SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

On February, 11, 2015 AVETH will have its “Glühweinevent”. We will serve fresh Glühwein and hand out the AVETH cup to the scientific staff. The event will take place in Zentrum at the entrance to the main Mensa and at Hönggerberg at the entrance of the Physic Mensa.

Dear AVETH member, dear member of the scientific staff,

looking back on the year 2014, our work was influenced by the two big Swiss referendums: the mass immigration initiative and the Ecopop initiative.

The acceptance of the mass immigration initiative in February and the resulting consequences in the collaboration with the EU came a bit as a surprise also to us and made clear that we, as the representing association of scientific staff, needed to establish processes to quickly react with statements to changes in research and education. For the Ecopop, we were well prepared and together with other organizations at ETH managed to raise awareness on possible consequences of the acceptance of this initiative. The clear rejection of the Ecopop initiative at the end of 2014 should help in future negotiations about Horizon2020 as well as Erasmus.

The discussion on the revision of the scientific staff regulations which was already started in 2013 continued throughout the year and in fall the final version of the regulations was passed. Although we did not manage to have all our desired points implemented in the new regulation, we are happy about the outcome that in the future all doctoral students will be employed 100%. Here ETH takes a leading role in the world of academia on how doctoral students are employed.

From an organizational point of view, AVETH managed to achieve two long sought goals in the past year: in spring, we signed a contract with the rector that AVETH is now officially the representation of scientific staff at ETH and in summer, the last of our department associations was finally founded at D-MATL. With all the departments now covered with an own association, we plan to improve the connections with them to ensure a good and continuous exchange on topics.

Due to the growing amount of people being active in AVETH, the AVETH board decided to restructure itself in summer. Five sub-groups within the AVETH board (PoWoG, events, PostDocs, counseling and communication) have clearly defined responsibilities and we hope that also for new, interested people the start within the board will become easier.

The upcoming year 2015 will certainly bring many new topics to AVETH: we will closely monitor the implementation of the new scientific staff regulations to ensure that all departments adapt to the changes. With the major change in the ETH school board (new president, new rector and new vice president for research), we expect that new projects will be initiated and we are looking forward to working together with the new board.

You can see, a lot is (and also will be) going on within AVETH. We are planning to keep up the pace in 2015!

Stay tuned for all upcoming activities and discussions and join us whenever you like. If you would like to get involved and help us organize our various activities and projects or you also have new ideas, please do not hesitate to contact us (interested@aveth.ethz.ch).

We look forward to seeing you at our next general assembly on Tuesday, February 24.

Lars Büthe, AVETH president
WHAT IS AVETH?

What is AVETH?
The Academic Association of Scientific Staff at the ETH Zurich (AVETH) represents doctoral students, research assistants, postdocs, and all other scientific employees excluding professors. Our mission is to make ETH a better place to learn, teach and do research for the scientific staff. We organise the political representation of scientific staff within ETH, hold various events to bring people together, and offer several support and information services.

At ETH people can be differentiated into four groups: students, scientific staff, technical/administrative staff, and professors. At AVETH, we represent the scientific staff. Next to doctoral students, research assistants, and postdocs, this also includes Oberassistenten, senior scientists, and titular professors.

Politics, Events, and Support
Our main focus is the political representation, which means working in commissions at various levels at ETH. Luckily there is a culture of communication at ETH, and things are (usually) not decided top-down. The Hochschulversammlung is the most important joint commission, where all four groups come together and discuss current issues. Next to our mandates in these commissions, we also have regular meetings with members of the ETH board. All in all, we try to make sure that the voice of the scientific staff is heard at ETH.

Another important goal of ours is to increase exchange between departments and to provide a platform where you can get to know other scientific staff members. To this end, we regularly organise events like the Get-to-know-pub or the ski weekend.

Finally, we spread useful information to our members and try to provide support when the going gets tough. For example, we publish the popular „Survival Guide for Doctoral Students”, we inform about transformative changes at ETH (like the new salary system), and we have a counseling team that is there for you to talk about any kind of problems and can also assist in potential arbitrations. We are also involved in other welfare related projects, like the Golden Tricycle, which we award to the most family friendly team leader once a year together with ETH Equal.

AVETH in numbers
We currently have around 2,350 members (out of which 90% are doctoral students & research assistants). In total there are about 5,500 scientific staff at ETH, so we have a membership quota of 42%. Membership costs 4 CHF per month, so we have a budget of around 110,000 CHF per year. Half of this goes directly to the department associations, and the rest is spent on events, communications, administrative costs and the like.

How we are organised
AVETH is a „Verein“, that is independent of ETH (but recognised as the official representation of scientific staff). Like any other „Verein“, we have a board, that takes care of day-to-day business and is elected at one of our biyearly general assemblies. Have a look at our bylaws (online) if you want to know more about our legal structure. Within the board, we have different subgroups that are responsible for our various areas of activity:

- Politics Working Group
- Events
- Counseling
- Postdocs
- Communications

Each subgroup is lead by a coordinator, who is organising the work in this group. The president, the vice-president, and the treasurer, are responsible for the overall organisation and for the long-term strategy. Our secretary Michele probably has more years AVETH experience than the rest of the board together and is responsible for administrative work. Once a month there is a board meeting. If you are interested to get involved, write us an email (interested@aveth.ethz.ch) and we will invite you to one of our board meetings. This is a great opportunity to get to know us and find out if you are interested in one of the groups.

Related Organisations
Apart from the AVETH „core“, there are some other important organisations belonging to the AVETH family. We now have department associations in each department, that manage departmental commission seats and organise department-specific events. Telejob is another sub-organisation of AVETH, which is running the graduate job portal „ETH get hired“ together with the ETH Career Center. These are also a great ways to get involved – see how to contact your department association or Telejob in the next chapters or online.

The rest of this booklet will give more information about each of our subgroups and department associations and hopefully will give you an impression of what we are up to throughout the year. Have fun reading!

Christopher Nowzohour

If you are not yet a member, join the AVETH family by registering either online on our website or using the form on the back of this booklet. The more people we represent, the more we can achieve! Thank you!
THE AVETH BOARD

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D-USYS
The Politics Working Group (PoWoG) is the organ of AVETH that deals with everything that can be described as political topics related to the needs and interests of the scientific staff at ETH. But what does that thing, “politics”, mean at ETH and for AVETH? And why should you care?

What is “ETH politics”?
At first, understanding all the different ways of representation at ETH, the tasks of a fair number of commissions or the interests of many different stakeholders, may seems like a daunting task. To better understand this complex structure, have a look at the following illustration.

Effect in January 2015. Not only were we involved in the discussions that lead to the new regulations, but we also conducted a survey among all doctoral students on their salary situation. This effort culminated in a report that was published in November, so that there is sufficient background information for discussions in the future.

In addition, AVETH is asked regularly to provide a position paper on new regulations and changes happening at ETH. The PoWoG is responsible for writing these positions papers. Topics in 2014 were:
- Code of conduct for scientific cooperations
- Strategic planning 2017-2020 of the ETH domain
- Guidelines for stipends at ETH Zürich
- Change of Art. 16a ETH law

Furthermore, the PoWoG wrote a position paper about the Ecopop initiative in November and co-organized an information event about possible consequences for ETH.

