



SSPH+

SWISS SCHOOL OF
PUBLIC HEALTH

SWISS SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
A VISIONARY SWISS INNOVATION



Annual Report 2017

IMPRINT

Publisher
Swiss School of Public Health (SSPH+)
Hirschengraben 82, 8001 Zurich
Phone +41 (0)44 634 47 02
info@ssphplus.ch
www.ssphplus.ch

Layout
Buser Kommunikation GmbH, Basel

Print
Stuedler Press AG, Basel
printed on Lessebo Smooth Natural, FSC mix paper

© Pictures
Cover: rcfotostock, fotolia

© 2018, SSPH+
The report is published in English.
Free print copies can be ordered at SSPH+ or downloaded on
www.ssphplus.ch/report

Thanks go to Alison Weihofen for editing.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Preface	5
Highlights 2017	6
Financing concept 2018+ settled	12
Training & education	13
Research	19
Bridging public health science with practice	25
News from our partners	26
Outlook	29
List of acronyms	30
List of SSPH+ Faculty members and Fellows	31

SSPH+ FOUNDATION BOARD

Consisting of two members
of each SSPH+ partner university
(as of 31.12.2017)*

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

*We warmly welcome the new Board members Murielle Bochud (replacing Fred Paccaud) and Suzanne Suggs (replacing Massimo Filippini). Marcel Tanner, Yves Flückiger and Achim Conzelmann stepped down at the end of December 2017 and will be replaced by Kaspar Wyss, Antoine Flahault and Daniel Candinas.

WHO WE ARE

SSPH+ assembles public health sciences across Switzerland into one national inter-university faculty. Our faculty's expertise mirrors the scientific and professional field of public health, which encompasses a broad range of disciplines, spread across universities, faculties, and institutions. In a small country like Switzerland, no single institution has the critical mass needed to cover all public health relevant academic areas, and Swiss federal structures have, thus far, produced a fractioned and disparate public health system. The SSPH+ "virtual inter-university faculty" provides a promising base from which to strengthen a cohesive and competent public health structure. At this stage, the SSPH+ Foundation incorporates eight Swiss universities. However, the Foundation's plan is to expand our membership in the upcoming years.

PREFACE

It is with great delight that we present our 2017 annual report. In addition to summarizing the Foundation's key activities over the past 12 months, the report provides an outlook for the future of SSPH+. As we look ahead, we envision our impact at a national and international level in science, teaching, professional training, direct public health and health policy actions, and in the dialogue with academia, public health practitioners, and society.

This year, SSPH+ made substantial, multi-level progress allowing us to clarify our vision, mission, objectives, and strategies. Numerous joint actions between our partners facilitated a better understanding of roles and responsibilities in the pursuit of our common goals. With its richly diverse faculty, fellow, and student body, this report reflects how SSPH+ is now: (1) coherently collaborating to implement the strategy, (2) making substantial contributions to Health 2020, and (3) tackling the Sustainable Development Goals at global level. Our success would not have been possible without the commitment of all partners to collaboration, and the overall structure and financing of SSPH+. Finally, we successfully negotiated a harmonic transition in SSPH+ Foundation leadership. We are overjoyed and grateful that our vice-president, Professor Milo Puhan, has agreed to lead the SSPH+ Foundation from 2018 onwards. We wish him the very best as he enters this gratifying and important position.

Concluding on a personal note, I wish to thank the whole SSPH+ community,



Marcel Tanner

particularly the Directorate and the Foundation Board, and all our partners, for their collective commitment to, and support of, our common goals. The kindness and effective collaboration in our joint activities is truly another impressive example of "mutual learning for change"!

We wish you an enjoyable reading of our report and look forward to your feedback and continued partnership.

Foundation Board SSPH+
Marcel Tanner
President

HIGHLIGHTS 2017

SSPH+ hired a fundraiser

This year, the Foundation Board explored the possibility of external fundraising to finance SSPH+ projects not covered by the core budget. We chose to hire an experienced, professional fundraiser to assist with this endeavor. We welcome Daniela Erb to SSPH+ and wish her a successful start. With her background in economics and experience in fundraising and social/market research, she is well-prepared for this position.



Daniela Erb,
responsible for the SSPH+ fundraising



Jorgen Bauwens,
responsible for the SSPH+ course
database

SSPH+ course database

Since November 2017, Jorgen Bauwens, a student of the SSPH+ PhD Program in Public Health, has been uploading SSPH+ postgraduate program courses to our website. The courses can be searched by title, topic and/or location.

SSPH+ Faculty Meeting

At the 3rd annual Faculty Meeting in Lugano, on 8-9 June 2017, the theme was “Train the Future.” For the first time, PhD students and postdocs were invited to join the event. This year’s highlight was the SSPH+ Science-FlashTalk (see page 8). Participants were positive about the highly-committed and expanding SSPH+ community, networking opportunities, and the outcome-oriented discussions. Five parallel sessions focused on challenges and possible activities in the following domains prioritized by the SSPH+ Fellows:

- **Public health in digital trainings**
Discussants identified the strengths and weaknesses of digital learning integration approaches in the SSPH+ programs and courses. More “train the trainers” events will be needed.
- **The future of continued public health education for physicians**
Though public health includes many disciplines, academic professionals with a medical background continue to be a particularly relevant pillar of the public health workforce. Despite a changing occupational landscape and the current shortage of physicians, Switzerland needs more public health trained medical professionals.

To remedy this dilemma, key public health institutions must actively offer attractive training opportunities for physicians and SSPH+ should promote the education of public health physicians as part of the public health workforce. Additionally, formal education toward public health specialization requires adaptation and higher flexibility in response to the changing educational paths at the interface of academic and non-academic tracks. In the further development of the medical specialization in public health the academic trend toward PhD tracks or other Master degrees than the Master of Public Health must be considered, while ensuring sufficient practical experience and national public health knowledge.

- **Fundraising needs in support of SSPH+ training activities**

The working group identified PhD programs and fellowships for PhD and postgraduate educational offers, including our seasonal schools, as key fundraising priorities. Funders might also be interested in supporting specific plenary sessions at the seasonal schools, or the development and organization of courses dedicated to novel fields in public health sciences. The group also outlined a set of ideas to shape academic events in public health sciences. SSPH+ fundraiser, Daniela Erb, has incorporated these discussion outputs in her strategic planning.

- **PhD programs: strengths and needs from the student perspective**

SSPH+ is strongly engaged in strengthening PhD education. Our partners currently lead five inter-university PhD programs, as well as, several local and doctoral fellowship programs (see Table on pages 14/15). In light of the funding uncertainties of these programs beyond 2020, PhD students were asked to discuss the pros/cons, key features, and benefits of these structured programs. The discussion revealed that courses in methods, advanced topics, and transferrable skills, should be high priority. Discussants strongly supported the 18+ ECTS requirement (conditional on free access to related courses). Lastly, students ranked thesis-strengthening, competitive funding calls for research top-up activities with high priority.

