

Highlights of 2022



AUC Climate Hub launched with support of municipality

– In June, the AUC Climate Hub was launched with a conference where community members discussed strategies for more intensive collaboration on local sustainability initiatives in Amsterdam.



Prof. Dr. Aletta Kraneveld joins AUC Board

– Prof. Dr. Aletta Kraneveld was appointed Dean of the Faculty of Science at VU Amsterdam in December 2022, thereby becoming a member of the AUC Board and replacing Prof. Guus Schreiber who retired in 2022.



New HoS Social Sciences

– In April, Dr. Daniel Kontowski started at AUC as the new Head of Studies Social Sciences, having previously held the position of Associate Director for Education in the School of Advanced Studies at the University of Tyumen in Siberia.



Open Day held on campus again

– In October, AUC welcomed more than 400 prospective students and guests to campus for the first in-person Open Day in three years. Visitors were able to speak with students, staff and alumni to learn more about AUC during their visit.



Three new members join IAB

– In 2022, the International Advisory Board welcomed three new members: Elaine Unterhalter, Ying Ding and Alexander Rinnooy Kan. AUC thanks outgoing members Jindra Divis, Domenica Ghidei Biidu and Marja Zonneville for their years of advice and active support of AUC.



Capstone Forum organised for the first time

In June, the Capstone Forum was held for the first time. Building on what was formerly the Capstone Seminar, seventeen students participated by showing the results of their Bachelor's theses in the form of pitches and poster displays.



New Management Team structure adopted

In November, the AUC Management Team adopted a new format to include two Heads of Departments (one academic, one administrative) that rotate annually, joining the Director of Education and the Dean to form AUC's Management Team.



Grading system converted to Dutch standard

From September, AUC adopted the numerical grading scale from 1 to 10, moving away from letter grades (A to F). This makes the grading process more straightforward and consistent with that in place at the UvA, VU and other Dutch universities.

Spotlight: Five-year strategy AUC NEXT adopted



In October, following completion of the formal consultation process, AUC's new strategic plan for the next five years was adopted by the AUC Board. AUC NEXT is both a description of what AUC considers to be the key features of its institutional identity and its position in the wider educational landscape. It also serves as a statement of the priorities and choices that follow and that will guide AUC's future internal decision making. Key components include curriculum changes and goals for admissions, student support services and institutional development. This vision and

the accompanying strategies are spelled out in nine areas of focus where AUC looks to capitalise on what is already being done well while identifying what can be improved on. Issues addressed include refining the mission and values of AUC, changes to the curriculum to allow for increased multi- and interdisciplinary study with a nuanced emphasis on the sciences, reflecting on the admissions policies in light of the students AUC seeks to attract, further focusing on student support and well-being, more actively engaging both parent institutes (UvA and VU) and potential civic partners in Amsterdam to expand research and experiential learning opportunities for both staff and students, re-examining the potential of the student residences and residential requirement, reflecting on employment policies for current and future colleagues, and looking at the types of events hosted by (and at) AUC in a bid to strengthen ties to both the local and academic communities. An initial timeline for implementation was presented and the first changes to the academic programme are expected to go into effect in the next academic year.

Enrolment

The total number of students enrolled at AUC in the academic year 2021–2022 was 876 (per 1 October 2021). The tables below show study success and diversity in terms of composition and performance of the AUC student body.

STUDY SUCCESS (ACADEMIC YEAR 2021–2022)

Retention	88%
Student performance (graduate):	
GPA ≥ 3.9 (summa cum laude)	18%
GPA ≥ 3.5 (cum laude)	48%
GPA ≥ 3.0 (honours degree)	26%
Student progress (first-years):	
Positive BSA (Binding Study Advice) decisions:	95%
Students receiving diploma in 2022:	
Within 3 years (all)	69%
Within 3 years (re-enrolment after year 1)	77%

DIVERSITY

Students identifying as male	25%
Students identifying as female	73%
Gender diverse students ¹	2%
Dutch students	31%
International students	69%
EEA nationality students	50%
Non-EEA nationality students	19%
Number of different nationalities	66

¹As best known by AUC administration

Graduation, Class of 2022

Humanities graduates	19%
Sciences graduates	43%
Social Sciences graduates	38%

The 2022 graduation ceremony was held on 13 July and took place in Koninklijk Theater Carré for the first time in three years. Marina Broeva, mental health advocate and founder of non-profit organisation Braive, delivered the Commencement Address and Didi Spelbos spoke as the Valedictorian. In total, 241 students received a diploma in 2022.



