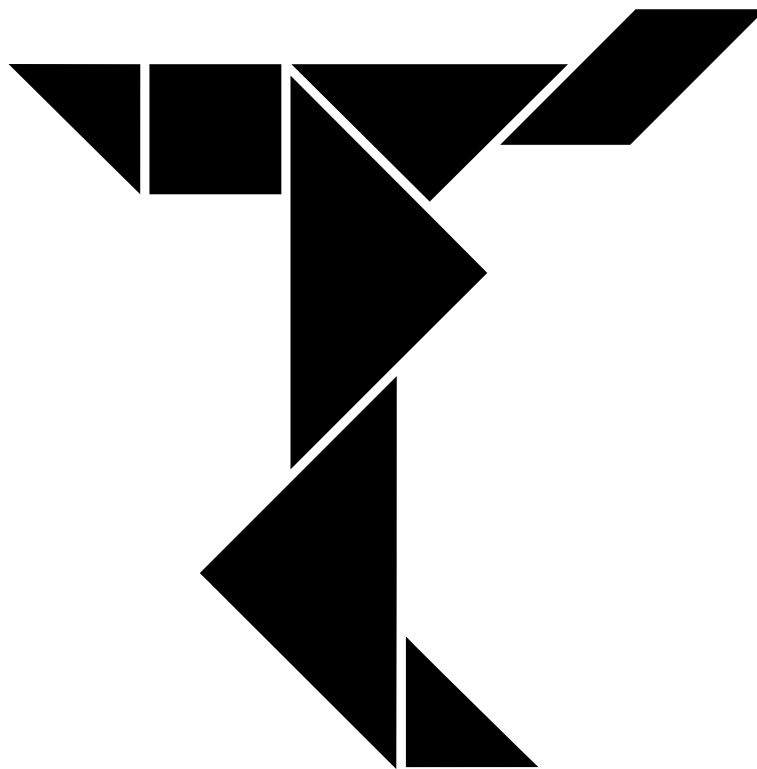


SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

STUDY ASSOCIATION THALIA



28TH BOARD

07-02-2019

PRELUDE

Dear Thalian,

In front of you lies the semi-annual report of the study year 2018-2019. This report functions as feedback on the 28th board and as a retrospective of the 2018-2019 policy plan during the first semester.

- 5 Note that for practical purposes, texts about affairs, activities, and committees that have had no significant developments over the past semester, have been left out of this document.

Enjoy.

The 28th board of study association Thalia,

10 Jan van Bommel
Chair

Ayala Hoeks
Secretary

15 Job Doesburg
Treasurer

Rico te Wechel
20 *Commissioner of Internal Affairs and vice-chair*

Janneau Thijssen
Commissioner of External Affairs

25 Iris Delhez
Commissioner of Activities

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CHAPTER I

GENERAL

I.1 INCIDENTAL AFFAIRS

I.1.1 INTERNATIONALIZATION

This year Thalia has welcomed a first real group of international students. Although the influx of international students for this year turned out to be lower than expected, this has been a significant change to the first year students as predicted. We think that so far all has been relatively successful. Several international students complimented Thalia on their effort in internationalizing, as well as, among others, the faculty board. Naturally, there are points on which Thalia can still improve. Those will be documented so that our successors can improve them.

ORIENTATION WEEK

The orientation week has multiple small, organizational points that can be improved. This involves for example the arrival of internationals in the Netherlands, which is in most cases on the day of the start of the orientation week. This day is experienced as rather chaotic and stressful for international students. In one day, new students have to not only acclimatize and settle in a house, but also think about Dutch banking systems, telephones, learn to ride a bike, etcetera. These are things that are new to international students and they are not always prepared for this.

The orientation week however is not ideally planned to arrange this either. For those things we rely on the university for a big part, making it hard to change things on a short notice. We are currently actively trying to improve this together with the university and other study associations in Nijmegen. Therefore, this will be a long-term plan probably.

