



Annual Report 2016

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen

2016 was an eventful and politically ground-breaking year for ETH Zurich. It included the regaining of our access to the Horizon 2020 European Programme for Research and Innovation and the adoption of the Dispatch on Education, Research and Innovation (ERI) for the years from 2017 to 2020. This dispatch sets out the financial scope for the entire education sector, including ETH.

However, great progress has also been made within our own core activities – research, teaching and the transfer of knowledge. Other pleasing achievements included the inauguration of the first residential accommodation for students on Hönggerberg campus, the founding of 25 new spin-off companies, fresh collaborative ventures and finally (my own personal highlight) the Cybathlon.

We made use of 2016 to continue building the future of ETH; this year, we will offer a Bachelor of Medicine for the first time and introduce a new Master's degree in Data Science. In order for us to travel successfully along these new pathways, we depend upon more than just the commitment of the students, lecturers and all our employees.

You, our alumni, friends and partners, also play a vital role in the success of ETH; as important ambassadors of our university and also by providing financial support that creates the freedom for on-going development of the University. After all, research is not an end in itself. We want our knowledge to remain at the service of society and we therefore value our close collaboration and exchange of experiences with industry, business and private individuals very highly.

I would like to thank you most sincerely for supporting ETH once again over the past year, for encouraging us in times of transition and for investing in bold ideas and I hope that you will continue your commitment to our research and teaching activities in future.



Professor Lino Guzzella
President ETH Zurich



Dear Donors and Partners

Philanthropy for research and education is getting more and more important. The desire to get involved on a personal level has found its feet in civil society too. People want to give something of their wealth back to the community and to take some responsibility for future generations. This is a trend that we see in our own day-to-day work as well. In addition to the valuable contributions made by companies, organisations and foundations, the number of private individuals who want to support education, learning and forward-thinking research projects is continuously increasing. Over the past year, more than 2,340 people from 28 countries contributed a total of over 48 million Swiss francs. The age range is impressive too – while the youngest donor is aged just 22, our oldest supporter has already celebrated his 105th birthday.

On behalf of all those who have benefited from your support, we would like to thank you, the friends, partners and alumni of ETH Zurich, for your desire and willingness to help shape the future and to get involved with matters close to your heart. Particular thanks are also due to the ETH Executive Board, the professors and employees at ETH Zurich, together with ETH Zurich Foundation's unsalaried Board of Trustees and the entire team, for their constant dedication and support.

On the following pages, we will introduce you to a small selection of the many projects that have benefited from your funding over the past year. Read how your personal commitment has contributed in so many different ways to ensure ETH Zurich's position as one of the leading technical universities in the world. From the opportunity to launch new focus areas to setting up professorships or helping to get the ideas of young entrepreneurs off the ground – your support is of incalculable value to us and we look forward to a continuing and trusting relationship with you.



Professor Pius Baschera
President of the Board of Trustees



Dr Donald Tillman
Managing Director

Impact of your donation
2003–2016

343

Scholarships
(21 Mio. CHF)

288

Research, teaching, networks
(79 Mio. CHF)

33

Professorships
(173 Mio. CHF)

9

Infrastructure, equipment
(27 Mio. CHF)



Supporting Research & Talents

1 Ways to give

You can choose whether you prefer to support strategic initiatives via **ear-marked** donations; or if you want to make an **unrestricted** donation which can be used according to the needs of ETH Zurich.

By leaving a **legacy**, bequest or **memorial donation**, you can make a valuable contribution to the continuing advancement of research in Switzerland beyond your lifetime.

The establishment of a **foundation fund** offers the opportunity to support specific topics that are of particular importance to you. Name and purpose of the fund, which can be set up during lifetime or as part of a will, can be chosen individually.

2 Where to give



Professorships



Scholarships



Research and teaching



Infrastructure

3 Thematic fields



Health & Technology

- Personalised Medicine
- Medical Technology
- Zurich Heart
- Cybathlon
- Skintegrity



Energy & Environment

- World Food System
- Energy & Climate Change
- Sustainable Construction



Information & Data

- Information Security
- Risk Research
- Quantum Engineering
- Media Technology
- Public Governance



Talent Development

- Excellence Scholarship (ESOP)
- Pioneer Fellowship
- Student Project House
- Career Seed Grants

Unrestricted donations support immediate and pressing needs at ETH and allow the university to take advantage of unique opportunities as they arise.

Facts & Figures 2016



2342
donations



22
age of donors



105
new donors



492
new donors



28
countries, origins of donations

Thank you

Numerous donors and partners generously supported ETH Zurich in 2016.

Thank you for your generous and continuous support.

