



SSPH+

SWISS SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC HEALTH

SWISS SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
A VISIONARY SWISS INNOVATION



Annual Report 2016

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Thanks go to Alison Weihofen for editing.



A Foundation of eight Universities



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LIST OF SSPH+ BOARD MEMBERS

Consisting of two members
of each SSPH+ partner university
(as of 31.12.2016)*

Marcel Tanner, President, Basel
Milo Puhan, Vice-president, Zürich
Edwin Constable, Basel
Achim Conzelmann, Bern
Matthias Egger, Bern
Claudine Burton-Jeangros, Genève
Yves Flückiger, Genève
Fred Paccaud, Lausanne
Giorgio Zanetti, Lausanne
Gisela Michel, Luzern
Wolfgang Schatz, Luzern
Olivier Guillod, Neuchâtel
Felix Kessler, Neuchâtel
Boas Erez, Svizzera italiana
Massimo Filippini, Svizzera italiana
Rainer Weber, Zürich

* We warmly welcome the new Board members
Achim Conzelmann, Boas Erez, Felix Kessler,
Rainer Weber and Giorgio Zanetti.



Marcel Tanner,
President
of the SSPH+ Foundation Board



Milo Puhan,
Vice-president
of the SSPH+ Foundation Board

PREFACE

It is with great pleasure that we present the 2016 SSPH+ Annual Report. This report summarizes a crucial year with many successes. As our federal funding concluded, we established a new financing scheme for 2018 onwards. The future SSPH+ builds on the strengths and capabilities of each SSPH+ member university under the umbrella of our joint public health goals and objectives. Additionally, in 2016, we released the Jubilee Report 2005-2015 that highlights our achievements during the first decade of our existence, as well as, the challenges ahead. In addition to outlining our progress as a foundation, it shapes a future strategy based on an understanding of our diverse and common goals. The Jubilee Report remains the comprehensive resource about SSPH+, and therefore, the present Annual Report is deliberately succinct. The following text mainly provides an update on “facts and figures.”

We are convinced that through the coherent implementation of the SSPH+ strategy and the great potential of our Swiss public health faculty, SSPH+ can provide an important cornerstone toward reaching the Health 2020 goal in our country. The Swiss health system and global health developments will benefit greatly from SSPH+ academia and trained practitioners of public health. The diversity of expertise among our faculty, fellows, students and colleagues will assure that future generations of public health experts are trained in undertaking research and having competence of the highest quality. These skilled professionals will

contribute to finding answers for the prevailing and future global public health challenges.

Our achievements would not have been possible without the commitment and collaboration of all partners and all members of our SSPH+ Directorate. We warmly and deeply thank you for your valuable contributions on many levels.

We look forward to your feedback and wish you a stimulating and enjoyable reading.

Foundation Board SSPH+

Marcel Tanner, President
Milo Puhan, Vice-president

WHO WE ARE

SSPH+ assembles the academic public health expertise available across eight Swiss universities. The SSPH+ model is based on the vision that public health is a scientific and professional field, shaped by a broad range of disciplines. In a small country like Switzerland, no single institution has the critical mass needed to cover all public health relevant areas. The “virtual school” provides a promising base from which to strengthen public health in a country where federal structures have so far resulted in very diverse and somewhat weak public health systems.

HIGHLIGHTS 2016

SSPH+ Report 2005–2015

The SSPH+ Directorate published the Jubilee Report which reflects the first 11 years of SSPH+. The report remains a key source of information. It is available (in English, French, German and Italian) as print version and on our website.

SSPH+ eCampus

Launched in 2016, the SSPH+ eLearning Platform provides a free resource to all SSPH+ Fellows engaged in teaching.



SSPH+ eCampus

It is based on Moodle, one of the leading learning management systems developed on pedagogical principles. It allows teachers to organize and structure courses, as well as, to manage student administration. In contrast to university based systems, SSPH+ eCampus is easily accessible to all students, regardless of whether or not they are registered at a university.

Lecturers can also create their own courses, which can be distance-based, blended-learning or complement face-to-face courses. The platform provides a simple method for uploading a variety of learning materials such as texts, videos, or eLearning modules created with different tools. Assignments help students to assess their learning progress, and lecturers are able to track their students. All members of a course can easily communicate with each other using forums, messages or chats. Students can also upload material and work together with their peers or teachers.

SSPH+ mandated a team at the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute to further support the development of the SSPH+ eCampus and to offer regular short courses for interested lecturers and program coordinators. If you have any questions, or would like to have a demonstration of SSPH+ eCampus at your institution, simply write to Joachim Pelikan at eCampus@sspplus.ch.

Up and running:

SSPH+ Expert Database

This year, SSPH+ finalized a database of public health experts at our partner institutions. The SSPH+ Expert Database provides our network partners and external users fast access to public health interdisciplinary expertise. Public health professionals can be searched by name, field of expertise, country of collaboration, or affiliation. This new resource underscores the multidisciplinary nature of the inter-university faculty of public health sciences: The over 140 SSPH+ faculty members did

their PhD in more than 35 different fields! In the future, we hope to expand the database to include post-doctoral junior scientists from the SSPH+ partner institutions.