The road ahead in 2015
The major topic for 2015 is the implementation of the new employment regulations. Each department and professor is now responsible for ensuring a smooth transition to the new system. AVETH will actively follow up on the discussions and work with the department organizations on this topic – which is an important point in its own right: Now that every department has its own organization, it is essential to strengthen the collaboration between them and AVETH/PoWoG.

Another topic that will be discussed in 2015 is the support for young researchers. Discussions have already started in some departments and in 2015, we will see this topic prominent on an ETH-wide scale.

It will be an active and exciting year for ETH politics in 2015! We work continuously to make our activities more visible and transparent for everyone. If you would like to be part of our team, feel invited to join one of the PoWoG meetings – everyone is invited and can join the discussions for topics they care about.

Florian Thöle

Main topic in 2014: The change in employment regulations
The overarching topic was the change of the employment regulations for scientific staff that come into
As the representation of the scientific staff, AVETH is active in numerous commissions within ETH Zurich. Our representatives are actively involved in decision-making processes that concern scientific staff in the various domains of ETH:

In the University Assembly, each five delegates from AVETH, the student representation VSETH, the faculty (KdL) and the technical and administrative staff (PeKo) discuss various topics within ETH Zurich. They are given opportunity to give statements and phrase their opinions towards the school board. The school board informs the university assembly about ongoing university affairs. For example, the revision of the employment regulations has actively been discussed in the university assembly.

The Strategy Commission advises the Vice President Research and Corporate Relations and the Executive Board on developing the ETH Zurich strategy. It consists of five representatives of the professors and one representative from each of the three non-professorial university groups, AVETH, VS ETH and PeKo.

Swiss wide, ActionUni is the umbrella organization for all scientific staff organizations. It has the motivation to improve the situation of assistants and doctoral students and to discuss issues about research and teaching in Swiss universities. The committee consists of representatives from all scientific staff representations at Swiss universities, e.g. AVETH and ACIDE (EPFL) from the ETH domain, universities (e.g. VAUZ from UZH), the universities of applied sciences and the universities of teaching education.

The Psychological Counseling Services (PBS) of ETH and UZH helps to overcome difficult situations in life, work and studies with professional counseling.

The Psychological Counseling Commission discusses the progress report of the PBS. The report contains the figures of how many students needed the services of PBS and which offers were most highly frequented. Importantly, the PBS also offers conflict management especially for doctoral students who experience problems with their supervisor or their project and offers help in work organization during the process of writing a paper.

One of AVETH’s goal is to open the psychological counseling service also to PostDocs which can not make use of this service at present.

If there is the rare case of a conflict regarding a scientific staff member, the disciplinary commission acts to find an acceptable solution for all involved.

For Doctoral students, the Arbitration Committee is the last resort in a conflict between the student and the supervisor, when all other mediation have been unsuccessful. The committee, consisting of the Prorector for Doctoral Studies, the head of the respective department and an AVETH representative, hears both sides and tries to submit a conciliatory proposal.

The International Forum is an informal meeting where members from different units within ETH that deal with international affairs give updates on their ongoing activities and try to find synergies in the common efforts.

Regarding teaching at ETH Zurich, the Unterrichtskonferenz Didaktische Ausbildung discusses and approves course offerings and strives to maintain a high teaching quality at ETH. Innovations in teaching at ETH Zurich often come from the Innovedum projects, which can be proposed by every member of ETH. The study commission reviews and judges the requests for funding of these innovative teaching projects.

For excellent students applying for a Master’s degree at ETH, the Excellence Scholarship and Opportunity Program exists. AVETH is part of the commission evaluating the applications to this scholarship.

The Apartment commission discusses the housing situation in Zurich with WoKo. AVETH has a chair in the board of WoKo and has recently worked on a strategy to meet the needs of doctoral students and PostDocs regarding their housing demands.

The Executive Board for gastronomy and retail business defines the strategy for the gastronomy at the various locations of ETH Zurich. It is advised by the Gastro Commission, which formulates requirements and ensures the quality control of the gastronomic offers.

Dealing with the strategic decisions regarding the ASVZ, the ASVZ board discusses the budget and the infrastructure of the Academic Sport Club Zurich.

Information about ongoing and future activities at the campus Hönggerberg are provided in the Roundtable commission. AVETH can actively contribute ideas to improve the campus and its offerings. Along that line, the Kulturpartnersitzung decides about the cultural activities of the Alumni Lounge at Hönggerberg.

Taking actively part in one of the commissions of ETH not only gives us, the representatives of the scientific staff, the opportunity to phrase our opinion and concerns, but also gives the delegate a unique insight in how ETH works as an organization. Find more information about commissions and representatives under www.aveth.ethz.ch: ETH Politics: Commissions. If you are interested in the work of the commissions, let us know under interested@aveth.ethz.ch. AVETH representatives in the commissions do not necessarily need to be board members. They have to report to a contact person in the AVETH board to ensure the flow of important decisions and information concerning our work environment at ETH Zurich. Delegates and deputies for the commissions are elected during the general assembly on February 24th, 2015.

Tim Enke
Language Café
This spring, the second Language Café (this time at Alumni Lounge) gave all language lovers at ETH an opportunity to practice their German and French in a relaxed atmosphere. Good company, good food, good weather and good conversations, what's not to love?

Beach Soccer Tournament
In one of Zürich’s sunniest summer days, AVETH event team organized a beach soccer tournament at the Home of FIFA. Six original teams from different departments and backgrounds were involved with the possibility to win a bottle of Champagne and chocolate as first prize, whereas the second and third team won a bottle of wine.

Lets say it was tough physically to run on sand as you can see on these pictures. During the game the audience was attentive and analysing their future opponents. Was it helpful? I cannot say! We had a lot of goals and joyful moments in between. At the end the Ex team won, we found the best ETH goalkeeper (zero goal), some beautiful fights between girls and nice smiles.

Visit of Nuclear Power Plant
June 2014, 20 lucky researchers radiating deep interest for the core of today’s energy production went on a baffling trip to Switzerland’s largest Nuclear Power plant Leibstadt. Leibstadt is located some 50km north from Zürich at the Rhine river banks, and some of us took the opportunity to bike the distance in best weather.

We were offered an instructive tour through the well-equipped visitor’s centre, learning about the current nuclear power production workflow from cradle to grave. The main attraction though was the guided tour through the machinery hall, reactor hall, and the storage of used fuel pins. It’s been flabbergasting be inside the reactor hall, only separated from the small nuclear core providing electricity for 2Mio Swiss households by a couple of meters of water.

The Leibstadt visitor’s centre would be happy to invite a second round of ETH researchers. Interested? Go ahead and contact events@aveth.ethz.ch to see how you can organise this trip.
**EVENTS 2014**

**BBQ and World Cup Semifinal**

Together with VAUZ and UZH Graduate Campus we met up for the yearly BBQ at Campus Irchel. Over 200 graduates came to enjoy the food and company and to watch the now almost legendary world cup semifinal. Even though it was a cold and rainy summer evening, the atmosphere was on top and not only the grills were on fire!

**TogETHer**

On August 22nd it was time for the big ETH staff party "togETHer" and of course AVETH was there. We organized a fun Karaoke and Jam Session event in the Alumni Lounge, for everyone to try out their musical skills on the guitar, the piano or the bongos and to sing along their favorite songs. We all had a great evening – togETHer!