Meanwhile the orientation week committee is focused on improving the upcoming orientation week as good as possible. We are very happy with last orientation week, which had incredibly high scores in the reflection survey by students, and proved to be a great, welcoming kick-start for as well international students as Dutch students.

INTERNATIONAL FAIR

Apart from the orientation week, Thalia organized the international fair. The goal of this event was to put international students in the picture. Although the international fair was fun, there were not so many international

students as we had hoped.

We think it would be more successful to organize activities that are focused on international students specifically (rather than activities that put focus on the international students), such as visiting a Dutch city as a group. This way internationals get to know each other better, bond with each other and with Thalia, and via
 90 this way also with the non-international students. After all, it turned out getting international students in the picture was not an issue, because there are no groups of them left behind.

IN GENERAL

We are happy with the fact that first year students mix with international students properly. We do not have the feeling that international students are considered a separate group. The first year students committee, the first committee of Thalia ever welcoming internationals, has been a big success in the integration of students.

95 In conclusion we are rather happy with the way Thalia welcomes international students and we think we are on a good track. Though, it remains an ongoing process of multiple years.

1.1.2 BOOKLETS

In order to put Thalia in a better light and to make all students aware of our association, the board has made little booklets to hand out at the start of the year. The booklet contains information about study association Thalia, as well as information about the study in general, the university, the city, others associations and a lot
 100 of other stuff. There is emphasized that Thalia has more to offer than parties and borrels only.

The booklets have been well received by the new students. Leftover booklets were also distributed on open days, the parents day and such. We received many compliments on the booklets, both by (new) students and iCIS and faculty staff. In short, the booklets put Thalia in a positive light, therefore the board finds the booklets a valuable addition and would like to see this becoming an annual phenomenon.

1.1.3 MASTER'S STUDENTS

105 As mentioned in the policy plan for 2018-2019, the board is busy investigating the possibilities to improve involvement of Master's students in Thalia. We started off by promoting Thalia during the Master's Welcome Day in a very active way. Several conversations with (individual) Master's students have taken place, among which also a larger brainstorm meeting for which all Master's students were invited. The main issue which became clear in that brainstorm is that Master's students don't get involved with Thalia because in the first
 110 place, they are involved with their fellow Master's students on just a minimal level. All the feedback from Master's students gave us a good overview of some essential points where Thalia can improve:

First of all, and maybe the most important of all, the largest portion of the Master's students that aren't involved with other Master's students and the association are students that did not follow a Bachelor program here. After talking with some of these students, we found that the best way to get them to know each other, is
 115 having them join the orientation week. Although this could seem weird for new Master's students, because the orientation week is mostly focused on Bachelor students, most of the students we spoke, regret not taking part in the orientation week.

Secondly, in general, there are no regular events specifically focused on Master's students. After speaking with some Master's students, we think these would contribute to the bonding of Master's students.

120 Finally, some students we spoke that did not follow a Bachelor program here claimed that in the beginning of the academic year, it is not clear to them that they're welcome to Thalia and only have a vague understanding of what we do exactly.

We think that Thalia can contribute to these three points in simple ways. We've made a conceptual plan to counter the points described above.

125 At this moment, the university is busy investigating the possibility to invite Master's students to the orientation week, perhaps in a separate program. Thalia tries to actively contribute to these plans.

For events specific for Master's students, there is continuous contact with the coordinator of the Master study. We're currently investigating the possibilities of organizing these events in collaboration with iCIS and will maybe pilot such an event in the upcoming months. However most of this will be discussed with our successors. iCIS is enthusiastic about this.

Additionally, we're trying to improve Master-specific promotion of events, like the symposium and alumni events, or anything that might be interesting for them. The current plan is to use mailing lists and lecture talks.