SSPH+ Faculty Meeting

As the inter-university faculty of public health sciences, SSPH+ organizes one annual faculty meeting. At the 2nd Annual Faculty Meeting in Neuchâtel on 23-24 June 2016, the SSPH+ community discussed and prioritized SSPH+ core activities for 2017 and beyond. Core activities, funded by the SSPH+ core budget, provide support for network related activities, which are not normally funded by individual universities. The following core activities were unanimously identified as top priorities:

- Offer a complete, consistently up-to-date online listing of courses and programs
- Finance self-initiated trans-institutional inter-university activities and workshops to foster progress in interdisciplinary public health sciences
- Organize the jointly led annual public health conference with the Swiss Society for Public Health
- Facilitate the annual SSPH+ Faculty Meeting
- Prepare responses to federal consultations of public health relevance
- Provide all SSPH+ students free access to relevant Swiss conferences and symposia
- Strengthen the role of public health in personalized health initiatives
- Support development of existing public health training programs



Nicole Probst-Hensch at the Happiness Conference in Lugano

Celebration of six SSPH+ Honorary Fellows

A highlight of the 2nd Faculty Meeting was the celebration of the first SSPH+ Honorary Fellows: the five former Directors of SSPH+ (Ursula Ackermann-Liebrich, Gilles de Weck, Fred Paccaud, Charlotte Braun-Fahrländer and Philippe Chastonay), as well as, the former President of the SSPH+ Foundation Board (Felix Gutzwiller) were honored by Marcel Tanner, President of the Foundation Board, for their vision and dedication to form SSPH+ in its first decade.



HIGHLIGHTS 2016

SSPH+ funded academic inter-university activities

Strengthening public health sciences and evidence based policies nationally depends strongly on the collaborative involvement, initiatives and activities of the SSPH+ partners. To promote such ties, SSPH+ launched a first call for inter-university activities, which are fully initiated and led by SSPH+ partners. Academic inter-university activities in line with the SSPH+ strategy qualified for funding. The following five out of eight submissions were funded with up to CHF 25'000 each:

Lancet features SSPH+ in a "World Report" commentary

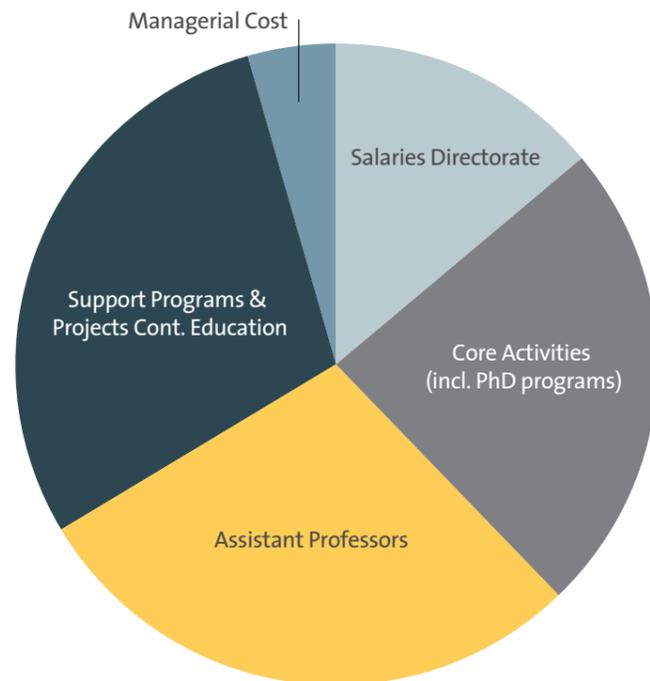
Our Jubilee Report triggered the interest of the Lancet editor to feature the visionary model of SSPH+ in Lancet. The article was published in early 2017. Link to article: <http://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736%2817%2930080-6/fulltext>.

Co-leaders	Title of Workshop/Project	Planned date/period
Julia Dratva, Swiss TPH Arnaud Chiolero, IUMSP Lausanne	Towards a national child and adolescent health surveillance system	1,5 days between Nov 2016 and Feb 2017
Rafael Ruiz de Castaneda, Institute of Global Health Geneva Jakob Zinsstag, Swiss TPH	A global "flipped classroom" on One Health: From MOOCs to a "hackathon" and solutions	Summer 2017
Jürgen Maurer, HEC/IEMS Lausanne Fabrizio Mazzonna, IdEP USI	Workshop on Aging, Health, Disability and Wellbeing	12–13 June 2017
Marloes Eeftens, Swiss TPH Stéphane Cullati, University of Geneva	STEP (Supporting Teaching Experience for Postdocs) workshop	Oct 2016–Mar 2017
Christina Akre, IUMSP Lausanne Gisela Michel, Dept. of Health Sciences and Health Policy Lucerne	Children's At Home: A social media website for peer support during transition for parents of adolescent cancer survivors (a feasibility study)	01.10.2016–31.03.2017

FINANCING CONCEPT 2018+ LEAN, SIMPLE, TRANSPARENT

2016 marked the last federally funded year by the State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI). The total SERI funding reached CHF 29 Mio. As shown in Figure 1, those funds were used for Directorate (including Deans/Directors and staff) salaries, core academic activities, support of continuing training programs and projects, and two Assistant Professorship Programs.