**AVETH and VAUZ: Running Dinner**

In October, teams of two doctoral students from ETH or University of Zurich were 'on the run' through Zurich. During a three course dinner, every team was the host for two other teams and prepared one course. The other two courses where prepared by other teams at their places. Hence you had to 'run' from one place to another during your dinner. In the end, the cooking teams all met again for an after party to exchange experiences and recipes.

The running dinner is an excellent opportunity to meet new people, get around Zurich, see how others live, show your host quality and try out a nice new fancy recipe. Another Running Dinner will take place in spring.

**Lange Nacht der Karriere**

Talking about possible career options in a relaxed and casual environment was the idea of the Lange Nacht der Karriere. The Doctoral Students’ Lounge, organized jointly by AVETH and Telejob as part of the event, brought together doctoral students with professors and company representatives to enable discussions about job possibilities in industry and academia. With free drinks and snacks, a lounge atmosphere was created in the main hall of the main building.

**Get-to-know pubs**

Once every month we have met up in different bars and pubs all over Zurich to enjoy some drinks in good company at the get-to-know pubs. This is one of our regular events and an excellent opportunity to get to know new people across both the universities and departments!

**Ice skating**

AVETH organized an ice skating evening in December and offered mulled wine to its members. This was a great event to close 2014 with before getting ready for all the Christmas sweets.

The AVETH postdoc team addresses the needs of the postdocs in terms of career, networking, and politics at ETH. Postdocs are in general at a later stage of career planning and personal life than doctoral students and thus have specific needs and interests within ETH. Several postdocs come to ETH as a transition to find a suitable academic or industry career and some move to Zurich with their families. As such, postdocs may feel the need to network with colleagues at a similar stage of life for career and family related matters.

In 2014, AVETH postdoc team organized several successful career and networking workshops and events. The first event was a workshop on Funding Opportunities for postdocs on April 2. In this event, representatives of three Swiss grant organizations provided information on grants available for postdocs and the application procedures. Furthermore, one of the experienced ETH professors gave an insightful presentation on writing a successful grant application. This event was held in Hönggerberg campus and attracted approximately 80 postdocs and doctoral students. Next, AVETH organized three networking events for postdocs. The first one was a “beer & pretzel” evening, held on a beautiful building rooftop in the Hönggerberg campus on July 16. In this event, we shared top quality local beers with many new and returning postdocs at ETH while watching the sunset on the rooftop. The second event was a picnic on August 27, which due to unpredictable rainy summer weather was changed to a Café evening. It was a fun gathering and we inspired a few new postdocs to actively participate in AVETH board. Finally, we held two “wine & cheese” networking events, on March 13 and November 18 at ETH Zentrum. Both events were very successful and we received lots of encore requests!

For the upcoming year, one of our main objectives is to establish a link between AVETH postdocs and the Career Center of ETH, in order to provide further career services for postdocs and senior scientific staff. We will repeat the funding workshop, since all postdocs found this event very useful and have enjoyed making links with grant organizations. In addition, in order to continuously welcome new postdocs and create a positive networking environment, we plan to repeat the wine & cheese/beer & pretzel events. We also love to hear your ideas! If you like to participate in our activities please join AVETH (http://www.aveth.ethz.ch/). If you have ideas for activities or if there are issues relevant to postdocs and senior scientific staff that you would like to discuss, please contact us. We look forward to seeing you in our upcoming events in 2015!

Maryam Kamarpour

ETH professor giving insights on writing grant applications in the AVETH “Funding Opportunities for Postdocs” event.

Since several years AVETH provides doctoral students and scientific staff with help and support whenever needed. The importance of this service has now been highlighted and an official position was created within the board and the counseling team formed.

The counselor will be the first point of contact for doctoral students, postdocs and scientific staff who have problems here at ETH. These can be related to the supervisor or within the group but also with ETH and life in Switzerland in general. Working at a top Research Institute is often a dream come true for young researchers around the world. This joyful experience can become less so if problems with the supervisor or co-workers emerge.

Naturally it’s possible that sometimes personalities don’t work well together, leading to friction between people. As soon as problems appear, you should try to deal with them right away. If you are not sure how or, if your attempts are not fruitful, please contact the AVETH counselor as soon as possible. We will help you to deescalate the situation quickly and derive a strategy with you that will make sure your future is not compromised and your problem solved. It is important that you approach us early, to allow us to assist you with our experience and expertise before any bridges are burned. To contact the counselor, just visit the AVETH homepage and go to Info & Support. There are also other places at ETH to get help and support and we work closely together with them. First of all the ombudspersons, the doctoral administration, human resources, ETH legal and the Psychological Counseling Service (www.pbs.uzh.ch).

Furthermore the counseling team will try to create awareness within ETH to make sure our members are aware of their rights and come to realize problems early on and seek help. This campaign is important because often we get approached long after a problem has already escalated and we can only help to control the damage. Also sometimes you don’t realize that you are overworked and tired or that you have a problem with your supervisor, and here we will try to stimulate your own awareness of your own situation. It should be mentioned at this point that the last survey we did in 2011 resulted in an overwhelming positive respond, where over 85% stated to be happy with their supervisor.

A complementary approach to institutional support is to build human support networks, so called peer groups, which develop and exchange strategies for challenging and routine situations together. Such networks of professional peers are also employed at many other universities and profit from crowd sourcing and interdisciplinary. We will facilitate the formation of any peer-groups and lend you support with our vast network and many contacts, just contact us with your ideas.

Besides Peer-groups another idea to make support more personal was to create a buddy system at ETH. Volunteers (buddies) will be assigned to newly arriving scientists to help them integrate into ETH and provide a first contact point and source of practical information for life at ETH and Zurich. If you find this idea as brilliant as we do, please contact us right away and become a volunteer. You will meet many interesting people and be able to help others a lot with very little effort.

The counseling team will work not only on current problems but wants to improve the work and life at ETH in the future. Therefore if you have any comments or suggestions, please feel free to contact us.

Contact: counseling@aveth.ethz.ch

Thomas Mathis
COMMUNICATION

The communication group is the most recent group established at AVETH. It makes sure that the doctoral students, postdocs and scientific staff at ETH are well informed of the things happening at ETH, but also outside. This group builds a link between AVETH and its members to inform them of political decisions made at ETH, and also the events organized by AVETH and other external organizations.

One of the links for our communication with the members is established through our bi-weekly newsletter. In the newsletter we present our upcoming events, such as our famous Get-to-know pub. Other events that are advertised on the newsletter are Postdoc wine & cheese, AVETH Running Dinner, AVETH Dance course, Ice skating, and AVETH Ski-weekend. Another news presented on the newsletter is the monthly PoWoG meeting where political issues concerning doctoral students, postdocs and scientific staff are discussed. The most recent activity includes AVETH survey on salary and duties of ETH doctoral students.

We are also communicating with our members through our website www.aveth.ethz.ch. The website allows us to inform our members about any related news from AVETH, from ETH and selected external organizations, such as the New Salary System, the Ecopop initiative, Language courses offered by the Sprachenzentrum, etc. Our calendar keeps you up to date with important dates and information on upcoming events, such as the Get-to-know pub, our monthly board meeting, our annually ski-weekend, etc.

Apart from these current news, AVETH and its board presents itself with profiles, the bylaws, etc. ETH Politics gives you information about the PoWoG, the political structure at ETH and our representatives in the various commissions. The events section provides you with information about the upcoming events organized by AVETH, and also take a look at our past events. Info & Support informs you about the New Salary system, Counseling, Survival guide, AVETH News, German language courses offered by UZH, and a lot more information that you as a scientific staff at ETH need to know about.