135 For the last point, we think it's essential to set a clear image of what Thalia is all about in the beginning of the academic year, or even before then. The first thing that came to mind is to organize an unofficial evening program for all CS Master's students after the Master's Welcome Day, that takes place in the week before the start of the first semester. This way Master's students get in touch with Thalia even before the semester has started, and it might be a good occasion for those that did not take part in the orientation week. We think that after the semester has begun, we have to focus on giving talks during lecture breaks, and inviting them for borrels. iCIS has also offered us to help with any promotional actions we might want to perform when it comes to Master's students, by using their mailing lists.

145 During the whole process we also looked into the possibility of setting up a Master's committee, but currently we don't see a way to realize such a committee. There currently is not enough interest, and the nature of such a committee would be very different from that of the first year students committee. We do however have enough students that are willing to give input whenever we ask them.

1.1.4 MERCATOR

The past months there has been communication with iCIS about the use and crowdedness of Mercator. It is without doubt that Mercator is very crowded both during the day and outside opening hours. Although no explicit complaints about this have been made so far, we do discuss this issue with iCIS regularly and both feel the urge to continuously pay attention to this topic. By keeping close contact with all parties involved we try to prevent nuisance as much as possible. This involves the use of the board room as well.

When it comes to the cleaning of Mercator, the effectiveness of the Mercator committee was successful in the beginning of the academic year. Where iCIS is still happy about the state of Mercator, the contribution of the committee members is internally discussed. The committee is currently checking whether this will improve again and if necessary, a plan will be made.

1.1.5 BAPC AND BAPCIE

155 In September, as every year, the preliminaries for the Benelux Algorithm Programming Contest took place at our faculty. The organization of these preliminaries was a collaboration between DESDA and Thalia.

While preparing these preliminaries, the representative coach of Nijmegen, David Venhoek, indicated that if Thalia would be interested in organizing the BAPC in 2019 we would have a great chance on actually getting this possibility. Since the collaboration with DESDA worked quite well, we discussed this possibility extensively. We decided together that we want to organize this event. Some relevant considerations here were the fact that this event puts Thalia in a positive light in both a university-wide and national context, the organization of this event might attract a new group of members to become active within Thalia and the fact that it would be a good for Thalia to gain experience with the organization of larger events. This combined with the fact that the organization has little financial consequences and information we acquired from other associations that organized the event in the past, made us very enthusiastic. When presented to the other representatives of other parties at the BAPC, we indeed won the bid for 2019.

For the organization of this event, a new committee was constituted, the BAPCie, that consists of both Thalia and DESDA members. The committee had a very good start and is running smoothly. A high-level plan of the day has already been created and the committee is now busy with more detailed matters.

170 Meanwhile the board has made arrangements for the legal consequences of this event. Thalia will be cash-carrying party for this event and a formal agreement for this has been made with DESDA. Communication about this has been rather smooth.

1.2 BOARD

1.2.1 ARCHIVING AND DOCUMENTATION

At the start of this year, we noticed that Thalia's archive was not structured, complete and up-to-date. We're aiming to improve this this year and various steps to this have already been taken. This is closely related to
175 the introduction of Thalia Cloud, which will be discussed later. Currently all board members are busy revising their board function scripts (*draaiboeken*) and trying to have those fully up-to-date by the time the candidate board is chosen. We hope this will reduce pressure on our successors, both during their candidate period and in the first months of their board year.

Also the Thalia archive with documents of all Thalia's history is being reorganized, made more accessible which
180 hopefully means that in the upcoming years this will stay organized. We already now notice how convenient the more structured archive is, so we can easily look back on things from the past.

On top of that, things such as the mourning protocol are being revised together with input of other associa-
tions, and documentation on legal topics that have been sorted out in the past, is improved. For other topics
185 that were never sorted out completely, this is happening as well. In our opinion this is essential for Thalia's future with a growing number of members.