Figure 1:
Distribution of SERI funding 2005–2016



The newly adopted financial model planned by the SSPH+ Foundation Board (Concept 2018+) relies on three key features:

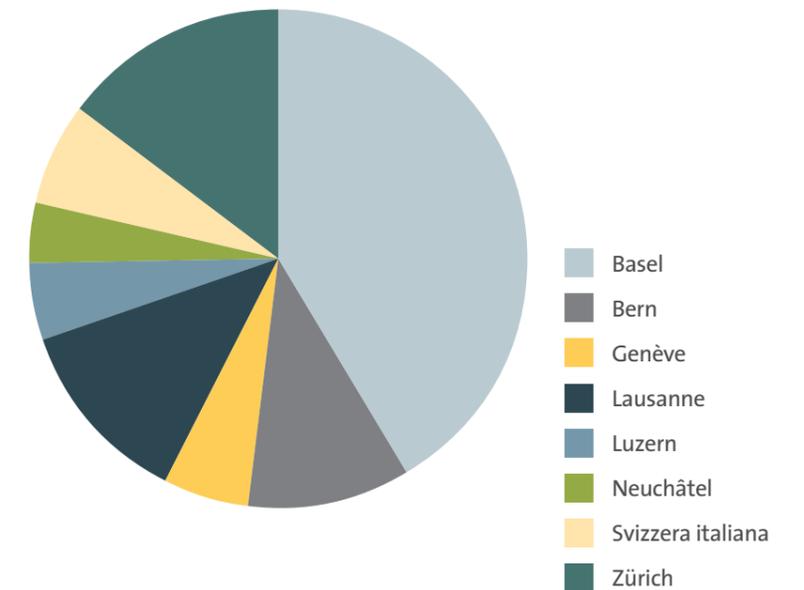
- 1 SSPH+ core funding is derived from annual “membership fees” paid by each of the eight partner universities;
- 2 Membership fees and, thus, the total core budget, will remain stable over the next five years;
- 3 The core budget covers only two elements of approximately similar size: the salaries of the Directorate and the costs of SSPH+ core activities.

The Board elected to keep the core-funded Directorate at the current level (two Full-Time-Equivalents). Additionally, the Board stabilized the budget for core-funded activities at the lower end of what SSPH+ typically had available for such investments during the past 12 years.

Only one criterion was used to define the distribution of the membership fees across the eight universities. Partners agreed that the number of (self-identified) public health science oriented faculty members at each university do approximately reflect the size, weights, and past investments into public health. Figure 2 visualizes the distribution of these faculty members as of January 2016 and is used as the distributor for the next five years.

The title SSPH+ Fellow is granted ex officio to the professors (incl. habilitations / PD and Assistant Professors) working in the field of public health in SSPH+ partner’s institutions, as well as to academic directors of the SSPH+ training programs (PhD, MAS, DAS, CAS, seasonal schools).

Figure 2:
Distribution of SSPH+ Fellows at SSPH+ partner universities (as of January 2016)



In the future, neither assistant professorships nor any other project funds will be covered by core-funds. Such investments will instead be subject to the acquisition of additional funds. The Foundation Board decided to hire a fundraiser to increase available funds to the SSPH+ network. Supplementary revenue could be used for PhD fellowship programs, training support, and other projects.

Although the core-budget of SSPH+ (~CHF 940'000 per year) will be stabilized at ~35% of past annual funding, Concept 2018+ provides a sustainable basis for the future development of SSPH+. Its clarity, transparency, and simplicity opens avenues to expand inter-university faculty with new institutional members, therefore responding appropriately to the changing landscape of public health sciences in Switzerland.

SSPH+ CORE BUDGET

The SSPH+ Fellows (faculty members) contribute to the prioritization of core activities planned and implemented by the SSPH+ Directorate. The Foundation Board approves the annual core budget allocation in line with the strategic goals and priorities of SSPH+. The key beneficiaries of core-funded activities are the SSPH+ Fellows, who profit from the central SSPH+ services and funding. Over the past 12 years, the partner institutions at the eight universities were direct beneficiaries of 77% of the SSPH+ core-funds.

TRAINING & EDUCATION

Structured PhD programs: Are these SSPH+ assets sustainable?

Historically, SSPH+ gave special attention to PhD education in health oriented sciences. In the past, doctoral education was strongly supported by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) and later by SUC/swissuniversities with complex university cofunding schemes. This resulted in the development of many local, as well as inter-university PhD programs. The future of these structured programs is unclear because the swissuniversities funding will end, at the latest, in 2020. In the absence of long-term governance and funding for SSPH+ network relevant PhD programs, the Directorate facilitated discussions among leaders of various PhD programs in health sciences to brainstorm ideas for the future. In an effort to secure the quality of PhD tracks in public health oriented sciences (in particular those fields where single programs lack the critical mass or resources in single universities) SSPH+ will continue to support concepts and coordination efforts between these programs. The goal is to provide all public health oriented PhD students access to the ever-increasing educational offers flourishing among the many local and inter-university programs.

