee Affairs Officer: Marit Prinsen
- Committee Affairs Officer: Tamar Kramer

As a board, we have and will continue to plan numerous events and services that contribute to the overall functioning of the association. Nonetheless, the majority of events facilitating social opportunities are organized and executed by the committees and/or teams of the association. You can find the assessment of committee events and performance from our Committee Affairs Officers below. As quad reports are rarely read through by our members, we would like to continue our little game, inspired by the 9th EUCSA board. If you read this sentence, please shoot us (board@eucsa.nl) an email saying you did, first one to do so will get a small gift from the board.

Board Assessment

General Assessment

After a dynamic and enlightening Quad 1, we eagerly launched into Quad 2 with a multitude of exciting plans. While we had initially begun preparations for EUCSA weekend in the previous quad, the workload for this event was far more than we had anticipated. Fortunately, everything was already planned out, from the venue and the transport, to the amount of loaves of bread we needed. Nevertheless, the two weeks leading up to the weekend demanded our full attention, as we meticulously added the final touches to ensure its success.

Meanwhile, we were also deep into the planning of the Assembly for Change and Transformation (ACT) in collaboration with SAAC. This added another layer of intensity to our already intense schedule, making the initial weeks of Quad 2 quite challenging.

Despite the hectic pace, we can't overlook how enjoyable it all was. Countless hours spent together in the boardroom not only allowed us to fine-tune our teamwork, but also strengthened our bonds as board members and friends. We found that, although it was busy, everything went smoothly and we worked very well as a team. In reflection, we realize that these challenging moments have brought us closer together, and we look back on them as building blocks for great memories.

Furthermore, Quad 2 saw one of our board members taking some time away for personal and very justified reasons. We wish her all the best and will inform our members of her leaving in a more formal and appropriate setting in the next quad.

Board Initiatives

As explained extensively in the previous quad report, one of our new initiatives is the new pricing policy. This policy change came into effect in Quad 2, starting with the sports teams. As a board, we worked with Sports Co and the sports teams' captains to ensure that all those who regularly take part in sports have either the membership or the sports pass. The reasons for this are detailed in the Quad 1 report, and in the document linked below. However, to summarize, the reason for this change is to prevent a 'free-rider' issue, where non-members are taking part in sports without contributing financially, while members are. The change is thus designed to ensure that sports teams can cover their costs and manage their budgets effectively. We did this by checking the list of regular sports practice attendees, and whether they have a membership or a sports pass. If not, we let them know about the new policy change and hoped they would adjust according to this, which would ultimately benefit their team. Secondly, events that were normally free now have a cost for non-members (as detailed in the document). This change has proved to be a success so far, as non-members have been willing to pay a small fee to attend events, and thus the amount of 'free-riders' has decreased significantly.

Lastly, the third policy change has also worked out quite well. For ticketed events, there is a minimum price difference between member and non-member tickets, which occurred for the Party Co party this quad.

This initiative is aimed at making memberships more accessible to a wider audience while maintaining the financial health of the association. These changes aim to create a more equitable and sustainable pricing system for EUCSA, thus we hope to continue this initiative in future quads.

Detailed New Pricing Strategy for EUCSA.pdf

At the end of the quad, we decided to send out a detailed feedback form to committees, as we always appreciate hearing back from those who make EUCSA what it is today. We know that there is always room for improvement, and we will gladly listen to any feedback from any member. Therefore, we felt that sending out a feedback form is essential. This can be anonymous or not, depending on one's preference. You can find the link below should you wish to send us some feedback and you are part of a committee.

Committee Feedback Form

Assessment of Board Events

EUCSA Weekend: Planning

This event was one we were looking forward to since we began planning the year, and thus we had allocated some budget for this. Based on last year's weekend, we decided to plan this for Quad 2 rather than Quad 3, as Quad 3 is normally quite busy for first years. We also learnt from last year's weekend that promotion is key, so we decided to start promoting everything well before the date. Joana, one of our CAO's, spearheaded the entire planning of EUCSA Weekend. Without her work, it would not have been the success that it was.