We also thank all those who prefer not to be named. Our guidelines for partnerships (Code of Conduct) can be consulted online at www.ethz-foundation.ch/en

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« The donation of Philips allows to deploy latest Magnetic Resonance equipment thereby facilitating the rapid translation of novel diagnostic technology into clinical trials and practice to the benefit of patients. »

Prof. Dr. Sebastian Kozerke, Professorship for Biomedical Imaging, supported by Philips

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« In summary, the support ETH Zurich Foundation is crucial to place and keep ETH Zurich on the worldwide map as a centre of excellence in research and education in the areas of mathematical finance and insurance mathematics. The generous and flexible nature of this funding constitutes a substantial competitive advantage relative to peer institutions and allows us to play a leading role in the field. »

Prof. Dr. Martin Schweizer, Professorship for Mathematics, Stochastic Finance Group

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« The pioneer fellowship allows to fill the gap between scientific formation and entrepreneurial position. It gives independence and resources to work on your own project, create value and jobs. »

Michela Puddu, founder and CEO at Haelixa, Pioneer Fellow

« Exercise is known to protect against many diseases, but why it does so is poorly understood. Supported by the Wilhelm Schulthess-Stiftung, my laboratory tries to identify mechanisms through which muscle activity improves health. Identifying those will offer novel opportunities for the treatment of many diseases. »

Prof. Dr. Katrien De Bock, professorship for Exercise and Health, supported by Wilhelm Schulthess-Stiftung

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«ETH Zurich plays a leading role in the development of drones. After my doctorate and the research project with Amazon I want to bring my ideas closer to the market.»

Lorenz Meier, Founder SkyAware, Pioneer Fellow

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Legacies and Bequests

We sincerely thank all our donors who have included ETH Zurich Foundation in their estate plans.

Exzellenz Zirkel

The Exzellenz Zirkel brings special recognition to donors who have made generous annual contributions for more than five years. Thank you for your generosity and commitment to supporting research, talents and entrepreneurship at ETH Zurich.



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« The ESOP enables me to continue my journey in Zurich/Paris, make use of the excellent resources available, embark on research projects in parallel to my studies and thus extend my horizon in every conceivable way! A big thank-you to the donors for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity! »

Philipp Jonas Windischhofer, Austria, High Energy Physics, ESOP 2016

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2016

In 2016, the support provided by donors and partners has made a big difference. From new professorships and initiatives to important awards and many personal highlights of our students and researchers – your commitment makes an impact!

Professor Pius Baschera is new President of the Board of Trustees

Pius Baschera takes up the post of President of the Board of Trustees of ETH Zurich Foundation, following in the footsteps of Jürgen Dormann. We also welcome Professor Beatrice Weder di Mauro as a new Member of the Board of Trustees.

Inheritance to ETH Zurich Foundation

ETH-alumna and long-term ETH-employee, Dr Dorothee Wegmann was already a supporter of the «Excellence Scholarship & Opportunity Programme» (ESOP, page 18) during her lifetime. The strong bond with her alma mater also impels her to name ETH Zurich Foundation as the sole heir in her will.

Funding of ETH Professorship for Innovative and Industrial Construction

Implenia supports ETH in the area of innovative and industrial construction. The partnership aims to further develop the level of expertise in construction engineering. Findings from this research shall be used to carry out specific process optimisation throughout the entire value added chain in a building.

Start of Sustainable Food Processing

Professor Alexander Mathys embarks upon his research at ETH into the development of innovative techniques and processes to make food production more sustainable and environmentally friendly. The newly established position of Assistant Professor of «Sustainable Food Processing» is made possible by funding from the Bühler and Migros corporations.

CHRONICLE



LEGACY

Inheritance to ETH Zurich Foundation

Dorothee Wegmann enrolled in the Department of Natural Sciences at ETH Zurich in 1954, initiating a connection with the university that would last a lifetime – and even beyond that, through her inheritance. Following a detour during which she worked at the University of Tenerife, she later returned to work as an administrator and proof-reader at the Laboratory of Organic Chemistry at ETH. Her colleagues like to remember her for the meticulous nature of the proof-reading work carried out by the talented linguist – she spoke Spanish, Italian, French and English fluently and even taught herself Russian after her retirement. Even after retiring, she still supported doctoral students in their work with great dedication and patience.

A legacy (bequest) for the benefit of ETH Zurich Foundation is an effective way to provide long-term support to the teaching and research activities undertaken at ETH Zurich.

ETH Zurich Foundation is exempt from taxation. 100% of your legacy or inheritance will be invested in the projects at ETH Zurich you specify.

See the story of legacies left by Dorothee Wegmann and others at www.ethz-foundation.ch/en/legacy



« Conventional production methods cannot satisfy the growing need for protein to feed the world's population. My research is aimed at optimising the breeding and handling of insects and algae to provide sustainable alternatives; this should contribute to food security in the long term. Generous support from Bühler and Migros is making it possible for me to carry out extensive research into these subjects. »

**Professor Alexander Mathys,
Professor in Sustainable Food Processing**

Support for flagship project in «Personalised Medicine»

The Lotte und Adolf Hotz-Sprenger Stiftung is supporting the «Prostate Cancer Digital Biobanking» project as part of the «Personalised Medicine» initiative. The support enables the establishment of a digital biobank that will conserve clinical samples for research at levels of quality and quantity that have previously never been achieved.