SSPH+ workshop on future developments in public health training

This workshop continued the dialogue from the 2015 SSPH+ Faculty Meeting in Lucerne. Discussion tackled two major components of the public health training, namely the undergraduate public health tracks (Bologna Cycle Bachelor / Master degrees) and the postgraduate Master in Public (or Global) Health.

Workshop participants were favorable to a university based Bachelor in public health if funding could be secured. Participants also agreed upon the need for a mainly German, and a mainly French MPH program. However, challenges in structure, financing, organization and governance of the two SSPH+ flagships and other postgraduate programs need to be discussed more broadly and collaboratively. The SSPH+ Directorate will further clarify the many open questions surrounding the implementation of a Bachelor and strengthen the discussion with the Universities of Applied Sciences. In particular, SSPH+ will continue to strengthen dialogue, synergies and structures with ZHAW (offering a new Bachelor in prevention and health promotion), as well as the MPH study boards and other postgraduate programs.

Strategic development of key training programs

Further, the SSPH+ Fellows prioritized SSPH+ funded investments into the strategic development of training programs. Thus, SSPH+ funded the development of a new social science oriented PhD course to fill a gap in this main pillar of academic public health trainings. The course, collaboratively offered by leaders from four SSPH+ partner institutions, enrolled 19 students from seven partner universities. SSPH+ also funded an external re-evaluation of four CAS currently offered within the SSPH+ MPH program at the Universities Basel, Bern and Zurich. The critical assessments and recommendations of these evaluations will be taken into account in the continued development of the CAS programs.

RESEARCH

SSPH+ award for best published PhD article

In March 2016, SSPH+ launched its seventh call for the best published PhD article in public health sciences. In total, 16 PhD students from the SSPH+ PhD Program Public Health submitted an article. Andreas Haas from the Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine of the University of Bern won the award with his article "Retention in care during the first 3 years of antiretroviral therapy for women in Malawi's option B+ programme: an observational cohort study", published in *Lancet HIV*, 2016. Congratulations!

SSPH+ Assistant Professorship Program

SSPH+ financed the last year of assistant professors through its Assistant Professorship Program.

Interview with Emiliano Albanese and Isabelle Peytremann-Bridevaux

Q: How did you profit from the SSPH+ network and support during the time as assistant professor?

Albanese: My SSPH+ adventure began in 2013 and it propitiously coincided with the launch of the WHO Mental Health Action Plan. The SSPH+ has been key to design, set up, implement, develop and progressively strengthen a new and visionary academic position in public mental health. The SSPH+ network meant access to and great benefits from close, intense and goal-oriented collaborations with an exceptionally wide range of public health academics



Nino Künzli congratulates Andreas Haas for his award.

and specialists. With help from very many SSPH+ members and scholars I could conceive, shape and build solid pillars in the field of global mental health, which now encompass pre- and post-graduate teaching, a PhD program, national and international collaborations in research and teaching, and a WHO Collaborating Center for research and training in mental health.

Peytremann-Bridevaux: Despite recent trends towards more funding opportunities for health services research (HSR) in Switzerland, funding remains a critical issue when it comes to field (pragmatic) projects. In that context, I am very grateful for the SSPH+ funding which allowed me to focus on the following activities: research and development in the field of integrated care, HSR service/public mandates, teaching and supervision of master/PhD students as well as team management.

Q: What has been your most important scientific achievement of the years spent in the position of SSPH+ assistant professor?

Albanese: The past four years have been tremendously productive. I



Emiliano Albanese,
SSPH+ Assistant Professor Geneva



Isabelle Peytremann-Bridevaux,
SSPH+ Assistant Professor Lausanne

published 15 peer-reviewed papers, four commissioned global reports, two book chapters, I attended more than 40 national and international conferences, I was part of two WHO guidelines development teams, in mental health and aging. It is under the auspices of WHO that I attained my most important achievement: I adapted and conducted a CHNRI exercise to identify the key research priorities in reducing the burden of dementia over the next decade. I published the research prio-

rities in the Lancet Neurology in 2016 – this is a powerful and pragmatic tool to propel advancement in our knowledge and understanding of dementia, and to inform action and the public health response to reduce the burden of dementia globally.

Peytremann-Bridevaux: During the SSPH+ assistant professorship years, I have continued and extended my HSR activities in Switzerland and abroad. This resulted in new collaborations both at the national and international level, new connections and projects as well as the publication of various articles and reports.

Q: What is, in your opinion, the contribution you plan to give to the development of public health in Switzerland?

Albanese: Aging and mental health are widely recognized public health priorities. I plan to substantially contribute to design, implement, scale up and monitor a coordinated, multisectoral and comprehensive response aimed at reducing the costs of and the burden that aging and mental disorders pose on patients, older adults, caregivers and families, communities and the Swiss society at large, through the conduction of topnotch research and the promotion of knowledge exchange and transfer strengthening my pre- and postgraduate academic endeavors.