The process began with brainstorming what we would like to do during the weekend, and more specifically, what kind of atmosphere we wanted to create. We knew we wanted to make it Fall themed, with cozy activities that are often done during Fall. Our promotion was also centered around this season, so that we could create a visual that students could relate to. Our list of proposed activities included a nature walk, parties, football, volleyball, yoga, a quiz, a scavenger hunt, painting and much more.

The next step was to finalize finances and the location. Joana put together a document with various potential houses we could stay at, and how much each of them would cost. From here, and based on the location's availability, we secured a great house surrounded by a beautiful forest. We then divided tasks amongst each other, ranging from the exact amounts of food and drinks we needed, to the entire schedule and transportation. It is always difficult to fully explain the planning process in words, but to simplify it, there were various small details we suddenly thought of and thus had to add to our already long list of to dos. This is a small snippet of some of the tasks we had to complete: promotion, ticket sales, safety training, safety on site, equipment we own, equipment to buy, shower schedule, packing list, IC meeting, quiz questions, food delivery, grocery shopping, discussions with the house owner, fire safety, and much more. As mentioned previously, it was quite a stressful time bringing everything together, but it all worked out for the best, and there we were waiting for the bus with 60+ students.

EUCSA Weekend: Summary

Two board members left earlier by car to prepare the house and discuss details with the owner. The bus left two hours later to arrive in the early evening, followed by sorting out the sleeping arrangements and cooking dinner. We would like to mention that we had an incredible cooking team who helped us immensely throughout the weekend. After dinner, we prepared for the first party, with a White Lies theme. Everyone wrote lies on a white t-shirt, and overall, the party was enjoyable, and the weekend was off to a great start.

The next morning was the activities morning, so after breakfast, students could join any activity they wanted to participate in: painting, yoga, volleyball, football and board games. Luckily, the weather was on our side, with clear blue skies in the middle of November. Our surroundings were beautiful, with orange and yellow floors and trees. After this, we prepared lunch which was followed by a very successful pub quiz. Everyone was divided into random teams, and it seemed as though everyone enjoyed it. Dinner was then served, and the bonfire began later on. Due to the good weather, we were able to all sit around a fire, roast marshmallows, and sing along to songs played on a guitar. Finally, the night ended with another great party and some stargazing.

Sadly, the final day had arrived, which started off with the sun shining and another great breakfast. We had originally planned a team capture the flag, but after a group vote, the majority voted for a nature walk. So, a large group of us headed off into the woods. Hereafter, we served the final lunch, did a big clean-up with everybody, and then packed up and left for Rotterdam around 16:00.

Some things we would like to share is that almost everything we ate was vegan, and we did end up with quite a lot of extra food, which we gave away to the cooking team and the Foodbank of Rotterdam. We also had a cleaning schedule that everyone signed up for, so each participant contributed to the smooth workings of the entire weekend. We are extremely grateful for everyone who lended a helping hand, we could not have done it without you. There were some difficult moments of course, including cooking in massive pots, which made the cooking take slightly longer than we had anticipated. Another challenge was the final clean-up, as the owner was not satisfied with how we cleaned, even though we had left it cleaner than it was when we arrived. However, after mentioning this to her, we received the full cleaning deposit back.

We are all very happy with the final result. We found that various people were able to bond, get to know each other and in general, simply relax outside of the busy EUC life for three days. We were away from the city with a great group of people, so it was definitely a weekend to remember.

Assembly for Change and Transformation

The Assembly for Change and Transformation (ACT) is a new collaboration between EUCSA and SAAC. The ACT is aimed at making positive changes and taking action within EUC. This is a combination of what used to be the Town Hall and the PIA. The ACT provides a platform for EUC students and committees to share their initiatives, projects and ambitions with each other, and with EUC management. Students submitted proposals for initiatives that aim for change and transformation within EUC. These were sent to EUCSA and SAAC, and thereafter presented at the ACT by the students. This was a success, as both SAAC and EUCSA worked together well, and the committees and students who sent in proposals had presented their ideas expertly. We had some snacks and drinks for the attendees, and we are very happy to say that some members of the management team and staff attended as well. Overall, we believe this was an efficient way to present to EUC's management the changes that students would like to have made.