Alumni and AUCAA

10 YEARS OF THE AUC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

In 2022, the AUCAA celebrated its ten-year anniversary. Over the past decade, it has grown to include over 2200 alumni with new members joining each year. Despite the challenges of the pandemic, the AUCAA remains committed to creating and developing a strong alumni community through its initiatives and events.

ALUMNI VIDEO VIGNETTES PRODUCED

In Spring 2022, AUC and AUCAA collaborated to commission professional video profiles of several alumni to inspire current students to start thinking about life after graduating. Alumni featured included Jelle Koopsen (Class of 2014), Robin Laird (Class of 2018) and Ruben Treurniet (Class of 2013).

AUC courses and quality assurance

AUC offers a wide variety of courses covering many academic disciplines. These courses range from new additions such as 'Perspectives on Economic Thought' and 'Data Futures Lab' to ones that have been refreshed, renamed or updated, such as 'Philosophical Controversies' and 'Nanoscience'. In response to feedback from the 2020 accreditation report, AUC's learning outcomes were formally updated in the Academic Standards & Procedures 2021–2022 to include that graduates must achieve 'a breadth of knowledge, as demonstrated by the ability to critically converse about contemporary topics covering the sciences, social sciences and humanities' thereby reaffirming the importance of interdisciplinary education.

COURSE EVALUATIONS 2021–2022

In Spring 2021, the UvA decided to remove questions that measured quality on a 1–10 scale from the standard section of its course evaluations. AUC has retained these questions in its course evaluations, but the data will no longer show in the central UvA data information system. AUC has therefore also opted to use the UvA data marker "I have learned a lot from this course," measured on a 1–5 scale, to indicate course quality for this academic year.

Number of courses (including parallel sections)	283
Number of lecturers	137
"I have learned a lot from this course"	
Semester 1 (Autumn)	4.17
Semester 2 (Spring)	4.13
Average response rate	47%



AUC Scholarship Fund

The aim of the AUC Scholarship Fund (ASF) is to further promote diversity and excellence in the AUC student body. The ASF is sponsored by VU Amsterdam, the University of Amsterdam, the AUC Student Association (AUUSA) and the AUC Alumni Association (AUCAA). In July, the Royal Schiphol Group joined as a sponsor of the new Talent Fellowship at AUC (TFA).

The AUC Scholarship Fund is an independent foundation under Dutch law and is overseen by the ASF Board. Members of the ASF Board during the 2022 calendar year included:

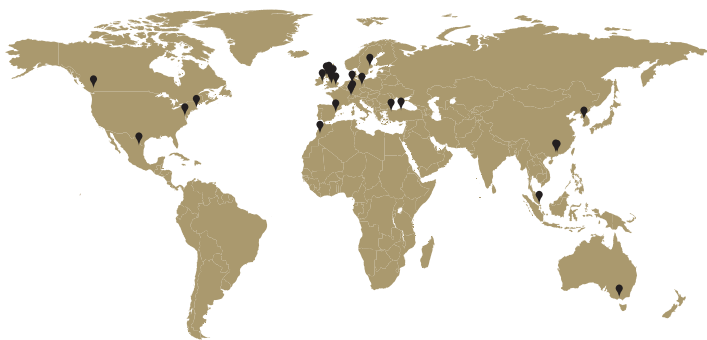
- Prof. Dr. Jeroen Geurts (Rector Magnificus, VU) (Chair)
- Jan Lintsen (Vice President of the Executive Board, UvA)
- Viktor Bos (Member of the Amsterdam Economic Board)
- Delia de Vreeze (University Relations & Fundraising, VU)
- Maryam Alaoui (AUC graduate)

Dr. Nina Tellegen (Executive Director, Amsterdam Economic Board) stepped down from the ASF Board in July 2022. Two members, Viktor Bos and Delia de Vreeze, joined in September 2022.

AUC SCHOLARSHIP FUND IN NUMBERS

Students with an ASF scholarship	64
Average ASF scholarship amount (EUR)	11,214
Total amount of ASF scholarships awarded (EUR)	717,676
Number of different nationalities	33

Study abroad and exchange



AUC students who meet the requirements for exchange are encouraged to study abroad during their fourth or fifth semester. They can choose from 19 AUC partner institutions and may also apply for the non-European partner universities of the University of Amsterdam, as well as the Erasmus partner universities of VU Amsterdam. The map shows the locations of AUC's partner universities.

