

*Position paper December 2015
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Verschoolsing¹

Situation sketch

Society

Long-term students are less and less accepted by society. This is mainly because scientific university education is under pressure. More and more students go to university and universities have to absorb this influx. Government funding does not grow proportionally to the increase in students. This results in less money per student. The government also sees this as a problem and therefore decided to make performance agreements with the universities in 2012.

Consequences for TU Delft

TU Delft has also made performance agreements with the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science. In particular, the length of the Bachelor's degree has been scrutinized and measures have been taken to ensure that 55% of the students have obtained their Bachelor's degree within 4 years.

This performance agreement was made between the CvB and the Ministry. Next, the lecturers have to make sure that the students pass as many courses as possible as quickly as possible. This results in lecturers (often well-intentioned) making as many lectures as possible compulsory or inserting small interim tests to keep the student "on his toes" at all costs.

Consequences for students

Due to an accumulation of obligations, the student is guided too much through his studies. Because of this extension of high school, only one type of student functions well. The active, motivated student has less freedom to plan his study programme and is less able to develop himself. He has less room to choose for himself when to do his studies, committees, sports or club activities. Working independently and learning to plan are no longer taught because the student has his planning imposed on him.

ORAS's vision

Obligations in the first six months are used to facilitate the transition from secondary to higher education. At university, students have to work harder and obligations ensure that they get used to this. Ideally, however, the student will learn to take his own responsibility. This means that he studies from his own motivation. A student must study for the content of the subject and not to tick off his subjects. In addition, a student must be able to choose how and when to study. He should be supported in this by the TU Delft and not be forced by his study programme. Also, students should be given the opportunity to learn from their mistakes as part of the learning process and not be immediately punished for it. The speed of studying should not be a goal in itself of the university, training students to become the best engineer is.

¹ More high school like educational obligations