



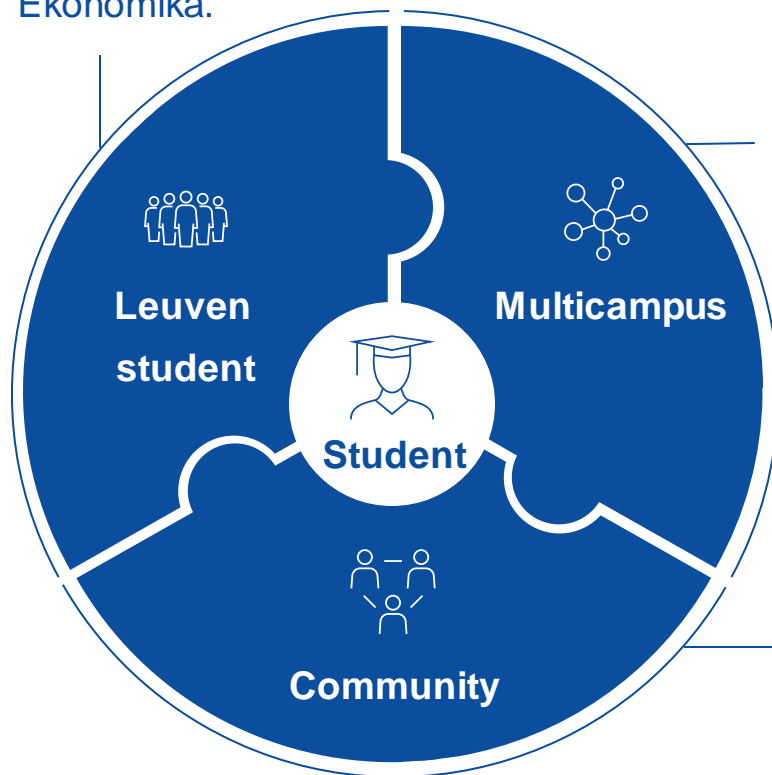
Policy Candidate-Praesidium

94th year of operation

Summary

Ekonomika acts as a platform so that all FEB-students can make the most of their student time

Any FEB-student in Leuven who already is, or is yet to come into contact with Ekonomika.



On the one hand, this encompasses Ekonomika Brussels, Ekonomika Kulak and Absoc students. On the other hand, all praesidia members from our 3 campuses.

The volunteers at our organization. Thanks to them, Ekonomika can achieve its goals.

As the candidate praesidium, we are putting our focus on 3 essential student archetypes. Using 3 tracks, we're placing these students at the center of our operations.



Community: By focusing on supporting our volunteers, encouraging collaborations across committee boundaries and putting extra effort into personal development, we're looking to optimize their experience.



Multicampus: We want to increase the involvement between the different FEB campuses. On the one hand, we will be doing this by focusing our attention on the flow of students to the Leuven campus. On the other hand, we aim to create unity through a convergence towards similar praesidia structures over our campuses.



Leuven student: Striving towards a sense of involvement and belonging amongst FEB-students in Leuven.



Excellence

Internal operation

- Strong in knowledge management

Student representation

- Involving students as much as possible

Events and facilities

- Quality over quantity
- Ekohub as the heart of campus



Openness and involvement

Community

- Home for all students
- Proud economists

Accessibility

- Accessible Ekonomika
- International offer

Talent management

- Growth of our volunteers
- Opportunities for all
- Happy people

Communication

- Maximum transparency
- Targeted communication



Innovation

Organizational Culture

- Strong culture
- Visionary organization

Organizational structure

- Organic operation



Responsibility

Social role

- Partnerships
- Diverse and inclusive organization

Organizational Ethics

- Code of Ethics



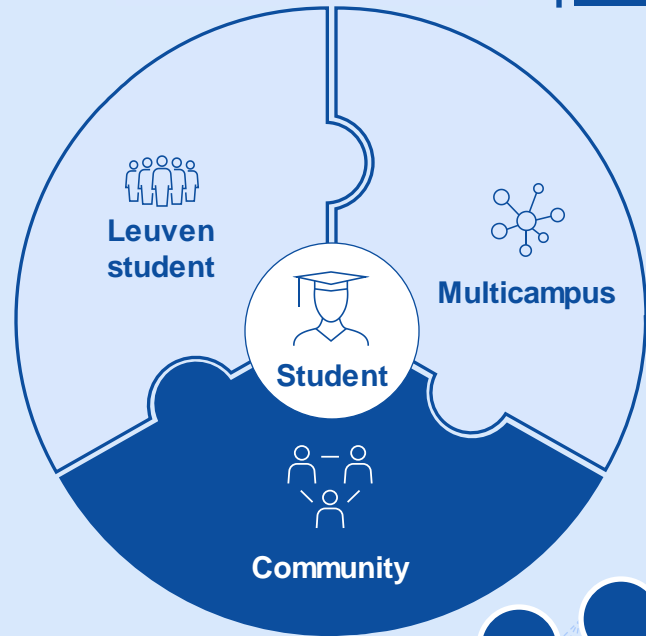
Multicampus

FEB-association

- Multicampus

Community

In a nutshell



With there being considerable room for improvement in the support of our committee and team members, we have chosen to expand the Praesidium to include a Vice-President Community. With the new structure, Community becomes the enabler for interactions across committee and team boundaries.