- **Future of health science related SSPH+ PhD programs**

Based on former discussions between PhD program leaders and coordinators, the discussion group identified tasks and procedures, which should be centrally coordinated. The identified activities included: (1) registration, (2) fundraising to sustain programmatic continuation, (3) organization and infrastructure for the coordination of PhD alumni and (4) the negotiation of cross-program agreements (e.g. access to courses, fees, handling of ECTS, identification of gaps).



Gianfranco Domenighetti, founder of the Summer School Lugano



Alberto Holly, Director of the Network of Health Economics and SSPH+ School member from 2005-2008



Piero Martinoli, SSPH+ Board member from 2008-2015

Celebration of three SSPH+ Honorary Fellows

At the Faculty Meeting in Lugano (8 June 2017) three new SSPH+ Honorary Fellows were honored for their dedication to public health in Switzerland: **Gianfranco Domenighetti** (founder of the Summer School Lugano, the former Université d'été en Administration et Gestion des Services Sanitaires, UDEASS), **Alberto Holly** (Director of the Network of Health Economics and SSPH+ School member from 2005–2008), and **Piero Martinoli** (SSPH+ Board member from 2008–2015). The SSPH+ community recognized, with deep sadness, the passing of Gianfranco Domenighetti on 17 November 2017. He was an exceptional leader and champion of evidence-based public health in the Canton Ticino, Switzerland, and abroad.

SSPH+ ScienceFlashTalk

The SSPH+ ScienceFlashTalk is a new training offered to PhD students supervised by an SSPH+ Fellow. The aim of this training in condensed scientific presentations is to strengthen students' skills in communicating their research to a broad audience. During April and June 2017, students prepared three-minute talks and received guidance via online trainings and a workshop. The training culminated in two rounds of presentations. On Thursday, 8 June 2017, the PhD students presented their 3-minute flash talks to each other for a competitive peer-selection of six finalists. On Friday, 9 June 2017, the finalists presented their flash talks to a full audience at the SSPH+ Faculty Meeting. Each presenter was

HIGHLIGHTS 2017

challenged with questions from three SSPH+ Faculty members: Murielle Bochud, Antoine Flahault, and Suzanne Suggs. The audience acted as a jury in selecting the best presenter. The winner of the 1st SSPH+ ScienceFlashTalk is Kateryna Chepynoga, a PhD student at HEC Lausanne, supervised by SSPH+ Fellow Jürgen Maurer (HEC Lausanne) and Gabriela Flores (WHO). See her flash talk on our website.



Jürgen Maurer, Kateryna Chepynoga und Nino Künzli

SSPH+ Internship Program (IP)

SSPH+ has developed a new initiative in response to the fact that the majority of PhD students do not pursue academic careers after their PhD. The Swiss academies of sciences (a+) organized a workshop to discuss the challenges of the PhD track in Switzerland and potential solutions. Responses included strengthening trainings in, and contact with, the non-academic sector. SSPH+ IP facilitates placements of SSPH+ PhD students in non-academic institutions and offers working experiences beyond the academic track. So far, over 20 companies expressed interest in offering internships. IP will be launched early 2018.

A dream comes true: SSPH+ PhD fellowships

In early 2017, SSPH+ received a negative response from our first application to the competitive Horizon 2020 MSCA COFUND call for a doctoral program. In fall 2017, SSPH+ resubmitted a funding proposal for 50 doctoral fellowships. With the SSPH+ Internship Program now included, the proposal ranked highly in the evaluation process. In January 2018, we received the good news that the SSPH+ Global PhD Program Public Health Sciences (GlobalP₃HS) will be funded (see page 11).

Up and running: New SSPH+ website

The SSPH+ website needed modernization. However, the renovation was postponed until the SSPH+ financing concept 2018+ was finalized. With the Foundation Board's positive decision to continue funding (December 2017), we were able to complete the long-awaited new website. The new website (www.sspplus.ch) went public early January 2018. Check it out! The highly attractive SSPH+ Expert Database remains a prominent section (www.sspplus.ch/expertdatabase).

Swiss Learning Health System

Launched in 2017, and led by SSPH+ partners at the University of Lucerne, the Swiss Learning Health System (SLHS) is a collaborative, multi-stakeholder project designed to establish a national platform for health systems and services research, policy, and practice. The goal of the SLHS is to foster dialogue between different stakeholders with the aim of developing, and continuously integrating, evidence-based solutions to current, and future, health system challenges. The SLHS relies on cyclical dynamics to: (1) identify issues, (2) catalogue relevant evidence, (3) present alternative actions, (4) select the best practice, (5) implement change, (6) observe outcomes and, if necessary, (7) revise and reshape. As part of the SLHS-SSPH+ PhD scholarship program, a cohort of 20 PhD students is enrolled in a course program specific to the learning health system and actively participates in the SLHS learning cycles. To maintain academic excellence, all SLHS PhD students are required to register in one of the structured PhD programs. The Lucerne SLHS team also regularly updates the European Observatory with relevant information from Switzerland: a core activity for the SSPH+ network. For further information contact Stefan Boes, Head of Operational Unit SLHS, stefan.boes@unilu.ch.

ASPHER Working Group in public health law

SSPH+ is a member of the Executive Board of the Association of Schools of Public Health of the European Region (ASPHER). During the Deans' and Direc-

tors' Retreat held in Rennes (June 2017), SSPH+ Deputy Director Dominique Sprumont, successfully led the launch of a new Working Group (WG) on Public Health Law. This WG has four main objectives:

1. Identifying interested institutions and experts
2. Assessing ASPHER's current research and training practices in public health law
3. Defining a core curriculum for public health law training at all levels (bachelor/master/PhD, as well as, continuing education programs) that moves from teaching "what is law in public health" to teaching "how to apply the law in public health"
4. Drafting recommendations toward a systematic inclusion of public health law in the definition, implementation and evaluation of public health policies and actions

ASPHER's constituents welcomed this initiative that includes (thus far) 25 representatives from schools of public health, as well as, WHO, ECDC and other organizations. The first meeting took place in Rennes, followed by a second in Lugano, during the SSPH+ Summer School 2017. Several members of the WG also took the opportunity to participate in a 3-day course on "Using Law and Policy Effectively in Public Health," given at the Lugano Summer School under the direction of Dominique Sprumont and Scott Burris. The course was well-received, and ASPHER requested it be repeated at the Open Medical Foundation's health law training (November 2017, Salzburg).

During the fall, the WG developed a questionnaire to evaluate the role of the law in the current curriculum within ASPHER. The WG plans to conduct this survey in spring 2018, with initial results being presented at the London's ASPHER Deans' and Directors' Retreat (June 2018). The WG has also been active with WHO EURO and ECDC to design policy surveillance systems.

Milo Puhan IG Nobel Prize Winner

Milo Puhan, member of the SSPH+ Foundation Board (president from 2018) and director of the EBPI of the University of Zurich, won the Ig Nobel Prize for demonstrating that regular playing of a didgeridoo is an effective treatment for obstructive sleep apnoea and snoring. The Ig Nobel Prizes honor achievements that first make people laugh, and then make them think. The prizes are intended to celebrate the unusual, honor the imaginative, and spark interest in science, medicine, and technology. The Ig Nobel Prizes are awarded annually, at a Gala ceremony in Boston.