THALIA CLOUD

At the start of this year, the Technicie migrated Thalia's servers to new hard drives. Meanwhile, the Technicie started investigating the possibilities of NextCloud together with the board. NextCloud is a self-hosted file-hosting service with integration to the Thalia administration. Recently NextCloud has been launched on
190 **cloud.thalia.nu** under the title Thalia Cloud, and both committees and the board can use the shared folders for their administration. In the upcoming months, the current administration will be migrated to Thalia Cloud, which will also replace the current wiki. The introduction of Thalia Cloud will improve archiving for Thalia's committees and offers a neat way of sharing files, calendars and more within committees. Moreover privacy of our members improves with Thalia Cloud, since data is not stored at third-parties. To ensure the storage of Thalia's data, back-ups are now stored encrypted on Amazon Web Services.

1.2.2 THE SIXTH BOARD FUNCTION

195 This year, the sixth function is fulfilled by the commissioner of activities. She is responsible for organizing administrative activities, promoting all activities within Thalia and setting up the partner committee together with the commissioner of external affairs. In addition, the commissioner takes on other tasks, which are not covered by the duties of the other board members. Having a sixth person on the board is considered positive and gives some air for the other five board members. If they do not succeed for a while, they can transfer
200 tasks or the sixth function can temporarily take on weekly tasks. The current board will, together with the application committee and our successors, discuss to find a better fitting title for this function.

1.2.3 FEEDBACK

In this year's policy plan it was stated the board would be aiming to get feedback and input from our members on a informal level. Every now and then we have an informal chat with some arbitrary members about how Thalia fares, which gives us new ideas for Thalia. We also made an idea box for members to put their ideas in next to the board room. We sent a questionnaire, about how people see Thalia, to all Computing Science students. This was done so this questionnaire will also reach students who are not a member of Thalia.

1.3 SOCIETIES

The past months, Thalia received various applications for societies. Most of them entered a trial period. Currently, the following six societies exist, and are all still in their trial period: The Cook's Guild, the Checkmates, Thalia Board game Society, International Society, the Crafts Guild and the Adventurers' Guild.

By the time the trial period is over, the society will have a chance of presenting themselves to the association and the GM can give their opinion on this by deciding on the continuation of their existence. Trying to make this process as smooth as possible, the opinions of the GM of the previous year have been converted to informal yet more detailed guidelines that extend the provisions of the internal regulations and give a structured template of how a society can present itself to the GM, in order for the GM to have all relevant information available. We hope these guidelines provide grip to the discussion on these societies.

1.4 OTHER

1.4.1 MERCHANDISE

New merchandise has been ordered the past half year. For this we asked input of our members and especially the Papparazcie. New merchandise is the Thalia card deck. Furthermore old merchandise is reordered: new Thalia flags (in English), Thalia sweaters and Thalia underpants. For this, a pre-order possibility has been available, to get a better estimate of sizes and numbers to order. We have experienced this as very useful and will do this again in the future.

1.4.2 BOOK SALES

In collaboration with five other study associations (Leonardo Da Vinci, CognAC, Marie Curie, V.C.M.W. Sigma and W.S.V. DESDA) Thalia has a sponsor agreement with Studystore for this college year. Thalia members receive a 15% discount on study books ordered via this webshop.

Together with the other study associations, we evaluated the collaboration with Studystore. We noticed that members can occasionally order cheaper books elsewhere, since no shipping costs are asked there. The books at Studystore are indeed cheaper, but with the shipping costs, the total amount is higher. The boards are currently discussing improvements on the agreement for next year.

Although other associations experience several issues with Studystore, up to now, Thalia has not received any complaints from her members.

I.4.3 PAPARAZCIE

- 230 The Paparazcie has become more active when it comes to merchandise and promotion design. The monthly 'upcoming events' is well received among members, and creative posters have been designed. It also turns out to be very useful to have two cameras. It occasionally happens that there are two events at the same time or that a group splits up during an event. Because the new camera can film, an after-movie on the orientation week was made this year! Doing more with the filming possibilities is being looked into.
- 235 The camera course for a camera license has been renewed. Its focus now lies more on the new camera as well, and also contains a practice part, opposed to the theory-only course we had before. In general, the course is more professional and hopefully results in more professional use of the camera.