Travel into space for the Exzellenz Zirkel

ETH Zurich Foundation invites guests to the third meeting of the ETH Exzellenz Zirkel. Domenico Giardini, Professor of Seismology and Geodynamics at ETH Zurich, spirals away about 40 invited alumni and friends of ETH on a journey into space and Lorenz Eberhardt, holder of the Excellence Scholarship 2016, provides an insight into his Bachelor's Thesis in mathematics.

Poly Fund – freedom for visions

During the course of this year, many new projects and initiatives – such as «Skintegrity» (Page 31) or «Digital Fabrication» can be launched – thanks to unrestricted donations from donors and partners.

«Lokaltermin» on ETH as a talent factory

The first «Lokaltermin» 2016, where researchers and representatives from business and politics (including many donors) get together to exchange ideas and to network, is run under the heading «ETH as a Talent Factory». It sheds light on the key theme of «Critical Thinking» at the University, with a variety of speakers and from an extremely broad range of perspectives.

Donation for young Computer Science entrepreneurs

The Palmary Foundation supports the «Pioneer Fellowship Program» with a contribution to ETH Zurich Foundation. The commitment enables outstanding young researchers in the field of ICT/IT to translate their research results into a solid business plan and a product.

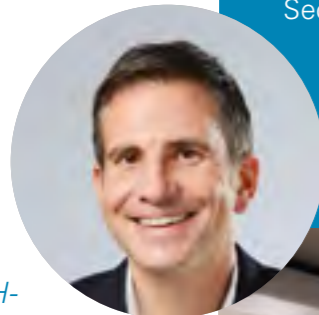
POLY FUND

Unrestricted Donations

Donations in support of the Poly Fund give ETH Zurich the freedom to put visions into practice. Unrestricted donations act as a catalyst for the ETH Executive Board to follow bold ideas without any constraint, and to take advantage of research and teaching opportunities without delay.

The Poly Fund enables ETH Zurich to flexibly expand upon a broad range of key areas, from Medical Technology to Energy, World Food System and Information Security. Thanks to your support, numerous projects, buildings and teaching concepts, such as the «Student Project House» (see below), the «Institute for Theoretical Studies» or international research cooperations have already been successfully implemented.

Further information is available at: www.ethz-foundation.ch/en/poly-fund



«As an ETH-employee and supporter of the Poly Fund, I enable ETH Zurich to formulate and implement its visions.»
Dr Jürg Brunnschweiler, ETH Global



«I'm inspired by the creative ideas, passion and enormous drive of the young entrepreneurs at ETH Zurich. It's a wonderful thing to facilitate this and to see how results of their research are converted into innovative products.»
**Pascal Neupert, ETH-Alumnus
 Board of Trustees of the Palmary Foundation**



The three founders of InterAx Biotech, Pioneer Fellow Martin Ostermaier, Luca Zenone and Aurélien Rizk (from left to right) are driving the development of new biosensors, doing much of the hands-on lab work themselves (p. 21).

Pioneer Fellowship

Pioneer Fellowships are an important instrument for the support of young entrepreneurs in Switzerland. The scholarship supports ambitious researchers in connection with their scientific work in the development of highly innovative products or services that shall be exploited commercially or used in the service of the community.

37 successful start-ups have already been founded by Pioneer Fellows since 2010; these reflect the whole spectrum of research undertaken at ETH and have, in some cases, already earned an international reputation.

Further information is available at: www.ethz-foundation.ch/en/pioneer-fellowships

Meet the Talent

With the annual «Meet the Talent» event, ETH Rector and ETH Zurich Foundation thank all donors who support the «Excellence Scholarship and Opportunity Programme» (ESOP) at ETH and therefore make a critical contribution to the support provided for the best talents. Approximately 180 guests and 90 ESOP scholars meet at the HCI building on Hönggerberg.



«*The ETH-degree was the door opener for my first job in Ireland and I'm very thankful for that. With my donation, I want to contribute to ETH keeping its excellent reputation and high level of education in the future.*»

**Lorenz Feldmann, ETH-Alumnus
Project Engineer Bombardier**



«*Thank you for investing in my education. I look forward to leveraging my time at ETH Zurich in helping to engineer novel and effective solutions in the energy industry.*»

**Lindsey Brooke Spreen, Excellence
Scholar, USA, Energy Science & Technology**



«*The aim of our support is to enable the most talented students from the areas of Chemistry, Materials Science and Health & Life Sciences to receive the best possible training at ETH Zurich, so that they can meet the challenges that confront them in future with solutions that are both innovative and sustainable.*»

Dr Hariolf Kottmann, CEO Clariant

Supporting talents since 2014

The Clariant Foundation's renewed agreement to support the «Excellence Scholarship & Opportunity Programme» at ETH Zurich makes it possible for two further students with outstanding academic excellence to receive a scholarship for their Master's degree. ETH Zurich Foundation previously already received a donation from Clariant for this programme in 2014.

TALENTS

Excellence Scholarship

Professor Sarah M. Springman has been Rector of ETH Zurich since January 2015. In her role as patron of the ESOP, she answers the four most important questions about this scholarship:

What exactly is the «Excellence Scholarship & Opportunity Programme» (ESOP)?