Another platform where our news is advertised is on the ETH Link screens. You can find these screens in the ETH buses travelling between ETH Hönggerberg and ETH Zentrum. On these screens you will find information about upcoming events organized by AVETH.

You can always keep yourself up-to-date on what’s going on at ETH and joining social and sport events organized by AVETH, by liking our facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/avethz.

For the upcoming year, AVETH will extend the communication group in order to make the communication with its members more effective. We are happy for any input from your side. If you wish to support us in our communication or IT infrastructure, please do not hesitate to contact us. We need your help to make everything easier and more smooth!

Mohsen Meshkian

GOLDEN TRICYCLE

The Golden Tricycle is awarded to team leaders who enable their team members to balance work and family life. The award was launched in 2007 by AVETH and the ETH Office of Equal Opportunities.

In 2014, the award was presented during the staff party togetETHer to Prof. Stefano Brusoni, professor of Technology and Innovation Management at the Department of Management, Technology and Economics.

I guess I got engaged in the family friendly work environment discussion as a form of self-defense, back in the late 1990s. I wish I could claim that prosocial behavior was behind that early interest, but the truth is, I got hit by it while we were expecting our first boy. Both my wife and I have careers. We have now three children. The family is Zurich-based, but my wife’s job is in London. We had our first two boys while being doctoral students, in England. No family around. But plenty of friends and understanding colleagues. We realized soon we had to get organized.

A family friendly environment is really just about this: 90% organization, 10% flexibility (shaken, not stirred). You need organization in terms of schedules, planning and work assignments. You need flexibility in order to adjust when the organization fails.

A lot of our work is about planning anyway. You need to organize your teaching, you have to schedule your data collection, you have to meet your industry sponsors, you have to navigate multiple deadlines for journal submissions and, sigh, resubmissions. Quite a lot of these tasks follows rather predictable cycles. Many of these tasks can be done remotely. Yet, you do not want exclude people from their professional environment either. Few things are more liberating than sharing a coffee with your colleagues, while complaining about the last outlandish review report you received. Or is it just my field?

Besides, many emergencies are really down to bad planning. When we, as senior faculty, plan our workloads, and those of our junior colleagues, we should also look at the whole range of responsibilities that having, or planning, a family implies. Looking at the Gantt Chart of a doctoral proposal that does not include things like ‘holidays’ or any form of slack for unexpected events (whether related to teething children or misbehaving data), is a big mistake. It is our job to point this out to our young colleagues. If we do not, it is our mistake, not theirs.

Then, of course, there is that stuff hitting the fan. Your data do not tell the story they should. The blank screen remains blank. And, ouch, the little one has a fever. At school, there is a teachers’ meeting. Vaca-tion appears in the middle of the teaching term. Then we reorganize.

A lot of our work is about planning anyway. You need to organize your teaching, you have to schedule your data collection, you have to meet your industry sponsors, you have to navigate multiple deadlines for journal submissions and, sigh, resubmissions. Quite a lot of these tasks follows rather predictable cycles. Many of these tasks can be done remotely. Yet, you do not want exclude people from their professional environment either. Few things are more liberating than sharing a coffee with your colleagues, while complaining about the last outlandish review report you received. Or is it just my field?

I think the point here is exactly this: ‘we’ reorganize. The parent, the colleagues, the editors and the industry sponsors (who also know about these problems, by the way). We reorganize because we all go through the same issues. It makes everybody’s more productive. A family friendly environment is not a place where people work less. Quite the opposite, in my experience. People work very hard and go the extra mile because they know they are respected and appreciated in every aspect of the life.

Stefano Brusoni
TELEJOB

Looking for a job?
Go to www.eth-gethired.ch

Being a part of AVETH, Telejob is a non-profit organization, which is run by doctoral students. Together with Career Center of ETH Zurich it operates an online job platform ETH-gethired. By offering numerous positions in various work areas in academia and industry, it supports students, doctoral students and PostDocs in finding a job tailored to their skills and ambitions.

Even though ETH-gethired's primary focus is on offering jobs to ETH graduates, the platform is open to students from all over the world.

In order to provide talented students with top job offers, and to draw attention of the leading companies on the market, Telejob widely advertises its activities. Each year, we are present at different job fairs, such as Polymesse or Life Science Day. This year, Telejob participated in the first edition of “Long Night of the Career”, providing professional CV Photo-shooting and organizing Doctoral Students Lounge together with AVETH.

Furthermore, we offer various seminars. Every year, together with Career Center we organize the Career Day – an event, which is focused on helping students with their first career steps. Also, each month we organize financial planning seminars in collaboration with Stiftung Benefit. These seminars give students a solid background on the Swiss social insurance system, and address personal financial topics, such as budget, money investments, and tax issues. Finally, we regularly sponsor events organized by or for students, like ASVZ tournaments.

Telejob always welcomes doctoral students interested in contributing to our goals, and in learning new skills! If you want to join our team, do not hesitate to write us: recruiting@telejob.ch.

Lysie Champion, Piotr Tokarczyk

AAA - SCIENTIFIC STAFF AT D-ARCH

AAA is the Association of Assistants at the Department of Architecture. We are all looking back to very full year, with both ups and downs. Unfortunately this year in May we have parted with one of the most valued member of our department, Prof. Dr. Andreas Tönnesmann. Mr. Tönnesmann will be remembered by us all as an excellent professional but most of all as extraordinary person from which, over time, we all have had something to learn. He defined a new generation of researchers infusing both in our work as well as in our hearts the passion he had. He will be truly missed by all of us.

One of our biggest accomplishments of this year was that the chair of digital fabrication became a part of the National Centres of Competence in Research (NCCR). Due to this, the number of doctoral and senior scientist positions will increase considerably in the near future. The number of doctoral positions in the doctoral program of the Institute of History and Theory of Architecture (GTA) and the Institute of Technology in Architecture (ITA) increases constantly.

Another accomplishment is the addition of one extra representative of students and scientific staff at the Departementsausschuss (DA). Also our influence in the Departementskonferenz (DK) is strong, considering that more than half of the members are a part of the scientific staff or they are students. Our representatives, the students and professors part of the Unterrichtskommission (UK) are all very involved in the ongoing process of expanding the curriculum of the Bachelor and Master Program of the Department of Architecture.

The new year comes with a lot of changes in our professorship staff. This brings along a fresh approach towards our scientific researchers and students’ work, as well as a very interesting and diverse international point of view. Our scientific staff, is well represented in each of the Berufungskommissionen.

We wish all members of AVETH a very successful New Year, full of accomplishments and new challenges.

Contact: http://www.aaa.arch.ethz.ch/
**ASB - SCIENTIFIC STAFF AT D-BAUG**

**What is ASB?**
The Association of Scientific Staff at D-BAUG (ASB) is the official representative of the scientific staff (wissenschaftlicher Mittelbau) at D-BAUG. It was founded in September 2013 and now represents the scientific staff both internally and externally. It serves as a hub for collective opinion-making on department-related issues. Additionally, the ASB is a member of the Academic Association of Scientific Staff at ETH Zurich (AVETH), through which it receives financial support.