Our 3 focus points

How we will implement this

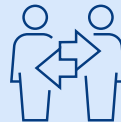
X Discussed in greater detail

A Support



Community will serve as an additional **point of contact** in the 94th year of operation. The committee provides a **listening ear** separate from the standard day-to-day operations. It creates a safe space in which **confidentiality** is guaranteed. Through regular feedback sessions, ties with committee and team members are maintained.

B Experience the full Ekonomika



Through the **Full Ekonomika Experience**, interested committee members can **participate** in other committees' projects. Thus, they discover the impact and functioning of the, previously unknown to them, part of the association. They broaden their **personal interests** with a view to further, different engagement in the future.

C Personal development

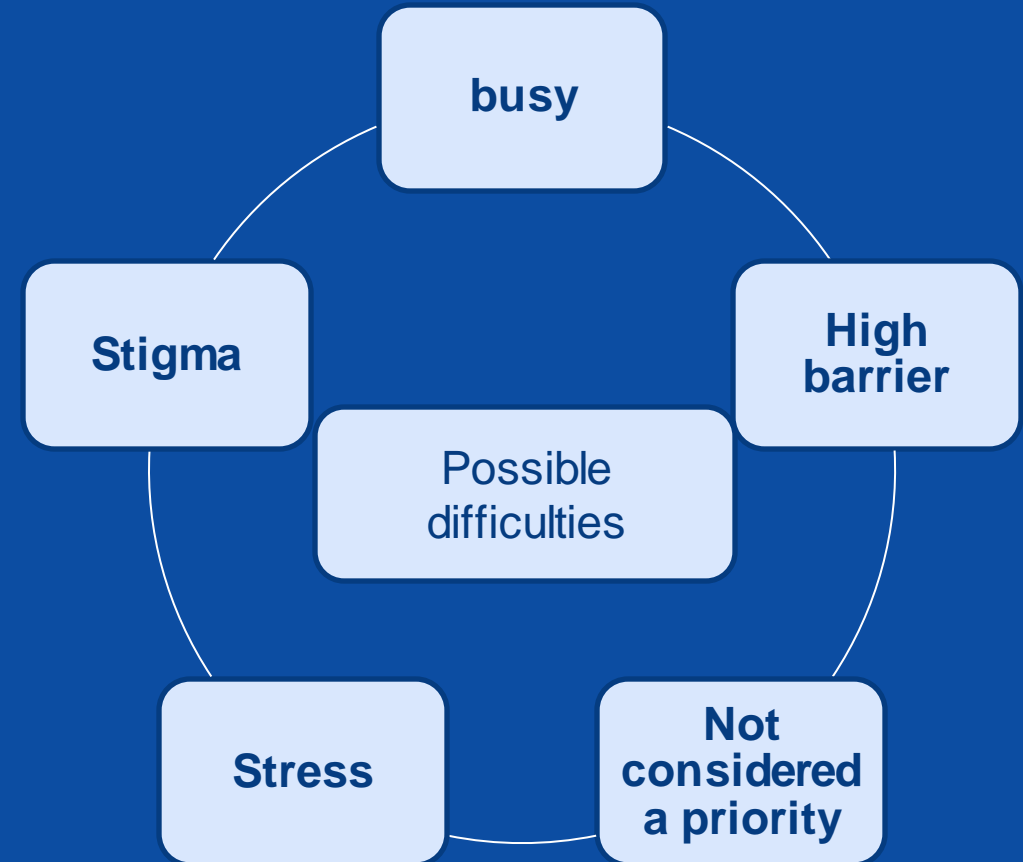


We want to focus on personal development and, through **Eko Exchanges**, offer the opportunity for greater commitments and **responsibilities** according to the preferences of committee and team members. Here we support them in the development of skills needed to achieve their intended goal.



approachability

Whereas members can often turn to their vice or team lead, it may be desirable to be able to turn to someone who is outside the direct operation of the person in question and has been involved in this more often. This should have certain characteristics that we will discuss further later.



A Point of contact

The Community Committee will act as a point of contact for the association and is based on 6 key principles



Accessibility

The threshold for entering into a conversation should be as low as possible, such that it is accessible to everyone.