Peytremann-Bridevaux: HSR needs to be further developed in Switzerland in terms of research, training, education and practice. I see my role as a leader

in developing collaborations between academia and practice and as an advocate of HSR to reinforce its role and expertise in Western Switzerland. The current development towards a new primary care and public health institution in Lausanne represents a great opportunity to promote the HSR field and reinforce collaborations with public health services.

SSPH+ PhD programs

In the SSPH+ PhD Program in Public Health, a national training and networking platform in public health, 174 PhD students registered and could benefit from the 12 courses offered in 2016. In the SSPH+ International Doctoral Courses in Health Economics and Policy, a national training and networking platform in health economics, 74 PhD students (28 from abroad) attended the five PhD courses offered in 2016.



Robert Sugded and Luca Crivelli at the Happiness Conference in Lugano

Conference on Economics, Health and Happiness in Lugano, 14–16 January 2016

In January 2016 (14th to 16th), SSPH+, SUPSI (University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland) and HEIRS jointly organized an international conference on the topics “Economics, Health and Happiness.” More than 150 scientists from 22 different countries and four continents, representing many disciplines (e.g. economics, epidemiology, sociology, psychology, medicine, other social sciences) attended the eight plenaries and 32 parallel sessions of the conference. Six out of the eight keynote speeches are now ready for publication and will appear in a special issue of the International Review of Economics – Journal of Civil Economy (Volume 64, Issue 2 - June 2017). See: <https://link.springer.com/journal/volumesAndIssues/12232>. Springer ranked one of these articles, ‘Do people really want to be nudged towards healthy lifestyles?’ by Robert Sugded, the second most shared article in the Social Web among all Springer economic journals in 2016 (despite having only been available online since September 2016).

**On the wish list:
SSPH+ PhD Fellowships**

For the first time, the SSPH+ Directorate submitted a proposal to a highly competitive Horizon 2020 COFUND call to receive funding for 70 PhD fellowships. A survey among the leaders of the main SSPH+ partner institutes identified enormous interest in such fellowships and a commitment to host and co-fund 100 new PhD students. The proposal was rejected by the EU (in February 2017). The SSPH+ Directorate and its fundraiser will investigate other possibilities for such fellowships.



Editorial Board of IJPH, 2016

**International Journal of Public Health
(IF 2015: 2.745)**

SSPH+ is the owner of the International Journal of Public Health (IJPH), published by Springer New York. In total, IJPH has published 109 articles relevant to global health, including two special issues: "Electronic Cigarettes and Public Health", and "Violence and Health: Implications of the 2030 Agenda for South-North Collaboration." For the first time in 2016, IJPH received more than 1'000 submissions.

IJPH is fully funded through revenues provided by Springer. This income covers the work of the Editorial Office, led by Anke Berger. While IJPH remains a subscription-based journal, SSPH+ regularly evaluates the strategy toward gold open access publishing. IJPH follows a Co-Editor-In-Chief model (Thomas Kohlmann, Germany; Andrea Madarasova Geckova, Slovakia; Nino Künzli, Switzerland). Highlights in 2016 included the completion of IJPH's first bibliometric study, a trial investigating the effect of social media promotion on article citations. IJPH also featured, for the first time, a special electronic issue "Refugees and Public Health: An International Perspective," produced for the Swiss Public Health Conference 2016. The issue compiles all recent IJPH articles related to the conference theme. With major support from the IJPH infrastructure and funded by the PhD Program in Health Sciences (PPHS) of University Basel, IJPH held a course on how to become an editor in scientific publishing for the second time.

**SSPH+ – BRIDGING PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCE
WITH PRACTICE**

**Swiss Public Health Conference in Bern,
15 November 2016**

For the first time, the Swiss Society for Public Health and SSPH+ jointly organized the Swiss Public Health Conference (SPHC). With a focus on Refugee Health, SPHC2016 took place in Bern on 15 November. Health system issues



State Secretary for Migration Mario Gattiker and the Federal Councillor Alain Berset at SPHC16

relevant to refugees, physical and mental hazards, public health threats and opportunities were highlighted and discussed in different keynotes and parallel sessions. The Federal Councillor Alain Berset and the State Secretary for Migration Mario Gattiker stated that the Swiss health system must emphasize the importance of preparation and consideration of diverse health needs among varying population groups. Trauma and mental health, not infectious diseases, are by far the biggest challenge in working with this population. As a result, culturally sensitive communication and interdisciplinary care are indispensable.



Parallel session on migration at SPHC16

SSPH+ Sabbaticals

In January 2016, SSPH+ launched its sixth call for sabbaticals: short-term professional exchanges between public health practitioners in the field and public health researchers. The goal is to reduce the gap between research and practice and to strengthen cross-communication between the partner institutes and practitioners. Two sabbaticals were approved:

Kateryna Chepynoga from the Faculty of Business and Economics (HEC) of the University of Lausanne is spending her sabbatical at WHO in early 2017 where she assesses and analyses the access to essential medicines.

Isabelle Rossini from the Health Department of the Canton of Vaud will spend her sabbatical at the Swiss TPH in Basel in late 2017 where she will learn health impact assessment tools to investigate the health effects of speed reduction on the highway of the "projet d'agglomération Lausanne-Morges".