The ESOP provides the best 2–3 percent of Master students with mentoring and a scholarship that covers the cost of their studies and their living expenses; it also exempts them from tuition fees, which means that these talented individuals can fully concentrate on their research.

What makes the ESOP so distinctive?

There is a very high level of diversity among students who receive this scholarship – they come from every area of study and from very different parts of the world. People already have to present an original idea of their own when they apply for a Master's degree, so we receive applications from many creative, dynamic and talented individuals.

What careers do these young talents pursue after they take their Master's degree?

There is a good chance that you will come across them in the sciences: 57 percent obtain a doctoral degree,

36 percent of them at ETH. It is noticeable that these students often have a variety of different talents and are also engaged socially. They therefore have the best possible foundations for a successful career – also as entrepreneurs with their own business.

How important are donations for the ESOP?

The programme depends upon the donations made by companies, foundations and private individuals. Donations are therefore extremely important for the programme and I can't thank donors enough for their generous and growing support.

Further information is available at: www.ethz-foundation.ch/en/excellence-scholarships



Professor Sai Reddy awarded a Grand Challenges Explorations Grant

Professor Sai Reddy receives one of just 40 prestigious Grand Challenges Explorations Grants. The Misrock Foundation has already been supporting Professor Reddy at the ETH Department of Biosystems in Basel since 2010 and increases its initial commitment again in 2016.

New Professorship in Molecular Plant Breeding

The ETH Board appoints Bruno Studer as a full Professor for the newly created Professorship in Molecular Plant Breeding. The professorship at ETH Zurich has been set up jointly with Agroscope and is supported by fenaco through a donation to ETH Zurich Foundation.

Support for developing countries

A donation from the Stiftung zur Unterstützung und Förderung Begabter makes an important contribution to the ESOP. Its support allows four talented Master's students from Africa, Asia or another emerging country to take up their studies at ETH and to finance their living costs in Switzerland.

Professor Antonio Lanzavecchia elected as a member of the National Academy of Sciences

Antonio Lanzavecchia, Professor of Immunology and founding director of the Institute for Research in Biomedicine in Bellinzona, is elected as a member of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) of the United States of America – one of the highest and most important honours awarded to academic researchers. The Helmut Horten Stiftung has been supporting the Professorship in Immunology at the Department of Biology at ETH Zurich since 2009.

Pioneer Fellow founds company based on Nobel prizewinning work

A Pioneer Fellowship allows Martin Ostermaier to keep pursuing his ideas after completing his doctorate. Together with his two partners, he founds the company InterAx Biotech in Spring 2016, applying Nobel prize-winning knowledge about G-protein-coupled receptors to market a novel process for testing drugs.

WORLD
FOOD
SYSTEM

Plant Breeding

In order to ensure proper nutrition for the world in the future, we need novel types of plants; they must deliver high yields, even when climate conditions are changing, must be resistant to aggressive pathogens and must be able to thrive on minimal quantities of fertilisers and pesticides.

Groups from various disciplines are working in close interdisciplinary cooperation on the challenges of global agriculture. Under the umbrella of the World Food System Center and in individual projects, ETH promotes the improvement of crops, cultivation systems and the knowledge transfer between research and agriculture. Food security and saving resources are equally important goals.

Further information is available at:
www.ethz-foundation.ch/en/world-food



Support for the development of digital teaching

Emil Halter made his first visit to ETH Zurich Foundation in the spring of 2016 for a joint discussion to find out how he could get involved in helping his alma mater. His donation is the initial spark for promoting the digitalisation of teaching at ETH Zurich.

tibits and ETH Zurich Foundation pull together

The supporting community of ETH Zurich Foundation is growing bigger and younger. The partnership between Reto Frei, ETH alumnus and co-founder of tibits, the vegetarian restaurant chain, and ETH Zurich Foundation aims to reinforce this trend. The «think talk tibits» series of events provides an opportunity for ETH Zurich donors aged under 40 to meet after work.

EDUCATION



Flipped Classroom: Professor Ernst Hafen discussing ideas with the students

Professor Christophe Copéret receives Rössler Prize

At ETH Zurich Foundation's «Thanks Giving» event, the Rössler Prize (worth CHF 200,000) is awarded to the Professor of Surface and Interface Chemistry for his research.

«*I am very grateful for the Rössler Prize, which has recognised the effort and the creativity of our research team in the field of nuclear magnetic resonance in the context of catalysis and imaging. This unexpected financial support has fuelled our research group to further develop this exiting field of science and to explore new territories.*»



Professor Christophe Copéret, Professor of Surface and Interface Chemistry and Rössler Prize winner 2016

Donors visit the Pavilion of Reflections

Donors and friends of ETH Zurich take advantage of the opportunity to enjoy an exclusive visit to the «Pavilion of Reflections», the main presentation platform at Manifesta 11 on Lake Zurich. Accompanied by the Rector, Professor Sarah M. Springman, Professor Tom Emerson and his team give an exclusive backstage view of this major project.