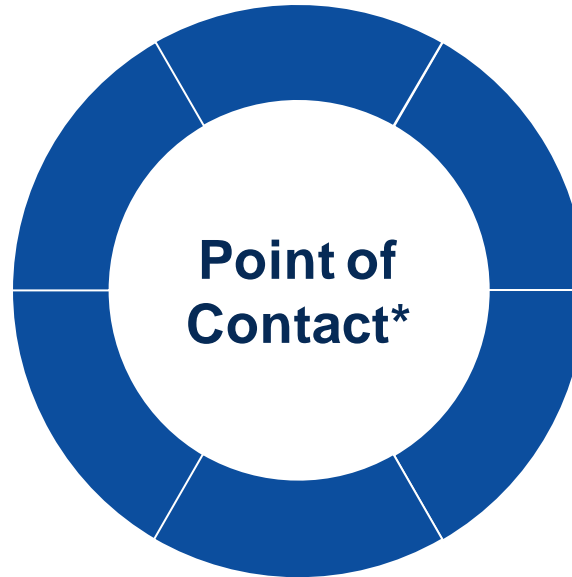
Confidentiality

The Community contact is always confidential unless someone indicates they do not want it.



sympathetic ear

Community makes time and offers itself for good conversation.



Reporting

Matters relevant to the Praesidium, for example, a general feeling that prevails, are reported anonymously.



Availability

Various channels will be made available. Both via formal (email) and informal (social media) ways, Community is making itself available.



Admissibility

A conversation should not just be about Ekonomika-related issues. Community opens itself up to any conversation.

*Clear initiatives are discussed in the Appendix

B Committee borders

There is a clear opportunity for operation to facilitate more interactions across committee boundaries



Within the daily operation of our association, there is already some form of contact between members from other committees or teams. This cooperation has often grown organically over the years, caused by similar focal points, such as Ekonomika Career and nightlife.



Nevertheless, a majority of our volunteers indicate a need for broader collaboration beyond the superficial contact that already takes place. Thus, there is a clear opportunity to further facilitate this collaboration across committee boundaries to increase transparency in the association.

B Full Ekonomika experience

We want to offer committee members the "Full Ekonomika experience" to bring them more in touch with the whole operation and other committees



There is clearly a need for a broader Ekonomika experience

X Discussed more in detail below

Community is trying to bring this through the following initiatives



- 1 We offer committee and team members the opportunity to learn more extensively about the workings of other committees and teams. In this way, we also pursue a more integrated and engaged internal functioning.
- 2 Committee and team members will have equal opportunity to get to know people with whom they do not regularly interact. This opens the door for creative and positive collaboration across committee and team boundaries.



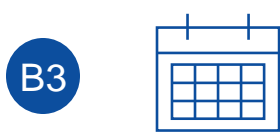
B1 Exchange X

Committee members who want a deeper understanding of operations and to take on additional responsibilities across committee boundaries can engage more broadly through exchange.



B2 Matrix-structure X

A new internal structure committed to collaboration across committee boundaries.



B3 Bonding activities*

Bonding activities should promote broader cooperation and knowledge across committee boundaries.

*Clear initiatives are discussed in the Appendix

B1 Exchange

We want to give committee members the opportunity to explore different facets of Ekonomika and engage in a broader engagement

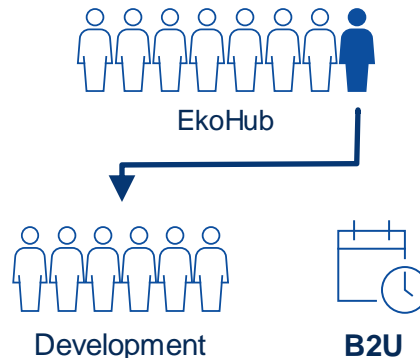


'Exchange' concept

The Exchange concept allows committee members to gain experience on another committee or team. Opportunities will be publicized through a central location, and committee members interested in doing so can be put in touch with the appropriate person. Ownership of this principle will fall to the vice praeses Community?

Example

A committee member EkoHub wants to gain experience on Committee Development and help organize a major event. Committee Development announces that they could use help with organizing the B2U. After announcing the exchange opportunity, he/she can apply to participate in this; those interested can attend a meeting and make a slightly larger commitment instead of normal shifts.



How this is going to enhance the experience

Ins & Outs of other committees

With an eye toward continuing their engagement, committee members are often interested in other committees and functions. By participating in a short exchange, committee members can discover new committees and get to know other members of the operation.