Lukas Fenner New Cantonal Physician in Solothurn

Lukas Fenner, SSPH+ Fellow and professor at the Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine of the University of Bern has been appointed as new cantonal physician in Solothurn. He took office on 1 December 2017.

FEATURES OF GLOBALP₃HS – THE SSPH+ GLOBAL PHD PROGRAM PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCES

Funded by the EU Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions (MSCA) with 4'578'000 €, GlobalP₃HS brings 50 PhD students from abroad to Switzerland. The key features are as follows:

- Students (not supervisors) will apply directly for fellowships
- The primary supervisor (an SSPH+ Faculty member) must formally agree to a co-funding scheme
- Students will apply to one of three calls in 2018/2019
- Admission rates will be up to 50% of applicants
- Funding will cover up to 42 months of PhD studies, including an (optional) PhD internship period in the non-academic sector
- Awards will include a guaranteed minimal monthly stipend, as defined by the EU (1'855 € from EU and, at least, 742 € in matching funds from the host institution)
- Host institutions may opt for higher (but not lower) stipends according to local rules
- Applicants must include proof of eligibility to enroll in a PhD program at the chosen university and comply with all regulations and requirements as set by the host university
- Students and supervisors must agree upon the student's registration in a structured PhD program, including adherence to additional standards set by those programs (e.g. 18+ ECTS)
- Three calls will be launched:
 - 1st call: 2.7.2018 to 12.10.2018; selection of ~10 students on 28.11.2018; earliest start of PhD: December 2018
 - 2nd call: 03.12.2018 to 01.02.2019; selection of ~20 students on 22.03.2019; earliest start of PhD: April 2019
 - 3rd call (if needed): 01.04.2019 to 28.06.2019; selection of ~20 students on 20.09.2019; earliest start of PhD: October 2019
- GlobalP₃HS does not fund PhD research projects
- For more information contact: globalp3hs@ssphplus.ch



Milo Puhan,
IG Nobel Prize Winner

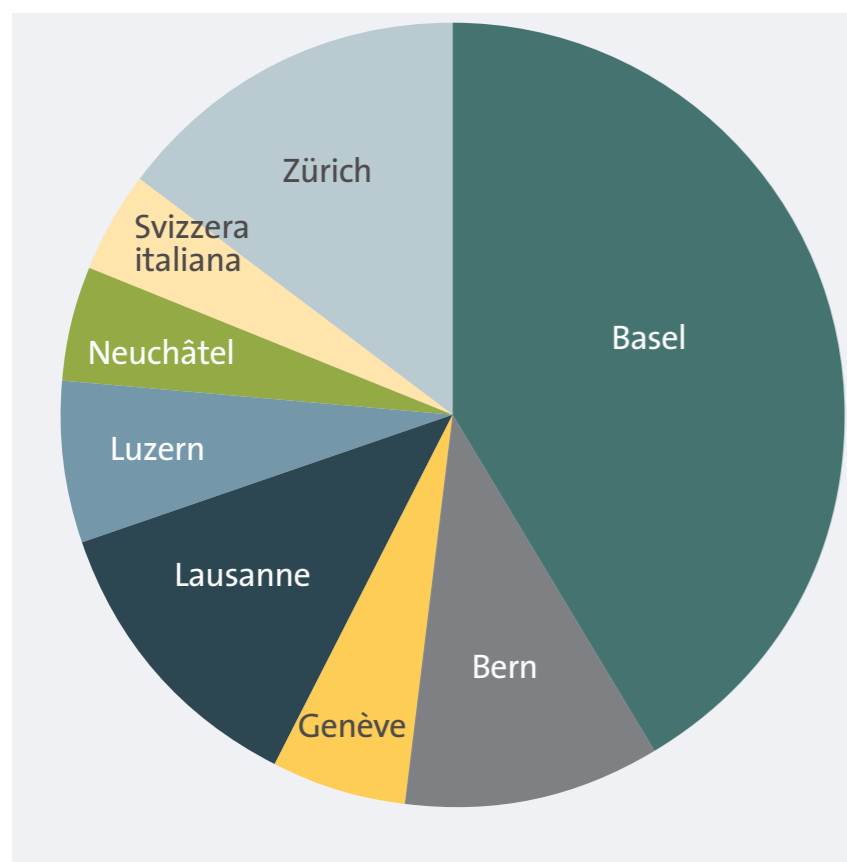


Lukas Fenner, New Cantonal
Physician in Solothurn

FINANCING CONCEPT 2018+ SETTLED

With Foundation Board approval (December 2017) of the new financing concept (2018–2022), the eight SSPH+ universities reached a milestone. 2018 is the first year the SSPH+ core budget (CHF 940'000) will be fully funded through each university's contribution. The distributor is based on the 2016

Distribution of public health science professors (incl. habilitation/PD and assistant professors) across the SSPH+ partner universities as of January 2016.



public health science professor positions (incl. habilitation/PD and assistant professors) in each university. The lean, simple, and transparent funding model reflects each university's individual public health priorities and their rules and standards in faculty recruitment. The core budget covers essential core activities ranked in importance by the SSPH+ Fellows and aligned with the SSPH+ strategy adopted by the Foundation Board (Dec 2015) and the Dean's/ Directorate staff (two full-time equivalents). In the future, all other activities will be covered by external sources, such as grants (e.g. see GlobalP₃HS on page 11). This innovative funding strategy fosters collaboration and engagement in a highly interdisciplinary field of science. Public health scientists in Switzerland are spread across many institutes, faculties and universities. Switzerland has pioneered the formation of an inter-university, public health science faculty and provides an innovative model for other small countries. Next steps include the Foundation's planned expansion to include other Swiss universities engaged in public health sciences.

TRAINING & EDUCATION

Global Flipped Classroom & Hackathon on One Health: From MOOCs to Real World Challenges

SSPH+ supported this event which was organized in close collaboration between the University of Geneva's Institute of Global Health and the Swiss TPH. The event took place between 10 and 14 July 2017, and brought together 12 national and international learners selected from the MOOCs "Global Health at the Human-Animal-Ecosystem Interface", co-produced by the University of Geneva, Institute Pasteur, University of Montreal and Centre Virchow-Villermé for Public Health Paris-Berlin/Université Paris Descartes on Coursera, and "One Health: Connecting Humans, Animals and the Environment" by the Swiss TPH and the University of Basel on FutureLearn. It aimed at working collaboratively in small teams using One Health to tackle real world challenges including: (1) primate trade and its implications on conservation and public health, (2) re-inventing boots to prevent snakebite, (3) urban wildlife and one health risks, and (4) antimicrobial resistance.

Selected learners ranged from young students to senior researchers with highly interdisciplinary expertise, such as veterinary epidemiology, wildlife conservation biology, herpetology, human medicine and healthcare, and public health. This international group included representatives from countries such as Bhutan, Nepal, Kenya, France, Spain, Romania, the United States, and Switzerland. Participants were actively guided and supported by interdisciplinary academic experts (e.g. University

of Geneva, Swiss TPH, University of Montreal, EPFL, University of Melbourne etc.), as well as international organizations and NGOs (e.g. WHO, FIND, Global Snakebite Initiative). Research project outcomes developed during the two-day hackathon were of considerable interest. The event helped to build new collaborations and opened promising short and mid-term opportunities for further solution development.