I.4.4 TECHNICIE

- There have been some highlights when it comes to the Technicie this year. As announced before, new disks have been installed in Thalia's servers, replacing the old disks that were end-of-life. The migration went successful, and the total sum of storage space has increased significantly. This will be more than enough for the coming years. Other than that, the ThaliApp has more functionality now. The website also has a new, slick looking design.
- 240

I.4.5 THABLOID COMMITTEE

- The Thabloid committee had to adapt to the internationalization of the association. The Thabloids that have been released this year contain a good mix of English and Dutch content, where the balance between accessible content in two languages is stable. The so far released Thabloid all have much content, with exception of the second Thabloid this year, which was rather thin. The committee has evaluated the causes and resumes to deliver good work.
- 245

I.4.6 TRANSLACIE

- In the beginning of the year, the translation committee has helped us by translating among others our policy plan, and performing grammar and spelling checks on documents and texts that the board delivered.
- 250 By now, most of our documents are delivered in adequate English, and there are no big documents left to be translated, so the board and the committee have decided to abolish the translation committee as of February 1st, 2019. We thank the members of committee for their great efforts they put into delivering professional translation.
- 255 Though the committee has been abolished, the mailing list remains, with the former committee members linked to it. This way, if it may occur in the future that professional translation is still needed for something, the former committee members can be reached via translacie@thalia.nu. The former committee members may decide themselves if they want to contribute, and can at any time decide to be removed from the mailing list.

CHAPTER 2

ACTIVITIES

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This year so far, roughly 50 activities have been organized. This amount is equivalent to the number of activities last year. Due to a change in the faculty year planning with longer exam periods, the activities had to be planned in a shorter period of time, which resulted in a rather full year planning. We've reached a point where not everyone can or wants to attend every event anymore. While there was doubt on whether this would be problematic, we think that the overall event attendance at Thalia's activities is still good. On average it takes longer until an event's maximum capacity is reached, which is a good thing.

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As a consequence, event planning requires more attention and care. We had to find our way when it comes to event planning, but we have seen that committees adapted pretty easily to this by looking forward further. While most of the events for the rest of the year have been planned, we are still looking into how this process can be done as smooth as possible.

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Organizing events during the weekend turned out to be harder than expected, as for a lot of events that Thalia organizes, weekend are not suitable. Reasons for this include a lack of available locations, high prices, or fear of low attendance, depending on the type of event. All relevant committees of Thalia however do consider planning events in the weekend and we still think it's worth continuing this. While we already had some events on a Friday afternoon, Saturdays or exam periods, there are a few more events to be planned during weekends or the May break.

275

2.1 ALUMNI ACTIVITIES AND ALUMNI COMMITTEE

This year, the alumni committee organizes two informal alumni borrels in addition to the annual alumni day. The first of these borrels has already taken place and received positive feedback from students as well as alumni.

280

The contact and partnership with Ninja has made quite some progress since the beginning of the academic year. In the beginning, clear agreements were made about the cooperation between the two parties. An alumni committee member as a direct person of contact for Ninja turns out to be very effective. Continuous evaluation takes place in order to keep the cooperation with Ninja running smoothly.

The faculty gave us big compliments for our proactive attitude when it comes shared activities with alumni.

2.2 BIT-EVENT AND BIT-COMMITTEE

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The BIT-committee had a good start with the preparations. Right now six companies have been confirmed for the BIT-event, and the committee aims to contract eight. The committee will now commit itself to better

and more effective ways of acquisition from now on, in order to reach this goal in time. The supervisory board will hold close contact with the committee. On promotional and logistic levels, the progress of the BIT-event is running smoothly.

