Dear Ladies and Gentlemen

Educating young people, nurturing their talents and promoting their personal development are among the core responsibilities of ETH Zurich. In today’s world – where knowledge is more accessible than ever before – a university education creates added value by equipping students not only with sound disciplinary knowledge, but also with an increased capacity for critical thinking, creativity, and entrepreneurial spirit.

High-quality education, research, as well as knowledge and technology transfer (two further core pillars of ETH Zurich) have their price. In addition to the basic financing provided by the federal government, philanthropic contributions play an increasingly important role. Donations make a huge difference by giving us the flexibility to fund rapid expansion in key fields of research and support outstanding students.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks and appreciation for your gifts and endowments. By taking an interest in this institution, you become part of the ETH Zurich family and establish a legacy that will continue for many years to come. Your support not only represents a significant contribution to the development of ETH Zurich, but also to the preservation of Switzerland’s prosperity. I am sincerely grateful for the leadership and staff of the ETH Zurich Foundation for their highly dedicated and professional efforts over the past year.

Prof. Dr. Lino Guzzella
President ETH Zurich
Dear Donors and Partners

Your commitment continues to make a big difference: by supporting key topics such as the world food system, information security, or the Cybathlon, you as a member of the ever-growing community of ETH benefactors and alumni helped ground-breaking research and pioneering approaches to nurture in the laboratories and lecture halls of ETH Zurich. As a result, in 2015, ETH Zurich was once again ranked as the leading university in continental Europe and among the top ten universities worldwide.

In 2015, your donations to ETH Zurich Foundation – large or small – totalled CHF 33.2 million. With your support for talented young students and innovative projects, as well as ETH Zurich’s strategic priorities, you provided an invaluable stimulus for scientific research.

On behalf of all the beneficiaries, we wish to express our sincere gratitude to alumni, private donors, foundations and companies, as well as the members of the Board of Trustees, for your support and your confidence. We also thank the Executive Board, professors and staff of ETH Zurich as well as ETH Zurich Foundation. Thanks are due in particular to Jürgen Dormann, the outgoing President of the Board of Trustees, for all the support, advice and guidance he provided during many years of dedicated and passionate leadership.

In this year’s annual report, we present some of the activities which were made possible thanks to your passion and valuable support.

We look forward to nurturing great talents and research together with you and hope you will find this report enjoyable and inspiring.
Impact of your donations
2003–2015

267
Scholarships
(16 Mio. CHF)

28
Professorships
(155 Mio. CHF)

189
Research, teaching, networks
(50 Mio. CHF)

8
Infrastructure, equipment
(25 Mio. CHF)
1 Ways to give

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

By leaving a **bequest** 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 and equipment**

3 Initiatives

**Health & Technology**
- Personalized Medicine
- Medical Technology
- Zurich Heart
- Cybathlon

**Energy & Environment**
- World Food System
- Energy & Climate Change
- Sustainable Construction
- Manufacturing, Processes & Materials

**Information & Data**
- Information Security
- Risk Research
- Quantum Engineering

**Talent Development**
- Excellence Scholarships (ESOP)
- Pioneer Fellowships
- Student Project House
- Career Seed Grant

Facts & Figures

2015

- **2253** donations
- **24** average age of donors
- **512** new donors
- **16** countries, origins of donations
Donors and Partners

We thank all our long-standing and new donors and partners for their confidence and their generous support for the ETH Zurich Foundation. By investing in innovative projects, bold ideas and pioneering efforts in research, fostering excellence and entrepreneurship, we will continue to make it possible for the most highly sought-after experts and talents to be trained at ETH Zurich, thus strengthening Switzerland as a centre of knowledge and industry. We also thank all those who prefer not to be named. Our guidelines for partnership (Code of Conduct) can be consulted online at www.ethz-foundation.ch.

Companies

- ABB
- AdNovum
- Ammann Group
- Avaloq
- Basler & Hofmann
- Biotronik
- BKW
- BNP Paribas Switzerland
- Bühler
- CA Indosuez
- Cisco
- Credit Suisse
- Credit Suisse
- Dätwyler
- Dectris AG
- Disney Research Zürich
- DMSP Portmann
- dormakaba
- Dow
- EFZ
- Ernst Basler + Partner
- ETEL
- ewz
- F. Hoffmann - La Roche
- Fabrimex Systems
- fenaco
- Franek
- FRIEDLPARTNER
- Geberit
- General Electric (GE)
- Glencore
- Gruner
- Hardturm AG
- Holcim
- Holcim Schweiz
- Hocoma
- Holinger
- Huber + Suhner
- Implenia
- KPMG
- LafargeHolcim / Holcim Schweiz
- Migros
- Nestle
- Omya
- Open Systems
- PartnerRe
- Philips
- Pilatus Flugzeugwerke
- Plastic Omnium
- PricewaterhouseCoopers
- Repower
- SABIC
- Schweizer Salinen
- Sensirion
- Shell
- Siemens Schweiz
- Sika
- Stump Fora Tec
- Sulzer
- Swiss Re
- Swisscom
- swisselectric
- Syngenta
- Tate Boston Consulting Group
- United Technologies Research Center
- upc cablecom
- V-ZUG / Metall Zug
- Zürcher Kantonalbank
- Zurich Insurance Company

The generous support provided for my professorship enables research on novel technologies which will drive the use of renewable geothermal energy worldwide. We are thus helping to reduce CO₂ emissions and global warming. I’d like to express my sincere thanks to the Werner Siemens Foundation, without which this research would not be possible. Prof. Dr. Martin Saar, Professorship Geothermal Energy and Geofluids, supported by the Werner Siemens-Stiftung