Strong partners for Student Project House

ETH Zurich wins the support of Baugarten Stiftung, Ernst Göhner Stiftung, Plastic Omnium and Schwyzer-Winiker Stiftung as strong founding partners for the «Student Project House», an innovative think and work space for students. Their contribution secures the financing of the first building to be constructed for this project, which is currently taking shape in the former ETH district heating power station on Clausiusstrasse.

New incentives for teaching

If ETH is to deal successfully with global competition and stay ahead in the race for innovation and sustainable economic growth, it needs to take systematic care of the training of professional staff as well as maintaining its research activities. The spectrum stretches from an increase in the interaction between professors and students, through the «Critical Thinking» initiative to innovation projects included in Bachelor's degree courses.

Thanks to private donations, innovative projects on the subject of digital teaching development and the new «Rector's Impulse Fund» (page 28) could be launched in 2016.

«*As one of the sector-leading suppliers and partners in the worldwide automotive and waste and environment sector, we depend on graduates who are able to think critically in the field of engineering sciences. This is why we support the Student Project House. It's a place where students can test out an innovative idea by constructing prototypes, whether on their own or within interdisciplinary teams, thus developing valuable skills that they will be able to use in their future working lives.*»



Laurent Burelle, ETH-Alumnus Chairman and CEO Plastic Omnium

Reinforcing the talent and research hub

As an international industrial supplier, the Dätwyler Group relies upon outstanding employees and it is therefore keen to make the talent and research hub at ETH Zurich even stronger. For this reason, the company is extending its support for the «Excellence Scholarship & Opportunity Programme», which enables exceptional young people from all over the world to study for a Master's degree at ETH Zurich.

Renewed support for Pioneer Fellows and Zurich Heart

ETH Zurich Foundation is delighted by the IMG Stiftung's donation for the benefit of two key ETH topics: «Pioneer Fellowship» and «Zurich Heart». The IMG Stiftung contributes to the continuous expansion of support for new entrepreneurs, researchers and doctoral students since 2014.

Stories of ETH

ETH Zurich Foundation's new website has arrived, offering news and highlights of beneficiaries as well as countless stories of donors and partners. If you'd like to tell your story too, we'd love to hear from you. www.ethz-foundation.ch/en

Lokaltermin on Medicine

At the second «Lokaltermin» of 2016, the emphasis is very much on new technologies for medicine. The subjects for discussion are the growing expectations, exciting ideas and effective solutions for the future. ETH Zurich aims to work together with partners from academia, hospitals and industry to find the answers to important questions relating to human health.

Professor Katrien De Bock awarded ERC Starting Grant

Katrien De Bock, full Professor of Exercise and Health, is awarded the prestigious Starting Grant by the European Research Council (ERC). In her ERC project, De Bock, whose Professorship is supported by a donation from the Wilhelm Schulthess Stiftung, researches how blood vessels contribute to muscle metabolism and to the development of type 2 diabetes.

Foundations support ETH-Week

The theme of this year's ETH-Week is «Challenging Water» and is part of the «Critical Thinking» initiative, which ETH Zurich is using to promote interdisciplinary, creative thinking. ETH Week is supported by the Avina Stiftung and Stiftung Wegweiser.



« I have a clear vision of what I wish to achieve: innovative research that contributes towards solving today's problems. Bringing the best out of me and to contribute to successful science at ETH is what I'm aiming for. »

Philippe Nicollier, Excellence Scholar, Switzerland, Materials Science



The future of Personalised Medicine

Many experts believe that the future of medicine lies in personalisation. Treatments and medicines are expected to be tailored to suit individual patients, taking their personal circumstances into account and providing customised diagnosis and treatment of diseases, thus increasing the chances of a cure.

ETH Zurich, together with the University of Zurich and the University Hospitals, is planning to develop an internationally competitive «Center for Precision Medicine». Research teams are currently

working intensively (in fundamental research as well as the technological development area) to drive forward personalised medicine and its translation into day-to-day clinical routines. The academic institutions in Zurich and Basel have also come together to form an alliance as part of the «Swiss Personalised Health Network», with the aim of promoting synergies and developing more critical mass.

ETH Zurich Foundation seeks additional funding partners to develop this key research initiative.



« To me, it seems incredibly important that ETH Week should be continued. It promotes sustainable development – self-evidently a holistic concept – as well as the innovative ability of the students. »

Dr Thea Rauch-Schwegler, President Stiftung Wegweiser

Support for research project in the area of environmental sciences

The Uniscientia Stiftung provides support via an ETH Fellowship to an outstanding post-doctoral student for the project on «Landslides and debris flows». Their goal is to strengthen science and support people and projects in areas such as biodiversity and medicine.

Welcoming the new ESOPs

At the beginning of October, the Rector and ETH Zurich Foundation host the Welcome Event for the new «Excellence Scholarship & Opportunity Programme» scholars. Thanks to a large number of donations from alumni, private individuals, foundations and companies, 53 talented students from 20 nations have received an ESOP scholarship, financed entirely by private resources.

