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Statement Executive Board
regarding the research review of Economics & Business

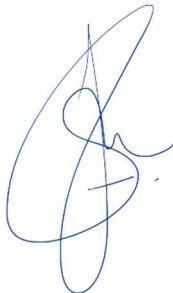
DATE	OUR REFERENCE	
13.09.2022	RdW/po/2022/0909	
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Subject: Statement Executive Board regarding the research review of Economics and Business

The Executive Board has received and considered the final report of the research evaluation 'Economics and Business' covering the period 2015-2020. This evaluation was conducted in the context of the Strategy Evaluation Protocol (SEP) 2021-2027. A self-evaluation report written by the research unit, together with interviews by an international expert assessment committee carried out in September 2021, formed the basis of the assessment. The Executive Board is proud of the very positive assessment of the quality, relevance to society and the viability of the research. The results of the report were discussed in a meeting with the faculty board on 7 February 2022. The management team of the School of Business and Economics has written a reaction to the report and takes the recommendations to heart as can be read in the appendix. The Executive Board will continue to support the faculty in further enhancing the quality and relevance of the research.

The Executive Board appreciates the thorough and careful assessment by the international committee and wishes to express its gratitude to the committee for the considerable time and effort invested in the evaluation and to the School of Business and Economics for the diligent preparation.

Yours sincerely,
on behalf of the Executive Board



prof. dr. J.J.G. Geurts,
rector magnificus

Enclosure: Response by the School of Business and Economics

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Appendix 1. Response by the School of Business and Economics

SBE Research Evaluation 2015-2020

In September 2021, an international evaluation committee evaluated research at seven schools of business and economics in the Netherlands. Research evaluations are conducted every six years and are carried out with the guidelines of the Strategy Evaluation Protocol (SEP-2021-2027). The evaluation considers the quality of the research; social relevance of the research; and viability of the research group. In preparation for the evaluation, SBE wrote a self-evaluation report.

Assessment SBE

The committee concludes that SBE is doing very well. The committee states that the research was already at a very high level and that this has been further strengthened over the last years. In particular, it observed an impressive increase in top-tier publications over time, demonstrating a very good academic publication record, both quantitatively and qualitatively. High quality of research is further evidenced by editorial roles in very good international journals, as well as top academic awards and prizes.

The committee evaluates the viability of SBE in relation to its strategic targets as excellent. The committee considers SBE's policies and incentive schemes regarding international hiring, tenure and promotion decisions, merit-based research time allocation, female career development, diversity in career paths, and open-access publishing to be effective, robust, and future proof. The committee thinks that the doctoral programmes at SBE, organised at ABRI and Tinbergen Institute, well-equip PhD candidates for pursuing promising careers in research, either at a university or outside of academia.

Furthermore, the committee thinks that SBE has a clear view on what it further wants to improve, and overall the view of the committee on the performance of the school is very favourable. The committee recommends to continue with the development of clear criteria to measure and reward impact and societal relevant activities, to offer continuous attention to gender balance and diversity, and to consider collaboration between the economics and business sides, in particular given the importance of multidisciplinary research.

Response SBE

We are very happy with this assessment of the quality, viability, and societal relevance of our research. Measured in numbers of top publications we are among the leading institutes in economics and business in Europe. We are pleased that the committee finds our policies well aligned with our dual focus on research quality and societal impact, and that we have been able to effectively incorporate new developments such open science. In line with the committee's recommendations, we will further develop our criteria to measure and reward activities oriented at societal impact. Moreover, we will encourage multidisciplinary research within our own school and across institutional boundaries. Going forward, we will make sure that our policies will continue to evolve in response to our ambitions and external developments.