Foundations & Organizations

- Accenture Stiftung
- Adrian Weiss Stiftung
- Akademie der Wissenschaften Schweiz
- Albert Luck-Stiftung
- Anna carolina Stiftung
- AO Foundation
- Arbeitsgemeinschaft Prof. Hugel
- Arthur Waser Stiftung
- AXA Research Fund
- Baugarten Stiftung
- Bühlmann-Kuhnli Stiftung
- Coop Fonds für Nachhaltigkeit
- Credit Suisse Foundation
- DEZA
- Dr. Alfred u. Flora Spitali Fonds
- Dr.Jur. József Kertész Stiftung
- Eidgenössisches Büro für die Gleichstellung von Menschen mit Behinderungen EBGB
- Erdöl-Vereinigung
- Ernst sulinner Stiftung ETH Alumni
- Landesgruppe Deutschland
- FIFA
- First Advisory Group
- Gemeinnützige Stiftung ACCENTUS
- Gemeinnützige Stiftung Basler & Hofmann
- Georg und Bertha Schwizer-Winkler Stiftung
- Hans-Eggenberger-Stiftung
- Hauser-Stiftung
- Heidi Ras Stiftung
- Helmert Norten Stiftung
- Hirschmann-Stiftung
- IASTED
- ING Stiftung
- Josef P. und Nelly Sprenger Stiftung
- Klaus Tschira Stiftung
- Kühme Stiftung
- Leister Stiftung
- Lotte und Adolf Stiftung
- Max Stiftung
- MBF Foundation
- Michael Kohn-Stiftung
- Missrock-Stiftung
- NAGLA
- Novartis Stiftung
- Prof. Otto Beisheim-Stiftung
- René und Susanne Drapinsky-Stiftung
- MMS Foundation
- Rütli Stiftung
- Sawiris Foundation
- Siemens Stiftung
- Siegfried Stiftung
- Stiftung der Industriellen
- Stiftung für Social Development
- SCOT Corporate Foundation
- SCS Swiss Child Support Foundation
- Stiftung für den Erhalt der Natur
- Stiftung für Perspektiven von Swiss Life
- Stiftung Denk an mich
- Stiftung Merator Schweiz
- Stiftung NAK-Humanitas
- Stiftung Propter Homines
- Vadus-Lietzenstein
- Swiss Re Foundation
- Universitas Stiftung
- Velux Stiftung
- Verein SVGW
- Verein VSA
- Verwendungsbereitschaft Stiftung
- Walter Haefner Stiftung
- Werner Siemens-Stiftung
- Wilhelm Schulthess-Stiftung
- Yvonne Lang-Chardonnens Stiftung
- Z Zurich Foundation
For me personally, this means an opportunity to make a direct and concrete contribution to the development of Swiss science and technology.

Prof. Dr. Ulrike Grossner, Professorship Power Semiconductors, supported by ABB
Without the private donation the translational neuromodeling unit would never have been established in Zurich at all. Both the donation and the partnership between ETH Zurich and the University of Zurich made the impossible possible: The establishment of a completely new type of scientific unit at the intersection between psychiatry and engineering.

Prof. Dr. Klaas Enno Stephan, Professorship Translational Neuromodeling, supported by René and Susanne Braginsky-Stiftung
Receiving the ESOP scholarship demonstrated recognition for the hard work I had invested before, and allowed me to meet many inspiring people and concentrate on my studies.

Sarah Hänzi, Switzerland, Biology, ESOP 2011

Maries Kuhn
Nina Kuhn
Milorad Kuzmanovic
Werner Kumm
Andres Kundig
Mathias Kunz
Markus Kuschniger
Stephan Kusnierz
Stephan Kusner
Pascal Küber
Philipp Käser
Markus Kappeler
Robert Keller
Roland Keller
Stefan Keller
Werner Keller
Peter Keller
Charlotte Keller
Klaus Klinnert
Klaus Kickler
Lutz Kley
Anton Kojak
Stefan Kölzer
Karin Kollmann
Stefan Koller
Stefan Koller
At our startup CatchEye, we work on making video calls more personal and more effective. The Pioneer Fellowship allows us to transform our research results into a real product, which will hopefully make a positive impact on modern communication. We are grateful for the opportunities the Pioneer Fellowship has opened up for us and excited to see how the journey continues.

Claudia Plüss and Jan Rüegg, Founders CatchEye, Pioneer Fellows
"After graduating from Harvard in Applied Mathematics, Cum Laude, I am extremely grateful for the Excellence Scholarship, which allows me to study at one of the world's leading institutions in science and technology, while living abroad and immersing myself in a new culture."

David Zhao, USA, Mathematics and Statistics, ESP0
I owe it to the scholarship that I’m able to study at this great university and to conduct fieldwork in my home country Ecuador. In my master thesis, I want to investigate the environmental impact of the mining activities in Ecuador and examine whether environmental guidelines are being properly applied and implemented in new mining projects. I hope that the knowledge I have acquired, can help to protect the environment.

Gabriela Ponce, Ecuador, Environmental Systems Science, ESOP 2014
Exzellenz Zirkel

To recognize special contributions and close ties (annual donations for more than five years), and as a mark of our gratitude, you are admitted to the Exzellenz Zirkel. Many thanks to all of you for setting an example and inspiring others!

To be a student of ETH and to be awarded the Excellence Scholarship are together a once in a lifetime opportunity. The Scholarship represents not only a great financial help, but firstly a great honor, because I feel I am considered not only a student, but a talented resource.