Making additional commitments

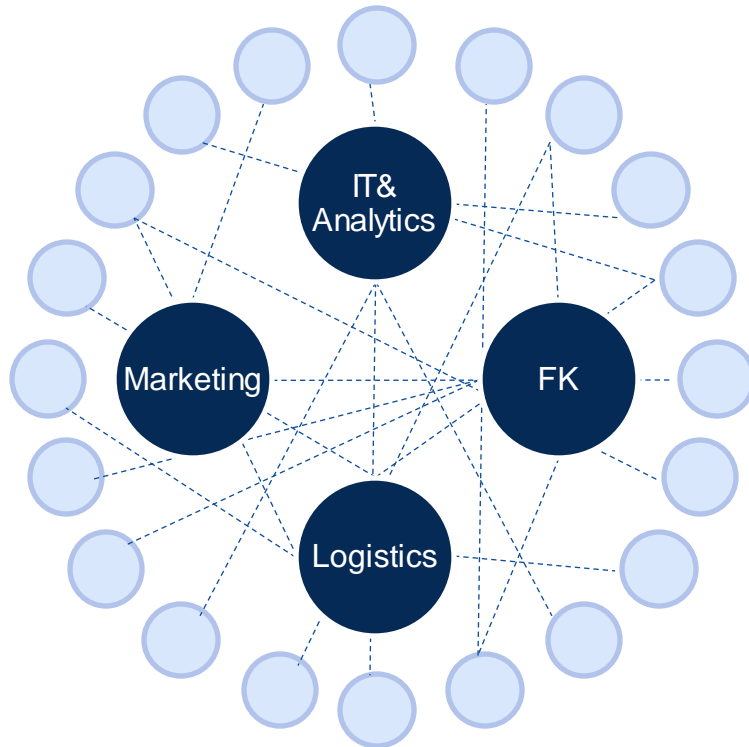
The exchange allows committed committee members to take on further responsibility across committee boundaries. In addition, the exchange can be used to accommodate the workload of committee members who are in busy peak periods. Committee members can thus add additional ownership internships to their Ekonomika curriculum.

Development of new skills

Tasks between different committees vary greatly. Through an exchange, committee members can develop personal skills that are less covered within their own functions. Thus, they expand their personal toolkit and develop a Swiss army knife of skills.

B2 Matrix-structure

A new internal structure committed to cooperation across committee boundaries



Example: After a committee IT&A member has done an analysis for a committee, he/she will come and present it to the committee in question; thus, there will be an open brainstorming session to here

Example: Leading up to a major event, a marketing committee member will sit down with the relevant committee to work out More Innovative Events.



More efficient collaboration among committees

- The current way of working lacks personal contact between the executive event committees and the supporting support committees. As a result, much vital information is lost during the communication and organization process of an event.
- On the one hand, the matrix structure aims to promote and facilitate communication and exchange between committees and event groups, making exchanges smoother and each event enjoy personal attention.



Opportunity to experience Ekonomika across committee boundaries

- There are identified needs of committee members to both explore the workings of other committees and be able to collaborate with committee members from several committees.
- The matrix structure allows for more collaboration within the internal Ekonomika community. Thus, different committees come into contact in everyday functioning and everyone gets to know each other better. Stronger internal ties are the key to efficient internal operations and successful events.



Personal development

Comitéleden geven aan dat personal development voor hen een belangrijke reden is voor hun engagement



Our volunteers indicate that the main reason for their commitment is the social aspect (social interactions and fun). This is already being addressed within Ekonomika through the bonding moments organised at various times throughout the working year.



However, we also note that a significant proportion of them have personal development as the reason for their commitment. This is an aspect that has so far remained underexposed within the internal workings of our association.



