

*Position paper March 2016
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Situation sketch

Many new students face problems connecting their previous education to their TU studies. This problem is twofold: they have to get used to a different type of study material and a different mentality is required than they are used to. These problems lead to drop-outs and low study efficiency in the bachelor's phase. In the past, TU Delft has made funds available to improve the connection, but that has now dried up. However, several initiatives are still on the table and ORAS must ensure that these projects are continued and that new projects are started if necessary, with the emphasis on good information and guidance. The information must give a realistic picture of the training. The information must not only show off spectacular projects and exiting subjects, but it must also be made clear that there are difficult/dull subjects that require hard work.

In 2021 there are concerns about the level of knowledge of graduates who want to do their further education at TU Delft. These students have now had one and a half years of corona education, which is often of a lower quality than the former education.

On the advice of ORAS, TU Delft started a pre-university Calculus MOOC in 2015. Such a MOOC has a lot of potential because it is, among other things, the mathematics subjects that are difficult for beginning students in Delft.

ORAS's vision

In an ideal situation, the level after VWO would link up seamlessly with the education at the TU Delft. Given that this is by no means always the case, ORAS sees developments such as the pre-university Calculus MOOC as a positive development. In the long term, more MOOCs will need to be created (in any event for physics) to improve the transition from pre-university education to university education. ORAS does not believe that there should be higher admission requirements for study programmes at TU Delft (such as compulsory Mathematics D or a 7 average). However, students must be well informed about the level of education at the TU Delft. The information should be realistic.

ORAS also finds it important that students, who have obtained their VWO diploma in corona times, should not be behind at the beginning of their study at TU Delft compared to the normal years. TU Delft should offer enough opportunities to bring any knowledge gap up to the required level for starting a study at university.

¹ Highest Dutch education level before scientific university level of education.

² Scientific university level of education.