

Minutes of the Executive Board meeting held on April 4, 2017

Location: Petersgraben 45, basement meeting room

Time: 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Present: David Atwood, Philippe Hofstetter, Christopher Klenk, Andreas Baumgartner, Anja Roth, Klaus Birnstiel, Lukas Hohl, Aidas Sanogo

Absent: Sandro Sieber, Annette Milnik

Minutes: Patricia Eiche

Agenda:

1. Approval of the minutes of the executive board meeting held on January 9, 2017
2. Akademis – independent insurance and finance platform for academics
3. Wording of avuba's purpose "to represent assistants"
4. avuba workshop 2017, or potential issues for the "letter to the rectorate"
5. Next avuba board meeting

Item 1: Approval of the minutes of the executive board meeting held on January 9, 2017

The minutes of the executive board meeting held on January 9, 2017 are approved and thanks are expressed.

Item 2: Akademis – independent insurance and finance platform for academics

avuba approached Andrin Blauenstein from www.akademis.ch after hearing that he had given talks in English on the topic of health insurance. He agreed to talk at the avuba lunchtime meeting on April 25, 2017 and also sent us information about Akademis' services, which range from insurance solutions for research stays abroad, to discounts on property insurance with smile-direct, to consulting services for provision and financial planning. Akademis has also sent a general agreement contract that avuba would need to sign before avuba members could benefit from the services offered. Any avuba members interested could then register on the Akademis website to access their services.

ETH Zürich Alumni, Alumni Basel, and Alumni UniBern are already partner organizations of Akademis. Alumni Basel has told us that they value the range of services provided and their constructive collaboration with Akademis since 2015 and highly recommend the company.

The avuba board decides to continue with the agreement process. The details of the contract will be audited by Philippe Hofstetter (avuba board member, Faculty of Law). The avuba board will decide (by circular resolution in June) whether the avuba co-presidents should sign the general agreement contract.

Item 3: Wording of avuba's purpose "to represent assistants"

The avuba board has agreed on the following definition: To represent = To make sure that assistants' rights are respected, their voices are heard, and that collaboration with other university bodies will be strengthened for the benefit of all parties involved. Achieving this ultimate goal requires strategy, flexibility, and a constant focus on what is at stake in the long term: Good working conditions for optimum results and acknowledging that there is no one-size-fits-all solution, e.g. that each faculty has different needs and different rules.

Item 4: avuba workshop 2017, or potential issues for the "letter to the rectorate"

At the avuba General Meeting on November 28, 2016, the members decided that avuba should organize a workshop event in 2017 instead of a panel discussion. The position paper developed at this event could then be discussed with various key people.

On January 9, 2017, the avuba board decided to wait for the feedback from the two-day "We Scientists Shape Science" conference in Bern of end of January 2017, where topics relevant to assistants would be discussed in six thematic workshops.

The co-presidium collected the feedback and, on February 7, 2017, the avuba board made the following decisions via circular resolution: On the one hand, avuba should wait for the conclusions of the "We Scientists Shape Science" conference and on the other hand avuba should send out an email to avuba members with the following content "option to write a letter to the rectorate including problems and possible solutions". The idea here was for people to inform avuba, and ultimately the rectorate about their possible problems without the need to attend a one- or two-day workshop.

In addition to the six emails from assistants at the University of Basel received after avuba's request, avuba gathered information from the conclusions of the [We Scientists Shape Science](#) conference and from assistants at the University of Lausanne who established the online [petition for research](#). avuba also spoke to Agnes Hess from [Career Advancement](#) and Ariane Schnepf from [Training and Development](#), who have both been offering anonymized coaching and counseling to assistants at the University of Basel for many years.

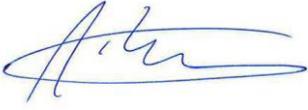
The information gathered from these sources is presented at the avuba board meeting on April 4, 2017. As there was not enough time to discuss each issue in detail, the following steps were agreed: The co-presidium will consolidate the feedback from the avuba board and draw up a shorter version. This file will be sent to the avuba board in April 2017 for approval. The avuba board will then decide the form in which this paper will be presented to the rectorate.

Because the information required for the position paper has already been collected, there is no need to organize a workshop.

Item 5: Next avuba board meeting

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

Basel, April 10, 2017

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'L. Hohl', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lukas Hohl

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Aidas Sanogo', written in a cursive style.

Aidas Sanogo