

To the Governors and the
members of the Rectorate of the
University of Luxembourg,

Luxembourg, May 2013

Dear Governors,
Dear Members of the Rectorate,
Dear Colleagues,

With this letter, the undersigned academics of the University of Luxembourg (UL) would like to draw your attention once again to the findings reported by the external evaluation committee following its recent investigations of the present institutional culture of the central management of the University, and more specifically of the University Council.

In accordance with the UL law¹ and the external evaluation committee, we see, indeed, the University Council as a *fundamental founding pillar of the strategic **academic** management*² of the University. And, we would like to confirm that, in agreement with the external evaluation committee's report³, this body is currently not playing a significant enough role in the effective management of the UL. This concern is also shared by the Luxembourg Government and the Parliament Commission of Higher Education, Research, Media, Communication and Space, in charge of the elaboration of the forthcoming UL law revision project 6283⁴.

With this letter, we therefore formally request the authorities of the UL to initiate the measures required for giving full effect to the following key recommendations of the 2nd external evaluation report⁵:

1. fully review structure and operation of the University Council in such a way that it may become, indeed, *a key, senior deliberative committee in the University in which the whole University, and especially the academic, community can have confidence*;
2. *embark on a University-wide clarification process, driven by the revised University Council, of challenging academic and organisational issues* like research priorities, interdisciplinarity, move to Belval, and quality management of research and teaching.

We all submit this motion in good faith and in a constructive spirit and therefore trust that it will be met with a positive and equally constructive response.

Yours faithfully,
From all who signed this letter

1 “... *par ses délibérations, il [le conseil universitaire] règle les affaires pédagogiques et scientifiques de l'Université.*” Loi du 13 août 2003 portant création de l'Université du Luxembourg, Art. 26 (1) Attributions du Conseil Universitaire

2 Second External Evaluation Report of the University of Luxembourg (EER2), March 2013, p. 15

3 Ibid. pp.15-16

4 Amendements adoptés par la Commission de l'Enseignement supérieur, de la Recherche, des Media, des Communications et de l'Espace (29.3.2012 et 11.10.2012). Chambre des Députés, documents 6283/06:4-5 et 6283/08:2 .

5 EER2 pp. 25-26