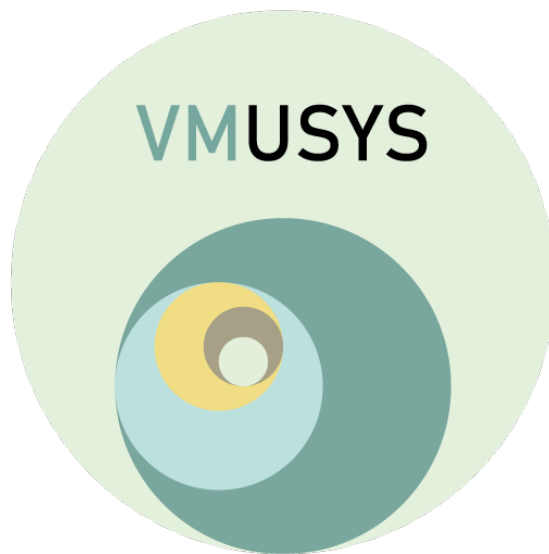


**Academic Association of Scientific Staff at D-USYS
(VMUSYS)
General Assembly
23.11.2023
Onsite (LFW C4)**



Agenda:

- Approval of the agenda
- Approval of the minutes from the last general assembly (25.05.2023)
- Election of the delegates & deputies to departmental commissions
- Election of the VMUSYS board members
- Politics
- Presentation of finances
- VMUSYS activities and events
- VMUSYS communication
- VMUSYS Helpdesk
- VMUSYS survival guide
- Varia

General Assembly chaired by: *Morgan Vallières*
Minutes by: *Carles Quesada*

Participants onsite (29)

No.	Name	Institute	
1	Alexander Pettersson		
2	Ariane Wenger		
3	Audald Lloret-Villas		Board member
4	Bugale Malembaka		
5	Carles Quesada Traver		Board member
6	Francesca Zuffa		Board member
7	Francesco Parrella		Board member
8	Franziska Richter		
9	Hongyuan Zhang		
10	Iso Christl		
11	Joas Müller		
12	Katie Platt		Board member
13	Konstanty Ramotowski		
14	Liliana Scapucci		Board member
15	Lilja Jonsdottir		
16	Luana Krebs		
17	Luca Ferrari		
18	Lucia Piro		Board member
19	Marco Griepentrog		
20	Morgan Vallieres		Board member
21	Nicolin Caflisch		
22	Pauline Seubert		
23	Sambit Shome		
24	Sophie Emberger		
25	Stefanie Börsig		
26	Tim Tröndle		
27	Trang Dang		Board member
28	Yasser Haddad		
29	Yi Wang		

The GA Starts at 12:16

1. Approval of the agenda

- Morgan V. opens the GA and welcomes everyone.
- Morgan V. introduces VMUSYS and conceptualizes the organization within the structure of others associations in ETH.
- Morgan V. introduces the board structure (three pillars), she emphasizes that we work within these three pillars but we all assist to others according to our capacities.
- Morgan V. introduces the board.
- Morgan V. introduces the delegates/deputies and why it is important to us. It is our way to have an impact. She announces that the CO₂ commission is being dissolved.
- Morgan V. also talks about how we keep and enlarge the community: through activities (events, courses etc.).
- Morgan V. explains that we are supported by the Membership Fees. And explains that the fee we pay to AVETH (4.-) VMUSYS gets 50% (2.-) and that is how we finance ourselves.
- Morgan V. introduces the Agenda and how we are going to navigate the GA from here.

Vote initiated: Approval of the GA agenda

Vote outcome: Approved

<i>Vote outcome:</i>			
For	Abstain	Against	Votes
29	0	0	29

1. Approval of the minutes from the last General Assembly (25.05.2023)

Vote initiated: Approval of minutes from the last General Assembly (25.05.2023)

Vote outcome: Approved

<i>Vote outcome:</i>			
For	Abstain	Against	Votes
28	1	0	29



2. Election of the delegates & deputies to departmental commissions

- Liliana S. introduces the commissions in detail.
- Liliana S. says that the CO₂ commission is being dissolved. And that the actions taken by these commission will be integrated into already existing structures.
- Liliana S. introduces the roles of delegates and deputies (deputies would need to attend if delegates are not able to)
- **Department Conference (DK):**
 - Liliana S. explains what the department conference (DK) is and the roles that delegates and deputies would need to take. It covers everything that regards departmental decisions.
 - Liliana S. stresses out that the main language is German, but with English you can also participate.
 - Liliana S. reminds that filling the positions is important because if not all the delegates/deputies attend then the votes are missed.
 - Morgan V. reminds some decisions that were taken in the past and through the DK (Doctoral regulations, Supervision of other students...)