Alessia Villois, Italy, Chemistry and Applied Biosciences, ESOP 2015
The ETH Zurich Foundation appreciates contributions of all kinds, however great or small. For every donation has a story to tell – the personal story that prompted an act of philanthropy, as well as the success story made possible by your support. In 2015, your donations made a huge difference. On the following pages, you can discover some of the highlights – outstanding talents, pioneering research, new initiatives and the achievements of former beneficiaries.

“Construction is a key growth sector in developing and emerging countries. Sustainable management of the resources required for this purpose poses major economic, environmental and social challenges. That’s why I’m happy to support ETH Zurich in the development of new technologies.”

Samih Sawiris, Sawiris Foundation for Social Development

“Engineering for Development” (E4D) promotes the development of products or methods designed to improve the livelihoods of people in developing countries. The programme, which is financed by the Sawiris Foundation for Social Development, includes a doctoral scholarship and three Winter Schools, where interdisciplinary teams of students explore solutions in case studies focusing on various key topics.

“Fireside talks”
Prof. Dr. Sarah M. Springman (Rector of ETH Zurich), Prof. Dirk Hebel and Samih Sawiris discuss the challenges and opportunities of the E4D programme, which was established by ETH Zurich and the Sawiris Foundation.
Why I give

My main reason for supporting the ETH is a sense of gratitude. I myself have every reason to be grateful. I belonged to the first generation of women who, without any great difficulty, were able to choose the profession they wished to pursue. We were living in peace in Switzerland, while all around us people were living under the shadow of the Second World War. And, not least, I’m grateful for scientific research, which has helped us to maintain our quality of life. But gratitude also obliges us to pass on what we have received ourselves. And so gratitude goes hand in hand with personal responsibility. I must do what I can to ensure that the next generation has opportunities similar to those we enjoyed. At a time when we’re only too ready to call on the state for assistance, we need individuals, young and old, who feel obliged to help people take advantage of the opportunities available. I can only hope that today’s ETH young people also learn to go out into the world with a sense of gratitude and responsibility.

Yvonne Lang-Chardonnens, Yvonne Lang-Chardonnens Stiftung

Legacies and inheritances are a highly personal and special matter. They can make it possible to launch unique research projects, nurture outstanding students or effectively promote pioneering spirit. They are important for ETH Zurich’s efforts to help shape the future.

Prof. Dr. Ralph Eichler, former President of ETH Zurich, former Vice President of the Board of Trustees of the ETH Zurich Foundation

Inspired to donate

Yvonne Lang-Chardonnens first learned of the “Excellence Scholarship & Opportunity Programme” (ESOP) from former ETH Rector Prof. Dr. Heidi Wunderli-Allenspach in 2011. Though not herself an ETH alumna, she is so enthusiastic about the programme that she donates annually ever since.

Excursion to CERN

Accompanied by Felicitas Pauss, Professor for Experimental Particle Physics, donors visit the research facility and enjoy an exclusive tour of the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) before the particle accelerator is restarted in April.

Seed Projects in “Manufacturing, Processes and Materials”

With their donations, the HUBER + SUHNER Stiftung and ETEL are supporting Seed Projects, which enable researchers to explore visionary ideas from research and industry, rapidly and pragmatically.

Enduring attachment to ETH Zurich

ETH alumna and long-serving ETH employee Dr. Dorothée Wegmann dies aged 80 in January. She supported the “Excellence Scholarship & Opportunity Programme” during her lifetime and also named ETH Zurich Foundation as the sole heir to her estate.
House of Natural Resources

For six ETH Professors from the Departments of Architecture and Civil, Environmental and Geomatic Engineering, the construction of the flagship four-storey hardwood building provided an ideal opportunity for hands-on research. The new technologies are now to be tested and evaluated over a longer period, so as to develop and promote the use of innovative and efficient wooden structures and, in the long term, increase the use of beechwood in construction.

The project was financed partly from unrestricted donations to the Strategic Fund of the ETH Zurich Foundation. This fund provides support for strategic priorities designed to reinforce the position of ETH as a global leader in research and teaching.

“\nI thankfully acknowledge the support of the Albert Lück-Stiftung, which has essentially fuelled both the research and educational activities of my team through the truly substantial financial support provided since the initiation of this professorship. Thanks to this funding I was able to successfully develop the group, to develop successful research projects and to attract further significant third party funding.”

Prof. Dr. Eleni Chatzi,
Professor of Structural Mechanics

Assistant professorship in Structural Mechanics
By providing further support, the Albert Lück-Stiftung enables Prof. Dr. Eleni Chatzi to continue a tenure-track assistant professorship in Structural Mechanics.

Support for Quantum Engineering initiative
The Michael Kohn-Stiftung contributes to the Quantum Engineering initiative. ETH alumnus Dr. h.c. Kohn is thus supporting the further development of quantum technologies at ETH Zurich, in line with his professional leitmotif “Man – Energy – Society”.

Greek Gathering
The Greek community of ETH Zurich and representatives of the Stavros Niarchos Foundation and ETH Zurich Foundation meet for the annual Greek Gathering.

New Professorship for Power Semiconductors
Prof. Dr. Ulrike Grossner, whose professorship within the Department of Information Technology and Electrical Engineering was established with support from ABB Switzerland, starts to conduct research in the field of advanced power semiconductors.
MARCH

World Food System initiative strengthened

Nestlé supports the World Food System initiative as an industry partner, enabling further expansion of the World Food System Center and the launching of pioneering research projects.

"Lokaltermin" on Digital Fabrication

The first "Lokaltermin" of 2015 encompasses presentations and discussions on "Digital fabrication in architecture – will robots build for us in the future?" A new Master’s degree programme on this topic has been launched at ETH Zurich this year.