2.3 EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND EDUCACIE

290 The educational committee is running smoothly in general. Quite a lot is happening within the committee. This is the second year the committee is working with sub-committees for e.g. workshops and the symposium. So far this has been working well, but the committee keeps looking into improving the structure. This restructuring of the committee is a process and requires continuous evaluation.

Currently the committee is also busy looking at how they can improve their visibility within the association. 305 As Thalia is a study association, the committee could have a central role when it comes to educational affairs. Ways to achieve this are for instance focusing more on exam and summary material, organizing a career event, and playing a bigger role in the faculty day during the orientation week, but also organizing events together with other committees like the first year students committee or the alumni committee. Also a poster is being designed at the time of writing, to get well known within the association, and the committee is striving to shift 310 the weight of the events some more towards the beginning of the academic year. The symposium remains one of the best visited of Thalia though, and contributes to the visibility

The committee has had some nice event initiatives this year, but unfortunately, for a small portion of those events it seems somewhat hard to acquire visitors. To counter this, the committee will be looking into the possibilities of not predetermining the events they'll be organizing, but discussing throughout the year what 305 they'll be organizing, taking into account the needs of members of the association.

After some discussion, the decision has been made to not organize a colloquium this year, as the second semester is already full of lectures and workshops, and some more time will be needed to revise the colloquium and its structure. Also, the thesis information fair that was scheduled for this academic year, of which we think it's essential to involve iCIS and OII, will be moved to next academic year. iCIS and OII think it's a great 310 initiative, but have some requirements and expectations (among others setting up a website) that take some time to realize. We think this contributes to a successful pilot of the event. Currently, Thalia is in discussion with iCIS and OII about the distribution of responsibilities for organizing this event.

Also two new events are introduced this year; the PhD night and the Riner Douler. The PhD night is basically an informal dinner where the focus lies on getting more familiar with PhD'ers and what they do. PhD'ers 315 and students were very enthusiastic about this event. The Riner Douler has yet to happen. It will be just like the Diner Rouler, which is always well received, but instead iCIS staff members get the opportunity to visit students.

2.4 EVENTS COMMITTEE

The fact that the events committee has a minimal package of predetermined events from our policy document this year, turned out to be a success. The committee has more freedom when it comes to organizing events, 320 and has more creative events as output. Among the past events, which now contain a good mix of new and repeated events, a sports event, a dinner and swimming were introduced, which were all experienced as fun events that stood out on both creativeness and scalability, compared to previous years. We've seen that this variety of events attracts a wider range of visitors as well.

This freedom in choosing and organizing events requires a more proactive attitude of the committee, and is 325 something that requires evaluation. The plan is to continue setting up events that we haven't seen before

2.5 FIRST YEAR STUDENTS COMMITTEE

The first year students committee once again turns out to be very effective when it comes to involving first year students to the association. Not only the committee members, but also the other first year students, who show up in large amounts on the organized events.

After organizing a movie night, a karaoke night, and a borrel, and having created their own promotional material, every committee member is by now familiar with most of the aspects when it comes to committee work and meetings.

The committee keeps looking forward when it comes to organizing a broad spectrum of events. They are currently looking into the possibility of organizing another sports event, and if possible, an educational event. Some of the committee members are already looking into what committees they might want to join next year.

2.6 ORIENTATION WEEK AND ORIENTATION COMMITTEE

As stated earlier, the orientation week was experienced as a successful week among new students, and the committee received very positive reactions. The program contained a wide diversity of activities, suitable for pretty much everyone in the each year larger growing group of new students. This contributed to spreading a complete image of Thalia and what Thalia has to offer to students. The committee has just started with the first arrangements for the next orientation week. Feedback from last introduction week will be evaluated, and taken into account during the organization of upcoming orientation week.