This initiative brings new thinking to the application of MOOCs, in general, and particularly in the field of One Health. Future innovation should ensure a more direct and practical impact in research and problem solving using interdisciplinary collaborations and the expertise available within these massive, global, online communities. See short movie on youtube.

<http://y2u.be/SRUCN3Ad7Ws>

SSPH+ eCampus (ssphplus-ecampus.ch)

Launched in 2016, the SSPH+ eLearning Platform provides a free resource to all SSPH+ Fellows engaged in teaching. The Moodle-based learning management system allows SSPH+ Fellows to organize and structure courses, to share content, give assignments and course evaluations, as well as, manage student administration. The use of the SSPH+ eCampus has increased in 2017, now reaching SSPH+ partners in Basel, Neuchâtel and Lugano. For 2018, the SSPH+ eCampus should be further expanded to include additional partner sites, as well as, additional courses on existing sites. Manuals for students and teachers will be developed to facilitate the use of SSPH+ eCampus.



Structured PhD programs

With funding by swissuniversities ending (at the latest in 2020), the future of structured PhD programs is unclear. In the absence of long-term governance and funding for PhD programs relevant to the SSPH+ network, the Directorate continues its efforts to ensure the quality of existing PhD tracks in public health oriented sciences. With over 160 students, the SSPH+ PhD Program in Public Health is the largest of the inter-university PhD programs and has secured financing through 2019. However, solutions are not yet sustainable and major efforts from all program leaders will be needed. Closer collaborations between PhD programs, as well as, with SSPH+ postgraduate programs will strengthen and consolidate the current system. Two large programs, the University Basel PhD Program Health Sciences (PPHS) and the interuniversity SSPH+ PhD Program in Public Health (see Table), have taken the lead in signing an agreement. As of March 2018, courses offered by the two programs are mutually accessible to students in both programs.

Key examples of inter-university –

and local PhD programs as well as doctoral fellowship programs relevant for SSPH+

Name	Structure	Approx. number of enrollees 2017 (or target 2018/19)	Director (Co-Director)	Coordinator
A) Structured PhD Programs				
SSPH+ PhD Program in Public Health	inter-university PhD program	170	Matthias Egger (Thomas Abel)	Ann Walser
International Courses and Seminars in Health Economics and Policies	inter-university PhD program	25	Stefan Boes	Cornel Kaufmann
PPHS – PhD Program Health Sciences, University of Basel	local PhD program	100	Sabina De Geest	Franziska Keller
SPINE - The Swiss PhD Platform in Nursing Science Education	inter-university PhD program	25	Anne-Sylvie Ramelet (Michael Simon)	Cornelia Kern
Doctoral Program in Global Health, University of Geneva	local PhD program	40	Antoine Flahault	Nadia Elia
Structured PhD Program “Epidemiology and Biostatistics”, ETH & University of Zurich	inter-university PhD program	40	Milo Puhan (Torsten Hothorn)	Eva Furrer
Structured PhD program in Health Sciences, University of Lucerne	local PhD program	35	Gerold Stucki (Stefan Boes, Sara Rubinelli)	Thomas Brinkel
Programme doctoral “Santé, Médecine et Société”, University Neuchâtel	local PhD program	target: 20	Dominique Sprumont	Alain Müller
PhD Program in Public Health Sciences for Universities of Applied Sciences (SSPH+UAS) *	inter-university PhD program	target: 20	Luca Crivelli (Nino Künzli)	Franziska Keller
B) PhD Fellowship Programs **				
SLHS-SSPH+ PhD scholarship program ***	Doctoral fellowship program	20	Stefan Boes (Nino Künzli)	Thomas Brinkel Sarah Mantwill
SSPH+ Global PhD Program Public Health Sciences (GlobalP ₃ HS - in preparation)	Doctoral fellowship program	target: 50	Nino Künzli	N.N.

* Students are required to register in one of the structured PhD programs, e.g. one of the above

** These provide full PhD fellowships; fellows are required to register in a structured PhD program, e.g. one of the above

*** SLHS: Swiss Learning Health System, University of Lucerne

**Interview with
Maryam Yepes, alumni of the SSPH+
PhD Program in Public Health**

Maryam Yepes finished her PhD studies in 2016. She is the founder of Myravan Solution and a passionate entrepreneur working to create solutions for healthy eating. With nutriMenu, she developed a digital solution for collective restaurants to help improve the nutritional quality of school meals. nutriMenu was adopted by the City of Lausanne and won the first prize Grand Prix Suisse 2017 for health promotion “Citizen@work”.



Maryam Yepes

Q: What brought you to a PhD with SSPH+?

“Eat more whole foods, mainly from plants, and practice moderation when it comes to indulgences” this was the message I found myself repeating,

over and over, every day to my patients while working as a dietician in a medical clinic. During 15 years of work experience in clinical and community nutrition, in communication for the food industry and teaching nutrition to hospitality students in Lausanne, I saw first-hand the personal, economic and environmental factors that play a role in our daily food choice, and how these simple choices, over time, contribute to the burden of many preventable chronic diseases on our health care system. Determined to help reduce food-related burden of diseases, not through one-on-one consultation, but rather through effective population-level interventions, I decided to pursue a PhD in public health and SSPH+ provided the perfect setting for a multidisciplinary research in this area.

Q: What was your experience with SSPH+?

As an SSPH+ student I was extremely fortunate to be supervised by some of the top experts in public health: Michael Siegrist, Professor of Consumer Behaviour at ETHZ; Pascal Bovet, Associate Professor at CHUV-IUMSP and Jürgen Maurer, Professor of Health Economics at HEC-UNIL. My interactions with my supervisors, together with the multiple SSPH+ courses I took across different universities in Switzerland, taught me not only how to conduct, analyze and write high quality research, which were successfully published in well-known scientific journals; but also, to learn about the many challenges in applying research

findings, towards concrete and effective public health interventions. The most valuable lessons I take away from my SSPH+ degree are a deeper understanding of the complexity of public health, as a multidisciplinary science where the societal, economic and community factors, plus the molecular, biological and individual health factors all meet, and together determine a population’s health. I found the SSPH+ community of public health professionals from eight universities across Switzerland offered me the best playground to explore and aim to untangle this complexity. The numerous SSPH+ networking events and conferences also played a key role in my education. During these events, I had the chance to interact with other national and international experts; to present, defend or re-assess my research question. These exchanges encouraged me to think outside the box and come up with innovative ways to look at the problem, such as how mobile technology can be a valuable tool in public health interventions. My suggestions to other PhD students would be to try to interact as much as possible with others in the SSPH+ network, learn about other disciplines of public health, and be open to do things differently.

Q: What did you do after getting your degree?

Determined to apply my multidisciplinary SSPH+ PhD training towards scientific- and data-driven public health interventions, I took further courses in entrepreneurship and digital

technologies and launched a company Myravan Solution with the mission to use technology to make “the healthy choice, the easier choice”.