Talent development programme

To support outstanding talents in musculoskeletal system research, the AO Foundation is offering "AO Foundation Fellowships" and "Research Opportunity Awards" for Master’s and doctoral students in the Department of Health Sciences and Technology (D-HEST).

Logistik Hall of Fame

Prof. Dr. Stephan Wagner, whose professorship for Logistics Management is supported by the Kühne-Stiftung, joins the panel of expert judges for the "Logistik Hall of Fame", which recognizes individuals making exceptional contributions to the development of logistics or supply chain management.

Our experience with young Fellows from ETH Zurich has been extremely positive. Working with highly enthusiastic and talented students is a win-win situation, providing them active insight in translational research at the AO Research Institute Davos, while strengthening our connections and fruitful collaborations with institutes and professors of the D-HEST.

Prof. Dr. Geoff Richards,
Director AO Research Institute Davos

House of Natural Resources

After an 18-month construction period, the House of Natural Resources (HoNR) is ready for use. The HoNR is a flagship hardwood building project, which was partly funded by donations.

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Prof. Dr. Geoff Richards,
Director AO Research Institute Davos
Pioneer Fellowships

The Pioneer Fellowship programme enables young entrepreneurs to bring their ideas rapidly to the marketplace. Successful applicants enter an 18 month accelerator programme to develop their business idea, build a prototype and found their own startup. Support comprises infrastructure, coaching and monetary support of CHF 150,000. More than half of all awarded scholarships were made possible through donations to ETH Zurich Foundation from private donors, foundations and companies.

Meet the Talent

At the annual "Meet the Talent" event, donors get the opportunity to meet scholars of the “Excellence Scholarship & Opportunity Programme” and find out more about the talented young students’ academic studies, research and future plans.

Successful Pioneer Fellow Companies: Versantis and Adaptricity

Two ETH spin-offs – offering a new dialysis method and a power grid simulation tool respectively – reach the final round of the Venture Kick competition and each receive CHF 130,000 in seed capital.

Fructose metabolism research

In order to “give something back”, ETH alumnus Dr. Walter Fischli helps to finance research and teaching at ETH Zurich. The Walter & Edith Fischli Fund supports doctoral and postdoctoral students involved in a research project led by Prof. Dr. Wilhelm Krek.
Strengthening Zurich as a centre of research excellence
Ernst Basler + Partner AG makes a donation to the “Excellence Scholarship & Opportunity Programme”, supporting outstanding students at ETH Zurich.

New Professorship for Biomedical Imaging
Prof. Dr. Sebastian Kozerke gives his inaugural lecture. His professorship at the Institute for Biomedical Engineering is co-financed by Philips Switzerland and represents an expansion of the company’s long-standing collaboration with ETH Zurich.

Profound gratitude
The construction of the MEDTECHcenter is not just important for me personally, it will also allow ten professorships which are currently scattered across the campus to be housed under one roof and to work together on the medical technologies of the future.
Prof. Dr. Ralph Müller, Institute for Biomechanics
Prospective user of the MEDTECHcenter

We owe a debt of gratitude to the ETH. We are happy to support the university and thus strengthen the next generation of researchers.
Bruno Basler, ETH alumnus
Chairman of the Board of Directors
Ernst Basler + Partner AG

MEDTECH center
The MEDTECHcenter (GLC) will make available urgently needed laboratory space for ETH Zurich’s research focus on medical engineering and health. The building is to provide a new home for the Department of Health Sciences and Technology, and in particular for Biomechanics researchers. With over 12,000 m² of floor space, the MEDTECHcenter will accommodate 10 full professors and their groups – well over 200 researchers in all.

Construction work begins on what is planned to be the hub of biomedical research at ETH Zurich. The MEDTECHcenter project is being generously supported by the Mäxi-Stiftung.

New Professorship of Geothermal Energy and Geofluids
Prof. Dr. Martin O. Saar, who established the Geothermal Energy and Geofluids research group at the Department of Earth Sciences in January 2015, gives his inaugural lecture. This professorship is made possible by the Werner Siemens-Stiftung.
David Norris

Thanks to a generous donation from ETH alumnus Dr. Max Rössler, the Rössler Prize has been awarded annually at ETH Zurich since 2009. The prize, awarded to particularly promising young researchers in the expansion phase of their careers, recognizes scientific excellence and outstanding performance in research and teaching. Prof. Dr. David Norris is the first member of the Department of Mechanical and Process Engineering to receive the coveted award.

“...We want to help develop and build on IT system security and reliability, the guarantee of data security, and the protection of customer data from unauthorised access, so that the canton of Zurich’s population and economy can continue to count on secure financial services.”

Daniel Heinzmann, Head of IT Strategy, Architecture and Security at Zürcher Kantonalbank

3-for-2 building
Singapore

Prof. Dr. David Norris

Singapore: Progress with 3-for-2 building

Construction of the 3-for-2 building in Singapore is almost complete. The entire system (including sensors) is being tested by the main industry partner Siemens Building Technologies, which also co-financed the professorship of 3-for-2 project leader Prof. Dr. Arno Schlüter.

Pioneer Fellow wins start-up competition

In the 10th venture start-up competition, Sabrina Badir’s Pregnostics team (now called Pregnolia) wins the prize for the best business idea. Five of the six ETH Zurich finalists are supported by the Pioneer Fellowship programme.

Expansion of Information Security

Thanks in part to a donation from Zürcher Kantonalbank, ETH Zurich can further expand the Zurich Information Security & Privacy Center (ETH ZISC).