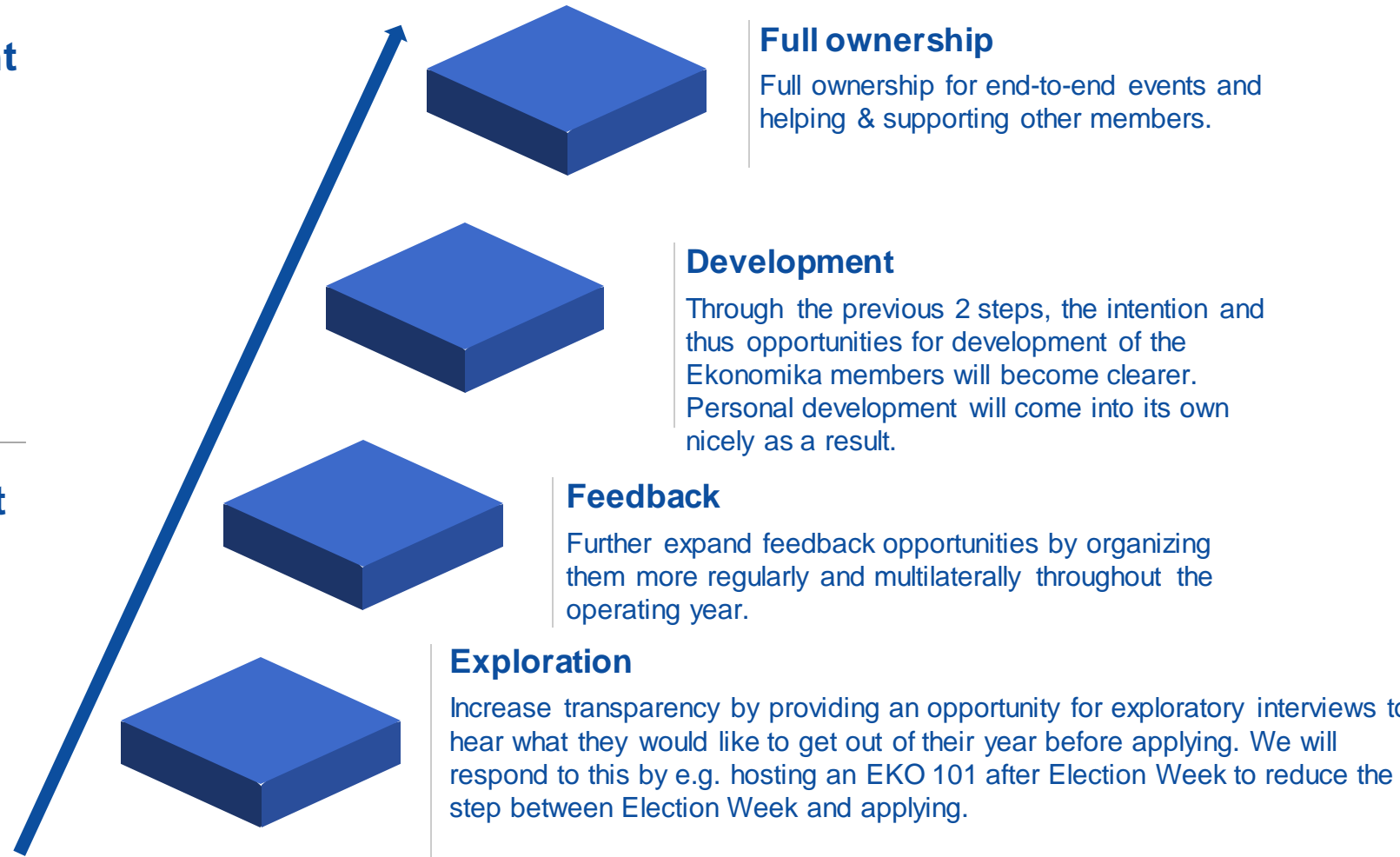
Tailored additional engagement

Within the operation of Ekonomika, members can choose to obtain tailored additional responsibilities on top of their committee or team engagement and thereby develop additional skills. An example of this is the already introduced Eko Exchanges.



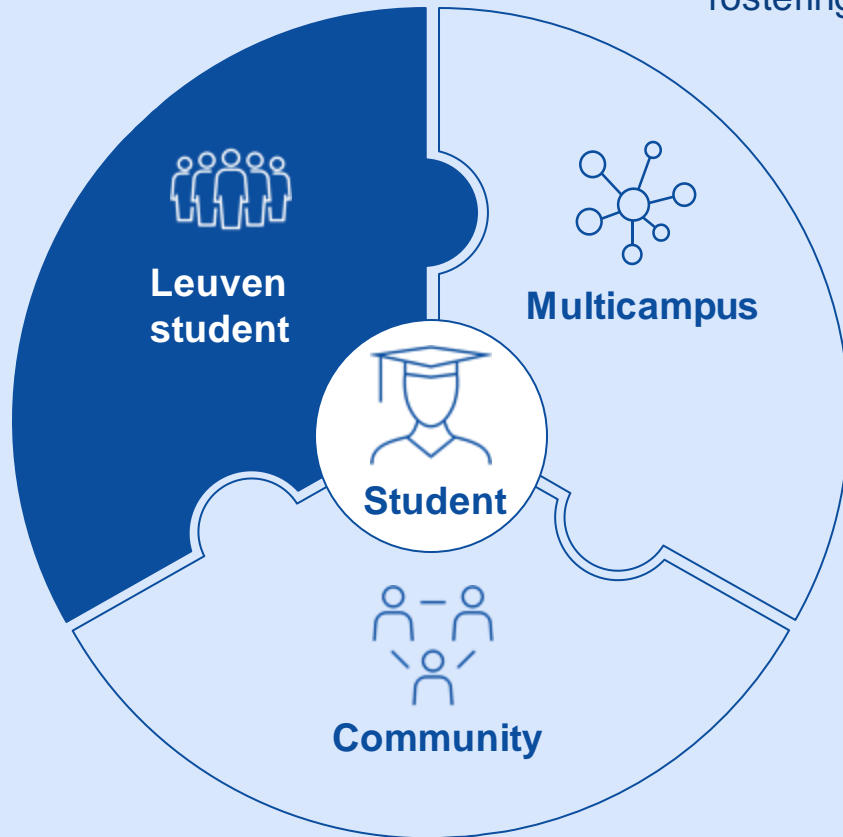
Personal development support

We provide personal development for our members through follow-up and support. The implementation of this will be discussed later.





As an association, we represent the student at FEB. We have been doing this for years on the basis of a diptych: Utile - Dulci. In the 94th year of operation, we will advance this principle by fostering a sense of involvement and belonging among students.



Goals we want to achieve:

- Commit to student involvement in our association; an Ekonomika of everyone
- We want to create a sense of belonging among fellow students

To achieve these goals, the 94th year of operation will focus on 3 focal points.