The next step was for SAAC and EUCSA to meet and discuss all the presentations. From here, we drafted a letter that will be sent to management with all the proposals and solutions that the students presented.

Giving Tuesday

Giving Tuesday is a yearly initiative to raise money for a charity, and to gather food items for the Rotterdam Food Bank. The more money raised and foot items received, the more points we gain. Depending on the amount of points received, the EUCSA board and the management team have to do certain fun challenges. This was done to increase incentive for students to donate, as well as to help promote the charity and the foodbank. This year, the chosen charity was Orange Babies, which is an organization committed to fighting HIV in South-Africa, Namibia, and Zambia. We are very pleased to say that we raised 500 euros to donate to orange babies, and around 250 items for the foodbank. The challenges will be completed in Quad 3, so keep an eye on our instagram for some fun videos!

Holiday Celebrations

This is another new event that we had already planned on doing since the beginning of the year. With this event, we aimed to create a warm and cozy atmosphere where people can come and celebrate their end-of-year traditions and festivities, which is exactly what happened. This event was a huge success, far more than we had anticipated due to last-minute promotion on our side. We hosted it in EUC's atrium, and used all the decorations we could find to transform the space into a winter wonderland.

In collaboration with various committees, we set up different stands, all with different activities that students could take part in, for free! See below all the committees and the activities that took place. Overall, we were extremely happy with the turnout and the effort the committees put into the event.



Financial Overview

General

We have successfully transitioned into the new administration, ensuring a smooth shift both technically and practically. The introduction of our new online reimbursement and classification system has proven to be highly efficient, receiving positive feedback from committees. As a result, we've decided to continue operating with this system.

Financially, most committees have demonstrated resourceful spending, contributing to the overall well-being of the association. Our financial health remains strong.

SAAC Integration

In response to requests from both SAAC and EUC's administration, SAAC has secured a 500 euros subsidy. This fund has been entrusted to EUCSA's treasurer for future management and was thus placed in our bank account.

Committee Feedback

Progress of Marit's Committees

Arts and Performance Co

Arts and performance co held their first official event of the year: a pottery night, at which people could also paint! With too many people there to count, and smiling faces all around, we can conclude it was a very successful event! Moreover, they had their final call backs for the play and finalized their cast. They started the rehearsals, and have been working on the general preparations for the play.

Charity Co

Since Giving Tuesday is the annual tradition of the board and Charity co, this was their main focus at the beginning of the quad. Although there were some struggles, it turned out to be a very successful week, with more than a 1000 points that were collected! On top of that, they had a small bakesale in collaboration with Amnesty International. They also joined us for the ACT, in which they presented everyone with different proposals on how to make EUC more charitable. Lastly, they gladly participated in the Holiday Celebrations, for which they organized a Letter to the elderly event. Everyone was very excited, and lots of cards were crafted and written!

Debating Co

The first event of Debating co was a very big success! To make debating more approachable to all, they decided to host a Dumb Drunk Debating night, at which participants would debate about non-serious topics, while, you guessed it, having a drink here and there. With a full Lucia basement that was filled with enthusiasm, passion, and laughs it is safe to say everyone had a great time! They did not have any other events in quad 2, but have been busy planning those coming in quad 3!

Entrepreneurial Co

Entrepreneurial co decided to postpone their planned event to the next quad, meaning we sadly didn't get the chance to see their events in action yet. However, they have been busy with the preparations, so I can't wait!