- Franziska R. inquires that before the DK happens VMUSYS could get the points/minutes/important items to be discussed so that we could get previous input.
- Liliana S. replies that this might arise problems with DK confidentiality and would most likely not be possible.
- Liliana S. explains that the responsibility of deputies is less than that of delegates.

<i>Updated list for Departmental Conference (DK) Representatives</i>	
1.	<i>Eva Lieberherr (IED)</i>
2.	<i>Marco Griepentrog (ITES)</i>
3.	<i>Marlene Mader (IED)</i>
4.	<i>Ariane Wenger (IED)</i>
5.	<i>Bianca Vienni Baptista (IED)</i>
6.	<i>Liliana Scapucci (IAS)</i>
7.	<i>Yasser Haddad (IAC) [deputy]</i>
8.	<i>Joas Müller (IAC) [deputy]</i>
9.	<i>Trang Dang (IBZ) [deputy]</i>

- **Resource Commission (RK) (no changes):**

<i>List for Resource commission</i>	
1.	<i>Andreas Hund (IAS)</i>
2.	<i>Liliana Scapucci (IAS) [deputy]</i>

- **Teaching Commission – Agricultural Sciences (UK A):**
 - Franziska R., who is stepping down, explains what is discussed in this commission. Mainly revision about courses (i.e. to look into what is happening when a course is badly reviewed by students). Language is not a barrier in this case it can be either English or German.
 - Trang D. stresses out that some decisions discussed in the DK originate from the UK
 - Franziska R. adds that students are more active in this commission.

<i>List for Teaching commission: Agricultural Sciences Representatives</i>	
1.	<i>Andreas Hund (IAS)</i>
2.	<i>Iris Feigenwinter (IAS)</i>
3.	<i>Martin Hartmann (IAS)</i>
4.	<i>Nicolin Cafilisch (IAS) [deputy]</i>
5.	<i>Lukas Roth (IAS) [deputy]</i>

- **Teaching Commission – Environmental Sciences (UK U):**
 - Trang D., a former deputy of this commission, proposes herself to be a delegate.

<i>Updated list for Teaching commission: Environmental Sciences</i>	
1.	<i>Iso Christl (IBP)</i>
2.	<i>Marlene Mader (IED)</i>
3.	<i>Lorena Kuratle (IED)</i>
4.	<i>Bianca Vienni Baptista (IED)</i>
5.	<i>Trang Dang (IBZ)</i>
6.	<i>Nadja Omanovic (IAC)</i>
7.	<i>Meike Vogt (IBP) [deputy]</i>
8.	<i>Sambit Shome (IAS) [deputy]</i>

• **Financial auditors**

<i>Updated list of financial auditors</i>	
1.	<i>Lorena Kuratle</i>
2.	<i>Ariane Wenger</i>

Vote initiated: Approval of the current list of the delegates & deputies to departmental commissions

Vote outcome: Approved

For	Abstain	Against	Votes
29	0	0	29

3. Election of VMUSYS board members

Audald V is stepping down from his position as he is leaving

<i>Updated list of VMUSYS board</i>	
1.	<i>Morgan Vallieres (IBP, chair & head of events)</i>
2.	<i>Lucia Piro (IBZ, deputy chair & head of communication)</i>
3.	<i>Katie Platt (IBP, treasurer & events team)</i>
4.	<i>Liliana Scapucci (IAS, head of politics)</i>
5.	<i>Iris Feigenwinter (IAS, politics team)</i>
6.	<i>Trang Dang (IBZ, communication team)</i>
7.	<i>Francesco Parella (IBP, survival guide)</i>
8.	<i>Francesca Zuffa (IAS, politics and communication team)</i>
9.	<i>Carles Quesada Traver (IAS, website)</i>