Award for ITS Fellow

Henryk Iwaniec, Senior Fellow at the ETH Institute for Theoretical Studies (ITS), is awarded the 2015 Shaw Prize in Mathematical Sciences. The ITS was established with support from the Walter Haefner-Stiftung and Dr. Max Rössler.
Cybathlon

At the Cybathlon 2016, disabled athletes will compete in a wide variety of disciplines, using the latest assistive technologies. This sporting event is designed to encourage international research teams and technology companies to develop devices useful for daily life, in close collaboration with people with disabilities.

“With the Cybathlon, ETH Zurich is impressively showcasing scientific advances in a sporting context for the benefit of people with disabilities. This fascinating competition deserves to be supported!”

Urs Lauffer, Vice-President, Stiftung “Perspektiven” by Swiss Life

Successful Cybathlon rehearsal
Mid-July 2015, over 30 teams from 15 countries take part in the Cybathlon rehearsal event at the Swiss Arena in Kloten.

Partners of the Cybathlon 2016
EKZ, Hocoma, Universitätsklinik Balgrist, VAMED, MBF Foundation, Stiftung Cerebral, Stiftung Denk an mich, Schweizerische Multiple Sklerose Gesellschaft, Stiftung NAK-Humanitas, IASTED, Stiftung “Perspektiven” by Swiss Life, Hans-Eggenberger-Stiftung, BNP Paribas, Eidgenössisches Büro für die Gleichstellung von Menschen mit Behinderungen, and more. We are looking for further project partners.
Mattias Ivarsson

In 2008, ranking among the top 2–3% of Bachelor’s students, Mattias Ivarsson received an ESOP scholarship. As an ETH doctoral student, to combat a bacterium responsible for many hospital-acquired infections, he developed a molecule which is now a candidate for clinical use. To pursue his vision of developing a marketable product, Ivarsson was awarded a Pioneer Fellowship. In 2014, he won the Falling Walls Lab Zurich event, and is now a pioneer in the medical world with his innovative approach. In December 2015, he founds Inositec AG.

Karl Tanner

Throughout his life, Karl Tanner was driven by two passions – painting and laboratory experimentation. Having studied Chemistry at ETH Zurich, he specialized in innovative plastics. In the basement of the family home in Rüschlikon, Tanner set up a private laboratory for his experiments; Castellina in Chianti (Tuscany) offered a refuge whenever it got too cold in Switzerland and he wished to paint in tranquility. His pioneering efforts in chemistry were combined with artistic creativity; after his retirement, he united his two passions in artistic endeavour, organizing a series of successful exhibitions right up to his death.

Commitment to early support
The IMG Stiftung believes in supporting talented individuals at an early stage, and this year once again donates to the Zurich Heart, “Excellence Scholarship & Opportunity Programme” (ESOP) and Pioneer Fellowship programme. Mattias Ivarsson’s career shows the impact of early support.

Donations to ESOP programme
Throughout his life, ETH alumnus Dr. Reinhard Hürlimann was attached to his alma mater and particularly enjoyed meeting young students at ETH events. In remembrance of their father, his children invite memorial donations to the ESOP programme. Mattias Ivarsson’s career shows the impact of early support.

Supporting young researchers
In 2015, numerous companies and foundations once again make a big difference by contributing to the ESOP programme: upc, Dow, BKW, Disney, Clariant, Inepnia, IMG Stiftung, Ernst Basler + Partner, Adrian Weiss Stiftung, Stiftung zur Unterstützung und Förderung Begabter, Josef P. & Nelly Spiess-Mohn Stiftung and others.

Legacy to ETH Zurich Foundation
ETH alumnus Karl Tanner’s lifelong attachment to his alma mater finds expression in a legacy to the ETH Zurich Foundation. His daughter Christine fulfils her father’s wish that his estate should benefit the engineering sciences.
**Opening of focusTerra special exhibition**
The special exhibition “Earth’s Treasures”, which highlights the challenges associated with the use of mineral resources, is supported by SDC, Swiss Oil Association, Glencore International AG, Nagra, Omya AG, Swiss Salt-works AG, Stump ForaTec AG, Dr. Peter Eckardt.

**ETH Industry Day**
At ETH Industry Day, visitors learn about current research trends and visions and discuss the transfer of innovations to industry with leading researchers.

**Zurich Heart**
The Zurich Heart project aims to develop a mechanical heart pump which is superior to existing devices in terms of infection risk, adaptivity, biocompatibility and quality of life. Since the project was launched in 2012, it has grown considerably and now involves 17 professors, clinicians and 35 postdocs and doctoral students of ETH Zurich, University of Zurich, Zurich University Hospital, Empa and the German Heart Institute Berlin (DHZB). The various research groups participating are now to collaborate more closely on the development of new approaches and prototypes.

“**A technically challenging project like Zurich Heart can only be undertaken with the combined expertise offered by Zurich as a higher education centre.**

Prof. Dr. Volkmar Falk, initiator of the Zurich Heart

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“**I’m delighted that our earth treasures exhibition has already attracted so much interest. It’s good to see how visitors are inspired by the exhibition to become part of a sustainable solution in the use of mineral resources.**

Dr. Ulrike Kastrup, Director focusTerra

**successful Summer School**
At Gut Rheinau, 24 students from 17 countries meet for the World Food System Center’s Summer School, focusing on solutions for sustainable food systems. The Summer School is made possible by donations from the Mercator Foundation Switzerland and PartnerRe.
Excellence Scholarship & Opportunity Programme (ESOP)

The scholarship allows top-performing students to pursue a Master’s degree at ETH Zurich, fostering the most talented individuals from all over the world. Students’ nationality or social background is irrelevant – what counts is talent, enthusiasm, dedication and an outstanding academic record. Thanks to the generous support provided by companies, foundations and private individuals, highly motivated students have sufficient time and freedom to focus on their research.