This year the committee introduces the Wintro; a day where reuniting every orientation group is emphasized. The day will be filled with similar activities as during the orientation week. While the day was scheduled to be on the 2nd of February, it unfortunately had to be moved because of scheduling error on the side of the external host location. The Wintro is now scheduled to be on the 30th of March.

2.7 STUDY TRIP AND STUDY TRIP COMMITTEE

The study trip committee has been busy organizing the Seoul study trip for this year. A large number of uncertainties however gave the organization a rough start: sudden changes to and uncertainty about university-wide subsidies, as well as budgeting mistakes on e.g. flight tickets, made it a hard case for the committee and the board. Also due to an unexpected and unfortunate setback while communicating with the flight tickets organization, the association was presented a dilemma during a rushed general meeting.

These setbacks, in combination with lack of direct communication between the board and the committee, contributed to a very stressful situation for all parties involved and everyone has learned from it. Details on how similar happenings can be prevented in the future, will be written down in a document that can be passed on to relevant committees and boards.

Due to lots of good commitment, the committee was able to present a thoroughly worked out document to the next GM, which showed good progress. There were more than enough applications for the trip, and the association has shown trust in the whole situation. The study trip has good prospects at this moment and everyone is looking forward to visiting Korea in the end of April.

Even though the committee has had a hard time getting in contact with companies, the program is now as good as finished and filled with various commercial and academic visits. Also on acquisitional level everything is on track. Yoast, Ordina and Procam are in partnership with Thalia. The committee is now busy with making the final arrangements, while the board has been busy with more legal stuff in the background. Various banks were contacted to ensure financial matters during the trip are arranged, documentation has been written about legal and insurance things regarding the organization of such a large trip, and information is acquired from other association, all to make the trip as smooth as possible for all participants.

³⁶⁵ The course that is associated with the study trip, 'IT in an international perspective', is also being set up. Continuous and good communication with the course coordinator, Erik Barendsen, is taking place in order to set up the course properly. The course coordinator and the committee are happy with the progress.

A study trip for 2020 has not been planned yet. The committee and the board have started looking at setting up a new committee in time, which will be discussed with the candidate-board as soon as they are chosen.

2.8 WORKSHOP HOW-TO-GM

³⁷⁰ This year the board organized a workshop to learn about Thalia's general meetings. We thought that more first year students would join a general meeting and get involved in Thalia, if they knew how a general meeting would work. The workshop was visited pretty well, with an attendance at around 20-25 people, of which at least 15 first year students. We saw that at the first general meeting, there were a lot of first year students present as well, around 10 of them. We think the amount of first year students to visit this workshop can still be bigger, maybe by planning the workshop right before the first general meeting next time, so the workshop does not feel like a separate event but more like something that goes together with the first general meeting. ³⁷⁵ The content of the workshop should also be reconsidered and be made more interactive.

CHAPTER 3

PARTNERS

3.1 RELATIONS

380 During the acquaintance talks in the summer and the first semester our primary focus has been to maintain existing partnerships. This has been successful, as almost all contracts have been extended or are in the process of being brought up for extension. Several new companies have agreed to partner, with among others Abbey Games, Achmea, Ministry of Defence and ING. This has provided us with a rather busy planning and quite a variety of events.

3.2 PARTNER COMMITTEE

385 This year, the commissioner of external affairs and the commissioner of activities have set up the partner committee. This committee is intended to reduce the workload of the commissioner of external affairs. Prior to the academic year, it was probed who would be interested in such a committee. At the start of the year the committee was set up immediately and it was well discussed what was expected of each other.

The committee now has four members. The commissioner of external affairs is not a member of the committee, but attends the meetings to keep the committee up to date and to answer questions.

390 As the year progressed, the committee became more and more autonomous. The committee has taken over approximately one third of the partner contacts from the commissioner of external affairs. The contact with these partners takes place via the committee member and the committee member is therefore responsible for making appointments, a contract, planning and carrying out activities of the partner and other tasks set out in the contract. Our partners have not experience any difference in their relation with Thalia regarding this change.