- Strengthen the connection of the Leuven FEB student with Ekonomika through the focal point Eko as Buddy
- We want a Smooth Experience for the international students, such that we can involve them more closely in our association
- We want to work the bonding of fellow students into hands through concrete new initiatives



Connection

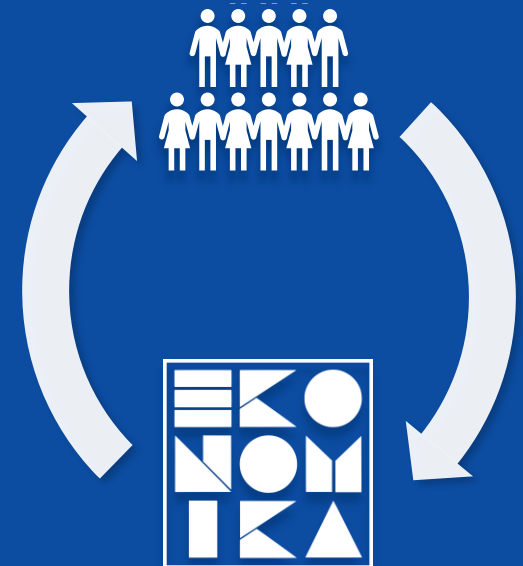
- Students who feel connected to their sororities generally have a better university experience.

Connecting and networking

- Thanks to a sense of involvement, FEB students can expand their network. Working with alumni can play a big role in this, especially for the student's professional development and career opportunities.

FEB & Ekonomika

- A student association that focuses on unity will thus promote cooperation with the faculty. This will lead to a faculty and an association that can offer more to its students, thus optimizing the Leuven experience.



Togetherness

Creating a stronger sense of unity among FEB students among themselves is important because...



Support

- When students know each other and have a sense of mutual belonging, they are more likely to support each other. This can be especially important during challenging periods, such as when preparing for exams or dealing with personal problems. This sense of unity could be extended beyond studies through closer cooperation with Ekonomika Alumni.

Professional development

- Social connectedness among faculty students can also lead to career development opportunities. Students can share professional experiences, provide references or even engage in entrepreneurship projects together.





A Eko as Buddy

As a student organization, we strive to be accessible to every student. We want to create a supportive and safe environment where students feel comfortable and can go with all their questions. This will be done in the 94th year of operation through the Eko as Buddy initiative.



B Smooth Integration

With Smooth Integration, we want to strive to make Ekonomika accessible, focusing on communication and touch points between Ekonomika and the international student.



C Student Social

We want to put a specific focus on bonding and contact moments among FEB students. This will allow students to bond, network and relax after class through playful "after-work" events.

A Eko as Buddy

We willen een ondersteuningscyclus creëren waarin we als buddy studenten bijstaan tijdens het semester