**What do we do?**
Primarily, the ASB acts as the official representative of the scientific staff at D-BAUG. It plays a pivotal role as the interface between staff and the department organs. A recent challenge for the ASB was to negotiate the inclusion of doctoral students among the Mittelbau representatives at the DK (Departmentskonferenz - Department Conference). The ASB successfully campaigned resulting in representative seats for the doctoral students. Moreover, starting in September 2014, all representatives to the DK and UK (Unterrichtskommission - Teaching Commission) are now elected at the ASB General Assembly. The ASB also coordinates members of the scientific staff who participate in the different workshops and consultations at D-BAUG, such as the recently formed Gender Action Plan (GAP) or the visit of the next ETH president, Prof. Dr. Lino Guzella.

In addition, the ASB supports the information exchange between the members and serves as a contact point for general questions for the scientific staff at D-BAUG. On a more entertaining note, it also organizes social and scientific activities for its members.

**How do I become a member?**
All scientific personnel (doctoral students, postdoctoral fellows, (senior) assistants, scientific collaborators and senior scientists) at D-BAUG are automatically regular members of the ASB. There is no need for a specific registration, and membership does not incur any costs. However, if you want to financially support ASB you may become a (paying) AVETH member. All ASB members are eligible to vote at the General Assembly (which elects the executive/administrative representatives of the association, e.g. the ASB president, treasurer, DK-UK representatives, etc.). If you would like to get involved in a more active way in the association affairs, please feel free to contact us.

**Where to meet us?**
At the beginning of the next semester (FS 2015), we are organizing a “start-of-the-semester apéro” as a friendly get-together. It would be a nice opportunity for the members to interact with their colleagues and friends among the scientific staff at D-BAUG, and of course to make new friends! The exact date and time of the event will be communicated soon on our webpage and per email. We are looking forward to seeing you there. Further activities for 2015 will be announced.

**How to contact us?**
Please do not hesitate to contact us at asb@ethz.ch and go have a look at our website www.baug.ethz.ch/people/staff_academic/ASB/index_EN

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**AMB - SCIENTIFIC STAFF AT D-BIOL**

At D-BIOL, decision-making processes are imbedded in a political landscape through which all members can raise their voice. The scientific staff (Mittelbau) has joined forces with AMB to strengthen its representation at departmental conferences. The association represents around 400 members that collectively elect their delegates. The major aim of AMB is to ensure good communication during the elections to make sure that all members are timely informed about the open positions, have a chance to run for them and, most importantly, to get to vote for their representatives. Among the efforts of AMB to help the scientific staff understanding the political landscape prior to elections, AMB provides a video illustrating the various tasks of the decision-making conferences (link). To guarantee that each member of AMB can express his/her opinion, the vote is held electronically.

Beyond its political task, AMB is providing a platform for the organization of scientific and career events. On those lines, AMB elects the committee of the already existing D-BIOL PhD Lecture Series, an opportunity offered to doctoral student at D-BIOL to invite their favorite speaker.

Finally, AMB being recognized as the official D-BIOL scientific staff association by AVETH, we consolidates the interaction with other departments as well as the ETH head office. On the departmental level, AMB promotes internal communication by organizing social events, such as the legendary AMB Happy Hour, the merciless Hönggergames or the smooth Newcomer’s event.

If you want to join or have an idea or you would like to promote, just contact us amb@biol.ethz.ch or visit https://www.biol.ethz.ch/about/amb

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*For more information: Visit www.aveth.ethz.ch*
VMB - SCIENTIFIC STAFF AT D-BSSE

Who are we?
The Department Biosystems Science and Engineering (D-BSSE) was founded in 2007 and is located in Basel. Since people in Basel cannot easily take advantage of the numerous events taking place in Zürich, it is important to have a local organization that helps improving the work and social life at the department and that supports the scientific staff. During the first five years of the existence of the D-BSSE an active student community had already developed, but since the department was growing rapidly the decision to form an association to represent the Mittelbau was made. The Verein Mittelbau D-BSSE (VMB) was founded in 2011. After a rather idle first year the VMB has now developed into an active group of people from different research areas of the D-BSSE.

What do we do?
Our mission is to initiate and support any ideas that lead to an improved work and social life at the department. In summer 2014 we organized a beach volleyball tournament in Basel together with doctoral student representatives from the Biozentrum, the Pharmazentrum and the Friedrich Miescher Institute. We also started offering German classes of language level A1 and A2 during the semester. Also people meet every first Monday of the month for a games night in the department’s central meeting place – the science lounge. Furthermore a biweekly movie night was organized with the support of the SOS-ETH, where many of our board members are involved in as well. For the next year we would like to continue these activities, add a social event like a BBQ and invite seminar speakers. If you have ideas or are eager to participate in our activities, please contact us. We are desperately looking for more active members, to make D-BSSE a more worthwhile place.

How to contact us?
Please visit our website at www.bsse.ethz.ch/department/mittelbau.htm or simply drop us a line to vmb@bsse.ethz.ch.

VAC - SCIENTIFIC STAFF AT D-CHAB

Who We Are
The VAC officially represents - together with our sister association PSA - the scientific staff at the Department of Chemistry and Applied Biosciences (D-CHAB). During the last years, we have steadily increased the number of members represented now reaching more than 200 doctoral students, PostDoc’s, and senior scientists. Our board reflects the diversity of our research: we have representatives from the institutes of inorganic, organic, and physical chemistry as well as chemical engineering.

What We Do
The VAC is involved in political decisions made at the D-CHAB which influence your daily life. We represent the scientific staff in the departmental and teaching commission and keep close contact with the department head, the administrative staff, and the students (VCS). Apart from our political engagement we further organize a wide variety of social events. These range from company visits (planned: Merck KGaA), scientific exchange through our Open Labs (2015: LAC, LOC, and ICB), and career events like the Chemtogether (with VCS). In addition, we organize meet-and-greet events like our traditional St. Patrick’s Day Party, the Burger Event (with PSA), and the VECS on the Grill (with VCS and VECS). All our social events are intended to help you get in touch with people from other research groups and departments to create an enjoyable and inspiring working atmosphere.

Furthermore, the VAC lounge - which is located on top of the second finger of the HCI building - offers a beautiful view over Zurich. The lounge can be rented for official or personal events via mail: webmaster@vac.ethz.ch. In case you would like to join our board or help organizing an event, feel free to contact us. We always enjoy getting in touch with new people!

How to Contact Us
Visit our website www.vac.ethz.ch or directly contact us: president@vac.ethz.ch

Agenda 2015
20.02. Mulled Wine and Waffles
13.03. St. Patrick’s Day Party
April Company Visit @ Merck KGaA (Darmstadt, Germany)
06.05. Maibowle with VCS
20.05. Semester End Event with VCS
June Burger Event with PSA
07.10. VECS on the Grill
11.11. General Assembly
3-4.11 Chemtogether
**PSA - SCIENTIFIC STAFF AT D-CHAB**

**Who we are**
The Pharmaceutical Scientists' Association (PSA) represents all non-faculty academic staff ("wissenschaftlicher Mittelbau") of the Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences (IPW). Membership is open to doctoral students, research assistants, postdocs and all other scientific employees of the Institute. All AVETH members of the institute are automatically members of the PSA. PSA was established in early 2006, when we became independent from the general D-CHAB association and became an official suborganization of the AVETH (Union of Assistants of the ETH).