Games and Entertainment Co

Although the quad was very filled with events for Games co, they succeeded to turn all of them into great successes! They started off strong with one of their

well-known board game nights. The attendance was high and the vibes were great. Next was the chess tournament, in which multiple participants took on the chance of winning this very well organized competition! Moreover, they collaborated with Party co and Writing and Journalism co for the Murder mystery party, at which they fulfilled some of the roles of the actors, a very fun night! After that, we could all enjoy the first ever EUC Jeopardy Game Show, which they have been, deservedly, very excited about. After the night ended, I think all 12 teams were just as excited as Games co was, as it was a truly amazing night! Lastly, they participated in the Holiday celebrations. At their stand, people took turns trying to beat Santa at Mario Kart, which turned out to be a very hard challenge.

Merch Co

This quad, Merch co worked hard on their first ever drop! They started the quad off with a voting event for the design, through which they collected many, many votes, as well as suggestions. After going through all of them they finalized the design and started preparing for the drop. Although there were some difficulties with the supplier, they succeeded and opened their sales still in the quad. Moreover, they have been working on different kinds of stickers and the design of the Ski trip merch!

MUN Co

MUN co did not have any events this quad, but they have been busy with preparations and planning for their events in quad 3! Moreover, they started preparing for the big MUN conference that will take place later in the year.

Party Co

Party co had a bit of a setback when their venue canceled their confirmation, and unfortunately had to move the planned party. However, when the party came everyone was super excited to both party and solve the murder mystery! The party was a great success, and they succeeded in properly balancing the party with the mystery, which led to everyone having an amazing night! At the beginning of the quad they tried to find a new member, but unfortunately haven't been able to find one yet.

Ski Team

At the beginning of the quad the ticket sales opened for the ski trip, which needed some good preparation from the committee. The ticket sales went smoothly, and they ended up selling 125 tickets! The rest of the quad was not too busy for Ski Team, and mostly filled with keeping up with Totally Snow, some general preparation for the ski trip, the preparations for the pre-trip, and finalizing the collaboration with Merch co for the ski trip hoodie.

Sports Co

After starting the preparations in quad 1, Sports co finalized the Sports pass, and, together with the board, introduced it! There were some small issues that they have been trying to resolve during the quad, and will continue to do so in quad 3. On top of that, they have been keeping up with making sure all the trainings were going smoothly and worked on getting a storage space for their equipment. They also held their first event, at which people could come together to ice skate! The enthusiasm was astounding and everyone had a great time!

Sustainability Co

At the very beginning of the quad, Sus co held their very successful event the Meet and Green. It was an evening filled with lectures about the different disciplines of sustainability. They succeeded in getting a big variety of guest speakers and organizations attending, and had a very high number of students joining them as well, all together, an amazing night! After that, they worked on their ACT proposal, and joined us for the night itself, at which they presented multiple proposals to us on how to improve sustainability within EUC. Lastly, they participated in the holiday celebrations, for which they organized a flEaUC, and they baked vegan gingerbread which people could decorate themselves, both very fun and successful!

Travel Co

Travel co continued working on their summer trip that will follow later this year, and has been finalizing all the details with the supporting organization! They were planning to do an event, but unfortunately had to move it forward, so we have something to look forward to!

Progress of Joana's Committees

Cultural Cooking Co

Cooking Co hosted a Diwali event in November, and they helped us out with a cookie stand at the EUCSA holiday event!

Dance Co

Dance Co is focusing solely on the UCSRN tournament, and they will soon start looking for members to form their team. I am very excited to see how they do this year, as last year's dance team did not disappoint!

Feminist Collective

Fem Co went all out this quad and they hosted two screenings of the first season of fleabag, a session of sexy wine talks, they had a movie screening at the EUCSA holiday event. They also opened up the registrations for the book club, which will be happening next quad!

Film and Photo Co

Film & Photo Co organized a screening of the famous movie The Truman Show. It was their only event in Quad 2, but they have some more things planned for the rest of the year.

Future Co

Future Co organized their usual professional (linkedin) photoshoot. The chair of the committee decided to step down, but another member was ready to fill in that position, therefore they are back on track!

Gala Team

Gala Team has been working hard to plan their big event. They have already settled on a venue and a date, and will now work on the actual party. I am very excited to see what they come up with!