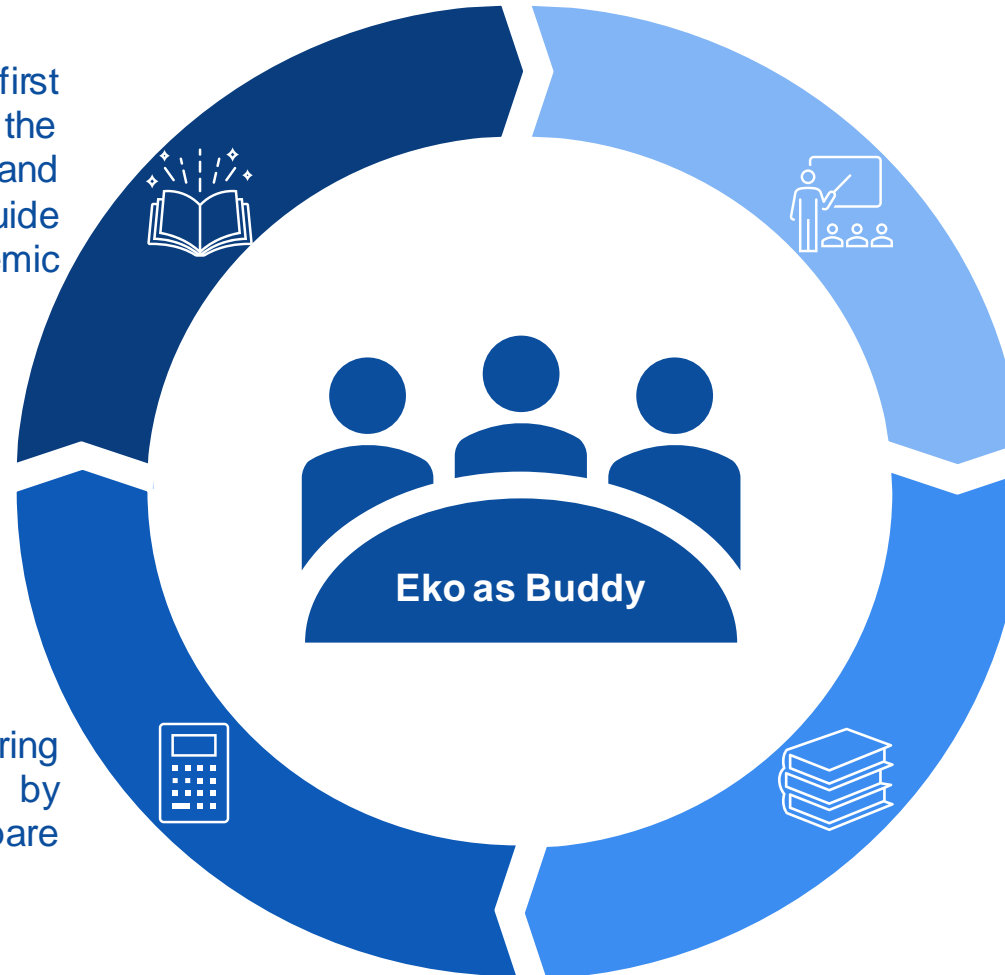


Buddy at the reception

Ekonomika acts as a buddy from the first stages in the student journey. Thanks to the introduction of a "Leuven Guide" with tips and tricks, such as recipes or hotspots, we guide students in their first weeks of the academic year.

Buddy at the first exam

We want to assist Leuven students during this stressful period. This can be done by providing pens on each bench, spare calculators in the auditoriums, etc.



Buddy after class

Throughout the academic year, Ekonomika wants to constantly assist students before and after classes. In doing so, we want to reach them in an approachable way by handing out smoothies or coffees.

Buddy while studying

During the block period, we also want to give students a boost. This by putting extra effort into giveaways in the EBIB, goodie bags and EkoBlok in general.



Optimalisation website

To make the website's information accessible to internationals as well, it is essential that the English-language site be optimized. For the international student, the site serves as the main source of information. Hence, in the 94th year of operation, we want a website where not only local but also international students can go with all their questions.



Ekobar

For both local and international students, Ekobar serves as a place to meet and relax. We want to increase accessibility for all our students, with an extra focus on the international student. Therefore, from now on, we want to make the menu in Ekobar also available in English via a QR code, so that they also feel welcome in our Ekobar.



Smooth Integration



Bonding among students

More effort will be made in the 94th year of operation for low-threshold bonding among FEB students.



Example initiative:

An "after-work" in the Dulci for master's students



Alumni collaboration

We want to provide more contact opportunities between students and alumni during the 94th year of operation. We focus here on both Utile-focused professional get-togethers and Dulci-focused fun-filled return moments.



Example initiative:

Networking opportunity between students and alumni at the Career Kick Off



EkoHub as central hotspot

We want to make the EkoHub a central meeting point where all FEB students come together and connect. We also welcome them after class hours to work or relax.



Example initiative:

Thesis cafe with discounted snacks and coffee after 2 p.m.



Our 2 focal points

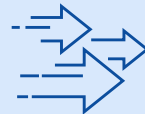
How we implement this

A Involvement among the 4 FEB-campuses

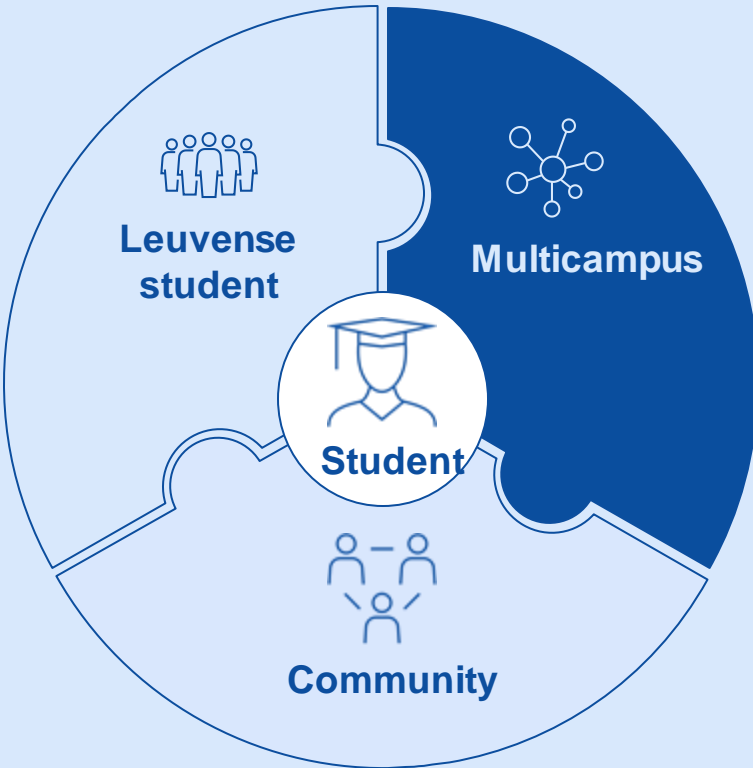


Cooperation: Prior to the commencement of the academic year, all faculty associations of the Faculty of Economics and Business (FEB) **inform each other** of the events to which they have been invited at various campuses. In this manner, we strive to foster **greater connectivity and engagement** among the campuses. Furthermore, it is imperative to **share knowledge** among vice-presidents with similar roles, ensuring optimal functioning of all campuses.