	SPRING 2022	AUTUMN 2022
Outbound	1	53
Inbound	31 ²	44 ³

²Of which one was an Inter-UC exchange student ³Of which two were Inter-UC exchange students

OUTBOUND EXCHANGE

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent negative travel advice for some destinations, most outbound students selected for a semester abroad in Spring 2022 (six in total) were unable to go on exchange. In Autumn 2022, most exchange destinations were open again, except for universities in New Zealand and China. Before the pandemic, approximately one-third of AUC students took the opportunity to study abroad. These numbers decreased in 2021 and 2022. In 2022, 54 AUC students spent a semester abroad at 26 different universities. Of the 54 students, 13 opted for an Erasmus exchange (within Europe), while the other 41 studied at non-European partner universities. The most popular destination countries and universities can be viewed in the following tables.

OUTBOUND EXCHANGE

Number of selected students outbound (total 2022)	67
Students who went on exchange	54
Exchanges canceled by host university due to COVID-19	2
Students who decided to withdraw because of uncertainties due to COVID-19/negative travel advice	4
Students who decided to withdraw for other reasons	6
Students without permission (credit deficiency)	2

Most popular destinations:

United States (10), United Kingdom (9), Canada (7), Australia (5)

Most popular universities:

Boston College (6), National University of Singapore (3)

STUDY ABROAD RESULTS OUTGOING STUDENTS (SPRING 2022 ONLY)

Average GPA outgoing students	4
Course passing rate	100%
Average number of credits earned ⁴	30

⁴Not including credits awarded for community projects, internships or AUC 4-week courses



Exchange, continued

INBOUND EXCHANGE

In 2022, AUC hosted 75 incoming exchange students with 25 different nationalities, coming from 31 different partner universities. Listed below are the most represented countries of origin and top sending institutions.

Most represented countries of origin:

United States (22), Ireland (6), Singapore (5), United Kingdom (5)

Top sending universities:

National University of Singapore (7), University College Dublin (6), Universitat Pompeu Fabra (5), Boston College (4), University of Melbourne (4), University of Connecticut (4)

INTER-UNIVERSITY COLLEGE EXCHANGE PILOT

In 2022, AUC continued with the Inter-University College exchange programme that was initially set up during the pandemic as an alternative for international exchanges. The 'Inter-UC' exchange allows students to live and study at a different University College in the Netherlands for an entire semester. In 2022, AUC received three students, two from University College Maastricht and one from University College Fryslân, on inbound exchange. There were no AUC students who went on Inter-UC exchange in 2022.

Financial numbers

EXPENDITURE (EUR X 1000)

Faculty & support staff	10,807
Other costs	4,229
Total	15,036

REVENUE (EUR X 1000)

Internal income (statutory tuition fees & government funding)	12,329
External income (non-statutory tuition fees)	1,951
Total	14,498

Faculty and staff

ACADEMIC YEAR 2021-2022	Number	Fte
AUC core teaching faculty	72	52.8 ⁵
of which are also tutors	36	9.3
Teaching faculty from UvA	111	7.91
Teaching faculty from VU	140	9.81
Other external faculty	18	3.46
Support staff	27	21.8
VU-AUC secondment	3	1.14

⁵Includes 16 temporary contracts ranging from 2 to 12 months. More temporary contracts were given in 2022 as AUC moves away from hiring through payroll agency UvA Jobservice

Awards and recognitions

- In February, Dr. Hilla Dayan was awarded a best article prize from the Israeli Sociological Association for a publication focusing on first-generation students in higher education.
- In May, a project led by Dr. Forrest Bradbury called "Open source materials and support for open scientific inquiry" was awarded a subsidy from DUS-I/SURF for making online education more openly accessible.
- In June, AUC students Emre Erciyes and Nethra Prathap were part of the Best Lawyer Team at the Amsterdam Law Trials moot court competition.
- In June, Maxime Garcia Diaz (Class of 2016) won the C. Buddingh' Prize during the Poetry International Festival in Rotterdam.
- In November, Bethany Copsey (Class of 2020) was awarded second place at the AUV Alumni Awards for the initiative RE-PEAT.

Diversity, equity and inclusivity

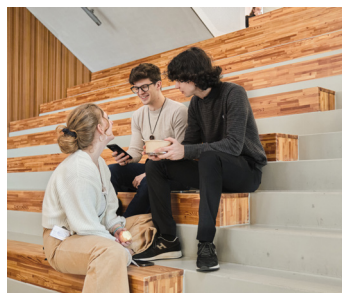
Embedding the values of diversity, equity and inclusivity in practice, policies, words and actions at AUC is a collective responsibility. The Diversity Leadership Group, in place since 2020, along with AUC's Framework and Action Plan for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, works continuously to ensure the commitment to these values is upheld and actively exercised in all areas of the AUC community.