Health and Wellness Co

In Quad 2 Health and Wellness Co collaborated with EUR Student wellbeing team to organize some events for Wellbeing week: smoothie cycle, healthy snack stand, and yoga class. All the members are very active and committed, and the committee is working well.

Music Co

Music Coorganized some small jam sessions in the music room of Lucia. They also organized an Open Mic at Jazzcafé Dizzy, which ended up having to be moved to the Lucia Basement. The committee has also lost two members, and has reopened their applications. Despite these setbacks, they are motivated to continue planning more events this semester!

POC Co

POC Co hosted their first event this quad, which was a successful movie screening!

Podcast Co

Podcast co has been really active during quad 2, they uploaded several videos on instagram, where they interview different students at EUCSA events. They have also posted their first podcasts on spotify. They are doing amazing work!

Queer Collective

Queer Co was not active in quad 2. The chair has decided to step down and therefore the committee is in a bit of a transition period.

TEDxEUC

TEDxEUC is inactive this year.

Writing and Journalism Co

Writing & Journalism was also quite busy during this quad, with many events on their hands. They organized their Write for Rights event in collaboration with Amnesty international, they helped Party Co with writing of the murder mystery party. Last but not least, they published their first issue of the Broken Printer magazine, which was a big success!

Progress of Ole's Committee

Exhibition Team

There is new Art all around EUC! The Exhibition Team collaborated with the Erasmus Gallery and helped curate and hang the art in the building, especially in the classrooms on the first and second floor. The art was provided by the Erasmus Gallery. The pieces displayed at EUC are from Sigrid Calon's monumental installation 'WOVEN GRIDS series SC_1' (2022), consisting of forty textile works measuring 65 x 65 cm and executed in Jacquard fabric, wool & trevira. In addition to the "woven grids", the Risoprint designs of the installation were also added to the collection.



Progress of Zara's Committee

Yearbook Co

Yearbook Co started off Quad 2 strong! They prepared a timeline for all of their tasks in order to ensure a timely delivery of this year's yearbooks. The committee is made up of first years, but they are working incredibly well together. They opened up a competition for students to design the front cover of the yearbook, and the winner would receive a free book, as well as recognition on the front page. They decided to go with someone who has a brilliant eye for design, so we are excited to see what will become of our 2023-2024 yearbook!

Quad 2 Calendar

Week 1: 30/10/23 - 05/11/23

- Reopening of EUCSA memberships (Board)
- Meet and Green (Sustainability Co)

Week 2: 06/11/23 - 12/11/23

- ACT proposals deadline (Board)
- Professional Photoshoot (Future Co)
- EUCSA Weekend (Board)
- Diwali Event (Cultural Cooking Co)

Week 3: 13/11/23 - 19/11/23

- Assembly for Change and Transformation (Board & SAAC)
- Fleabag Screening (Feminist Co)
- Board Game Night (Games Co)
- POSE Screening (POC Co)
- Girls' Football Game (Sports Co)
- Book Club Sign-ups (Feminist Co)

Week 4: 20/11/23 - 26/11/23

- Fleabag Screening (Feminist Co)
- Chess Tournament (Games Co)
- Voting for Your Favorite Design (Merch Co)

Week 5: 27/11/23 - 03/12/23

- Dumb Drunk Debate (Debate Co)
- Film Screening (Film & Photo Co)
- Pottery Night (Arts & Performance Co)
- Sexy Wine Talks (Feminist Co)
- Giving Tuesday (Board & Charity Co)

Week 6: 04/12/23 - 10/12/23

- Bake Sale (Charity Co)
- Jeopardy Night (Games Co)
- Write for Rights (Writing and Journalism Co)
- Ice Skating (Sports Co)

- Murder Mystery Party (Party Co)
- Open Mic (Music Co)
- Holiday Celebrations (Board & Committees)

Week 7: 11/12/23 - 17/12/22

- Pick up Giving Tuesday Scarf (Board)
- First Merch Drop (Merch Co)
- Order a copy of Broken Printer Magazine (Writing & Journalism Co)