Successful world premiere of the Cybathlon

The first ETH Zurich Cybathlon is a huge success, with 4,600 visitors, 66 international teams and 150 media representatives from all over the world. This major event provides the opportunity for people with physical disabilities to compete against each other across six disciplines with the help of cutting-edge assistive technologies, while also demonstrating how these modern technologies can be used to help people with impairments deal with the day-to-day routine. The Cybathlon was made possible through the support of numerous donors and partners.

New Professorship in Pharmacoepidemiology

An Assistant Professorship (tenure track) in Pharmacoepidemiology is established in the Department of Chemistry and Applied Biosciences at ETH Zurich in collaboration with the University Hospital of Zurich. The new Professorship is supported by pharmaSuisse, the Swiss Pharmacists' Association, to support high quality, practical, future-oriented university education, advanced education and training for pharmacists.

ETH appoints new honorary council

This year, as part of the celebratory framework of ETH Day, Dr Thomas Knecht is awarded Honorary Board Member for his outstanding commitment to the promotion of innovation transfer from Swiss universities into society and the economy. The new Honorary Board Member has worked for many years as a member of ETH Zurich Foundation's Board of Trustees and of the Foundation's Steering Committee.

New partners for Data Science

At the end of the year, Swiss Post and the SIX Group enter a research partnership with ETH «Zurich Information Security and Privacy Center» (ZISC). The involvement of these companies, in collaboration with ETH Zurich Foundation, enables ZISC to run the newly established Open Lab.

Extended support for Professorship in Logistics Management

The funding by Kühne Stiftung for Professor Stephan Wagner, Professor of Logistics Management is extended. He has been a full professor at ETH since 2008 and is the Director of the Executive MBA in Supply Chain Management.



«The support of Uniscientia Stiftung has provided me with the freedom to pursue research of my own design in the first year following my doctoral degree. In addition to improving our understanding of the hazards and geological significance of landslides, this funding has allowed me to develop my skills in leading scientific research.»

Jeffrey Prancevic,
Postdoctoral Fellow,
Department of Environmental Systems Science

REHABILITATION



Rehabilitation Technology

Maintenance of good health and quality of life will pose a major challenge to our society and our health system in future, in the face of our progressively aging population and the increase in the proportion of overweight people.

Prevention, the development of effective treatments and technological and biological solutions for the replacement and reconstruction of body structures and bodily functions all require a multidisciplinary approach and form the focus of rehabilitation technology research at ETH.

The aim is to work with partners from science and industry in the development of forward-looking solutions for key problems affecting human health.

DATA SCIENCE

Information Security on the road to success

«The partnership with the ZISC Center enables Swiss Post to anchor ETH Zurich's pioneering research in areas such as IT system security, data analysis, machine learning & robotics even more firmly within our business and we will be working collaboratively on specific topics. We look forward to a mutual exchange of ideas to consolidate IT security with world-class research as a key feature of our core business and to integrate it within Swiss Post.»

Susanne Ruoff, CEO
Swiss Post



Thanks to the support of our partners, the past few years have seen «Zurich Information Security and Privacy Center» (ZISC) gain an international reputation as a competence centre for IT security. In order that solutions can continue to be developed in future to deal with the ever-increasing challenges to the security of information systems, the number of researchers and trainees in the area of information security needs to be increased significantly; interaction with industry also needs to be further intensified.

The recently established Open Lab provides an open platform where scientists and IT experts from partners involved in ZISC can engage in a lively exchange of views. The aim of this closer contact between researchers and business representatives is to facilitate an even better understanding of the needs of industry and to produce a quicker transfer of research results into day-to-day applications. Workshops, seminars and conferences are to be held on a regular basis. The Open Lab will provide space for 20 students, researchers and business partners.

Further information is available at:
www.ethz-foundation.ch/en/information-security

Launching the Rector's Impulse Fund

ETH alumnus Adrian Weiss supports the Rector Professor Sarah M. Springman by making a donation to the «Rector's Impulse Fund», with the aim of inspiring forward-thinking initiatives and enabling innovative projects to be realised without delay. The donations will be used to promote excellence and innovation in education.

Developing personalised medicine

Donations from the Lotte und Adolf Hotz-Sprenger Stiftung and the NOMIS Foundation support a professorship in Genome Biology, which aims to carry out research into the dynamic evolution of (cancer) genomes in the context of disease and treatment.

Supporting young scientists

The BASF Schweiz Forschungsstiftung supports the «Pioneer Fellowship Program» to encourage talented young entrepreneurs and forward-thinking research. The intention is that these funds should be directed towards innovations for sustainable construction.

ETH Zurich launches Media Technology initiative

ETH Zurich is establishing a professorship and a new Centre for Media Technology. This is being made possible through partnerships with the NZZ media group, Ringier, the SRG and Tamedia. The aim of the initiative is to bring practice and research closer together and to make use of the new technological advances for Switzerland as a media location.