400 We think, on the long run, the partner committee will not only decrease the workload for the commissioner of external affairs but also improve the continuity of our relations with our partners regarding the growth of our association. The relation between the commissioner of external affairs and the partner committee is something every board must find a balance in every year.

In short, by setting up the partner committee, taking over the partners and handing over activities to the committee, the workload for the commissioner of external affairs this year has decreased. The committee is confident that they will be able to take on more partners in the future.

3.3 PARTNER EVENTS

405 Apart from the regular events with our partners, the amount of in-house days is reduced as mentioned in the policy plan. The amount of lunch lectures was a bit less in the first half of the year. This will be compensated (according to the current planning at least) in the second semester. The borrel lectures have been received very positive by both the students and the partners this year. We planned on having 4 workshops from companies this year, but the two that were planned in the first semester both got canceled and moved to the second half of the year. That's the reason we will probably only have 2 workshops. We have had one of our
410 two informal events with partners and it was received very well.

3.4 MAIN PARTNER AND LOCAL PARTNER

Currently there are ongoing negotiations about a new main partner agreement with Topicus. The aim is to revise the previous main partner agreement with more accurate and recent numbers and amounts.

415 Apart from renewing our agreement with Topicus, there are multiple parties that are interested in a main partnership. These are some smaller local companies. The collaboration with Topicus however has been good and we would like to keep them as our main partner because we have a good history and we think this would probably result in the biggest partnership of Thalia. But because there is a big difference between the nature of Topicus and the smaller parties that are interested, we want to offer the other companies the idea of becoming our local partner.

420 The local partner status would be very similar to a smaller main partner agreement with a company from the region. The idea for this status came by while discussing with other associations about main partners. It seemed like a good option to offer the smaller local companies a nice platform within Thalia. It could also add a lot of value in the form of a company that we can actually have quite close contact with, since they are close by.

425 An important factor for the status of local partner, is to make sure it does not collide or interfere with the main partner status. This is currently being discussed with all parties involved. We aim on completing the local partner agreement before the next GM. In the meantime the negotiations with Topicus about the renewal of our main partnership are nearly finished.

Some companies with interest in the status of local partner are Isatis, Proudnerds and IT-8.

CHAPTER 4

RELATIONS

RWOCS RWoCS appreciates the contact and is glad to have a contact person from Thalia. The contact is also valuable for Thalia because this way Thalia is connected with another related organization. Besides, RWoCS being another connection it is also valuable since the relationship RWoCS has with iCIS staff is of a different kind than the one Thalia has.

INN (ICT NETWORK NIJMEGEN) The contact with the INN is going well. This year there have already been two MeetINNs, namely about IoT & Datagrowth and about (open) source. These were well attended, but not by Thalia members. Iris undercuts the possibility of making flyers about the INN to gain more publicity.

NWI-MEETING There has been one NWI-meeting so far, where big themes like internationalization and durability were discussed. As a consequence of this meeting, we decided to stop reimbursing deposits of plastic bottles and plastic bags.

OLYMPUS Contact with Olympus has been good this year. The new Monthly Meetings, where each association is represented, are to talk about matters that are influencing all association. These meetings are very useful, because everyone can share their experiences but also because all faculty meetings are now put together in this one Monthly Meeting. The borrel committee and the Events committee will also be helping out Olympus with some lustrum activities.

SNIC Thalia has actively contributed within the SNiC board. SNiC is now busy reflecting the congress of 2018, while *Inter-Actief* is on track organizing the event in 2019.

For 2020, Thalia has made a plan together with CognAC for organizing the congress together. There will be an information lunch session soon, where both CognAC and Thalia get to see what organizing a SNiC congress is all about, and in the months after that an application procedure will take place to see if we can form a (joint) committee. We think we have a high chance of acquiring the organization for the event in 2020.