Vote initiated: Approval of the current VMUSY board

Vote outcome: Approved

For	Abstain	Against	Votes
29	0	0	29

4. Politics

- Liliana S. talks about the inflation adjustment. It was not initially envisioned for doctoral students in the beginning. As a result, salary taskforces in AVETH were created.
- Liliana S. shows the salary differences between groups. She also shows that they were not adjusted for inflation since 2014.
- Liliana S. reminds that in the end we got an inflation adjustment of 2.5%. And points out that there is a mailing list to get updates from the salary taskforce. (See link and QR code in the presentation)
- Liliana S. introduces the goals of the salary taskforce. (See presentation for more details)
- Liliana says that salary rates 2-5 would be adjusted for inflation again in 2024. And rate 1 will get a total increase of 5%.
- Liliana S. introduces the results from the scientific staff survey and hands over to Francesca Z.
- Francesca Z. gives details on how the survey was conducted but that the summarized results that will be shown, focus on doctoral students.
- Francesca Z. remarks that mental health decreases through the doctorate. Salary satisfaction slightly increases (probably due to yearly rate increases) and doctoral

students do not have clear future perspective. (For a detailed break down of the surveys please refer to the ppt)

5. Presentation of finances

	Details	Credit	2023	2024
AVETH	Membership fees	3,500 (estimated)		
Account Costs	Post Finance account fees		60	60
General Assembly	Costs for food and non-alcoholic beverages for two general assemblies		800	800
Hönggergames	Estimated cost per association for food and games		NA	300
Social/Political Events	For various small and large events		2,000	2,000
Seminar Series/Courses	Educational talks or events		1,000	1000
Recruitment	Recruiting efforts (meetings, advertising supplies, food)		300	300
Other	(1) Delegate Apéro - 250 CHF (2) Leaving Member Gifts - 100 CHF (3) Board Meetings - 180 CHF		530	530
	SUM	3,500	4,690	4,990
	Net Loss		-1,190	-1,490

- Katie P. reminds that we are trying to decrease the excess of funds accumulated in the account during COVID period, and we are on the right track.

Vote initiated: Approval of budget 2024

Vote outcome: Approved

Vote outcome:			
For	Abstain	Against	Votes
29	0	0	29

6. VMUSYS activities and events

- Morgan V. introduces the events team. She talks about some past events, which she reminds are hosted monthly.
- Morgan V. goes into detail on how we are spending the surplus money accumulated during COVID. And introduces the already hosted illustration course for science. The cost of this course was partially subsidized by VMUSYS.
- Morgan V. Talks about the possibility of introducing this course as an official ETH course. It is hard to include it due to administrative matters. We are not able to subsidize this consistently. But the person responsible for the course would probably host other courses. If interested contact him for more info (Thomas Kast).
- Morgan V. sets the goals for 2023. Which are to continue to hold events monthly to keep the community together and to find someone to keep the events team going since she will be leaving soon
- Morgan V. introduces the December Event: a walk in the Christmas market

7. VMUSYS communication

- Lucia P. introduces the communication team. She introduces the two main channels used (Instagram and Twitter). As well as the monthly newsletter mailing list.
- Lucia P. explains in detail the contents of the monthly newsletter
- Lucia P. introduces the project: “Humans of VMUSYS”. Interviews held with members of the department, where they can showcase their human side. There is a booklet with a compendium of the interviews already held. Physical copies can be taken now, but there is also an online version available (See ppt for QR). Lucia offers people to nominate people (someone else or themselves) to participate in this activity.
- LuciaP. asks people to join the communication team after explaining what is done in this team.

8. VMUSYS Helpdesk

- Audald L. introduces the counseling helpdesk. And reminds that every department has to have a responsible person for this.
- Audald L. states the purpose of the helpdesk. The Helpdesk will listen to your claim and point you towards the right direction, since there are different resources available. (For contact information see QR code in slides)
- Audald L. says that since last GA nobody contacted the helpdesk. The helpdesk is working on understanding why this is happening. There is a mismatch between the survey results (poor mental health) and the requests for help (none). One reason could be that AVETH provides the same service for a longer time and might be more established.
- Audald L. states that the helpdesk is working on integrating with the AVETH counselling team
- Audald L. reminds that he is leaving ETH and that Mona Bukenberger will take over his position. He also encourages others (1-2 people) to join and help since it is not a trivial task.

9. VMUSYS survival guide

- Francesco P. explains the VMUSYS survival guide. He stresses out the differences between the general AVETH survival guide and the VMUSYS one, which offers more details of interest for the department.
- Francesco P. encourages to share the guide with newcomers in your group.
- Francesco P. states that we are open for suggestions and how to contact us for that matter (for contact details refer to the ppt).

10. Updates from commissioners/delegates

- Morgan V. opens the debate for points.
- Nobody has anything to say.
- Morgan V. explains that if someone has something to say they can always send us an email with important information (vmusys@usys.ethz.ch).

11. Varia

- Morgan V. reminds about the welcome bags, which are there to take for new people in the department.

The GA ends at 13:13