FACTS AND FIGURES 2016

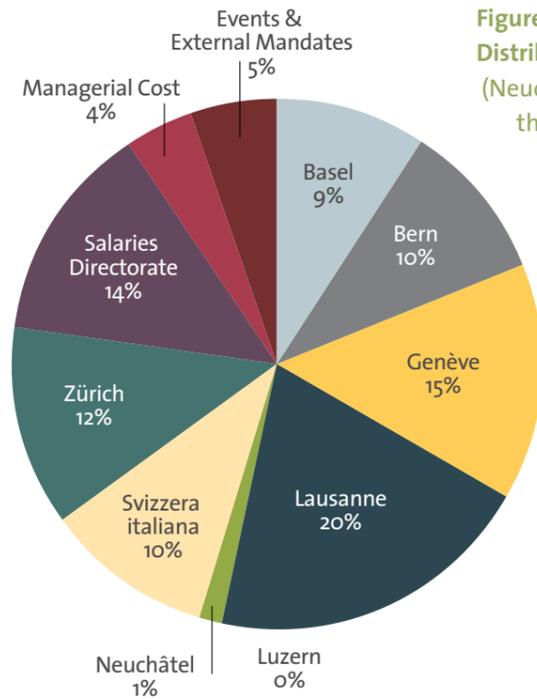
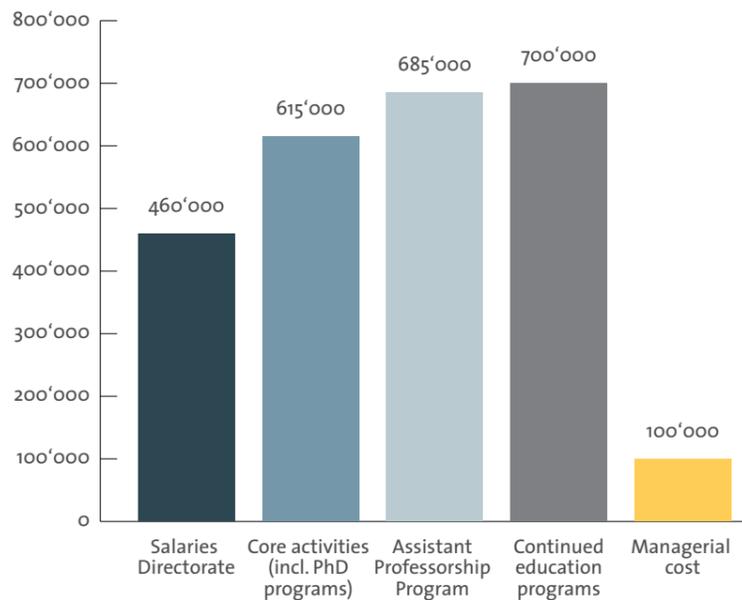


Figure 3:
Distribution of SERI funding 2005–2016 across partner universities
(Neuchâtel and Luzern joined the SSPH+ later; salaries of directors that were re-funded to the employing universities are shown under “Salaries Directorate” only)

Figure 4:
Average annual expenses during the 12 years of SERI funding



Conferences and symposia in collaboration with SSPH+:

- Conference on Economics, Health and Happiness in Lugano, 14–16 January 2016
- Geneva Health Forum, 19–21 April 2016
- ASPHER Annual Deans’ and Directors’ Retreat in Athens, 25–27 May 2016
- Young Researchers’ Forum at EPH Conference in Vienna, 10 November 2016
- Swiss Public Health Conference in Bern, 15 November 2016

OUTLOOK

With the implementation of the membership model, SSPH+ can now tackle the future with enthusiasm. Upcoming SSPH+ highlights are listed on the next pages. The Directorate continues to sharpen priorities and actions in line with the strategic goals of SSPH+ and the needs and visions of our inter-university faculty of public health sciences. The 3rd Annual Faculty Meeting (June 2017) will focus in particular on challenges in our training programs, such as the future of the inter-university PhD trainings. The Directorate continues to focus on central activities prioritized at the last Faculty Meeting by the SSPH+ Fellows. Mainly, to stay true to our central role and the vision of “Stronger Together,” as outlined in the SSPH+ 11 Year Jubilee Report.

Welcome on board into the future!

Your Directorate



From left to right: Luca Crivelli (Deputy Director), Sandra Nocera (Head of Administration), Nino Künzli (Dean), Ursula Erni (Administrative Assistant), Dominique Sprumont (Deputy Director)

BECOMING A SSPH+ FELLOW

All faculty members (from PD up to all types of Professors) of the eight Foundation universities, who self-identify their academic profile as public health oriented may qualify to become a SSPH+ Fellow, regardless of affiliation with the current 15 institutional members. Send us an email at info@ssphplus.ch and we will welcome you! Additionally, SSPH+ will commence discussions with public health science institutions interested in formally joining SSPH+ in 2017.