**What we do**
- **Representation of our members:** PSA represents its members in various decision-making bodies such as the Department Conference.
- **Career opportunity events:** Having second thoughts about your life after ETH? The Career Opportunity committee of PSA is working hard to organize workshops, seminars or information posts from various life science companies inside and outside of Switzerland.
- **PSA social events:** You don't know where to meet other people outside your lab? In effort to promote exchange among the scientific staff of our institute PSA organizes events such as aperos, barbecues and sports tournaments. For upcoming events visit www.psa.ethz.ch.

**How to contact us**
If you want to know more, become a member or take an active part in one of our committees, please visit our homepage www.psa.ethz.ch or contact one of our board members:
- Jessica Schulz (jessica.schulz@pharma.ethz.ch)
- Ann-Helen Willrodt (ann-helen.willrodt@pharma.ethz.ch)

To support AVETH and PSA please tick the box at Neue Mitgliedschaft AVETH (CHF 4.-/months) when enrolling for the new semester.

**Agenda 2015**
- Bowling in Spring
- Career Symposium in May
- Burger party June
- Soccer PharmaCup July
- BocceCup in August
- Pub Quiz in September
- Visit to pharmaceutical company in Sept
- Halloween Party in October
- Career seminar in November

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**VAME - SCIENTIFIC STAFF AT D-ERDW**

**The story of VAME**
The association of scientific staff at the Department of Earth Sciences (VAME) represents all scientific employees including doctoral students, post-docs, research assistants, and Oberassistants, excluding professors. VAME is part of AVETH, the corresponding ETH-wide association. All AVETH-members at the D-ERDW are automatically member of VAME. VAME was officially founded in 2012 after a long period of unofficial representation of the scientific staff within the D-ERDW.

**The VAME - our tasks**
- **Representing our members:** VAME represents the scientific staff in various decision-making commissions of the D-ERDW, such as the Department Conference or the Teaching Commission.
- **Discussion and information meetings:** VAME organizes regular discussion and information meetings with its members, usually after the Department Conference to pass on the latest information from the D-ERDW. Here, we can also identify and discuss current problems of our members.
- **VAME Events:** We organize a number of events during the year, both scientific and social, including:
  - Retreat weekend for doctoral students (self-organized)
  - Presentation skills workshop
  - Sponsoring CafeNOAR (Students morning coffee and Gipfeli)

**Contact VAME**
VAME is currently chaired by a co-presidency consisting of:
- Brandi Revels (Doctoral Student, brandi.revels@erdw.ethz.ch)
- Franziska Lechleitner (Doctoral Student, franziska.lechleitner@erdw.ethz.ch)

Do not hesitate to contact us for any questions concerning VAME.

**Become a member**
We invite you to become a member of VAME and to play an active part in our association. It is only CHF 4.—/month.
- As a Doctoral student, tick the box "Neue Mitgliedschaft AVETH" when enrolling for the new semester.
- As a scientific employee, visit the AVETH website.

**Contact** us via www.erdw.ethz.ch/people/Mittelbau
ASST - SCIENTIFIC STAFF AT D-GESS

History of the ASST
The Association of Scientific Staff (ASST) was founded in June 2011 to represent the interests of about 200 doctoral students, postdocs, and scientific employees at the Department of Humanities, Social and Political Sciences (D-GESS). ASST is the voice of the scientific staff in departmental politics and aims to facilitate and improve communication between the department's scientific employees and the professors as well as the administration. Given the great diversity of disciplines at D-GESS, ranging from political science and economics to psychology, philosophy, and history, one of ASST's main goals is to enable and encourage networking and scientific exchange between members of the department's different research groups.

Social and Educational Programme
In 2014, the spring semester was started with an apero in cooperation with the newly established alumni-network of the D-GESS. During the semester, monthly lunches provided plenty more opportunities to mingle with new and old colleagues, and the semester was ended with a sunny summer barbecue. The autumn semester was started with the annual general assembly, where a new president was elected. In October, a new alumni-event was organised: Three D-GESS doctorate alumni reported from their entrance into job life and in a podium discussion the audience was informed about perks and perils in the process of changing from research into business. The event was well-attended and received, and we are planning to organise similar future events. In November, a workshop on creating graphics in the statistics software R was provided, meeting the special needs of the heterogeneous fields at D-GESS. Finally, the year was shut with the Christmas party, extending the traditional pub-quiz with new exciting facets and ceremonially releasing our former president Robert Gampfer into Belgian job life.

Politics
2014 again saw the ASST get involved in a number of political issues and decisions. Most notably, works on standardised employment regulations for the scientific staff at D-GESS were finished and translated into the new ETH-wide salary system for doctoral students. If any of these activities have caught your interest and you want to get involved, please get in touch with us, tell us about your ideas, and get involved!

Stay informed about events and projects on our website (www.asst.ethz.ch) and do not hesitate to just pass by, say hello, and talk to one of the current ASST Board members:

- Peter Edelsbrunner (peter.edelsbrunner@ifv.gess.ethz.ch)
- Bianca Oehl (bianca.oehl@ir.gess.ethz.ch)
- Joschka Gerigk (joschka.gerigk@econ.gess.ethz.ch)
- Marco Martini (marco.martini@sipo.gess.ethz.ch)

We look forward to meet you at the D-GESS!

HAS - SCIENTIFIC STAFF AT D-HEST

The D-HEST Association of Scientific Staff (HAS) consists of and represents all non-faculty academic staff of the relatively new Department of Health Sciences and Technology (D-HEST).

HAS was founded in 2013 and is thus one of the youngest department associations within AVETH. The objectives of HAS are to ensure equal representation of scientific staff within the department and to foster fruitful collaborations between its diverse scientific members, who work all over Zurich. They are distributed from Hönggerberg, Schwerzenbach, Irieh, and centrum campuses to Balgrist, Psychiatry, and University Hospitals.

In its second year HAS promoted collaboration between scientists by organizing a research session. In this session people from service facilities at ETH were invited to give a presentation. Presentation from Scopem (Light and electronic microscopy center), Statistical help-desk, and the Proteomics platform provided information about their work and how one can contact them for your own research. The session was well received by all participants and will likely be repeated next year.

The issue that HAS did not have a logo was also solved in 2014. Members were asked to design logos and via an online vote, the most popular was chosen as HAS logo (see picture). The logo is clear and recognizable. Further, the four pillars of D-HEST: Food, Sport, Health and Neuroscience are clearly visualized.

At the end of the year, HAS organized the meeting with the rector and the scientific staff of D-HEST. Fruitful discussions were held concerning different matters important for scientific staff. With the organization of a researcher's session, the vote of a logo and the inspiring discussion with members, 2014 was a year in which HAS reputation and acquaintance grew further. This gives confidence for presenting scientific staff in 2015.

All members of the D-HEST are cordially encouraged to participate in HAS events. If you have ideas, questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact us or approach your pillar's representative directly.

Contact: haoss@ethz.ch
The "Verein des Mittelbaus der Informatik" (VMI) represents the scientific staff of the Department of Computer Science at ETH Zurich, that is, doctoral students, postdocs, and permanent scientific employees of D-INFK. Representatives of VMI participate in the activities of both the Department Conference and the Tuitional Committee of D-INFK, and also serve on the appointment commission to select new professors for the Department of Computer Science.

VMI hosts a series of informational events that address the diverse career opportunities available for doctoral students in computer science after their graduation. Apart from continuing this series in 2015, we will sustain an informational event series for young doctoral students in cooperation with the Department’s administration. During this event, doctoral students learn about the organization of the doctoral program, their rights and duties, and obtain valuable information on how to organize their research, for instance about writing their research plan.

