GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2016

December 6th, 2016

SV 2510 -EPFL

Order of the day:

- About the SV Postdoc Association
- Past year summary (activities report)
- Projected activities
- Financial report
- Elections: President, VP, Treasurer
- Acknowledgements
- Pizzas!
About the SV Postdoc Association

- Born 2013 out of the need of EPFL postdocs to be seen & heard
- Growing since by the dedication of the committee members to:
  - Foster a sense of community among postdocs
  - Raise postdocs' visibility at EPFL & beyond
  - Address unmet career development needs
  - Provide an exchange platform

Since then, the committee of the SV Postdoc Association has been meeting weekly, organizing several Career, Leadership and Social Events, as well as Workshops and Industry Visits. As of September 2016, the committee has been meeting every second Wednesday, and each event is organized by a subgroup of self-assigned committee members.

Committee and general organization

The committee has currently 16 members, listed in alphabetical order below. 15 committee members are postdocs from the School of Life Sciences (SV) of EPFL.

Current committee members

Alpern Daniel (IBI, EPFL)
Meireles Filho Antonio (IBI, EPFL), vice-president
Asadzadehtabrizi Jamshid (BMI, EPFL)
Cassano Marco (GHI, EPFL)
Feretzaki Marianna (ISREC, EPFL), communications officer
Hayward Scherer Cécile (EPFL), secretary
Moyat Mati (GHI, EPFL)
Rashal Einat (BMI, EPFL)
Reckel Sina Maren (ISREC, EPFL), web master
Schwalie Petra Catalina (IBI, EPFL)
Solanes Paola (BMI, EPFL), SV events manager
Sorrentino Vincenzo (IBI, EPFL), welcoming officer
Thacker Vivek Vijay (GHI, EPFL)
Thomas Courtney (ISREC, EPFL), social media officer
Valdés Pamela (BMI, EPFL), president
Van der Henst Charles (GHI, EPFL), treasurer

Currently 15 members from SV Faculty
Committee members who left during the year

De Luca Alba Carla
Dynes Nicola Jane

Former committee members

Caillier Maïa, EPFL
Dieppois Guennaëlle, EPFL
Gonneau Christèle, EPFL
Kühn Juliane, EPFL
Maglica Zeljka, EPFL
Martinez Yannick, UNIL
Neumann Enrique, UNIL
Neves da Silva Aitana, EPFL
Orpinell Mercade Meritxell, EPFL
Pfeiffer Verena, EPFL
Rigamonti Nicolo, EPFL
Romero Balestra Fernando, EPFL
Sancho Oltra Nuria, EPFL
Yazdan Panah Benyamin, EPFL
Wachowicz Paulina Alina, EPFL
Wasnick Roxana, EPFL

The Association

The association has 227 members (including committee members), of which 124 are from EPFL, and 49 of which are full (paying) members. Note that not all our members are postdocs, and our events are open to the whole community.
Past year summary (activities report)

We currently run five types of events:

1) Career events
2) Career events & Industry links, for example Novartis-EPFL-UNIL meetings (NEU), organized in collaboration with the BioScience Network Lausanne, where PhD students and postdocs are invited to submit an abstract and present their work to Novartis and hear about what scientists at Novartis are doing
3) Workshops
4) Social events & Community, to gather and network
5) Community
Additionally, we co-organise events with other organisations and industry partners on an individual basis.
1) Career events

3-4 speakers from academia and/or industry present and discuss their career path.

- Scientific publishing: peer review, scientific scrutiny and writing tips
- Funding resources for life sciences postdocs
- Communicating science to the public
- Peer review recognition: Frontiers "peer review week" - happy hour
- BNF: Swiss national program of qualification

2) Career events & Industry links

For example the Novartis-EPFL-UNIL meetings (NEU), organized in collaboration with the BioScience Network Lausanne, where PhD students and postdocs are invited to submit an abstract and present their work to Novartis and hear about what scientists at Novartis are doing.

- At the interface of industry and academia: the best of two worlds
- Debiopharm: Clinical Trials Workshop
- Guided visits to Debiopharm’s laboratory
- Transitioning out of Academia: tips from the experts
- Novartis-EPFL-UNIL Meeting
3) Workshops

- Job Search Outside Academia
- Biostatistics for biologists
- Postdocs! Successfully communicate your skills to prospective employers
- Eurotech postdoc workshop: EU research policy and funding
- Eurotech Postdoc workshop: Soft skills for global leaders

For example:

**EuroTech Postdoc Workshop**  
*** Soft skills for global leaders

Intensive, highly interactive, and fun crash course in the soft skills underlying professional success for postdoctoral researchers from EuroTech Universities

45 participants

4 universities

August 2016  
TUM campus

July 2015  
EPFL campus

Ecole polytechnique fédérale de Lausanne  
Eindhoven University of Technology

Technical University of Munich  
Technical University of Denmark
4) Social events & Community

- Postdoc Welcome Event
- SV Postdoc Association @VIVAPOLY
- Joint EPFL/UNIL Alumni Event
- SV Faculty Seminars & Happy Hour
- Postdoc summer BBQ with UNIL
- Ice skating for postdocs and their families

For example: the SV Faculty offered us to invite 1-2 speakers/year for the Life Sciences Seminar Series (LSS). To choose the speakers, we set up a voting system where members could provide the names of potential speakers and then vote.