Since then, I have created a solution called nutriMenu, which is designed to help collective restaurant cooks to prepare meals according to national nutrition recommendation. The tool allows chefs to auto-evaluate the nutritional quality of their menus and gives them personalised feedback on what they need to adapt, so that their meals are in line with national guidelines for a healthy plate, including amount of added salt, fat and sugar. Since its launch in 2016, nutriMenu Lausanne is being used by school canteens across the City of Lausanne and we have been able to measure a significant improvement in the nutritional quality of daily school lunches. In 2017, nutriMenu Lausanne won the first prize Grand Prix Suisse for health promotion “Citizen@work”.

Strengthening postdoctoral careers
Supporting Teaching Experience for Postdocs (STEP) was an SSPH+ funded initiative for postdocs from SSPH+ partner institutions. It revealed the current challenges of postdoctoral careers in public health sciences and possible action points. The STEP group agreed that teaching engagements are not sufficiently promoted, nor sufficiently recognized, despite the fact that teaching records are highly relevant in their applications for higher academic positions. Another challenge is that most postdocs are dependent on grant

funding, whereas most university teaching is funded internally. Finally, postdocs cited the lack of organization among themselves as a relevant issue. They suggested better-defined positions in a structured network as potential solutions. As a first step, SSPH+ developed a simple registration option to allow postdocs to self-identify with this position and become part of SSPH+ information distribution. Registration will also enable postdocs to communicate and collaborate (see information below).

JOIN THE SSPH+ POSTDOC MAILING LIST

SSPH+ offers the opportunity to connect with public health professionals across Switzerland through the email distributor postdocs@ssphplus.ch. Signing up for this email list serves two purposes:

1. It allows to receive important information on teaching, funding, networking shared by others, and
2. It can be used to reach a large group of other public health postdocs in Switzerland at once

If interested in joining the postdoc mailing list, send a brief email to info@ssphplus.ch.

SDC supports the Summer School in Public Health Policy, Economics and Management

The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) is funding the Lugano Summer School in Public Health Policy, Economics and Management fellowship program for another four years. Every year, the Summer School attracts approximately 110 participants including 35-40 fellowship holders from Africa, Asia or Eastern Europe, who attend to deepen their knowledge in the field of public health. The Summer School is a joint project of the Università della Svizzera italiana, Swiss TPH, SDC and SSPH+.

30th anniversary of the European Educational Program in Epidemiology

On the occasion of its 30th anniversary, the European Educational Program in Epidemiology (EEPE) established the “Annual Rodolfo Saracci Lecture” for young scientists. In the inaugural program, Maria Carolina Borges (University of Bristol, UK) discussed today’s epidemiological challenges in her lecture titled “Challenges to epidemiology in a world of imperfect evidence, polarization, misinterpretation, and conflicts of interest.” The Swiss TPH is responsible for the financial administration of the EEPE and contributes by funding three teaching positions.

Young Researcher Editorials (YRE)

YRE is an International Journal of Public Health (IJPH, owned by SSPH+) editorial series and an SSPH+ training initiative. YRE engages SSPH+ PhD students to lead the YRE editorial series, written by

PhD students from around the world on relevant public health topics. The YRE editors will identify relevant public health topics, acquire and review editorial contributions, and make editorial decisions. The YRE editorial board works in the same editorial manager system and adheres to the same ethics and standards as the IJPH editorial board. YRE students receive hands-on training in scientific publishing. This initiative complements the IJPH postgraduate course on how to become a scientific editor. For further information please contact the current YRE Editor, Mahmoud Hassan (mahmoud.hassan@swisstph.ch).



Harris Hérítier, winner of SSPH+ Best Published PhD Article Award 2017

SSPH+ Best Published PhD Article Award

In March 2017, SSPH+ launched its eighth call for the best published PhD article in public health sciences. In total, 28 PhD students (supervised by an SSPH+ Fellow) submitted articles, which were evaluated by four professionals from national and international public health institutions. Harris Hérítier from Swiss TPH won the award for his article: “Transportation noise exposure and cardiovascular mortality: a nationwide cohort study from Switzerland”, published in the *Journal of Epidemiology*, 2017. Congratulations!

SSPH+ PhD Abstract Award

PhD students registered with the SSPH+ PhD Program in Public Health were invited to submit an abstract for the Swiss Public Health Conference 2017. Fifteen abstracts were submitted and evaluated by a panel consisting of the SSPH+ Directorate and three SSPH+

Assistant Professors. The following PhD students were awarded:

- **1st Prize: Hannah Tough**
The impact of close social relationships on subjective wellbeing in persons with physical disabilities and their caregiving partners: A longitudinal analysis
- **2nd Prize: Angeline Chatelan**
Major differences in diet across three linguistic regions of Switzerland: results from the first nutrition survey menuCH



From left to right:
Hannah Tough,
Angeline Chatelan,
Heresh Amini and
Renato Mattli

- **3rd Prize (ex aequo): Heresh Amini**
Land use regression models for BTEX volatile organic compounds in a Middle Eastern megacity: Tehran Study of Exposure Prediction for Environmental Health Research (Tehran SEPEHR)
- **3rd Prize (ex aequo): Renato Mattli**
Disability and early deaths attributable to physical inactivity in Switzerland in 2015

SSPH+ PhD students: international award winners

We are pleased to announce that three SSPH+ PhD students won best poster awards at three international meetings. Congratulations to all!

Dzmitry Krupchanka, PhD student at the Doctoral Program in Global Health of the University of Geneva, won the best poster award at the 12th ORPHEUS conference held in Klaipeda from 4-6 May 2017. Dzmitry, supervised by our SSPH+ Assistant Professor Emiliano Albanese of the University of Geneva, received an SSPH+ scholarship to attend this conference.

Kateryna Chepynoga, PhD student at HEC Lausanne, won the best poster award at the ASPHER Young Researchers' Forum held in Stockholm on 1 November 2017. Kateryna, who also won the SSPH+ ScienceFlashTalk (see page 8), is supervised by SSPH+ Fellow Jürgen Maurer.

Nathaly Aya Pastrana, PhD Student at USI, won the best paper award at the World Social Marketing Congress held in Washington DC on 16-17 May 2017. Nathaly is supervised by SSPH+ Fellow and new Vice-President, L. Suzanne Suggs.

Interview with

Nicole Probst-Hensch, Professor and Head of Department of Epidemiology and Public Health at Swiss TPH, and SSPH+ Fellow

Nicole Probst-Hensch is an expert in genetic epidemiology and exposome science and applies biomarkers towards improving mechanistic and causal understanding of cardio-metabolic and respiratory disease risks. She is the Principle Investigator of the SNSF-funded SAPALDIA Cohort and its only Swiss-wide citizen biobank, an Executive Board member of the Swiss Personalized Health Network, co-founder of the Swiss Biobanking Platform, and the Swiss Grant Signatory for HBM4EU. Together with Murielle Bochud (Director of IUMSP Lausanne) she represents public health in the executive board of the FOPH initiative to build a Swiss Health Study of 100'000 citizens.

Q: The priority discussion of SSPH+ Fellows highlighted the relevance of the public health sciences in personalized health. You are a promoter and prime advocate of a large-scale population based Swiss national "mega-cohort" and biobank. Why is this relevant for personalized health?