VMI also has a tradition of organizing a number of social events, such as the very successful Summer BBQ at ETH’s GEP/Alumni-Pavillon.

Throughout 2015, VMI will continue working actively within the Department of Computer Science and engage in organizing informational and social events for the scientific staff of D-INFK, such as the Career Event during the spring semester- keep an eye on your mailbox for more news about these!

Current information about the activities of VMI can be found at www.vmi.ethz.ch. If you have any questions regarding VMI or would like to have your ideas and suggestions heard within the Department’s organizational bodies, contact us at vmi-board@lists.inf.ethz.ch.

The VMITET (Verein des Mittelbaus am D-ITET) is an organization responsible for the scientific staff at the Department of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering (D-ITET). We represent the scientific staff towards other groups and organizations both inside and outside the department. We also organize the election of representatives to the boards and committees of the department, such as the DK (Departmentskonfernz) and UK (Unterrichtskommission). Furthermore, VMITET is the official contact for issues concerning employment at D-ITET.

At the last general assembly in spring we have elected new presidents as well as a new board. The new presidents are Andreas Hösl (Electronics Laboratory and Wearable Computing Group) and Karim Badawi (Integrated Systems Laboratory). They are supported by the board Members Eric Slottke (Treasurer), Daniel Waltisberg, Michael Bieri, Franz Gravenhorst, and Marc Kuhn.

For 2014, our activities included the organization of scientific staff participating in the department evaluation in October, or organizing the Mittelbaus’s Christmas apéro in December. For 2015 we are looking forward to organizing more events in order to bring together doctoral students and senior researchers of all the different institutes and research groups. Additionally we would like to increase the cooperation and exchange with the scientific staff associations of the other departments.

One of our goals is a broader representation amongst the different groups at ITET. Our idea is to establish connections to all the different chairs, therefore new people who want to get involved and contribute fresh ideas are especially welcome!

If you would like to know more about VMITET, visit us at http://www.vmitet.ethz.ch where you will further information. You can also contact us directly at vmitet@ee.ethz.ch.
VMM - SCIENTIFIC STAFF AT D-MATH

Another year has passed, and for VMM it was a very special and eventful year. There are plenty of reasons for that since ETH is undergoing a fair amount of changes right now, but the VMM board also had one main internal challenge to face: All the three board members graduated from their doctoral study this year! And so we started early with forging a plan how to solve this issue. Unfortunately we were not quite as successful with recruiting new board members as we had hoped for, but at least we could make sure that the association continues to exist and maintains its representations in university politics. If you think you can help, please do not hesitate to contact us!

Speaking of university politics, the departments of mathematics and physics decided to loosen their ties a bit and abolished the unique construction of the Unterrichtskonferenz in order to be able to discuss teaching issues that only affect one department without the other one interfering. Instead we now have a new unique construction called Gemeinsame Unterrichtskommission which serves as a vessel to discuss common teaching issues of both departments.

Besides these organisational matters, VMM also participated actively in solving hands-on problems. The new salary system that ETH imposed was discussed several times throughout the year and we think we have found a good solution together with the department. The true test for it will only come after the current moratorium on Testate though and we will observe closely what happens.

On the lighter side of events, VMM held two very successful general assemblies this year, of which the second one in September was necessary due to the restructuring of D-MATH/D-PHYS. We took this as an opportunity to have a barbeque party which turned out to be the largest event that we organised so far. We are also happy that many of the new members of the department participated!

VMM also organised an outing to visit Erzbierschof, the craft beer bar in Winterthur, where the Swiss craft beer guru Toni Flückiger explained in a careful and detailed manner how beer is made, what you have to change to get different beer styles and how this will then alter the taste and the appearance of the beer.

If you would like to help VMM organize such events or if you are interested in shaping the department as a representative, please contact us at vmm@math.ethz.ch.

SAM - SCIENTIFIC STAFF AT D-MATH

SAM stands for the newly founded Scientific Staff Association at the Department of Materials. Our aim is to represent the interests of the scientific staff including doctoral students, post-docs, senior scientists and titular professors. Further our goal is to provide a sustainable and enriching working and social environment within the Department of Materials.

Only founded this spring, SAM already counts more than 80 members, from various research groups at the Department of Materials. The SAM board consists of its president Christian Mathis, vice president Max Kory, treasurer Florian Thöle and event organization committee Ella Deghani, Martina Cihova and Vivian Müller. Next to representing the scientific staff in the Department Conference, we regularly organize events for our members and friends to get to know each other and to promote inter-departmental knowledge spillover and cooperation. After a rooftop inauguration apero with self-made ice cream, we have organized a BBQ in the bamboo garden and a fun poker tournament. Next to more social events for the coming year we are planning a symposium to provide a platform for doctoral students to present their work to students as well as to industry representatives.

If you want to join SAM, sign up for AVETH! Half of your monthly contribution to AVETH goes to SAM and via us back to you, in the form of social and networking events. If you are interested to become a member of the SAM board, just email any of us.

- Christian Mathis: christian.mathis@mat.ethz.ch
- Max Kory: max.kory@mat.ethz.ch
- Florian Thöle: Florian.thoele@mat.ethz.ch
- Ella Deghani: ella.deghhani@mat.ethz.ch
- Martina Cihova: martina.cihova@mat.ethz.ch
- Vivian Müller: vivian.mueller@mat.ethz.ch
AV@MAVT - SCIENTIFIC STAFF AT D-MAVT

The association of the scientific staff at the Department MAVT is looking back at a quite active year. On one side, board members took care of continuing to represent the interests of scientific staff and specifically doctoral students in all political institutions of the department, namely the department conference, teaching, room, election of professors, and admission commissions.

Politically we have been very active by formulating new statements and consultations for different topics, such as the new doctoral regulations in D-MAVT in the interest of doctoral students and senior scientists. As the department keeps growing, we are also engaged in the discussion about research space outside the ETH Zentrum and new regulations for Senior Scientist to help keep research and teaching at a high level.

Besides these core functions of the association, we also provided a large event for networking and exchange between scientific staff, i.e. the AV@MAVT Beer Event where we serve beer and snacks and engage people to get to know new people.

Next year, we want to implement a research day in the department to make research at D-MAVT more visible and to enhance collaborations. Moreover, we will evaluate and communicate the needs for specific lectures for doctoral students at D-MAVT.

We always have open positions in our board and working groups. Therefore, we hope for many new faces and participants in our general assembly (taking place in February). But also during the year, we are open for new members.

Homepage: http://www.av.mavt.ethz.ch/
Contact: wallimann@ipe.mavt.ethz.ch

ScSt@MTEC - SCIENTIFIC STAFF AT D-MTEC

The Association of Scientific Staff at D-MTEC (ScSt@MTEC) is the official representation of the assistants, doctoral students and scientific employees at the Department of Management, Technology, and Economics. Our mission is to support the scientific staff by organizing events and actively contributing to departmental politics. We operate in close cooperation with AVETH, the association of scientific staff at ETH.

To represent the interests of the scientific staff, we have four delegates in the departmental conference and two delegates in the study commission. We are also active in a variety of working groups including search committees for new professors. Each spring we hold a general meeting for the election of representatives and for information about past and planned activities of the organization.