30% come from Switzerland
46% have an ETH Bachelor’s degree
15 former scholars are already donating to the ESOP
42% are women
42 nationalities are represented

Support for Professorship in Plant Breeding
Committed to research and to promote the long-term success of Swiss agriculture, the fenaco cooperative sponsors a professorship at ETH Zurich.

Rössler Prize winner receives Körber Prize
Nicola Spaldin, Professor of Materials Theory at ETH Zurich, receives one of Europe’s most prestigious scientific awards for the development of a new family of crystalline compounds.

Rector welcomes new ESOP scholars
As the semester begins, ETH Rector and ESOP patron Prof. Dr. Sarah M. Springman holds a reception to officially welcome new ESOP scholars to ETH Zurich.

Study settles controversy over absorption of microRNAs
A research project led by Prof. Dr. Markus Stoffel and supported by the Starr International Foundation demonstrates that the posited dietary uptake of microRNA molecules is barely significant.

Insights into construction for ESOP scholars
On a one-day excursion, ESOP scholars visit Implenia – one of Switzerland’s leading construction firms and an ESOP funding partner – to gain insights into current projects and the company’s history and culture.

Development of Excellence Scholarships
In 2007, the programme began with 13 scholars from 9 Departments. In 2015, as a result of steady growth in the number of applications and funding partners, 50 students were awarded an Excellence Scholarship.

2007 13
2015 50

"We support the creation of an ETH professorship, because we aim at advancing research on topics relevant to agriculture and ensuring the knowledge transfer to farmers.

Dr. Martin Keller, ETH alumnus Chief Executive Officer, fenaco

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Information security

Information security is a strategically important area of research at ETH Zurich; the Department of Computer Science in particular has been focusing intensively on this field for years. The planned expansion of the Zurich Information Security and Privacy Center (ETH ZISC) will strengthen research and education in this area.

For Open Systems, the long-term partnership with ZISC is important for two reasons: it facilitates exchange with the world’s best researchers and thinkers in fields which are relevant for us. And we are able to support ETH Zurich in further strengthening its position as one of the leading universities worldwide.

Martin Bosshardt, ETH alumnus
CEO Open Systems AG

More than ever, the Swiss economy depends on first-class universities in our country. The more challenging the economic framework, the more important it is to get highly qualified people in the global competition for talent. ETH Zurich’s achievements in this context are truly impressive.

Dr. h.c. René Braginsky,
René and Susanne Braginsky-Stiftung
Pioneer Fellow wins “Falling Walls Lab” competition

Following her success in the venture start-up competition in June, ETH biomechanics specialist Sabrina Badir also wins the first prize at the international “Falling Walls Lab” event, which attracts 1300 young scientists from over 40 countries.

Scholarships for Ethiopian students

Support from the Arthur Waser Stiftung, which seeks to create long-term social and occupational opportunities for young people in developing countries, enables two Ethiopian students to pursue a MAS programme in Sustainable Water Resources at ETH Zurich.

As part of her doctoral thesis, Sabrina Badir developed a device that can help gynaecologists to reliably determine the risk of premature birth at an early stage in pregnancy. It is based on the simple, safe and reliable measurement of the consistency of a pregnant woman’s cervix. Since she completed her doctorate, Sabrina Badir has been receiving support as a Pioneer Fellow. This enables her to focus on commercializing the device, developing business plans and finding investors.

Enabling people to achieve their full potential greatly benefits both individuals and society. Since talent comes in every shape and form it is important to me to be able to support talents from every background through the ETH Zurich Foundation.

Hanna Brahme, engineer at ABB

Sabrina Badir

New doctoral position in quantum research

With his donation, Giulio Anderheggen supports the creation of a doctoral position in the quantum research project “Novel nonequilibrium phenomena in periodically driven quantum systems” at the ETH Institute for Theoretical Physics.

ESOP: annual mailing

The annual mailing reports on the current status of the ESOP and on scholars’ activities. Donations from 2132 alumni and friends of ETH Zurich subsequently allow 14 scholarships to be awarded.
World Food System

In the face of global challenges, ETH Zurich launched the strategic initiative “World Food System” to seek solutions for the entire food value chain, thus contributing to sustainable food security. The newly established professorship, filled by Prof. Dr. Alexander Mathys and supported by Bühler and Migros, is dedicated to the whole product life cycle, from molecule through to shelf-ready food. The Coop-funded project “PACKCHAIN” (see picture) aims to reduce food losses during transportation and storage through environmentally-smart ventilated packaging using virtual cold chains.

Supporting the next generation of researchers
Through his foundation, ETH alumnus Adrian Weiss has been supporting young researchers for several years, focusing in particular on electrical engineering and architecture – two areas where he and his father, ETH alumnus Bruno Weiss, made their mark.

Immunology research project
With a further donation, Regula and Dr. Alex Vannod-Nussbaum are supporting research in the field of immunology. The latest project is studying chronic viral infections with the aim of finding more effective antibody responses to control virus replication.

Scholars meet successful ETH alumni
Around 30 ESOP scholars visit the company Sensirion and learn from ETH alumni and former scholarship holders about the success story of the ETH spin-off.

Research to prevent food waste
A professorship for Sustainable Food Processing is established as part of the ETH World Food System initiative thanks to donations from Bühler and Migros.

ETH Day: New honorary councillors appointed
ETH Zurich celebrates its 160th anniversary with guests from academia, politics and industry. In recognition of their personal commitment to ETH Zurich, Jürgen Dormann and Dr. h.c. Hansjörg Wyss are appointed as honorary councillors.