I have been involved from the start in shaping the Swiss Personalized Health Network. We had decided as the priority of the first funding period to make Swiss patient information interoperable and clinical data as well as diagnostic biospecimens accessible for research. If done well, this will



Nicole Probst-Hensch

strengthen clinical as well as basic research in our country and also offer important opportunities for public health research. Still, prospectively sampled biological material or images represent the healthy reference that is essential for personalized health research as novel screening or diagnostic biomarkers emerge. The clinical and public health utility of such biomarkers must be carefully evaluated by understanding their "normal" distribution and their ability to discriminate between normal, at risk and diseased. But this is only one value of cohorts and biobanks. They are also important for human biomonitoring, e.g. for measuring chemical exposure of Swiss citizens and their long-term health effects. Furthermore, personalized health technology is revolutionizing how we can measure the environment in which we live and healthy citizens participating in long-term cohorts and willing to use this technology allow for a much more precise understanding and prevention of health risks. The relevance of primary prevention should not be forgotten in the era of personalized medicine, which often comes at a very high cost and many times little evidence for

longer term cost-effectiveness. In fact, patients evolving in a population-based cohort of 100'000 citizens and actively consenting to accessing their medical data and sharing with us treatment decisions and adherence will provide important insight into the effectiveness of various treatments in the future.

Q: You accomplished to bring Switzerland and SSPH+ on board of the European Horizon2020 Human Biomonitoring for EU – HBM4EU. Is this relevant for the planning of the mega-cohort?

HBM4EU aims to harmonize human biomonitoring data across Europe. Each year the program identifies priority chemicals requiring regulation by the European parliament. For these priority chemicals, a mapping of existing and still lacking toxicological and epidemiological evidence for setting legal limits is conducted. Evidence gaps are closed through analysis of existing or newly collected biospecimens. HBM4EU has a special focus to improve understanding of mixtures and their health effects. In contrast to our neighboring countries Switzerland lacks a human biomonitoring program; in fact we know very little about the level of our exposure to chemicals. The Federal Office of Public Health recognized the need for developing human biomonitoring in our country and the value of a population-based biobank for this specific, but also for broader purposes. We are often asked why Switzerland needs its own cohort and biobank. With exposures to chemical mixtures, it becomes quite evident: nutrition, environment, work

places, indoor environments are context and culture dependent and need to be studied locally. And of course, we also want to be a strong and fair partner in the international public health network - a partner who does not just benefit from investments abroad, but who also contributes own data and expertise.

Q: It is now some eight years ago that you initiated the first national discussion for the launching of a mega-cohort. You brought international leaders and key national constituencies such as FOPH or SNSF together. Why does it take so long to start a mega-cohort? Have other countries been faster?

Finding 100 or more million Swiss Francs for a large cohort is of course a challenge. That was also the case abroad. Initiatives like UK Biobank or NaKo in Germany took also years to build the network and find the funds. Switzerland started the discussions later. It needed initiatives like HBM4EU or the Swiss Personalized Health Network for a broader understanding of the benefits of cohorts. But I feel that the time is ripe for building this Swiss-wide research infrastructure, aligned and harmonized with international cohorts. It should not be forgotten: it takes very large sample sizes to understand complex diseases. Therefore, in building this infrastructure national and international collaboration is a priority in my mind. Competition for the best science will follow naturally by funding the most innovative research based on the data and biomarkers. The high

quality research opportunities offered by a large biobank is now evident by the numerous high impact publications of UK Biobank for example.

Q: What will be SSPH+ faculty contribution to a population-based national mega-cohort?

The FOPH, Murielle Bochud and I who currently move this project and its focus forward have the clear vision of making the cohort a project of the Swiss public health community and therefore of the SSPH+ community. The cohort and biobank is at the heart of public health: it is about disease epidemiology, health and environmental surveillance, health systems research, health economics, and health related laws and policies. It is about a close link between research and citizens - we will in fact make an effort to listen to citizens' and patients' needs and priorities and to engage them in the project. We invite SSPH+ partner institutions in defining the focus and shaping the content of the cohort and to play an active role as decentralized cohort hubs. Data and biomaterial of the cohort must be of broad benefit for a large network of researchers. The infrastructure must make use of the extended expertise available within SSPH+.

Q: SSPH+ partners also lead the so-called Swiss National Cohort – a data system linking a wide range of existing surveys and monitoring data, including the entire Swiss population. Compared to establishing new mega-cohort, this is a much cheaper approach. Why do you need a mega-cohort and biobank?

The Swiss National Cohort (SNC) is a very important initiative and is complementary to the planned Swiss Health Study with Biobank. The cohort with prospectively sampled biospecimens allows measuring biomarkers before disease occurrence and linking them to preclinical and clinical phenotypes. Unlike the SNC, the planned cohort is in direct contact with its participants, allowing for more in-depth analysis of lifestyle over the course time. The SNSF funded SIRENE project led by Martin Röösli, Swiss TPH, is an excellent example for the successful collaboration between the population-based biobank SAPALDIA and the SNC. In the SNC a link between transportation noise exposure and cardiovascular mortality could be shown with great precision given the large sample size of the SNC. In the SAPALDIA Cohort we were able to study biological mechanisms potentially mediating this effect by showing associations of transportation noise with diabetes and arterial stiffness, with physical activity and body weight, and with biomarker pathways. In that sense the cohort and biobank will not be a new, but an additional asset for strengthening public health and epidemiological research.



The 2017 IJPH editorial team at the Palacký University Olomouc, Czech Republic. The annual meeting was hosted by Andrea Madarasová Gecková (2nd from the right), co-editor in chief and Jaroslav Franc (right), dean of the Methodius Faculty of Theology.

International Journal of Public Health (IF 2016: 2.327)

SSPH+ assumed ownership of the International Journal of Public Health (IJPH) in 2010. Published by SpringerNature, the editorial office is fully funded by shared revenues. IJPH received 1'127 submissions in 2017, and published 117 articles. With the current Impact Factor (IF) of 2.327 IJPH is in the top quarter of all journals in this subject area (Social Science Citation Index, Clarivate Analytics). IJPH is still a subscription-based journal. The rate of Open Access (OA) articles increased to 36% mainly due to SpringerNature's agreements with other institutions and author preference. IJPH plans to move towards OA publishing. There are still pros and cons that require continued evaluation, in particular how to balance quantity, as a driver of revenue in the OA model, and quality, as a key in the development of the impact. A viable financial model remains essential also under OA.

Highlights in 2017 include the supplement "Health and social determinants of health in Vietnam" and the special issue "Development and Public Health: challenges for Latin America". "The state of health in the Eastern Mediterranean Region, 1990–2015," is based on

the most recent estimates from the annual Global Burden of Diseases, Injuries, and Risk Factors study. Outcomes reveal a sharp increase in non-communicable diseases and mental disorders such as depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, and schizophrenia.