OLD BUT FUNCTIONAL – OUR SSPH+ WEBSITE

As other projects were prioritized in 2016, rejuvenation of our website remains on the “to do list”. SSPH+ is not competing for the “website of the year,” but we are dedicated to keep essential information updated and accessible while working on a new site.

RAISING FUNDS TO FOSTER THE INTER-UNIVERSITY SSPH+ FACULTY

External assessment and recommendations prompted the decision to hire an SSPH+ fundraiser. We are looking forward to developing our project-oriented funding pillar. The success of this strategy is hard to predict. Studies show a substantial variation in the time needed to reach much higher returns on investments made for fundraising. The optimism of SSPH+ founders and now Honorary Members of SSPH+ will remain essential for the continued success of our foundation.

SWISS PUBLIC HEALTH CONFERENCE – THE CONCEPT 2018+ GOES LIVE

With the preparation of the first call for hosting future conferences (launched in February 2017), the Swiss Society for Public Health and SSPH+ finalized adoption of the jointly led 2018+ Conference Model, which includes a longer-term plan with one academic host institution per year. Hosts will usually define the main theme of the annual event to bring together public health professionals and academia to shape the development of evidence-based public health in Switzerland.

START OF THE SWISS LEARNING HEALTH SYSTEM / SSPH+ PHD FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Co-led by the University of Lucerne and SSPH+, the PhD Fellowship Program remains a central landmark of the SLHS. We look forward to awarding a new generation of 20 PhD students with these competitive fellowships. Recipients join one of the SSPH+ partner-led, structured PhD programs, and commit to investing specifically in competency development and skill building to successfully implement stakeholder processes and policy briefs.

HUMAN BIOMONITORING FOR EUROPE – THE HBM4EU H2020 PROJECT WITH SSPH+

Under the leadership of Nicole Probst-Hensch, Switzerland was successful in joining this large H2020 consortium. The formal partnership between H2020 and SSPH+ will guarantee op-

timal involvement of the Swiss public health landscape in this highly relevant project. Additionally, the project lays groundwork for a large population-based national cohort in support of the Swiss Personalized Health Network, coordinated by the Swiss Academy of Medical Sciences.

HEALTH SERVICES RESEARCH

SSPH+ plays an important role in the field of health services research. In January 2016, the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) launched a call for proposals as part of the new National Research Program “Smarter Health Care” (NRP 74). The program aims at promoting innovative health services research in Switzerland and building a strong community of researchers and emerging health care leaders. SSPH+ Fellow, Milo Puhan, was appointed President of the NRP 74 steering committee. From the 173 submitted pre-proposals, 43 were selected and re-submitted as full-proposals in July 2016. SSPH+ Fellows now lead seven of the 29 funded projects. SSPH+ is committed to strengthening this important field of research.

“We congratulate our SSPH+ Fellows”



Matthias Egger, member of the SSPH+ Foundation Board and director of the Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine of the University of Bern, has been elected as the new president of the National Research Council of the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF) – the prime decision-maker of Swiss research.



Olivier Guillod, member of the SSPH+ Foundation Board and director of the Institute of Health Law of the University of Neuchâtel, has been elected as vice-rector of the University of Neuchâtel.



Martin Rösli, former SSPH+ Assistant Professor, has become associate professor of University Basel. He leads the Environmental Exposure and Health Unit at Swiss TPH.



Jürg Utzinger has resumed the directorship of Swiss TPH from Marcel Tanner, president of SSPH+.

LIST OF ACRONYMS

CAS	Certificate of Advanced Studies; usually 10 – 15 ECTS
DAS	Diploma of Advanced Studies; usually 30 ECTS
HEC/IEMS	Faculty of Business and Economics/Plateforme interfacultaire en économie et management de la santé, University of Lausanne
IdEP	Institute of Economics, Università della Svizzera italiana
IJPH	International Journal of Public Health
IUMSP	Institut universitaire de Médecine Sociale et Préventive, University of Lausanne
MAS	Master of Advanced Studies; usually 60 ECTS
MPH	Master of Public Health
PD	Privatdozent
SERI	State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation
SLHS	Swiss Learning Health System
SUC	Swiss University Conference
SUPSI	University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland
Swiss TPH	Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute Basel, an independent academic institute associated with the University of Basel
UAS	Universities of applied sciences
WHO	World Health Organization
ZHAW	Zurich University of Applied Sciences

LIST OF SSPH+ FELLOWS

Defined as Professors or habilitation/PD from the eight SSPH+ partner universities who are active in public health sciences (self-identified affiliation, as of 12.5.2017)**.

Please contact Sandra Nocera at snocera@ssphplus.ch if you are a faculty member of one of the eight partner universities, engaged in public health sciences, and interested in joining the SSPH+ faculty.