“'For me, studying at the ETH opened up numerous professional opportunities. With my Adrian Weiss Stiftung, I’d now like to give something back to the ETH, promoting innovative projects and nurturing young talents in collaboration with the ETH Zurich Foundation.'

Adrian Weiss, ETH alumnus formerly co-owner and CEO of Magnetic Autocontrol
Student Project House

The “Student Project House” is one of the campus projects of the Critical Thinking initiative. It will offer students an environment where innovative ideas can be developed and projects realized. The “Student Project House” will provide various functional spaces, including a “Thinkspace”, where ideas can be elaborated, and a “Makespace”, where prototypes can be developed. This should encourage interdisciplinary interaction across departmental and group boundaries, promote creativity and enable students to organize events and showcase their ideas.
World record achieved by Pioneer Fellow
Together with ETH researchers, Pioneer Fellow Patrick Galliker – a co-founder of the ETH spin-off Scrona – is the official world record holder for the smallest inkjet-printed colour image.

Opening of Wyss Translational Center
The Wyss Translational Center, established with the aid of an extraordinary donation from Dr. h.c. Hansjörg Wyss, is officially inaugurated.

Energy Seed Projects
Energy research at ETH Zurich is proceeding successfully. Further Seed Projects in this area can be undertaken thanks in part to donations from General Electric and the Heidi Ras Stiftung.

ERC Starting Grant for funded professorship
Among the seven ETH Zurich researchers receiving a CHF 1.5 million grant from the European Research Council is Professor Sai Reddy, whose professorship was established thanks to a generous donation from the Misrock Foundation.

Wyss Translational Center
The aim of the development centre jointly established by ETH Zurich and the University of Zurich is to accelerate the translation process, so that innovative ideas from basic research can be more rapidly applied in practice.

I’m delighted that Professor Sai Reddy, whose professorship is funded by the Misrock Foundation, is so successful and has now also been awarded the prestigious ERC Starting Grant. Our donation is bearing fruit. Sai Reddy and his research team are a gain not only for the ETH Department of Biosystems in Basel, but also for us.

Jean-Marc Joerin,
President of the Misrock Foundation
Highlights of scholars

2015 was a successful year for ESOP scholars: former and current scholars achieved distinction with scientific publications, new research findings and promising projects.

**Marco Hutter**
ESOP scholar 2007, was appointed Assistant Professor at the ETH Institute of Robotics and Intelligent Systems.

**Lorenz Meier**
ESOP scholar 2008, developed a software programme which was adopted as standard for drone flight control.

**Bettina Heim**
ESOP scholar 2014, published the results of her term paper in the renowned journal Science.

**Peter Vogel**
ESOP scholar 2007, was appointed Assistant Professor at the Institute for Technological Management at University of St. Gallen.

**Louis Du Plessis**
ESOP scholar 2009, produced three major publications on Ebola/epidemics in the course of the year.

**Alexandra Title**
ESOP scholar 2013, was first author of Prof. Dr. Markus Stoffel’s study about microRNA absorption.

**Martin Gaugg**
ESOP-Stipendiat 2013, is a doctoral student involved in biomarker identification for lung cancer in breath.

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**Thank you!**

The ETH Zurich Foundation and ETH Zurich thank Jürgen Dormann for his extraordinary personal dedication to promoting teaching and research at ETH Zurich and for his outstanding leadership of the ETH Zurich Foundation.

Thank you, Jürgen Dormann
Jürgen Dormann, who served as President of the Board of Trustees of the ETH Zurich Foundation from 2008 to the end of 2015, hands over to his successor.

New President of Board of Trustees
New members join the Board of Trustees of the ETH Zurich Foundation: Prof. Dr. Beatrice Weder di Mauro becomes a Board member, and Prof. Dr. Pius Baschera takes up the office of President of the Board.
OUTLOOK

Career Seed Grants
For postdoctoral researchers at ETH Zurich, the new funding instrument “Career Seed Grants” offers a practical opportunity to conduct their own research project alongside their tasks in the research group of their professorship. Funding is to be provided by donations to the ETH Zurich Foundation.

Personalized medicine
In order to pool and enhance existing expertise and resources at ETH Zurich and the University of Zurich, a joint competence centre for personalized medicine has been established. To allow these activities to be expanded and to strengthen the role of ETH Zurich as a centre of innovation in personalized medicine, research groups are increasingly to engage in interdisciplinary collaboration, in partnership with industry and with Zurich’s University and hospitals. The ETH Zurich Foundation is looking for additional partners to develop this key research initiative at the interface between natural sciences, engineering and medicine.

Career Seed Grants
For postdocs
ETH Zurich is launching the Career Seed Grants. The new competitive internal research instrument will enable young postdoctoral researchers to gain experience in independent research – a valuable step in their academic career.

2nd Student Project House
As part of the Critical Thinking initiative, a second “Student Project House” is planned on Hönggerberg in addition to the first building in the former district heating plant near the ETH city campus.