IJPH is supported by 44 editors from 23 countries in Europe, the United States and Canada, Asia, Latin America and Africa. For its annual meeting in October 2017, co-editor-in-chief Andrea Madarasová Gecková invited the editorial board to the Palacký University Olomouc, Czech Republic. Louise Potvin and Thomas Abel resigned from their senior editor roles end of 2017 and were duly honored for their longstanding support.

New IJPH projects include three Calls for Papers: Life course influences on cancer risk; Adolescent transitions; and Environmental and Health Equity. The last is relevant to the EcoHealth Conference 15–18 August, 2018 in Cali, Colombia, organized by the International Association for Ecology and Health.

Thanks to social media editor Thomy Tonia, IJPH's e-media profile remains strong, with more than 4'200 followers on twitter and a highly successful blog. IJPH follows a co-editor-in-chief model with Thomas Kohlmann (Germany), Andrea Madarasová Gecková (Slovakia, Czech Republic and The Netherlands) and Nino Künzli (Switzerland). Since summer 2017, the editorial office, led by Anke Berger, is hosted by the Swiss TPH in Basel.

BRIDGING PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCE WITH PRACTICE

Swiss Public Health Conference in Basel, 22-23 November 2017

For the first time, the Swiss Society for Public Health and SSPH+ jointly organized the Swiss Public Health Conference (SPHC) with Swiss TPH as first host under the new conference model in Basel. Under the chair of Nicole Probst-Hensch, the successful conference ran with the theme: "Personalized Health from a Public Health Perspective." Around 300 specialists met to examine personalized health from scientific, ethical and economic perspectives. They discussed (1) opportunities and risks presented by personalized medicine, (2) finding a balance between protection of and access to personal data, (3) research in the age of precision medicine, (4) the significance of prevention when it comes to improving health and quality of life, as well as (5) public health in a global context. SSPH+ organized a panel discussion on how personalized health reaches the health system.

Outlook: Swiss Public Health Conferences 2018-2021

As the joint leaders and owners of the Swiss Public Health Conference, the Swiss Society for Public Health and SSPH+ launched a call to host future conferences. We are pleased to announce the following conferences, which will be co-organized by one academic host each year:

Accompanying research on Basel hospital merger

University Hospital Basel has contracted SSPH+ to facilitate and consult on the hospital merger of KSBL (Kantonsspital Baselland) und USB (Universitäts-spital Basel). The merger aligns with the current trend in Switzerland to adjust the health system based on shifting demographic, medical, and economic trends. The project's main objective (carried out by EBPI) is determining which changes are triggered by the formation of a joint hospital group KSBL / USB compared to the current situation. Specifically, experts must evaluate the modifications on supply flows and their effect on the quality and efficiency of health care delivery in the Cantons of Basel. SSPH+ will organize an external advisory committee and review board to support the project and ensure quality and critical exchange.

7 – 8 November 2018 in Neuchatel
Better Health Faster – Social Science for Public Health
 hosted by the Institute of Health Law (IDS), Uni Neuchatel

28 – 29 August 2019 in Winterthur
Child and Adolescent Public Health
 hosted by the School of Health Professions, ZHAW

2 – 3 September 2020 in Lucerne
Learning Health System (SLHS) and Public Health
 hosted by the Department of Health Sciences and Health Policy, Uni Lucerne

25 – 26 August 2021 in Berne
Half a Century of Social and Preventive Medicine in Switzerland
 hosted by the Institute of Social and Preventive Medicine (ISPM), Uni Bern

NEWS FROM OUR PARTNERS

NEWS FROM BASEL: SMARTPHONE APPLICATION TO IMPROVE CHILD HEALTH

New technologies and artificial intelligence are progressively transforming health care. To improve diagnosis and care of children in low-income settings, the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (Swiss TPH) developed and validated an electronic Point-Of-Care Tool (ePOCT). The smartphone-based tool guides health workers through the consultation and integrates point-of-care laboratory tests for bacterial infections, severe diseases (i.e. low oxygen, anemia, low blood glucose), and malaria. Results of a clinical trial in Tanzania involving 3000 children showed improved health outcomes and a reduction in antibiotic prescriptions.

NEWS FROM GENEVA: LAUNCH OF NCCR PROJECT FOR PRECISION EPIDEMIC FORECASTING

In 2017, the Institute of Global Health was focused on the NCCR project for Precision Epidemic Forecasting. With nine other academic partners in Switzerland and 34 international partners, the project aims to combine life and social sciences with the data revolution to better forecast and detect outbreaks of emerging infectious diseases earlier. This past November, the Institute of Global Health, selected by the Rockefeller Foundation, organized a meeting in its Bellagio Center (Italy) with the prospective members of the NCCR International Advisory Board. In April 2018, the results of this project will be presented at the 7th edition of the Geneva Health

Forum and published in a two-paper series in the Lancet on precision global health in the digital age.

NEWS FROM LAUSANNE: NEW LEADERSHIP AT IUMSP

As of 1st August 2017, Murielle Bochud has been appointed as the new director of the Institute for Social and Preventive Medicine (IUMSP) of the University of Lausanne after retirement of former director Fred Paccaud. In 2017, IUMSP started a first two-week course on systematic reviews and qualitative research attended by 21 researchers from 17 low- or middle-income countries in collaboration with WHO, Human Reproduction Program Alliance and Cochrane Switzerland. Also jointly with WHO, IUMSP organized the 11th International seminar on the public health aspects of noncommunicable diseases for national NCD program managers; in total 236 participants from 104 countries have participated so far in the seminar.

NEWS FROM ZURICH: NEW CENTER OF SALUTOGENESIS

The Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Prevention Institute (EBPI) of the University of Zurich launched the Center of Salutogenesis to advance and promote: Salutogenesis - the concept of the origin of health, rather than disease. Under the leadership of SSPH+ Fellow Georg Bauer, the center will study how strengthening individual and social resources will promote positive health development, particularly in an increasingly dynamic professional landscape.

NEWS FROM LUCERNE: NEW CENTER FOR REHABILITATION IN GLOBAL HEALTH SYSTEMS AND JOINT DEGREE FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS

Since 2017, the Department of Health Sciences and Health Policy hosts a new research center, the "Center for Rehabilitation in Global Health Systems", in addition to the "Center for Health, Policy and Economics" to strengthen its interdisciplinary research and education programs in health sciences (Master, PhD, Young Investigator). The department is active in knowledge translation through the Swiss Learning Health System, a major project since beginning of 2017 to foster dialogue between different stakeholders and aimed at developing and integrating evidence-based solutions to challenges in the health system. Also since 2017, new medical students can enroll for the "Lucerne Track", a joint degree in medicine offered by the Universities of Zurich and Lucerne in which the department contributes with a health systems perspective and teaching and supervising clinical and scientific research for the master theses.

NEWS FROM USI: PUBLIC HEALTH BECOMES A PRIORITY

In 2017, the Università della Svizzera italiana (USI) launched its new Faculty of Biomedicine. While this alone is quite an achievement, it is both exciting and innovative that USI included a Professor of Public Health in the faculty. The call for applications was launched and interviews conducted in 2017. The person who joins will direct a new

Institute of Public Health; an interdisciplinary institute including colleagues from BioMedicine, Communication, Economics, and potentially Architecture. The Public Health Professor and Institute will commence later in 2018. Stay tuned! Furthermore, USI appointed a woman professor to join the Board of SSPH+. This, with the new appointment of Murielle Bochud in Lausanne increased the number of women on the Board from two women to four.