Besides politics, we organize events that are of interest to the scientific staff. One of our ideas is to organize a scientific speed-dating for researchers at D-MTEC to foster future collaborations between chairs.

Last but not least we host three get-togethers each year to support the social exchange among scientific staff across chairs and buildings. It started with the traditional spring apéro at ZUE held in April 2014. September and beginning of the new semester was marked with the first autumn apéro that took place in the new building of KOF Swiss Economic Institute. To successfully close the year, in December 2014, we are planning to organize the traditional Christmas apéro at WEV. We are looking forward to repeating both of these social events and organizing other activities in 2015.

In the upcoming year, we will continue to deepen our involvement in the departmental activities and further strengthen the network of scientific staff within D-MTEC. We welcome new and current members to become directly involved in the activities of the association. If you are interested or would like to have further information, please do not hesitate to contact the members of the current board and to visit our website.

Website: http://www.mtec.ethz.ch/research/scientific-staff.html
Facebook group: ScSt@MTEC

Visit of Lino Guzella to D-MTEC, December 3rd, 2014

Association of Scientific Staff at D MTEC

ScSt@MTEC
AMP - SCIENTIFIC STAFF AT D-PHYS

Who we are
The association of non-faculty scientific staff at D-PHYS (AMP) is currently guided by a board of 8 members which is supported by a big team helping at events and representing the scientific staff in various committees. With currently more than 220 members, we represent a big part of the doctoral students, post-docs, and senior scientists at the department of physics.

What we do
Events
Each year, AMP organises various social and academic events in order to enhance the experience for scientific staff during their time at ETH. In multiple lab-tours we offer our members the opportunity to get an idea of what their colleagues are working on in the neighbouring building and at our AMP colloquia, doctoral students introduce their field of research in an easily accessible manner. Also, since 2013, AMP has the privilege to invite one speaker per semester to the prestigious Zurich Physics Colloquium as the “Student’s Choice”. To widen our members’ horizon, AMP regularly organises excursions to different companies. This year, we visited Axpo and organised a trip to CERN. Besides these more serious events, we also seek to bring together the people of the department in a non-scientific environment. Our two biggest events have existed since our founding in 2007 and obviously also took place this summer: the Boltzmann Cup, our very popular football tournament, and the yearly barbecue on the Hönggerberg.

As an additional summer event, this year, we offered our members the possibility to experience and learn canoeing on the Zürisee. Other events include our regular Pub Quiz evenings, where teams seek to answer tough questions in a casual environment, and our ski day in winter. For the first time, we also organised a Welcome Apéro this autumn, where the new members of the department got to know the department, AMP, and their future colleagues.

Politics
In addition to fostering academic and social exchange among our members, an important goal of AMP is the representation of our members’ interests in the various committees of the department. The representatives - seven in the department conference (DK), three in the teaching commission (UK) and one in the “Ausschuss” - are selected at each year’s general assembly. Topics discussed this year include the reorganisation of the committees in the department, an improvement of the “Basisjahr”, and the new employment regulations for doctoral students.

How to get in contact with us
More information about us and our activity can be found at www.amp.ethz.ch. If you are motivated to participate, have ideas for great events or input for our political activity, don’t hesitate to contact us at amp@phys.ethz.ch. We’re looking forward to meeting you at one (or many) of our events!

VMUSYS - SCIENTIFIC STAFF AT D-USYS

Gathering momentum
VMUSYS is the association of scientific staff of the Department of Environmental Systems Science (D-USYS) founded three years ago, shortly after the hatching of the department itself. By now VMUSYS is an official Fachverein of the Academic Association of Scientific Staff at the ETH Zurich (AVETH), benefiting from financial support and participating in discussions regarding ETH-wide interests of scientific staff. VMUSYS elects delegates to various departmental boards, including the department’s conference, teaching commissions and the resource commission. The delegates represent the scientific staff in these boards and report back about any relevant decisions to our association.

Not less importantly, VMUSYS aims to foster dialogue between scientists of different groups within the department by organising activities such as regular lunch meetings (first Friday of each month, CAB food lab, usually 11:30 am), social events like curling, Thirstday Beer and general assemblies followed by parties in a relaxed atmosphere. The next General Assembly is going to take place in the second half of January 2015. Look out for the date and more detailed information at http://www.usys.ethz.ch/about/vmusys/index_EN where you can also find out more about us. In addition you can sign up to our mailing list to stay informed about our activities: http://sympa.ethz.ch/sympa/subscribe/vmusys.

And of course if you have ideas for activities, events, etc. or need information on specific questions related to scientific staff at D-USYS just write us an email: scientificstaff@usys.ethz.ch.
AsETH (Association of Scientific Staff ETH Singapore) is the official association of non-faculty academic staff (wissenschaftlicher Mittelbau) at the Singapore-ETH Centre for Global Environmental Sustainability (SEC), consisting of the doctoral students, teaching and research assistants, Postdoctoral fellows and senior researchers.

SEC is an outpost of ETH in Singapore and was established as a collaboration between the National Research Foundation of Singapore and ETH Zurich in 2010. It is an institution that frames a number of research programmes, the first of which is the Future Cities Laboratory (FCL), a transdisciplinary research centre focused on urban sustainability in a global frame. FCL brings together over 100 researchers working on diverse themes related to buildings, cities and environmental sustainability.

FCL staff and students (and therefore AsETH members) are affiliated with different departments at ETH, with EPFL, the National University of Singapore NUS and the Nanyang Technological University NTU. We count ourselves lucky to be part of AVETH, this far removed from our Alma Mater.

After further consolidating the young structure of AsETH within and between SEC and Zurich AsETH is proud to be the initiator of the first regular get-together, reCREATE, across all 11 international universities who have a base within the Singapore's Campus for Research Excellence And Technological Enterprise Campus (CREATE). This was generously supported by the ETH Schulleitung and allowed us to create a platform for interaction and communication between researchers from different centers, disciplines, and cultures. The first three events have been a great opportunity and experience in terms of establishing contacts and networks for our current as well as potential future projects.

The next big event was the official start of the second research program of SEC, the Future Resilient Systems (FRS), which is addressing the challenges with critical infrastructure systems that provide essential services to modern societies. While FCL is coming close to the end of its first phase in September 2015 we are now looking forward to welcoming new members with the growing of the FRS program.

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http://www.futurecities.ethz.ch/about/aseth/

Join AVETH and Become a Member!

Please consider supporting the work of AVETH by becoming a member. Either fill out the form below and send it to the AVETH office or register via our website (www.aveth.ethz.ch). Thank you!

I want to join AVETH

First Name: ..............................................................  Family Name: ..............................................................
Institute: ..............................................................  Building, Room: ..............................................................
Street: ..............................................................  Postal Code, City: ..............................................................
Internal Phone Number: .....................................  E-mail: ..............................................................
Department: D-............................
Position:
O  Doctoral student
O  Postdoc
O  Senior Scientist
O  Member of the Scientific Staff
O  I am an ETH employee.
O  I am interested to get involved in the organisation of AVETH (events, politics, board,...).

Financial Matters:
Member fees are currently CHF 4.- per month and will be deducted automatically from your salary by ETH. If you are not paid by ETH you will receive a money transfer form.

Date: ..............................................................  Signature: ..............................................................

Cut out and send to AVETH, SOL B7, Sonneggstrasse 33, ETH Zentrum, 8092 Zürich.