DIVERSITY OBJECTIVES AS PART OF AUC NEXT

Diversity is central to AUC's values and the new five-year strategic plan re-commits to policies of diversity and inclusion and to putting these into action. This includes taking further measures to promote, support and facilitate greater diversity in both students and faculty. Furthermore, AUC aims to actively participate in the (inter)national debates on policies of diversity and inclusion, their relation to academic freedom, and to ideals of moral and political pluralism.

SECOND PHASE OF THE CURRICULUM CONVERSATIONS

In 2022, AUC began the second phase of the Curriculum Conversations, a series of interactive working sessions for staff involved in four first-year courses. The aim of these sessions was to strengthen the inclusivity of these courses using the VU Mixed Classroom Model as a framework. The objective of this phase is to develop a common approach and build a knowledge database that can be translated to other courses.



INTRODUCTION EVENT FOR FIRST-GENERATION STUDENTS

During Introduction Week in August, AUC invited all newly admitted first-generation students to a special welcome event to meet staff and other incoming first-generation students. AUC defines first-generation students as students whose parents have not completed a university degree, or whose parents may have a degree but have limited resources in their family or support network. The event aimed to help students navigate the resources AUC offers and to ensure they felt comfortable and well-prepared starting at university. Participants learned tips and tricks from older first-generation students and had a chance to ask staff members questions.

"PHADISE" ADOPTED TO FURTHER PROTECT STUDENTS AND STAFF

In November, the AUC policy for instances of harassment, discrimination and sexual violence (PHADISE) was adopted and shared with the community. This policy document is part of a broader series of actions that AUC is taking to uphold a diverse and inclusive academic environment. It outlines AUC's commitment to prevention, awareness of, and intervention in instances of harassment, discrimination, or sexual violence through continual investment, education and training. It also delineates the features of a transparent, robust system for disclosure, reporting and seeking support, including the establishment of clear protocols for how complaints will be handled.

DIVCOM X BLACK HERITAGE TOURS

Students from the AUCSA Diversity Commission (DivCom) partnered up with Black Heritage Tours and organised a lecture on Colonial Architecture for all students. The Diversity Commission strives to promote inclusivity, accessibility and equality in the AUC Student Association. They have initiatives to support students such as the anti-racism initiative, the disability accessibility initiative and the pride initiative.

Outreach and civic engagement

The philosophy of AUC maintains that education and personal development take place both in and outside of the classroom with students and staff committed to being active members of society. This idea is demonstrated through the many outreach activities students undertake, including research-based internships, gaining work experience in their desired field, engaging with their neighbourhood through community projects, volunteering for various foundations and causes, organising events for fellow students and much more.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS & INTERNSHIPS

Community-based learning and leadership are important components of the AUC curriculum. All students complete an internship and/or a community project through participating in local, national or international projects or organisations. These partners are provided by AUC or sought out by students themselves. AUC strives to show a commitment to giving back to the community and providing opportunities for students to develop both their professional and interpersonal skills. In the academic year 2021–2022, a total of 317 community projects and internships were completed.

ACADEMIC YEAR 2021–2022

Community projects (total)	99
Community projects, abroad	10
Internships (total)	218
Internships, double	3
Internships, abroad	49

Other notable news and events

EVENTS HOSTED AND SUPPORTED BY AUC

- 'Black History Month poetry reading' in February
- 'Women's History Month poetry reading' in March
- 'AUC Master's and Careers Week' in April
- 'Welcome Days for Applicants with an Offer' in April
- 'Conferentie Klimaathub Duurzaamheid' in June
- 'Celebration of the Day of the Dead' in November
- 'Who's in Town' (13) lectures & 'Logic Lectures' (3) throughout the year

PUBLICATIONS AND PUBLISHED WORK

- Dr. Lotte Tavecchio published an opinion piece on vaccine inequality in the Volkskrant in January.
- InPrint, AUC's student-run academic journal, published a special issue dedicated to neurosciences in February.
- Dr. Marco de Waard wrote an article about filmmaker Peter Greenaway that was included in "Screening the Art World" from the Amsterdam University Press, published in March.
- The Cambridge University Press journal *Transnational Environmental Law*, of which Thijs Etty is founding Editor-in-Chief, was again recognised as the number one environmental law journal worldwide.



PHOTOGRAPHY

Vere Maagdenberg, Ivar Pel, Muzi Ndiweni, AUCSA, Dhruv Gulati, Maarten van Haaff, Kirsten van Santen, Marieke Wijntes, Ilsoo van Dijk, Marcus Smit, Laura van Leijen, Ineke Oostveen