Abel Thomas, Bern
 Ajdacic-Gross Vladeta, Zürich
 Albanese Emiliano, Genève
 Balthasar Andreas, Luzern
 Barth Jürgen, Zürich
 Battegay Edouard, Zürich
 Bauer Georg, Zürich
 Beck Hans-Peter, Basel
 Blank Patricia, Zürich
 Blatti-Cardinaux Laure, Bern
 Blum Johannes, Basel
 Bochud Murielle, Lausanne
 Boes Stefan, Luzern
 Bohlus Julia, Bern
 Borisch Bettina, Genève
 Bovet Pascal, Lausanne
 Briel Matthias, Basel
 Brun Reto, Basel
 Bucher Heiner, Basel
 Bühler Silja, Zürich
 Bulliard Jean-Luc, Lausanne
 Burnand Bernard, Lausanne
 Burri Christian, Basel
 Burton-Jeangros Claudine, Genève
 Calciolari Stefano, Svizzera italiana
 Chiolero Arnaud, Lausanne
 Chitnis Nakul, Basel
 Cisse Gueladio, Basel
 Clough-Gorr Kerri M., Bern
 Cornuz Jacques, Lausanne
 Crivelli Luca, Svizzera italiana
 D'Acremont Valérie, Basel
 Danuser Brigitta, Lausanne
 Daubenberger Claudia, Basel
 De Geest Sabina, Basel
 de Savigny Don, Basel
 Dratva Julia, Basel
 Dressel Holger, Zürich
 Dunand Jean-Philippe, Neuchâtel
 Dupont Anne-Sylvie, Neuchâtel
 Dusheiko Mark, Lausanne
 Egger Matthias, Bern
 Etter Jean-François, Genève
 Fäh David, Zürich
 Fehr Jan, Zürich
 Felder Stefan, Basel
 Felger Ingrid, Basel

Fenner Lukas, Basel
 Filippini Massimo, Svizzera italiana
 Flahault Antoine, Genève
 Gagneux Sébastien, Basel
 Gemperli Armin, Luzern
 Genton Blaise, Basel
 Giannakopoulos Panteleimon, Genève
 Grandchamp Chantal, Lausanne
 Guillood Olivier, Neuchâtel
 Hämmig Oliver, Zürich
 Hatz Christoph, Basel
 Heg Dik, Bern
 Held Leonhard, Zürich
 Hetzel Manuel, Basel
 Hothorn Torsten, Zürich
 Jametti Mario, Svizzera italiana
 Kabengele Emmanuel, Genève
 Katapodi Maria, Basel
 Keiser Jennifer, Basel
 Keiser Olivia, Genève
 Koella Jacob, Neuchâtel
 Koller Michael, Basel
 Kraus Daniel, Neuchâtel
 Kriemler Susi, Zürich
 Kühni Claudia, Bern
 Kunz Regina, Basel
 Künzli Nino, Basel
 Kutalik Zoltan, Lausanne
 Landolt Markus, Zürich
 Lengeler Christian, Basel
 Low Nicola, Bern
 Marques-Vidal Pedro, Lausanne
 Martin Mike, Zürich
 Martin-Diener Brian, Zürich
 Mäser Pascal, Basel
 Mattig Thomas, Genève
 Maurer Jürgen, Lausanne
 Mazzonna Fabrizio, Svizzera italiana
 Mehra Tarun, Zürich
 Meneguzzo Marco, Svizzera italiana
 Michel Gisela, Luzern
 Mohler-Kuo Meichun, Zürich
 Moore Sarah, Basel
 Mütsch Margot, Zürich
 Nicca Dunja, Basel
 Nordmann Alain, Basel
 Obrist Brigit, Basel
 Odermatt Peter, Basel
 Paccaud Fred Michel, Lausanne
 Padula Mario, Svizzera italiana
 Paris Daniel, Basel
 Peng-Keller Simon, Zürich
 Perneger Thomas, Genève
 Peytremann-Bridevaux Isabelle, Lausanne
 Pluschke Gerd, Basel
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 Quednow Boris, Zürich
 Rohrmann Sabine, Zürich

Röösli Martin, Basel
 Rousson Valentin, Lausanne
 Rubinelli Sara, Luzern
 Santos-Eggimann Brigitte, Lausanne
 Schelling Esther, Basel
 Schindler Christian, Basel
 Schlagenhauf-Lawlor Patricia, Zürich
 Schmidt-Trucksäss Arno, Basel
 Schnyder Ulrich, Zürich
 Schopper Doris, Genève
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 Seifert Burckhardt, Zürich
 Sendi Pedram, Basel
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 Smith Thomas A, Basel
 Spencer Brenda, Lausanne
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 Stucki Gerold, Luzern
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 Suris Granell Joan-Carles, Lausanne
 Szucs Thomas, Basel
 Tanner Marcel, Basel
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 Thouvenin Florent, Zürich
 Trelle Sven, Bern
 Utzinger Jürg, Basel
 van Eeuwijk Piet, Basel
 Vayena Effy, Zürich
 Vernez David, Lausanne
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 Voss Till, Basel
 Vounatsou Penelope, Basel
 Wasserfallen Jean-Blaise, Lausanne
 Watzke Birgit, Zürich
 Weiss Mitchell G., Basel
 Witt Claudia, Zürich
 Wyss Kaspar, Basel
 Zemp Stutz Elisabeth, Basel
 Zinsstag Jakob, Basel
 Zwahlen Marcel, Bern

** There are other Fellows who are not members or professors of one of the partner universities.

SSPH+

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