Personalized medicine
As a new generation of experts and innovative approaches are required for healthcare, ETH Zurich is pursuing initiatives in personalized medicine and medical engineering.
Income statement
Consolidated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2015 in CHF</th>
<th>2014 in CHF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>INCOME</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial contributions, not earmarked</td>
<td>1 626 557</td>
<td>723 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial contributions, earmarked</td>
<td>31 527 342</td>
<td>152 469 464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total financial contributions</strong></td>
<td>33 153 899</td>
<td>153 192 464</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repayment of donations</td>
<td>-5 485</td>
<td>-9 000 000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total financial contributions</strong></td>
<td>33 148 414</td>
<td>144 192 464</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net proceeds from renting</td>
<td>462 333</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total real estate income</strong></td>
<td>462 333</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>95 437</td>
<td>72 304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>33 706 184</td>
<td>144 264 768</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allocations, not-earmarked</td>
<td>4 806 850</td>
<td>250 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allocations, earmarked</td>
<td>49 504 143</td>
<td>15 836 368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total allocations</strong></td>
<td>54 310 993</td>
<td>16 086 368</td>
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<tr>
<td>Real estate administrative expenses</td>
<td>5 986</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Insurance expenses</td>
<td>4 603</td>
<td>19 317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building leave charges</td>
<td>42 667</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total property expenses</strong></td>
<td>53 256</td>
<td>19 317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total operating expenses</strong></td>
<td>2 305 201</td>
<td>2 080 801</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Operating result</strong></td>
<td>-22 963 266</td>
<td>126 078 282</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial income</td>
<td>4 877 904</td>
<td>11 508 038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial expenses</td>
<td>-5 136 964</td>
<td>-305 240</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extraordinary income</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>327 792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Result before change in fund capital</strong></td>
<td>-23 222 326</td>
<td>137 608 872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds increment</td>
<td>-31 521 857</td>
<td>-143 469 465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds decrease</td>
<td>49 985 943</td>
<td>15 925 485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest fund capital</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>-1 785 993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fund result (earmarked fund)</strong></td>
<td>18 464 086</td>
<td>-129 329 973</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Annual result</strong></td>
<td>-4 758 240</td>
<td>8 278 899</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Origin of funds 2003–2015

- **39%** Companies
- **40%** Private donors
- **21%** Foundations, organizations

Donations (CHF m)

- 2011: 63.8
- 2012: 32.5
- 2013: 91.0
- 2014: 153.2
- 2015: 33.2
## Balance sheet

### Consolidated

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSETS</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>13 763 844</td>
<td>8 197 846</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Securities</td>
<td>131 002 538</td>
<td>141 160 639</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-term receivables from donors</td>
<td>57 844 305</td>
<td>60 757 417</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other short-term receivables/prepaid expenses and accrued income</td>
<td>1 232 805</td>
<td>949 713</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total current assets</strong></td>
<td>203 843 492</td>
<td>211 065 615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-term receivables from donors</td>
<td>208 810 350</td>
<td>225 721 888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other long-term receivables</td>
<td>55 000</td>
<td>55 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed assets</td>
<td>17 130 479</td>
<td>196 242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed assets under construction</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11 100 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total non-current assets</strong></td>
<td>225 995 829</td>
<td>237 073 130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>429 839 321</td>
<td>448 138 745</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

|                      |             |            |
| **LIABILITIES**      |             |            |
| Trade accounts payable | 71 652      | 120 239    |
| Short-term liabilities from allocations | 21 344 680  | 18 644 277 |
| Current liabilities  | 0           | 10 000 000 |
| Other short-term liabilities | 19 160  | 44 615    |
| Deferred income      | 125 203     | 162 662    |
| **Total current liabilities** | 21 560 695 | 28 971 793 |
| Long-term liabilities from allocations | 82 494 000  | 70 160 000 |
| **Total non-current liabilities** | 82 494 000  | 70 160 000 |
| Interest-bearing fund capital | 33 017 509  | 43 870 480 |
| Non interest-bearing fund capital | 249 843 920 | 257 455 035|
| **Total earmarked fund capital** | 282 861 429 | 301 325 515|
| **Total liabilities incl. earmarked fund capital** | 386 916 124 | 400 457 308|
| Foundation capital   | 50 000      | 50 000     |
| Statutory reserves    | 1 014       | 0          |
| Internally generated unrestricted capital | 47 630 423  | 39 352 538 |
| Annual Result         | -4 758 240  | 8 278 899  |
| **Equity**            |             |            |
| **TOTAL LIABILITIES** | 429 839 321 | 448 138 745|

**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 171 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 2015 consolidated financial statements, which we have audited and certified without qualification on 11 March 2016.

KPMG AG

Michael Herzog  
Carole Gehrer
Board of Trustees

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Chairman of the Board of Directors, Hilti AG; President of the Board of Trustees since 2016

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Vice President

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Dr. Hariolf Kottmann
CEO, Clariant; Board member since 2012

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Chairman of the Board of Directors, Zürcher Kantonalbank; Board member since 2011

Prof. Dr. Beatrice Weder di Mauro
Professor for International Macroeconomics at Johannes Gutenberg-Universität Mainz; Board member since 2015

We thank the following long-serving members of the Board of Trustees for their valuable contributions:

Jürgen Dormann, President of the Board of Trustees from 2008–2015
Contact

Stimulate science – shape the future!

Please contact us directly – we will be happy to provide individual assistance in identifying appropriate activities and suitable types of commitment. We look forward to working together with you to support exceptional talents and projects at ETH Zurich.

The ETH Zurich Foundation team
(from left to right standing)

Urs Blumentritt
Application Manager

Dr. Martina Baumann
Development Associate

Judith Desam
Assistant to the Managing Director

Sarah Lina Hamann
Communications Manager

Tonja Cruse
Fundraising

Franziska Juch
Development Manager

(from left to right sitting)

Dr. Carolin Arndt
Senior Communications Officer

Dr. Donald Tillman
Managing Director

Lioudmila Thalmann
Head Finance & Operations

Corinna Adler
Director Strategic Partnerships

Amina Chaudri
Project Manager Fundraising Legacies

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EUR IBAN CH47 0483 5027 0482 3201 1
USD IBAN CH90 0483 5027 0482 3201 3
BIC/SWIFT CRESCHZZ80A