

**POSITION STATEMENT TU DELFT EXECUTIVE BOARD REGARDING THE RESEARCH  
ASSESSMENT OF TECHNOLOGY, POLICY AND MANAGEMENT 2016-2021**

The Executive Board of Delft University of Technology has commissioned an assessment of the research carried out by the departments Engineering Systems and Services (ESS), Multi-Actor Systems (MAS) and Values, Technology and Innovation (VTI) of the Faculty of Technology, Policy and Management in the period 2016-2021. The assessment was carried out in 2023 by an international peer review committee, using the Strategy Evaluation Protocol 2021-2027. The chair of the peer review committee was Prof.dr.ir. H. (Harro) van Lente (Maastricht University). The full report of the peer review committee is available on the TU Delft website.

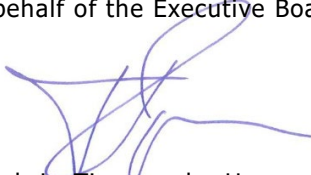
The Executive Board has accepted the report and wishes to express its gratitude to the committee for their work and for delivering a valuable assessment report. On the basis of the self-evaluation, additional information and the fruitful conversations during the on-campus site visit, the committee has provided comprehensive insights and recommendations that the departments and the faculty can use to their advantage.

The Executive Board is pleased by the committee's observation of a strong and thriving faculty and is happy to read that, in addition to high research quality and strong societal engagement, the faculty and its departments are praised for their exceptional supportive research environment. The Executive Board also recognizes that having the exemplary position of TPM as well as recent growth requires explicit choices and strategies to retain the faculty's leading edge. The Executive Board thanks the committee for reflecting on the stimulation of interdisciplinary collaboration as well as on 'team science' and is happy to read that the committee notes that TPM has created a unique environment for collaboration and 'team science'. On a faculty level, the committee notes that while collaboration is strong, there is potential for more synergy between the departments (for instance between MAS and VTI). Furthermore, the committee expresses concerns and offers several recommendations to improve the PhD policy in order to address the discontinuation rate and the long time-to-thesis. The Executive Board underlines these observations and recommendations to the faculty.

The Executive Board supports the recommendations made on the department level. The committee recommends the Engineering Systems and Services (ESS) department to exploit its research successes in a variety of application domains and with that strengthen its fundamental knowledge. Furthermore, the committee encourages ESS to explicitly communicate about their distinct and strong profile. Similarly for the department of Multi-Actor Systems (MAS), the committee encourages a strategy for strengthening fundamentals such as taking learnings from successful ERC grant applications or creating an inventory of methodological strengths. Additionally, expanding outreach efforts to the international level is advised to enhance global visibility. Finally, the committee raises a concern about the competitiveness of the HR policy in order to retain valued staff. For the department Values, Technology and Innovation (VTI) the committee recommends incorporating more innovative and unconventional approaches into the research endeavours and to streamline the current mission statement to provide greater clarity for the department's research.

The Executive Board will discuss further the faculty-level recommendations, as well as the observations and remarks concerning the departments, with the management of the Technology, Policy and Management Faculty.

On behalf of the Executive Board of Delft University of Technology,



Prof.dr.ir. Tim van der Hagen  
Rector Magnificus TU Delft