B Smooth and efficient student flow



Blending: It is imperative that Ekonomika Leuven be well-known among the "**new**" **non-freshman** students at the Faculty of Economics and Business (FEB). Their **opportunities** must be communicated clearly and transparently, ideally prior to their arrival in Leuven. Upon arrival in Leuven, it is also crucial that these students **be welcomed and integrated** into the broader community of Leuven students, so that they become a part of a larger whole.



Multicampus focal points

In order to evolve into a fully multicampus association, there are two pivotal points that must be addressed



Engagement between campuses

In organizing large-scale events such as a ball, a 24-hour relay race, or the Election Week, it sometimes happens that the other **campuses fade into the background**.



The throughput of students

At the **start** of the academic year, non-first-year students (at FEB) arrive in the **unfamiliar city** of Leuven. They have not yet made contact with Ekonomika Leuven and are **scarcely aware of its functioning**.



Aligning yearly planning.

Both prior to and throughout the operational year, we aim to proactively engage with the various campuses concerning **the calendars of the Faculty Associations (FEB)**. This will enable active reflection on potential collaborations and the enhancement of reach for selective events.



Knowledge transfer and best practice sharing

For the 94th operational year, we aim to focus **on knowledge transfer and best practice sharing** to facilitate more efficient **collaboration** and establish stronger ties between the various campuses. We intend to achieve this through meetings between the respective responsible parties and by utilizing high-quality file exchanges in a **multicampus drive** for sharing relevant documents.



Specific initiatives

Furthermore, we aim to facilitate the development of Ekonomika Brussel and Kulak through specific initiatives and improve collaboration with Absoc.

- Organizing an **Election Week in Brussels**, where we will assist with the creation of a dedicated election magazine and providing goodie bags.
- **Co-organize activities** that bring students from different campuses together, such as Multicantus and Business TD in Antwerp.
- Providing **organizational and operational support**, including the provision of personalized Ekonomika email addresses for Brussel and featuring Ekonomika Kulak on our website.
- **Personalized committee clothing** for both Ekonomika Kulak and Brussel.
- **Startbudget** for Ekonomika Kulak.

B Throughput

We want to welcome students coming from another campus to Leuven just as warmly as first-year students.



Kortrijk visit

A visit to the Kortrijk campus to raise **awareness of Ekonomika** among Kulak students, to inform them about both a good start in Leuven and the functioning of Ekonomika and its **application process**. In doing so, we hope to ignite a passion for involvement with Ekonomika during its 94th operational year.

Information evening

An evening in which the **core of the association** is presented can be very interesting for the students. The focus is on every **non-first-year student** who is new to Leuven. In addition, through this information session, we aim to generate interest in **filling any remaining team positions**.

Orientation evening

When FEB students transition to Leuven, they often have little to no knowledge of the workings of Ekonomika. Through close collaboration with Ekonomika Kulak and Ekonomika Brussels, a welcome/orientation evening is organized specifically for these **throughput students**. During this evening, we warmly welcome them to our beautiful student city and introduce them to our association. This event would be the result of **co-creation between O&J and Education**.

Leuven city tour & jenever tasting walk (O&J)

A city tour of Leuven combined with a jenever tasting walk offers an exciting opportunity to blend new non-first-year students with others who are already familiar with the city. This way, **Utile is linked to Dulci**, creating a **win-win** situation for both groups of students.

Standard events

A **targeted promotion** combined with **raising awareness** for events specifically designed for transitioning students not only results in a larger turnout but also instills a sense of recognition among this group of students. The **marketing committee** will play a crucial role in achieving this..

Application

**The overview of candidates for the 94th operating year of
Ekonomika**

COMMUNITY



Hannah Dewulf

Candidate President



Dries Geuens

**Candidate Vice-
President Community**

MEETING POINTS



Vincent van Dun

**Candidate Vice-
President EkoHub**



Leni Naegels

**Candidate Vice-
President Dulci**

DULCI



Tim Rebhavets

**Candidate Vice-President
Leisure Activities**



Margaux Janssens

**Candidate Vice-President
Sport & Culture**



Margot Brismoutier

**Candidate Vice-President
Student Welcome &
Orientation**



Orphee Bocklandt

**Candidate Vice-President
International**

UTILE



Arne Mestdagh

**Candidate Vice-President
Education**



Gilles Wouters

**Candidate Vice-President
Development**



Julie Nicasi

**Candidate Vice-President
Business Relations**



Warre Vandevoorde

**Candidate Vice-President
Business Relations**

SUPPORT



Arman Kalantaryan

**Candidate Vice-President
Finance**



Ellen Heyman

**Candidate Vice-President
Marketing**



Lucas Maes

**Candidate Vice-President
Logistics**



Thibo Exelmans

**Candidate Vice-President
IT&Analytics**