«Excellent science depends upon curiosity, asking questions and the persistence to dig deep into things. Interdisciplinary collaboration and the freedom allowed to researchers are important to us. This is precisely why NOMIS Foundation supports fundamental research at ETH Zurich.»

Markus Reinhard, Managing Director NOMIS Foundation



«The Swiss media scene finds itself in a very good position, both historically and in terms of international comparisons. We want this situation to continue and to be able to take a leading role as a location for future media developments; this is why Tamedia supports teaching and research activities in the Data Science area at ETH.»

Dr Pietro Supino, Publisher and Chairman of the Board of Directors at Tamedia



«SRG's goal is to make Switzerland stronger as a media location, sustainably and for the longer term. That's why we support the ETH Media Technology initiative, thus promoting the innovative power of Swiss media companies.»

Ruedi Matter, Director Schweizer Radio und Fernsehen, SRF

DATA SCIENCE



Media Technology

Information technology and data science play a key role in the ever-changing media industry. ETH Zurich now aims to develop the digital transformation within the media sector into a research and teaching field of its own, set up through the ETH «Media Technology» initiative in Zurich. Considerable resources will be invested in the development of new research and teaching programmes and a new professorship in Media Technology will be created.

As a partner in this initiative, you keep a finger on the pulse of new developments; you can interact with emerging talents and point out the problems that eventually contribute to the discovery of new ideas and solutions for products and services.

Further information is available at: www.ethz-foundation.ch/en/media-technology



«Digitalisation is causing a fundamental transformation for Ringier and for the media industry in general. The aim of our support for research at ETH is to drive the digital transformation and technological innovations forward.»

Xiaoqun Clever, Chief Technology and Data Officer Ringier AG



«The partnership between the NZZ media group and ETH Zurich provides a unique opportunity to reinforce the interchange between universities and Swiss media companies. By supporting the Media Technology initiative, we attract talented new international staff into research and practice alike.»

Felix E. Müller, Editor in Chief NZZ am Sonntag, NZZ Mediengruppe

2017

New centre of education and research for the public sector

The newly established «Swiss School of Public Governance» (SSPG) unites research and teaching on the challenges in the public sector. This will provide executive managers with knowledge and access to various competencies at ETH Zurich.

Major skin research project

The major new interdisciplinary project of «Hochschulmedizin Zurich» will bring skin research in Zurich together in one location, with the aim to become a world-leading centre in this field. «Skintegrity» is supported through donations to the «Poly Fund» (page 16).

Successful Pioneer Fellow



Sergio Sanabria has only been part of the Pioneer Fellowship Program since the autumn of 2016, but his newly developed business idea is already generating a furor. Most recently, he was honoured with the Spark Award, for the most promising ETH invention submitted for a patent. Together with Professor Orçun Göksel and his research group, Sanabria has developed a novel ultrasound examination method to aid the diagnosis of various changes in tissues that particularly helps in the detection of tumours involved in breast cancer. Whereas many tumours were previously invisible to ultrasound, this new method measures the transit time required by an ultrasound wave. The more rigid the tissue (as is the case for many tumours), the faster the ultrasound wave travels through it. Trials are currently being held on patients at the University Hospital of Zurich.

Swiss School of Public Governance

The SSPG aims to be an interdisciplinary platform on research and teaching. Through interdepartmental synergies, solutions to critical challenges in the public sector – such as digital technologies, energy supply and artificial intelligence – will be developed. The linking of these solutions in combination with the political tradition of Switzerland, its massive experience of managing negotiations and its excellent services enables SSPG to establish an international position for itself in this subject.

The SSPG will be directed by Professor Michael Ambühl, who was previously State Secretary of the Swiss Federal Department of Finance and State Secretary of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs.

ETH Zurich Foundation seeks funding partners, who would like to enable the SSPG to carry out its research, teaching and outreach activities.

Further information is available at: www.ethz-foundation.ch/en/sspg



Skintegrity

In future, natural scientists, engineers and doctors at ETH Zurich, the University of Zurich and several other university clinics in the city will work together to develop new treatments and diagnostic procedures for skin diseases and wound healing problems and undertake research into the fundamentals of these health problems. The large-scale «Skintegrity» project will become the new flagship project for «Hochschulmedizin Zurich».

For example, Skintegrity projects are those that are involved in manufacturing artificial skin for transplantation or research purposes, those involved in the development of an imaging system for the early diagnosis of lymphatic diseases, or basic research projects using modern biological methods to investigate the mechanisms involved in the poor healing of wounds or the development of cancers.

Further information is available at: www.ethz-foundation.ch/en/skintegrity

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We thank the long-serving member of the Board of Trustees, Dr. Walter Gräebler (Board of Trustees ETH Zurich Foundation, 2008 - 2016), for his valuable contribution.

