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**Statement Executive Board
regarding the research review of Language,
Communication and Cognition (LCC)**

DATE	OUR REFERENCE	
July 2021	2021/RW/jf/561	
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Subject: statement Executive Board regarding the research review of Language, Communication and Cognition (LCC)

The Executive Board of the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam has received and considered the final report of the evaluation of the research cluster Language Communication and Cognition (LCC) covering the period 2013-2019. This assessment was conducted in the context of the Standard Evaluation Protocol (SEP) 2015-2021. A self-evaluation report written by the research unit, together with interviews by an international peer review committee carried out in October 2020, formed the basis of the assessment.

The Executive Board appreciates the thorough and careful assessment of the external review committee and is pleased that the quality, relevance to society and the viability of the research are all assessed as 'very good'. This means that the cluster conducts very good, internationally recognised research, makes a very good contribution to society and is very well equipped for the future. The committee describes the research culture as vibrant and supportive, fostering development of young talent. They also noted that LCC is highly networked within Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam through collaborative research and strongly embedded in one of the university's interdisciplinary research institutes, the Network Institute.

Recommendations were also made by the committee. These can be summarised as:

- Work on communication and better visibility, e.g. enhanced web presence
- LCC is highly networked but collaboration within the LCC cluster can be improved
- Reflect on what minimal governance/management are needed to influence decisions in a way that is not dependent on current appointments
- Find ways to measure societal impact

The report and recommendations have been discussed in a meeting of the Executive Board with the faculty (the Dean, the Dean of Research, and the Head of Department). The Executive Board supports the faculty in using the recommendations to further enhance the quality and relevance of the research and will look for ways how the research of this cluster can be evaluated in a broader, more strategic context in the future.

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Finally, the Board of Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam wishes to express its gratitude to the international committee for the considerable time and effort invested in the assessment and to the research unit for the diligent preparation for the evaluation.

Yours sincerely,
On behalf of the Executive Board

Vinod Subramaniam

prof. dr. V. Subramaniam,
rector magnificus