NEWS FROM NEUCHÂTEL: LAUNCH OF NEW PHD PROGRAM "SANTÉ, MÉDECINE ET SOCIÉTÉ"

In 2017, the Institute of Health Law launched a new PhD program on human and social sciences in health and medicine (Santé, Médecine et Société or SMS) with support of swissuniversities. In June 2017, Dominique Sprumont was designated chairperson of the newly appointed ASPHER working group on public health law (see page 10).

NEWS FROM BERN: NEW DIRECTOR OF ISPM

Since Matthias Egger started his new position as president of the National Research Council of the Swiss National Science Foundation in 2017, the ISPM Bern launched a call for a new director and conducted interviews. Early 2018, Oscar Franco, currently Professor of Preventive Medicine at Erasmus University Medical Center in Rotterdam, has been appointed as the new director of ISPM. Oscar Franco will start on June 1, 2018. The SSPH+ community looks forward to working with him.



Prospective members of the NCCR International Advisory Board



Murielle Bochud,
Director IUMSP Lausanne



Università della Svizzera italiana



Oscar Franco,
designated director of ISPM Bern



OUTLOOK

The next five-year period, 2018-2022, is certain to be both exciting and challenging for public health in Switzerland. Exciting because the academic public health community is growing with a new public health institute and professorship at the Università della Svizzera italiana, the universities of applied sciences working increasingly with the eight universities of SSPH+ in both teaching and research, and with a larger and more diverse faculty contributing to SSPH+. It is also going to be challenging because we must reflect on how we generate and disseminate knowledge that can be used, and is used, to better support public health efforts. As in the past, decisions of our policy and decision makers will sometimes frustrate us and sometimes encourage us. This begs the question, how can the SSPH+ facilitate the creation of knowledge and the training of public health researchers and practitioners in a manner that is efficient, effective, ethical and equitable? We will need to become more creative to develop, together with public health stakeholders, novel ways of evidence co-production, knowledge integration, and the translation of evidence to practice and work together for a common cause; that is the health of the population living in Switzerland. The SSPH+ is in a unique position to lead and support public health training, research, and service across Switzerland through our strong and dedicated leadership, the quality

and diligent work of our Fellows, and the collaboration across universities. The vision of SSPH+ has and will continue to be “Stronger Together.” We look forward to making public health in Switzerland stronger, together with you.

Milo Puhan, New President
L. Suzanne Suggs, New Vice-president



Milo Puhan,
New President
of the SSPH+ Foundation Board



L. Suzanne Suggs
New Vice-president
of the SSPH+ Foundation Board

LIST OF ACRONYMS

EBPI	Epidemiology, Biostatistics and Prevention Institute, University of Zurich
ECDC	European Center for Disease Prevention and Control
EEPE	European Educational Program in Epidemiology
FOPH	Federal Office of Public Health
HEC/IEMS	Faculty of Business and Economics/Plateforme interfacultaire en économie et management de la santé, University of Lausanne
IJPH	International Journal of Public Health
IUMSP	Institut universitaire de Médecine Sociale et Préventive, University of Lausanne
MOOC	Massive Open Online Course
MSCA	Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions
NCCR	National Centers of Competence in Research
PD	Privatdozent
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SLHS	Swiss Learning Health System
SNC	Swiss National Cohort
SNSF	Swiss National Science Foundation
Swiss TPH	Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute Basel, an independent academic institute associated with the University of Basel
USI	Università della Svizzera italiana
WHO	World Health Organization

LIST OF SSPH+ FACULTY MEMBERS AND FELLOWS

Becoming an 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 an 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 2018.

List of SSPH+ Faculty members and Fellows*

Faculty members are defined as professors (incl. habilitation/PD and assistant professors) from the eight SSPH+ partner universities who are active in public health sciences (self-identified affiliation, as of 31.12.2017)

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
 Blum Johannes, Basel
 Bochud Murielle, Lausanne
 Boes Stefan, Luzern
 Bohlius 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
 Cissé 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
 Fink Günter, Basel
 Flahault Antoine, Genève
 Gagneux Sébastien, Basel
 Gemperli Armin, Luzern
 Genton Blaise, Basel
 Giannakopoulos Panteleimon*, Genève
 Guillod Olivier, Neuchâtel
 Gurtner Felix*, FOPH
 Hämmig Oliver, Zürich
 Hatz Christoph, Basel
 Heg Dik, Bern
 Held Leonhard, Zürich
 Hetzel Manuel, Basel
 Hofmann Axel*, 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
 Kuehni 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
 Mäusezahl Daniel*, Basel
 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, Lausanne
 Padula Mario, Svizzera italiana
 Paris Daniel, Basel
 Peng-Keller Simon, Zürich
 Penny Melissa, Basel
 Perneger Thomas, Genève
 Peytremann-Bridevaux Isabelle, Lausanne
 Pluschke Gerd, Basel
 Probst-Hensch Nicole, Basel
 Puhon Milo, Zürich
 Quednow Boris, Zürich
 Rohrmann Sabine, Zürich
 Rössli Martin, Basel
 Rousson Valentin, Lausanne
 Rubinelli Sara, Luzern
 Santos-Eggimann Brigitte, Lausanne
 Saraceno Benedetto*, Genève
 Schelling Esther, Basel
 Schindler Christian, Basel
 Schlagenhaut-Lawlor Patricia, Zürich
 Schmidt-Trucksäss Arno, Basel
 Schnyder Ulrich, Zürich
 Schopper Doris, Genève
 Schwappach David, Bern
 Schwenkgenks Matthias, Basel
 Sendi Pedram, Basel
 Simon Michael, Basel
 Smith Thomas A, Basel
 Spencer Brenda, Lausanne
 Sprumont Dominique, Neuchâtel
 Stoll Beat*, Genève
 Stucki Gerold, Luzern
 Suggs Suzanne L., Svizzera italiana
 Suris Granell Joan-Carles, Lausanne
 Szucs Thomas, Basel
 Tanner Marcel, Basel
 Tedioli Fabrizio, Basel
 Thouvenin Florent, Zürich
 Trelle Sven, Bern
 Utzinger Jürg, Basel
 van Eeuwijk Piet, Basel
 Vayena Effy, Zürich
 Vernez David, Lausanne
 von Wyl Viktor, Zürich
 Voss Till, Basel
 Vounatsou Penelope, Basel
 Walitza Susanne, Zürich
 Wanda Mimra*, Zürich
 Wasserfallen Jean-Blaise*, Lausanne
 Watzke Birgit, Zürich
 Witt Claudia, Zürich
 Wyss Kaspar, Basel
 Zemp Stutz Elisabeth, Basel
 Zinsstag Jakob, Basel
 Zwahlen Marcel, Bern

* SSPH+ Fellow

SSPH+

A Foundation of Swiss Universities

Basel | Bern | Geneva | Lausanne | Lucerne | Neuchâtel | Svizzera italiana | Zurich