Balance Sheet

Consolidated

	31.12.2016	31.12.2015
	in CHF	in CHF
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	20 274 944	13 763 844
Securities	147 118 999	131 002 538
Short-term receivables from donors	55 875 033	57 844 305
Other short-term receivables	1 318 762	1 217 215
Accrued income	42 076	15 590
Total current assets	224 629 814	203 843 492
Long-term receivables from donors	177 929 126	208 810 350
Other long-term receivables	55 000	55 000
Fixed assets	16 311 443	17 130 479
Total non-current assets	194 295 569	225 995 829
TOTAL ASSETS	418 925 383	429 839 321
LIABILITIES		
Trade accounts payable	79 311	71 652
Short-term liabilities from allocations	23 571 840	21 344 680
Current liabilities	35 289	19 160
Deferred income	162 656	125 203
Total current liabilities	23 849 096	21 560 695
Long-term liabilities from allocations	80 539 500	82 494 000
Total non-current liabilities	80 539 500	82 494 000
Interest-bearing fund capital	33 000 498	33 017 509
Non interest-bearing fund capital	241 456 962	249 843 920
Total earmarked fund capital	274 457 460	282 861 429
Total liabilities incl. earmarked fund capital	378 846 056	386 916 124
Foundation capital	50 000	50 000
Statutory reserves	4 572	1 014
Internally generated unrestricted capital	42 868 625	47 630 423
Annual Result	-2 843 870	-4 758 240
Equity	40 079 327	42 923 197
TOTAL LIABILITIES	418 925 383	429 839 321

Subsidiary of the ETH Zurich Foundation: Immobilien ETHZF Ltd

The ETH Zurich Foundation set up the company Immobilien ETHZF Ltd and granted it a loan of CHF 17.1 m to create the HCP building on the Hönggerberg campus. The company rents the new office and seminar space to ETH Zurich.

Chairman of the Board:
 Dr. Donald Tillman
 Board members: Reinhard Giger,
 Dr. Thomas Wetzel

The consolidated financial statements were prepared in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER guidelines. In our capacity as auditors of the ETH Zurich Foundation, we confirm that the figures reported can be derived from the 2016 consolidated financial statements, which we have audited and certified without qualification on 22. March 2017.

KPMG AG


 Michael Herzog


 Carole Gehrler

Income Statement

Consolidated

	2016	2015
	in CHF	in CHF
INCOME		
Financial contributions, not earmarked	351 863	1 626 557
Financial contributions, earmarked	47 721 029	31 527 342
Financial contributions	48 072 892	33 153 899
Cancellation of donations / Repayment of donations	-8 040 000	-5 485
Total financial contributions	40 032 892	33 148 414
Net proceeds from renting	1 387 000	462 333
Total real estate income	1 387 000	462 333
Other income	39 332	95 437
Total Income	41 459 224	33 706 184
EXPENSES		
Allocations, not-earmarked	3 546 132	4 806 850
Allocations, earmarked	50 243 111	49 504 143
Total allocations	53 789 243	54 310 993
Total property expenses	138 665	53 256
Personnel expenses	1 754 009	1 392 627
Facility and administrative expenses	537 796	496 921
Other expenses	342 562	249 890
Amortisation	853 795	165 763
Total operating expenses	3 488 162	2 305 201
Operating results	- 15 956 846	- 22 963 266
Financial income	10 230 800	4 877 904
Financial expenses	-5 521 793	-5 136 964
Results before change in fund capital	- 11 247 839	- 23 222 326
Funds increment	-41 238 599	-31 521 857
Funds decrease	50 498 764	49 985 943
Interest fund capital	-856 196	0
Fund result (earmarked fund)	8 403 969	18 464 086
Annual result	- 2 843 870	- 4 758 240

All contributions to the ETH Zurich Foundation are employed entirely for the benefit of ETH Zurich.

ETH Zurich Foundation Team

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Dr. Donald Tillman
Managing Director



Corinna Adler
Head of Strategic Partnerships
Deputy Managing Director



Amina Chaudri
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Communication

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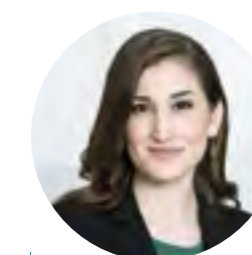
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Database Manager



Judith Desam
Assistant to the Managing Director

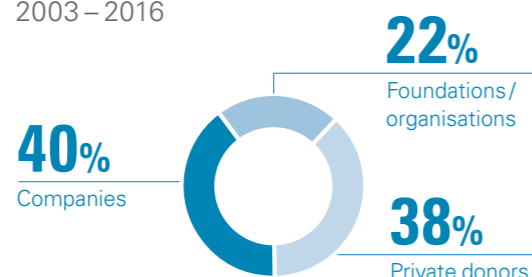


Sarah Lina Hamann
Communications Manager

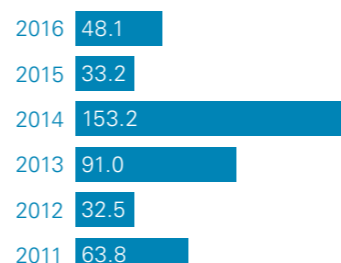


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Event Specialist

Origin of funds 2003 – 2016



Donations CHF m



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ETH Zurich / Alessandro Della Bella

Project team and winner of the peer-to-peer award for best project during ETH week «A Story of Food».