5) Community

- LS2 Life Science Switzerland
- Postdoc Day University of Coimbra
- Life Science Career Day at UNIL
- SV Postdoc mentoring scheme
- Representation of postdocs at SV council and SV audit 2016

Life Science Career Day 2016
Career opportunities for young scientists - May 21st, 2016 @ UNIL

Useful information about these events as well as pictures can be found on our website:

http://sv-postdoc.epfl.ch/past_events
**How to find us!**

- **LinkedIn group** with several discussions: EPFL SV Postdocs.
- We continue the monthly newsletter to announce upcoming events and relevant information.
- Welcome Page: we continue updating the **Welcome Page** on our website with plenty of useful information for newcomers. We also e-mail the postdocs that newly join SV directly to draw their attention to the welcome page as well as upcoming welcoming events.

**http://sv-postdoc.epfl.ch**

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**Annual fee**

**Payment of the registration fee (for postdocs only)**

- **Why?** Paying the registration fee gives you priority and (when possible) reductions to our workshops.
- **Who?** Postdocs only! PhD students and other scientists **without** a PhD degree are not entitled to pay the registration fee. They are however very welcome to all our events!
- **How?** For postdocs, the registration fee is of CHF 40 (40 CHF), valid for the whole postdoctoral stay.
- **Check?** Make sure to fill in the registration form above if you haven't done so already, thank you!
- **How?** In order to pay, please use the PayPal button below (if you do not have a PayPal account yet, please create one, it will only take you 1mn, thank you!

![Pay Now button]

**Where?** You may pay the registration fee wherever you like. However, please note that if we have already announced a workshop, paying the fee will only give you priority for the next one.
Projected activities

December 2016: Ice skating event (December 12th, 18h)
February-March 2017: Debiopharm workshop and lab visit
April 2017: Joint EPFL/UNIL Alumni event
May 2017: SV Postdoc Association @VIVAPOLY
May 2017: Workshop “Postdocs: successfully communicate your skills to prospective employees” (LSCD)
June 2017: First SV Faculty Symposium in collaboration with the SV Faculty
June 2017: Postdoc summer BBQ with UNIL
July 2017: Postdoc retreat
December 2017: Novartis-EPFL-UNIL meeting
Financial report

Date range: 01.11.2015 - 31.10.2016

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<td>Donation from SV</td>
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<td>Postdoc association expenses</td>
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<td>Interface between Industry &amp; Academia</td>
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Balance

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<td>Income</td>
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The financial report prepared by our Treasurer Charles Van der Henst was audited on December 2\textsuperscript{nd} and 6\textsuperscript{th} by two independent reviewers from the EPFL community, Samuel Rommelaere and Jérémie Piton, who both approved the report.
Election: President, VP, Treasurer

Committee members present at the meeting:

Alpern Daniil (IBI, EPFL)
Meireles Filho Antonio (IBI, EPFL), vice-president
Hayward Scherer Cécile (EPFL), secretary
Moyat Mati (GHI, EPFL)
Rashal Eiaat (BMI, EPFL)
Reckel Sina Maren (ISREC, EPFL), web master
Schwalle Petra Catalina (IBI, EPFL)
Solanes Paola (BMI, EPFL), SV events manager
Sorrentino Vincenzo (IBI, EPFL), welcoming officer
Thomas Courtney (ISREC, EPFL), social media officer
Valdés Pamela (BMI, EPFL), president
Van der Henst Charles (GHI, EPFL), treasurer

Guests:

Enrico Tenaglia (Swiss-up engineering Chair - Laboratory of Life Sciences Electronics, EPFL)
Marco Minà (UNIL)

The following committee members were elected unanimously:

President: Pamela Valdés (second period)
Vice-president: Antonio Meireles Filho (second period)
Treasurer: Charles Van der Henst (second period)

We wish them well in their positions.
Acknowledgements

We are very grateful to:

- The School of Life Sciences, who have been supporting our events from the beginning by providing running funds (CHF 6'000 CHF) per year
- The School of Life Sciences for providing administrative assistance in the person of Cécile Hayward Scherer
- Prof. Gisou Van der Goot, Dean, and Harald Hirling, Deputy of Dean, who supported the Postdoc Survey
- The BioScience Network Lausanne for the NEU event that we have set up together
- HBA & the organizing team
- Innartis foundation, in particular Ksenia Tugay
- All the speakers who participated to our events
- Novartis for the collaboration on the NEU meeting, in particular to Marta Cortes-Cros
- All the members of the committee for their time and commitment!
- All the members of the association for their interest!

Lausanne, December 6th, 2016

Pamela Valdés
President

Antonio Meireles Filho
Vice-president