

Minutes of the Executive Board meeting held on January 9, 2017

Location: Petersgraben 45, basement meeting room

Time: 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Present: David Atwood, Christopher Klenk, Florian Henri Besthorn, Andreas Baumgartner, Sandro Sieber, Anja Roth, Annette Milnik, Klaus Birnstiel, Lukas Hohl, Aidas Sanogo

Minutes: Patricia Eiche

Agenda:

1. Approval of the minutes of the executive board meeting held on August 22, 2016
2. News from the “Introduction to the new employment conditions” project
3. avuba workshop 2017
4. Regular PhD/postdoc meeting in the skuBAR
5. GRACE launch party
6. Exchange with Group III representatives on university committees and commissions
7. Adjustment of the Bylaws with regard to co-presidium remuneration
8. Miscellaneous

Item 1: Approval of the minutes of the executive board meeting held on August 22, 2016

The minutes of the executive board meeting held on August 22, 2016 are approved and thanks are expressed.

Item 2: News from the “Introduction to the new employment conditions” project

Ulrich Pfister, project manager for introducing the new employment conditions, sent an email to avuba on December 22, 2016, stating that the pay scale adjustment project has been completed and that he will be retiring as of January 1, 2017. He will continue to work for the University on a project basis and can still be contacted by email. From now on, the contact is Reto Jeker, Head of Human Resources.

Item 3: avuba workshop 2017

At the General Meeting on November 28, 2016, a decision was made to organize a workshop event instead of a panel discussion. This is a continuation of the topic of the future of early career university researchers, which has been a focal topic since 2015. The position paper resulting from the workshop should then be discussed with various key people.

The avuba executive board would like to wait for input from the two-day “We Scientists Shape Science” conference, which takes place in Bern at the end of January 2017. This will include workshops and moderated discussions on the following topics: Time for research, space for creativity, scientific practice, open science, and science in society. Train fares will be reimbursed for participants from Basel who provide feedback on the conference. The avuba executive board

instructs the co-presidium to collect this feedback and present the executive board with a proposal for specific further action. A project team can then be appointed if necessary.

Item 4: Regular PhD/postdoc meeting in the skuBAR

Philipp Carter and Josua Wehner, both doctoral students in the Department of Biomedicine, have asked whether avuba would provide financial support for monthly PhD/postdoc meetings (“Happy Hours”) for assistants. The meetings would take place on the second Thursday of the month from 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm, with the exception of the first Happy Hour evening on February 23, 2017. The skuBAR is also open to students from 9:00 pm. To date, there has been no such opportunity for assistants from all faculties to come together. The avuba executive board therefore agrees to fund these Happy Hours. The organisation committee has offered to organize the “Happy Hour events” for one semester. With avuba’s financial contribution of CHF 1,500 they will cover the cost of advertising and partly the costs of the snacks and drinks for assistants at the initial events. The avuba executive board awaits an evaluation of the first three events and may then be prepared to support further events.

Item 5: GRACE launch party

The launch party for the Graduate Center (GRACE) will take place on March 14, 2017 from 4:30 pm to 8:00 pm in the University Library. The aim of GRACE, the Graduate Center of the University of Basel, is to offer young research talents an innovative and professional platform. GRACE offers services and information, supports networking and interdisciplinary training formats, and prepares doctoral candidates and postdocs for future challenges inside and outside academia. The GRACE website has been online since August 2016: <https://www.unibas.ch/de/Forschung/Graduate-Center.html>. The avuba executive board agrees to an avuba information stand at the launch party.

Item 6: Exchange with Group III representatives on university committees and commissions

On January 24, 2017, the co-presidium will attend an informal meeting with the Group III representatives on university committees and commissions. As well as getting to know one another, the aim is to learn which topics concerning assistants are currently being discussed and, where applicable, decided upon in the respective committee meetings. In the future, one or two committees will be introduced in each newsletter with a description of their work.

Item 7: Adjustment of the Bylaws with regard to co-presidium remuneration

Paragraph 9 (Presidium) of the Bylaws amended at the last General Meeting on November 28, 2016, currently states that: “The co-presidents are recompensed for their work on behalf of avuba. The amount of financial compensation, which is paid for one year according to the tariff defined by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNF), is proposed by the Board and approved by the General Meeting.”

Pay scales will be adjusted as of February 1, 2017. The executive board therefore agrees to adjust the current salaries for the avuba co-presidents to DOC2, level 1 as of February 1, 2017, and to hold a vote at the next General Meeting to decide whether this should be maintained or altered.

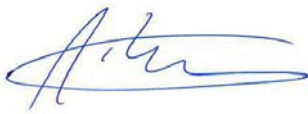
Item 8: Miscellaneous

The avuba executive board welcomes Andreas Baumgartner, the new Group III representative for the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, and thanks the outgoing representative, Florian Henri Besthorn, for his dedication to avuba and his work to establish actionuni – the association for teaching and research assistants in Switzerland.

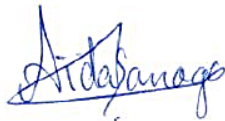
Item 9: Next avuba executive board meeting

The next meeting is expected to take place in May 2017.

Basel, January 12, 2017



Lukas Hohl



Aidas Sanogo